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New Lawsuit Challenges New York's Second Amendment Ban for Non-Residents

Want to keep and bear arms in New York State? Unless you actually live or work in the Empire State, you're out of luck. New York not only doesn't recognize *any* state's concealed carry licenses outside of its own, but most non-residents have no way of applying for or receiving a permit of their own. No other constitutionally protected right stops at the state line, but according to lawmakers and law enforcement in New York, once you cross over into their territory your right to keep and bear arms becomes null and void.

If that seems like an egregious violation of our Second Amendment rights you're not alone. Several non-residents have now filed a lawsuit in federal court taking on this blatant infringement, with the help of Gun Owners of America.

GOA and GOF are representing several individual plaintiffs who reside in neighboring states and hold their own state's license to carry concealed weapons. TV Host and Second Amendment Advocate Carl Higbie is one of the individual plaintiffs.

Under current New York law, only New York residents may apply for and obtain permits to carry concealed weapons, and the state does not grant any form of reciprocity for individuals who hold a similar permit from another state.

As a result, those who hold out of state driver's licenses may drive in New York, but the exercising of one's constitutional right to bear arms in New York State is wholly inaccessible to the 94% of Americans who are not state residents. New York is the only known state where nonresidents are not allowed to exercise their Second Amendment rights to keep and bear arms.

California also doesn't have reciprocity with any other state, nor does it have a process by which non-residents can apply for a permit of their own. That's actually one of the quirks of the state's concealed carry regime that's being challenged in *California Rifle & Pistol Association v. Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department*, which features a Florida resident and PhD candidate who regularly travels to the state but is unable to lawfully carry once he's on the ground. But the attorneys representing Higbie and the other plaintiffs point out that California at least allows non-residents to transport firearms within its borders, which is a right not recognized in New York law.

New York also has another provision that's even more onerous than any found in California, however. As we discussed on today's Bearing Arms Cam & Co with attorney Amy Bellantoni, permits issued in most New York counties aren't valid in New York City. Connecticut residents like Carl Higbie are unable to lawfully carry a firearm in Manhattan, but residents of Buffalo, Albany, and other upstate cities would face the same felony charge even if they have a valid NYS permit.

The plaintiffs' attorneys are challenging New York's complete refusal to allow nonresident individuals on two grounds; arguing that the inability to apply for a permit to possess or carry firearms in public for self-defense violates the Second and Fourteenth Amendments, along with the privileges and immunities of state citizenship by allowing New Yorkers to exercise enumerated rights that are denied to (but are held by) all other Americans as well as their contention that the state's refusal to honor the permit of any other state is "plainly unconstitutional under *Bruen*, and which violates the constitutional requirement that New York grant Full Faith and Credit to the concealed carry permits issued by other states."

That last argument is extremely important, because it's completely unreasonable to demand that residents in other states have to pass New York's training mandate before they can carry there. It would be impossible for most Americans to do so, because that training isn't going to be provided outside of New York. Firearm instructors in Texas or Oregon aren't going to teach New York carry courses because the demand would be so low, but that shouldn't preclude lawful Oregonians or Texans who possess a carry license from being able to bear arms if and when they visit the state. The obvious answer is for the state of New York to recognize out-of-state permits just like they recognize out-of-state driver's licenses, rather than making non-residents go through the impossible process of applying for a New York permit.

This case, along with *CRPA v. LASD*, has the potential to upend one of the most appalling carry restrictions that remain in effect despite the *Bruen* decision, and I'm delighted to see GOA work with Higbie and other plaintiffs to rectify this patent violation of the Second Amendment. No individual right stops at the border of the state where you

live, and that holds just as true for your right to keep and bear arms as it does your freedom of speech, your right to be secure in your person or property, and your right to due process. New York couldn't get away with violating those rights of non-residents, and the state shouldn't be able to infringe on your Second Amendment rights either.

IN THIS ISSUE

EVENTS

PAGE 2

LIBERTY NOTES

PAGE

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

PAGE



...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
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COMING EVENTS

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

WMSA

General Membership Meeting

May 28, 2024

July 23, 2024
Sept. 24, 2024
7:00 PM

Bass Pro Independence, MO

Nov. 22, 2024
American Legion
16701 E. 40 Highway
Independence, MO

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**LIBERTY NOTES***By Kevin L. Jamison*

It is a Good Day for Liberty.

One of the speakers at the Gun rights Rally said, "Our rights are given by God. They are protected by us." Very well put.

I've watched a number of British police shows. They are generally excellent although they may be exporting only their best. I notice that when British police arrest a suspect they give him a warning almost identical to our Miranda warning. Theirs includes the warning that they do not have to speak, "but it may harm your defense if you fail to mention when questioned something you later rely on in your defense." This is another reason not to say anything without a lawyer. It is very important to make a complete first statement and that is not possible without the help of a lawyer. The WMSA "Stay Out of Jail" card summarizes Missouri weapons and self-defense law. It also provides a very brief outline of what to say to 911 and what to say to the responding officer. Further comments should not be made until a lawyer arrives. Tell the nice detective that you heard of a man who defended himself, was acquitted on grounds of self-defense, but then sued and lost. Everyone is afraid of being sued and the police will understand that.

Speaking of 911. The entire system covering four states crashed recently. Authorities assure us that everyone who called 911 during the crash received a response; hours later. This proves that we are our own first responders. Medical or criminal emergencies we must be prepared. Boy Scout stuff.

WMSA has made keychains to celebrate the 20th anniversary of License To Carry in Missouri. A small gesture for a great effort.

When we passed License To Carry the usual suspects promised us there would be blood in the streets. Kansas City has just had a record year for murder, but none of them committed by license to carry holders. Other states, and other cities, passed similar laws at the same time and have seen a reduction in murders. Kansas City is doing something wrong.

Everyone stop what you are doing. Take out your license to carry and check the expiration date. I will wait. Your driver's license or ID card must also be up to date, check that. I will wait.

When I was at Rally Day in the Capital Building in Jefferson City the guards at the metal detector checked the date on my License To Carry and driver's license and waived me and my pistol on though. This is only true for people with a License To Carry. People who carry under the "permitless" or "constitutional" carry law cannot bring their gun in. This seems unfair but I remember when no one could carry anywhere. We make great efforts for small progress. The security and staff were very nice to us. The staff that put up the stage, chairs and sound equipment were very good. When we began these rallies the sound system was terrible. Things have improved legally and in the facility.

A lady in Clay County Missouri was in a dispute with her boyfriend. In the course of the dispute the boyfriend was shot. The lady said that he shot himself. After hours of interrogation she confessed to killing him. There was a jury trial and an expert in false confessions was allowed to testify. She was acquitted. I have read other cases of false confessions; cases in which DNA proved that the defendant did not commit the crime. It appears that Interrogators tell the subject over and over their theory of the case to the point where the subject is confused over his own memory. In the Clay County case the woman was read her Miranda rights and she thought, "I'm innocent why would I need a lawyer?" This is why.

I notice changes to the Department of Conservation hunting regulations. Old-timers born before 1976 do not have to take a hunter safety course in order to get a hunting license. It might be wise to do so in order to update one's knowledge. The way things have always been done is not what the regulations say today.

There are "tactical pens" made of aluminum and sold as an impact weapon for self-defense. Many people have said they are not banned from aircraft by TSA. They are not specifically banned. But, TSA examiners have broad authority to exclude items as weapons. I recently met a man whose TSA examiner saw his tactical pen, knew what it was for, and confiscated it. Anything can be a weapon and the reputation of tactical pens has gotten around.

Doctor's offices ask about guns. You do not have to tell them the truth. It is a federal requirement that they ask patients of a certain age. You could also respond that it is none of their business.

The Armed Citizen Legal Defense Fund is collecting comments from lawyers about the wisdom of having a defendant testify. The law school advice is that a defendant should never testify. I strongly believe that in self-defense cases the defendant should testify. Often the only way to get the defense narrative in evidence is through the defendant. In Missouri if evidence of self-defense comes only from the defendant it is a submissible case. On the other hand some defendants cannot tell a believable story. On yet another hand the defendant's bad history or comments can only come in if he testifies. This is a legal decision. If it was easy anyone could do it. I Second That.

"The spirit of resistance to government is so valuable on certain occasions, that I wish it to be always kept alive. It will often be exercised when wrong, but better so than not to be exercised at all. I like a little rebellion now and then. It is like a storm in the atmosphere."

—Thomas Jefferson



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ELECTION CONSEQUENCES

K.L. Jamison

In 1973 abortion was ruled to be a constitutional right. Abortion is not our issue but follow me on this. Fifty years later the Supreme Court ruled that it was not a constitutional right and the states could regulate it. What changed? Obviously the composition of the Court changed. Why did it change? The person who appointed the judges changed.

Lately we have been winning in court. We are not always winning. There are judges out there who look for excuses to rule against us. They defy the Supreme Court *Bruen* ruling and force us to expend treasure to appeal.

If the wrong people get elected this November we could lose the Supreme Court. The new Court could rule that the Second Amendment is not an individual right. It could rule that it is only a constitutional right to join the National Guard. This has been seriously argued.

We do not only have to worry about our enemies. We have to worry about lukewarm friends and opportunistic friends. These are people who act in our interests only when they feel it is safe. They feel safe when they see us turn out in rallies. They feel safe when we write them letters, e-mails and make phone calls. Dropping by their office helps a great deal. Writing letters to the local paper demonstrates that we exist. I have seen our side appear in the letters to the editor column. It seems impossible. If it was easy anybody could do it.

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

A CHEAP LEGAL NOTE

DEER LICENSE

K. L. Jamison

In Missouri there are a variety of deer hunting permits, and exceptions to those permits. I had an odd case involving a resident landowner exemption to the permit regulation.

Resident landowner sounds redundant but it is possible to live outside of Missouri and own property in Missouri. That would be a non-resident landowner and a completely different exemption. My client lived in Missouri and owned twenty contiguous acres. This made him exempt by regulation from the requirement of getting a deer hunting license. It also exempts his immediate family.

The man was hunting with his eight-year old son. Both killed a deer. The father registered his kill over his phone. Although exempt from getting a deer hunting permit he was required to register the kill. He then tried to register his son's kill but there was no youth resident landowner link. He registered the deer under his exemption. He was subsequently ticketed for loaning his permit to another person.

He discovered that the Conservation agent did not know how his son could register his deer. He eventually learned that the only way his son could register his deer was to come into the Conservation Office and set up his own account.

This is unusual in an age when all manner of things are done over the computer and even phones. The Missouri Department of Conservation is a constitutional agency under the Missouri Constitution. They get to make these rules.

Pamphlets containing Missouri hunting and fishing rules are often found at gun shops. The entire state code of state regulations, including Department of Conservation rules, are available on the Secretary of State's web site. These rules change from time to time. Old copies of the rules may no longer be valid. The rules for hunting turkeys have recently been changed. The rules for hunting one type of game will not be the same for other types. If it was easy, people would not need a lawyer.

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.

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Study Confirms Gun Magazine Capacity Over 10 Rounds is the Standard

Along with “assault weapon” bans, so-called “high capacity” magazine restrictions are a cornerstone of modern gun control. These terms rely on distorted and alarmist labels to describe standard features or equipment, and seek to portray these as unusual or unusually dangerous. “Large capacity magazines” or “high-capacity ammunition feeding devices” are not precise definitions, but usually rest on an arbitrary limit of able to hold more than ten cartridges.

Judge Roger T. Benitez, in a pre-*Bruen* case involving a challenge to California’s law banning “large capacity magazines” (LCMs), explained that such bans are inconsistent with the Second Amendment. “The United States Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller* established a simple Second Amendment test: The right to keep and bear arms is a right enjoyed by law-abiding citizens to have arms that are not unusual ‘in common use’ for lawful purposes like self-defense.’... It is a hardware test. Is the firearm hardware commonly owned? Is the hardware commonly owned by law-abiding citizens? Is the hardware owned by those citizens for lawful purposes? If the answers are ‘yes,’ the test is over. The hardware is protected.”

The same message was repeated in the later *NYSRPA v. Bruen* decision, where the U.S. Supreme Court quoted *Heller* that “the Second Amendment protects the possession and use of weapons that are ‘in common use,’” and that what matters under the historical tradition of firearm regulation is whether the arms are “unquestionably in common use today.”

Nonetheless, gun control advocates like Everytown continue to press for bans on standard, ordinary magazines that hold more than ten rounds alleging, among other things, that these are not “arms” that the Second Amendment protects because they are not in common use and not typically possessed by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes like self-defense.

Anti-gun advocates may have run out of evidentiary road on the claim that magazines able to hold more than ten rounds are not constitutionally protected. The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) has released a comprehensive *Detachable Magazine Report, 1990-2021* that unequivocally debunks their claims. This study analyzes manufacturer and sales data on magazines and magazine capacity over an extended period of time starting in 1991 (“[n]o reliable data exists prior to 1990 to estimate historic detachable magazines that may still be available for sale or in working condition”).

The NSSF study concludes that the “national standard for magazine capacity for America’s gun owners is greater than 10 rounds.”

Among the other significant findings are:

- Overall, almost a billion (963 million) magazines “were produced and entered the commercial market between 1990 and 2021.” The study “does not claim all the magazines estimated in [it] are owned by Americans; these are both magazines estimated to be in circulation and made available for sale at some point from 1990 to 2021;”
- The overwhelming majority of these – approximately 74 percent, or 717 million magazines – have a capacity of eleven or more rounds, and almost half (about 46 percent) “are rifle magazines with 30+ round capacity.” More than half (about 55 percent) of total pistol magazines are detachable 11+ magazines. If the 717 million total was applied exclusively to Americans, it works out to over two “LCMs” per person based on the U.S. population in 2022, 333.3 million;
- Comparing magazines that ship or “come in the box” with the firearm, and “aftermarket” sales (e.g., magazines distributed to the consumer market for firearms that have already been sold), the report found that 29 percent of the magazines in the study originated from detachable magazines provided “in the box” with a newly manufactured firearm, while 71 percent were an “aftermarket” product;
- The estimated number of pistol and rifle magazines in circulation with a capacity of 10 rounds or less is just 245,872,000;
- “The consumer market totals of rifle magazines show 30+ capacity magazines, over 413 million, are over thirty times the amount available than 10 and below capacity rifle magazines, about 13 million”; and

STUDY (Continued on page 6)

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STUDY (Continued from page 5)

- Over 40 percent (43.3 percent) of firearm owners overall reported owning a detachable magazine with a capacity of 11 or more rounds. More generally, these “findings indicate that approximately 8.9 percent of the U.S. population owns a magazine holding 11 or more rounds.”

As the study notes, “legislation outlawing or granting access to these magazines may change overall market proportions but the preference to have more ammunition available is clear.”

Based on these figures, an American gun owner is much more likely to own a magazine capable of holding eleven or more rounds than one that holds ten or less. Not only are such magazines ubiquitous and unquestionably in “common use” by tens of millions of Americans, continuing to describe such devices as “high capacity” or “large capacity” suggests, quite wrongly, that they are other than ordinary or somehow stretch capacity beyond what is intended by manufacturers. Moreover, far from being highly unusual or unusually dangerous, the overwhelming majority of such magazines are owned by citizens who use them for lawful pursuits like hunting, recreational shooting, and self-defense.

In short, in a country where close to ten percent of the population owns a magazine holding eleven or more rounds (and where such magazines potentially outnumber magazines of ten rounds or less by almost three to one), the notion that these magazines are not commonly in use and not typically possessed by ordinary citizens is ludicrous. To borrow the language of a federal appeals court from almost 15 years ago, “[t]here may well be some capacity above which magazines are not in common use but, ... in any event, that capacity surely is not ten.”

Ghost guns to take center stage at U.S. Supreme Court in the fall

The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case that challenges current President Biden’s administration’s limits on ghost guns. Essentially, ghost guns do not have a serial number and you can mail-order different parts of the gun, put them together, letting people assemble untraceable guns at home.

“A ghost gun is basically a firearm that is made without a serial number,” says Peter Forcelli, ATF Deputy Assistant Director and former NYPD homicide detective.

Regulations regarding firearms are back, taking center state in the nation’s highest court this fall. But this time, the firearms in question, ghost guns.

“It can’t be traced through regular means, which is by its serial number, because it doesn’t have a serial number, which is a little different than a gun that is made that has a serial number removed from it, because that’s, that’s something that folks used to do as well as scratch off a serial number. Sometimes we could restore those numbers. But when it never had one, then that option is obviously not there,” he adds.

Kentucky has no law that restricts untraceable firearms or ghost guns.

“Under federal law, though, it’s legal to make a gun for yourself without a serial number, you just can’t sell it without a serial number. And with the new technology, 3-D printing and whatnot, folks are making these guns for themselves, but folks are also selling them, which is a violation of the law when you sell it,” says Forcelli. Those federal regulations went into effect back in 2022.

“Under federal law, if I wanted to make a gun for myself, and not have a serial number on there, I’m entirely able to do that it’s not a violation of any statute federally, each state has its own set of laws as well, which is important to remember. But if I wanted to take that item and sell it, then I have to put a serial number on it. So that’s the difference. It’s and once it enters into commerce, then it’s supposed to be serialized under the Gun Control Act of 1968,” added Forcelli.

The supreme court will decide if the regulations in 2022, overstep the federal law from 1968. That regulation approved by the ATF required manufacturers to have serial numbers on the kits and keep records of who purchased them.

“The ghost gun is no more dangerous than an actual gun, and it’s not the gun that’s the danger, t’s being in the hands of criminals that represents the danger,” he also said.

The requirements apply regardless of how the firearm was made, it includes ghost guns made from individual parts or kits or by 3-D printers. “If you’re going to sell a firearm, it has to be serialized,” he says. Arguments will be heard no earlier than this fall.

The justice department has told the court that local law enforcement agencies seized more than 19,000 ghost guns at crime scenes in 2021.

“Those who seek absolute power, even though they seek it to do what they regard as good, are simply demanding the right to enforce their own version of heaven on earth, and let me remind you they are the very ones who always create the most hellish tyranny.”

—Barry Goldwater

“This country is owned by We the People. We wrote a Constitution. We put down what we wanted to put in it. We can amend it when we wish. And it is not up to nine people to tell 330 million Americans how to live.”

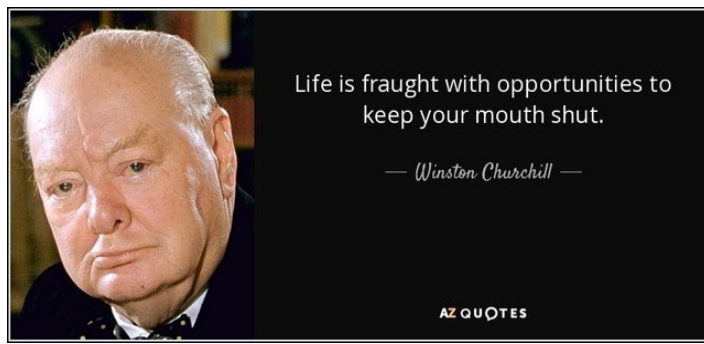
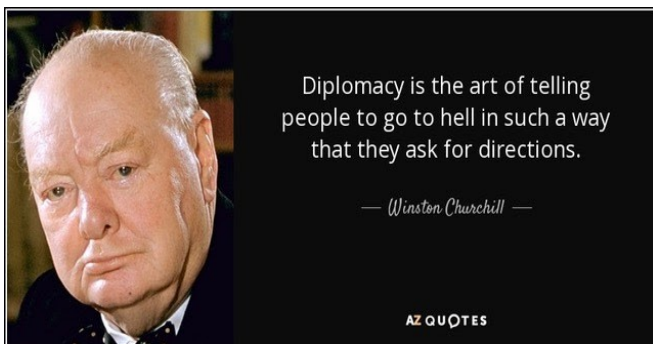
—Justice Neil Gorsuch



NSSF Praises Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp for Signing Second Amendment Privacy Act

The Firearm Industry Trade Association, praises Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp for signing into law HB 1018, the Second Amendment Privacy Act. This NSSF-supported law protects the privacy and sensitive financial information of people purchasing firearms and ammunition in The Peach State. With Georgia, there are now 14 states with laws that protect the Second Amendment financial privacy of their citizens.

The law prohibits financial institutions from requiring the use of a firearm code, also known as a Merchant Category Code (MCC), from being assigned to firearm and ammunition purchases at retail when using a credit card. The law also forbids discriminating against a firearm retailer as a result of the assigned or non-assignment of a firearm code and disclosing the protected financial information. Additionally, the law prohibits keeping or causing to be kept any list, record or registry of private firearm ownership. "Governor Brian Kemp's signature on the Second Amendment Privacy Act is yet another example of his firm commitment to protecting the Second Amendment rights of all Georgians. Citizens in Georgia won't worry that 'woke' Wall Street banks, credit card companies and payment processors will collude with government entities to spy on their private finances to illegally place them on gun control watchlists," said Lawrence G. Keane, NSSF Senior Vice President & General Counsel. "NSSF is grateful House Speaker Jon Burns, Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones, Representative Jason Ridley and state Senator Carden Summers for bringing this crucial legislation to become law. No American should fear being placed on a government watchlist simply for exercising their Constitutionally-protected rights to keep and bear arms." NSSF worked closely with Georgia legislators to protect private and legal firearm and ammunition purchases from political exploitation. The Second Amendment Privacy Act is designed to protect the privacy of lawful and private firearm and ammunition purchases from being abused for political purposes by corporate financial service providers and unlawful government search and seizure of legal and private financial transactions. The U.S. Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) admitted to U.S. Sen. Tim Scott (R-S.C.) in a letter that it violated the Fourth Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens that protect against illegal search and seizure when it collected the credit card purchase history from banks and credit card companies of individuals who purchased firearms and ammunition in the days surrounding Jan. 6, 2020. Treasury's FinCEN had no cause, and sought the information without a warrant, to place these law-abiding citizens on a government watchlist only because they exercised their Second Amendment rights to lawfully purchase firearms and ammunition. The idea of a firearm-retailer specific MCC was borne from antigun New York Times' columnist Andrew Ross Sorkin and Amalgamated Bank, which has been called "The Left's Private Banker" and bankrolls the Democratic National Committee and several antigun politicians. Amalgamated Bank lobbied the Swiss-based International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for the code's creation. NSSF has called on Congress to investigate Amalgamated Bank's role in manipulating the ISO standard setting process. Sorkin admitted creating a firearm-retailer specific MCC would be a first step to creating a national firearm registry, which is forbidden by federal law. Georgia joins a growing list of states that are standing against the invasion of financial privacy when exercising Second Amendment rights, including Tennessee, Iowa, Kentucky, Wyoming, Indiana, Utah, Florida, Idaho, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Texas and West Virginia. These states passed laws protecting citizens' Second Amendment privacy. Other states are considering similar legislation. U.S. Sen. Bill Hagerty (R-Tenn.) introduced S. 4075, the NSSF-supported Protecting Privacy in Purchases Act in the Senate. U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-N.Y.) introduced H.R. 7450, with the same title in the U.S. House of Representatives. California's Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a law requiring the use of a firearm-retailer specific MCC and Colorado passed similar legislation that is awaiting Gov. Jared Polis' consideration.





Two San Antonio Homeowners Use Firearms to Thwart Crimes in a Single Morning

Local residents in San Antonio are increasingly using firearms to thwart crimes, as highlighted by two separate incidents on Thursday morning where firearms were employed defensively.

According to the San Antonio Police Department, both incidents involved homeowners who successfully used firearms to prevent criminal activities. Sgt. Andrew Valle noted a rise in such defensive uses of firearms. "It does seem there is a spike in these types of activities," Valle commented while investigating one of the shootings.

In the first case, a resident of an apartment on the 8700 block of Marbach utilized a firearm to stop an intruder early in the morning. The intruder, who sustained a non-life-threatening gunshot wound to the stomach, allegedly attempted to force entry into the apartment, claiming it was his residence.

Shortly before this, a homeowner on the 400 block of General Kruger encountered two men stealing roofing materials from his driveway, as captured on his surveillance system. The homeowner, who had experienced a previous theft, confronted and shot the suspects, who were later arrested and charged with theft. Police later confirmed that the homeowner's actions were justified.

These incidents reflect a broader trend of residents taking safety into their own hands.

Sgt. Valle encourages calling 911 first, but acknowledges the growing trend of self-defense among community members facing threats.

Firearm Safety Tip: If you choose to use a firearm for home defense, ensure you receive proper training on handling and legal use to effectively and safely protect yourself and your property.

Tennessee Governor Signs Bill Preventing Financial Institutions From Conducting Unauthorized Surveillance Of Gun Buyers

Tennessee Republican Governor Bill Lee signed a bill into law earlier this week that prohibits financial institutions, such as banks and credit card companies, from specifically tracking gun and ammunition purchases.

House Bill 2762, also called the "Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act," prohibits financial institutions from requiring gun retailers to use a specific merchant code "that distinguishes a firearms retailer from a general merchandise retailer or a sporting goods retailer." All retailers are assigned merchant codes based on what they sell, allowing banks and credit card companies to track purchasing patterns and protect against fraud. Gun retailers' merchant codes are usually included with those of other shops, like sporting goods stores.

State Rep. Rusty Grills, a Republican, introduced the legislation earlier this year after credit card companies Visa and Mastercard announced plans to separately categorize firearm and ammunition purchases in 2022.

The "Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act" also prohibits financial institutions from declining credit card transactions "based solely on the assignment or non-assignment of a firearms merchant category code" and outlaws government entities from keeping a registry of privately owned firearms or gun owners in the state.

Rep. Grills told The Daily Wire in a phone conversation on Thursday that he introduced the legislation to "protect the Second Amendment rights of all those in Tennessee" by preventing financial institutions from creating "a database" of gun buyers, a possibility Grills said is troubling because many corporations are being led by "capitalist woke folks." Grills added that this new law will preempt any potential future efforts by institutions to interfere with Tennesseans' Second Amendment rights.

"No country can maintain its character and purpose if it has what amounts to open borders. A common language is lost, there are fewer incentives to assimilate and immigrants can bring with them their own agendas and objectives. The hyphenating of various ethnic groups is proof enough that they seem to be less willing to be called simply Americans."

—Cal Thomas

"The Left likes to measure progress based how many people depend on government benefits like Obamacare, food stamps and welfare. Conservatives measure progress based on how many people are working and providing for themselves and their families."

—Gary Bauer

"Since when have we Americans been expected to bow submissively to authority and speak with awe and reverence to those who represent us?"

—Justice William O. Douglas

"To understand the workings of American politics, you have to understand this fundamental law: Conservatives think liberals are stupid. Liberals think conservatives are evil."

— Charles Krauthammer



What do you really know about the Second Amendment? Here's what it does and why it exists

The Second Amendment originally banned the federal government from regulating guns, and states could regulate almost as much as they desired. That federal ban has modified over the years.

The U.S. Constitution is the supreme law of America. Amendments are part of the Constitution.

The first 10 Amendments, or Bill of Rights, were submitted to the state legislatures in September 1789. The Bill of Rights was ratified in December 1791.

Our Founders created three separate branches of government: legislative, executive and judicial. The first two are political; the judiciary is not.

Judges must be independent and follow the rule of law. Judges act as checks and balances on abuse of power by other branches. The Supreme Court ultimately decides whether a law or activity of any of the three branches of government comports with the Constitution. The Court decides constitutionality. The independence of the third branch is the crown jewel of our constitutional republic.

Second Amendment emerged as a compromise between the Founders

Amendment II. "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

The Revolutionary War produced two sets of patriots: the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists. The Federalists wanted a strong, national government; the Constitution was a way to have that national government.

Anti-Federalists felt a national government would not protect people far away from the Capitol. Hence, they proposed 12 amendments to the Constitution, 10 of which were ratified as the Bill of Rights. Part of the workable compromise between these two sets of patriots resulted in the ratification of the Bill of Rights.

The Second Amendment was part of that compromise between the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists. These two sets of patriots comprised the body we refer to as the Founding Fathers. They had set views, just like our leaders have set views in the 21st Century. The Fathers knew that the constitutional process was a compromise. They produced not only a Constitution but also the Bill of Rights.

This is how the Second Amendment has evolved

The Second Amendment originally banned the federal government from regulating guns, and states could regulate almost as much as they desired. That federal ban has modified over the years.

The Supreme Court has ruled that pursuant to the Second and 14th amendments, gun possession and ownership are individual rights afforded to citizens. That is not to say that it is an absolute right, and some limitations have been upheld by the judicial branch.

For example, a convicted felon, whether from state or federal court, cannot lawfully possess arms. In many states, a person who is addicted to substances or is not mentally competent cannot possess weapons or arms. Likewise, only dealers and persons specifically designated can possess or transport automatic weapons.

The Second Amendment is an unalienable right, which cannot be taken away; but it has its reasonable limitations designed to protect other people.

The right to bear arms was a compromise between two sets of American patriots.

It has been a fundamental, unalienable American right since 1791.

Public safety and the Second Amendment can exist. However, there is most always an argument between gun control advocates and the Second Amendment libertarians. One group says that gun control laws restrict law-abiding citizens from exercising their constitutional right of protection. The gun control side disagrees. Ultimately, the Supreme Court decides on the facts of a case.

"Fact: Rifles of any type, and shotguns, are used in less than 3% of all homicides, but Biden never lets facts get in the way of his political agenda."

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"A gaffe is when a politician tells the truth - some obvious truth he isn't supposed to say." -- Michael Kinsley



US RIFLE, Cal. 30 M1 Garand

We will have a limited number of raffle tickets (1,200). We will not mail tickets to members to sell. Tickets will be available at all General meetings and at events where WMSA has a table. Additionally, to build our treasury for the coming year, this year's raffle is aimed towards gaining more WMSA members.

The tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. As an added incentive, bring in a new member at a General Membership Meeting and get a free raffle ticket. Any current member who brings in a new WMSA member gets a free raffle ticket for each new member added to our rolls.

Bring your prospective new member to a General membership meeting and when the new member completes the membership application and pays their dues, you are handed a ticket, no charge! The drawing for the rifle will be in July 2024, either at the Missouri Valley Arms Collector Show or the WMSA General Membership Meeting.

Go recruit new members, get a free ticket for every member and exhaust our limited number of tickets.

Tickets can also be obtained via mail by sending a check to the WMSA, P.O. Box 11144, Kansas City, MO 64119.



CMP US RIFLE CAL 30 M1 GARAND

Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20

Come to our next General meeting and buy your tickets!



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

WESTERN MISSOURI SHOOTERS ALLIANCE

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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City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Occupation: _____

Home Phone: (____) ____ - _____

Cell Phone: (____) ____ - _____

E-Mail _____

NRA member? _____

Registered Voter? _____

Check membership type:

____ Annual
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____ Senior (65+)
\$25

____ Associate
\$15 (spouse, no newsletter)

____ 3 Year Annual
\$100

____ 3 Year Senior
\$70 (65+)

____ 3 Year Associate
\$40 (spouse, no newsletter)

____ Sponsor
\$100 (4 business card
ads per year.)

____ Sponsor
\$250 (12 business card
ads per year.)

<p>Mail to: Western Missouri Shooters Alliance P.O. Box 11144 Kansas City, MO 64119</p> <p>Hotline (877) 333-WMSA www.wmsa.net County: _____</p>
--



Western Missouri Shooters Alliance
P O Box 11144
Kansas City, MO 64119

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

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REMINDER Next General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 7:00 PM
 Meeting located at **Bass Pro** Independence, MO

CONTACT INFORMATION - *Let them know what you think!*

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The National Rifle Association
www.nra.org
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The Second Amendment Foundation
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Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance
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Missouri Carry
 Online Forum
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Arming Women Against Rape and Endangerment
www.aware.org
 877-672-9273

Women Against Gun Control
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