

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



**May  
2002  
Volume XXVII  
No. 5**

**IN THIS ISSUE**

Gun Rights Win in Ohio	1-2
Boston Drops Lawsuit	2
Danger Lurks	3
17th Annual GRPC	3
Pilots Petition to Carry	4
Conyers Gun Show Ban	5
Citizen Action Project	4-5
Defender of the Month	6
Quick Shots	7

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

*(a non-profit corporation)*

National Headquarters:  
12500 N.E. Tenth Place  
Bellevue, Washington 98005

Capitol Hill Office:  
1090 Vermont Ave., N.W., Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20005

# GUN RIGHTS WIN IN OHIO

Concealed carry for Ohio residents may be closer to reality than ever, thanks to a unanimous ruling by a three-judge panel on Ohio's First District Court of Appeals that the state's nearly century-old statute banning concealed handguns is unconstitutional.

The April 10 decision, though it technically applies only in Ohio's Hamilton County, will have an impact across the Buckeye State, insisted Alan Gottlieb, chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms (CCRKBA).

Attorneys for the state, Cincinnati and Hamilton County quickly filed motions with the Ohio Supreme Court to stay the Appellate Court's decision.

It was the second court victory for gun rights advocates, led by the Second Amendment Foundation, which sued officials in Cincinnati, Hamilton County and the Ohio Attorney General. Joining SAF in the lawsuit are five local residents – Pat Feeley, James Cohen, Vernon Verrier, Leanne Driscoll and private investigator Chuck Klein – along with Ohioans for Concealed Carry and the People's Rights Organization. Under the statute, citizens could only exercise their right to self-defense by first getting arrested, then offering an "affirmative defense" in court. Since the ruling, several gun cases have been thrown out in Hamilton County.

Judge Mark P. Painter wrote a blistering opinion, noting, "Guns or no guns, we know of no other situation where a citizen is guilty until proven innocent." He was joined by Judges Rupert Doan and Lee Hildebrandt, Jr.

Painter's 18-page ruling also noted, "There is no doubt that the Ohio Constitution grants citizens the right to possess, and to bear, arms. That is exactly what it says."

"We are not a country where power is maintained by people with guns over people without guns," the judge wrote.

The court later notes that, "the affirmative defenses are unconstitutionally vague. They may not be understood by a citizen of reasonable intelligence, and they are susceptible to arbitrary enforcement."

CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron was pleased with the Ohio ruling, stressing that the state constitutional guarantee is "pretty clear."

"There is no ambiguity there at all," he said.

He lauded the style in which Judge Painter wrote the court's opinion, noting that it was clear and easily understood.

Waldron said the concealed carry movement is gathering strength across the country, primarily in the Midwest, where the last remaining "hold-out states" are located. Only six states remain that do not have some type of concealed carry statute, and Ohio is one of those.

He also noted that the track record is "clearly on the side of gun owners." In states where concealed carry laws have passed over the last several years,

(Continued on page 2)

## BOSTON DROPS LAWSUIT AGAINST GUN MANUFACTURERS, ENDS S&W AGREEMENT

The City of Boston, MA has withdrawn its lawsuit against firearm manufacturers, and dissolved a consent decree with Smith & Wesson in a startling turn of events that stunned anti-gunners.

It is the first time that a city voluntarily has dropped its lawsuit against gun makers, and the final nail in the coffin of the onerous S&W debacle. The 150-year-old gun company, back under American ownership, has virtually walked away from an agreement the former owners made with the Clinton White House, and the Boston decree was the last remaining legal entanglement about which many gun owners were upset.

Boston is one of over 30 municipalities that have sued manufacturers in an attempt to recover alleged costs associated with shootings. Cities usually argue that the gun industry has been negligent in preventing firearms from reaching criminals. They charge gunmakers with product liability and illegal marketing to put guns in the hands of criminals.

In a document filed with its request to drop the suit, the city acknowledged "that the members of the firearms industry and firearms trade associations are genuinely concerned with, and are committed to, the safe, legal and responsible sale and use of

their products."

"The writing is on the wall," said Robert Hartwig, chief economist for the Insurance Information Institute, which has monitored gun suits since the first one was filed in 1998. "The likelihood of success is remote," he told *USA Today*, "and the potential cost to taxpayers is considerable."

Boston officials said they dropped the lawsuit against 31 gunmakers because litigation costs of \$30,000 a month taxed falling city revenue.

It came as good news to Smith & Wesson, which is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

Problems for the gunmaker began when it was still owned by the British firm of Tomkins, Plc. Under then-CEO Ed Schultz, S&W entered into agreements with the Clinton Administration and the City of Boston that were widely renounced in the gun community. A boycott against S&W products was mounted.

Last year, Tomkins sold the company to the Arizona-based Saf-T-Hammer for \$15 million, putting the company back in American ownership for the first time in several years. That sale, for literally pennies on the dollar brought an end to the "Clinton-Schultz" agreement, which became virtually moot since Clinton left the White House

and Schultz quit S&W.

The Bush Administration has never shown any interest in enforcing the S&W agreement, and neither has new owner Bob Scott, president of Saf-T-Hammer.

Please keep  
up-to-date by  
visiting our website

[www.ccrkba.org](http://www.ccrkba.org)



# POINT BLANK

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

**Editor** John M. Snyder  
**Publisher** Alan M. Gottlieb  
**Managing Editor** J. H. Versnel  
**Associate Editors** Mike Connelly  
Tom Gresham  
Merrill Jacobs  
Bob Kukla  
Peggy Tartaro  
Joe Waldron

**POINT BLANK** is published monthly by Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, Liberty Park, 12500 N.E. Tenth Place, Bellevue, Washington 98005.

Copyright © 2002 CCRKBA

Correspondence and manuscripts should be sent to **POINT BLANK**, CCRKBA, 1090 Vermont Ave., N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20005  
**Address Change:** Write new address, city, state, and zip code on a plain piece of paper. Attach mailing label from an issue of **POINT BLANK** and send to CCRKBA, 12500 N.E. Tenth Place, Bellevue, Washington 98005. Please allow four to six weeks for change to become effective.

## Huge Win in Ohio!

(Continued from page 1)

the emotional predictions of blood in the streets and gunfights over such trivial matters as traffic mishaps have never come true.

Coverage of the decision in the news columns of Ohio newspapers was remarkably balanced, in Waldron's opinion.

The ruling sends a message to the Ohio legislature, which has been battling over concealed carry legislation for many months. Lawmakers were stalling to see how the court ruled on the Hamilton County case, and

seem to still be in a holding pattern, waiting to learn whether the State Supreme Court will take the case. Even the Appeals Court alluded to the legislature's procrastination, noting, "...the General Assembly has been on notice of the problems with this statute for more than a year. We will not continue to allow the enforcement of an unconstitutional statute."

## DANGER LURKS FOR GUN RIGHTS, SAYS SNYDER

Gun control may be a "dead issue" for this year's election cycle, but gun owners should not consider the issue dead forever, warned CCRKBA Public Affairs Director John M. Snyder.

He cautions gun owners that anti-gun Democrats are poised to unleash a torrent of new gun control legislation if they recapture Congress in the November elections.

The problem facing gun owners is that many have been lulled into a false sense of safety that has crept into conservative columns and newspapers over the past several months, Snyder suggested.

For example, respected conservative columnist William F. Buckley, Jr. recently wrote a piece entitled, "Exit Gun Control."

### GUN RIGHTS POLICY CONFERENCE SLATED FOR PHOENIX IN SEPTEMBER

The 17th annual Gun Rights Policy Conference (GRPC), cosponsored by CCRKBA and the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF), is scheduled Sept. 27-29 at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel in Phoenix, AZ. GRPC organizers expect it to be the biggest and best in the series.

"Arizona has become a key gun rights battleground on a wide variety of issues from concealed carry restrictions to attacks on gun shows," stated CCRKBA Chairman and SAF Founder Alan M. Gottlieb. "With U.S. Sen. John McCain spewing his anti-gun rants, all of these battles have national implications. GRPC 2002 will bring together gun owners and train people across the country to be successful in defending our precious freedom against the gun grabbers."

The speakers list for GRPC 2002 will read like the Who's Who of nationally recognized gun rights leaders. Past speakers have included Sens. Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado and Larry Craig of Idaho, Reps. Bob Barr of Georgia, Chris Cannon of

Buckley observed that, "the gun control lobby has suffered two severe blows recently. One of them is that Professor Laurence Tribe of Harvard, much esteemed by American liberals...having examined the historical documents, opines that indeed the people who framed the Bill of Rights intended to guarantee individual, not merely collective, gun-ownership rights. And the Fifth Circuit ruled in the same direction in *United States v. Emerson*...

"At this moment it is likelier that congressmen running for election or reelection in November will not press the collective interpretation of the Second Amendment."

Probably true, Snyder said, "But what about after the November elections? You don't have to look far for

Utah, and Phil Crane of Illinois, nationally syndicated radio talk show hosts G. Gordon Liddy and Ken Hamblin, NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre, noted scholars such as David B. Kopel, Stephen Halbrook, and Don Kates, and dozens of others.

"GRPC is a person's best chance to meet many of the national gun-rights leaders in one place and ask them about their opinions and strategies for the future of the gun rights movement," stated CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron. "These same top leaders also will be at the GRPC to listen to your personal ideas and goals."

GRPC is free to all gun rights activists. Hotel space for the conference will be at the special reduced rate of \$89 per night. Reservations may be made by calling 1-800-423-4126.

Please submit your registration to: SAF - GRPC 2002 - 12500 N. E. Tenth Place - Bellevue WA 98005. You also can register by faxing (425) 451-3959 or by sending E-mail to [info@saf.org](mailto:info@saf.org).

the answer."

The Democrat establishment in Congress is signed up in support of a number of anti-gun legislative proposals, he said. The most publicized of these is their all-out support for proposals designed to close the so-called "gun show loophole." Examination of these measures, however, reveals that they are designed to severely restrict or completely close down traditional gun shows.

Snyder said this is also a means by which gun grabbers can curtail freedom of speech, press and assembly for pro-gun activists.

"After all, at these gun shows a number of us meet with one another, find out about pro-gun books and periodicals, and generally exchange information and otherwise network," he noted.

Anti-gunners are also critical of the new rule on gun purchase record keeping proposed by Attorney General John Ashcroft.

Ashcroft wants to cut the length of time that approved gun transaction records are kept from the current 90 days to 24 hours. Anti-gunners want to keep the current 90-day limit, even though the law establishing the criminal records check system provides for immediate destruction of such records for approved transactions.

Anti-gun Sen. Richard J. Durbin of Illinois, with the support of the anti-gun Violence Policy Center, wrote a letter to Ashcroft demanding that he maintain the 90-day limit, stating that the proposed rule change "clearly would jeopardize the FBI's ability to adequately enforce existing gun laws."

"Regardless of what you read in the newspapers," Snyder warned, "the fact is that the gun grabbers remain ready and willing to gun down our gun rights at the first opportunity."

# CCRKBA ENDORSES PILOT BUSH SECURITY MESSAGE

CCRKBA has endorsed an Airline Pilots' Security Alliance petition to President George W. Bush calling for armed pilots. Public Affairs Director John Michael Snyder said the pilot groups' message "is a necessary and urgent one."

"We are glad to associate ourselves with it and urge our President to give it the swift consideration it deserves," Snyder said. "We were delighted when President Bush signed into law the Aviation and Transportation Security Act of 2001. We are disappointed that relevant characters in his Administration have not seen fit to implement the Act's provisions for arming pilots. These pilots underscore the necessity of access to firearms for protection of innocent life."

Snyder urged CCRKBA members and supporters to write President Bush at The White House.

Captains Duane Woerth, president of the Air Line Pilots Association, John E. Darrah, president of the Allied Pilots Association, Tracy Price, president of the Airline Pilot Security Alliance, Bob Miller, president of the Coalition of Airline Pilots Associations, and Jon Weeks, president of the Southwest Airlines Pilots Association, all signed the letter.

"As representatives of the largest airline pilot organizations in this country," they wrote, "we would like your assistance in the immediate development and implementation of a program to defend the American traveling public with voluntarily armed pilots."

"Public opinion polls and those within our own pilot groups indicate overwhelming support for arming flight deck crew members with lethal weapons. Nothing short of lethal force can stop lethal intent to hijack and destroy our aircraft and murder all on board," the pilots wrote.

They asserted that Bush is ignoring the armed pilot provision of the

Aviation and Transportation Security Act and asked the President to help get the program moving. Under the program:

- All volunteer pilots must be carefully screened, successfully trained and subsequently designated by a federal law enforcement agency such as the FBI or Transportation Security Administration.

- Pilots so selected, screened and trained should be deputized or have the same indemnification and protections afforded other law enforcement officers in the employ of the U.S. government.

- Pilots must be certified in weapons handling, use of lethal force, carriage policy and procedure, rules of engagement in all environments, recurrent training, tort law, and other subjects deemed necessary by the governing authority.

- Certified pilots will draw their weapons only for use in direct defense of the flight deck in accordance with program "use of force" rules.

"If the unthinkable happens again," wrote the pilots, "there must be a means provided for our flight crews to defeat any hijacker who breaches the flight deck with a weapon and attempts to destroy the aircraft. Otherwise, a U.S. fighter may be ordered to shoot down a commercial airliner full of innocent passengers. America's pilots must have lethal weapons as a last line of defense against well-coordinated, highly trained teams of terrorists.

"Each of our pilot groups has independently assessed and recommended the best way to implement a plan to arm our flight crews. Each has drawn similar conclusions closely paralleling a proposed training program developed by the FBI at the request of the Department of Justice. We have forwarded our specific recommendations through the comment process requested by the Federal Aviation Administration,

and stand ready to immediately assist your administration in the establishment of such a program."

Copies of the letter went to Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta, Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge, Under Secretary of Transportation for Security John W. McGaw, FBI Director Robert S. Mueller, and other officials.

## CITIZEN ACTI

While Democrats in the South and West control issue, it appears their brothers are ahead full speed.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-CO) show loophole legislation sometime soon. Bill in the Senate: S. 767 by Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI) and Sen. McCain (R-AZ).

The Reed bill is a rehash of the original bill passed by the Senate in May 1999 (with a tie-breaking vote) a month after the Columbian bill, is being promoted as a "reasonable compromise" to gain support. In fact, many provisions of S.

Similar bills are being offered in the House by Rep. John Conyers (D-MI) is the counterproposal. Rep. Michael Castle (D-DE), is the counterproposal.

In a report issued last November, the Department of Justice Statistics revealed that gun shows account for 10 percent of gun shows by felons. That's less than one percent of gun shows where felons' guns were family, friends and associates. Collectively for almost 80 percent of felons who own a gun or delivers a gun to a felon or other disqualified person, a federal felony.

On the other hand, gun shows, where the light of day, and where many are patrolled by security officers, also are a major focal point for Federal and state courts have ruled that gun shows are a political speech or commercial expression. Gun show regulations, the size of the show has shrunk dramatically. Could it be that "gun shows" are another cynical attempt at squelching our Second?

Write, e-mail or call your two U.S. Senators and urge them to vote "NO" on these bills.

# CCRKBA BLASTS CONYERS GUN SHOW BILL

When anti-gun Rep. John Conyers, Jr. of Michigan introduced a proposed Gun Show Background Check Act of 2002 in late March, Capitol Hill insiders knew just what that meant.

CCRKBA Public Affairs Director John Michael Snyder summed up the situation: "Conyers and his cosponsors, and there are a slew of them, are putting the political world on notice that, regardless of the talk

about Democrats changing their spots and becoming less anti-gun or more pro-gun than they have in the past, it is not necessarily so!"

Snyder said this legislation underscores the threat to gun rights that a Democrat takeover of Congress poses.

Observed Snyder: "The Conyers proposal, H.R. 4034, definitely is an anti-gun bill. Among other things, his bill would require background checks for all firearm sales at gun shows and allow up to three days for an NIC authorization check for gun show firearm transactions. Conyers and all of his original co-sponsors are Democrats.

"That's not all," Snyder continued. "Conyers is Ranking Minority Member of the House Committee on the Judiciary, the committee of original jurisdiction for most gun legislation considered by the House of Representatives. In addition, a number of the bill's cosponsors also are members of the Judiciary Committee."

Presently, with the Republicans in the majority in the House of Representatives, Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-WI) chairs the House Committee on the Judiciary. One of his top assistants indicated that he does not want to see gun control legislation considered by his committee. There is less chance of the Conyers bill being considered by the Judiciary Committee, possibly being approved and sent up for debate and vote in the full House, than would be the case if Conyers became the Chairman, Snyder said.

"If the Democrats were to become the majority party in the House of Representatives as the result of elections this November, Conyers most likely would become Chairman of the Judiciary Committee," Snyder said. "He and his gang would be running the gun control show on Capitol Hill come January."

Snyder said this fall's elections are

critical to gun rights.

"There is an intimate, intricate connection between elections and legislation," he said. "The effects of elections can make all the difference in the world with regard to matters of concern to us."

H.R. 4034 has been referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary Committee.

It would define gun show as any event at which 50 or more firearms are offered for sale or exchange, if one or more of the firearms has been shipped in interstate or foreign commerce, and at which not less than 20 percent of the exhibitors are firearm exhibitors, and there are not less than 10 firearm exhibitors.

It would define gun show promoter as any person who organizes, plans, promotes, or operates a gun show, and a gun show vendor as any person who exhibits, sells, offers for sale, transfers or exchanges one or more firearms at a gun show.

The Conyers bill would make it unlawful for any person to organize, plan, promote or operate a gun show unless that person registers with the federal government and pays a registration fee.

H.R. 4034 would also make it unlawful for any person to organize, plan, promote, or operate a gun show unless that person verifies the identity of each gun show vendor and requires each vendor to provide assorted paperwork. It would also require that all firearms transfers be conducted by someone with a federal firearms license.

Licensed importers, manufacturers or dealers would have to maintain a separate bound record of these transactions, and conduct the NICS checks. Under the bill, firearm transaction would include the offer for sale, transfer, or exchange of a firearm, but would not include the mere exhibition of a firearm.

## CTION PROJECT

and West may be backing off of the gunners and sisters on Capitol Hill are moving

aschle (D-SD) has promised a vote on gun bills soon. There are two bills under consideration: S. 890 by Sen. John

the original Lautenberg "gun show loophole" bill (with Al Gore dramatically providing the Columbine incident. The McCain-Lieberman 'reasonable compromise' in a cynical attempt to pass S. 890 are much worse than S. 767. The House of Representatives. H.R. 4034, the counterpart to S. 767, while H.R. 2377, by the counterpart to S. 890.

er, the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics account for 0.7 percent of the guns used by felons and associates and "from the street," counting felons' guns. Anyone who knowingly sells a gun to a disqualified person already is committing

shows, where all transactions are conducted in a secure, police patrolled by police officers or local security. The point for political activity and organization. The bill would protect that gun shows are a protected form of political expression. In states that have passed local gun laws, the shows and the volume of attendance has increased. That "gun show loophole" legislation is just another way of taking our First Amendment rights as well as

U.S. Senators and Representatives today and tomorrow. Bills.

# MARYLAND ACTIVIST EARNS CCRKBA AWARD

Augustus C. Alzona, a CPA, from Bethesda, MD is the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Awardee for May.

CCRKBA Public Affairs Director John Michael Snyder, noted that Alzona, of Montgomery County, has played a unique role in the politics of Maryland and the nation.

Noting that many of Alzona's neighbors "are anti-gun rights in the extreme," Snyder called Montgomery County "unfriendly territory" for people who believe in the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms.

"One of the people in this area who does believe in the right and, who, against all kinds of odds, has had the courage over the years to stand up and fight for it, is Gus Alzona," Snyder stated. "Gus recently underwent severe public attacks for his defense of this traditional American freedom. He refused to back down under withering pressure. A stalwart, he certainly is most deserving of this award."

Local politicians want Alzona removed from certain public and party positions because he distributed a flyer suggesting that a proposed gun registration and owner licensing scheme requiring gun buyers to submit to fingerprinting and mug shots is "Hitlerian." The flyer shows the faces of three anti-gun politicians digitally imposed onto photographs of Nazi soldiers.

Critics said this flyer constitutes "hate speech" and is even "anti-Semitic." They tried to get Alzona to resign from the local Republican central committee and to remove him from the Montgomery County Hate-Violence Committee.

Aaron Zelman, executive director of Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership, himself a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award winner, defended Alzona. "The Nazis," Zelman wrote, "initially using laws of the Weimar Republic, required registration of firearms. Hitler then used these laws to confiscate all firearms from Jews, making it more difficult to fight back against

the Final Solution. The flyer Alzona distributed is accurate in implying that 'gun control' advocates have something in common with Nazis."

Blair Lee, another Alzona supporter, wrote a column in *The Montgomery County Journal* stating that "Alzona's heavy-handed attempt at parody sends a political message about gun control, not Nazism. He's advocating gun ownership, not the Holocaust... in America, Gus Alzona can express himself freely, even if it makes politicians act like Nazis."

Alzona is a naturalized American citizen born in Pasay City, Republic of the Philippines. During a public hearing on a proposed Montgomery County "gun free zone" bill, he told the audience that, "Our local public school children are more often victims of sexual abuse by county employees or a failing educational system than they ever have been of firearm abuse. If 'protecting our children' truly motivates you, then you should consider more severe sanctions for those who commit unspeakable acts against our children and up-to-date public postings of convicted sex offender lists."

Alzona completed his college studies full-time at night while maintaining full-time employment and raising a family. He holds an A.A. degree from Montgomery College and a B.S. in Business Management and Accounting from the University of Maryland, and has done graduate studies toward an MBA from the University of Maryland.

He is a financial information systems and tax management consultant as producer/manager of Trademark Entertainment.

Alzona is a Director of the Montgomery County Philippine American Association. He served as an NRA Election Volunteer during the 2000 Presidential Election.





Virginia Gov. Mark Warner signed a measure prohibiting local governments from undermining a state firearm preemption law by enacting their own gun control regulations.

Alexandria passed a measure banning guns in municipal buildings. The new state law overturns this. Warner stated he is opposed to Virginia local governments using administrative mechanisms that are not consistent with the state General Assembly's intent. "I support the right of law-abiding Virginians to keep and bear arms," he stated. "If the General Assembly were to send me a bill allowing localities to pass ordinances to regulate firearms in recreation centers, I would sign it. The General Assembly has chosen not to do so this year."

In Maryland, CCRKBA awarded the Civil Liberties Infringement Prize to Montgomery County Executive Douglas Duncan. CCRKBA Public Affairs Director John Michael Snyder said Duncan "deserves this mock award because he uses his political position to undermine the civil rights of Montgomery County citizens. The most egregious recent example of the Duncan assault on civil rights is his public attack on the First Amendment freedom of speech of Augustus Alzona. Duncan's attempt to kick Alzona off the County's Hate/Violence Committee is a vicious, bigoted smear of an outstanding Asian American. Duncan abhors Alzona's distribution of a flyer that depicts Maryland gun-grabbing politicians appropriately attired in Nazi uniforms. The parody apparently hits Duncan right where it hurts!"

The Illinois State Rifle Association last month announced formation of



a federal political action committee. Known as the ISRA-Congressional Campaign Committee (ISRA-CCC), the organization will be free to endorse and support candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate who adhere to the committee's philosophy on the individual right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms. Several years ago, said ISRA-CCC Chairman Todd Vandermyde, the state political action committee was formed to help pro-gun candidates get elected. He said the state committee enjoyed better than an 80 percent success rate in recent primary elections.

CCRKBA announced its opposition to H.R. 3679, authored by Rep. Luis V. Gutierrez of Illinois, to prohibit the possession or transfer of a handgun "that is not a sporting handgun" and any combination of parts from which such a handgun can be assembled. It has been referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

In Arizona, the pro-gun Brassroots is rallying behind a woman who wants to carry a handgun to work. Shannon Flynn, an Arizona Department of Revenue collector, wants to carry her 9 mm pistol to her state office because she fears her father, now serving time in state prison for molesting her, will come after her when he is released. Flynn, who has a concealed carry permit, wants to be able to carry the gun with her into the office building although current policy in the state reportedly would prevent her from doing that. Brassroots President Gary Taylor is calling on its members and others to lobby Gov. Jane Dee Hull and state legislators on Flynn's behalf.

"Jolly old England is now experiencing the truth in the saying, 'when guns are outlawed, only outlaws will have guns.'" writes nationally-syndicated Internet columnist Tanya Metaksa, a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Awardee and former Executive Director of the NRA Institute for Legislative Action. "Law-abiding citizens," she continues, "were forced to give up all their handguns after the British government passed one of the most stringent gun bans in the world in 1997... Since that draconian gun law was passed... the crime rate has skyrocketed and according to the London Sunday Times it is very easy to buy an illegal gun on the streets of London if you have a few hundred pounds."

Shortly after President Bush signed into law the campaign finance bill, Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky filed suit in federal court in Washington, D.C. against it. The suit maintains that the new law tries "to regulate core political speech" and "would radically alter, in a fundamental and unconstitutional fashion, the ways that citizens, corporations, labor unions, trade associations, officeholders, candidates, advocacy groups, tax-exempt organizations and national, state and local political party committees are permitted to participate in our nation's democratic processes."





