

POINT BLANK

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



**May
2009**
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CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS

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OBAMA AND PELOSI HIT FOR ATTACKS ON GUNS

As polling data showed last month that support for gun control is at its lowest point in years and generally is declining, CCRKBA blasted the Obama administration and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi for attacks on law-abiding gun owners in the face of this information.

CCRKBA declared that a volatile "assessment" of so-called "Rightwing Extremism" by the Obama administration's Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is an insult to American gun owners, political conservatives and military veterans, and demanded an immediate apology.

"We recognize that many gun owners will feel threatened by this report," stated CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb. "It appears that DHS under Janet Napolitano is trying to demonize political dissent."

The chilling nine-page document likens citizens opposed to new firearms restrictions, returning veterans and conservatives to "rightwing extremists" and associates them with white supremacists and violent anti-government hate groups.

"We feel the appropriate reaction is through the ballot box and jury box," continued Gottlieb. "Americans shouldn't be pushed into any acts that could be exploited by the administration to further its agenda. If there are any acts of violence that occur because of the Obama administration policy of chilling dissent, they bear the blame as much as the perpetrators."

Early last month, Pelosi acknowledged that gun registration is on her agenda, days after Attorney General Eric Holder told reporters that the Second Amendment would not "stand in the way" of administration plans to crack down on alleged gun trafficking to Mexico.

"These are alarming remarks from Speaker Pelosi and Attorney General Holder," said Gottlieb. "It appears that the Obama administration and Capitol Hill anti-gunners have dropped all pretenses about their plans for gun owners' rights, and it looks like the gloves are coming off."

Pelosi's revelation came during an interview on ABC's Good Morning America. While insisting that Congress "never denied" the gun rights of American citizens, Pelosi said, "We want them registered. We don't want them crossing state lines." Gottlieb noted that citizens' rights do not stop at state lines. "History has shown that around the world registration has always led to confiscation."

In Mexico, Holder was asked if the administration might encounter constitutional issues as it tries to crack down on alleged gun trafficking. He said, "I don't think our Second Amendment will stand in the way of efforts we have begun and will expand upon," reported *The Wall Street Journal*.

"These comments belie administration promises and Democrat rhetoric that party leaders respect the rights of law-abiding Americans to own the firearm of their choice," said Gottlieb.

CCRKBA HITS GUN BLAMERS FOR ANTI-GUN LAW ACTIONS

CCRKBA last month lashed out at attempts to use a rash of high profile criminal multiple shootings to promote legislation which would have an adverse effect on the acquisition and use of firearms by tens of millions of law-abiding firearm owners.

"A more sensible reaction," said John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, "would be the promotion of public policies to make it actually easier for law-abiding citizens to obtain and use the firearms they need to prevent these insane shootings or to interrupt them and stop them when they occur."

The U. S. Conference of Mayors referred to murderous shootings in Samson, Alabama, Oakland and Santa Clara, California, Carthage, North Carolina, Binghamton, New York, Graham, Washington, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Miami, Florida as it called again for re-institution of a ban on semiautomatic firearms, restrictions on gun shows, firearms purchase limitations, elimination of the Tiahrt Amendment, and other gun controls.

"However," said Snyder, "there is no reasonable indication that enactment of any or all of the proposals of the Conference or other anti-gun organizations or individuals would have prevented these criminal acts. What these anti-gun proposals would do is make it more difficult for sane and law-abiding citizens to obtain and use the firearms they may need to prevent such heinous acts from occurring in the future.

"There really is no good reason for implementing these proposals or any of them and we urge federal, state and local legislators to reject them. We also ask CCRKBA Members to

render us all the support you possibly can as we fight to overcome these proposals. We encourage you to contact your legislators and let them know what you think about these proposals."

Joe Waldron, CCRKBA Legislative Director, called attention to an analysis by Ted Anthony of the Associated Press, who pointed out that an underlying factor in the recent multiple shootings seems to be significant domestic societal changes.

"Put aside for a moment the debate about guns," wrote Anthony. "This isn't about policy. It's about asking the urgent question: What is happening in the American psyche that prevents people from defusing their own anguish and rage before they end the lives of others? Why are we killing each other?"

"This is not an era of good feeling in the United States," continued Anthony. "We have under our belt eight years of pernicious terrorism angst, six years of Iraq war weariness and, now, months of wondering how bad the American economy's going to get and when – or, worse, whether – it's going to come back. People are tense. There's less inclination to help out your fellow human being.

"Meanwhile, anchors and analysts and witnesses and bloggers cast about in an information-age fog trying to make sense of something that is, in the worst way, nonsensical. They rush to offer solutions, but the thing they typically dodge is that we seem to be powerless to stop it at all – that our community, our neighbors, may be next. That's too terrifying to contemplate, not to mention too open-ended for American news consumers reared on tidy

Hollywood endings."

In a column following the shooting in Binghamton, New York, which left 14 dead, University of Maryland economist John Lott pointed out that "time after time multiple public shootings occur in 'gun free zones' – public places where citizens are not legally able to carry guns. The horrible attack today in Binghamton, New York is no different. Every multiple shooting that I have studied, where more than three people have been killed, has taken place where guns are banned."



POINT BLANK

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

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POLICE OFFICERS SUPPORT AMERICAN FIREARM RIGHTS

Part of the anti-gun owner hate machine propaganda is the big lie that guns cause violent crime. This false theory holds that a reduction of firearms in the hands of private citizens would bring about a reduction in the occurrence of crimes of violence. According to this inane way of thinking, the work of the law enforcement community would be made a lot easier if the 80 million law-abiding American citizens who own 200 million rifles, shotguns and rifles were relieved of their firearms or somehow were restricted in using them or acquiring more of them.

One of the biggest of the gun grabbers' big lies is that police do not believe in an armed citizenry and favor severely restrictive gun laws. While some politically appointed and dependent law enforcement officials manifest this attitude, it certainly is not the thinking of police officers as a group.

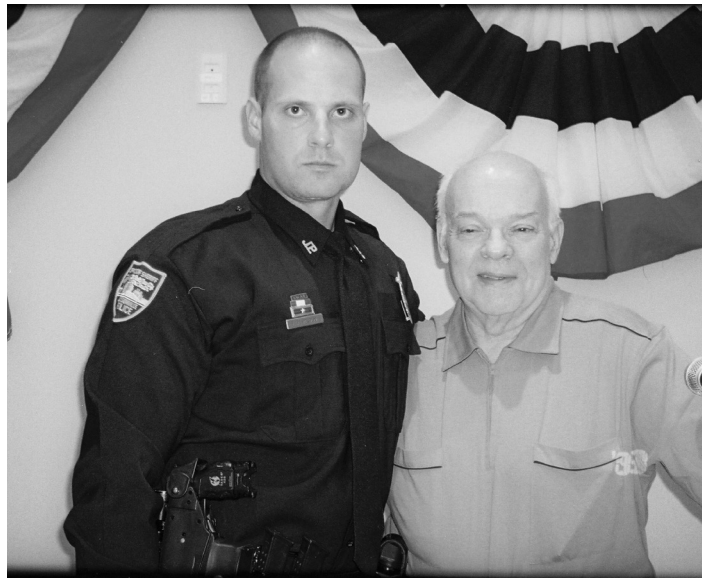
Police generally favor the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms.

According to responses to a recent postal survey the National Association of Chiefs of Police (NACOP) mailed to Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs in the United States for the 21st consecutive year, 94 percent of America's law enforcement command officers believe that any law-abiding citizen should be able to purchase a firearm for sport or self-defense.

This month the law enforcement

community and Americans across the country commemorate National Police Memorial Day.

The official named National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for 2009 by the American Police Hall of Fame and Museum (APHF) in Titusville, Florida, recently informed John



Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Jared Reston and CCRKBA Director John Snyder got together recently during a special luncheon honoring police officers at the American Police Hall of Fame in Titusville, Florida. Photo by Ling Woo.

M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director that he believes firmly in individual law-abiding American citizens' rights under the Second Amendment. The officer, Detective Jared T. Reston of the Jacksonville, Florida Sheriff's Office, also told Snyder that several of his civilian relatives have state issued permits to carry concealed firearms.

Snyder said "Jared Reston is a heroic police officer."

He noted that, as the APHF plaque presented to him at a special luncheon in late March, Reston on Janu-

ary 26, 2008 "was working off duty at the Regency Square Mall. On that evening, Detective Reston received a call in reference to two suspected shoplifters. One suspect was taken into custody and the other chose to flee. The suspect ran from the mall and crossed a highway ending up

in a cluster of neighboring businesses. Detective Reston pursued the suspect into the business area which was poorly lit and became engaged in hand to hand combat. The poorly lit area prevented Detective Reston from seeing that the suspect was armed with a loaded handgun. The suspect managed to fire a round and hit Detective Reston in the face dropping him to the ground with a life threatening injury. The suspect, rather than taking the opportunity to flee, stood over Detective

Reston and continued to fire his weapon six more times striking Reston in the chest and lower body. Despite his many critical injuries, Detec-

tive Reston retrieved his own weapon and returned fire killing the suspect.

"Despite his many critical injuries, Detective Reston retrieved his own weapon and returned fire killing the suspect. Detective Reston displayed an amazing and extreme will to live and desire to finish his duty call by utilizing all of his training skills in order to survive."

NACOP and the American Federation of Police and Concerned Citizens (AFP&CC) support APHF. Snyder serves on the boards of AFP&CC and NACOP.

CCRKBA BLASTS FALSE INFO USE TO PUSH SEMI-AUTO BAN

"In an apparently desperate attempt to promote their gun control agenda in the United States, anti-gun promoters use false information to argue for their gun-grabbing program in this country," said John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director.

"News reports indicate there is a virtual war raging south of the border between armed Mexican criminals and Mexican law enforcement authorities," Snyder continued.

"Some Mexican authorities and a number of American officials are arguing that part of the reason for the violence is American gun laws under which guns from the United States easily make their way to Mexican criminals. The figure 90 percent is bandied about as an indication of the proportion of criminals' guns which come from the United States.

"This is offered to substantiate a demand for a re-imposition of the Clinton era ban on semiautomatic firearms, and even for strengthening the ban and making it permanent. However, the 90 percent figure itself is false. It is used in a phony attempt to show that the ban is needed. It even may be used as part of an outrageous attempt to argue that Americans have to give up some of their Second Amendment rights to an international authority so that international trafficking in firearms can be properly and efficiently regulated."

"CCRKBA will fight these at-

tempts," said Snyder, "and we need your support to do so."

USA Today reported that "Attorney General Eric Holder and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano visit Mexico to discuss ways to stop the smuggling of American weapons, which Mexico says accounts for 90 of confiscated arms here."

However, as a Fox News investigation revealed, "While 90 percent of the guns traced to the U.S. actually originated in the United States, the percent traced to the U.S. is only about 17 percent of the total number of guns reaching Mexico."

In an exclusive report, William La Jeunesse and Maxim Lott torpedoed the allegation that "90 percent of the weapons used to commit crimes in Mexico come from the United States."

They noted that, "Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said it to reporters on a flight to Mexico City. CBS newsman Bob Schaeffer referred to it while interviewing President Obama. California Sen. Dianne Feinstein said it at a Senate hearing: 'It is unacceptable to have 90 percent of the guns that are picked up in Mexico and used to shoot judges, police officer and mayors... come from the United States.' William Hoover, assistant director for field operations at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives testified in the House of Representatives that 'there is more than enough evidence to indicate that over 90 percent of the firearms that have been recovered in, or interdicted in transport to Mexico, originated from various sources within the United States.'

"There's just one problem with the 90 percent 'statistic' and it's a big one: It's just not true. In fact, it's not even

close. The fact is, only 17 percent of guns found at Mexican crime scenes have been traced to the U.S."

La Jeunesse and Lott went on to explain. "What's true, an ATF spokesman told FOXNews.com, in a clarification of the statistic used by her own agency's assistant director, 'is that over 90 percent of the traced firearms originate from the U.S.' But a large part of the guns recovered in Mexico do not get sent back to the U.S. for tracing, because it is obvious from their markings that they do not come from the U.S. 'Not every weapon has a serial number on it that would make it traceable, and the U.S. effort to trace weapons really only extends to weapons that have been in the U.S. market,' Matt Allen, special agent of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), told Fox News.

"In 2007-2008, according to ATF Special Agent William Newell, Mexico submitted 11,000 guns to the ATF for tracing. Close to 6,000 were successfully traced – and of those, 90 percent – 5,114 to be exact, according to testimony in Congress by William Hoover – were found to have come from the U.S. But in those same two years, according to the Mexican government, 29,000 guns were recovered at crime scenes. In other words, 68 percent of the guns that were recovered were never submitted for tracing. And when you weed out the roughly 5,000 guns that could not be traced from the remaining 32 percent, it means 83 percent of the guns found at crime scenes in Mexico could not be traced to the U.S."

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CCRKBA SUPPORTS RESTORATION OF NATIONAL PARKS GUN RIGHTS

CCRKBA announced its support for S. 816, the proposed Preservation of the Second Amendment in National Park and Wildlife Refuges Act, introduced by Sen. Mike Crapo of Idaho with four original bi-partisan cosponsors. They are Sens. Max Baucus and Jon Tester of Montana, Robert Bennett of Utah, and Blanche L. Lincoln of Arkansas.

S. 816 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The current Department of the Interior regulations were amended last year by the Bush administration to allow citizens to defend themselves by carrying concealed firearms in national parks and wildlife refuges.

This year U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kelly, instigated by the anti-gun Brady Center to Prevent

Gun Violence, placed an injunction on Interior's rule, restoring prior rules in those public lands that firearms be unloaded and safely secured.

S. 816 would strengthen right-to-carry laws on federal park lands. It would provide generally that a person may possess, carry and transport concealed, loaded, and operable firearms within a national park area or national wildlife refuge area in accordance with the laws of the state in which the national park area or wildlife refuge area or that portion thereof, is located.

In the House, Republicans reportedly are trying to add an amendment to the public lands "Ominous Spending" bill that would codify the right-to-carry in national parks. However, Senate leaders reportedly

have devised a strategy to use a bill that already had passed the House – H.R. 146, to protect Revolutionary War battlefields – and strip its contents, replacing it with the "Ominous Spending" lands bill.

Because the House already passed H.R. 146, the Rules Committee can approve a closed rule that would block a motion to recommit, eliminating the GOP's best procedural chance to stymie the bill. The chamber would need only a simple majority to concur with the Senate amendment.

CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb said "the sneak attack on guns reveals the Democrats' clear intention to outlaw guns everywhere... Obama has been lying to the nation when he says he will not take guns away."

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

On April 10, 2009 ABC aired an episode of 20/20 entitled "If I had a gun," hosted by Diane Sawyer.

The program was a contemptible example of advocacy journalism. Despite unimpeachable research by academics such as Professors Gary Kleck and John Lott proving firearms in the hands of law-abiding citizens save countless lives every year, the main thrust of the 20/20 episode was that private citizens are incompetent in the use of firearms under stress, and that privately-owned firearms pose a far greater threat to their owners and family members than they do to criminals.

Every television station licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is required to maintain a file of letters called a Public Comment file. Letters of praise as well as letters of complaint must be retained in that file for review by the FCC when the station's broadcast license is up for renewal. As a result, stations tend to take these letters seriously, especially the complaints.

Write a short letter, no more than two or three paragraphs, voicing a complaint about the obvious bias of the 20/20 broadcast. Address the letter to 20/20 News Director, ABCNews, 7 WEST 66th Street, New York, NY 10023. A copy should also be sent to your local ABC affiliate.

Add a request at the bottom to keep this letter on file in the station's Public Comment file. They're supposed to anyway, but it doesn't hurt to make the point. While you're at it, give a copy of your letter to a couple of friends or shooting buddies and ask them to send it in as well. The result is a win-win situation for gun owners, for the station and for the public at large.

The FCC accepts electronic submission of complaints via the Electronic Comment Filing System. A copy of your complaint should be sent to the FCC as well. You can access the Electronic Comment Filing System at <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>

CCRKBA NAMES MARYLAND ACTIVIST RIGHTS DEFENDER

"In these troublous times, anti-gun extremists are on the offensive in the Nation's Capital and in a number of states throughout our country," noted John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director. "Fortunately for us who honor traditional American principles of freedom, there are a number of dedicated and articulate activists at the local, state and national level who work assiduously in the face of tremendous obstacles to maintain our individual, Second Amendment civil right to keep and bear arms.

"Such an individual is Robert D. Culver, an outstanding gun rights activist in Maryland, where anti-gun activity is especially prevalent, and where Bob for years has given unstintingly of himself in combating gun-grabbing extremists in the media and at various levels of government. He most certainly deserves to be named CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month, and I nominate him for the Award."

Bob is Chairman of Montgomery Citizens for a Safer Maryland (MC SM), a grass roots discussion and action group which seeks to protect law-abiding citizens' gun rights in Montgomery County, Maryland and throughout the State of Maryland. Montgomery County borders Washington, D.C. and is the area in which many of the anti-gun politicians and other anti-gun activists who make their influence felt in the Nation's Capital hang their hats.

When Bob fights for gun rights in Montgomery County, his leadership has reverberations in Washington, D.C.

He says he has been involved in

the gun rights movement since his "dad taught me to shoot and bought me my first rifle at age 10. Being a good dad, an engineer and a good provider, he bought me a Belgium Browning ATD .22lr semi-auto."

Bob continued his shooting interest and activities in high school and beyond.

Then, he says, "Things started to change. People in positions of political power, but without much sense, started to try to tell the citizens what was best for them. Not that this hadn't been going on for years, but now it was in the area of my interest, firearms. I should have been paying more attention. Each criminal tendency, acted out by a social nutcase, was attempted to be solved for all future time by legal restrictions on society. This was obviously hard on the 99.99 percent of gun owners who were NOT criminals. Guilt by association, I guess. The Constitution was being warped. The need to become active was seen.

"If the state wants to outlaw certain pistols, then it must be time to buy one and I now have the first of several side arms. If the state wants to ban private transfers of regulated firearms between family members, time for another purchase and now my wife has her first personal firearm. She does not have to borrow mine and hopefully she will enjoy cleaning and maintaining it as much as she seems to think I do. The state wants to require integrated trigger locks and spent shell casing 'ballistic fingerprints,' time to buy some more before this additional burden goes into effect, so we have a His and Hers Pistol Christmas. The state begins classifying firearms as 'assault weapons,' now I

have several military pattern semi-auto rifles. The list goes on. Each snip, each cut at liberty as reflected by attempts to ban firearms causes another spurt of interest."

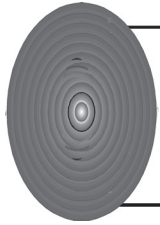
Bob is active "to educate others at venues like town fairs, shooting range open houses and other public events that promote the 'shooting sports.'" He says he is "the hunter and the trap shooter. I am the High Power and the small bore shooter...I am several tens of millions of civilians who have decided to become citizens."

Bob is a native of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and a partner in the consulting engineering firm of Lohnes & Culver. That firm has been engaged in communication consulting engineering for more than 60 years, since 1944. Bob has been employed there as an engineer since 1965 and a full partner since 1977.

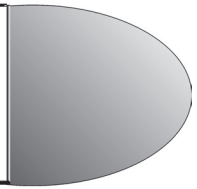
He graduated from the University of Maryland in 1970, with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. He has taken post-graduate studies at The George Washington University and elsewhere. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Maryland. He is Past President of AFCCE, the Association of Federal Communications Consulting Engineers. His professional practice includes technical representation and expert testimony for broadcast and technology companies.

For the last several years he has been working on Digital Radio Broadcasting (DRB), Digital Television (DTV) and related projects.

He and his wife Cathy enjoy Alpine skiing, mountain hiking and the shooting sports.



QUICK SHOTS



When CCRKBA blasted the Obama administration over an editorial report in *The Washington Times* that the administration was scaling back the armed pilots program, the administration denied the report. Robert Bray, director of the Federal Air Marshal Service, which directs the program, said, "We're looking for new resources and more money for next year. The benefits of the program are obvious. The pilots are an intrinsic part of our whole aviation-security strategy and one of our layers of security." According to *The Washington Times*, "Mr. Bray and the pilots groups disputed a March 17 editorial in *The Washington Times* entitled 'Guns on a plane: Obama secretly ends program that lets pilots carry guns,' which suggested that recent discussions about spending some of the program's money for supervisory jobs amounted to killing the program. 'This is completely false,' said Captain John Prater, president of the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), the largest pilots union in the U.S. and Canada, which has 53,000 members."



CCRKBA announced its support for H.R. 1923, the proposed Fairness in Firearm Testing Act, by Rep. Phil Gingrey of Georgia with over 20 cosponsors. It would require the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to make video recordings of the examination and testing of firearms and ammunition. It was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for

a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.



The Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia against Attorney General Eric Holder, seeking an injunction against enforcement of a federal law that makes it impossible for American citizens who reside outside the United States to purchase firearms while they are in this country. SAF has been joined by two natural-born citizens, Maxwell Hodgkins and Stephen Dearth, who have been denied the opportunity to buy firearms because they do not currently reside in the United States. Hodgkins currently resides in the United Kingdom, and Dearth is a resident of Canada. The lawsuit alleges that Holder, as Attorney General, is enforcing unconstitutional laws that prevent Hodgkins and Dearth from exercising their Second Amendment rights.



In Miami, Florida, an afternoon shootout at a busy Burger King restaurant left a potential robber dead and a customer who shot him seriously wounded, reported the *Miami Herald*. Around 4 p.m. on a recent Tuesday, the robber entered wearing a ski mask. He approached a clerk, showed his gun and demanded money, said Miami police spokesman Jeff Giordano. A customer eyed him and the two started argu-

ing. The customer had a permit to carry a concealed firearm and his gun, and the two exchanged gunfire. The robber crumpled to the floor and was pronounced dead at the scene. The customer, with several gunshot wounds, was in serious but stable condition at Jackson Memorial Hospital's Ryder Trauma Center.



"In shootings around the nation," reports the Associated Press, "police often find the gunman is wearing a bulletproof vest – and while it's an issue that has recently jumped into the spotlight, it's hardly a new problem for law enforcement. 'The bad guys have used body armor going way back,' said John Grebert, executive director of the New York State Police Chiefs Association, noting that gangsters in the 1920s and 1930s wore vests made from cotton padding and cloth that worked mostly against lower velocity handguns."



"By the time a 17-year-old gunman had finished his shooting spree at a school near Stuttgart, Germany, at least nine young people and three teachers lay dead. Only with the police in hot pursuit, and a final shootout with authorities, was the attacker finally killed," notes Charl van Wyk. "Could an armed teacher have made a difference? Of course. Surely a teacher with a gun in the hand would have been better than a cop on the phone. The only person who can stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun."



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Women & Guns:

Finally, a magazine just for America's 15 million gun-owning women! WOMEN & GUNS is the only magazine of its kind in the world. Written and edited by women, for women, WOMEN & GUNS emphasizes self-defense and personal protection – including real life tips on surviving attacks – as well as recreational and sport shooting. Each issue features top women gunowner profiles, personal protection tips, product reviews, and a useful, eye-opening legal column. WOMEN & GUNS is a must-have for every gun owning woman.

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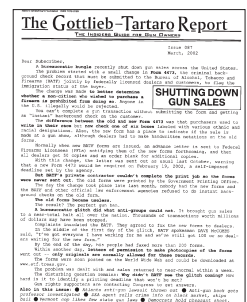
The Journal of Firearms and Public Policy:

At last, an academic journal dedicated to scholarly discussion of firearms and public policy! The JOURNAL OF FIREARMS AND PUBLIC POLICY has published annually since 1989. Its mission: to encourage objective research on the right to keep and bear arms, and explore America's Constitutional heritage to privately own and possess firearms. Edited by David B. Kopel – Research Director at the Independence Institute and renowned gun-rights scholar – and contributors include Randy E. Barnett, Glenn Harlan Reynolds, John R. Lott, Joseph P. Tartaro, Gary Kleck, and others.

The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report:

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

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