

POINT BLANK

**STRAIGHT TALK
ABOUT WHAT YOU
CAN DO TO
PRESERVE YOUR
RIGHT TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**



**March
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CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS

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CCRKBA BATTLING ANTI-GUN AGENDA

Barack Obama's "new" administration looks suspiciously similar to the old Clinton administration, with many of the same anti-gun faces occupying new positions of authority. Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel was point man for Clinton on all gun control issues. Attorney General Eric Holder is an avowed anti-gunner who signed an amicus brief in the Heller case that argued against the individual right to keep and bear arms. Hillary Clinton is Secretary of State, and gun owners should be very concerned about her approach to global gun control issues.

Obama's Democratic administration enjoys majorities in both houses of Congress, where leadership positions are occupied by veteran gun control extremists.

CCRKBA is rolling up its sleeves for battle, not only in the Nation's Capital, but also in state legislatures around the country, to prevent an anti-gun legislative and executive onslaught from undermining or eliminating our constitutionally-protected firearm civil rights.

We need your help and financial support! This scenario has the makings of a "perfect storm."

CCRKBA Public Affairs Director John M. Snyder noted that "America's 90 million law-abiding firearm owners actively oppose repressive policies being considered in Washington. Sales of firearms soar throughout the country. Though FBI estimates there are 200 million privately-owned rifles, shotguns and handguns in the United States, citizens are buying more and more of them.

"Gun-grabbing politicians and their gun control lobby supporters promote additional regulations of gun shows and re-imposition, extension and making permanent of a ban on sales of certain semiautomatic firearms which expired five years ago," Snyder continued.

Data from the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) show background checks on the sale of firearms jumped 28.8 percent in January 2009 when compared to January 2008, according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF). The increase follows a 24 percent rise in December 2008 and a 42 percent rise in November 2008, when a record 1,529,635 background checks were performed.

The anti-gun Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence has listed a number of proposals it urges the Obama administration to support. Included in their agenda is a call for repeal of the Tiahrt Amendment, which prevents gun grabbing mayors from obtaining sensitive federal gun trace data.

"Firearm owners oppose Washington attempts to interfere with our right to keep and bear arms," Syder concluded.

CCRKBA SUPPORTS SENATE CARRY RECIPROCITY MEASURE

CCRKBA has announced its support for the recently introduced S. 371, by Sen. John Thune of South Dakota, the proposed Respecting States Rights and Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2009.

The measure has 19 cosponsors and has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said in Washington, D.C. that, "There has been an increase in firearms rights in recent years with individual states authorizing the carrying of concealed firearms. Most states issue CCW permits. Some mandate the issuance of such permits to qualified applicants. What's missing is federal legislation to generalize the legality of such concealed carry across the United States, similar to the way in which automobile drivers' licenses are now recognized."

"S. 371 would help to bring about this kind of situation. We're all for it. Now is the time to write, phone, email and visit both of your U.S. Senators and urge them to support it."

S. 371 is the Senate companion bill to H.R. 197, the proposed National Right to Carry Reciprocity Act of 2009, introduced in a bipartisan spirit earlier in the U.S. House of Representatives by Reps. Cliff Stearns of Florida, a Republican, and Rick Boucher of Virginia, a Democrat.

S. 371 would allow any person with a valid carry permit issued by a state to carry a concealed firearm in any other state if the permit holder complies with the terms of the license or permit, subject to the laws in which the firearm is carried concerning specific types of locations in which firearms may not be carried. If a person is allowed to carry in a state

which does not have a CCW permit or licensing system, the person could carry in any state a concealed firearm in accordance with the laws of the state in which the person resides, subject to the laws of the state in which the firearm is carried concerning specific types of locations in which firearms may not be carried. The bill would not create a federal licensing system.

Sen. Thune's office indicated that S. 371 would allow individuals to carry lawfully concealed firearms across state lines, while at the same time respecting the laws of the host state.

"South Dakota is a state with responsible laws allowing citizens to protect themselves with concealed weapons," said Sen. Thune. "Law-abiding South Dakotans should be able to exercise the right to bear arms in states with similar regulations on concealed firearms."

A statement issued by Sen. Thune's Capitol Hill office noted that, "According to economist and leading firearms researcher John Lott, Jr., states with concealed carry laws enjoy significantly lower violent crime rates. His data shows that for every year a state has a concealed carry law, the murder rate declines by three percent, rape by two percent and robberies by over two percent."

"Currently, some states with concealed carry laws grant reciprocity to permit holders from other states. Senator Thune's bill strikes the appropriate balance between individual and states' rights by allowing an individual to carry a concealed firearm across state lines if they either have a valid permit or if, under their state of residence, they are entitled to do so.

Traveling individuals must follow the laws of the host state, including laws concerning specific types of locations in which firearms may or may not be carried."

Point Blank readers could call both of their Senators at (202) 224-3121 and ask them to cosponsor and support S. 371. You could call your Representative at (202) 225-3131 and ask the official to cosponsor and support H.R. 197.



POINT BLANK

"Straight talk about what you can do to preserve your right to keep and bear arms."

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BAD NEWS FOR GUN OWNERS: HOLDER CONFIRMATION VOTE

"When the U.S. Senate voted 75 to 21 early last month to confirm Eric Holder, Jr. as Attorney General of the United States, this came as bad news indeed for America's 90 million law-abiding firearms owners," said John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, in Washington, D.C.

"As we in CCRKBA have pointed out, Holder's public record on the individual Second Amendment civil right to keep and bear arms is an atrocious one. With Holder in command of the U.S. Justice Department answering to anti-gun President Barack Hussein Obama, we're going to need all the help those who cherish their gun rights can afford to give us if are to have any hope of combating successfully the deluge of anti-gun policies and propaganda with which we are likely to be confronted."

Before the vote, one U.S. Senator, Sen. John Barrasso of Wyoming, stated that in his state, "we don't ask for much in Washington. We ask that Washington limit its intrusion on our land, water and especially our Second Amendment rights. That's not a lot to ask in the grand scheme of Washington but it is critically important to the constituents who sent me to fight for them."

"President Obama has nominated Eric Holder to serve as the United States Attorney General. During the Clinton Administration, Mr. Holder was Janet Reno's Deputy Attorney General from 1997-2001. Deputy Attorney General Holder was on record supporting a long list of proposals to limit the Second Amendment rights of American citizens. He supported a three day waiting period for handgun purchases, one-gun-a-month purchasing limits, licensing and

registering of all gun owners, mandatory so-called smart gun technology and regulating gun shows out of existence."

Sen. Barrasso noted that, "during the last years of the Clinton Administration, Mr. Holder was involved in the Justice Department's attempt to use heavy handed lawsuit threats against firearms manufacturers. Washington moved forward with their suits against gun manufacturers that did not comply with their so-called safety standards. Smith & Wesson was the only company that agreed to the demands. As a result, gun owners throughout the country boycotted Smith & Wesson for giving in to Washington and the gun control lobby.

"In an October 25, 2001 *Washington Post* editorial titled 'Keeping Guns Away from Terrorists,' Mr. Holder argued that every firearm transaction should be regulated by Washington. His proposal would have required a son who inherited his father's shotgun to conduct a background check if the son decided to put it on the market. Mr. Holder's proposal was a backdoor attempt to regulate and shut down lawful gun shows by linking private gun sales to future terrorist attacks."

Wyoming's junior Senator recalled that, "in January 2008, Eric Holder joined Janet Reno in a brief to the Supreme Court saying Second Amendment rights do not apply to individual citizens. That brief argued that the Second Amendment 'does not protect firearms possession or use that is unrelated to participation in a well-regulated militia.' The Supreme Court ruled otherwise by affirming the individual right to possess and

bear arms.

"As a United States Senator for Wyoming, I take very seriously the responsibility to protect and defend our right to keep and bear arms. President Obama has every right to nominate Eric Holder to be Attorney General. I have the duty to closely review the nominee's qualifications and philosophy on issues important to all Americans."

Sen. Barrasso pointed out that, during the Senate Judiciary Committee hearings on his nomination, Mr. Holder "said gun control is not on this administration's agenda," but that Mr. Holder "also said he still supports regulating private gun sales, banning ammunition and semiautomatic assault weapons.

"Given Mr. Holder's career of attacks on the Second Amendment, his nomination continues to be of great concern to me. I am not convinced his philosophy on the Second Amendment is acceptable to the people of Wyoming and gun owners across the United States. Agendas and intentions can change quickly. Our nation's highest law enforcement officer must be committed to protecting and defending our individual right to keep and bear arms. I intend to vote 'no' on the nomination of Eric Holder."

Another U.S. Senator who spoke out against the nomination was Sen. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma, a former CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month. Although Sen. Coburn praised Mr. Holder's qualifications and character, calling him a great lawyer and man of integrity, according to *The New York Times*, he opposed the nomination because of Mr. Holder's views on gun control.

NY DEM ANTI-GUN RANTING SHOWS IT'S ANTI-GUN PARTY

CCRKBA noted recently that the reaction by New York Democrats to the Governor's selection of a Democratic congresswoman with a pro-gun record to take the seat of Hillary Rodham Clinton as she relinquished the position to become Secretary of State proves Democrats remain the gun control party.

"The hysteria-laden reaction from members of her own party to the appointment of U.S. Representative Kirsten Gillibrand to fill the Senate seat being vacated by Clinton proves that Democrats are still the party of gun control," said CCRKBA.

"Kirsten Gillibrand gets high marks from the American Civil Liberties Union and from the Americans for Democratic Action," noted CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb, "but because she supports gun rights, members of her own party have chosen to excoriate her and Governor David Paterson. Well, so much for being the party of tolerance and inclusion."

"Where does it say that gun owners in New York State should be deprived of a vote in the Senate Democratic Caucus? Gillibrand recently said she believes there can be much common ground between those who protect gun rights and those who believe in gun control. Isn't that the same thing that the extremists at the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence have been claiming? Isn't that the same philosophy that gun control zealots on Capitol Hill have expressed in the past?"

Gottlieb pointed out "the difference is that Gillibrand has a 100 percent rating from the NRA, while too many of her fellow Democrats have made careers out of giving only lip service to the Second Amendment.

"What this controversy really proves is that too many Democrats remain devoted to crushing gun rights, and they will even stoop to attacking and demonizing a rising star of their own party to further their agenda. This is not the party of 'change' that so many Americans supported in November. It apparently is a party of narrow views with no tolerance for different opinions, especially if those opinions support the rights of millions of law-abiding American firearm owners."

Another New York Democratic Congresswoman, noted anti-gun Rep. Carolyn McCarthy of Long Island, "said she's offended by the appointment of Gillibrand, a conservative Democrat from an upstate family of hunters, who has a 100 percent rating from the National Rifle Association," reported WNYC.

"To have someone that basically is an NRA poster child, I feel it's a slap not only in my face but certainly in the face of many victims here in New York and across the country," said Rep. McCarthy.

Rep. McCarthy said "she hopes to limit Gillibrand's time in the Senate to what's left of Clinton's term," according to WNYC. "McCarthy announced she'll challenge Gillibrand for the Democratic Party nomination in 2010.

"Gillibrand offered McCarthy an olive branch, saying that, although she's a defender of hunters' rights, she'll work with the congresswoman on a bill to 'keep guns out of the hands of criminals.'"

Anti-gun Sen. Charles Schumer, "told reporters he sees room for improvement from Gillibrand on one issue in particular – guns – and how she runs to keep Clinton's seat in 2010 will be

very different than how she ran to get elected to Congress," reported ABC News.

"I disagree with her record on guns,' Schumer admitted to reporters, but that does not mean he always will.

"She'll come to the big city and... learn the damage that guns can create,' he said, predicting that Gillibrand's view on guns would change now that she represents all of New York – from Gotham to Niagara Falls – and not just the conservative east New York House district she represented...

"Politicians grow as they learn,' Schumer said, predicting 'growth' from Gillibrand on guns and arguing that part of being a politician is adjusting when you represent new people."

Paul Helmke, President of the anti-gun Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, said that Sen. Gillibrand is "saying she realizes that she represents a statewide constituency," according to The Hill, a Capitol Hill newspaper. "One way she could prove she has evolved is to push this issue."

Helmke wants Sen. Gillibrand to support legislation to require background checks at gun shows, noted The Hill, but also reported Rep. McCarthy "said that simply sponsoring a bill would not satisfy her. She would want to see Gillibrand work with fellow Senators to build the support needed to pass one.

"I think it would be terrific' for Gillibrand to sponsor gun show background checks, McCarthy said. 'There's much more to do than introducing a bill.'"

APPOINTMENT SHOWS OBAMA'S ANTI-GUN AGENDA, SAYS CCRKBA

The pick of Seattle's anti-gun police chief for a high federal post is more proof of President Barack Obama's anti-gun agenda, CCRKBA stated last month.

CCRKBA's statement followed reports that Seattle, Washington Police Chief Gil Kerlikowske has been tapped to become the nation's next "drug czar." CCRKBA said the reports offer additional indication of the anti-gun intentions of the Obama administration.

"During his eight year tenure as Seattle's police chief, Gil Kerlikowske has established himself as a devoted lobbyist for every restrictive gun law proposal," said CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb. "That's pretty hypocritical of a guy whose own gun was stolen out of his department car on a downtown Seattle street. He

may pass an FBI background check for an appointment, but he flunked the responsible gun owner's test."

Kerlikowske has lobbied for bans on sport utility rifles that are owned by tens of thousands of law-abiding Washington State residents, and millions of their fellow American citizens. He backed legislation to close the mythical "gun show loophole" with an unsubstantiated theory that private sales put guns in the hands of criminals.

"While he's been Seattle's police chief," Gottlieb noted, "Chief Kerlikowske has become a close ally of the anti-gun Washington CeaseFire, but he's never bothered to sit down with gun owners to discuss crime problems, gun safety or enforcement efforts that focus on felons rather than firearms."

Gottlieb said "Kerlikowske's reported appointment to a post with the Obama administration reinforces the genuine concerns of American gun owners that the new president is not their friend. The new president has surrounded himself with people who have long anti-gun track records, including Joe Biden, Eric Holder, Hillary Clinton and Rahm Emanuel. By adding Gil Kerlikowske to his inner circle, Obama simply is confirming the adage that 'you can tell a lot about someone by the company he keeps.'"

According to *Time*, Kerlikowske "took a job as a community policing administrator in 1998 under President Clinton in the Justice Department. He reportedly has a relationship with Eric Holder, the current Attorney General."

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

During the 2007-2008 legislative session, bills were filed in 18 states requiring that ammunition be serialized: each box of cartridges (or bullets for reloading) sold would have to have the bullet marked with a unique serial number. Retailers would be required to record the sale of this ammunition. Existing, non-serialized ammunition would have to be expended or disposed of by a certain date. The bills were called "ammunition accountability acts."

Thanks to the efforts of gun rights advocacy organizations like CCRKBA, and the firearms industry under the leadership of the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), all of these bills were defeated.

A similar scheme was tried decades ago. From 1968 until 1986, all handgun ammunition sold had to be recorded by the seller. This was supposed to aid in solving crimes. The requirement was repealed in 1986 because it proved totally ineffective.

This new version, with serial-numbered bullets, would result in an astronomical increase in the price of ammunition. Cartridges are produced in volume, thousands of rounds at a time. To require tracking by box lots -- 20 or 50 or 100 rounds at a time -- would slow production significantly. In addition to the cost of the serialization hardware, a tracking system would have to be put in place to be able to trace each box.

As this is being written, ammunition serialization bills have already been filed in five states: Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, New Jersey and New York. Ask your state legislators to keep you informed if such a bill is filed in your state. Let your state legislators know how you feel about this kind of legislation. If such a bill has been filed, please notify us by email at jwaldron@halcyon.com.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATOR NAMED CCRKBA GUN RIGHTS DEFENDER

It was nearly two years ago that a mentally disturbed student used a firearm to murder 32 people at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia and then committed suicide.

While this tragedy was used by gun control advocates as an occasion to promote additional restrictions on the right to keep and bear arms in the Commonwealth of Virginia and elsewhere, CCRKBA pointed out that it was a Virginia Tech policy which was at fault and which may in fact have facilitated the violent rampage of the mass murderer.

CCRKBA noted that while Virginia law allows individuals with state issued permits to carry concealed firearms, the administration of Virginia Tech prohibits both faculty and students from carrying firearms on campus even if they have CCW permits.

In effect, then, the Virginia Tech policy actually prevented any professors or students with CCW permits from interrupting or stopping the April 16, 2007 rampage.

Since that time, there has been much discussion of the policy of Virginia Tech and other institutions of higher learning in Virginia and throughout the country.

One of the people who is trying to do something about the situation in Virginia is Delegate Robert Marshall, the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month for March.

In nominating Marshall for the Award, John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said that, "Bob recently introduced legislation in the Virginia House of Delegates to allow faculty members at institutions of higher education in Virginia with CCW permits to carry on cam-

pus. Because of this, and because he has been a staunch defender of gun rights throughout his public life, he certainly is most deserving of this distinction."

The bill, HB 1656, would provide that, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no board of visitors or other governing body of a public institution of higher education shall adopt or enforce any rule, regulation or policy, and no appointee, employee, or agent of the institution shall take any administrative action governing the carrying of a concealed handgun on the property of or in buildings owned by the institution by a full time faculty member of the institution who possesses a valid concealed handgun permit.

The bill also would provide that any rule, regulation or policy adopted by a board of visitors or governing body of a state institution of higher education prior to July 1, 2009, that would prohibit a full time faculty member of the institution who possesses a valid Virginia concealed handgun permit from carrying a concealed handgun on the property of or in the buildings owned by the institution is invalid.

The bill has been referred to the Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety.

"One of the most important freedoms Americans have is the right to protect themselves from unlawful aggressors," says Marshall. "This freedom is so important that our founding fathers saw it necessary to declare it our Second Amendment right, just after freedom of speech, assembly and religion. I strongly support the right of competent, law-abiding citizens to own and possess arms to defend themselves, to hunt or to pursue

sporting interests. The freedom to own and bear arms for self defense or to defend another from an unjust aggressor is a natural right."

Marshall was born in Tacoma Park, Maryland on May 3, 1944. He is married to Catherine Ann Fonseca. He is the father of Teresa Marie, Christopher Gerard (deceased), Mary Clare, Joseph Richard and Thomas James. Delegate Marshall is a member of All Saints Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus and the Prince William County, Virginia Republican Committee.

Bob received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in History in 1969 from Belmont Abbey College in Belmont, North Carolina and his Master of Arts in Humanities in 1991 from California State University.

Delegate Marshall is an independent research consultant. He has worked as a Vice President of Communications for Shenandoah Electronic Intelligence, an adjunct professor for George Mason University, the Director of Congressional Information for the American Life League, Staff Director of a U.S. Senate subcommittee, Legislative Assistant for two U.S. Representatives and one U.S. Senator, and in the Executive Office of the President as a "cost-cutter" reviewing grants for waste and efficiency.

Marshall was first elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1991. He serves on the Counties, Cities and Towns, Privileges and Elections and Technology committees. He is chairman of the Counties, Cities and Towns Subcommittee # 1, and the Privileges and Elections Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments, Campaign Reform and Ethics.

QUICK SHOTS

From Little Rock, Arkansas comes a report that Arkansans with permits to carry concealed handguns could bring their firearms to church under House Bill 1237 filed in late January by State Rep. Beverly Pyle of Cedarville. The bill would remove "any church or other place of worship" from the list of places that a person with a license to carry a concealed handgun is not allowed to carry a gun under state law, according to Arkansas News. "Because of so many things that's happened across our nation in our churches, so many incidents and deaths, this is something that needs to be addressed before something else happens in our state," Rep. Pyle said. The bill also would allow concealed handguns in the parking lots of places of worship. Rep. Pyle said a church could post a sign banning handguns but would still be allowed under the bill to give certain people permission to carry guns into the church. Fourteen house members have signed on as cosponsors of the bill.



In Vancouver, Washington, a man wearing only his underpants caught a burglar breaking into his home and held him at gunpoint, officers said. The suspected prowler was facing serious charges after the alert homeowner caught him in the act and held him at gunpoint early one morning last month, reported KPTV. Police said Matthew Morris, 24, was trying to break into the family's cars and possibly their home,

when he ended up facing the barrel of the homeowner's gun. A woman the TV channel would refer to only as "Sandy" was shaken up after the incident. "We were afraid," she said. "I mean, my husband was afraid and I was afraid for my children and our safety." After a recent string of car break-ins, Sandy and her husband set out a motion sensor in front of their house. So when the alarm was activated, they didn't hesitate. "We went to the window and saw the person in between our two vehicles and then trying to look in the front window," she said. Her husband then grabbed one of their guns and ran out to confront the man.



"In radical Muslim countries," writes Carl Solomon of Delray Beach, Florida in the South Florida Sun-Sentinel, "young children are being trained as suicide bombers – marching, firing AK-47s, being taught that anyone who opposes jihad is an enemy of God and deserves to die. Meanwhile in this country, children have been expelled from school for pointing their finger and saying 'bang.' When I was young...I remember carrying a cased .22 rifle from class to class to participate in target shooting at the end of the school day. When Obama stated he would respect the Second Amendment, that was only a ploy to get votes from legal gun owners who believed him. Ask yourself, who is going to win this war on terror? A totally unarmed population (the

United States) or the radical fanatics who believe America is the 'Great Satan?'"



Beretta U.S.A. Corporation announced in late January from Accokeek, Maryland its receipt of a U.S. Army contract to provide up to 450,000 Beretta Model 92FS pistols to U.S. military customers throughout the world. The total value of the contract, if all pistol quantities and spare parts are ordered, is \$220 million. "We are honored to see the quality and performance of the Beretta Model 92FS pistol continues to be acknowledged in this dramatic way," commented Cav. Ugo Gussalli Beretta, President of Beretta U.S.A. "It is clear that the Beretta 9mm pistol still sets the standard for military users throughout the world."



"Each year across the United States, there are 5,000 gun shows like the one held the weekend after Christmas in Kansas City," reports Lauren Kirby from Kansas City, Missouri in VOA News. "Although there are no official statistics to tell us how many firearms are actually sold at these gun-trade expositions, a typical gun show will draw anywhere from two to 10 thousand people. So for small town gun retailers like Barry and Madonna Walker, these events are a gold mine of potential customers. With the current surge in gun sales, the Walkers are attending three shows a week."



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The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report:

Here's a monthly newsletter that gives you inside gun-rights information from the desks of active principals in the battle for the right to keep and bear arms. The GOTTLIEB-TARTARO REPORT is headed by Alan M. Gottlieb – chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms – and Joseph P. Tartaro – editor of Gun Week and president of the Second Amendment Foundation. This monthly newsletter is full of inside gun rights news straight from the desks of the experts. Not available on newsstands. Regular subscription \$60 per year.

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