POINT BLANK

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



July 2014
Volume XXXVIV No. 7

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CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS

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CCRKBA BLASTS BLOOMBERG GROUP

The Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms challenged the credibility of Michael Bloomberg's *Everytown for Gun Safety* group after an analysis of the alleged 74 school shootings in the months since Sandy Hook revealed many of those incidents did not meet the criteria as such.

CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb, after reviewing information produced by journalist Charles Johnson and CNN, declared, "Bloomberg should change the name of his \$50 million 'grassroots' political machine to 'Every Liar for Gun Safety'." Indeed, CNN – after acknowledging it decided to check on these "school shootings" only after reporting the figure, which it obtained from the *Everytown* organization – was instrumental in blowing the whistle on the dishonest data.

That vetting left CNN in the awkward position of having to backpedal on its original story at the same time acknowledging that the figure came from an organization with a bias toward gun control. CCRKBA congratulated CNN for helping to expose what now appears to be a deliberate deception.

Still, many people, including Shannon Watts, founder of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, another gun prohibition organization backed by Bloomberg, continued to use the figure. The same figure has appeared in several other publications, including the *New York Times*.

Among those alleged "school shootings" were gang incidents, at least two suicides, one homicide that appears to have been a case of domestic violence that occurred in a school parking lot two weeks before school was in session, and a possible drug deal gone bad, also in a parking lot.

Gottlieb said press scrutiny of claims by the gun prohibition lobby is long overdue, "because this is hardly the first time that anti-gunners have tried to confuse the public with deceptive data."

Most notably is the repeated argument that there are 31,000 victims of "gun violence" every year, creating the impression that this is the number of homicides annually. In fact, there are really between 8,000 and 9,000 firearms-related murders every year, and the majority of these gun-related deaths are suicides.

"Sadly," the CCRKBA chairman said, "this episode not only reveals how gun prohibitionists try to fool people with questionable information, it also shows that the liberal, anti-gun-rights media all-too-willingly accepts such information at face value. What does that say about press partisanship, if not press gullibility? Let's hope that from now on, CNN and other news agencies challenge information from anti-gun organizations before treating it like scripture."

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NY AND CO GOVERNORS DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM GUN CONTROL

Running for re-election this fall, a year after openly supporting and signing extremist gun control laws in their respective states, Governors Andrew Cuomo of New York and John Hickenlooper of Colorado seem to be scrambling to distance themselves from the havoc and ill will their measures have created.

InColorado, Hickenlooperrecently tried to convince county sheriffs that he did not realize they were opposed to the measures and that he didn't know they wanted to meet with him until after he had signed the legislation. He also claimed that the only reason he did sign legislation banning so-called "high capacity magazines" is because one of his staffers had promised he would.

Colorado gun owners held their noses because that argument simply did not pass the smell test. The Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms criticized the Colorado legislation, and likewise was critical of the New York SAFE Act, pushed through by Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

Earlier this year, a Cuomo staffer claimed that the governor really was not aware that the SAFE Act's limit on magazine capacity applied to pistols as well as so-called "assault rifles." Additionally, that source told the New York Post that "much of what's in the law was drafted by people connected to Mayor (Michael) Bloomberg and the Brady Center, not by the governor's staff."

During the height of controversy over the new gunlaws, Hickenlooper was energetic about the effort to ban full-capacity magazines. If he believes Colorado gun owners have forgotten, it could be a serious miscalculation. Fox News quoted him at the signing ceremony when he said such magazines "have the potential to turn killers into killing machines.

"He also said he realized some gun ownersmaybeinconvenienced," that report said, "but that 'the potential for damage seems to outweigh, significantly, the inconvenience that people would have'."

Both Democrats also face fallout from a business perspective. The anti-gun legislation they signed cost both states revenue from companies involved in the firearms business.

FL LAW CHANGE ALLOWS DEFENSIVE WARNING SHOT

In a move that has infuriated gun prohibitionists and opponents of self-defense, Florida Gov. Rick Scott signed legislation that allows armed private citizens to fire a warning shot to prevent a criminal attack.

The measure was adopted by $Floridal aw makers largely in {\it response}$ to a case involving a 33-year-old woman who was convicted of a crime and sentenced to 20 years in prison for firing such a shot to discourage an attack by her allegedly abusive husband, according to ABC News. That conviction was overturned, and a new trial was ordered.

The new statute makes it even tougher for opponents of Florida's controversial "stand-your-ground" law. Changing the law does not allow for indiscriminate firing of guns, but it could allow stand-yourground defenses for more cases, ABC suggested.

One notable cases was Colorado's loss of Magpul. Some sportsmen also mounted a boycott of the state for hunting and fishing.

Following the late-June primary in Colorado, Hickenlooper is facing a tough challenge for re-election from Republican ex-Congressman Bob Beauprez. He reportedly opposes the state's new gun laws, according to the Denver Post, so voters in that state could deliver a message about Hickenlooper's initial zeal last year and this year's attempt to distance himself from the state's new gun laws.



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

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CCRKBA CHIEF PREDICTED IT, NEVADA ANTIS DOING IT

Just as predicted by Alan Gottlieb, chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, gun prohibitionists have launched another gun control initiative campaign seeking "expanded background checks" on the heels of a well-financed measure in Washington State.

Calling themselves "Nevadans for Background Checks," the group launched its signature gathering effort in mid-June. The *Las Vegas Review-Journal* identified the PAC actually pushing the measure as the "Committee for Background Checks." They are reportedly affiliated with Michael Bloomberg's "Everytown for Gun Responsibility."

They need to collect 101,667 signatures by Nov. 11 in order to present their measure to the legislature next year. If lawmakers don't take action, the proposal will go to the ballot in 2016.

The proposal calls for background checks to be conducted at gun shows and for on-line sales. There is an exemption for "sales or transfers"

involving law enforcement, antique guns.

According to the group's website, "The Background Check Initiative is a common-sense solution to require background checks for all gun sales in Nevada, with reasonable exceptions for family, hunting, and self-defense. Nevadans are coming together to promote public safety, protect our communities, and create a fair, level playing field for all gun sales."

"It's always the same rhetoric," Gottlieb noted. "It's a 'commonsense solution,' and it has 'reasonable exceptions,' and the public is 'coming together.' But any claims that this legislation will somehow prevent violent crimes is, at best, suspect."

Gottlieb anticipates more such moves in states with the citizen initiative process. Anti-gun billionaire Michael Bloomberg has launched a \$50 million so-called "grassroots" effort to push extremist gun control.

Gottlieband CCRKBA are currently battling a similar initiative in Washington State, sponsored by the Washington Alliance for Gun Responsibility. Initiative 594 is an 18-page gun control measure that affects all gun transfers, not just sales. It would require background checks for anyone loaning or borrowing firearms for such endeavors as hunting or competition. In order for a gun owner to get his own property back, he would also have to go through a background check.

CCRKBA is part of a coalition that includes law enforcement trainers, hunters, target shooters, gun collectors and activists. Their grassroots campaign has so far been out-spent by the gun controllobbying group nearly 2-to-1.

Not everyone in Nevada is supporting the gun control initiative... John Wagner, chairman of an independent political movement, noted in a press release that, "We have seen that restrictive gun laws in New York, Boston, Chicago and Washington, D.C. lead to more crime. Crime statistics prove that criminals prefer unarmed victims. Wherever gun rights have been curtailed, crime goes up."

MICHIGAN GOV. SIGNS GUN OWNER PRIVACY LAW

Codifying into law what the Michigan State Supreme Court ruled in 1999, Gov. Rick Snyder has signed into law a measure that protects the privacy rights of gun owners.

The state high court ruling, according to the Associated Press, held that disclosing records from the gun registry is an invasion of privacy.

The legislation was supported

by gun rights organizations, and it was crafted in reaction to the disclosure of gun owner identities and addresses in two western New York counties following the Sandy Hook Elementary school attack.

Michigan's new statute still allows access to records by law enforcement agencies, but henceforth, any time those records are accessed, a lot is

kept of who did it and why. The law exempts state gun records from Michigan's Freedom of Information Act.

Over the years, newspapers looking for a sensational story have occasionally published the identities of gun owners, arguing that people have a right to know in their community who has a gun.

CCRKBA STAFFER ARGUES

The Fifth Biennial Meeting of States on the Programme of Action took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, June 16-20, 2014. The complete name of the meeting is Fifth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

Julianne Versnel, Director of Operations for Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms attended on behalf or its sister organization, the Second Amendment Foundation.

. On June 19, Non Governmental Organizations, NGOS, made their remarks.

The presentations began with Rebecca Peters of International Action Network on Small Arms who spoke on the POA's history and her organizations goals. She was followed by Gugu Dube of South Africa, whose remarks focused on stockpile management and firearms storage in both homes and offices. Alex Galvez of Transitions in Guatemala spoke of his struggles as a survivor of gun violence. This group concluded with remarks from David Wheeler of Sandy Hook Promise whose son Benjamin was killed in the tragic elementary school shooting.

Speaking on behalf of the firearms industry were World Forum on Shooting Activities, Defense Small Arms Advisory Council, Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers, Italian Association of Manufacturers of Sporting and Civilian Firearms and Ammunition, and the German Association of Manufacturers of Sporting and Hunting Firearms and Ammunition,.



Iulianne Versnel

Speaking on behalf of individual firearms owners were the Second Amendment Foundation, Heritage Foundation, Canadian Shooting Sports Association, Coalicon Armas Legales LatinoAmericanas, National Firearms Association of Canada and the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association.

Ms. Versnel's remarks are below:

Mr. Chairman, the POA and other UN efforts repeatedly and vociferously discuss gender issues. They acknowledge that women are disproportionately the victims of horrendous violence, sometimes even perpetrated by their own governments or others in power. Yet, they turn a blind eye to the reality that women have a right to defend themselves and are capable of doing so. The Programme of Action seems unable to acknowledge anything beyond the simplistic notion that civilian firearms are inherently evil.

Mr. Chairman, the right of women, indeed the right of men and woman, to self-defense is a human right.

While the Second Amendment to the US Constitution embodies this right, it is, in fact, a natural that all people have. Mr. Chairman, the United Nations is on a "collision course" with both the Second Amendment and the natural right of all people to defend themselves.

Indeed, this inability to recognize this right is a major failing with UN efforts in many areas, whether it be the POA, the Arms Trade Treaty or even the UN Human Rights Council. This is not a geographically limited issue and a growing number of organizations consider it vital. In fact, Mr. Chairman, the Second Amendment Foundation along 20 other civilian firearms rights groups from six continents came together in 2008 to form the International Association for the Protection of Civilian Arms (IAP-CAR). IAPCAR intends to vigorously pursue the right to self-defense in every possible venue.

Mr. Chairman let me issue a challenge on the to this body and to the UN in general to correct a tremendous error. In 2006, Barbara Frey, a rapporteur for the UN Human Rights Council, wrote a report entitled Prevention of Human Rights Violations Committed with Small Arms and Light Weapons (Report known as U.N. Doc. A/HRC/ Sub.1/58/27* 27 July 2006). Her report refused the idea that there is a right to have arms for self-defense and furthermore rejected any concept of self-defense as a human right. It also went on to say that states had a duty to engage in gun control. The kind of gun controls makes self-defense impossible.

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FOR SELF-DEFENSE AT UN

These conclusions were outrageous Mr. Chairman. These erroneous concepts have spread at the UN. It appears that Peru introduced a resolution at the UN Human Rights Council, based on the Frey report that, in essence, demanded that all states institute strict civilian gun control. NGOs are starting to base their opposition to firearms on the Frye report at the expense of recognizing an individual's right to self-defense.

Mr. Chairman, the idea that there is no human right to self-defense is contrary to 600 years of international law. This includes such eminent sources as Hugo Grotias and Fran-

cisco de Victoria. Major religious traditions also endorse the idea of a human right to self-defense.

Mr. Chairman, it is obvious this debate cannot even begin to be resolved here. Regardless, let me repeat my challenge. The POA and the UN must acknowledge that there is a human right to self-defense. We will debate this is any venue, at any time, at any place. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

On Friday, June 20, the body adopted the report of the meeting by consensus. The full text can be found at http://papersmart.unmeetings.org/media2/3501333/

aconf192bms2014wp1rev1.pdf

There were areas of contention, particularly over:

- Direct State control over small arms and light weapons transfers, including brokering;
- Unlicensed manufacturing of small arms and light weapons;
- Re-export of small arms and light weapons produced under foreign licence; and
- Linkages between the Programme of Action and the Arms Trade Treaty.

The full text can be found at http://papersmart.unmeetings. org/media2/3501333/aconf192bms2014wp1rev1.pdf

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

The recent fatal stabbings and shootings in Isla Vista, California, have predictably resulted in calls for additional gun control measures.

There is one small problem with the narrative as three of the murders were committed with knives. Yet, this is all about guns.

California already has universal background checks and a 10-day waiting period on the delivery of any firearm. Rather than question the benefit of these measures, Senator Barbara Boxer has decided to draft new legislation called the "Pause for Safety Act," that would allow family members, police and possibly others to petition a court to deny firearm purchases and confiscate firearms already possessed by individuals they deem a "threat."

The bill is S.2445 and the text of the bill can be found at http://www.opencongress.org/bill/s2445-113/text The 19 page bill is ripe with violations not only against the Second Amendment the Fourth Amendment right to privacy and potentially the due process rights enshrined in the Fifth Amendment.

This is a critical election year. The chances of Congress openly passing a highly restrictive and controversial gun bill are limited. But this is the type of measure that may well find itself slipped into an appropriation act after Congress returns from its August summer recess. This is exactly how the Lautenberg Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Act and the Kohl reenactment of the federal Gun Free School Zones Act were slipped in.

If your elected officials conduct town hall meetings during the summer recess, this would be an ideal time to call attention to this and other possible gun control measures. September is the time when the multi-thousand page appropriations acts are considered. If no town hall meetings are available near you, take the time to call, write or e-mail your Congressperson and Senators and remind them that we are watching them carefully as Election Day approaches.

Contact information for your elected legislators may be found at www.house.gov, www.senate.gov, or at www.ccrkba.org. If you don't have computer access (most libraries offer free computer time), look in the blue "government" pages of your local telephone directory.

DEFENDING GUN RIGHTS AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL

Following two school shooting incidents—one at Reynolds High School in the Portland, Ore., suburb of Troutdale and the other at Seattle Pacific University—gun prohibitionists immediately ramped up the volume on their demands for more gun control laws.

But a student journalist at the University of Texas, Austin took the initiative and wrote an Op-ed piece in the campus newspaper, *The Daily Texan*, put the issue in perspective when he noted, "The media seems to spend so much time highlighting incidents like these, but news outlets routinely fail to mention a key factor of such shootings, namely that they often occur in gun-free zones."

That student was John Daywalt, a senior majoring in government from Killeen, where the infamous Luby's Cafeteria attack occurred several years ago.

Telling people about the false promises and failures of gun control is a process of education, and where better for that process to begin than at a university?

Daywalt's short essay focused in large part on concealed carry on campus, an issue that has been simmering in the Lone Star State for a couple of years.

"It is apparent that gun-free zones do not work to effectively curb gun violence," Daywalt wrote. "If you do not believe me, then take a look at the Virginia Tech massacre, the two Fort Hood mass shootings, the recent shooting at Seattle Pacific University, the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, the shooting in the Perry-Castaneda Library and many others. They each took place in a gun-free zone. The reality is that gun-free

zones only do one thing: They disarm law-abiding citizens, specifically concealed handgun license holders."

Harsh words to be written in a campus newspaper, but that is the reality that many opponents of self-defense seem determined to conceal from young adults. The article got a mixed reaction, with some disagreeing and others siding with Daywalt. But he had some recent history to shore up his contention that allowing concealed carry there by licensed adult students could save lives.

"Doubts about campus carry are valid considering firearms are nearly always portrayed as being used only by 'bad guys' and cops in movies," he noted. "However, let's take a look in our own backyard. Many of us are aware there was a shooting in West Campus in late April, at a construction site near the intersection of Rio Grande Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. After having been fired from the work site, a former employee returned to the site with a gun and began firing shots at the work site foreman. Luckily for the foreman, who has a CHL, this was not a gun-free zone. He was able to draw his handgun and return fire at the aggressor, thus saving his life when seconds counted. There was simply not enough time to call 911 to wait minutes for a response. If campus carry were allowed, CHL holders would be able to help prevent a gunman from taking innocent lives on campus just as one did in this incident."

Daywalt's article provided some interesting data. He reported that at the end of last year, there were more than 708,000 active Texas handgun licenses, and that the conviction rate

for people in this category is far lower than for average citizens.

His piece also reported that another campus carry bill is in the works. He identified those who offer main support for the concept, and those who have vowed to fight it.

Daywalt reminded readers that, "When seconds count, the police are minutes away. This is just a stark reality.

"In 2010, after a gunman opened fire in the Perry-Castaneda Library," he detailed, "the University and UTPD conducted an After Action review of the event. This report states that it took the first UTPD officer three minutes to arrive at the library once the department was first notified of a gunman who was carrying an AK-47, which is capable of firing approximately 600 rounds per minute. Additionally, it took more than 13 minutes before the campus sirens and loudspeaker sounded directing faculty, staff, and students into buildings for campus lockdown. By this time, the lone gunman had already committed suicide and, thankfully, had not injured anyone

In making a compelling case for campus carry, Daywalt promoted the larger exercise of Second Amendment rights. Violent acts do not just happen on college campuses, and being prepared does not have a down side.

Daywalt's defense demonstrated that battling for gun rights can happen in many different arenas, whether in front of a TV camera, a committee meeting at the Legislature, or even on a university campus. After all, where better could one set out to teach the value of gun rights than at an institution of higher learning?

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According to the Sacramento Bee, nearly 10 percent of Californians who voted in the election June 3 cast their ballots for suspended anti-gun state Senator Leland Yee, the San Francisco Democrat who is currently facing weapons and corruption charges.

man now faces several charges including felony murder, and the newspaper added he has previous convictions, and had been charged in a separate murder case back in 2010 only to have those charges dropped for lack of cooperation from witnesses.



**

The Yakima Herald-Republic reported recently that nearly a dozen administrators in the Toppenish school district, located near Yakima, had volunteered for training necessary to be able to carry their guns on school campuses. Among the administrators who volunteered is the district's superintendent.

The ability for administrators to carry firearms on campus came about due to a policy passed earlier this year, and this extra armed presence will complement, according to the Herald-Republic, a security staff comprised of six armed guards from a district contractor.



According to the St. Louis Post Dispatch, late the night of June 10, when a 17-year old teenager went outside to get something when two alleged crooks, both armed and wearing masks, confronted the girl and forced her inside the house at gunpoint, using her as the shield.

According to the newspaper, the girls' parents opened fire on the two bad guys. The dad's shots hit them, killing one instantly and seriously wounding the other. The wounded

The New York Daily News reported recently that several legislators from New York City's Bronx borough introduced a proposal regarding "safe storage" of firearms. The measure, according to the newspaper, would impose penalties ranging from license revocation up to jail time for gun owners who fail to store their weapons locked away from children. The bill is named after a child who was killed by a friend who had been playing with an unlocked weapon.



The Keene Sentinel newspaper reported that city officials in the town of Troy were forced to cancel a public hearing on a proposed antigun ordinance after discovering that New Hampshire law prohibits local governments from passing gun regulations.

The ordinance in question was proposed by the town's police chief and would have banned firearms discharge in the town within 1,000 feet of various outdoor public facilities, such as schools or parks, regardless of whether the discharge occurs on public or private property.



An attorney in Toledo, OH, who also happens to be running for election as a county court judge has raised a few eyebrows with a request he has made of his local town council.

According to the *Toledo Blade*, Republican Mark Davis has requested permission from the council in the town of Ottawa Hills to install a private shooting range in the basement of his residence.

The Blade reported that the town does not prohibit firing ranges under their current zoning regulations, but added there are restrictions on the discharge of firearms within the town.

The matter, has been up for discussion within town government for a couple of months now and remains under review.



The Denver Post reported that proponents of a measure that would ban concealed carry on college campuses had, according to the group, collected over half of the required signatures by the deadline, set for the end of June, to get the measure on the fall ballot.

If this measure is qualified, it will face stiff resistance from gun owners who threw out two members of the state senate over gun control legislation passed in 2013 in reaction to the Sandy Hook school shooting.

Colorado is a state where billionaire Michael Bloomberg and his Everytown for Gun Safety has been willing to spend quite a bit of money to push gun control.



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Come meet national gun rights leaders and your fellow grassroots activists at the 29th Annual Gun Rights Policy Conference (GRPC 2014) in Chicago, Illinois. This is your once-a-year chance to network and get an insider look and plan pro-gun rights strategies for the coming year.

Past GRPCs have outlined victory plans and made public the latest firearms trends. They allow you a first-hand chance to hear movement leaders--and make your voice heard.

This year we'll take a look at critical issues such as: city gun bans, "smart" guns, concealed carry, federal legislation, legal actions, gun show regulation, state and local activity. We'll preview the 2014 elections, discuss state legislative battles and analyze Right to Keep and Bear Arms court cases.

The full roster of GRPC 2014 speakers has not yet been set. Past speakers have included: Alan M. Gottlieb, Joseph P. Tartaro, Eugene Volokh, G. Gordon Liddy, Michael Reagan, Larry Elder, Ken Hamblin, John Lott, Sandy Froman, Massad Ayoob, Tom Gresham, Alan Gura, Reps. Bob Barr and Joe Barton and many others. Check our web sites -- www.saf.org or www.ccrkba.org for updates.

CONFERENCE and HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF MATERIALS ARE FREE!

Books, monographs and other materials—enough to start a Second Amendment library are free, as are Saturday luncheon, Friday and Saturday evening receptions and morning and afternoon snack breaks. Other meals, travel and lodging are to be paid by attendee. There is a special room rate of \$112 per night. After you register, you will be sent information about hotel reservations and invited speakers. A tentative agenda will be sent in August.

2014 Gun Rights Policy Conference / FREE

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