

Two from our GSL family, Avery Houk and her pup Chippy.

Tip for the day: Don't mess with a girl that shoots. Especially one with a trained German Shepherd at her side. Chippy looks at bad people as interactive squeaky toys as they 'squeak' vigorously when he bites them. And he loves playing with squeaky toys.

'SHOOT ON SIGHT'

'Shoot on Sight' in Chicago: The price of the Left's war on law enforcement

(Red State) - Federal agents in Chicago are facing a nightmare most of us can't imagine: a violent street gang has literally issued a "shoot-on-sight" order against them. According to Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the Latin Kings have targeted immigration enforcement officers working in the city, leading the agency to warn its teams to use "extreme caution."

Shots were fired. Agents' vehicles were rammed. Bricks and paint cans were thrown at Border Patrol trucks in the Little Village neighborhood during ongoing immigration operations. This isn't happening in some failed foreign state. It's happening on American streets.

These attacks come amid Operation Midway Blitz, a federal crackdown led by the Trump administration to restore order and remove criminal aliens in Chicago. The mission is clear: enforce the law, protect

communities, and dismantle violent networks that thrive under decades of neglect from local politicians.



ICE agents fighting with Latin Kings gangbangers putting out hits on federal agents in Chicago.

Continued on page 20.

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Join GSL.
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This issue in memory of Zach & Kelsey Bailey and two of their kids Veda Rose and Samuel. Also Michael & Gail Clayton.

December 2025

- **Quincy:** Last Wednesday: November, December cancelled (holidays) Eagles Club, 3737 N. Fifth Street, Quincy
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: November, December cancelled (holidays) American Legion Post 1198, 1631 Western Ave. Chicago Heights Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.
- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **December 1**, January 5 SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **December 2**, January 6 Pontiac Sportsman's Club. 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **December 3**, January 7 Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion (Program at 6:45pm)
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **December 4**, No January meeting (New Year's Day) Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 Pioneer Parkway, Peoria Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6:30ish.
- **Danville:** Second Monday **December 8**, January 12 Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **December 10**, January 14 Prairie House Tavern, 2710 Main St., Buffalo Grove Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6pm-ish.
- **Mattoon:** Second Thursday: **December 11**, January 8 The American Legion Post 88, 1903 Maple Ave, Mattoon
- **LaSalle County:** Third Thursday: No December, January meetings Jamie's Outpost, 602 Clark St., Utica

Dinner, conversation, exhibits at 6 p.m. Program starts at 7 p.m.
Come on out and join us. Good food, good fun and good friends.
Dinner is optional but we encourage attendees to eat to support the venue.

Meetings are free and open to all.



Making gun haters pee their beds.

Meet a genuine Steyr AUG. It was the star at one of our GSL meetings in November.



Peoria Sheriff Chris Watkins joined us in Peoria with his take on the soft-on-crime edicts from Springfield.



Some of our crowd from the NW Chicagoland meeting in Buffalo Grove. Sheriff Jim Mendrick was there, along with attorney Michael Johnson (not pictured) from US LawShield. GSL VP John Coyne is holding the Mendrick sign and the local regional director Eric North is there as well, along with Racheal LaRue from US LawShield.



Dillan Vancil is running for the Republican nomination for Congress. Unlike the current radical incumbent Eric Sorenson, Vancil actually appreciates guns and supports gun rights. And like many in GSL, he too has been the victim of tragic boating accidents involving his guns.



Sangamon County Sheriff Paula Crouch.



A very old, yet very painstakingly engraved .22 revolver from the 1800s in Decatur.



Dan Caulkins (right) with Bob Taft told us about setting the world land speed record for his particular class of pickup truck at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah. His record is just over 170 mph for an entire mile. He looks to break that next year.



Happiness is a new shotgun! Mr. B. won a new 12ga. pump shotgun in Danville!



Jerry S. won himself a new gun at the Pontiac GSL meeting. He looks pretty thrilled. Hopefully his grandkids get a chance to shoot it too!



Kerry won a nice deer gun in Decatur. Congrats!



Jeff Wilson from Champaign County is running to replace gun-hating Nikki Budzinski in Congress.

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\$234 for 12 months.

GOOD NEWS! Big year for Land of Lincoln Honor Flight!

In September 2023, the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight (LOLHF) flew of who slew of Guns Save Life referred veterans out to Washington on one of their Honor Flights. It was a tremendous opportunity for everyone involved and made for a lifetime of great memories.

We've referred a handful of additional veterans to the program since then and they too have had a great time.

LOLHF completed this year's flights and sent us the numbers. In 2025, they took four flights

of veterans and guardians. Among the veterans, 23 served in the Korean War era, and 351 Vietnam era vets took the trip. 337 guardians also paid for their own trip to escort the vets.

To date, LOLHF has flown 6223 vets on 76 flights. That's pretty good for a plucky group of selfless volunteers who not only work the logistics, but raise the money to make this happen.

Great job, LOLHF staffers. You've earned your higher place in Heaven.



Talk about making gun haters piddle themselves! Don't tell the Illinois General Assembly, but Gatling guns are still kind of legal in Illinois. This one made an appearance at the Decatur GSL meeting.



**POLICE OFFICERS!
NRA memberships
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line-of-duty death benefit**

Did you know that active duty police officers are eligible for a \$20 annual National Rifle Association membership? And that NRA-member public law enforcement officers have a \$35,000 line-of-duty death benefit? Tragically, the NRA has paid out over \$4 million in these benefits since 2000.

Go to the NRA's Law Enforcement sign-up page or follow the QR code below to sign up with this offer today.

membership.nra.org/LEAD/Join



If Dems want to bring male voters back, maybe stop with blaming them for crimes they aren't committing

(CCRKBA) - Recent stories at Reuters and MSNBC reveal Democrats are lamenting the loss of male voters, especially younger ones, in recent election cycles, and they are considering different strategies to bring them back. The Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms has a suggestion for these Democrats. Stop pushing legislation aimed at eroding their Second Amendment rights.



Where are the men? Timmy Walz doesn't count.

"A large percentage of male voters are gun owners," noted CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb, "and they are tired of being penalized for crimes they didn't commit, and being threatened with even more restrictions simply because they choose to exercise their Second Amendment rights.

"Male voters are not going to give up their rights just to make Democrats feel good about themselves," Gottlieb continued. "They are not going to make friends with

a party whose agenda includes trampling on their personal liberty, and that includes owning firearms.



NY Gov. Kathy Hochul supports gun bans for little people.

"Democrats seem to forget that exercising the right to own a gun does not require getting permission from the government," he observed. "Rights are not subject to expensive training requirements, waiting periods or other nonsensical restrictions, including limits on the number of guns someone may purchase during a single month. These are restrictions which turn a right into a government-regulated privilege, and if you want to attract men back to the party, stop treating them like second-class citizens.

"Young male voters don't respond well to complaints about their so-called 'toxic masculinity,' either," Gottlieb noted. "They won't support a party which treats them and their rights with contempt and hostility, and let's face it, in its shift farther to the political left, the Democrat party has been doing all of these things with a degree of arrogance

and disrespect that seems deliberately designed to alienate, rather than invite, the very people the party wants to attract.



Men don't want to be lectured by a bitter old woman.

"Male voters will not support a political party which does not wholeheartedly support their rights," Gottlieb stated, "and that especially applies to their Second Amendment rights. If Democrats want to make male voters feel welcome, stop making them feel like criminals."



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"When you tear out a man's tongue, you are not proving him a liar, you're only telling the world that you fear what he might say."

— George R. R. Martin

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GunNews distribution hubs

Would you be able to distribute bundles or partial bundles of *GunNews* to sporting goods shops, local gun shops or other interested venues as part of your regular travels? If so, stop by these locations to grab some to share with others to continue to help GSL's public education mission.

Springfield (New Address!): Glisson Heating and Air, 1531 W. Jefferson in Springfield. There may be limited availability to get them. Call Dave Walbaum at 217 341-6297 or Joel Gain at 217 632-3267.

Dwight: Rick's Automotive in Dwight.

Chicagoland: Nick Klementzos in Lockport. Text or call: 708 476-0276.

Rantoul: Corky's Storage on south end of Rantoul. Unit #67. Call or text John Boch (217 649-3702) or Warren Drake (217 898-9602) for the lock combination.

Decatur: Rat's Whole Place motorcycle repair in Decatur.

Bloomington: John Boch. 2208 Patriot's Pointe, Bloomington. Call or text first. 217 649-3702.

Executive Director's Report

Crime falls when criminals are removed from the population

by John Boch

GSL Executive Director

Arguing with basic facts, or denying their existence might make you feel better, but it won't change reality. The sun will still rise in the East and a walnut will hurt if it falls upon your noggin from a tree thanks to gravity.

The same applies to criminals. A handful commit the overwhelming majority of crime.



GSL's John Boch.

If you think you can change behavior by coddling them with "no cash bail," "restorative justice" and sealing their criminal records, it won't work. They aren't going to change their ways because you're nice to them. Without real consequences, they're not going to play by the rules. And why should they? If they can commit crime without consequences, why change?

The opposite is also true. Take El Salvador, where people don't enjoy America's "innocent until proven guilty" jurisprudence. In El Salvador, they don't coddle accused criminals. They lock them up. They send the really bad ones, especially criminal gang members to CECOT prison for life. Crime there dropped precipitously. Murders dropped almost 98%. It's now easily the safest country in the Western world.

One way we can reduce crime in America is to removed illegal aliens. They came illegally, are here illegally and many are committing crimes - some horrific. They need to go.

Yet most state and federal Democrat elected officials - and even a minority of Democrat voters - oppose sending these foreign invaders home.

President Donald Trump's administration is aggressively pursuing illegal alien criminals and removing them from our streets. The results have been stunning. Homicides are down sharply, as are robberies and carjackings. We're interrupting human trafficking and child trafficking rings. Not only that, but we're disrupting terror attacks by removing bad actors without a whole lot of fanfare.

What's more, our ICE flights aren't particular about where these aliens are sent. If you're here illegally, committing crimes or otherwise misbehaving, and ICE catches up with you, you're liable to find yourself on a plane to Somalia or... El Salvador's CECOT prison.

For a long time we've been told that illegals commit crimes at or below the rates of native-born Americans. That's hogwash. Even if it was true, why should we permit any crime from those who came illegally?

Mike and Gail Clayton, two of our GSL family, were recently killed by an unlicensed illegal alien driver driving drunk and high. He shouldn't have been in America, but Biden and Pritzker looked the other way so long as they believe these illegals, if granted the right to vote, will vote for Democrats.

Most normal Americans support locking up native-born violent criminals, especially career bad guys. We all want safe neighborhoods and safe streets to raise our families.

Removing illegals is but the first step to bringing down violent crime in America.

Ending soft-on-crime policies and giving multiple chances to hardened criminals to rehabilitate themselves needs to stop as well.

Until and unless that happens, we'll all need to continue to carry the means with which to protect our families and ourselves from violent offenders, lunatics and terrorists.

You may not like guns, but there's nothing out there that will stop bad people with evil in their hearts like a good guy (or gal) with a gun.



NRA 2.0: Big changes underway at NRA

by Dick Fairburn

(GSL) - NRA 2.0 - Hello folks, I am Dick Fairburn, a GSL member from Canton, IL, who was recently elected to the NRA Board of Directors. By the time you read this I will have completed my visits to all ten GSL chapters. I appreciate the warm welcome I received at all locations and hope my presentations gave you insight into the huge changes underway in the America's oldest civil rights organization, the National Rifle Association.

As of November 1st, we announced some additional changes that will improve the financial stability of the NRA. A \$24M budget cut this year will put the organization in position to finish 2025 in the black for the first time in several years. Many of the recent losses had to do with the attorney's fees in the legal battle in New York State. That legal firm has now been fired.

As many of you know, The

NRA was organized in New York State in 1871 and must live under New York's laws related to not-for-profit organizations. New York's Attorney General, Letitia James (the same one who

grettably we had to furlough 36 employees as a cost-cutting measure.

More obvious changes

The most noticeable change members will see in the future will be a change in the group's publications. NRA is eliminating *Shooting Illustrated* and *America's First Freedom*. Much of their material appear in the *American Rifleman* and the *American Hunter*. Those magazines will appear monthly in digital format for members, and printed copies will arrive by mail on a quarterly basis. This change will save us \$16M per year.

You will also be seeing an expanded digital footprint at the NRA, to include phone apps and increased social media presence. Younger folks prefer this sort of media and this expansion will help us reach young people.

Feel free to contact me at: bhkid@yahoo.com



tried to destroy President Trump financially) attempted to put the National Rifle Association out of business too. She failed, but inadvertently probably saved us instead.

The mismanagement and outright corruption of former NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre was exposed and stopped. The NY court banned LaPierre from associating with the NRA for 10 years and forced him to repay \$4.4 Million dollars. With that court battle over, the NRA can stabilize our budget. Re-



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Be among the third 100 individuals to step up and help us defend your right to defend yourself with a life membership to Guns Save Life.

To sign up for this new Life Membership option, fill out the form on the back page of this issue of *GunNews* and send it in today.

Illinois News



Political messaging, media driving Illinois Democrats to radical extremes

(WirePoints) - M3 Strategies surveyed 459 likely 2026 Democratic primary election voters in Illinois from October 23rd – October 25th.

Among the key findings:

- **42% of Democratic primary voters say violence is “sometimes” or “mostly” acceptable** to stop ICE.
- **39% stated that it's appropriate to physically pull ICE officers away** while they are trying to handcuff someone.
- **81% of Democratic primary voters agree** with the statement that “Trump and many of his supporters are like Nazis.”
- The vast majority (71%) of Democratic voters support Governor Pritzker doing “whatever it takes” to keep ICE and other federal law enforcement out of Illinois, and to stop the Feds from picking up and deporting undocumented immigrants in Illinois.
- The vast majority (71%) of Democratic primary voters want ICE officers to be prosecuted when Democrats take back control of the federal government.

Damaging federal vehicle by scratching 'PIG' into vehicle's paint

Dem Congressional candidate Kat Abughazaleh, others indicted over violent 'protest' outside Broadview ICE facility

Chicago (CBS News) - Illinois congressional candidate Kat Abughazaleh and five other protesters have been indicted on federal charges, accused of damaging an ICE agent's vehicle while trying to block it from driving into the immigration processing facility in Broadview, Illinois, last month.

Abughazaleh and five others were indicted on two counts each: conspiracy to impede or injure a federal law enforcement officer; and forcibly impeding, intimidating, or interfering with a federal law enforcement officer while engaged in official duties.

The other defendants include Catherine Sharp, who is running for a seat on the Cook County Board of Commissioners; Michael Rabbitt, who is the Democratic committeeman in the 45th Ward in Chicago; Brian Straw, who is running for Oak Park village trustee; Andre Martin; and Joselyn Walsh. According to the indictment,

Martin worked for Abughazaleh. In addition to running for Cook County Board, Sharp is the chief of staff for Chicago Ald. Andre Vasquez (40th).

The charges accuse the defendants of blocking the path of an ICE agent's vehicle as he was reporting to work at the Broadview facility on the morning of Sept. 26.

According to the indictment, they “banged aggressively” on the vehicle's windows and hood, and “pushed against the vehicle to hinder and impede its movement.” They also allegedly scratched the word “PIG” into the body of the vehicle, and broke one of its side mirrors and rear windshield wiper.

If convicted, they could face up to six years in prison for the conspiracy charges, and up to eight years in prison for the intimidation charges.

How many second and third chances do we give criminals?

General Assembly approves measure to automatically seal some criminal records

(The Center Square) – The Illinois House has approved a Senate bill that modifies the Clean Slate Act to seal certain criminal convictions.

In the Senate Wednesday evening, state Sen. Elgie Sims, D-Chicago, said House Bill 1836 takes crimes that currently can be sealed by petition to allow them to be sealed automatically.

“This does not extend beyond crimes that are currently able to be sealed by petition,” Sims said. “So it allows for us to deal with the backlog of cases...”

State Rep. Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis, who voted against the bill, questioned why it removes a provision on subsequent convictions and other changes.

“We are also removing, this bill would remove the provision requiring a petitioner to attach a negative drug test to a petition for sealing,” Windhorst said.



US Attorney hammering Chicago gang violence perps with federal time

Chicago (CWB Chicago) - Federal prosecutors in Chicago have sharply increased their pursuit of violent offenders and gun crimes, with the number of firearm indictments nearly tripling under U.S. Attorney Andrew S. Boutros' leadership, officials announced. Boutros, joined by leaders from the FBI, ATF, DEA, and U.S. Marshals Service, said the Northern District has experienced a dramatic rise in both firearm and overall criminal prosecutions in 2025.

Through October 31, 2025, federal firearm indictments filed under the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) initiative increased 292 percent, from 26 cases in 2024 to 102 this year, the officials said. The number of defendants charged in those cases rose from 30 to 116—a 287 percent increase. Overall, federal criminal indictments across all program areas jumped 45 percent, from 252 last year to 366 this year, while the number of defendants charged rose 52 percent, from 325 to 494, according to Boutros.

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Download an application at dewittcountysc.com or by mailing a request to DCSC, PO Box 322, Clinton, IL 61727.





Violence is NOT acceptable. Neither is violent rhetoric.

by Nancy Hayes
President Trump recently stated that violent crime in Chicago has fallen sharply since the start of a federal crackdown known as "Operation Midway Blitz".

He credited the Department of Homeland Security with driving down crime and reported that shootings are down 35%, robberies are down 41% and carjackings were down nearly 50% since the operation began several weeks ago.

Trump went on to state, "This has been achieved DESPITE the extraordinary resistance from Chicago and Illinois Radical Democrat leadership."

In fact, in reality the ICE agents have faced multiple assaults, gunfire and vehicle ramming during raids in the Chicagoland area.

"Operation Midway Blitz" was launched back in September as a part of a broader Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Initiative aimed at "criminal illegal aliens terrorizing Americans in sanctuary Illinois".

We all know Gov. Pritzker and Mayor Johnson, along with many other Democrats in Illinois did NOT and do NOT support "Operation Midway Blitz".

Both Governor Pritzker and Mayor Johnson oppose large-scale immigration raids. In fact, not only do they oppose the raids, but they have even been known to tacitly encourage violent resistance against ICE officers.

That's probably why it wasn't a surprise when a couple days ago anti-ICE protesters turned violent once again outside a Chicago facility. In fact, chaos erupted near the immigration processing center where agitators clashed with law enforcement ending in a dozen plus arrests and injured officers including two Broadview police officers, a Cook County Deputy and an Illinois State Trooper.

Sadly, this seems to be no surprise to most of us normal people, especially when you look upon a recent poll which showed a near majority of Illinois Democrat primary voters believe that "violence" was

acceptable to stop ICE.

The poll, conducted by M3 Strategies, surveyed 459 likely 2026 Democratic primary election voters in Illinois from October 23rd – October 25th.

- 42% of Democratic primary voters say violence is "sometimes" (29%) or "mostly" (5.6%) or "always" (7.5%) acceptable to stop ICE, while 39% stated that it's appropriate to physically pull ICE officers away while they are trying to handcuff someone.
- 81% of Democratic primary voters agree with the statement that "Trump and many of his supporters are like Nazis."
- The vast majority (84%) support Governor Pritzker doing "whatever it takes" to keep ICE and other federal law enforcement out of Illinois, and to stop the Feds from picking up and deporting undocumented immigrants in Illinois.
- The vast majority (71%) of Democratic primary voters want ICE officers to be prosecuted when Democrats take back control of the federal government.

Rather than uniting and showing support for America and law and order, their solution is more akin to resist Donald Trump "by any means necessary."

Furthermore, calling Trump supporters Nazis – I'm sorry that's over the top and that rhetoric needs to end. This crazy talk must stop.

As for Mayor Johnson's executive order creating ICE-FREE zones in the city, White House spokeswoman Abigail Jackson commented on these to Fox News Digital. "If Chicago Democrats spent as much time targeting criminals as they did demonizing and criticizing federal law enforcement, Chicagoans would be a lot safer. The only people who will be 'safe' in an ICE Free Zone are violent criminal illegal aliens who prey on innocent American citizens."

In closing may I remind you of what Sergeant Phil Esterhaus (Hill Street Blues) use to tell his officers at the end of every roll-call briefing: "Let's be careful out there."

=====

If you are NOT engaged, then you don't have any right to complain! Get involved! Stay inspired! Stay educated!



At the Illinois Freedom Alliance, **we help people get involved and make a difference in local government.** We fight and work for free and fair elections. We help pro-freedom, pro-gun and pro-America first groups and organizations network together and share resources. We also educate and empower people through our educational programs online and in person. And we host seminars with great speakers too. Visit our website for more information.

Contact the Illinois Freedom Alliance (www.illinoisfreedomalliance.us or call 309-377-1776).

IllinoisFreedomAlliance.us

Tough guy Derek Lopez lands in the 'finding out' phase of FAFO...

Politically violent ISU teaching assistant arrested AGAIN, this time by FBI for threat to kill President Trump

Normal, IL (NY Post) - An Illinois State University teaching assistant fired for violently flipping a Turning Point USA table on campus [Editor's note: Twice!] has now been arrested for allegedly threatening to kill President Trump.

Derek Lopez, 27, was nabbed after he allegedly spewed a slew of vile threats on social media earlier this week — including one where he boldly declared, "I'm gonna kill Donald Trump," according to the feds.

In one post over the weekend, Lopez allegedly posted a video of a man pointing a gun at a graphic of Trump with a target on his head, the criminal complaint states.



Bless his heart! Derek Lopez (above) won't be back to ISU's campus any time soon... See ya in 20 years, ya big dummy!



Feds: Indiana social misfit FAFO'd, urged others to 'shoot an ICE agent dead,' now in custody

(CWB Chicago) - Federal agents have charged an Indiana man with transmitting online threats to kill Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers last week as the Chicago area experienced a renewed

wave of immigration enforcement actions.

According to a criminal complaint unsealed this week in the Northern District of Indiana, 35-year-old Alexander

Frances Jakeway of Valparaiso was arrested after Homeland Security Investigations' Chicago office traced a series of allegedly threatening social media posts to him.

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In regione caecorum rex est luscus

In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is King
by *Desiderius Erasmus, a GSL member*

*You carry a gun to make yourself harder to kill.
Know the law so you're harder to convict!*

The 2/2 Rule

I recently came across some articles describing self-defense advice that centered not on shooting skills, but how to avoid serious repercussions if you do defend yourself with a firearm. While many points are covered in better Concealed Carry classes in Illinois – such as the excellent ones conducted at The Bullet Trap in Macon – a few tips are ones I had never thought through as well as I should have.

Quite simply: there are two things to do before a self-defense incident occurs, and two things to do afterward. Think of it as a little checklist you can actually remember under stress, when powerful adrenaline is shrieking through your system, emotions are high, and you have to get everything right. In fact, write it down and keep it with you so you don't forget in the "heat of the moment."

Before: Point 1 Know When Force Is Justified

Think through the situations for using force – and where you would use deadly force – in the context of your state's law. In our case Illinois, but if you travel, you need to brush up on what these states do not allow. In either case, if what you do does not line up with the statutes, you could easily be found legally wrong, even if you feel that you were justified and morally correct.

Visualize, say, five common scenarios, where you might have to use deadly force; tailor each to your own personal lifestyle. Maybe a vicious dog approaches while you are walking your own dog at night. Or sitting in your car at a parking lot, a stranger tries to get into your vehicle. Maybe a person confronts you at a gas station pump and he has his hands in his pockets – or a pistol in his hand. Maybe a road-rage incident. Or you are at home, or in a motel room, and you start to hear noises indicating a break-in.

Don't make this list generic; tailor it to your own life. For example, we have a little Shih Tzu and when he wants to go outside to water the neighborhood, he's getting his way – even if that is at 3:09 A.M.! Stray dogs happen; some might even be feral, as we live fairly close to the Sangamon River bottom land, so for me, that's a likely scenario.

These scenarios may change over time. With every year, I walk slower and my reaction time also seems to slow down a bit. Or maybe you job changes and you now have to pump gas at 10:00 P.M. instead of midday, so your risk profile has changed for the worse.

Put each scenario on their own small card. Add in the name and contact information of your lawyer that you will call after an event on each card. Ensure now that this lawyer knows you, knows you carry a firearm, and knows that you will be calling when you really need timely help. By thinking through potential situations, your brain develops a template concerning imminence of attack, proportionality of your response, to make it less likely that you will make a snap, panic decision you – and your lawyer – cannot legally defend later.

Before: Point 2 Avoidance. Avoidance. Avoidance

Your best situational defense and your best legal defense is not being there when violence happens! Prosecutors don't like to lose; they want a slam dunk, and if it looks like you did everything to avoid using your firearm, their case suddenly doesn't look so strong. If they do take it to trial, jurors love seeing that you tried not to fight. They understand that you were innocently going about your day (like they do), a threat cornered you, there was no escape route, or other safe alternative, you were afraid for your life (like they would be), and you acted only as a last resort (like they think they would).

Several lawyers noted that in almost every successful prosecution of someone who used force to defend themselves, there was at least one moment where the defender helped escalate rather than de-escalate the situation. Don't respond to insults; disengage from road-rage chasers. The individual who avoided, de-escalated, and only used deadly force when there was no other option stacks the odds in their favor with officers on scene, prosecutors deciding to, or not to, file charges, and with jurors deciding whether to believe you.

After: Point 1 Don't Talk; Call A Lawyer



When you believe you are right, your instinct is to explain to justify why you acted, fill in details, rationalize all your actions. That's normal, but also dangerous, because your ears are ringing from the gunshots, you are experiencing tunnel-vision, and your adrenaline overload will make you a terrible narrator. Instead, identify yourself to authorities; ask for medical help if needed and request your attorney. Then stop. Your lawyer will tell you what to do next.

After: Point 2 Live Like Everything Is An Exhibit

This may be the key point, and you can control this... and must. Police body-cam video will capture your demeanor. Your tone during routine questions will be scrutinized. Your phone or email texts, posts on social media, photos, comments in news stories, remarks to anyone other than your Catholic priest, can all wind up in a prosecutor's binder.

Remember: there is no statute of limitations on murder. A future State Attorney wanting to make a political name for himself may want to reopen the case. And we haven't addressed any lawsuits that the family of the "saint" you killed in self-defense may try to sue you for every penny. My take: go dark. No electronic communications concerning the event. No comments in public. But later, some people might assume that not talking means you did something bad. Follow the Mind Over Matter Rule. You don't mind, because those people don't matter. For how long? Forever!



Life ain't fair...

Personal Defense Tip: Don't insert yourself into stupid situations or you may win stupid prizes

TAYLOR, Mich. (WKRC) - A woman allegedly stabbed a teenage customer at a Kids Foot Locker after someone called her a "broke bitch" when her card declined at checkout.

Suniya Jenkins, 19, told local outlet Fox 2 that she was walking around the Southland Mall in Taylor, Michigan when she heard a commotion inside of a Kids Foot Locker. She said she peeked in to see what was going on, and heard yelling at the register about a 40-year-old customer's card being declined.

Jenkins said that as soon as she looked inside the store, the woman turned her ire toward her and started screaming.

"As the argument got verbal, she put her hand in her purse and proceeded to tell me she was going to shoot me," Jenkins said.

The customer allegedly pulled a kitchen knife out of her purse and stabbed Jenkins twice in the neck, once in the stomach, and once in the thigh.

"I did not see or even know I was stabbed until after the physical altercation," the victim said.

The altercation reportedly started when someone called the suspect a "broke bitch" after her card declined, but Jenkins claimed she was not the one who made the comment.

"I would love to press charges," the 19-year-old said from her hospital bed. "I am going to press charges, but it does sadden me because I don't want her to be taken away from her children, I truly don't."



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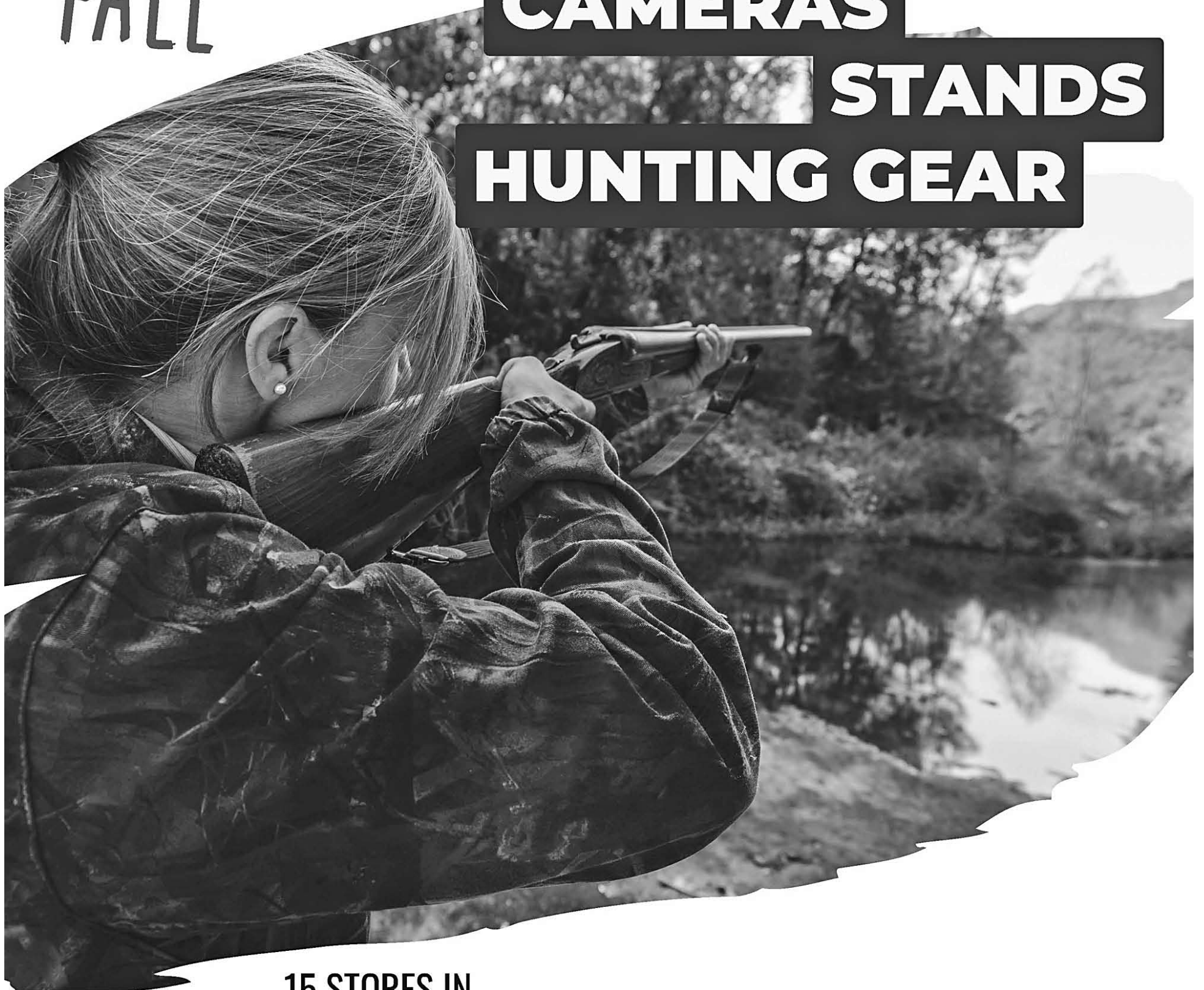
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Party of Beto: Analysis shows Democrats' anti-gun positions are costing them votes

(Texas Gun Rights) - A new report from a group of self-described moderate Democrats has finally put numbers to what gun owners have known all along: the Democrat Party has marched so far left that it's lost touch with America — and its obsession with gun control is one of the biggest reasons why.

The 59-page report, titled *Deciding to Win*, was published by WelcomePAC, a political outfit founded by operatives who claim they want to "depolarize" American politics by helping Democrats reconnect with the working class.

In other words, they're trying to rescue their party from the ideological quicksand of coastal elitism — and their own data show how deep the hole has gotten.

The party of Obama became the party of Beto

According to the report, the share of congressional Democrats who co-sponsored an "assault weapons ban" has more than doubled, jumping from 41% in 2013 to 88% in 2024.

The phrase "gun violence" — once buried deep in Democrat platforms — now appears near the top, right alongside climate change and racial identity.

In short, the Democrat Party that once claimed to represent working men and women has turned into a party of professional activists who believe banning your AR-15 will somehow lower gas prices or make groceries affordable again. WelcomePAC admits as much.

They say Democrats have "moved to the left on essentially every issue," and that the issues most important to the party's elites — climate change, abortion, and guns — aren't the issues most important to average Americans, who rank the economy, border security, and public safety far higher.



Gun Control: The elites' religion

The authors of *Deciding to Win* don't mince words about the damage this has done. They say "highly educated, affluent Democrat elites" are driving the party's priorities — not voters. Those elites have replaced lunch-pail common sense with the gospel of gun control.

They've spent a decade shouting about "assault weapons bans," "universal background checks," and "gun violence prevention" while ignoring the constitutional truth that the Second Amendment is not a suggestion. It's a right.

Every time Democrats double down on gun bans and registration schemes, they're not just attacking firearms — they're attacking the independence, dignity, and self-reliance that built this country. And every time they do it, they lose more of the working-class voters who used to believe the party stood for them.

Even their own strategists are begging them to stop

What's WelcomePAC's solution? In their words, Democrats must "focus more on issues voters do not think our party prioritizes highly enough (the economy, cost of living, border security, public safety) and focus less on issues voters think we place too much emphasis on."

Translated: stop talking about taking away people's guns and start talking about putting food on the table. That's not a revelation — that's common sense. But the fact that it has to be spelled out in a 59-page memo shows how detached the modern Democrat Party has become from reality outside of Washington, D.C. and San Francisco.

Chris McNutt, president of Texas Gun Rights, welcomed the report's admission. "It's refreshing to see even Democrat strategists admitting that their relentless push for gun control has been a political disaster," McNutt said. "Texas Gun Rights welcomes the return of the pro-gun Democrat — a species that's been extinct for far too long. The Second Amendment isn't a partisan issue; it's an American one."

McNutt added that Texas Gun Rights is non-partisan and will continue to hold all elected officials accountable — Republican, Democrat, or Independent — when they betray their oath to defend the Constitution.

The Bottom Line

WelcomePAC's report doesn't suddenly make Democrats pro-gun.

But it does prove that their own numbers are turning against them. The party's fixation on "assault weapons bans" and other anti-freedom crusades has alienated the very voters it needs most — blue-collar Americans who value their rights, their safety, and their independence.

If Democrats really want to "decide to win," they can start by deciding to stop attacking the right of the people to keep and bear arms. Until then, gun owners will keep voting — and fighting — like their freedom depends on it. Because it does.

GOOD! "Panic Unfolds": Nonprofit sector battered by 419% surge in job losses and grantmaking freeze

(ZeroHedge) - Long before the political assassination of Charlie Kirk, the protest-industrial complex, which fuels endless color-revolution-style operations against 'MAGA' and is bankrolled by billionaire-funded dark-money networks, declared war on President Trump and his supporters many years ago. It's only now that the White House is beginning to understand the NGO beast and the funding webs that quite frankly want regime change - at any cost necessary.



The latest jobs data via Challenger, Gray & Christmas shows an absolute apocalypse for the nonprofit job market:

Non-profits continue to be impacted by Government funding as well as rising costs. These entities announced plans to cut 27,651 this year, an increase of 419% from the 5,329 announced by this point in 2024. red striking results, with several liberal foundations freezing or scaling back grantmaking and a wave of layoffs rippling across the sector.

"When you shine light on billion-dollar NGO networks, they scramble. We are seeing the panic unfold in real time -- burner phones, law firms, and retreat statements. That tells you our research is hitting the mark. When you follow the money, the facts speak louder than spin," Bruner told us.

This year alone, the Trump administration has dismantled USAID and threatened RICO charges against the Soros Foundation. There have been headlines in the news that the Gates Foundation abruptly severed ties with the Arabella Network and reports revealing foreign influence operations among far-left NGOs waging war on Trump. The nonprofit industry, one of the most mysterious and complex to understand, has been placed in the limelight for the world to see as the White House's coming crackdown has spooked nonprofits not just on the far left that want to destroy America from within, but even nonprofit operators on the right...

The pressure campaign against the nonprofit world has already delivered impressive results, with several liberal foundations freezing or scaling back grantmaking and a wave of layoffs rippling across the sector.



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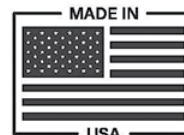
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Getting criminals off the streets results in 35% drop in shootings, 41% fewer robberies, carjackings down 50% in just two months!

Operation 'Midway Blitz' winds down, massive drops in Chicago crime reported

Chicago (Post-Millennial) - President Donald Trump has announced that there has been a massive drop in crime since the launch of Operation Midway Blitz in Chicago, including a 35 percent drop in shootings, 41 percent drop in robberies, and carjackings down 50 percent...

The Trump administration has been conducting a crackdown on illegal immigration as well as crime in a number of Democrat-led cities in the past few months, including in Los Angeles, Portland, Chicago, and others.

DHS spokesman Tricia McLaughlin had made the claims earlier on Tuesday, posting to X in the morning, "We aren't leaving Chicago. Since start of Operation Midway Blitz in Chicago, homicides are down 16%, shootings down 35%, robberies down 41%, carjackings down 48%, transit crime down 20%."



Mayor Brandon Johnson reacts to news of massive drop in crime following two months of rounding up criminal illegal aliens.

Glock: Judge's OK of Chicago's anti-gun lawsuit questionable, at best

(The Center Square) - Fire-arms maker Glock is asking for permission to appeal a Cook County judge's ruling allowing the city of Chicago to continue its lawsuit against Glock for "deceptive practices" in the sale and marketing of their popular semiautomatic pistols, as the gunmaker argues the judge's take on the legal permissibility of the city's lawsuit rests on shaky and unproven legal ground.



Glock filed the motion in mid-October in Cook County Circuit Court, asking Cook County Judge Allen P. Walker to allow the company to request an appeals court to

review Walker's September ruling declaring that neither the city's lawsuit nor the state consumer fraud law on which it rests don't violate the Second Amendment, federal law or a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision concerning legal actions seeking to make gunmakers pay for the acts of criminals using their weapons.

DHS arrests illegal alien in relation to shots fired at ICE agents

Chicago (NBC5 Chicago) - Immigration enforcement tensions rose across the Chicago area over the weekend.

A Department of Homeland Security spokesperson said agents were shot at on Saturday during an operation near 26th Street and Kedzie Avenue in the Little Village neighborhood.

On Monday, DHS told NBC Chicago they arrested an undocumented man from Mexico in relation to the shooting. Authorities said he has a prior conviction for unlawful use of a weapon, although they hadn't released his identity as of Monday evening.

YOU BETTER: Do you have legal defense coverage?

US LawShield to rescue in Chicago fatal defensive shooting

- Thanks to good legal counsel no charges, released after 48 hours...
- Local mainstream media badly misrepresents incident

by John Boch (GSL) - Americans' distrust of mainstream media took decades to become well-established. Today, woke narratives have replaced hard news. Take a story from CBS Chicago titled, *Man dies after being shot during argument in Chicago's West Loop*.

The reporters summed up the incident as a "quarrel" that turned into a fatal shooting when one of a car's occupants pulled a gun and fired a shot. "The men then drove away," said CBS Chicago.

As if they had a disagreement over whose girlfriend makes better lasagna.

Here's what really happened. Ask yourself if the media report was anything close to what really happened. Was the discrepancy laziness, incompetence or malicious misrepresentation of a righteous defensive gun use?

US LawShield's primary Illinois defense attorney Michael Johnson shared this narrative with us now that the dust has settled...

In the early morning hours I received a call on the US LawShield emergency hotline that a member was being held at the Chicago PD station at Belmont and Western.

A man named Nicholas called while in police custody, asking for help. He wasn't exactly clear as to why he was being held, but it had something to do with a shooting that happened on the near west side of Chicago.

I headed to the police station and while en route I called the detectives to let them know I represented Nicholas.



When I arrived, I learned that there was a shooting and one person died. After I spoke to Nicholas, I started to piece together the facts of what transpired just a few hours earlier. The facts as related to me by Nicholas were as follows:

Nicholas and his friend were leaving the downtown Chicago area around 2:00am after a night of drinking. The friend was driving and Nicholas sat in the front passenger seat.

(As he knew he was going to be drinking,) Nicholas had left his gun in the glove box and the driver had his gun on his person. Both of them had carry licenses.

At a stoplight, and individual approached the driver's side of the car and yelled obscenities at Nicholas and the driver.

The belligerent individual became increasingly aggressive and violent to the point he attempted to get into the car to attack the driver and Nicholas. Nicholas attempted to push him away and the driver fired several shots in the direction of the assailant. One of the shots grazed

Nicholas in the leg and one the other rounds proved fatal for the aggressor.

The driver took Nicholas to the nearest hospital without delay. As soon as they arrived, the police also showed up.

Nicholas was treated and both of them were taken to the police station for questioning. I arrived before either of them could say much regarding the shooting.

Both guns were recovered and the police were not even sure who fired the shots. The fact that Nicholas had been wounded, kind of left the police assuming the driver fired the shots.

I spent the next 24 hours talking with the detectives and then the States Attorney, attempting to convince them that based on the lack of evidence and any witnesses, it would be all but impossible to get any charges to stick, let alone convict.

As the clock ran close to the 48 hour mark, police released Nicholas without charges. Subsequently, even though I wasn't officially representing the driver, he too was also released.



Just another happy member of US LawShield.

No place is safe from violent crime in Chicagoland

Armed robbery at IL Senate President's Oak Park office

A staffer for Illinois Senate President Don Harmon was held at knifepoint during a robbery at the lawmaker's Oak Park office, village officials said.

The suspect, Scott Loeffler, 35, was charged with felony armed robbery by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. At approximately 11:11 a.m. on Friday, Loeffler knocked on the door of Harmon's Constituent Service Office at 6941 North Ave., village officials said. Loeffler was permitted inside, as staffers believed he was a constituent.



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BREW YOUR OWN HOLLOW-POINTS

by Nick Klementzos

(GSL) - Reloading ammunition not only provides a very productive way to pass time, you can also make it fun and enjoyable too!

I've been reloading since the early 80s, starting with single-stage presses that take forever but teach the basics. At first I told myself that I reload to save money, but that's just wishful thinking. It doesn't factor in cost of the equipment or your time in "good times."

But at other times, when panic buying has infected the marketplace, having the knowledge, equipment and reloading skills allowed me to produce my own ammo when none was to be found in stores.

Right now is a good time to stock up on ammo. Prices have stabilized and I attribute that in large part to the current administration. Keep buying in bulk when opportunities present themselves, especially for .223/5.56 and 9mm.

If you're shooting calibers that require more material to manufacture (.44s, .45s) or are less popular (.32, .380, .38) you might want to consider reloading as there is some limited cost savings in reloading them.

With my ammo fort coming together, I decided to investigate reloading .380s for sport, fun and self-defense.

In addition to reloading, I also started to cast my own bullets a number of years ago after I had trouble acquiring projectiles. I'll save you that story for another time but needless to say I acquired a few bullet molds.

Hollow Point Bullet Mold Services modifies bullet molds to produce, well, you guessed it: hollow point bullets.



I powder coat and size them to .357 diameter. How handy is that?

Lubed bullets work well also but the lube cause a lot of smoke when fired and can become annoying in short order.

Now I know many are saying "Why cast hollow point bullets?" and many more are talking about "You shouldn't use reloaded ammo for self defense." Why? Because it's fun and it's options if I can't buy hollow points at the store. And then there's the "Cool" factor.

Loading with Winchester 231, I got 1041fps out of a Makarov and 986fps out of my old Ruger LCP. The extra .7" of barrel in the Mak makes a difference. As for exact loads, you're going to have to find your own load data for magical fire dust from various load books.



Accuracy at 9 yards was minute of bad guy face and then some, even with a difficult-to-shoot-well pocket pistol.

I also tested some 98 grain truncated nose bullets and got velocities about 100fps slower.

To test for expansion, your Greek god didn't have any ballistic gelatin handy, so I went with the poor-man's test for expansion (water jugs). Both pistols delivered similar results, gutting the first jug. Each time I recovered the slugs from the second jug.



Expansion was .654-.660 and recovered weight was nearly identical to their cast weight - 88 to 89 grain.

Overall reloading your own ammunition can be an enjoyable and great pastime. Even more important: shooting is always fun!



On legislation, the SAFE-T Act, human trafficking, 'immigrant' enforcement, vehicle thefts and more...

Peoria County Sheriff pays GSL a visit

Peoria County Sheriff Chris Watkins joined us in Peoria for his second or third visit in the last year or two. He came with an update from his perspective on a wide range of topics, and taking questions on plenty of additional issues.

First, he mentioned the gun control bills under consideration. "Those are pretty much all political," he said. Basically the more radical Dems are tossing some red meat to the radical leftists in their districts, probably trying to fend off primary challenges from the fringes.

As far as the immigration fight goes, he says his agency is never going to prevent ICE from conducting enforcement in Peoria County. The feds are rounding up some really bad people, including hu-

man and child traffickers.

and raise their families.



Peoria County Sheriff Chris Watkins.

Unlike what we've seen in Chicago, people in Peoria welcome this enforcement and residents thank their local police for the removal of these bad actors from their neighborhoods. Apprehension of bad guys prevents further victimization of locals just trying to live life

Locally, Sheriff Watkins sees organized retail thefts as a big problem for local merchants. So too property crimes involving young kids targeting cars warming up before people need to leave for work. "You would be surprised how many people leave their keys or key fobs in running vehicles," he said.

Thanks to the end of cash bail in Illinois, it's sometimes a struggle to hold truly violent offenders until trial. Yes, even those arrested, often gang members, for shooting at others.

Lunatic drivers are also a local concern, in part to reduced traffic enforcement by municipal police. "Traffic is kind of like the Wild West around here."



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NRA 2.0: New NRA Director Dick Fairburn on changes he's seeing with NRA leadership

[Editor's note: We ran this last month, but Mr. Fairburn hit multiple GSL meetings this month, so we're reprinting it with some updates. There's a lot of great things happening with NRA 2.0.]

by John Boch

NRA 2.0. That's what folks are calling the NRA now that Wayne LaPierre and a bunch of his cronies are gone from leadership. GSL member Dick Fairburn joined us at a number of GSL meetings to explain what he's seen personally - and it's glorious.

Who is Dick Fairburn? He's written for national publications for forty-plus years. His public safety career has spanned about as long. Mr. Fairburn started in the fire service, and then became a cop and a police (and fire) chief. He also spent a couple decades teaching for the Illinois State Police. On YouTube he's "Locked and Loaded with Dick Fairburn."



Dick Fairburn.

He ran for the NRA Board last year because the reformers said they needed more good people to run. Fairburn won enough votes to fill a one-year term vacated by a director who passed away. (And, now Mr. Fairburn's running for a three-year term this next cycle!)

Thanks to two years of getting reformers elected to the Board, the reformers now have a solid majority of board members. The Wayne LaPierre cabal who had run the NRA into the ground for so long were very vocal at the April Board meeting, according to Fairburn. "They thought they still ran the place."

But then the reformers flexed their muscles and unseated the sitting president Bob Barr and replaced him with a reformer named Bill Bachenberg. "Suddenly, you could feel a change in the room," he said as the LaPierre folks realized they were no longer in charge.

Some of the scarce few of LaPierre's pals on the board have since resigned. As a result of one of those resignations, GSL's own Todd Vandermyde is now an NRA Board member! Congrats Todd!

Should the reformers continue with their winning streak, this next year's voting should put them in the super-majority.

Reformers now control pretty much the entire leadership of the National Rifle Association, including key committees, top leadership posts and they are instituting huge reforms to treat it like a business.

Bachenberg has set about building a foundation to carry the organization for the next

150 years, in part by running it like a real business. He's investing in social media outreach to bring in more younger members. Board committees like the membership committee are meeting regularly. For instance the membership committee has met monthly when they didn't meet at all in the seven years before Bachenberg's election. Moreover, the committees are seeing subject matter experts appointed to them, and these include some of the most influential and powerful names in shooting, industry and government. For example: the hunting and conservation committee have powerful non-board members on them who have spent a career in those roles. Competition committees have champion competitors on them. And the list goes on and on. LaPierre's "old boys club" is a thing of the past.

The Brewer law firm that soaked the NRA for over a hundred mil in legal fees has been fired. Ditto for the public relations firm. The new marketing firm is doing the work for half of the price and they're one of the top shops for non-profits like the NRA.

Fairburn talked about some of the stuff the NRA does that scarce few people even know about. As a former cop, he noted that active duty police can join for a mere \$20 per year and with that comes a \$35,000 life insurance policy covering line-of-duty death. Tragically, that's paid out over \$4.4 million since 2000.



At the most recent meeting, it was announced that thanks to some cuts and restructuring, the NRA would finish the year in the black for the first time in many years. Some things members will notice is that NRA publications will be cut to two: *The American Rifleman* and *The American Hunter*. Monthly issues will be available digitally, and hard copies will be mailed quarterly. That alone will save the organization \$16M annually.

There have also been some layoffs at headquarters as the org becomes leaner and more efficient at its core mission but again, it will finish this year and next year in the black for a change.

They are looking to increase spending on litigation. They've consistently been involved with about 100 lawsuits in recent years, but LaPierre's legal firm gagged the NRA's leaders from touting this litigation to members and the public. Of course, now that Wayne and his Brewer law firm buddies are gone, it's a new day in more ways than one.

Did you think NRA-ILA backed off lawsuits?

They certainly have not!

LaPierre's legal team muzzled them from talking about ongoing litigation

FEDERAL CASES

U.S. Supreme Court: Cert Petitions

Duncan v. Bonta — challenge to California's ban on and confiscation of magazines that hold over 10 rounds.

NRA v. Glass — challenge to Florida's prohibition on firearm purchases by adults under 21.

United States v. Rush — challenge to NFA restrictions on short-barreled rifles.

First Circuit

Harlon v. Campbell — challenge to prohibition on "assault-style" firearms.

Escher v. Noble — challenge to prohibition on the possession and carry of handguns and semiautomatic firearms by adults under 21.

Second Circuit

NYSRPA v. James — challenge to Concealed Carry Improvement Act, which restricts carry throughout the state.

Third Circuit

ANJRPC v. Grewal — challenge to ban on magazines with capacities over 10 rounds.

Padua v. Platkin — challenge to prohibition on suppressors.

Seigel v. Platkin — challenge to A4769, which restricts carry throughout the state.

DSSA v. DDSHS — challenge to ban on "assault weapons" and magazines with capacities over 17 rounds.

Neuberger v. DDSHS — challenge to Handgun Qualified Purchase Permit requirement for handgun purchases.

Young v. Ott — challenge to ban on concealed carry by 18-to-20-year-olds.

Fourth Circuit

Kipke v. Moore — challenge to SB1, which restricts carry throughout the state.

Maryland Shall Issue v. Moore — challenge to Handgun Qualification License require-

ment for handgun purchases.

LaFave v. County of Fairfax — challenge to ban on carrying in county parks, places adjacent to permitted events, and inside and adjacent to events that should be permitted but are not.

Fifth Circuit

NRA v. ATF — challenge to the ATF's pistol brace rule.

Jensen v. ATF — challenge to National Firearms Act of 1934's restrictions on suppressors, short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns, and "any other weapons."

Seventh Circuit

***Barnett v. Raoul* — challenge to the Protect Illinois Communities Act, which bans "assault weapons" and "large-capacity magazines" (15 rounds for handguns and 10 rounds for long guns).**

Eighth Circuit

Brown v. ATF — challenge to National Firearms Act of 1934's restrictions on suppressors, short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns, and "any other weapons."

FRAC v. Garland — challenge to the ATF's pistol brace rule.

Ninth Circuit

Duncan v. Bonta — challenge to ban on magazines with capacities over 10 rounds.

Rhode v. Bonta — challenge to restrictions—including background check requirement—on ammunition purchases.

SCI v. Bonta — challenge to AB 2571, which bans the promotion of firearm-related products that may be attractive to minors.

Jaymes v. Bonta — challenge to California's ban on Glock and Glock-style handguns.

DOW v. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; WildEarth Guardians v. U.S. DOI; NRDC v. U.S. DOI — consolidated actions

supporting the removal of gray wolves from being classified as endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

Eyre v. Rosenblum — challenge to Measure 114, which imposes a permit-to-purchase requirement and bans magazines with capacities over 10 rounds.

Banta v. Ferguson — challenge to "assault weapon" ban.

Tenth Circuit

Ortega v. Lujan Grisham — challenge to 7-day waiting period requirement for firearm purchases.

Eleventh Circuit

Butler v. Garland — challenge to the ATF's "engaged in the business" rule.

NRA v. Bondi — challenge to prohibition on firearm purchases by 18-to-20-year-olds.

Dunn v. Glass — challenge to 3-day waiting period requirement for firearm purchases.

D.C. Circuit

NWRA v. Haaland — opposing lead ammunition ban in the Caneau Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation v. BLM — challenge to ban on recreational shooting at the Sonoran Desert National Monument.

STATE CASES

Illinois

***Guns Save Life, Inc. v. Ali* — challenge to Cook County's supplemental tax on firearm and ammunition purchases.**

***Guns Save Life, Inc. v. Raoul* — challenge to the Illinois Firearm Owners Identification Card Act, which requires residents to secure a license and pay a fee for permission to own a firearm.**

[Dozens of cases omitted for space considerations...]

Guns Save Life that are staunch NRA backers.

What can we do to help the NRA?

1. Participate in NRA events, including training, competitions, NRA range days, local meetings and Friends of the NRA events that benefit youth shooting in your area. And attend the NRA Annual Meetings!



Support NRA Youth Shooting programs!

2. Support and participate in groups like

3. Take the youth out and get them into shooting. Teach them the NRA's three rules of safety. If you see an NRA youth program in your area, send kids in that direction.

4. Worth repeating: Support the Friends of NRA which funds youth shooting activities, among others. If you quit going to Friends dinners because of LaPierre corruption, rest assured he's gone and never coming back. His cronies are falling away too.

5. Keep voting for reformers for the NRA Board of Directors. This is a big one.

6. For those who dropped their memberships in protest of LaPierre's self-serving "leadership" and the dysfunction and corruption so common a few years ago, **Fairburn urged those folks to give the NRA a second look.** It's changing. Big time. It's why the reformers call it "NRA 2.0."

After all, the NRA, even at "only" five million members and change, is still the 500-pound gorilla in the room. It has more members



The Armed Awakening of America's Radical Left

(American Spectator) - Unless you live under a rock — or teach gender studies — you won't be surprised to find that people with strong left-leaning political attitudes score far higher on traits like neuroticism and psychopathy than many of their conservative counterparts. These psychological signatures — emotional volatility, heightened threat sensitivity, and explosive aggression — are more pronounced the further left you go. Add to that the recent murder of Charlie Kirk, the attempts on Donald Trump's life, and a surge in gun purchases by self-styled progressive activists, and the picture turns even darker.

The same movement that once mocked the Second Amendment is now shopping for suppressors. From trans shooters to queer collectives and "rainbow rifle clubs," the left's new hobby isn't mindfulness and manifesting — it's marksmanship. Conservatives tend to buy guns to defend their families; leftists

now seem to buy them to prove they can. The mood has shifted, from preachy to predatory.

It wasn't always like this. During the George Floyd riots of 2020, the radical left burned cities and, yes, cracked a few skulls along the way. Innocent shopkeepers were beaten, officers ambushed, and neighborhoods torched. Yet for all the carnage, most of the movement's foot soldiers weren't locked and loaded. They fought with fists, bricks, and stupid slogans. But times have changed. What began as "defund the police" has metastasized into "arm the resistance. The irony writes itself: the same people who argued that no one should own a firearm now brag about their "community arsenals..."

The left has discovered that it likes the smell of gunpowder.



And why not? The rhetoric has been primed for years. "Punch a Nazi." "Burn it down." "No justice, no peace." It was only a matter of time before soundbites became strategies. While conservatives debate calibers and carry laws, progressives are turning their causes into armed crusades. The so-called "John Brown Gun Club" trains members to prepare for civil conflict. What was once fringe is now fashionable.

Again, to be very clear, the modern left is not just angry — it's unwell. Anxiety and depression rates among self-described progressives have skyrocketed, especially among the young. To those on the far left, Trump and his supporters aren't political opponents but existential threats. They are embodiments

of evil to be eradicated, not engaged. When politics becomes pathology, violence stops feeling like a crime and starts feeling like self-defense. We are entering uncharted territory. The United States has seen political assassinations, riots, and radical groups before — but never with this cultural reach. The internet ensures that every grievance finds both a trigger and a target. Fury is now networked, outrage algorithmic. And unlike the extremists of old, today's radicals don't hide in compounds. They scroll beside you, shop beside you, share your workspace, and sleep next door.

You can't mix apocalyptic language with live ammunition and expect harmony. A society can survive hypocrisy. It cannot survive hysteria with high-capacity magazines. Every revolution begins with the belief that violence will heal what politics can't. It never does. It only creates new tyrants with a taste for blood.



Perhaps, in some dark corner of their minds, the new progressives believe they're the heroes in history's next great moral war. They forget that history has a habit of eating its heroes. It also has an excellent memory. It remembers every bullet, every boast, every cause that mistook fury for faith. And it will remember who called it justice when they started killing the innocent.

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Sangamon County Sheriff Paula Crouch & Karina's Law implementation

(GSL) - Sangamon County Sheriff Paula Crouch joined us at our November meeting. She's running for re-election after her appointment to fill Sheriff Jack Campbell's seat after he retired mid-term in the aftermath of the deputy-involved homicide of a older woman. Crouch came following a 24-year career with Springfield PD.



Sangamon County Sheriff Paula Crouch.

She came onto our radar when asked at an early press conference if she would enforce the so-called Protect Illinois Communities Act against the 98.x% of FOID holders who refused to register their regulated guns. "I'll enforce the law," she said which was her stock answer for questions she wasn't expecting. Her "I'll enforce the law" was touted by gun control proponents as welcome news, and by us as betrayal.

At our meeting, Sheriff Crouch admitted she wasn't really prepared for questions like that. "I hadn't even been sworn in yet," she said. "Yes, that was maybe a bad thing to say. Especially as the PICA law doesn't align with the Constitution." To date, she's unaware of any PICA charges in Sangamon County - or at least any that don't accompany a bevy of other charges against a suspect.

"We don't knock on people's door to ask them about their guns," she assured folks. Yes, even if FOID cards are expired, suspended or revoked - even when they're labelled by the Illinois State Police as "high-priority revocations." "We've declined grant money to do that."

They were part of our GSL family...

Preliminary report released on Bailey family helicopter crash

Springfield, IL (Fox2) – Nearly one month after the deadly crash in Montana that claimed the lives of Illinois Gubernatorial candidate Darren Bailey's son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has released a preliminary report in its investigation.



The crash happened on Oct. 22, when Darren Bailey's son, Zach Bailey, daughter-in-law, Kelsey, and their children, Vada Rose and Samuel, left from a private ranch on a Robinson R44 helicopter. The couple's 10-year-old son, Finn, was not on the flight.

According to the NTSB, the helicopter, accompanied by a plane, was en route to Ekalaka Airport, located in southeastern Montana. The pilot of the plane that was traveling with the R44 reported that he lost sight of the helicopter.

Karina's Law & Other Warrants

Her Chief Deputy John Hayes talked about the sorts of work the department does do when it comes to orders of protection, so-called "Red Flag" petitions and the new "Karina's Law" warrants. Those Karina's Law court orders require law enforcement to seize a gun owner's guns pending a formal hearing, based upon statements made by a plaintiff seeking that particular order of protection.

Yes, those are the warrants where law enforcement shows up, knocks on the door and seizes guns.

Prior to executing those warrants/orders, Hayes said they do preliminary investigative work to uncover evidence that either supports or rebuts the alleged facts, as well as confirming the address and other particulars. If they find problems or aspects to be "non-factual," they'll take their findings back to the judge and ask for him to review it. In those cases the judges often quash the warrants.

What's more, it's not a license to search a premises from top to bottom. It has to be specific locations, limited in nature, looking for firearm(s).

The audience had a ton of very good questions and Hayes' explanations were informative and well-received.

We didn't hear a lot about her plans to beef up the department in manpower or salaries to make the deputy jobs more competitive with neighboring agencies. In fairness though, the audience had a lot of questions about the gun confiscation procedures.

Sheriff Crouch does have a primary opponent in David Timm, a retired deputy running a strong campaign. Timm's already appeared a couple of times at the GSL meeting and will likely return. So too will the sheriff.



History comes to life at Guns Save Life events

Winchester Model 1873 rifle: THE GUN THAT WON THE WEST

At our Danville meeting in November, one of our family brought the gun that won the West in the 1800s... a Winchester Model 1873.



This particular specimen was manufactured in 1890 in .32-20 caliber with an octagon barrel. Later, someone decided to rechamber it for the .44-40 with a round barrel. Vincent Kindler did the work and he was known for his high standards and for being one of the biggest dealers in Michigan. (The .44-40 must have sold better...)

We also talked about the "Forgotten Winchester" found in 2014 in the Great Basin National Park. Yes, someone leaned a nice Winchester rifle up against a juniper tree and walked away. There it sat for decades until discovered.

We passed it around and let folks put their hands on a genuine piece of American history.

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HERO: 79-year-old U.S. Marine defends young female tenant from naked home invader

Los Angeles (NY Post) - A 79-year-old Vietnam veteran is being hailed as a hero after he shot and killed a naked intruder who allegedly broke into his female tenant's Los Angeles home last week.

George Karkoc is now recovering in the hospital with two broken legs and a shattered hip after confronting the bare prowler outside the Studio City home when he heard the young woman screaming for help around 7 a.m. last Friday, according to the Los Angeles Police Department, multiple outlets reported.

"I knew that if I didn't take care of him, I had no clue what he was gonna do or was capable of doing," the quick-thinking vet told FOX 11 Los Angeles from his bed at Holy Cross Hospital in Mission Hills.

Mississippi mom blasts aggressive, virus-infected monkey running loose in her backyard after semi crash

(PBS) - One of the [43] virus-infected monkeys that escaped last week after a truck overturned on a Mississippi roadway was shot and killed early Sunday by a mother who feared for the safety of her children.



Monkeys infected with hepatitis and herpes escaped after a transport crashed.

Jessica Bond Ferguson said her 16-year-old son thought he had seen a monkey running in the yard outside their home near Heidelberg, Mississippi. She got out bed, grabbed her firearm and her cellphone and stepped outside where she saw the monkey about 60 feet away.



Seattle urban thugs tried to carjack a Corvette. They got lead instead...

(Corvette Blogger) - The owner of a Red Mist C8 Corvette opened fire in self-defense after four men wearing facemasks tried to steal his car early Sunday morning.

The incident happened around 3:30 a.m. near 1st Avenue and Blanchard Avenue in downtown Seattle, Washington.

Police say the Corvette driver had parked his car when he was approached by four masked men in a white sedan, two of whom got out, held him at gunpoint, and tried to steal the C8.

Fearing for his safety, the Corvette driver fired off several rounds, hitting two of the suspects, with police finding one of them still at the scene suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. He was taken under armed guard to Harborview Medical Center, where the other three suspects later dropped off another victim before fleeing the scene.

Police now say that the two victims are a 14-year-old boy and a 20-year-old man, both of whom are listed in serious condition and will be charged after being released from the hospital. The other two suspects remain at large.

Bond said she and other residents had been warned about the diseases that the escaped monkeys carried so she fired her gun.

"I did what any other mother would do to protect her children," Bond, who has five children ranging in age from 4 to 16.

"I shot at it and it just stood there, and I shot again, and he backed up and that's when he fell. If it attacked somebody's kid, and I couldn't have stopped it, that would be a lot on me. It's kind of scary and dangerous that they are running around, and people have kids playing in their yards."



Democrats' favorite talking point about children and 'gun deaths' is a lie

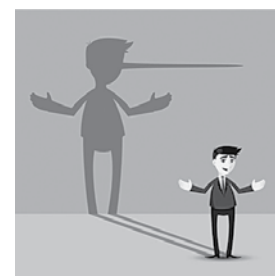
Gun control advocates often claim that guns are the leading cause of death among children — but that is quite false.

by John Lott (The Federalist) - Gun control advocates often claim that guns are the leading cause of death among children — but that is false.

Earlier this year, Virginia's new governor-elect, Democrat Abigail Spanberger, demanded new gun control laws, calling guns "the number one killer of kids in our country." Other Democrats such as North Carolina's Democrat Gov. Josh Stein also mentioned it. In June, the Ad Council launched a \$10 million campaign touting the "alarming statistic — gun injuries at the number one killer of children and teens in this country." And, of course, there were parting shots from Biden's Council of Economic Advisers, literally days before they left office earlier this year, pushing the claim.

Over the last couple of years, the media has continually pushed the assertion regarding children being at risk. The Washington Post's headline warned: "Why guns are America's number one killer of children." An NPR headline wrote: "Firearms overtook auto accidents as the leading cause of death

in children" and the BBC noted: "Gun deaths were the leading killer of US children in 2020." Fact-checkers from Newsweek to Snopes also push these claims.



What defines a child? For those under 18, vehicle deaths consistently outnumber firearm deaths. But in 2023 they were essentially tied. The combined total of unintentional deaths, homicides, and suicides reached 2,580 for vehicles and 2,581 for firearms. Yet those firearm numbers make the two causes seem closer than they are, because they include "justifiable homicides" — cases in which civilians or police shot young offenders who posed deadly threats.

When we exclude those justified killings and use the FBI's count of murders instead, the firearm total

drops by more than four hundred, from 2,581 to 2,166 deaths.

About 72 percent of firearm homicides involving minors occur among 15-, 16-, and 17-year-olds. Sixteen- and 17-year-olds alone make up about 57 percent of those cases. These killings overwhelmingly stem from gang activity, and even a total gun ban would do little to stop gangs from obtaining weapons to protect their highly valuable drug supplies.

So even if we classify 17-year-old gang members as "children," the gun control claim doesn't hold up. In 2019 and 2020, more minors died from suffocation than from firearms, and the two causes were nearly equal in 2022 and 2023.

If we define children as those under 15, motor vehicle deaths far exceed firearm deaths. From 2019 through 2023, motor vehicle deaths were 64 percent to 153 percent higher than firearm deaths (excluding justified homicides), while suffocation deaths were more frequent in 2019 and 2020, and similar in later years.

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*An influential voice in advancing
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One would think the explosion of new 'Non-traditional' gun owners would end the gun control debate forever...

by Chris McNutt

(Shooting News Weekly) - For decades, gun controllers claimed that firearm ownership was the domain of rural conservatives, that minorities had no interest in self-defense, and that LGBTQ Americans would never touch a gun. They were wrong then, and today the numbers prove it beyond debate.

The latest University of Chicago Crime Lab study shows that over half of new gun buyers since 2020 are women, minorities, and people who identify as liberal or LG-BTQ. KUNC's reporting confirms the trend: black gun owners, Hispanic gun owners, Asian Americans, and LGBTQ citizens are now arming themselves in record numbers.

In other words, the gun-control narrative is collapsing under the weight of reality.

And the reason is simple: when crime skyrockets, when police response times slow, and when prosecutors refuse to prosecute — Americans do what free people have always done. They take responsibility for their own safety. Even if they vote blue.

Fear, Abandonment, and a Government That Can't Protect Anyone

The left's entire argument for gun control rests on the fantasy that government can and will protect you. But the people who live in the communities most plagued by violence — overwhelmingly urban, non-white, Democrat-voting neighborhoods — have discovered the truth: They're on their own.

KUNC quotes new minority gun owners who say they started carrying because police don't arrive in time — or don't arrive at all. Others cite rising anti-LGBTQ hate crimes, political violence, or violent homelessness in their neighborhoods.

They didn't buy guns because a gun rights group persuaded them. They bought guns because reality did. The NRA-ILA's reporting confirms the backdrop: America is experiencing the most overlooked urban crime spike in recent history — concentrated in the very cities where these new gun owners live.

Crime is not abstract. It's right outside their doors...

For decades, the media pretended gun rights were a white, rural issue. But in reality the Second Amendment protects people, not political tribes. And as more minorities exercise that right, the gun-control movement loses its script...

Gun rights are not conservative. They are American. They are universal. And they are non-negotiable.

When America's most vulnerable communities arm themselves, it sends a message louder than any statistic: Gun control has failed. Freedom hasn't.



MAIL CALL



Are immigrants here to become Americans or to undermine America?

America is a very open and accepting nation. We have freedom of speech, press, assembly and more. We even have our right to own guns protected.

You can practice any religion you want without fear of persecution, prosecution getting treated like a second-class citizen and even taxed for your religious or political beliefs.

So why do some people come to America and wish to apply the rules and practices of their former nation upon the Americans?

It's sad that people can come to America to live yet remain loyal to their country of origin over America.

You must ask why are they here. Are they here to be Americans or are they here to undermine America?

Nick
Last name and city withheld

Dear GSL Defense Training: Thank you for your training...

Tonight I was in a situation with real-life bad guys. I feel good. I didn't shoot anyone in the backyard but was ready in the house and not freaked out. Your training did me good and I'm thankful.

I've always been nervous about whether I'd be up to handling the situation.

They took a flashlight and broke the door and dropped my grandpa's bag of military stuff.

Rich
Peoria, IL (last name withheld.)

Mob rule, Pritzker & Johnson's silence

Luck alone saved us from loss of life on Saturday. Gunfire during the fight between protesters and ICE sounded yet another frightening warning of the consequence of reckless incitement by Gov. J.B. Pritzker and Mayor Brandon Johnson and their refusal to enforce immigration law.

The suspected shooter, now in custody, is an illegal alien from Mexico who was previously convicted of aggravated, unlawful use of a weapon/vehicle, felony possession of a weapon and illegal entry.

That man should not be here. Yet Pritzker hasn't said a word condemning either the shooting or the presence of such an individual on our streets. Astonishingly, Johnson even blamed ICE for provoking the shooting.

Pritzker and Johnson have gone far beyond sanctuary laws that limit local law enforcement from cooperating with ICE. Their relentless attacks on all federal immigration enforcement using the most extreme language available have poisoned the culture and tossed the rule of law to the wind, endanger-

ing protesters and law enforcement alike.

Words have consequences. When public officials stoke violence, people listen — especially lawbreakers. It's therefore no surprise that Latin Kings street gang leaders have now issued a "shoot-on-sight" order targeting immigration personnel. That, too, has been met with silence from Pritzker and Johnson.

Only reliance on the rule of law will eliminate the need for aggressive action by ICE. Only enforcement of the rule of federal immigration law will undo the calamity that resulted from an open border. Pritzker, Johnson and their allies must pledge all efforts to restore the rule of law and reject the mob rule that they've effectively embraced. Without that, have no doubt that our luck will run out in a worsening spiral of chaos and bloodshed.

But don't hold your breath waiting for Pritzker and Johnson to restore law and order.

Ted Dabrowski
Chicago

GunNews Magazine

The monthly journal of
Guns Save Life

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Letters, including complaints or commendations, to the Editor are welcome. Please, limit your letter to 200 words. We reserve the right to edit or refuse publication of any submission. Anonymous letters are discouraged. Guest columns of 400 words are also welcome on timely issues, particularly those related to firearms, self-defense or similar topics. Letters and guest columns may be sent electronically to: jboch@gunssavelife.com.

Or you can mail your letter to: Guns Save Life, PO Box 51, Savoy, Illinois 61874



Our thanks goes out to Oleg Volk for his continued permission to use his creative work to help us in our gun rights advocacy work. You can see more of them at his websites:

a-human-right.com
blog.olegvolk.net



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Product review

Rossi Rio Bravo lever-action .22



By Damon Williams GSL Member

I'm probably dating myself, but back in the late '90s, Walmart offered an introductory price on a lever action 22 manufactured by an up-and-coming new firearms manufacturer by the name of Henry Repeating Arms. This introductory price was around \$150. As the popularity of this rifle and the name of its manufacturer grew, so did the price.

My only real complaint about this new little rifle was that when I went to clean it with Gun Scrubber brand solvent, the paint on the aluminum receiver bubbled off. Oops. Eventually, I just went ahead and removed the rest of the paint and polished the receiver to a mirror finish.

Fast forward about a decade and a half, I traded my shiny silver rifle to a friend. While not displeased with my new acquisition, I kinda missed not having a lever .22 around.

Recently, YouTube suggested a video on the Rossi Gallery gun, a pump action 22. I was intrigued. When I spotted one in my local Vandalia Rural King, I was seriously considering it. When I told the salesman, John, that I needed to set aside another \$100 to purchase it, John asked, "Are you familiar with the Rio Bravo?" as he pulled it down from the rack. "It's about \$100 cheaper than the Gallery gun"

I walked away skeptical. It was a lever action 22 with plastic furniture, but it sure seemed to handle nicely in the store, and I did like the fiber-optic sights. After returning home and completing my research on reviews for the Rio Bravo, I was sold. I made the purchase several days later.

Of the five maybe six of you readers who follow me in this publication, you can quote me that in the past I have stated that it is my opinion that tactical accessories on a lever action is like wearing a tuxedo to a square dance. Considering that the plastic furniture of this Rio Bravo is about \$80 cheaper than wooden furniture on the same model, and you get fiber-optic sights, I am willing to swallow my pride and look like a hypocrite.

The plastic fore end has slots at the 3, 6, and 9 o'clock positions. These look to be mounting points for accessories such as pic-rails. I have not tried to mount anything, but I am considering a pic rail for a flashlight next summer to dispatch some pesky raccoons. I imagine that longer screws will be necessary due to the thickness of the plastic furniture.

Like the Henry, the Rio Bravo is a side discharge, this design has a 22-dovetail rail at the top of the receiver allowing for optics.

The lighter plastic butt stock makes the rifle front heavy, but not unwieldy. The receiver is similar in size to the Rossi '92, so an

adult can wrap his hand around the receiver forward of the lever and carry it comfortably in one hand. While it does come with sling swivel studs on the forward barrel band and the butt stock, I cannot see any practicality in hanging a sling on such a small light-weight rifle.

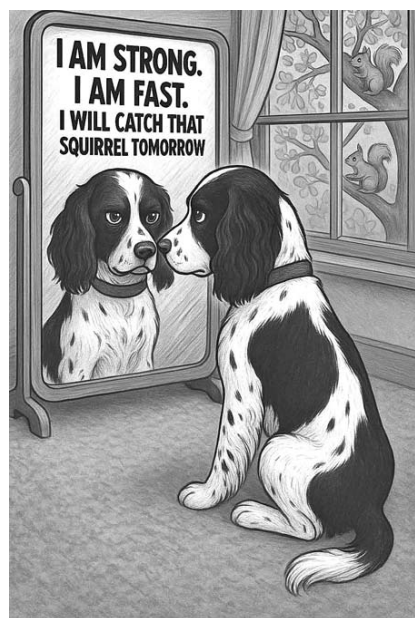
I have never been a fan of manual safeties on a lever action; call me a traditionalist. Carry afield with an empty chamber, and lever in a round as you shoulder the weapon. The Rio Bravo has a cross-bolt push-button safety directly above the trigger. This feature allows the rifle to be carried cocked and locked like a semi-auto. I admit, that I am warming up to this feature as it is just that little bit faster than racking the lever. Regardless, you still have the option of carrying old-school.



With the butt stock planted into the shoulder, the forward weight allows for a steadier sight picture as the shooter manipulates the lever. This allows for faster follow-up shots. The action is smooth; just as smooth as a Henry. But speaking of manipulating the lever, if a 357 magnum has an overall length of 1.7 inches and a 22 long rifle 0.98 inches, why does the Rio Bravo have a lever throw the same distance as the model 92 of the same manufacturer? (Same question applies to the Henry 22 and the Henry Big Boy.)

Rossi is owned by Taurus. Taurus has a lifetime guarantee. This guarantee extends to the Rossi name as well.

If I have one complaint about the Rio Bravo, it would be the 6lb trigger pull. This is about twice the weight that I believe a lever action should have. But for \$250 out the door including tax, and ISP telephone call, I am not about to invest another \$125 in a trigger job. Of course, even with the extra \$80 for wood furniture, the Rio Bravo still comes in at about \$75 cheaper (\$150 cheaper with plastic furniture) than its Henry counterpart. I'll live with the stiff trigger.



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Tales from the field...

The Duck Hunt

by Ken Frey

(GSL) - The alarm went off at 3:45 a.m. My brain, however, hadn't gotten the memo, and my eyes were still glued shut. Today would be our first time out for duck hunting season.

By 4:15, Danny and Alvin (not of Chipmunk fame) had arrived at my house. We quickly busied ourselves attaching the boat to Alvin's truck, since mine was in the shop again with a failing water pump. I guess it beats buying a new truck.

In the darkness we loaded the boat. Danny was tossing things in, and the sound of gear clanging against the aluminum hull probably echoed between the houses like an unholy, broken bell, helping our neighbors wake up to share our excitement. Then Alvin stumbled over the decoy bags and started cursing like a sailor.

The dog seemed to be the only one excited. He knew exactly where we were going and was constantly underfoot. It's a wonder someone didn't step on him. Duck hunting for a dog is akin to Disney World for kids.

Once we were finally underway, we needed to make one more stop at the gas station. The boat needed fuel. There's nothing like rushing around to do things that should have been done ahead of a trip, right?

At the boat ramp, we contributed to the entertainment of those who watch boat ramps for rip-roaring comedy. It only took Alvin four tries to back the boat into the water - and he was sober! He really is getting better with a trailer. And at least he didn't sink the boat.

By the time we shoved off, the fog was so thick the bow vanished into it. That's our story and we're sticking to it. Danny swore he knew the way to the blind and was giving me directions. Initially we didn't find the blind, but he did navigate us to a mudflat and we ran aground.

Nothing says "stealthy waterfowlers" like three grown men grunting and cussing in knee-deep muck with a dog barking at us to hurry up.



We finally found the blind and quickly set the decoys. Our spread looked less like a flock of ducks and more like a yard sale in a wind-storm. More than a few were upside down or on their sides. Another was tangled in the anchor line. Clearly we never got the memo on proper decoy arrangement considered essential for a successful hunt. Then there was one that floated off into the fog for the freedom and sane government in Indiana.

And wouldn't you know it, the batteries in the Mojos (motorized decoys) were dead. I had forgotten to recharge them the night before. Great.

Once the decoys were better set, we pulled

up to the blind and unloaded. We set up the kitchen in the back room and got started on breakfast. There's nothing like a hot meal in the duck blind. Biscuits and gravy, egg sandwiches, and a good strong cup of Irish coffee. (Only one though.) It's our tradition.

With breakfast finished and the cleanup done, it was time. 6:45 a.m., thirty minutes before sunrise, the start time for today. We loaded our guns and set them in the rack out front.

Anticipation built as we sat in the blind, waiting. The fog was lifting as the sun rose. At this point, the lake was calm as a mirror. It was a picturesque morning, just perfect.

After fifteen minutes we started whispering about wind direction and migration patterns as if we were seasoned biologists. The dog, unimpressed, dozed on my boots. Poor boy.

As the fog lifted a bit more, we saw dark clouds rolling in which quickly covered the bright orange disc that had just risen above the horizon. Another few minutes in and the wind picked up, creating a light chop on the lake. At least the decoys looked sort of alive instead of passed out drunk, rolling with the wind-driven waves. Well, at least the ones that remained upright.

As the front came in we could feel the temperature drop. Then the mist started. It was a cold mist that clung to everything, including us and our guns.

Off in the distance we could hear them. Half a minute later a flock appeared, about a hundred feet above the treetops. They flew past on our right but started to circle back. Danny hit his duck call, producing a sound that could only be described as "a kazoo with bronchitis." They flew back past us again on our left. We thought we lost them, but they turned again, dropping altitude as they came in.

Our hearts pounded as we clicked the safeties off. The first few started to cup, preparing to land when Danny gave the command "TAKE 'EM!" We rose in unison - or almost.

The ducks heard Danny too. They flared, breaking off to our right. Shots rang out. Alvin's 10 gauge sounded like a howitzer going off next to me, no doubt beating him like a red-headed step-child with its recoil. It sounded like a war zone as we threw everything we had at the flock.

After the smoke cleared, we searched the lake for our prizes as the ducks vanished into the mist... entirely unharmed.

Our stunned silence was broken by Alvin muttering, "Well, at least we scared them." Meanwhile our dog gave us a look that said, "I could've done better with a slingshot."

By 10 a.m., we were soaked as the mist turned to a steady rain. Wet, cold, and out of regular coffee, we packed up, leaving the blind and lake exactly as we found it. Except for the one decoy still drifting toward Indiana.

Back at the dock we watched Alvin back the trailer up. This time, it only took him three tries to hit the ramp. But at least he didn't sink the boat.

Heading home in the warmth of the truck, we declared the hunt a success. After all, success is measured in stories. At least that's what we told ourselves.

JUNK SCIENCE TAKES A BIG HIT: Trump admin cuts flow of tax dollars funneled to leftist gun control orgs and NGOs

(UK Guardian) - The Trump administration has released solicitations for a grant program meant to stop gun violence in underserved communities. But this year, the non-profits the grant was built around are disqualified from applying, according to an application notice released by the Department of Justice (DoJ) in September.

The Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI), was created in 2022, to support groups working in rural and urban communities struggling to address violence and fund research studying the programs' efficacy.

The pioneering program was born out of a recognition by the Biden administration that such community-centered programs were among the most successful tools in combating the US' deep-rooted gun violence problem, and had played a crucial role in helping reduce homicides in major US cities.

Before Trump's inauguration, community-based organizations, non-profits and local and state governments were eligible to apply for the grant. Now, only city, county and tribal governments are allowed. And the stated goal of the program has been changed from "comprehensive, community-based prevention" to "supports law enforcement efforts to reduce violent crime and improve police-community relations".

Since 2022, the federal government has

awarded more than \$300m to over 120 non-profits, city and county governments and research institutions through the initiative, according to an archived list of grant recipients.



The department of justice, which oversees CVIPI, did not respond to a request for comment.

The changes at CVIPI are the latest in the Trump administration's heel-turn from the Biden administration's approach to gun violence prevention, which positioned Black and Latino-led groups working to address violence as legitimate solutions to crime in the nation's hardest hit locales. Shortly after his inauguration, Trump dismantled the White House office of gun violence prevention, and in March his administration removed the former surgeon general Vivek Murthy's advisory on gun violence as a public health issue from the US Department of Health and Human Services' website.

Gun control is only for the little people...

Aide to Dem Mass. Gov. Maura Healey busted with gun, kilos of cocaine at state office building

A staffer for Democratic Massachusetts Gov. Maura Healey was hit with drug trafficking charges after authorities intercepted eight kilograms of cocaine being delivered to a state office building.



LaMar Cook loves him some coke.



Mass. Gov. Karen Maura Healey.

VIRTUE SIGNALING 101 FAIL

Court voids Memphis gun control measures, rules Tennessee's preemption law actually means what it says

Memphis, TN (GOA) — Gun Owners of America (GOA) and Gun Owners Foundation (GOF) are celebrating a major victory for Tennessee gun owners after the Shelby County Chancery Court rejected the City of Memphis' unconstitutional and illegal gun-control ordinance.

In its ruling, the Court made clear that Memphis' sweeping local gun restrictions were not just unlawful—but entirely void...



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'Shoot on sight' in Chicago

Continued from cover.

But instead of standing with law enforcement, Chicago's progressive leadership is doing what it always does, making their job harder. Judge Sara Ellis just slapped federal officers with a sweeping injunction limiting their ability to use force, even after a Border Patrol official reported agents were being shot at and assaulted. Fortunately, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals granted the Trump administration's petition for writ of mandamus, as reported here on RedState by Susie Moore. Ellis justified her ruling by saying the official had "misrepresented" the level of threat posed by protesters.

Tell that to the agents who just dodged bullets.

Chicago officials love to virtue-signal about "community safety," but it's their failed policies that made the city a sanctuary for organized chaos. They protect criminals, defund police, and then act shocked when gangs run the show. Now, even federal agents are being hunted in their own country, and city leaders are more concerned about optics than survival.

The Trump administration's DHS is doing what any competent government should do: restoring law and order where local authorities won't. Homeland Security reports an 8,000 percent spike in death threats against its officers. Every day these agents step into neighborhoods ruled by gangs, they're risking their lives to defend laws that Chicago politicians openly despise.



While the city's leaders host press conferences and talk about "equity," federal agents are dodging gunfire from men who have no respect for law, country, or life. The Latin Kings have turned parts of Chicago into a battlefield. And instead of rallying behind the people trying to stop it, the city's leadership attacks the very operation that's working to clean it up.

It's the same story we've seen for years: Democratic strongholds reject enforcement, embrace anarchy, and then blame Washing-

ton when their cities collapse. Only this time, it's not civilians paying the price, it's the men and women wearing the badge.

Trump's DHS deserves credit for not backing down. They're doing the hard work the city won't. They're targeting the "worst of the worst," pulling violent offenders off the streets, and reminding the rest of the country what leadership looks like.



The tragedy is that Chicago's political class seems more offended by federal agents defending themselves than by gang members issuing assassination orders. You'd think a city with thousands of unsolved murders would welcome some help. But to them, it's not about safety, it's about control. I've spent enough time around law enforcement to know these agents aren't out there looking for a fight. They're out there doing the job that too many others have walked away from: protecting families, enforcing laws, and trying to keep the peace in a place that's forgotten what peace looks like.

If the Latin Kings think they can intimidate the federal government, they're in for a rude awakening. But the real question is whether Chicago's leaders will finally wake up too, or keep standing in the way while their city burns. Because if a "shoot-on-sight" order against federal agents doesn't shake them out of their political delusion, nothing will.



ONE WAY TO FAST TRACK YOUR DEPORTATION: ICE and law enforcement partners arrested Juan Espinoza-Martinez for making a death threat on ICE agents. Image via Department of Homeland Security.



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Chicago declares War on the Federal Government

The shots that rang out last week resemble those fired on Fort Sumter which started the Civil War

by George Shay
(Chicago Contrarian) - The shooting has started.

A federal law enforcement source has now confirmed that a Chicagoan opened fire on federal officers. Whether this is the first volley or merely the latest escalation, it follows an obvious trajectory: When city leaders wink at lawlessness and when newspapers sanctify defiance, blood is the next headline.

Our local press corps has abandoned skepticism for sermonizing. They've become propagandists — much like the newspapers of the South in the years before the Civil War — stirring emotion, arousing grievance, and normalizing rebellion against our own federal government. They no longer cover the news; they choreograph it.

How Chicago media is praising a rebellion

You don't have to take my word for it. Just read what they print.

Over the past several weeks, Chicago's newspapers have waxed rhapsodic about what is, in plain English, a treasonous insurrection — one incited and encouraged by our mayor and applauded by our governor. Their coverage could be mistaken for a romance novel about "resistance."

They lionize protesters for blocking and attacking federal agents, portraying the offenders as victims of political persecution rather than the obstructors of justice they are, rightly accused of violating federal law. Editorials frame their indictments and prosecutions as assaults on "dissent" and "free speech," as if storming a secure facility were the same as writing a letter to the editor.

They glorify clashes between demonstrators and federal agents, waxing rhapsodic over images of tear gas, chanting crowds, and the "courage" of those who rush police lines, like the polemicists who fueled the flames of the French and Russian revolutions.

When federal judges — many appointed by Obama and Biden — issue restrictions on the use of force, the papers celebrate it as a "civil rights victory," never mind that such rulings make it harder to protect the very communities they claim to champion.

They present Chicago as a city united in moral defiance of Washington. To them, federal agents are invaders; activists are patriots; the

mayor is a folk hero. The coverage invokes the Haymarket.

They hold riots and the 1968 Democratic Convention as sacred precedents, as if today's mobs were heirs to some noble revolutionary tradition.

Grassroots "Whistlemania" events, student walkouts, and neighborhood tip lines are treated as courageous civic acts — never as interference with law enforcement, and the breathless features about frightened restaurant owners and parents hiding from ICE raids always stop short of asking the obvious: Why are these raids happening in the first place?

It's propaganda with a local accent — an elegy for law-and-order masquerading as journalism.

Inciters in high office

At the center of this performative defiance stands Mayor Brandon Johnson, the city's self-styled revolutionary-in-chief. Every press conference, every slogan, every wink toward "sanctuary" is like putting out a fire with gasoline.

Beside him stands Governor Jelly Billy Pritzker, the state's most enthusiastic enabler of dysfunction — who seems to believe the path to the White House runs through open borders, lawless streets, and theatrical indignation.

The inevitable outcome of their combined incitement to riot is already visible: federal agents under fire, neighborhoods paralyzed by fear, and public confidence collapsing faster than the city's bond rating.

People are getting hurt. People are getting killed. More will be. If this spiral of madness and violent obstruction of justice continues, Washington will have no choice but to restore order — perhaps through federal injunctions, perhaps through the National Guard, perhaps through martial law. The only question is how long our state and city officials will pretend this is some grand moral crusade rather than a reckless dereliction of duty.

The sad fact is these cynical charlatans, blinded by ambition and hate, welcome this chaotic confrontation. They want to make Chicago the ultimate victim.

A rebel city

Let's not kid ourselves: Chicago today is behaving less like a municipality and more like a rogue state. This is the municipal equivalent of firing on Fort Sumter — symbolic now, but fraught with peril. Those of us who still believe in the Union, who pay our taxes and obey the law, are left living behind enemy lines in a city that treats the federal government as a foreign power.

Meanwhile, the local elite — boss Toni Preckwinkle, the governor, and Chicago's six percent approval mayor — continue to posture as if their rebellion were popular.

It isn't. The patience of ordinary citizens, who see their safety and federal subsidies sacrificed for ideology and blind political ambition, has worn thin.

The political reckoning ahead

The Democrat victories in last week's by-elections have emboldened them. They think they're on the right side of history.

They couldn't be more wrong. The same electorate that can hand them illusory victories can just as easily deal them historic defeats once voters grasp the scale of the betrayal.

This governor presides over a state hemorrhaging residents and revenue, yet imagines himself a national figure. This mayor presides over a city bleeding jobs, tourists, solvency, and credibility, yet calls it progress. They represent criminals over victims, illegal immigrants over citizens, and ideology over governance.

The people of Chicago are not fools. Even in this bluest of states, the margin for Ka-

mala Harris was no landslide, and Brandon Johnson's numbers now scrape the floor. When a mayor's approval rating asymptotically approaches zero, it's time to start writing political obituaries...

A city worth saving

Leaving should be the last resort. Chicago is our home. The sensible center must reclaim it — not with bullets, but with ballots and relentless civic engagement. We can still restore law and order without surrendering our humanity.

The federal government will do what it must to protect its officers and enforce its laws. But the moral duty to rebuild our civic culture belongs to us. Chicago can be saved — but only if enough of us decide to stay, speak out, and vote the scoundrels who would defile and destroy her out on their ears.

That's the challenge before us. For those of us who still believe in reason over rage, it's almost a sacred calling.

This city is not America anymore. Those of us who remain loyal to our country must steer our civic ship back toward the course of common sense before it runs aground on the shoals of socialist secession, toward the sensible center, guided by the North Star of truth as best we can discern it. And right now, that starlight shines on one thing loud and clear: Enough is enough.

Those of us who remain sane must put the inmates who are running amok on the streets and in the halls of power of the madhouse that Chicago has become back where they belong — in political exile.

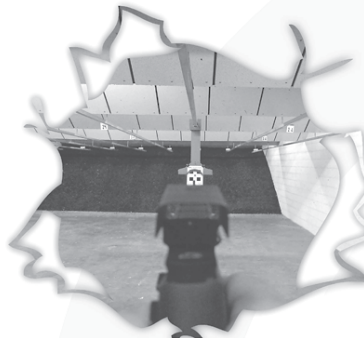


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Calendar



GUN SHOWS...

November

Nov. 22 & 23: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike (630) 363-3131.
Nov. 29 & 30: Central IL Gun Collectors New Berlin. Sangamon County Fairgrounds, New Berlin, IL. Patrick Keen oldcarbines@gmail.com.

December

Dec. 6 & 7: Chillicothe Sportsman's Club, Chillicothe, IL. Steve Risinger (309) 208-1010.
Dec. 13 & 14: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike (630) 363-3131.
Dec. 14: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St Charles, IL. Mick Stout (815) 217-2266.
Dec. 20 & 21: Crown Point Gun Show, Lake County Fairgrounds, Crown Point, IN. Central IN Gun Shows. (765) 855-3836.

GUN CLUBS

Foosland Sportsman's Club
Second Tuesdays: 6p Tuesday night trap shoots
Fourth Saturday: Trapshoot starting at 10 AM. All open to the public.
Second Sunday: Annie Shoot/.22 steel plate shoot.

DeWitt County Sportsman's Club
Breakfast, 1st & 3rd Sundays 8:30am.

Sullivan Gun Club LLC.
Every Friday night: Trap shooting under the

lights. Open at 6p, Derby starts at 7pm.

Oak Park Sportsmen's Club.
Falling steel match **First Mondays** starting at 4:30pm.

Springfield Tactical Shooters Indoor Gun Range in Curran, IL.
Thursdays: Weekly USPSA tactical matches at 5pm. Open to all.

Crete Gun Club.
Monthly meetings at 7pm on the **First Monday**. 1962 W. Exchange, Crete, IL. Open to all. Contact Howard Kaye at fxt1984@gmail.com or 708 921-6768.

State Line Rifle.
Monthly meetings at 7pm on the **Fourth Tuesday** each month. **American Legion, 111 E. Main Street, Round Lake Park, IL 60073**

Prairie State Tactical.
All shoots 5-7:30p unless otherwise noted.
Nov. 25: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)
December 2: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms
December 9: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)
December 16: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms
December 23: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)
For more info, visit praiestatetactical.com.



Friends dinners resume in January.
For more info, visit FriendsOfNRA.org.



(Just checking to see if anyone actually reads the calendar listings.)

Pro-tip: Don't shoot through your door
Pro-tip: You can't shoot someone trespassing on your property

Indiana man charged after shooting cleaning woman at wrong address

Whitestown, IN (ABC News) - An Indiana man has been charged with voluntary manslaughter for fatally shooting a cleaning woman who mistakenly went to the wrong home, prosecutors announced Monday, nearly two weeks after the mother of four was killed.

The suspect, Curt Andersen, has been booked into the Boone County jail on a no bond hold and will appear in court sometime this week, prosecutors said.



That was a nice how you had, Mr. Andersen. He's hired an excellent attorney in Guy Relford, but that costs big bucks.

The Boone County prosecutor, Kent Eastwood, said the decision to file the charge follows a "comprehensive examination," in which his office determined Andersen's actions did not fall under the legal protections provided by the Indiana Stand Your Ground law.

"It's our contention that the person did not have a reasonable belief that that type of force was necessary, given all the facts that he had at that time," Eastwood said during a press briefing on Monday.

The shooting occurred the morning of Nov. 5 in a subdivision of Whitestown, located approximately 20 miles northwest of India-

napolis, police said.

Officers responding to a 911 call reporting a possible home invasion shortly before 7 a.m. found the woman dead on the front porch of the residence with a gunshot wound, Whitestown police said.

The gun had been fired from inside by a resident of the home, police said. A responding police officer saw a bullet hole in the front door of the residence, according to the probable cause affidavit.

The Boone County Coroner's Office identified the shooting victim as 32-year-old Maria Florinda Rios Perez de Velasquez of Indianapolis. She died from a gunshot wound to the head, the coroner's office said.

[Editor's Note: Until and unless an intruder opens or breaks through a door or window, you probably cannot justify the use of deadly force. In fact, even if they enter without using force and don't pose an imminent threat of death or great bodily injury, you still can't justifiably shoot.]

Put another way: just because they're in your house without your permission doesn't mean they're "bought and paid for" under the law. I know and like Guy Relford, but this case will be a very difficult one to win for him absent some big, unreported evidence of criminal conduct by the cleaning crew.]

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AUGUST 2016

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OH CANADA!



CANADA TOUGH: Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Jennie Carignan.

SCARY AS HELL: Imagine relying upon surly 'public servants' from the DMV to tote guns to defend your nation

Canadian military to teach 300,000 'public servants' to shoot guns

(ZeroHedge) - The Canadian military is hoping to recruit and train 300,000 public servants as part of a national mobilization plan, according to a directive from their defense department.

The plan would call for federal and provincial employees to be given a one-week training course in firearms, flying drones, and driving trucks, according to the directive signed by Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Jennie Carignan and defence deputy minister Stefanie Beck.



Canadian gun confiscation period extended, pilot turn-in nets 30(!) guns

(CSSF) - In the last two weeks of October 2025, criminal violence with illegal guns has reached a fever pitch which exposes (yet again) the stark hypocrisy of federal Liberal firearms policy.

While Mark Carney's Liberal government pours hundreds of millions into a useless Firearms Confiscation Compensation Scheme that only targets licensed owners—hunters, sport shooters, and rural residents—violent crime involving smuggled illegal guns surges unchecked...

The amnesty deadline for the government's assault on legal gun owners was extended for the third time—to October 30, 2026—buying the federal government time for a nationwide rollout after a disastrous pilot in Nova Scotia.

The Cape Breton "pilot program" was a colossal failure. The pilot program's goal was to confiscate 200 guns, but uncorroborated reports say "less than 30" were surrendered by licensed gun owners.

Fed Judge allows Del. permit-to-purchase scheme to take effect

(Bearing Arms) - Starting on Sunday, most Delaware residents who don't possess a valid concealed carry license will be forced to get one or apply for a permit-to-purchase if they want to buy a handgun. Late Friday afternoon, U.S. District Judge Maryellen Noreika declined to grant an injunction that would halt enforcement of the law, writing that the plaintiffs "failed to demonstrate a likelihood of success on the merits." Given that, the judge opined that she "need not evaluate the other factors of the analysis: irreparable harm, balancing of the equities, and public interest."



B-b-but it's a GUN-FREE ZONE!

Muslim chaplain sneaks gun into NY prison, kills himself

Marcy, NY (NY Daily News) - A state-employed Muslim chaplain's shocking suicide inside a New York prison has exposed the deadly collapse of America's correctional system — where left-wing "reform" and Islamic radicalization have turned institutions of justice into breeding grounds of chaos and indoctrination.

A state-employed Muslim chaplain walked into a New York prison with a handgun, entered the superintendent's office, and fatally shot himself — inside one of the state's most violent, scandal-ridden facilities. The incident at Marcy Correctional Facility is more than a tragedy; it's a warning sign of systemic collapse within America's prisons, where left-wing "reform" and Islamic activism have merged into a national-security threat hiding in plain sight.



Mamdani wants social workers responding to 911 calls — but test program is already failing

(NY Post) - Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani wants to deploy social workers instead of police officers to respond to 911 calls — but the controversial plan has already been operating in the Big Apple and is failing.

Now that the shoe is on the other foot...

After mocking conservative distrust of big government for decades, the Left are now buying guns for the same reasons

(Legal Insurrection) - For decades, conservatives warned about government overreach, political intimidation, and the possibility of unrest, and were routinely mocked by the Left for it. But a new NPR report shows a dramatic reversal: liberals, people of color, and LGBTQ Americans are now purchasing firearms at unprecedented rates, citing the very fears they once dismissed.

Charles, a Black physician in Maryland, told NPR he recently bought a Smith & Wesson .380 and now practices at the range weekly.

"What I'm talking about is protecting myself from a situation where there may be some kind of civil unrest," Charles said, explaining that he worries Trump supporters "may feel emboldened someday to target minorities like him and his family."

[Editor: Dr. Charles should take a break from CNN and MSNBC. The people committing crimes, by and large, aren't political. In urban areas, they're often borderline illiterate gang members.]

For decades, gun ownership was culturally associ-

ated with Republicans. Now, gun trainers and researchers say the flood of new buyers is coming from the Left. David Phillips of the Liberal Gun Club said the surge has been unlike anything he's seen.

Membership "grew from 2,700 in November to 4,500 today," he said, adding that training requests have "quintupled."

[Editor: 4500 members? In terms of national orgs, the NRA has 1,200+ dues-paying members for every member the Liberal Gun Club claims.]



Trump admin designates Antifa groups as foreign terrorist organizations

(National Review) - The Trump administration is designating four far-left militant groups as foreign terrorist organizations as part of its broader crackdown on left-wing violence following the assassination of conservative activist Charlie Kirk.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio applied the foreign terrorist organization label to European "anti-fascist" organizations, each with a history of political violence.

Smarter ones will move

Jewish New Yorkers tooling up after Mamdani's victory

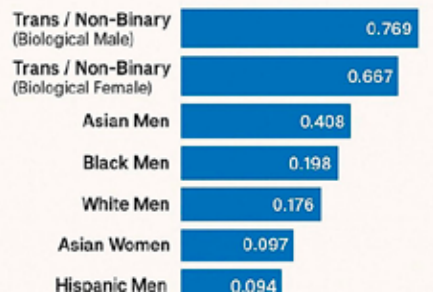
New York City (NY Post) - They're preparing for a Mamdani administration lox, stock and barrel.

Jewish New Yorkers are arming themselves before an anti-Israel "mayor who despises us" takes the helm of New York City, several told The Post this week.

Michael Bergida, who opened a gun shop in Marine Park, Brooklyn, called Samson Armory — a nod to the Biblical Israelite warrior and symbol of sheer strength — said his new business is booming.

MASS SHOOTING RATES BY DEMOGRAPHIC (2015–2025)

Public incidents with 4 or more fatalities, expressed as rates per million population



Is it time to have an open discussion about trans violence?



Man stabbed in broad daylight in Times Square collapses while yelling "Save The Children"

(ZeroHedge) - Zohran Mamdani's election is already making Manhattan safer...and more sane. A man believed to be homeless was stabbed twice in Times Square in broad daylight on Saturday, then staggered around shouting "save the children" as he bled heavily, according to the NY Post.

The 30-year-old was attacked around 11:40 a.m. outside 1501 Broadway near West 44th Street, where a suspect stabbed him in the left ribs and arm.

Sadly, it's not a joke.

Meet the gay furry socialist Dem candidate who celebrated Charlie Kirk's murder and loves 9/11

(Western Journal) - A candidate for the Democratic nomination in a competitive congressional district celebrated the assassination of Charlie Kirk and said the United States deserved the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack.

Samuel Smeltzer, an IT specialist who identifies as a honey badger and goes by the name "Elyon Badger," has a history of violent posts on BlueSky, a left-leaning competitor to X, the Washington Free Beacon reported. He is running for the House of Representatives in Michigan's Seventh Congressional District, currently represented by Republican Rep. Tom Barrett, according

to the outlet. Smeltzer, who has also praised the assassinations of Turning Point USA founder Charlie Kirk and United HealthCare CEO Brian Thompson, once posted to BlueSky about being banned from X for saying the U.S. deserved the 9/11 attacks carried out by the Islamic group al-Qaeda.

"Well that's gone for good I think," Smeltzer posted on BlueSky on Oct. 25, 2024, showing a screenshot of the notice he had been banned from X for saying "America deserved 9/11 I agree."



Samuel Smeltzer, aka Elyon Badger, candidate for Congress in Michigan.

GSL members killed in crash

IL state rep: Reckless immigration policies led to fatal crash

(The Center Square) – An Illinois state lawmaker blames "reckless immigration policies" after a crash killed Coles County Board Member Mike Clayton and his wife, Gail. The driver is reportedly in the U.S. illegally.

Edwin Pacheco-Meza is being charged with driving under the influence and reckless homicide. State Rep. Adam Niemerg, whose district includes Coles County, called the crash a "terrible tragedy that should have and could have been avoided."

"This really lands at the feet of Gov. J.B. Pritzker with the sanctuary state and sanctuary city policies," Niemerg said. "Illegal immigration has become a major problem under both the Biden and Pritzker administrations. Criminal illegals are causing terrible accidents like this."

On a lighter note...



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- **Members-only Legal Defense Fund.**
Access to legal support for those who are victims of subject to inappropriate or unjust firearm-related arrests, as well as arrests following justifiable use of force in self-defense incidents.

Sign up online at: **GunsSaveLife.com/join**

SIGN UP HERE!
Clip this application and mail it along with your check to
Guns Save Life, PO Box 51, Savoy, IL 61874

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(for urgent alerts only) We need your email to allow you access to Members' Only content on the GunsSaveLife.com website.

- Membership:**
- o \$40 - Annual membership / Renewal
 - o \$20 - Sign up a friend (with regular annual membership or renewal)
 - o \$120 - Three-year membership / Renewal
 - o \$60 - Sign up three friends (with a three-year membership/renewal)
 - o \$50 - Family membership
 - o \$150 - Family membership three-year
 - o \$50 - Business membership
 - o \$1000 - Life membership
 - o \$500 - Life membership for over age 65
- \$_____ Total enclosed. Is this a gift? From whom? _____

Mail this form and payment (checks payable to Guns Save Life) to:
Guns Save Life
PO Box 51
Savoy, IL 61874
Contributions or gifts to Guns Save Life are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.