

# POINT BLANK

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



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2013**

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## IN THIS ISSUE

Video Disproves Myth	1
Obama Ignores Lives Saved	2
Firearms Companies	2
Gottlieb Testifies on Bill	3
1st Amendment Protects Guns	4-5
Citizen Action Project	4
Local Governments Oppose SAFE	5
Defender of the Month	6
Quick Shots	7

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

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## **NEW VIDEO CRUSHES MYTH ABOUT LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES**

A new video obtained by the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms destroys the myth surrounding so-called "high capacity magazines" by proving that determined shooters using smaller capacity magazines can fire just as fast, and in some cases even faster despite having to reload.

The startling video demonstration, conducted under the supervision of Boone County, Ind. Sheriff Ken Campbell and funded by ArmaLite, "throws cold water on anti-gunners who argue that magazine limitations are necessary to prevent mass shootings," said CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb. "We are all indebted to ArmaLite for this informative effort."

"Under Sheriff Campbell's supervision," he explained, "two shooters – an experienced man and a novice female – are able to repeatedly fire 30-round shot strings at three targets, using 15-, ten- and six-round magazines, all in under 30 seconds."

The male demonstrator fired 30 rounds from a pistol, first with two 15-round magazines, in 20.64 seconds, then with three ten-rounders in 18.05 seconds and finally with five six-round magazines in 21.45 seconds. The woman fired the same magazine sequence, with two 15-round magazines in 22.9 seconds, three ten-rounders in 25.51 seconds and the final five six-round magazines in 26.93 seconds.

In addition, the man then fires 20 rounds from an AR-15 rifle using a single magazine, in 12.16 seconds. He then fired 20 rounds using two ten-round magazines in less time, 10.73 seconds!

"Imposing magazine capacity limits creates a horribly false sense of security," Gottlieb observed. "This video puts the lie to this politically-motivated disarmament strategy."

Sheriff Campbell notes in the video that, "One of the reasons that the magazine restrictions are being proposed is the perception that if the active shooter has fewer bullets in magazines he will have to reload sooner and this will create an opportunity for someone to tackle him during the reload."

In a demonstration, that notion is also proven false.

Magazine capacity limits offer no panacea to the rare mass shootings that have alarmed the country," Gottlieb said. "It is time to stop this nonsense and expose magazine limits as the monumental fraud they are."

Gottlieb urged firearms owners to share this important video demonstration with state and federal lawmakers. The video can be found at YouTube at: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2Upjn5DR0o&feature=youtu.be\\_gdata\\_player](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2Upjn5DR0o&feature=youtu.be_gdata_player)

# OBAMA IGNORES LIVES SAVED BY FIREARMS SAYS CCRKBA

The Citizens' Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms recently criticized President Obama and Democrats for "packing" the audience for the president's recent State of the Union address with crime victims in an attempt to push the administration's gun ban agenda.

Numerous reports in the press suggest Democrat members of the U.S. House provided tickets to the February 12 speech before a joint session of Congress in Washington, D.C., to victims of violent, gun-related, crimes, and that irritated CCRKBA chairman Alan Gottlieb.

"President Obama has been claiming to want a balanced approach to solving the nation's gun

violence problem," noted Gottlieb. "If that was true, he would have invited people who have defended themselves with firearms to be in the audience tonight as well. Instead, anti-gun Democrats are packing the House.

"When the president uses words like 'balance,' 'safety' and 'common sense'," he continued, "it's just a charade."

Gottlieb added that this is amplified by the results of a recent poll by Quinnipiac University which showed few Americans (15 percent) consider changes in gun laws to be a top priority; rather, most (53 percent) felt the economy is still in recession, with 35% suggesting fixing the economy to be their top

issue. Reuters reported the poll sampled the views of nearly 1,800 registered voters and had a margin of error of +/- two percent.

Gottlieb made note of the poll. "The president's policies are clearly in trouble," he said, "and he's using (the) State of the Union address to grandstand for gun control while it is clear to a majority of Americans that the stagnating economy is far more important.

"Banning guns is a priority for the president but not the people," he concluded.

## GUN COMPANIES LINING UP AGAINST NY ALSO

Some 20 plus firearms and accessories companies are lining up against the new anti-gun state law known as the SAFE Act, announcing that they will not sell firearms to law enforcement agencies unless the same products and equipment can be sold to private citizens.

The sales boycott began with just a handful of companies in early February, but by the end of the month, it had surged to include firearms and accessories manufacturers such as Citizen Arms, Olympic Arms, York Arms, Midway USA, Lauer Custom Weaponry and about 70 other companies.

CCRKBA began keeping tabs on the growing boycott, noting that this may be the kind of action that gets the attention of lawmakers elsewhere.

The list also includes stalwarts such as Barrett Rifles, J&G Sales, Top Gun Supply, NEMO Arms and Thunderbeast Arms.

Sturm, Ruger released a form letter that can be copied by gun owners to be sent to Congress, arguing against any further restrictions on firearms ownership.

In addition, several large manufacturers are looking to move out of unfriendly states into gun friendly locations.



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

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# CCRKBA CHAIRMAN TESTIFIES ON LEGISLATION

CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb had a rare opportunity recently to demonstrate that gun rights does not wear blinders, but also cannot be flanked, when he twice testified before legislative committees on different measures in the Washington State Legislature.

Traveling to the Evergreen State's capitol in Olympia, he first appeared in support of a bill that seeks to get tough with armed juvenile criminals.

CCRKBA had been approached in the fall by King County Prosecutor Dan Satterberg, who revealed that juvenile court sentencing was something of a farce, and that juvenile gun offenders had to have five convictions before they were sent to even minimal detention.

Assured that he was not interested in interfering with the rights of law-abiding citizens, including juveniles and teens who hunt, use guns for recreational shooting or competition, CCRKBA announced that it supported the concept of getting tough on young criminals.

When Gottlieb appeared before the state Senate Health and Human Services Committee – surprising some anti-gunners in the process – he told them, “We stressed to Dan at the outset that under no circumstances would we support a measure that might ensnare or entrap a teen who accidently leaves a shotgun in his car after a weekend of hunting, camping or shooting at the range, or who drives the family car only to discover someone else forgot to take a rifle out of the trunk.

“We were especially impressed,” Gottlieb continued, “that Mr. Satterberg's concept has absolutely

no bearing on the rights of legally-armed adults, including more than 396,000 law-abiding citizens who are legally licensed to carry concealed pistols, or the growing number of citizens who openly carry.”

Gottlieb also reminded the committee that CCRKBA “has championed laws that punish criminals while not affecting legally-armed citizens.”

“We supported Three Strikes and Hard Time for Armed Crime initiatives because they focused on lawbreakers, without penalizing gun owners,” he said.

“Others might argue that this proposal doesn't go far enough because it doesn't discourage legitimate firearms use by youth and young adults,” Gottlieb observed. “Those are the people who try to mask gun prohibition with the term ‘gun safety’ because they don't believe anyone should have a firearm.

“We look at this measure as both reasonable and representative of a common ground approach to a difficult subject, and as far more sensible than adding a law that penalizes the wrong people,” he concluded.

A week later, he was back in Olympia, arguing against a “universal background check” measure because it would open the door to the establishment of a de facto gun registry in Washington.

House Bill 1588 was opposed by every gun rights group in the Northwest, and Gottlieb's remarks to the House Judiciary Committee underscored why.

“This measure requires that a purchaser of a firearm in a private

transaction fill out an application that would be provided to a licensed firearms dealer or a law enforcement agency,” he said. “There is no provision in this measure that requires (this information) to be destroyed...so it appears that these documents would be retained, essentially the way that state level handgun purchase applications are retained, and could open the door to establishing a total firearms registry for rifles and shotguns.”

Also missing from the measure, he said, is an exemption for anyone in possession of a current state Concealed Pistol License, even though a background check is required to get a CPL.

The measure has no provision setting a time limit on the state-level background check, only that it “shall include a check of the national criminal instant background check system.”

“This state-level check could take hours, or even days,” Gottlieb said, “because there is nothing specific in the bill about when a transaction would be allowed to go forward, making it far from an ‘instant check’.”

Gottlieb reminded the panel that he has not been opposed to background checks but added, “This legislation goes far beyond what I would consider reasonable.”

He took the opportunity to have a private conversation with one of the bill's chief sponsors, Rep. Mike Hope (R-Lake Stevens), who is also a Seattle police officer and has a solid pro-gun voting record. Hope assured Gottlieb that he and other lawmakers are willing to work with the firearms community to resolve concerns about the legislation.

# GOTTLIEB SAYS 1st AMENDMENT

Alan Gottlieb, chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, recently authored an opinion piece that was picked up quickly by several newspapers in which he defended ownership of semiautomatic sporting rifles as a political statement protected by the First Amendment.

It got plenty of attention as readers of the various newspapers acknowledged that he had a point.

The rush to gun shops by an increasing number of citizens to purchase semi-autos and their standard capacity magazines can be viewed as an exercise of political speech in defiance of President Barack Obama's desire to ban those firearms. The president and anti-gun Sen. Dianne Feinstein have both thrown their energy into passing a permanent ban.

But Gottlieb's Op-Ed piece caught many people off guard, and provided activists with yet another counter to the gun ban hysteria.

Here's what Gottlieb wrote:

Following the hysteria generated by gun prohibitionists in the wake of the Sandy Hook tragedy, a nationwide rush on gun stores began as citizens bought semiautomatic modern sporting rifles, handguns and ammunition, in effect "making a political statement" about proposals to ban such firearms.

Making political statements is what the First Amendment is all about.

The so-called "assault rifle" has become a symbol of freedom and the right of the people to speak out for the entire Bill of Rights. Banning such firearms, which are in common use today, can no longer be viewed exclusively as an infringement on the Second Amendment, but must also be

considered an attack on the First Amendment.

Many people now feel that owning a so-called "assault rifle" without fear of government confiscation defines what it means to be an American citizen. Their backlash against knee-jerk extremism is a natural reaction to overreaching government.

What should one expect in response to this heightened rhetoric and legislative hysteria? Citizens in other countries react differently to government intrusion into their lives, but Americans are uniquely independent. Among firearms owners, talk of gun bans and attempts to limit one's ability to defend himself or herself against multiple attackers by limiting the number of rounds they can have in a pistol or rifle magazine turns

## CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

Some form of a universal background check bill stands the greatest chance of making it through Congress, and through several state legislatures as well. Background checks sound good on the surface, and many gun owners have voiced their support.

But are we talking about background checks or are we really talking about gun registration? In every case, the proposals call for all firearm transfers to be conducted via a federally-licensed firearms dealer (FFL) or by local law enforcement. What this really is is de facto gun registration. FFLs are required to enter ALL transfers in their bound book and have the buyer complete ATF Form 4473. Both the bound book and the 4473 contain a complete description of the buyer and the firearm being transferred. And that information is fully accessible by the ATF upon demand.

Can we count on local law enforcement conducting background checks to destroy all data after a check is completed? It's not likely, given the bureaucratic penchant for retaining any and all data that comes into their possession. Some proposals specifically require retention.

If they want to debate gun registration, then by all means do so. But call it registration. Don't try to sneak it in under the guise of background checks. Now is the time to contact your federal and state legislators and politely but firmly tell them you are opposed to gun registration in any form.

Gun registration may not automatically lead to confiscation, but it is a necessary precursor to any effective confiscation program, as California is currently considering doing.

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

# T PROTECTS SEMI-AUTOS, TOO!

gun owners into political activists.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) did not intend her gun ban proposal to cause skyrocketing sales of semiautomatic rifles and pistols, but that's what happened. She must live with the consequences of her shameless political exploitation of the Sandy Hook tragedy.

President Barack Obama never envisioned the rush to purchase rifle and pistol magazines, but telling American citizens they shouldn't have something is like sending a signal they need to acquire those things immediately.

Vice President Joe Biden never imagined his efforts would result in a tidal wave of new members and contributions to gun rights organizations, making the firearms community stronger and more united in opposition to any assault on the Second Amendment.

Freedom of association is also protected by the First Amendment.

Perhaps they should take a day off and visit the monuments at Lexington and Concord, and reflect on what prompted those colonists to stand their ground. It was the first time in American history that the government moved to seize arms and ammunition from its citizens, and it went rather badly for the British.

Beneath the surface many Americans are convinced that we may be approaching a point when the true purpose of the Second Amendment is realized. Underscoring this is a new Pew Research Center poll that, for the first time, shows a majority (53 percent) of Americans believe the government is a threat to their rights and freedoms.

Exacerbating the situation is a perceived indifference from the administration toward the rights

of firearms owners who have committed no crime, but are being penalized for the acts of a few crazy people.

It is time to lower the rhetoric and allow cooler heads to prevail. The demonization of millions of loyal, law-abiding Americans and the firearms they legally own must cease. If we are to have a rational dialogue about firearms and violent crime, we must recognize that the very people who could be most affected have a First Amendment right to be heard.

Recall the words of Abraham Lincoln, who cautioned us more than 150 years ago that "A house divided against itself cannot stand." A half-century before him, Benjamin Franklin taught us that "Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

Their spirits are calling to us now.

## LOCAL NY GOVERNMENTS OPPOSE NY GUN LAW

Several local governments in upstate New York are taking stands in support of gun rights, opposing the new anti-gun state law known as the SAFE Act.

*USA Today* reports that more than two dozen city and county legislative bodies, mostly in the western part of the state, have passed resolutions in opposition to the new law, which, among other things, banned semi-automatic assault weapons and limited magazine clip capacity and toughened gun registration rules.

Among the counties which have passed resolutions include Greene County, in the Catskill Mountains,

where the legislature there, according to the Daily Freeman newspaper, voted almost unanimously – 13-1 – at their Feb. 20 meeting to pass a resolution opposing the measure, signed in January by anti-gun Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

Other counties which are considering resolutions include Genesee County, where a county legislature committee has voted to send a similar proposal to the full council for approval, reports WBTA radio in Batavia. A county clerk told the radio station that he's getting swamped with requests for state pistol permit applications, and

also forms allowing gun owners to opt-out of having their information released publicly, that being likely in response to the recent controversy surrounding a Westchester newspaper's publication of that data as part of a news story on the issue.

Erie County lawmakers also have approved a resolution as well, according to WBFO radio, which reported that this passed during the regular council meeting Feb. 21.

The law not only has attracted opposition from local lawmakers; many gun companies have stopped doing business in the state as well in response to the new regulations.

# SEN. TED CRUZ IS MARCH DEFENDER OF THE MONTH

The blood literally had not dried in Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. last December when the latest major assault on guns and gun owners began.

It was clear from the outset that the showpiece of President Obama's second term, but rising to stand in the way was freshman Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, who has earned recognition as the CCRKBA's Gun Rights Defender of the Month award winner for March.

Anti-gunners wasted no time in going into full campaign mode, complete with choreographed events ranging from a blue ribbon "Commission on Gun Violence" headed by Vice President Joe Biden and populated by anti-gun police executives and like-minded individuals to a stage-managed State of the Union address filled with victims of "gun violence" with a Presidential mantra of "give them a vote" to special hearings on Capitol Hill by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

As the rhetoric has heated up, Senator Cruz willingly took a lead role on countering this campaign.

Chicago Mayor (and former Obama White House Chief of Staff) Rahm Emanuel introduced Chicago politics into the equation, demanding banks that loaned money to firearm manufacturers to cut their line of credit. Senator Cruz immediately responded by sending a letter to the banks in question and to the firearm manufacturers condemning Emanuel's actions in the strongest term. In the letter, he said "We (in Texas) do not accept the notion that government officials

should behave like bullies, trying to harass or pressure private companies into enlisting into a political lobbying campaign." He went on to invite gun companies to move to Texas.

On Jan. 30, the Senate Judiciary Committee opened the next stage of the gun-grabbing campaign by holding a hearing with the title "What Should America Do About Gun Violence." Not violence in general -- but only "gun violence."

The hearing was obviously staged for the evening news, with a single panel invited to speak. NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre and gun scholar Dave Kopel were on the panel, as were Baltimore County, Md., Police Chief James Johnson and former astronaut (and husband of former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, who made a cameo statement to the committee) Mark Kelly.

Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Charles Schumer (D-NY) tried to set the tone for the hearing, promoting largely unworkable "solutions" and attacking pro-gun testimony. The Republican line-up was equally impressive with Senators Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Jeff Sessions (R-AL), Jeff Flake (R-UT) and others. Texas was represented on the Committee by both of its senators, Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) and Sen. Cruz (R-TX).

While all of the GOP committee members made good points in opposition to the Democrat proposals, Sen. Cruz immediately and accurately got to the heart of the matter, using graphics to demonstrate the fact that there is essentially no difference between so-called "assault weapons" available on the open market and firearms so clearly suited for legitimate

sporting or defensive use that they are on the "good guns" list in S.150. Senator Feinstein's latest attempt to shut down the "evil black rifle" market. A picture is worth a thousand words, and Cruz's effective use of graphics brought the point home to everyone present.

On the campaign trail, then-candidate Cruz promised if elected he would "go to Washington and shake up the status quo." In just over a month in the Senate, he has kept that promise.

This was not Cruz' first foray into gun politics. He played a critical role in the case of *District of Columbia v Heller* (2008), the landmark case where the Supreme Court ruled that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep arms, not subject to militia service. In that case Cruz worked to build a coalition of 31 states that submitted amicus briefs in support of the individual right to keep and bear arms.

Sen. Cruz was born in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where his Cuban-American father and Delaware-born mother were both employed in the oil business. He spent his formative years in Texas before he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University and graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School, where he was an editor of the Harvard Law Review, an executive editor of the Harvard Journal of Law & Public Safety and a founding editor of the Harvard Latino Law Review.

He served as a law clerk to then-Chief Justice William Rehnquist, followed by similar service at the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Senator Cruz and his wife, Heidi Nelson Cruz, have two daughters.



# QUICK SHOTS

The city council in one Maine community recently took a stand in support of gun rights.

According to the *Bangor Daily News*, the council in the city of Rockland voted 3-2 during their February 11 meeting to reject a proposal that would have had the council ask state and federal lawmakers to look at new gun control proposals.

One councilman who was interviewed indicated he voted no because he was unsure if the public would support such a move.



A New Jersey school principal may become the first in his state to be allowed to carry a concealed firearm while on school property.

So reports NorthJersey.com, which stated Raymond Rotella, the principal of the high school serving Passaic Valley, was just one vote by the school district board away from being able to pack a gun while on the job during the day on campus after they voted unanimously February 12 to allow him to do so. The website reported Rotella is a career police officer who has experience dealing with school security, and the idea of letting him carry on campus is part of a series of new security measures the district has put in place in response to last December's school shooting tragedy in Newtown, CT.



Another sign that educators are clearly concerned about their students' safety came out of Colorado,

where a concealed-weapons training class in Colorado Springs drew several school instructors.

The *Colorado Springs Gazette* reported that among the 50 or so people who attended the February 2 class at a local hotel were nine teachers. The class was sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Gun Owners, who holds several of these classes around the state per month, and it covered, according to the paper, all the major elements to owning a firearm, including the law and safety.



The election in Chicago to fill the vacant Congressional seat left by the resignation of Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. has attracted attention from anti-gun forces.

CNN reported that anti-gun New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and his political action committee have spent over \$1 million for ads criticizing candidate Debbie Halvorson for her pro-gun stance. The ads call attention to Halvorson's record supporting gun rights. The former congresswoman is seen as a leading candidate to fill the vacant seat.



The Tennessee State Senate recently voted on a bill allowing for expanded concealed carry rights in.

According to the Associated Press, the Senate passed the proposed legislation 28-5. The bill, reported the AP, would let licensed concealed carry permit holders in the state store their loaded firearms in

their cars while parked when they're away from home, such as at work.

The AP reported the bill failed to pass last year, and that ultimately cost one powerful House member her seat in November after gun rights supporters endorsed her opponent.



Lawmakers in South Carolina are looking to make it easier for concealed carry permit holders in that state to go out to eat while carrying concealed firearms.

The Associated Press reports state senators heard comments Feb. 12 on a proposal that would allow those concealed carry license holders to carry their firearms into restaurants provided the establishment hasn't posted signs banning firearms in the premises, and the gun owner doesn't have an alcoholic beverage with their meal.



Valentine's Day in Las Vegas, NV, provided the usual activities and entertainment for couples that "Sin City" is known for. A number of shooting ranges in that city, though, are looking to get a piece of that action.

The *Las Vegas Review-Journal* reported that a number of ranges offered promotions surrounding the February 14 holiday, among them the opportunity to shoot sub-machine guns, photos with Uzi rifles and a chance to blast a paper zombie target.

