

POINT BLANK

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

CCRKBA ON OFFENSIVE AGAINST OBAMA & BIDEN



**February
2013**

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With the debate over gun rights heating up in Washington, D.C. following the sham meetings involving Vice President Joe Biden with people on both sides of the issue, the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms issued a stern response to comments made by the president of the Brady Campaign following his meeting with the vice president.

Brady Campaign President Dan Gross, in comments as he left his chat with Biden, suggested that the current drive for more restrictive gun laws "is not a debate around the Second Amendment."

That assertion was countered by CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb.

"The hell it's not," Gottlieb declared. "The right to keep and bear arms is at the core of this anti-gun campaign, and Dan Gross knows it."

The Brady Campaign was one of several "gun safety" organizations which met with Biden to discuss these issues, and the notion that they, and the other organizations, are for "gun safety" also met with a rebuttal from Gottlieb.

"The Brady Campaign and other such organizations are all about gun prohibition, not safety," he said. "They're not interested in safety when all they want is to disarm law-abiding Americans and taking the best means of self-defense away from crime victims while doing nothing to disarm criminals."

"The White House calling the gun prohibition lobby a 'gun safety' group is tantamount to suggesting that Ted Bundy was an advocate for battered women," he said.

Gross, in further comments to the press, also suggested that "words like 'comprehensive' and 'broad' don't mean taking guns away from law-abiding citizens."

Gottlieb called those comments into question.

"That statement is so demonstrably untrue it's ridiculous that he expects anyone to believe it," Gottlieb said. "Banning an entire class of firearms based primarily on cosmetics is taking them away from people. Imposing extremist regulations on the exercise of a civil right amounts to taking that right away and treating gun ownership like a privilege."

"Among gun prohibitionists," he concluded, "the definition of safety is disarmament. Sure they're not debating 'around the Second Amendment,' they're trying to erode it and ultimately erase it from the Bill of Rights. We're not going to let them get away with it."

PRESS IGNORES LIVES SAVED BY FIREARMS SAYS CCRKBA

In the month following the tragic Newtown school shooting, more than 65,000 people used firearms in self-defense, yet the national news media has virtually ignored this important aspect of gun ownership, the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms said today.

"Based on the most conservative estimates, tens of thousands of legally-armed private citizens have used firearms defensively, including one 15-year-old teenager in Texas who protected his home and sister with an AR-15 semiautomatic rifle," said CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb. "But the press virtually ignored these

incidents, instead concentrating on getting a juicy sound bite from anti-gun Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy about how many people have been victims of violent crime.

"This ignores the positive side of private gun ownership," he added, "and presents a biased view of guns in society. We need to recognize the number of lives that have been saved, and the number of crimes thwarted because a citizen had a gun."

"We all deplore the senseless loss of life," Gottlieb observed. "But Rep. McCarthy and other gun grabbers like to ignore the usefulness of firearms in the right hands. Anti-

gunners assume that if you only tell half a story, it becomes the story."

Gottlieb suggested that if reporters need balance, they can find stories every day about lawful self-defense on the KeepAndBearArms.com website.

"It's about time the press looked at those stories and gave them national attention equal to the attention they pay to the criminal misuse of firearms," Gottlieb said. "Private firearms ownership should be reported and encouraged. After all, if it saves just one life, then having a gun for personal protection is an idea we should all support."

GUN RIGHTS ORGS IN 5 STATES JOIN FPC

As the debate over new gun control laws continues to take top billing in state and national news, organizations representing gun owners and Second Amendment rights in five U.S. states have recently joined Firearms Policy Coalition, noted managing director Brandon Combs.

New FPC members include Commonwealth Second Amendment (of Massachusetts), Florida Carry, Illinois Carry, Hawaii Defense Foundation, and Lone Star Shooting Association (of Texas).

"In the midst of one proposed gun ban after another, the addition of these outstanding organizations to our Coalition means that those working hard to secure our Second Amendment rights are coming together to tell President Obama and

our state legislatures that enough is enough," remarked CCRKBA founder Alan Gottlieb. "The millions of law-abiding American gun owners have had it with being scapegoated for the crimes of the evil and insane."

"There's never been a more critical time for all of us fighting for the advancement of Second Amendment rights to work together," observed Brent Carlton, president of Comm2A. "Our litigation efforts are critically important, but it's equally important that gun owners be informed and take action every day to oppose those laws which infringe on their rights."

"This partnership brings Florida Carry to the forefront of the

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POINT BLANK

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

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GUN APPRECIATION DAY A HUGE SUCCESS

The Citizens' Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms joined forces with its sister organization, the Second Amendment Foundation, and a number of other gun rights organizations in support of "Gun Appreciation Day."

The Jan. 19 event was an overwhelming success. Estimates on crowd sizes varied from state to state, but CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb offered a conservative estimate of 100,000 people participating in the rallies while hundreds of thousands more attended gun shows, visited gun shops and/or shooting ranges.

According to The Gun Mag, huge rallies were held in Colorado, Connecticut, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, Kansas, Michigan, Wisconsin, Washington, North Carolina, Ohio and Montana.

"Gun Appreciation Day" was organized in response to announcements from both the Obama White House and Congress regarding gun control legislative initiatives. Gottlieb said the Gun Appreciation Day rallies were designed to educate people can gather peaceably, and that firearms are not responsible for violent crime.

"They are all united in the belief that their rights must not be sacrificed on the altar of political correctness nor should they be victims of political expediency," Gottlieb said. "Gun Appreciation Day proved that armed citizens will not meekly submit to demagoguery that punishes innocent people for crimes they did not commit."

January 19 was chosen largely because it fell two days before

President Barack Obama was sworn in for his second term.

"We need to ban politicians who assault our rights," Gottlieb suggested.

"We want the president and his allies on Capitol Hill to understand their new push will result in a shove back from the people," he stated. "Millions of law-abiding firearms owners are not about to be penalized for the unconscionable act of a madman. We will not all be judged by the conduct of a single crazy person."

"Our intent is to telegraph a message to Congress and state legislatures around the country that trampling our rights is not an acceptable solution to violent crimes committed by people who don't care about laws, much less the lives of the people they harm," he said.

OBAMA MISSES TARGET WITH ANTI-GUN AGENDA

President Barack Obama has deliberately missed the target with his proposed gun control scheme, announced today at the White House, because it is now clear he wants to blame law-abiding gun owners for the actions of criminals and madmen, the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms said.

"Suddenly Mr. Obama wants to get more criminal and mental health records into the NICS background check data base and get a permanent director for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms," observed CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb. "Where has he been for the last four years?"

Gottlieb noted that these proposals have been suggested in the past and supported by the firearms community, but they have repeatedly fallen on deaf ears. But now, as he exploits the Sandy Hook tragedy, these items are high on his anti-gun agenda.

"Perhaps he was too busy during his first term, while his administration was running thousands of assault rifles, millions of rounds of ammunition and countless high capacity magazines to violent criminals and drug cartels through his administration's Fast & Furious program," Gottlieb observed. "Now he wants to take away our Second Amendment rights when he

and his friends have put more assault weapons in the wrong hands than all of organized crime?"

"These firearms have been used not only to kill a Border Patrol agent, but also hundreds of people including women and children," he added. "This policy has resulted in more deaths than all the mass shootings in the United States in last ten years.

"The measures being proposed by the president will not prevent a repeat of the Sandy Hook tragedy, and he knows it," Gottlieb continued. "The initials 'B. O.' stand for more than Barack Obama. They stand for his failed policies and the bad odor of his blame game."

CCRKBA SAYS BLOOMBERG ONLY TELLS HALF OF STORY

Anti-gun New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg is "half-right" in his criticism about the lack of media reporting regarding firearms use, the Citizens' Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms said.

CCRKBA was reacting to Bloomberg's appearance with NBC's Jimmy Fallon in early January, and according to Yahoo! News, complained about the lack of media attention to "people who are killed by guns every day."

"Press coverage of justifiable gun use in self-defense is almost invisible," said CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb, "yet firearms are used in successful self-defense situations hundreds, if not thousands of times every day. It is disingenuous to talk about crime without mentioning the lives saved because an intended victim was armed."

"We know that thousands of lives are saved in this country every year because someone had a firearm," he continued. "In most cases, a shot is never fired, but the display of a gun sends criminals running."

Among the examples Gottlieb used in his response to Bloomberg included remarks about the high-profile shooting at a Florida internet café last fall which was caught on video. The 30-second video went viral on YouTube. He also cited the intervention by an armed citizen that stopped a gunman in his tracks at the Clackamas Town Center mall outside of Portland, OR in December.

"Most of the time," Gottlieb noted, "if they are reported at all, such stories rarely get beyond local media coverage, and quickly vanish. It would be a refreshing change to see the press pay more attention when an armed

citizen defends himself, his family, his home or total strangers by being in the right place at the right time.

"While Bloomberg would ignore these people," he observed, "they really are first responders and they sometimes perform acts of remarkable heroism in saving innocent lives. The press only pays attention to tragedies while ignoring triumphs.

"Mayor Bloomberg is famous for telling half a story," Gottlieb stated, "and he wants the press to continue as his surrogate in this campaign to demonize firearms and the people who own them. In truth, gun owners are our friends, neighbors, doctors, the people who teach our children, and many others who have sometimes been called upon to use a firearm to save a life, and we outnumber him."

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

The new session of Congress has just started and there are already more than two dozen anti-gun bills that have been filed in the 113th Congress. They range from gun registration to restrictions on where guns can be possessed to outright bans on certain popular firearms AND magazines. At the top of the list is S.150, by California Democrat Senator Dianne Feinstein which reinstates her 1994 ban on so-called "assault weapons," but on a far grander scale. In addition to more than 100 specifically named models of firearm, her generic ban criteria reduce from two to one the number of "offensive features" a firearm might have to join the ban list.

There are over 17 co-sponsors including Barbara Boxer (CA), Frank Lautenberg (NJ), Charles Schumer (NY), Elizabeth Warren (MA), Richard Durbin (IL) and Barbara Mikulski (MD). The Bill has been read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. The complete text of the bill is available at thomas.gov.

It is **IMPERATIVE** that you contact your Congresspersons and Senators and, in polite but firm terms, demand that they not allow this usurpation of THE PEOPLE'S POWER to happen. The right of the people, to keep and bear arms, **SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED**.

Contact information is available at www.house.gov, www.senate.gov, in the left margin at www.ccrkba.org and in the blue "Government" section of your telephone directory. Act NOW or lose a fundamental right forever.

CCRKBA SAYS ANTI-GUN RHETORIC DRIVES SALES

"Modern firearms that President Obama and Capitol Hill gun grabbers don't want the people to have," noted CCRKBA chairman Alan Gottlieb, "are the ones people are buying. Criminals won't turn them in, so why should law-abiding gun owners be expected to do that?"

Gottlieb was reacting to increasing rhetoric about gun control and adding new restrictions on law-abiding firearms owners, since the mid-December tragedy at an elementary school in Connecticut. Gun prohibitionists quickly moved to exploit the incident, pushing for bans on semiautomatic sport-utility rifles and standard capacity magazines. Anti-gun New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg made his first move even before detectives had really started processing the crime scenes, at the school, and at the home of the gunman's mother, whom he also murdered.

The Citizens' Committee has been extremely busy in recent weeks dealing with pending attacks on gun rights that include state and federal attempts to ban firearms.

That rhetoric has been driving firearm sales "off the charts" according

to many observers. This year's Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade (SHOT) show, attended by Gottlieb and other CCRKBA staff, was a record-setter and business for firearms manufacturers was brisk.

It was not until after the holidays that the anti-gun machinery really began spinning, first with perennial gun grabbing Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) announcing a sweeping gun control measure that seeks to ban semiautomatic rifles and "grandfather" currently owned firearms with the stipulation that they be registered, same as privately-owned fully automatic firearms, under the National Firearms Act.

President Barack Obama has made gun control a key agenda item this year, and he reiterated that during a recent appearance on a Sunday morning network news show.

Both Sen. Feinstein's proposal and the presidents were followed by furious firearms sales.

The president is correct when he told NBC's David Gregory that "there will be resistance" to proposals to ban certain semi-automatic rifles. Sales of many of these guns have gone through the roof.

"Mr. Obama admitted that he has historically supported banning semi-autos and magazines," Gottlieb noted. "His philosophy is to focus on an object when we should focus on perpetrators and the horrible pattern of violence that has resulted from the creation of so-called 'gun-free' zones. Gun-free zones and gun bans only disarm victims and create risk-free conditions for criminals and crazies."

In the interview, the president indicated he would "call all the stakeholders together" to talk about these issues, and Gottlieb said CCRKBA was eager to be a part of the discussion, but never got an invitation. He said the discussions, with Vice President Joe Biden, turned out to be "all flash and no substance."

"You cannot have an honest discussion about violence without addressing conditions that make it easy for criminals," Gottlieb observed. "You also can't have a discussion with user groups unless you have that chat with all groups. You can't keep people truly safe by giving them the illusion of safety. You do not stop criminals by penalizing law-abiding citizens and demonizing their firearms."

FIREARMS POLICY COALITION

Continued from page 2

national public policy debate on private firearms ownership," said Sean Caranna, Executive Director of Florida Carry, Inc. "As Florida's largest and most active Second Amendment rights organization, we're proud to be a part of this coalition."

Illinois Carry spokesperson Valinda Rowe added, "Illinois Carry is pleased to join efforts with the Firearm Policy Coalition. Not only must we actively work toward beating back irrational gun control laws in our home state of Illinois but we must also work toward protecting and preserving our rights on a national level.

Firearms Policy Coalition (firearmspolicy.org) is a project of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms (CCRKBA), California Association of Federal Firearms Licensees (CAL-FFL), the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF), and The Calguns Foundation (CGF).

OAK HARBOR, WA MAYOR AN RKBA STALWART

When Oak Harbor, Wash., Mayor Scott Dudley had a chance to engage in political correctness or opt for the constitution, he chose the latter in a local dispute that has taken on national implications, thanks to YouTube and the current heightened public attention to gun control.

Oak Harbor is one of several cities recently advised by CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb that they are in violation of Washington State's 30-year-old state preemption statute. Oak Harbor still has an ordinance on the books banning firearms in city parks. Gottlieb advised the city about the problem last fall.

When the council took up the issue in December, they moved to table the discussion with anti-gun Councilman Rick Almberg taking the lead.

That brought disabled veteran Lucas Yonkman to the council session in late January, where he delivered an impromptu speech about upholding the Second Amendment and not impairing the rights of citizens like himself from carrying firearms for personal protection. Yonkman told the council that he is licensed to carry and does so everyday.

This got Almberg's attention, and the councilman began grilling Yonkman about whether he was armed in the council chambers. Despite being advised by the city attorney that he did not have to answer, Yonkman volunteered that he was, indeed, armed. Almberg attempted to push a resolution banning guns from the council meetings and the motion failed.

He then excused himself and left the meeting; a scene that was caught on video, put on YouTube and went viral.

Emerging as something of a political folk hero was Mayor Dudley, who delivered a short speech of his own about civil rights, and gun rights in particular. He told Yonkman that he actually felt safer with an armed citizen in the room.

Mayor Dudley told *Point Blank* that he felt Almberg was "grandstanding" and that he evidently forgot what his job is as a council member.

Dudley also apologized to Yonkman for having been grilled by Almberg, who spoke with the *Los Angeles Times*.

The mayor had personally spoken to Gottlieb, and has a clear understanding of the state law. He promised to bring the issue up again early this month, with a stern warning for the council that if they fail to repeal the ordinance, they could face legal action.

He has a strong precedent in CCRKBA's successful lawsuit against the City of Seattle that prevented the state's largest city from imposing a parks gun ban. CCRKBA and its partners, which included the Second Amendment Foundation, other gun organizations and five private citizens, used the same state preemption law to beat Seattle, which lost at trial and on appeal. The State Supreme Court declined to review the case, thus allowing the ruling to stand and strengthening the law in the process.

Mayor Dudley sent a personal note to a constituent following the January meeting, in which he stated, "I truly believe that some in politics forget who they work for and whose money they are spending. The reason I ran for

Mayor was because it was obvious to me that the previous administration was not listening to those it should have been serving. It saddens me that we have some council members who feel they have the power to infringe on others rights. Our next council meeting...should be very popular as I am bringing back our unconstitutional ordinance in our municipal code that prohibits carrying a firearm in our parks. The council looked at it on 12/18/12 and heard that it was unconstitutional and we recommended fixing it but they chose to table it and not act upon it."

He noted to *Point Blank* that when the city first received Gottlieb's letter last fall, "our staff did the right thing" by preparing a report about the ordinance, with a recommendation that it be fixed as a housekeeping measure.

"We quickly identified the mistake," he recalled, "and we realized we are (in violation). We brought the issue forward to the council on Dec. 18 for an opportunity to correct this."

Scott Dudley epitomizes the kind of city official who takes his job and his oath seriously. He did not simply defend the Second Amendment, but also the First Amendment right of a citizen to bring a concern to the attention of government. As a small city mayor, he has become a standout, and on various Pacific Northwest firearms forums, his remarks have gained unanimous support from gun owners.

He is the kind of mayor who hasn't forgotten that being a public official also means being a public servant whose job it is to uphold the constitution, not rewrite it.



QUICK SHOTS

South Carolina's legislature, like many around the country, is taking up gun rights in their upcoming sessions, but one bill that will be discussed is actually good news for gun rights.

According to the *Charleston Post and Courier*, the bill, known as the "Firearms Freedom Act," has been pre-filed for consideration in the coming legislative session in the Palmetto State. The bill, reports the paper, is similar to bills which have passed in several other states that would exempt South Carolina from federal gun regulations.

The bill's sponsor told the *Post and Courier* that he has filed this bill once before and calls it more an issue of states' rights.



A Montana state legislator is looking to amend the U.S. Constitution with an eye on strengthening the Second Amendment.

According to the *Missoulian*, state Rep. Jerry O'Neil, who represents the northwestern Montana community of Columbia Falls, near Kalispell, is pursuing two changes to the Constitution. While appearing to be technical in nature, the proposed amendment could potentially help shield gun rights in the face of, among other things, the proposed United Nations arms trade treaty.

O'Neil is a veteran lawmaker and according to the paper has made news recently with a request he be paid in gold and silver, a request which was denied by the state.



A Mississippi state lawmaker is looking at gun legislation in the wake of the December tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary in Connecticut.

According to WLOX-TV, state Rep. Andy Gipson, who chairs the state House Judiciary Committee, was planning at press time to address this issue in the committee. Among the things he may be looking at, reports the TV station, is a bill which would deny gun permits to anyone who has been diagnosed, either by a doctor or by the state, with mental illness.



New Jersey lawmakers were preparing to address a bill that will protect gun owners' privacy.

NJToday.com reported the bill, filed by the state's top Assembly Republican, David Rible, would ban the public release of the personal information of gun permit holders.

The bill is in response to a recent move by a newspaper in neighboring New York which printed that information in the paper as part of a recent series of stories, a move widely criticized by gun rights activists, including the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms.



One Georgia gun shop is seeing increased business these days.

But the reason for that increased business is a purely local thing.

According to WGCL-TV and the Associated Press, there was an incident January 4 in which a resident of the town of Loganville was home alone with her children when she saw a suspicious person, who ultimately forced his way into her home. The occupants of the house fled into the attic, but the intruder made his way there, too. The Associated Press report said that encounter did not end well for the crook, as he was shot several times by the resident. He is listed in critical condition.

The shop which is seeing increased business as a result of this incident is located in the nearby town of Monroe, the Associated Press reported.



A recent poll shows many Virginia residents think that it's time to put armed police in schools in wake of the Connecticut shooting tragedy.

The *Hampton Roads Daily Press* reported that 66% of those polled in a Quinnipiac University survey supported stationing armed officers in schools, compared to 29% of those opposed. The poll also examined respondents' attitudes toward gun control in general, and 49% of those questioned suggested they would support additional gun restrictions within the state, and 42% thought the laws should remain as is.

The paper added the poll was conducted January 4-7 and sampled a little over 1,100 voters with a margin of error of plus or minus 2.9 percent.

