

THE *BULLY*

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Gun rights advocates at convention spell out plans if GOP gains control in November

Republicans speaking at a concealed carry event on Tuesday, just days after a gunman attempted to kill their presidential nominee, insisted the party won't change its stance on Second Amendment rights.

Attendees at the one-hour session, hosted by the U.S. Concealed Carry Association near the Republican National Convention, weren't actually able to conceal carry any firearms, since it was held inside a Secret Service security check-point.

But those in attendance heard from Trump campaign senior adviser Chris LaCivita and three members of Congress about what the plans will be for gun rights should they sweep Congress and the White House during November's elections.

"I think what we'll see is a continuation of supporting and defending the Second Amendment and where that really comes into play is the judiciary, the appointment of judges," LaCivita said. "And so that is clearly, you know, one of the largest impacts that President Trump had clearly during his first term was a remake of the judiciary."

Florida U.S. Rep. Kat Cammack, speaking with reporters after the event, said that the GOP was "absolutely not" considering changing its support for Second Amendment rights. Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump on Saturday was injured by a gunman at a campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania. One person was killed and two others were injured. The shooter was killed at the scene.

"I stand 1,000% convicted in the fact that the Republican Party will always stand for the Constitution and the Second Amendment and our right to bear arms," Cammack said. "One deranged individual, who clearly needed help, he is not going to change the United States Constitution and our right as Americans to bear arms. Absolutely not."

Cammack said it is "shocking" and "inappropriate" for any lawmaker to call for changes to gun laws in the wake of "tragic events" like mass shootings. She criticized Democrats for not making similar comments following the Trump shooting.

"The thing that has been really shocking to me, is you see right after tragic events, many politicians and pundits come out and they say, 'This is the time to have the discussion about gun control' when clearly... that's not appropriate," she said.

"In this case, I have gone through and seen the messaging of some of my colleagues, and I don't see those same calls for gun control in the aftermath of this incident," Cammack added. "So it makes me think that there's a bit of a disingenuous attitude on some of the remarks that they've been making."

During the panel discussion, Cammack said Republicans need to talk to the 10 million hunters and gun owners throughout the country who are not registered to vote to ensure they change that and go to the polls in November.

"That is a missed opportunity for us as 2A advocates to make sure that we are actually doing the work to secure that victory, because we cannot turn the corner into January and start talking about how we're going to do national reciprocity, if we don't have the votes," Cammack said.

A nationwide concealed carry reciprocity law would likely require a state with stricter concealed carry laws to recognize an out-of-state concealed carry permit.

USCCA writes on its website that "(r)eciprocity simply means a concealed carry permit or license is valid beyond the issuing state."

"States may have full reciprocity, recognizing all out-of-state permits, or partial reciprocity, specifying agreements with select states," the website states, referring to state-level laws. "The negotiation and recognition of these agreements depend on the willingness of states to cooperate. Whatever the agreement, carriers must follow the laws of the state in which they are carrying, and those may be different from the issuing state."

Wisconsin U.S. Rep. Scott Fitzgerald said during the panel that gun rights advocates must pay close attention to lawmakers at the state and federal level, since changes to gun ownership laws are generally incremental and not sweeping.

"I think that, you know, we have to be diligent as legislators that protect the Second Amendment to say, 'No, wait a minute, you know, this is a constitutional guarantee right,'" Fitzgerald said. "So you can continue to pass bill after bill after bill with some cute type of name that would lead people to believe that it's about security. But we have to be diligent."

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...dedicated to the restoration of the inalienable right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment

The Alliance is a regionally-based, grass-roots organization that seeks to:

- 1. Counter the designs of malicious legislators.
2. Confront the media's twisted portrayals of gun rights issues.
3. Politicize and activate gun owners in defense of their rights.
4. Acquaint the public with the true nature of the Second Amendment.
5. Network with other pro-gun groups to coordinate local, state and national strategies.
6. Train people in basic firearm safety and handgun defense.
7. Sponsor and support pro-gun legislation
8. Make politicians aware that gun owners are awakening from their accustomed apathy and WILL TOLERATE NO FURTHER EROSION OF THEIR FREEDOMS

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CONTACT:

- Business correspondence - WMSA, P O Box 11144, Kansas City, MO 64119
Editorial correspondence - E-mail to: Bob.WMSA@gmail.com
WMSA Hotline/Fax - (877) 333-WMSA (9672)
Web page - www.wmsa.net



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COMING EVENTS

Events may be cancelled at last minute due to Covid Restrictions.

WMSA

General Membership Meeting

Sept. 24, 2024

7:00 PM

Bass Pro

Independence, MO

Nov. 22, 2024

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MVACA

Missouri Valley Arms Collectors Assn.

To be announced

KCI Expo Center

Kansas City, MO

R. K. Shows

Oct. 19-20, 2024

Nov. 30- Dec. 1

Dec. 21-22, 2024

KCI Expo Center

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LIBERTY NOTES

It is a good day for Liberty.

Tim Oliver has died. When the License To Carry law went to the Missouri Supreme Court we did not entirely trust the Attorney General we had at the time. Tim hired a law firm on his own credit to make sure we were protected. We will not see his like again.

Some sort of computer glitch took down the 911 system in several states. This serves to show that we are our own first responders. We cannot rely on the government to save us.

I am often called by far-away people who want to hire me because “all the local lawyers are crooks.” This is highly unlikely. Very often the best lawyer for a case is one the judge has seen before and who knows his eccentricities.

Jackson County has proposed a county ordinance prohibiting person 18 to 21 years old from possessing a handgun or an “assault weapon.” This is illegal under the Missouri pre-emption law as it is more restrictive than state law. They don’t seem to care. If they pass it, we should sue. We will need a person between 18 and 21 to be the named plaintiff.

The federal government has opened up certain federal land for hunting and fishing. This is not all federal land. You will have to check if a favored spot is on the list.

Locally, the Missouri Department of Conservation is distributing booklets on deer, turkey and waterfowl hunting. Some of the rules have changed. Contact the Department of Conservation for a copy.

In the last five years, there have been over one million background checks each month. Many of these background checks were for multiple firearms. People are voting for guns with their wallets. A great number of these background checks were for new shooters. We need to welcome these new shooters; and their votes. They may be foreign, gay, transsexuals with disgusting taste in sports teams and beer. We need everyone.

It is said that 100,000 gun owners are not even registered to vote. The common excuse is that it is the system is rigged. The more people who vote, the harder it is to rig the system. If you don’t vote, you don’t get to complain. You don’t even get to keep the guns you have. Boasting about hiding your guns just means that you will not be able to enjoy shooting them. This is as bad as confiscation. Boasting that you bought your guns “off paper” and all your ammunition for cash is a hollow claim. Anyone who has bought a hunting license, subscribed to a gun magazine or bought something half-way gun related is on a mailing list. If on a mailing list, the government can find you.

Al Gore lost his race for the Presidency, and even lost him his home state of Tennessee. Bill Clinton attributed this loss to the gun owners’ vote. We have won before and can do it again.

August is Make A Will month. I don’t do wills, I refer people to John R. Sanderford III 816-415-9455. Wills are different from gun trusts which is another good idea. Without a will your property goes according to the law our legislature has enacted. That should send you screaming to John’s office.

I’ve read the book “Confessions of a Sociopath” a candid history of a lady’s life with an anti-social personality disorder. She is comfortable being a sociopath and wants us to be comfortable with it as well. I am not. She recounts “ruining” people for idle amusement. This consisted in one episode of breaking up a romance. She gained nothing from it. She did it because she could and it amused her. There are people further along the anti-personality disorder spectrum we used to call psychopaths. The most extreme of this group amuse themselves by doing horrible things to inoffensive people. For them it is fun. For us, it is the reason we have guns.

The attempted assassin of President Trump left a cell phone and messages on a web site. The FBI has cracked them. The messages show that he was a rabid Biden supporter. This story has disappeared from the national media.

I underestimated the support Kamala Harris would draw. The race, at best, will be very close. We will have to work very hard, spend money. It is the only way to save our rights for our grandchildren.

For decades I have hoped to face an election in which our rights did not hang in the balance. This one is the worst. I keep reading that the “sugar high” from Kamala Harris’s anointing has peaked and will decline. That will only happen if we make it happen. Get to work.

I Second That.

“And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with his wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just: that his justice cannot sleep for ever.”

—Thomas Jefferson



“The book ‘1984’ is supposed to be a warning. Today’s leftists are using it as an instruction manual.” —Victor Joecks



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

TIM OLIVER
K.L. Jamison

One of our great men has died. Tim Oliver's big heart finally gave out on him. Tim was a leader in our movement and for thirteen years and the point man for the License to Carry struggle. Over those thirteen years he took time from his private investigations business to work on the legislature. In the process he got to know our friends, our enemies, and the ones who lied to our faces. One legislator sent us a letter stating that he was our guy and would get our bill passed. Through his sometimes mysterious contacts Tim was copied on a letter that same legislator sent to the opposition saying he was *their* guy and would prevent the bill from passing. Tim confronted the legislator with the two letters and told him to make a decision; we already had. Tim was diplomatic when necessary and blunt when it was required.

Tim was a License to Carry instructor as well as a private investigator. He was very good. A professional in all things Tim was appalled to discover the slipshod way certain amateur instructors taught the legal part of the required course. He was instrumental in creating a video of the required information which is now used by many instructors.

He was a great leader in our movement. He was a great friend. He is missed.

I thank-you for the honor of being your president.

A CHEAP LEGAL NOTE GOOD AND INSANE

K. L. Jamison

The "bump stock" ban has been struck down by the Eighth Circuit (federal) Court of Appeals. The decision applies only to the Eighth Circuit, which includes Missouri. They did not find it unconstitutional. They found that it was passed by ATF in violation of the Administrative Procedures Act. This means that the ATF can write it again and process it properly. This will ban them again and they will be seized without compensation. This depends a great deal on who is elected in November.

There has been an insane case out of Minnesota. A victim was threatened by an aggressor with a knife. The aggressor invited the victim to step out of the security camera's range so he could cut his throat. The victim produced a machete (from somewhere). He may have made some quote along the lines of "Now that's a knife!" or "Mine's bigger." He brandished the machete causing the aggressor to retreat. The aggressor then called the police and complained that the victim threatened him. The victim was arrested and charged with assault; the aggressor was not. It doesn't have to make sense, it's just the law, or so it seemed to Minnesota. Minnesota is a duty to retreat state, one of eleven surviving such states. Their law says that one must retreat before acting in self-defense. The Minnesota Supreme Court ruled that one must retreat before *threatening* to act in self-defense. The Court claimed that this will reduce conflicts. It was the exhibition of the knife that stopped the conflict. Until the Court expanded the duty to retreat law to include threats of self-defense no one knew that this was the law. The victim now faces prison for violating a section of law the Court invented out of thin air. There was a dissenting opinion. If a Supreme Court cannot be unanimous on such things, what is the average citizen to do?

Insane.

Kevin L. Jamison is an attorney in the Kansas City Missouri area concentrating in the area of weapons and self-defense.

*Please send questions to Kevin L. Jamison 2614 NE 56th Ter Gladstone Missouri 64119-2311
KLJamisonLaw@earthlink.net. Individual answers are not usually possible but may be addressed in future columns.*

This information is for legal information purposes and does not constitute legal advice. For specific questions you should consult a qualified attorney.

"Every child in America should be acquainted with his own country. He should read books that furnish him with ideas that will be useful to him in life and practice. As soon as he opens his lips, he should rehearse the history of his own country."

—Noah Webster

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KEVIN L. JAMISON
Attorney at Law



2614 NE 56th Terrace
GLADSTONE, MO 64119
KLJamisonLaw.com
KLJamisonLaw@earthlink.net

OFFICE: 816-455-2669
RES: 816-453-2376
FAX: 816-413-0696



SAF SUES PENNSYLVANIA OVER CCW PROHIBITION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

The Second Amendment Foundation has filed a federal lawsuit challenging Pennsylvania’s prohibition against allowing young adults aged 18 to 20 from acquiring a license to carry a firearm (LTCF) for personal protection. The case is known as *Brown v. Paris*.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. SAF is joined by three young adults, all who are SAF members. They are Taylor Brown, Shawn Palmer and Max Ness. They are represented by attorneys Joshua Prince at the Civil Rights Defense Firm in Bechtelsville, Pa., and Adam Kraut at the Second Amendment Foundation. Named as the sole defendant in the case is Col. Christopher Paris, commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police, in his official capacity.

“Our individual plaintiffs have no criminal backgrounds and would like to procure a LTCF,” said Kraut, who also serves as SAF’s executive director. “However, the state law precludes them from carrying firearms, whether openly or concealed, in public for self-defense. Yet, a look back at history reveals young adults between 18 and 20 were fully protected by the Second Amendment at the time of its ratification. Indeed, at the time of the founding, young adults in this age group were actually required to keep and bear arms.”

SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan M. Gottlieb noted, “As we explain in our lawsuit, SAF has members and supporters all over the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and we are bringing this action on their behalf. Our young adult members would lawfully carry and legally transport firearms for personal protection and the protection of their loved ones, and others, but for the defendant’s enforcement of the laws we are challenging.”

The lawsuit asks for a declaratory judgment, a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction, followed by a permanent injunction.

Minnesota Law Barring Handgun Permits for 18-20 Year Olds Struck Down

A federal appeals court has ruled that Minnesota’s ban on 18- to 20-year-olds obtaining a permit to publicly carry a handgun is unconstitutional, violating both the Second and 14th Amendments. The 8th US Circuit Court of Appeals’ unanimous decision stated that the state failed to prove that individuals aged 18 to 20 should be excluded from carrying handguns for self-defense. This decision comes after gun rights groups challenged the 2003 law.

The ruling follows a recent assassination attempt against Donald Trump by a 20-year-old, which has reignited debate over age-specific gun laws. The AR-style rifle used in the incident was legally purchased by the shooter’s father.

Minnesota’s argument that young adults are not competent to carry firearms was dismissed due to insufficient evidence.

This landmark decision sets a precedent affecting North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, and Arkansas.

Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison expressed disappointment, while gun rights advocates celebrated the decision.



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REPORT DEMONSTRATES CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF #GUNVOTE® TO SAFEGUARD HUNTING, RECREATIONAL SHOOTING TRADITIONS

A new report from a grassroots voter registration group demonstrates the tremendous importance of registering to vote and the heightened impact hunters, recreational shooting sports enthusiasts and other law-abiding American gun owners could have on federal, state and local elections if they were only to register to vote and do so on Nov. 5, 2024.

That includes making sure the more than **22.3 million new first-time gun owners since 2020** are registered and make the effort to get to the ballot box on election day. NSSF's #GUNVOTE initiative was created to do just that and according to the **newly released data from Vote4America**, the outcome of the presidential election could be determined by Second Amendment supporters in just over 100 days.

What's the Data Say?

The New York Post **reported on new survey data** from Vote4America that showed "Republicans don't address political apathy among their gun-owning base in key swing states, they'll have far fewer voters in their arsenal to score victories this November." According to the survey, Vote4America suggests there are some big gaps in critical swing states regarding hunters and shooting sports enthusiasts who are not registered to vote. In a breakdown by state, the data shows unregistered hunting and Second Amendment supporters total at least 515,277 in Pennsylvania. That number is closer to around 370,000 each in Michigan and North Carolina. In addition, Georgia, Wisconsin, Missouri and Virginia "all have more than half a million hunters and gun owners unregistered," and in Arizona – another state that could swing to either President Joe Biden or presumptive Republican nominee former President Donald Trump – that number totals approximately 133,000.

In a podcast discussion with District of Conservation podcast host Gabriella Hoffman, Vote4America adviser Baker Leavitt said, "If we could convert 2% of all licensed hunters and get them to vote, GOP would win in a landslide." Hoffman agreed, reiterating the importance of the voting bloc.

"A lot of hunters and gun owners, they're very animated in social media, they have a lot of opinions, but they don't go out to vote," she explained. "They talk a great deal, often about preserving your rights, doing this – hunting – but a lot of people don't follow through with voting."

An additional adviser to the group, Stephen Aaron, told Hoffman the stakes are high.

"Our goal is to make sure these people know that voting matters," Aaron said. "This is an effort to help voters connect the issues impacting their daily life to decisions made by elected officials so people understand their vote really does matter and they engage."

Breitbart News **highlighted the data** – and voter registration efforts – while referencing the importance the key voting bloc could have in critical swing states. Citing pro-hunting and pro-Second Amendment advocate Ted Nugent, Breitbart quoted the famous rock singer who stated, "The most powerful conservative voting army can be identified as licensed hunting families, and we have seen a re-engagement that glows positive," Nugent said in 2020. "That conservative army, way too many of them, have been sitting it out. And that non-participation has rolled out the welcome mat" for elected officials who would trample on Constitutional rights.

Big Numbers. Outsized Difference.

The gap in the numbers of those Americans who actively participate in hunting, recreational shooting and target and range practice for self-defense purposes but aren't registered to vote nor make it to the voting box is a gap but creates a tremendous opportunity for good. NSSF data reveals more than **22.3 million** Americans became first-time gun owners since the last presidential election in 2020, roughly the population of the state of Florida. Those gun owners looked around and didn't like what they were seeing in their communities, their states and even at the federal level. So much so that they jumped off the fence and purchased a firearm. A significant portion was very likely made up of law-abiding Americans who previously supported some degree of gun control or likely voted for politicians that supported those policies and now are viewing crime, community safety and gun control policies through a different lens.

When those numbers are considered in the context of swing states in the Electoral College that could decide the presidency and be decided by only a few thousand votes, the disparity between who's hunting and heading to the range to exercise their Constitutionally-protected rights and who's voting becomes all the more critical. Second Amendment advocates and hunting enthusiasts need to know their commitment to registering to vote and doing so in November will have an outsized impact on a presidential election that will be extremely close.

Don't Risk Your Rights

NSSF's #GUNVOTE initiative was created to ensure law-abiding Americans casting ballots at the ballot box are informed of how to register to vote, when and where to cast their ballot and to make the most impactful decisions to safeguard their rights and freedoms. #GUNVOTE conveniently lists out all U.S. states with links to their respective Secretary of State's websites where more details about registering to vote, early voting protocols and the entire process can be found. For those who wait until election day to cast their ballot, #GUNVOTE will also tell voters of their polling place so that exercising the right to vote is as easy as possible.

Of course, self-defense and the very right to purchase and possess firearms is an inalienable right and enshrined within the U.S. Constitution. Those issues – ensuring law-abiding Americans can protect themselves, their families and their property – are what's most often thought about.

GUNVOTE (Continued on page 7)

GUNVOTE (Continued from page 6)

But issues related to access to public lands and the ability to use those lands for hunting and recreational target shooting are important as well. Supporting those activities perpetuates the success and health of wildlife management and conservation efforts on hundreds of millions of acres of federal and state lands.

Second Amendment rights and the rights of hunters and recreational target shooters are on the ballot every election. It is not hyperbole to say this election will matter the most for the future of those rights. With such a large number of Americans out there who would clearly support the future of those hunting and shooting traditions by voting for candidates who would protect them, registering and mobilizing them will be key the coming weeks.

If you have a friend or loved one who loves hunting and recreational shooting sports, do your part and make sure they register to vote – and most importantly – do so in November. Remind them to #GUNVOTE so they don't risk their rights.

NC Supreme Court ruling on 'Castle Doctrine' splits court along partisan lines

A state Supreme Court ruling Friday examined the extent to which North Carolinians have the right to kill or injure intruders on their property because of the Castle Doctrine – the legal principle that people have an inherent right to defend themselves or others while inside their home.

The ruling stems from a case in Fayetteville where a woman named Latoyna Dunlap knocked on her neighbor Angela Phillips' door to confront her about things she believed Phillips had said. Witnesses disagreed on what exactly happened next, except that Phillips shot Dunlap, leaving her permanently disabled.

After being arrested for the shooting, Phillips took the case to trial and claimed self-defense based on the Castle Doctrine. At the trial, Cumberland County Superior Court Judge James Ammons told jurors that "self-defense is to preserve life. It's not to give somebody a license to take somebody's life simply because they've come on their property."

Ammons also told the jurors that, as they deliberated on whether Phillips was guilty, that they could consider her self-defense argument – but also must weigh it against a rule that self-defense can't involve excessive force.

Friday's Supreme Court ruling said that that's wrong.

There used to be a prohibition against using excessive force, the court's Republican-majority states in the ruling, which divided the court along party lines. But the GOP majority wrote that they believe North Carolina's Republican-led legislature meant to largely get rid of that prohibition on excessive force when lawmakers rewrote the state's Castle Doctrine rules in 2011.

The opinion was written by Republican Justice Phil Berger Jr. His father Sen. Phil Berger Sr. is the top-ranking Republican state senator, a position he also held in 2011 when that law was passed.

"It has long been recognized that an individual has a fundamental right to defend his or her home from unlawful intrusion," the younger Berger wrote in Friday's ruling. "The General Assembly, as the policy making branch of our government, has twice chosen to expand that common law principle by broadening the set of circumstances under which deadly force is justified."

Phillips was ultimately convicted of assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and sentenced to two to four years in prison. Friday's ruling sends her case back to a lower court for a new examination of the facts.

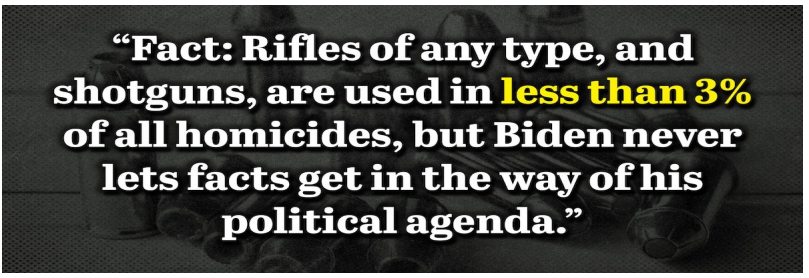
Democratic justices Anita Earls and Allison Riggs wrote that they agreed with their GOP colleagues that the jury at Phillips' original trial got bad instructions. But they dissented against the majority decision to send the case back down to a lower court. The Supreme Court should've been more aggressive in saying explicitly whether Phillips' conduct was still criminal even in light of the new legal standards, Earls wrote.

She hinted at how she might have ruled if that had happened, expressing concern that the majority opinion didn't go far enough in explaining that the Castle Doctrine is not "a blank check for violence." She said she wanted to make it clear that North Carolinians still can't shoot people who legally enter their property – unless they later have reason to fear for their lives, instead of just wanting the person to leave.

"Lethal force is not the appropriate response to a lawful and unforceful entry onto property," Earls wrote.



ELECTION REMINDER: Three members of the Board of Directors will be elected at the September meeting. The current members (Roger Thomas, John Kurtz and Carl Smart) have stated they will stand for re-election. Any other member interested in running for election to the Board should contact me at bob.wmsa@gmail.com.



"Rogues are preferable to imbeciles because they sometimes take a rest." –Alexandre Dumas



US judge tosses machine gun possession case, calls ban unconstitutional

A federal judge has dismissed charges against a Kansas man for possessing a machine gun, saying prosecutors failed to establish that a federal ban on owning such weapons is constitutional.

The decision by U.S. District Judge John Broomes in Wichita on Wednesday appeared to mark the first time a court has held that banning machine guns is unconstitutional after the conservative-majority U.S. Supreme Court in 2022 issued a landmark ruling that expanded gun rights.

In that ruling, *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*, the Supreme Court established a new test for assessing firearms laws, saying restrictions must be “consistent with this nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation.”

The Supreme Court clarified that standard in June as it upheld a ban on people subject to domestic violence restraining orders having guns, saying a modern firearms restriction needs only a “historical analogue,” not a “historical twin,” to be valid.

Broomes, an appointee of Republican then-President Donald Trump, said prosecutors in Tamori Morgan’s case failed to identify such a historical analogue to support charging him with violating the machine gun ban.

The U.S. Department of Justice can appeal the decision, which the gun safety group Everytown Law in a statement called “extreme and reckless.” Prosecutors did not respond to a request for comment. Morgan’s lawyer declined to comment.

Morgan was indicted last year on charges that he illegally possessed a machine gun and a machine gun conversion device known as a “Glock switch.”

Congress first moved to limit machine guns through the National Firearms Act in 1934, which was enacted after the weapons became commonly used by criminals during the Prohibition Era. It later outright barred possessing them in 1986.

Prosecutors said the weapons at issue in Morgan’s case did not fall within the protections of the U.S. Constitution’s Second Amendment, which guarantees the right to keep and bear arms for self-defense.

But Broomes disagreed, saying the “the machinegun and Glock switch are bearable arms within the plain text of the Second Amendment.”

While prosecutors pointed to laws from the 1700s and 1800s barring the use of “dangerous or unusual weapons,” Broomes said those historical examples focused on their use to terrorize the public, not simply possessing them in the first place.

Poll Reveals Overwhelming Support for Right to Bear Arms

Americans are deeply divided on many issues these days.

But a recent poll conducted by Marquette University Law School in Milwaukee, WI, revealed at least one area of broad agreement: A supermajority in the U.S. supports a right to carry firearms in public for self-defense. The poll questioned 1,005 adults nationwide from July 24 to Aug. 1, 2024, and has a margin of error of +/- 4 percentage points.

Participants were queried on a range of opinions about U.S. institutions and the Supreme Court in particular. One question asked: “In 2022, the Supreme Court ruled that, subject to some restrictions, the Second Amendment protects an individual’s right to carry a handgun for self-defense outside the home. How much do you favor or oppose this decision?”

Forty percent of respondents “strongly favor[ed]” this decision, with another 29% “somewhat favor[ing]” it. In contrast, only 31% opposed the decision, with just 14% “strongly” opposed. These results showed an increase in support for the decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* since the last time Marquette University Law School asked the question during November 2022. At that time, 64% were strongly or somewhat in favor.

In contrast to the overwhelming support for the Second Amendment right to carry, no branch of the government, nor the “national news media,” managed to generate “a great deal” or “quite a lot” of confidence among a majority of respondents. For the presidency, it was 32%. For the Supreme Court, it was 27%. For Congress, it was 13%. And for the media, it was a dismal 12%.

Support for *Bruen* was the second highest of all the 10 Supreme Court decisions on which the respondents were polled. The highest support, at 77%, went to the case affirming that prohibiting firearm possession by persons subject to a domestic violence restraining order did not offend the Second Amendment. This indicates that while Americans strongly support the rights protected by the Second Amendment, they also view those rights as pertaining to peaceable, law-abiding persons.

With the presidential election season well underway, the two major parties have been sparring over whose candidates represent the mainstream versus those with fringe views. When it comes to the right to bear arms, it is the Republican ticket of Donald Trump and JD Vance who clearly reflect the nation’s prevailing opinion that law-abiding Americans have a right to carry guns for self-protection as they go about their daily business.

The official X (formerly Twitter) account of Kamala HQ, on the other hand, continues to host a video where vice-presidential candidate Tim Walz expresses his opposition to “reciprocal carry among states,” meaning he supports the criminal prosecution of otherwise lawful carriers for crossing state lines.



SAF Scores Victory In California Non-Resident Carry Case

The Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and its partners, in a challenge of California's ban on non-resident concealed carry, won a victory when a federal judge granted a preliminary injunction in the case.

U.S. District Court Judge Sherilyn Peace Garnett, a 2022 Joe Biden appointee, granted in part and denied in part the plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction. The state has 21 days to file a response, and within 30 days plaintiffs must "meet and confer" with the state and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department "to submit a proposed order entering the preliminary injunction consistent with the specific findings" made by the court order.

SAF is joined by the California Rifle & Pistol Association, Gun Owners of America, Gun Owners Foundation, Gun Owners of California and seven private citizens. The LA County Sheriff's Office is the main defendant, along with Attorney General Rob Bonta and the La Verne Police Department.

In her decision, Judge Garnett observed, "the State bears the burden of showing whether California's residency requirements for a CCW license is 'consistent with the Nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation.'" A few pages later, she notes, "the State has not carried its burden at this stage to show that the limitation of CCW licenses to California residents is part of a historical tradition of this Nation."

"Americans do not leave their Second Amendment right to bear arms at the California border," said SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan M. Gottlieb. "California is behind the curve in recognizing that the Second Amendment was incorporated to the states via the 14th Amendment since SAF's Supreme Court victory in the 2010 McDonald ruling."

"The writing is clearly on the wall," added SAF Executive Director Adam Kraut, "when Judge Garnett noted the Court already found that we are likely to succeed on the merits of our argument that California's residency requirement for CCW applications is unconstitutional. We are confident our challenge will continue to prevail."

New Hampshire Attorney General Challenges Massachusetts' Gun Laws

New Hampshire Attorney General John Formella said Monday that Massachusetts should not have the right to prosecute residents who cross state lines with their guns, WBZ reported.

In briefs filed with the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, Formella defended two New Hampshire men who were charged with unlawfully carrying weapons into Massachusetts without the proper firearms license, according to WBZ.

Formella said in a statement that his challenge was directed at "Massachusetts' restrictive firearms laws," and "we are affirming that constitutional freedoms should not be undermined by inconsistent and overly burdensome regulations."

Formella added, "This is all about ensuring that responsible gun owners can protect themselves without fear of unjust legal consequences when they cross state borders."

A Lowell District Court judge had previously ruled that those legally entitled to carry guns in their home state can't be prosecuted in Massachusetts for illegally carrying guns, according to the outlet.

"Massachusetts, like many states, deals with significant and substantial crime in its communities," Formella's filing said. "Accordingly, it is illogical to think that the moment a New Hampshire citizen crosses the border into Massachusetts that he or she is stripped of his or her constitutionally protected right to self-defense."

In his arguments, Formella referenced the Pheasant Lane Mall, which sits directly on the state border, WBZ reported. Since the border runs directly through the mall's parking lot, Formella stated, "Surely the Second Amendment's protection of a person's right to carry a firearm for self-defense is not so fragile as to allow Massachusetts to compel a New Hampshire citizen to choose between exercising his or her right to self-defense and visiting the Buffalo Wild Wings at the Pheasant Lane Mall."

Middlesex County District Attorney Marian Ryan defended her state's prosecution of the two New Hampshire men, stating that they were treated "exactly the same as Massachusetts residents" under the law, WBZ reported.

"Nothing in the Constitution prohibits Massachusetts law enforcement officers from enforcing state law within its own borders," Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Campbell said, according to WBZ.

The Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts will hear the case Sept. 9, the outlet reported.

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 Greg Razer—D -Dist 7
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 330
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-6607

Mike Cierpiot—R -Dist 8
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 422
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-1464

Barbara Washington—D -Dist 9
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 329
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-3158

John Rizzo—D—Dist 11
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 333
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-4551

Rusty Black—R -Dist 12
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 331
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-1415

Lauren Arthur—D - Dist 17
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 428
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-5282

Denny Hoskins—R—Dist 21
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 423
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-7381

Sandy Crawford—R—28
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 319
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-8793

Rick Bratton—R—Dist 31
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 221
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-2108

Tony Luektmeyer—R—Dist 34
 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 430
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-2183

Missouri House
 Jeff Farnan—R—Dist. 1
 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 201A
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-9465

Mazzie Boyd—R— Dist. 2
 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 116-A2
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-4285

Peggy Mcgaugh—R— Dist.7
 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 402
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-2917

Josh Hurlbert—R—Dist 8
 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 406B
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-0246

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 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 201G
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 (573) 751-3666

Bill Faulkner—R—Dist 10
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Jamie Johnson—D—Dist 12
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 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 (573) 751-9760

Sean Pouche—R— Dist 13
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 (573) 751-6593

Ashley Aune—D— Dist 14
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 (573) 751-3618

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 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 101F
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 (573) 751-4787

Chris Brown - R - Dist 16
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 (573) 751-9458

Bill Allen—R—Dist 17
 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 115H
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 (573) 751-1218

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 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 134
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Chris Lonsdale - R - Dist 38
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 (573) 751-2238

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 (573) 751-3580

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 (573) 751-2175

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