WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

COMPLIMENTARY. TAKE ONE.

GUNNEWS



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE. INC.

VOLUME 33. NUMBER 1 AFFILIATED WITH ILLINOIS GUN RIGHTS ALLIANCE, JPFO. NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES AND OTHERS

JANUARY 2026



Eight-year-old Avery Houk proudly shows off her first harvested deer. Congrats to her from all of us at her GSL family.

JUDICIAL MAYHEM

Cook Co. judges face scrutiny over pre-trial releases of violent offenders

Chicago (CWB Chicago) - Marlon Miller returned to a Cook County courtroom on Friday, accused of randomly attacking three women in the Loop this week at a time he was supposed to be confined to his home on electronic monitoring for randomly attacking four other women in the



Judge Peter Gonzalez, center, and a selection of Marlon Miller's recent mugshots. (Snow City Alerts, Chicago Police Department)

The alleged attacks occurred just days after a judge refused to keep him in jail despite another judge's warning that the 40-year-old had a "very violent history," a prosecutorial request to keep Miller in jail, and intense public scrutiny of the county's electronic monitoring failures following the CTA train fire attack that left a woman gravely

Prosecutors attempted to resolve the situation on December 1 by asking Judge Peter Gonzalez to detain Miller in custody due to the escalating number of random attacks and his repeated violations of electronic monitoring. Their request came during heightened public attention on the county's monitoring program following reporting on the Lawrence Reed CTA fire attack case.

Continued on page 21.



<u>Inside</u>

PROTECT YOURSELF: MUST DO ITEM!

page 3

NRA 2.0: Big ships turn slowly

page 3

Incarceration works

page 11

Mindset is CONDITIONED

page 12

Handful of history

page 14

PREPARE FOR TERROR

page 20

Lead mitigation

page 21

Join GSL. Application here.

page 24

January 2026

- **Quincy**: Last Wednesday: **January 28**, February 25, March 25 Eagles Club, 3737 N. Fifth Street, Quincy
- Chicagoland: Last Sunday: January 25, February 22, March 29 American Legion Post 1198, 1631 Western Ave. Chicago Heights Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.
- Sangamon County: First Monday: January 5, February 2, March 2 SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- Pontiac: First Tuesday: January 6, February 3, March 3 Pontiac Sportsman's Club. 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- Decatur: First Wednesday: January 7, February 4, March 4
 - Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion (*Program at 6:45pm*)
- Peoria: First Thursday: No January meeting (New Year's Day), February 5, Mar 5 Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 Pioneer Parkway, Peoria Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6:30ish.
- Danville: Second Monday January 12, February 9, March 9
- Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville

 Northwest Chicagoland: Second Wed: January 14, February 11, March 11

 Prairie House Tavern, 2710 Main St., Buffalo Grove
- Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6pm-ish. Mattoon: Second Thursday: January 8, February 12, March 12
- The American Legion Post 88, 1903 Maple Ave, Mattoon

 LaSalle County: Third Thursday: No January meeting, February 19, March 19

 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.

Sights from across our December meetings!



GSL's John Boch with Jeff Wilson who's running for Congress in the 13th Congressional District currently occupied by a Trump- and gun-hating Nikki Budzinski.



Owen W proved that a single

Owen W. proved that a single ticket purchase can win the gun drawing in Pontiac! Congrats to him and thanks to Runnings in Pontiac for providing the gun.

We had some very nice, original 1911s at our Peoria meeting, including these two.







GSL's John Boch, left, and Michael Johnson, the lead contract attorney for US Law Shield in Illinois. For more on Mr. Johnson's very insightful presentation, turn to page 9.





Seen in Mattoon: A Bill Oglesby custom engraved and tuned Ruger Vaquero in .357 made for a Guns Save Life "Great Guns" drawing in the late 1990s. It was recently at Bauer Auction in Mattoon and picked up by a local GSL member.

U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division



Attorney General Pam Bondi swears in Harmeet Dhillon as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights

Symbolism over substance? Let's hope not.

DOJ establishes a new division focusing on the protection of gun rights

Washington (Reuters) - The Justice Department plans to expand gun-rights protections with a new office in its civil rights division dedicated to enforcing the U.S. constitutional right to bear arms, according to plans shared with Congress and reviewed by Reuters.



The office, called the Second Amendment Rights Section, expects to open on December 4 and will be dedicated to investigating local laws or policies limiting gun rights.



The DOJ's new 2A Rights Section has a target rich environment

The Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms is hailing this week's announcement by Assistant Attorney General Harmeet Dhillon that the Justice Department is adding a "Second Amendment Section" to its Civil Rights Division.

"For its first move," CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb suggested, "we think this new office should focus on states which require a permit to purchase any firearm. Nowhere in this country should a citizen be forced to get permission from a government entity in order to exercise a fundamental right protected by the U.S. Constitution and delineated in nearly all state constitutions. Nobody needs government permission to exercise a right.

"Likewise," Gottlieb added, "those states which have adopted so-called 'sensitive place' restrictions need to feel the heat. They're trying to turn a right into a regulated privilege, and those responsible for such proposals need to be told 'no.' We're glad the Justice Department has submitted an amicus brief supporting a lawsuit against Hawaii's 'sensitive place' carry ban...

"Attorney General Pam Bondi has already taken action against the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department over concealed carry permit foot-dragging," Gottlieb continued, "but more needs to happen, and fast. We've been delighted to see the DOJ submit amicus briefs or offer testimony in important Second Amendment cases. Anti-rights law-makers who author permit-to-purchase, and sensitive place legislation need to have the legal door slammed hard in their faces.

"We're confident Assistant AG Dhillon is absolutely serious about going after states which infringe on Second Amendment rights, whether it's with permit-to-purchase impairments, or the equally despicable 'sensitive places' gun bans," he said. "Until anti-gun lawmakers feel the heat of Justice Department action zeroing in on their extremism, they're going to keep pushing to erode, and ultimately erase, the right of the people to keep and bear arms. Now is the time to stop these anti-freedom fanatics in their tracks."





GROSS'
BURGERS
25 Henderson Street
Danville, IL 61832
(217) 442-8848



POLICE OFFICERS! NRA memberships available for \$20/year... comes with \$30,000 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 signup page or follow the QR code below to sign up with this offer today.

membership.nra.org/LEAD/Join

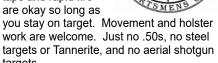


POLICE OFFICERS!

Need a place to shoot? DCSC offers FREE range memberships to active duty LEOs

The DeWitt County Sportsman's Club offers free memberships to active duty law-enforcement officers. Not only can you

go shoot when you want (during day-light hours), you can bring a guest with you. It's a permissive range in terms of rules: doubletaps and rapid fire are okay so long as



Come out to the 1st or 3rd Sunday breakfast to sign up. Watch the 20 minutes range rules video and you're good to go. For more info about the club, visit the website:

DewittCountySC.com



Protect yourself from 'gotcha' charges!

MUST DO ITEMS FOR ALL GUN OWNERS IN IL

Does your spouse or significant other have a FOID card? Do your kids have FOID cards?

Thanks to SB8, if you have any guns that aren't locked up in your home, you face

potential criminal and civil penalties from the State of Illinois. Yes, this includes potential charges if your significant other uses one of your guns to defend their life from a home invader. You can take care of this potential "gotcha" charge by making sure to have your significant other apply for a FOID



The same goes for your kids. Yes, minor

children can get FOID cards in Illinois. Instead of a driver's license, you will submit a copy of their birth certificate. And there is no minimum age, either. GSL's John Boch got his twin boys FOIDs well before their first birthday.

Do you think that just because you don't have any conventional firearms in the home you're safe? Hardly. In Illinois, state law considers firearms to include black powder guns, some non-functioning wall hangers, air guns over .177 caliber and BB guns that shoot over 700fps.

So practice legal self-defense against gun-hating local prosecutors. Get your significant other and kids their own FOID cards. You might even save their lives if they can access a firearm to defend themselves in event of a home invasion.

Sauk Trail GUN SHOW

Fairgrounds - Princeton, Illinois
Open to the Public! FREE PARKING. Lunch available.
Buy - Sell - Trade / Modern & Antique

2025-2026 Show Dates Jan. 24 & 25, 2026 | March 28 & 29, 2026

> Open to the public 8:30 - 4p Saturday, 8:30 - 3p Sunday

Dealers: 8' tables \$30 for up to two days, payable in advance.

Tables must contain 90% arms & related items

Dealer times: Friday unloading and set up starting at 1pm, Sat. & Sun. open at 7:30a.m. Overnight accommodations, Free Parking, Lunch available on premises

NEW DEALER SPECIALS. Contact: Marla P. 815-252-4842

Sauk Trail Gun Collectors, Inc.

PO Box 543, Chillicothe, IL 61543 PH. 309 689-1934

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.

Join Guns Save Life today.



Membership application on back page of GunNews

Executive Director's Report

Child-like government leaders

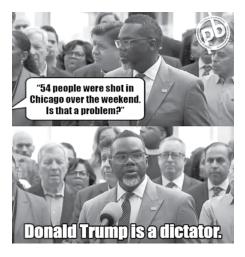
by John Boch GSL Executive Director Why is it with each subsequent election, Chicago's residents keep electing people with less competence? Is it the education system? Or masochism?

At least Mayor Daley Jr. had half a handle on what was necessary to keep Chicago humming, despite his rabid opposition to gun rights.

Then came Rahm. "9.5 Fingers" wasn't exactly brilliant, but at least he surrounded himself with some talent while he campaigned relentlessly for gun control. Maybe the gun control shtick served nothing more than to distract people from his policy failures.

Then voters embraced Groot, the midget with a bad haircut and the biggest Johnson in Chicago (her words, not mine). Good Lord. If competence was her currency, she was bankrupt.

Voters then jumped from the Groot frying pan into the fire with Mayor Let's Go Brandon Johnson. Johnson runs the Windy City with the intellect and forethought of a fifth-grader. Frankly that might be generous.



So it really surprised nobody when Mayor Moron said we can't incarcerate our way out of violence and that it's racist to hold criminals accountable. There's that fifth-grade understanding of the world at work.

He should take a weekend tour of CECOT in El Salvador. President Nayib Bukele has dramatically slashed violent crime there. Murders are down almost 99% in the span of

ten years after Bukele sent 14,500 convicted gang members and violent criminals (but I repeat myself) to the now world-famous CECOT prison.

We could do the same but our political leaders don't have the stones to do it. They seem to prefer persistent violent crime by repeat offenders. Maybe they think it keeps the population more dependent upon government protection. Who knows.

Plenty of folks are voting with their feet as elections don't seem to matter here. If it weren't for my kids I'd be gone myself. (Eleven years, five months and counting...)

Maybe things will change in the next decade.

Meanwhile, Australia's woke mind virus runs deep in their government. After a father-son team of Muslim terrorists shot up a Hanukkah event there, the (also-childlike) Prime Minister beclowned himself by saying "right wing extremists" are the biggest threat in Aussieland. Oh yeah, and that he's going to lobby for even more gun control even though guns are almost impossible to obtain.



Two of NSW's finest doing everything except engaging the killers.

Meanwhile, NSWs police, paid for with something like \$5B (Australian) was largely absent for 20 minutes before the shooting stopped. Of the four cops present, nobody fired a shot at the perps. One did hide behind a car. She must have graduated the Broward Co. School of Active Shooter Response.

It took a Lebanese immigrant to disarm one of the killers for the tide to turn.

It's what happens when you raise a nation of sheep, not lions. Clearly Crocodile Dundee was a *very* fictional representation of Australian men.



NRA 2.0: Big ships turn slowly

Report from GSL's own Dick Fairburn

by Dick Fairburn (GSL) - As a newcomer to the National Rifle Association Board of Directors, I cannot say exactly how the NRA got to the state it was in a few years ago nor how long it took to get there. But it undoubtedly

it undoubtedly evolved to that point over a span of many years. The unraveling of the NRA's problems has begun in earnest but like a large ship, turning around takes time.

There are some out there who don't want the NRA to change and others who don't want to see it succeed.

I recently got an email from a member who was irate over the consolidation of NRA magazines. His favorite publication will cease to exist its material blended into one of the remaining magazines. For that reason, he surmised, the NRA is as corrupt as it ever was andis clearly abandoning all who support the 2nd Amendment. He further stated he had been told the NRA would be folding into bankruptcy very soon.

I wish I knew how to allay the fears of members like him, but I can't figure out a way. Some people simply prefer to believe in imagined conspiracies and false rumors.

XIONAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF

In the past few weeks three long-time members of the NRA Board of Directors have resigned from the board. All three had served as President of the NRA at one point in their time on the board. They were staunch supporters of disgraced EVP Wayne LaPierre in his heyday and their departures are ... curious.

To me, their exit illustrates that the re-birth of the NRA is just beginning and the path of those changes may be somewhat unpredictable.

One outcome of those resignations is that another II-

linois 2A supporter and GSL member, Todd Vandermyde, was appointed to fill one of their terms, a very good thing in my view.

The annual election of the NRA Board of Directors is approaching.

Ballots should come out in the February issue of your magazine. Like last year, the NRA 2.0 group will present a roster of dedicated reformers in a twopage ad surrounding the ballot. The ad will include a website link to read

more about each candidate. Both Todd Vandermyde and I are among those candidates and would appreciate your support to get elected to a three-year term on the board.

Restoring the reputation of the NRA will take both time and effort, and the road will likely have a few potholes. I appreciate those of you who have stuck with the NRA and encourage those who are still dubious about the organization's future to keep an open mind. We need your support.





WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

Guns Save Life's LIFE MEMBERSHIP!

Guns Save Life is proud to announce our "Life Membership" for those who wish to show an exemplary level of support towards Guns Save Life and our mission defending your right to defend yourself.

The new "Life Membership" is available for \$1000, and for those aged 65 and over, it's available at half-price, \$500.

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



Woke Illinois officials release violent illegal alien criminals who have then victimized thousands

(FoxNews) - U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is warning that Illinois officials are releasing violent criminal illegal aliens despite active immigration detainers, a move the agency says is putting the public at risk.

In the letter shared with Fox News Digital, Todd Lyons, ICE's senior official performing the duties of director, said Illinois has "tens of thousands of criminal illegal aliens" in custody – individuals who, he noted, have committed crimes ranging from murder and rape to child pornography and armed robbery.

Lyons said these offenders "should be swiftly removed from the United States ... and not be returned to our streets to wreak havoc on law-abiding citizens."

According to data provided by ICE, Illinois has released

1,768 criminal aliens with active detainers since January 2025. ICE said the crimes tied to those offenders include homicides, assaults, burglaries, weapons offenses and sexual-predatory crimes.

The agency also said another 4,015 criminal aliens with pending detainers remain in state or local custody, including individuals linked to 51 homicides and more than 800 sexual-predatory offenses.

Second chance for those illegally possessing guns

(Capitol News IL) - Senate Bill 1899 creates a path for first-time gun offenders to obtain a Firearm Owner's Identification Card and legally own a gun.

First-time offenders are allowed to apply for a FOID card after receiving a court order demonstrating they successfully completed the First Time Weapons Offense Diversion Program and are otherwise eligible to own

The opportunity narrowly applies to people charged with a Class 4 felony, which is the lowest level charge for illegally possessing a firearm. The bill received bipartisan support in the legislature, and proponents said it will mostly benefit young people.

SB8 'safe storage' law takes effect

(Capitol News IL) - Gun owners in Illinois must take new steps in 2026 to secure their firearms in their homes, particularly when children are present.

Gov. JB Pritzker signed Senate Bill 8, known as the Safe Gun Storage Act, in late July, which prohibits gun owners from storing their weapons in an unsecured way at any location where they know that the gun could be accessed by a minor, a person at risk of harming themselves or others, or by a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm.

Under the law, gun owners will be required to keep them in a locked container so that they are inaccessible or unusable by anyone other than the owner. Owners who violate the law could be subject to fines as high as \$10,000.

Served <u>five hours</u> of five year sentence for machinegun possession <u>at a school</u>, released, now suspected in over two dozen armed robberies

Chicago (CWB Chicago) - A 21-year-old man who walked out of prison the same

day he arrived in August is now accused of being part of a violent armed robbery crew that Chicago police suspect was responsible for 28 holdups during November. Prosecutors have filed charges against Marquis Terry in four of those cases, in-



Marquis Terry.

cluding one in which a victim was kidnapped and driven to Chase Bank locations across the city.

Terry previously drew coverage on CWBChicago when a stolen, loaded machine gun was found in his high school locker last year. Records show he received a five-year prison sentence in mid-August for possessing the weapon. But during the roughly 500 days he spent in the Cook County Jail awaiting resolution of the case, he earned 900 days of credit. Combined with the state's mandatory 50 percent sentence reduction, he was released from prison on August 14, the same day he walked in.

Now, prosecutors say Terry, who is still on parole for the machine gun case, took part in a violent robbery spree early on November 19.

Word has it his fellow officers turned him in to ICE...

Hanover Park <u>re-hires</u> criminal illegal alien as police officer!

Hanover Park (FoxNews via AOL) - A Chicago suburb's police department is under fire after it announced a Montenegran immigrant serving on the force that had been arrested by ICE for a visaoverstay will continue on the job.

Officials in Hanover Park, Illinois – which straddles DuPage and Cook Counties — defended Officer Radule Bojovic, saying in a statement to CBS News he had been hired in "full compliance" with the law, and had proper federal work authorization.

DHS was nonplussed, with Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin commenting, "What kind of police department gives criminal illegal aliens badges and guns? It's a felony for aliens to even possess a firearm."

"A so-called law enforcement officer is actively breaking the law,"



Hanover Park PD officer Radule Bojovic standing between the Asst. Chief and Chief.

McLaughlin said, with her agency releasing further statements claiming Bojovic's employment had an estimated cost to taxpayers of \$205,707.

Editor's note: Feel free to let your fingers dial some digits to call Hanover Park PD (and they mayor's office). Ask them if Bojovic is still working for them. Either way, let them know what you think of this.

Hanover Park PD nonemergency: (630) 823-5500

Mayor Rodney Craig's Office: 630-823-5900

Village Manager Juliana Maller 630-823-5608

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

DeWitt County Sportsmans Club

Clinton, IL



BREAKFASTS OPEN TO ALL! 1st & 3rd Sundays 8:30am

Free memberships to active duty LEOs

>>> Memberships Available. <<<

Come join a growing, ever-improving club, with three independent ranges and permissive rules which allow shooters to practice from holsters, double-taps. movement and so forth. Centrally located on Route 10, six miles east of Clinton, IL (15423 State Highway 10). Great people and a warm atmosphere. Facilities include *three* ranges, clubhouse, a real publicly-accessible restroom

and more. Dues are currently \$70/year plus two work days (\$45 each on deposit, prepayment required). Over 65 dues are \$55 and no workdays.

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





Is IL next to get sued by DOJ to clean up voter rolls?

by Nancy Hayes By now most of us are aware of our state's insane Sanctuary State policies. We now know about hundreds of thousands of illegals brought here in a coordinated effort between Joe Biden and our current Governor J.B. Pritzker. Most of them settled in the collar counties.

That's a LOT of illegals that require a LOT of taxpayer support.

But to Democrats, who believe these "new" Americans, if allowed to vote, will vote solidly Democrat at election time. To them, those reliable future votes makes it worth every billion dollars diverted from servicing our native-born Land of Lincoln residents.

However, to several of us that have been out there working hard on cleaning up voter rolls in our counties while fighting for election integrity. You would be shocked at how riddled our voter rolls are with dead people and non-citizens who shouldn't be voting.

In fact, a lawsuit was filed against the Illinois State Board of Elections by Judicial Watch. That lawsuit alleged that Illinois has failed to conduct maintenance of their voter rolls as required by the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). In other words, in plain terms - Illinois has dirty voter rolls.

They are so bad that even the Department of Justice has also effectively sided with Judicial Watch stating that Illinois has not met its legal obligations. The State, of course, filed a motion to dismiss the lawsuit, which is currently pending in a federal

The DOJ even demanded a complete and unredacted version of the state of Illinois' statewide voter registration list, but of course, Illinois only provided a redacted version which violates the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and stretches out the lawsuit by not providing what was essentially asked for.

According to a recent article in NPR. Assistant Attornev General for Civil Rights,

Harmeet Dhillon stated: "At this Department of Justice, we will not permit states to jeopardize the integrity and effectiveness of elections by refusing to abide by our federal elections laws. She added, "if states will not fulfill their duty to protect the integrity of the ballot, we will."



Currently the DOJ has sued 18 states for not complying with federal law and oversight. It would seem Illinois would like to be added to that list of states for noncompliance as well. I guess it's not enough that we have thousands of dead voters on the voter lists already, what's a few more hundred thousand noncitizen voters added to the list?

"So, what if they're not legal citizens?" you ask.

EVERYONE who is a legal citizen SHOULD care! You like your gun rights, correct? You don't want to see your taxes go up to pay for still more services for still more illegal "immigrants," right? How long before a drunk driving illegal kills someone you know and love? How long before one of your family are the victim of violent crime committed by these invad-

Certainly, everyone should care because even a single illegal vote is ONE too many!

Voter apathy has given us increased taxes, out-of-control spending, increased crime, and tacitly allowed prolific corruption taking place throughout Illinois. Because when you vote for morons that keep increasing spending and increasing taxes to pay for more illegals taking benefits and funds from hardworking legal citizens of Illinois, you are supporting the destruction of the Land of Lincoln and our Constitutional Republic.

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-

IllinoisFreedomAlliance.us



Trump administration threatens lawsuits. funding cuts if Democratic states don't hold migrants for ICE

Washington (CBS News) — The Department of Homeland Security has escalated its clash with so-called sanctuary states this week, warning California, New York, and Illinois in letters obtained by CBS News that refusal to honor immigration detainers could trigger federal legal action.



In letters dated Sept. 10, Acting U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director

Todd Lyons ordered the attorneys general of the three states to declare within two days whether they would comply with "thousands of ICE detainers" lodged against individuals in state custody, according to DHS. Immigration detainers are formal requests by ICE asking local jails and prisons to notify the agency before releasing an individual, and to hold them briefly so federal agents can take undocumented migrants into federal custody.

According to DHS, Illinois and New York formally declined to cooperate... Senior DHS officials tell CBS News the department will tap the DOJ to sue states, blocking future federal funding.

In his follow-up letter to Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul, Lyons wrote that the state's refusal "will result in thousands of criminal aliens being released into IIlinois communities," adding that "ICE will engage with the U.S. Department of Justice and other federal partners to pursue all appropriate measures against you."

DOJ wants Illinois' entire voter registration databases, including DL & last for SSN to ensure non-citizens aren't voting; Illinois refuses

Springfield, IL (CapitolNewsIllinois) - The U.S. Department of Justice is insisting Illinois election officials hand over the state's entire computerized voter registration database, including sensitive information such as driver's license and partial Social

In a letter dated Thursday, Aug. 14, an attorney in the department's Civil Rights Division rejected the Illinois State Board of Elections' offer of a partially redacted database - the same data that state law allows political committees and other governmental agencies to access – insisting that federal authorities are entitled to the complete, unredacted data.

GEORGE ALARM COMPANY

BURGLAR • FIRE • VIDEO SURVEILLANCE CARD ACCESS • ANSWERING SERVICES U.L. CENTRAL STATION MONITORING

www.georgealarm.com





- 62 YEARS EXPERIENCE
- 24 HOUR SERVICE
- FREE ESTIMATES
- CUSTOM DESIGNED SYSTEMS
- CONTROLLED BY ANY SMARTPHONE
- LICENSED & INSURED # 127000430
- MONITORING & SERVICE OF ANY EXISTING SYSTEM

WE ARE DEDICATED TO PROTECTING YOU!



217-525-1334

Protect your home for as little as \$199

8 Lifetime NRA Members - Supporters of the 2nd Amendment - 10% off Basic or Basic Plus Video



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

Today, we are all Green Mountain Boys

You never want to have that feeling in the pit of your stomach: "If only I had told someone. I saw that guy. I had this queasy feeling, but I didn't want people to think I'm one of those, the sky is falling; the sky is falling, Chicken Little". Well, do something.

Every day some loon on the internet, in front of TV cameras, sometimes even in Congress, says something really outrageous that most people would call truly hateful, seditious, threatening and in many cases violent. I guess the only good thing about that is that they are now on record, and will get a nice little visit from authorities dressed-in-black if they go over the line, even if some other loon actually commits a crime instead of these smooth operators who have egged him on. But what if you see or hear something that is happening right next to you?



OK, first, you don't need to overtly confront them. They don't care what you think, and now the situation may escalate out of control. Do what military scouts have done since Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys. First, organize your thoughts into what is known in the US Army as a SALUTE Report. The letters stand for Size, Activity, Location, Uniform, Time, and Equipment. Easy to remember, even under stress. I learned it fifty-five years ago and still recall it. Put it in your cellphone or on a card you keep with you. Here's an example. Size - four males, probably age 25-35 years old. Activity talking in low voices, handling pistols, distributing ammunition so everyone has a few rounds. No one speaking with any identifying accent. They threw an empty beer can in the gutter. **Location** – Corner of East Eldorado and North Main Streets. **Uniform** – three guys in blues jeans; all four wearing dark hoodies, have what looks like gang tattoos on their face and front of neck. [It isn't really a uniform like a military would have; just what are they wearing.] Time - Now, 10:23 P.M. Equipment – one guy drove up in a pickup truck, Ram, Illinois plate 1 TANGO, with highly-polished chrome wheels, and a big crack in windshield.

Couple of tips... Bad news does not improve with age. You'll know whom to call in a bit, but you need to report this sooner rather than later because in something like this example, authorities need a warning, not an

after-action report (although that's better than nothing.) Again, do not walk toward these guys and ask, "What's up, fellas?" Don't put your phone immediately to your ear; don't take pix of these loons. Just walk away like you never saw them, out of vision distance, maybe even toward a group of unrelated folks, and consult your notes on who to call. And who is that? If the folks you see look like typical local criminals (as probably in the example above), call the hotline of your local police. Have that written down or already on your phone so you don't have to look for it. In our example above, if all the guys are speaking Spanish, call ICE. They're probably illegal border crossers, and gang members with a violent rap sheet a meter long. We aren't looking for gray-haired abuelitas discussing getting together for Navidad. ICE: 866-DHS-2-ICE (866-347-2423). In Chicago, another number is 872-351-3990.

US Secret Service. If you hear anyone, anyone, talking about killing or injuring any politician - although the most likely target recently has been the President of the United States - call the US Secret Service. Doesn't matter if they say they're going to do something, or "someone should". Let the USSS determine the severity of the threat, and if the target is covered by the Secret Service (former US Presidents are included); if not, they'll forward your info to the FBI. They may - and likely do - have more information than you do. Words have meaning. It is not your responsibility to determine that meaning, or if the person you hear is sober, drunk, deranged, lucid, or just foolin' around. Report that person now. The USSS website says to contact your nearest field office by telephone if you need immediate assistance. Chicago: 312-353-5431. Springfield, IL: 217-726-8453. Indianapolis: 317-635-6420. St. Louis: 314-539-2238. Madison, WI: 608-264-5191.

Now I know these organizations sound kind of scary. So if you're unsure, contact your local sheriff and tell them what you have. They run for office and want your vote. You may even know them. In fact, all this aside, sheriffs are good folks and you'd probably like them. The most responsive government consists of the folks nearest to you. As an example, Macon County Sheriff Jim Root was born and raised in Decatur. He graduated from Eisenhower High School and joined the United States Marine Corps instead of the Army, but nobody's perfect. Almost everything covered is really serious; the Macon County Sheriff's number is 217-424-1311. Sangamon County: 217-753-6666. Peoria County: 309-494-8000. Coles County: 217-348-7332. But double check the number in your county now, before you really need it in runch time.

Snitches get stitches? No one is asking you to go charging the hill. We're in a nation-wide situation where everyone has to show at least a little intestinal fortitude. No one is asking you to arrest anyone. Plenty of counties have anonymous tip lines. But remember, sanctuary cities don't want your tips on illegals. They want illegals as reliable voters. They want them to lower the wage scale which lowers what you'll get paid in your own job. They view you in the category of "mind over matter." They don't mind cause they think you don't matter. Except you do matter, because now everyone is a Green Mountain Boy.



A WORTHWHILE GOAL: Attend a 'Friends of NRA' Dinner at least once per year

by John Boch

For a number of years I refused to attend Friends of NRA dinners because I suspected oi' Wayne LaPierre used Friends' money as his piggy bank. Not only that but we stopped supporting and promoting Friends events and stopped listing them in *GunNews* for the same reasons.

That was then. This is now. Wayne LaPierre is gone from the NRA. For good. Good riddance.

There's no more LaPierre and his buddies looting Friends of NRA monies for \$20,000 suits or family flights to exotic locations via private jets.

The Friends of NRA has returned to raising money and spending it *solely* for very

worthwhile programs. They support all manner of youth programs, range development and improvements, firearms and hunting safety and so forth.

What's more, half of the monies raised stay in your local area. The other half go for larger, national grants. It's all to help bring the next generation of shooters into the world and to preserve and grow places for the rest of us to shoot.

So go visit your local Friends dinner. There's a slew of them coming in the next few months. See a list of events in our calendar on page 22. You'll find great people - the sorts of folks who make great friends. And it's a good time for a very worthwhile cause.



X RING CUSTOM Complete Firearms Sales & Service

508A W Main St - Toledo, IL 62468

Outdoor Rifle and Pistol Ranges with 25—100—200—300 yard berms

ADVANCED PISTOL, LONG RANGE RIFLE, CARBINE CLASSES DATES AVAILABLE Largest Selection of Firearms, Ammunition, Reloading Supplies, AR-15's and Accessories in East Central Illinois



Shooting you the best price in Central Illinois!!

Gun Shop Hours

Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm Saturday 9:00am - noon

Illinois Concealed Carry Classes

Call for Dates and Availability
Range Fees Included
*Active Military & Veteran Discount

email: sales@xringcustom.com

Shop: 217-849-3353

Gift Certificates Available!



FarmandHomeSupply.com



Farm&Home SUPPLY



Attorney Michael Johnson

Surviving the legal aftermath after surviving a criminal attack

by John Boch

(GSL) - "Responsible people are great," says Michael Johnson, the contract lead counsel for US Law Shield in Illinois. He's been doing criminal defense work for 44 years now, so he's been around the block and travels across Illinois and beyond to help people.

He addressed our audience at the Pontiac meeting in December. It wasn't his first visit, so he hit the high points in explaining the law, what to expect in the aftermath of a use of force incident and what you should do if you find yourself in that predicament. After all, sometimes good people need help.

Here's the quick and dirty: Use lethal force in self-defense only as a last resort in the face of imminent death or great bodily injury to an innocent party. Never use deadly force to protect stuff (property), only people or an occupied dwelling.

Some tips: You can't be the aggressor or antagonist. The threat must be imminent - as in right now. Force has to be proportional: the kindergartener with a baseball bat isn't

the same as Mongo the Mauler who has been pumping iron for the last ten years in prison with that same bat.

What's more, while Illinois legal precedent allows you to "stand your ground," attempting to retreat and de-escalate where possible sure looks good to cops, prosecutors, judges and most importantly, juries.

If you use deadly force, call 911 right away, and here's what you tell them.

- 1. I was the victim of a crime.
- 2. My name is Joe Sixpack.
- 3. I'm at (address).
- 4. Send law enforcement and two ambulances.
- 5. (Conditional) If you're armed, tell them. Give a description of yourself.

Now hang up. Don't answer when they call back. You don't want to say something that might complicate your legal defense, either in words, tone of voice or anything else.

Put your gun away if it's safe to do so before the police arrive.

While you're waiting for police to arrive, you may want to phone your attorney. Tell them who you are, that you've been involved in a deadly force incident and the jurisdiction you're currently in so they can find you once you've been taken into custody.

When the po-po arrive, tell them, "My attorney says I cannot answer questions or talk to the police."



Michael Johnson... a good man to know in the aftermath of a deadly force incident.

Johnson points out that with some legal defense companies, those emergency calls don't get answered by an attorney and as such *may* be subject to discovery, especially if they are recorded. US Law Shield's emergency number is answered by attorneys and as such are shielded by attorney-client privilege. What's more, Illinois-based calls are often answered by Johnson himself.

Johnson says that as US Law Shield has

grown, they've contracted with additional attorneys across Illinois, including one in Peoria and another in Southern Illinois.

Johnson says he or one of the attorneys will come see you ASAP after getting the call. Until they get there, keep your mouth shut and keep repeating that you aren't going to make any statements or answer ANY questions until your attorney is present. Don't talk yourself into legal problems, even if you feel you're righteous in what you've done.

Once he's there, he'll get some info from you and go to work. But after he leaves, cops will come back a short while later trying to get you to reconsider your demand not to speak without your attorney. Don't fall for it. Shut up and try to get some sleep.

He then outlined some cases of US Law Shield customers who were arrested in the aftermath of deadly shootings, only to be released within a day or two after charges were dropped - in part because they kept their mouths shut. This happened because of Johnson's work, along with private investigators, running down evidence including videos and witnesses.

In other cases, he's gone to trial and won acquittals.

In any event, the less you say the easier the job your defense attorney has.

Remember, you carry a gun to make yourself harder to kill. You know the law of self-defense so you're harder to convict. And you keep your mouth shut when talking with police to help your attorney keep you from becoming the victim of the legal system after you've survived the criminal attack.

STOP IN TO LOCKED & LOADED FOR ALL YOUR GUN NEEDS...





Locked & Loaded

Retail firearms, ammunition and accessories Indoor shooting range and so much more... 1299 E Jackson St, Pana, Illinois 217 562 7000

THEN HEAD ON OVER TO WHISKEY BILLS FOR LUNCH OR DINNER...





Whiskey Bill's Saloon & Liquor Emporium Fine food and drink
121 East Olive Street, Pana, Illinois
(217) 562-9388



Are they sure that's all?

Nearly 20% felony of arrests in Chicago are on 'No Cash Bail'

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — Nearly 20% of people arrested and charged with felonies in Chicago are already on pretrial release for another pending criminal case, a number that appears to be substantially higher than during a comparable period last summer, when Illinois still operated on a cash bail system.

Electronic monitoring walk-away arrested in IN for child sex assault

(CWB Chicago) - A Chicago man who escaped electronic monitoring while awaiting trial for a series of violent CTA robberies is back in custody. Unfortunately, according to prosecutors, he sexually assaulted a child while he was on the run.

Last year, prosecutors asked Judge David Kelly to keep 21-year-old Davaughn Credit in jail pending trial on allegations he participated in a violent cross-town robbery spree in Chicago. But Kelly, who earned a statistically-proven reputation as the most defendant-friendly judge in the Cook County court's pretrial division, sent Credit home on an ankle monitor.





What do Cook County authorities do when someone on No Cash Bail with an ankle monitor re-offends when they're supposed to be under house arrest? They put a second ankle monitor on the perp! That'll show them!



A GUT CHECK FOR LEFTIST BIGOTRY

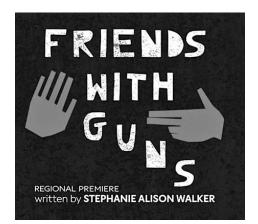
Lefties can now wrestle with the HORROR of discovering their friends own guns in the (relative) safety of a Chicago theater

Chicago (GSL) - The Den Theatre in Chicago hosts a number of plays, and among them is "Friends With Guns." Either it bombed (go figure!) or The Den got lots of calls (and headaches) because of the national publicity about the bigoted offering. Why? Because "Friends with Guns" is no longer listed at The Den's website.

Here's the description.

You think you know your friends, your neighbors, your spouse, but what happens when you suddenly find out they have a garage full of guns? This new dark comedy explores the complicated issue of gun proliferation when two young liberal couples are forced to confront their assumptions about who should own a gun and why. The time of easy answers regarding this issue is long gone. In the wake of current events, we are all forced to reexamine our strongly held beliefs about gun ownership. Friends With Guns explores the question of what we can compartmentalize... and what we can't. It examines what happens when guns enter the conversation. It pulls the curtain back

on liberals with guns. It asks what happens when suddenly one person in a marriage does a 180 on the gun issue. And it does all of this through a female lens.



Here's a press quote from the LA Times:

"Many are likely to misconstrue Stephanie Alison Walker's new play FRIENDS WITH GUNS as a forceful defense of gun ownership. They couldn't be more wrong."



Feds order CTA to confront violent crime immediately or risk losing federal money

Washington, DC (CWB Chicago) - A federal directive issued Tuesday threatens to choke off Chicago Transit Authority funding unless the agency immediately boosts lawenforcement presence and reverses what federal officials call a years-long surge in violent crime and worker assaults on its buses and trains



Lawrence Reed, the thug with 72 prior arrests, pouring gas on the head of an innocent CTA train rider.

The order, issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration, follows the November 17 attack in which Lawrence Reed, a man with a long criminal history who was wearing an ankle monitor for a pending felony matter, allegedly set a 26-year-old woman on fire aboard a Blue Line train in the Loop. The case is one of countless headline-grabbing violent crimes aboard the city's transit lines.

In a sharply worded letter to Governor JB Pritzker and Mayor Brandon Johnson, FTA Administrator Marc Molinaro accused Chicago's leaders of "neglecting" their responsibility to protect riders and workers.

"Given Chicago's crime rate in its transit system, this isn't an isolated incident," Molinaro wrote. "If CTA does not take immediate action to increase its law enforcement presence, we will withhold federal funds."

Then a couple of days after the fed warning...

Repeat offender sexually assaulted woman in wheelchair at Loop CTA station

Chicago (CWB Chicago) - A 23-yearold Calumet City resident who has been arrested six times in Chicago this year, including multiple times on the CTA, is accused of sexually assaulting a disabled woman after pushing her out of her wheelchair at a downtown Red Line station.

During a detention hearing on Saturday, prosecutors said the 33-year-old woman was riding an inbound Red Line train when Rasheed Griffin boarded her car near Belmont around 2:45 a.m. Thursday. As the train continued toward downtown, Griffin allegedly wrapped his legs around her wheelchair and began kissing and groping her while saying he wanted to perform sexual acts.

CTA surveillance video showed Griffin wheeling the victim off the train at Jackson and pushing her onto an elevator, prosecutors said. The woman later told officers she could feel Griffin pleasuring himself behind her inside the elevator.

Video allegedly showed Griffin wheeling her off the elevator and knocking the wheelchair over, sending the woman to the ground. She landed on her stomach and struggled to breathe from the impact before Griffin climbed on top of her, pulled down her pants, and sexually assaulted her, according to prosecutors.





The victim screamed that she was being raped, drawing the attention of a CTA customer service agent who summoned a security guard. The guard took a picture of Griffin as he fled and sent the image to other security officers and CPD. Officers arrested Griffin a short time later at the State and Lake Red Line station.

Judge James Costello ordered Griffin detained on charges of aggravated criminal sexual assault of a handicapped person, aggravated battery in a public place, and aggravated battery of a handicapped person.

The arrest is Griffin's sixth in Chicago during 2025 and his third arrest in six weeks, according to police records.



Crime drops sharply when violent offenders stay locked away from society

Incarceration works

by John Boch

(GSL) - Americans continue to grow increasingly alienated by violent crime committed by repeat offenders. As a charitable nation, most believe and support second chances. Few support five, ten, twenty or fifty "second chances."

It doesn't matter if it's Iryna Zarutska in Charlotte, NC stabbed to death by recidivist thug DeCarlos Brown Jr. who prowled the streets with 14 arrests and multiple convictions. Or 26-year-old Bethany McGee set on fire on a train in Chicago by a 50-year-old perp with 72 prior arrests. Or 22-year-old college coed Logan Federico, who begged for her life on her knees before she was executed by Alexander DeVonte Dickey in South Carolina. Dickey's dozen plus felony convictions could have landed him in prison for 140 years, but soft-on-crime prosecutors and judges held him less than 600 days.

Meanwhile Chicago's Moron Mayor Brandon Johnson says that "We can't incarcerate our way out of violence... It's racist."

El Salvador's President Bukele would tell Mayor Moron to hold his beer and watch. Bukele took El Salvador from 103 homicides per 100k to 1.9 in less than ten years. How did he do it? He locked up 14,500 violent criminals and gang members, many for life, at the now world-famous CECOT prison.

Other violent crime has also fallen almost as dramatically in El Salvador too.

Contrast that with America, where we used to lock up violent bad guys until it became fashionable to blame incarceration on social "injustice" and racist cops rather than lawbreaking.

It's not just violent crime. A 1970s study by the University of Pennsylvania found that 6% of males accounted for over half of police contacts. Another study twenty years later in the Boston area found it was 3%.

The *NY Times* did some number crunching and learned that 327 individuals were responsible for a third of all shoplifting arrests in NYC. They had been arrested, released and re-arrested over 6000 times!

If you wonder how many times they got away without getting arrested, there's research on that too. A recent study of delinquent youths showed 25 offenses per police contact and 100 or more per arrest. Is it any wonder why brick and mortar stores are closing in higher-crime areas?

Remember this story from 2023:

Walmart closing 4 Chicago stores, blaming millions in annual losses

(FoxNews) - Walmart has announced Tuesday that it is closing four of its Chicago stores because they are part of a group of locations that "lose tens of millions of dollars a year."

Atlanta PD said that 40% of the crime in that

city was caused by the same 1000 people. Put another way, if we took those 1000 people off the street and put them in a cage, crime would drop by almost half. But the Soros-funded prosecutor there preferred "restorative justice" programs, deferred prosecution, cognitive behavioral therapy and extra, super-duper probation. Oh yes, and ankle monitors instead of detention in jail.



Solutions

Florida had a serious problem with armed violence in the 1990s. Remember *Miami Vice*? In response, they passed a law that levelled hard time sentence enhancements against criminals who carried guns during violent crimes. It took them off the streets for a generation or two. No plea bargains, no probation, not good time credits. Just hard time

Within three years the firearm violent crime in Florida plummeted to *historic lows*. Then a few years later, the courts struck the law down as too tough on criminals.

Did you know Illinois had a similar law, albeit without the teeth of Florida's 10-20-Life law. The problem is it is seldom used - at least in deep blue counties.

We just have to return to serious consequences for committing serious crimes. Really serious consequences, not misdemeanor charges for illegally carrying a revolver, as a felon while drunk, then emptying it at a group of people who hurt your feelings. In Florida under 10-20-Life, that real-life woman would have been gone for 35-40 years. In Chicago, she got misdemeanor probation.

Not to pick on women, but another woman became angry and stabbed a CTA employee in the throat on a CTA platform. She caught a misdemeanor plea bargain under then Soros-funded Cook County prosecutor Kim Foxx. This woman then moved to Florida. When she FAFO'd and tried that stabby thing in Florida, they locked her ass up for the better part of 25 years. *Bye Felicia!*

Until and unless the Land of Lincoln ditches "No Cash Bail" and the assortment of other so-called "criminal justice reform" packages that have handcuffed police while releasing bad people, we're going to see more heinous crimes by repeat offenders.

Which is why you should carry your gun everyday so you don't become their next victim - at least without a good fight.

Is the Northwestern Memorial Hospital campus safe?
Two incidents per day for 19 months with just this one perp?

Serial thug savagely attacks female Northwestern physician on elevator, leaving her a bloody pulp

Chicago (CWB Chicago) - Chicago police have arrested Sean Popps a dozen times this year, almost all of them for allegedly trespassing or damaging property on or near Northwestern Memorial Hospital's Streeterville campus. That string of cases follows seven arrests in 2024, again mostly on or near the hospital grounds. Records show he was also arrested at the facility twice in 2020, twice in 2021, once in 2022, and once in 2023.



An assortment of a few of Sean Popps 2025 mugshots.

But the 39-year-old will not be returning to Northwestern for a little while. That's because a judge ordered him jailed after prosecutors accused him of violently attacking a physician on an elevator at the hospital's parking garage.

The case marks yet another instance in which Cook County's criminal justice system cycled a repeat offender back onto the street only to see the behavior violently escalate.

Around 1:39 p.m. on November 2, a 42-year-old cardiologist entered a Northwestern elevator at 236 East Huron Street, according to court filings. Popps allegedly followed onto the lift and immediately began punching her in the head. He continued striking her, punching her again and again as she stumbled backward, covering her face with her hands, prosecutors said...

A Northwestern security officer instantly recognized Popps from surveillance video, citing "approximately 30 plus prior incidents at the hospital where [Popps] had to be removed," a detention petition stated. Another Northwestern officer reported having "incidents with [Popps] approximately two times a day over the last 19 months."

Only charged with misdemeanors for knife attack on three people

Old Town knife attack suspect cycled through multiple arrests and electronic monitoring before latest mass stabbing incident, records show

Chicago (CWB Chicago)
- Prosecutors this week
charged a 43-year-old man
with attacking or trying to
attack three strangers with
a knife during a rampage in
Old Town two months ago.



Tyshaun Stampley.

But what happened in the months and weeks leading up to that incident is an increasingly familiar Chicago story: Repeated arrests. Repeated violations. Repeated warnings. And repeated releases by judges who kept putting him back on the street.

A review of Chicago Police Department reports and court records shows how often Tyshaun Stampley — usually arrested as Raeshaun or Rashaun Stampley — cycled in and out of custody before the Old Town attacks. Judges saw missed court dates, new arrests, and multiple violations of pretrial release conditions. Yet each time, he was al-

lowed out, although he was often supposed to be on electronic monitoring, even after he failed to comply with that program...

Officers arrested Stampley nearby. All three victims identified him. Stampley denied carrying a knife.

The only charges filed were misdemeanors: three counts of battery and three counts of assault with a deadly weapon. He was detained only because of his long list of pretrial release violations, not because the new charges qualified for detention.





by Rich Portwood

(GSL) - Eight months ago, John Boch asked if I would be willing to write something about mindset. Unfortunately for John, I had to think about it for a few months. What did I come up with? Mindset can't be taught; mindset is the result of conditioning.



For anyone who is thinking about spending money on a course that teaches mindset, save your money. How do you teach aggression? How do you teach the willingness to stand up for yourself or others? Some of us are born with it while some of us aren't.

Several years ago, I called nationally-known firearms and tactical trainer Wes Doss with my new lesson plan. I can't begin to describe how excited and nervous I was to tell Wes about the new class I had planned to teach through his company, Khyber. Wes, who was usually a gentleman and diplomat, instantly told me, "I hate it" when he heard it was an Officer Survival calls. I was stunned, hurt, and defeated. He hadn't even heard what was going into the class!

Wes told me that just the title of officer survival was setting students up for failure. What? How? I just couldn't understand. Wes must have sensed what I was thinking so he explained a little more. He said that when someone survives something, it means that it was by chance, and by the skin of their teeth. People survive a shipwreck by finding a piece of wood to hold onto. People survive a car crash by being thrown clear from the car. People survive being attacked because the attacker left them for dead and the victim was found by a passerby and rushed to the hospital.

The idea was to win. Wes had a PhD. in sports psychology and was, in my opinion, the best tactical trainer in the world. Wes authored the books, "Train to Win" and "Condition to Win." Lucky for me, Wes sent me both of those books and it really opened my eyes to how important it was to choose

the right words in order to condition students to win.

When I was diagnosed with cancer in 2022, my oncologist told me I had a good chance of becoming a cancer survivor. I told him I would NEVER be a cancer survivor and to never use that term around me again. He was more than a little shocked when I told him that I wasn't going to survive cancer, I was going to kick can-

cer's ass and move on down the road. That was my attitude. I wasn't going to survive by chance; I was going to actively fight cancer. My approach was probably tough for others to watch but I pushed hard. Even during my hospital stays, I was committed to trying to walk and attempt push-ups.



On the other hand, I was in chemo one day when a new patient came for her first treatment. Patients are only separated by a thin sheet so I could hear the nurse reading her name and treatment protocol when I heard the patient start yelling, "Help!" and "You're killing me!" Being curious, I drug my IV pole to the edge of the curtain to see what was happening. The nurse was still holding the medication and the woman's IV hadn't even been inserted yet. The nurse had to lead her away to speak to a counselor. She had already made up her mind that she was going to die of cancer and within a month she fulfilled her own prophecy. She gave up.

I tell you the cancer story so you understand how important it is to have the right mindset. As a fresh-faced rookie, a sergeant told me that I had to come to work every day with an "S" on my chest. Not once during the next twenty years did it ever cross my mind that I could or would lose any fight. Don't get me wrong, I didn't take unnecessary risks, but I didn't shy away from anything. My mindset was that I was not going to lose and I would do anything it took to win. Do you feel that way? Do you know you are prepared for whatever comes your way? Do you know with all certainty that you can take on the world and win?

So how do you condition yourself to have an undefeatable mindset? Are you tested? Are you prepared? Physically, have you pushed yourself to find your limits and push past them? Running, swimming, cycling, jiu-jitsu, or whatever you can do to test your physical limits is the first step. Train your body and learn to like being uncomfortable. Train with your weapons and with your mind. Learn how be a better shooter but learn tactics, too. I also think competition is a great way to test your skills against an artificial stress.

Nobody's safe in Chicago, but Mayor Johnson's more worried about Donald Trump

Brazen thugs try to steal Chicago fireman's car... from outside a CFD station

Chicago (CWB Chicago) - A crew of auto thieves pulled guns on three Chicago firefighters who confronted them as they broke into a fire department member's car outside an Avondale firehouse on Thanksgiving morning, according to Chicago police.



The attempted theft unfolded shortly after 7:15 a.m. outside Engine 91's station house in the 2800 block of North Pulaski Road. A police report said four men were breaking into a firefighter's Dodge Charger when three members of the firehouse walked outside and approached the crew.

The burglars responded by flashing handguns, prompting the firefighters to back off. The crew then climbed into a waiting SUV and sped north on Pulaski Road.

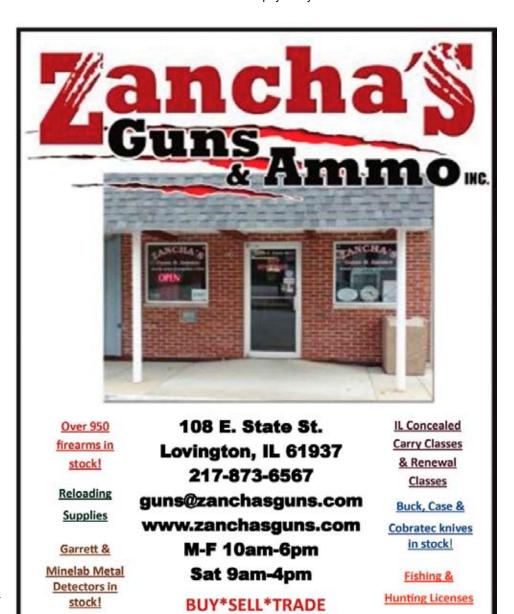
They did not succeed in stealing the firefighter's vehicle.



Hard times create hard men and women, right? None of us want to live like Spartans, but we need to push ourselves and test our limits.



To develop a mindset to win our fights, condition yourself to win both mentally and physically.





The Left gave up God — Now they've picked up guns

by John Mac Ghlionn (Crisis Magazine) - The country is living through a spiritual vacuum of its own making, carved out by decades of nihilism dressed up as liberation. A culture that once anchored itself to God now anchors itself to nothing. And when people believe in nothing, they turn to anything—rage, tribal identity, self-invention, even violence. We are entering a time when wounded people, especially those wrestling with deep mental-health struggles, are arming themselves not out of duty but out of despair.

For years, the Left mocked guns. A firearm was a symbol of backwardness. a leftover from another America carried by rubes who clung to Jesus and the Second Amendment in equal measure. But now the same people who once lectured . America about "gun culture" are buying rifles, training on weekends, and posting videos where cosplay meets combat readiness. It's a strange development, equal parts sad and absurd. But it is also unmistakably terrifying—a new era of fear, resentment, and self-medication through firepower.

The mental-health crisis among America's transidentifying youth isn't a point of mockery. In truth, it's a tragedy. Rates of depression, anxiety, and self-harm are staggering. These young people were promised peace if they reinvented themselves. Instead, many found isolation, instability, and a body that could no longer bear the weight of its own story.

And now some are reaching for guns as a shield against a world they think wants them gone.



The "Socialist" Rifle Association.

They're terrified and furious, pushed along by a belief system that encourages emotional volatility, rejects limits, and insists that personal pain is a political identity. Trans ideology tells them discomfort is persecution and disagreement is violence. In a culture too timid to correct the lie and too disoriented to offer help, these young people end up armed, agitated, and more alone than ever.

Pain mixed with firepower is a dangerous combination. And pain is abundant.

We see the results already. Charlie Kirk was assassinated in cold blood. The attempt on President Trump still casts a long, unbroken shadow over the nation. These moments aren't coincidences. Rather, they're symptoms of a deeper crisis. When a country loses its conscience, when it trades the Gospel for grievance, the bell tower eventually goes silent. In its place comes the crack of a rifle.

Of course, the Left insists that its sudden obsession with firearms is purely "self-defense." But watch long enough and you see the change. For decades, progressives preached gun control as the only option. Overnight, they embraced

the very culture they despised, not as a sober civic duty but as an identity. A fashion. A tribe. Guns are no longer tools; they are symbols in a culture fueled by bitterness. And bitterness, once stirred, has a habit of spilling into the streets.

To be clear, millions on the Right own guns. But the difference is moral and obvious. Most conservatives keep firearms for one purpose: to protect their families. Not to posture online. Not to role-play as revolutionaries. Not to pick fights in the desert dressed as characters from science-fiction films.

They train quietly, store carefully, and pray they never need to reach for the thing they are trained to use. They are lawful, not lawless. The Left's new gun culture, by contrast, feels like a pressure cooker filled with people already tormented by identity struggles, anxiety, and emotional instability.



A nation cannot carry this tension forever.

We are living through a spiritual drought. Christianity once gave America purpose. It taught restraint, endurance, and love that was more than sentiment. But as the faith faded from public life, it left behind a vacuum, and nature hates a vacuum almost as much as politics

Ideology rushed in. Activism rushed in. Narcissism rushed in. And the great myth of our age—that a person can create a self out of raw desire—became the new religion. But it is a religion without grace, without forgiveness, without a path back home.



That kind of world breeds violence—first in the mind, then in the public square.

Watching the Left discover guns is like watching a tod-dler discover matches in a dry barn. They don't respect fire and they don't grasp the responsibility it demands. They only know it delivers a quick jolt of power in a world where their own belief system has stripped them of grounding and restraint.

They approach firearms the same way they approach identity—something to tinker with, reinvent, and parade without ever accepting the moral weight that should come with it.

Watching the Left discover guns is like watching a tod-dler discover matches in a dry barn. They don't respect fire and they don't grasp the responsibility it demands. They only know it delivers a quick jolt of power...
Tweet This

Meanwhile, conservatives are painted as the threat even as they hold their firearms for the same reason they always have: to safeguard what matters. They love their country, even when their country seems unsure if it loves them back. And despite endless warnings about "right-wing violence,"

the loudest cries for confrontation now come from corners of the internet where people fantasize about being soldiers in a cultural war they barely understand. Leftwing terrorism is now at its highest point in decades, a wave the media pretends not

We have stepped into a new age. One shaped by loneliness, despair, collapsing faith, and a rising willingness to settle arguments through bullets instead of ballots. The tragic part is that most Americans, Left or Right, want nothing to do with any of it. They want safety. They want normalcy. They want a culture in which civility reigns supreme. Christians, especially, want a country where stability doesn't depend on who has the faster trigger finger.







History comes to life at Guns Save Life

A HANDFUL OF HISTORY

by Gary Larson

(GSL) - History is interesting, especially if you can hold it in your hands and feel it with your soul. History touched me and eventually my soul with the purchase of an old powder horn.

Powder horns are well known to most people from movies and books about early settlers in America. They consist of a horn taken from a cow or ox. Once the inner material is removed, a wood plug seal the wide base. A small hole is made in the tip and plugged with a removable stopper. It could then be filled with the black powder used as propellant in muzzle loading firearms. Fitted with a leather strap fixed to each end it could then be slung over the shoulder to provide a ready supply of powder for a muzzle loading rifle, shotgun or pistol.

Like many of its time, the horn I found radiates history in addition to carrying powder. It appears to be quite old, perhaps as old as our nation. As might be expected for a tool that was well used, time has taken its toll on the old horn. But the aging seems to be consistent for a powder horn that was used and frequently carried by its first proud owner.

Its owner, and possibly maker, took the time to personalize his powder horn, and to imbue it with symbols of his life and character. This practice, seldom seen on common modern tools is widespread on firearms. They have been embellished by owners and users for as long as man has made them. According to some this practice has been occurring as long as man has been man.

Mr. I Brine carefully inscribed his name on his powder horn. Even though the years of wear slowly began to erase parts of the engraving, I know his name. As fascinated as I am with this personal introduction spanning nearly 250 years, I am equally intrigued by what I don't know about him.

How long after the horn was first created and carried did Mr. Brine re-carve his name and the date 1794 into a part of the horn less susceptible to the wear that was erasing his first inscription?

And that date-what a time in our nations history! 1794, only 3 years after the adoption of the Bill of Rights. Eighteen years years after the birth of our nation in 1776 and 18 years before 1812, the beginning of the final violent weaning of our nation from our Motherland. 1794, the year of the Battle of Fallen Timbers in the Northwest Territory. A battle that would end British claims to an area that would eventually become Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and the northeastern part of Minnesota. An amazing date indeed.

What did Mr. I Brine do during his life? What part if any part did he play in these dramatic, turbulent days? Did he use the powder horn

in any of the above battles that were fought to win the independence and freedom we often take for granted today? If so what did he use it to load? One of the famed Pennsylvania (Kentucky) rifles of epic accuracy? Built for the hunt but proved in the heat of battle? Or did this old horn charge a real military musket, the assault rifles of I Brines day?

Perhaps a British Brown Bess, symbol and defender of the British Empire for a century? Or perhaps a French Charleville, a military weapon imported to our shores to reclaim and secure our violated freedoms? Could it have been a rarer arm? A Committee of Safety Musket, purposefully built to face British tyranny with powder and ball? Or a simple hunting arm, perhaps hurriedly modified to accept a handmade bayonet, a step often deemed necessary to facilitate the eternal vigilance freedom requires?

Another of the inscriptions on this old horn, painstakingly carved into this horn by Mr. Brine is that of a fish, an Ichthys, the symbol of a Christian. This is not surprising at all for a man of our nation's Founding Period. Mr. Brine and his contemporaries held religion so important as to demand that it be protected in The Bill of Rights just as they demanded they also protect the citizens right to keep and bear arms, be they sporting, military or the inevitable blend of the two. Obviously, it doesn't surprising to me that it is one of the personalizing marks he wanted displayed.

This powder horn means a great deal to me. Not for the simple fact of its age, for the passing years can mean nothing. But this customized powder horn, it forms a bridge between another time and now, and another person and myself.

Different as we must be, this simple piece of aged wood and worn keratin serves to link Mr. I Brine and myself as gun owners, shooters and fellow Christians. That is what endears this old horn to me. Not what it is but what it represents.

When I hold this old horn next to me so it touches me in the same way it touched him when he carried it ready to charge his rifle for his next shot. He wore it enough that wore away part of his carved name so many years ago. When it's with me, I feel a kinship, a living part of history that transcends time and bonds us together across the ages.

As strong as that feeling is, as much as I can feel his presence, we will remain strangers in this life. But someday I Brine and I will meet. I'll learn of his deeds, of his personal taste in firearms and his devotion to Jesus Christ. But most of all, in case he does not already know, I'll be able to tell him that despite the physical and chronological separation we suffer at present, he has achieved one of the most important ideals any man can aspire to: He has been an inspiration to me.



Twice-deported illegal alien stabbed him in a drunken rage as good Samaritan stood up for innocents in the train car

Charlotte, NC **HERO** identified

(Matt Von Swol via X) - The man stabbed in the chest by an illegal alien on the train in Charlotte NC, Kenyon Dobie, is in critical condition with a tube in his chest, pumping blood out of his lungs.

According to authorities, Dobie was the only person who stood up and told the drunk illegal to stop screaming at riders, including an elderly woman on the train.

For his efforts, he was knifed in the

"I guess it's better off that it happened to me and not an older person. I wasn't trying to be a macho man, but what I won't allow is you to attack random people for no reason, especially the elderly...



Kyle Rittenhouse breaks social media silence to announce marriage as bride totes AR-15

(NY Post) - Gun rights activist Kyle Rittenhouse, who made national headlines for being acquitted in an August 2020 shooting that killed two men during rioting in Kenosha, Wis., made a surprise return to social media Wednesday to announce that he is married.

"I'm back on social media, I'm back in the fight, and I'm here to stay," the 22-year-old wrote on X alongside two images of him and his bride, Bella — including one in which his new wife held an AR-15...



Visit Central Illinois' Premier Indoor Shooting Range & Gun Store!

- 16 Lane, State-of-the-Art Heated Range
- Beginners to Advanced Level Firearms Classes Offered - Sign Up Now Online
- Illinois Concealed Carry Classes Only \$179
- Rent our Firearms Over 50 Rental Firearms Available to Try Before You Buy
- · We Buy and Trade Used Firearms
- Range Membership Packages Available
- Book Your Private Parties, Corporate Meetings, and Fundraising Events
- · USPSA Pistol Competition Every Tuesday Night
- . Gunpowder & Glitter Monthly Ladies Night Event

















INDOOR RANGE • FIREARMS • TRAINING



700 WYLIE DRIVE NORMAL, IL 61761 309.820.1008 • WWW.CISHOOTINGSPORTS.COM

Armed American

You don't have to be a helpless victim. Empower yourself. Become a gun owner.



4 Skin Lil Mari, aka Kamari Bonslater

17-year-old Chicago rap star thug no match for female CCW holder

Chicago (CWB Chicago) - A south suburban teenager who raps under the name "4 Block Lil Mari" has been jailed after prosecutors accused him of shooting a woman during a botched South Shore carjacking that ended with the victim, a concealed carry holder, shooting him as well.

Kamari Bonslater, 17, of Steger, was already on pretrial release for allegedly possessing a machine gun and a stolen vehicle at the time of the shooting, prosecutors said.

The charges stem from a failed carjacking on September 7 in the 6700 block of South Cregier...

Bonslater, who has the word "Murda" tattooed on his neck, is charged with attempted second-degree murder, attempted vehicular hijacking, and aggravated unlawful possession of a weapon.





Stealing cars is hazardous to one's health

Chicago car thieves meet CCW holder, bleed loss ensues

Chicago (GSL) - In the Roseland neighborhood, a CCW holder went outside to investigate his car alarm sounding late at night in the 9400 block of Indiana Avenue in Chicago. He noticed his car had a shattered window and two black males inside the car.

When the thugs inside the car brandished a gun, the 58-year-old resident opened fire. His rounds struck one of the perps, a 17-year-old, causing profuse bleeding from either the knee or the forearm.

The second perp didn't stick around to render aid, but instead beat feet to a waiting Dodge Caravan and he sped away.

'That's Not Him': Miami mom denies her son invaded home where he was found shot dead

Miami (GSL/SNW) - Quanterry Alvin Whitley learned first-hand how the FAFO concept can go very badly when you try to steal someone else's hard-earned possessions. In the Richmond Heights neighborhood of Miami, he and three of his thug friends fooled around, committing a home invasion.

A neighbor's Ring doorbell camera recorded the sounds of Quanterry and his buddies reaping the whirlwind. Yes, it captured Whitley screaming like a little girl after getting shot and before he assumed ambient temperature.

As for the homeowner, he says that he was terrified during the ordeal. He also said it was the first time he ever shot his gun.

Meanwhile Quanterry's mama is very upset the homeowner shot her boy after she initially said "it wasn't him."

State Line Rifle Association

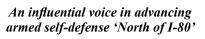
Proud sponsor of **Brownell's NRA Day Family Fun Shoot.** In affiliation with: NRA, ISRA, GOA, IFOR, CMP, GSL, MCSA

Monthly meetings on the **fourth Tuesday** each month at 7pm.

American Legion 111 E. Main Street Round Lake Park, IL 60073



see us on Facebook



No matter how much you hate the fake news media, it's not enough

Media Bias: How often do people legally carrying accidentally shoot a bystander? How about the police?

by John Lott. Jr. Wall Street Journal reporter Mark Maremont continues his attacks on people carrying concealed handguns (this titled "The Innocent Bystanders Caught in Deadly Crossfire of Self-Defense Shootings")... claiming there are four examples from 2022 to now of people legally carry a concealed handgun who accidentally shot a bystander when they fired their guns in self-defense.

Not only does he fail to provide any perspective for this with 1.67 million Americans using guns defensively each year or that 21 million Americans have

a concealed handgun permit, but only two of the four examples actually fit the storyline Maremont is pushing (a case in Massachusetts and another in Michigan).

The Ohio case involved an employee with a gun at work so there is no issue of concealed carry. The other case from California doesn't appear to involve someone with a concealed handgun permit. While Maremont's article discusses Constitutional Carry, none of the four cases he discusses involve Constitutional Carry...

So over the decade from 2016 to 2025, including the security guard, there are five bystanders shot, with two killed and three wounded. Excluding the security guard, there were four people shot, with two

killed and two wounded.

We did a similar comparison to police over the same years from 2016 to 2025, and we found cases where a total of 28 bystanders were accidentally shot, with seven killed and 21 wounded. In one case, an officer wounded six people. In another case, three officers wounded three people. But there are a number of news stories that don't identify whether the bystander was shot by the criminal or the police.

So the police accidentally wounded 5.6 times as many bystanders as the civilians, including a

Police accidentally wounded

bystanders as civilians in

the last decade... and killed

5.6 times as many

definition, armed civilians stopped 199 of 562 incidents, preventing 35.4% of the attacks, and rising to 52.5% in locations where carry was allowed. By contrast, police stopped 167 incidents (29.7%). Overall, armed civilians have proven remarkably safe and effective. In the 199 civilian interventions, bystanders were accidentally shot only once (0.5% of cases), with zero instances of interfering with police. Civilians were killed in just 2 cases (1.0%) and wounded in 49 (24.6%), and in 58 incidents (32%) they prevented potential mass shootings.

Uniformed police, despite

police stop every attack,

improves outcomes. .

the data demonstrates the

work, November 21, 2025.

presence of armed civilians

superior training, faced greater risks and error rates in the 167 incidents they stopped. They accidentally shot bystanders or fellow officers five times (3.0%)—over

three times as many security guard wounded in five times the civilian rateand suffered 19 officers a decade, and 3 times the killed (11.4%, eleven times number killed, and seven times numbers wounded. the civilian rate) and 51 Without the security guard, wounded (30.5%). In no seven times more were active-shooter incident did shot, 3 times killed, and either group have their firearm taken by the attacker. 21 times more wounded. Without the security guard, While neither civilians nor

s
g "Amicus Brief for the
Supreme Court, Wolford
et al v Hawaii, on Gun-free
Zones in Hawaii," Social
Science Research Net-

Comparing permit holders and those legally carrying a concealed handgun to police shows that permit holders are extremely responsible.

bystanders are seven times

more likely to be shot by

police than civilians...

From 2014 to 2024, using the FBI's active-shooter



TERRANCE C. SULLIVAN, MANAGING BROKER

Lyons-Sullivan Realty, Inc. 321 W. Madison Street, Pontiac, IL 61764

321 W. Madison Street, Pontiac, IL 61764
Office 815-842-1400 | Direct 815-674-6299
LyonsSullivanRealty.com

Freedom's Forum

Firearm rights ARE civil rights!

by Bill Manton

In 1964, the US Department of Justice got serious about civil rights for African-Americans. They began charging local officials with civil rights violations and successfully prosecuted many.

In the last few weeks President Trump has ordered the US DOJ to treat 2A restrictions as civil rights violations. Bravo.

To carry out this order, the US Attorney General Pam Bondi opened the Second Amendments Rights Section in the DOJ's Civil Rights Bureau. Their mission: to seek out and file charges against anti 2A legislators and governors who have restricted firearms rights.

Time will tell if it's just political talk or if it results in the aggressive enforcement like we saw relating to the Civil Rights Act back in the 1960s.

If the Trump administration really is serious about prosecuting Second Amendment civil rights violations, some Illinois elected officials could well become poster children for this campaign.

We, as responsible gun owners, should help Bondi's new Civil Rights Bureau to identify politicians infringing on our gun rights and urge action against them for deprivation of civil rights under color of authority.

Gun owners like you and I can and should report Groups like G-PAC IL, Moms Demand Action, Everytown for Gun Safety and the RIFL Coalition for similar infringements. It's long past time to put them in the same bucket of hate groups as the Klan and the Nazi party. If the DOJ does take action, they can seize the assets of these groups and run them out of business. Frankly, we should also prosecute their big donors for supporting hate.

Strong words? You bet. Strong actions are needed. These would-be tyrants blame the law-abiding gun owners for gang violence, crime and Donald Trump. They cheer the death of gun rights activists like Charlie Kirk. Don't think they'll lose sleep about killing other gun rights advocates.

Unfortunately, we have two sorts of gun owners. We have those who don't vote and if push came to shove, would register their guns. What's more, if government demanded it, they would surrender their guns. And we have another group who would fight like the third monkey on the ramp to Noah's Ark, after the rain has started.

In which group of gun owners do you see yourself?

About the author: Bill Manton is the head of Gun Rights 4 Illinois.

GunNews Magazine

The monthly journal of Guns Save Life

John Naese, Editor Emeritus johnnaese1@comcast.net John Boch, Editor Emeritus jboch@gunssavelife.com

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.

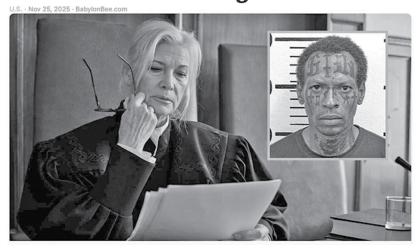
Or you can mail your letter to: Guns Save Life, PO Box 51, Savoy, Illinois 61874



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

Chicago Judge Hoping 23rd Time Is The Charm For Rehabilitating Violent Criminal



Name 'em and shame 'em

YOU can help judges make the right rulings under 'No Cash Bail'

by John Boch

You are not powerless when it comes to "lobbying" judges to reconsider overly compassionate rulings in considering whether or not to release a perp under "No Cash Bail."

"How?" you ask.

I'm glad you asked.

Everyone loves positive publicity and kudos. Compliments and positive remarks make us feel good, especially when people we care about deliver them privately. Public adulation can be described as a super-charged version of privately delivered kudos. After all, everyone wants to be popular.

But what happens when a person faces criticism? Especially public criticism? Nobody likes harsh criticism.

Negative publicity in adequate quantities makes an impact, both on the conscious mind as well as the subconscious mind.

When you learn of a judge who has released a career criminal, especially one charged with violent offenses when they have a history of violent convictions, let the world know.

Shame those judges - BY NAME - in your social media circles, in your workplace and among your friends and neighbors. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper. You don't have to be nasty and you certainly don't have to call them names. But you can "name them and shame them" for dubious decisions putting criminals before safe neighborhoods and families. Let the members of your community make up their minds when they learn the details.

What's more, if you see them at the grocery store, farmer's marker or gas station, call them out on it. Instead of giving them a pass,

communicate your disapproval of them putting criminals over law-abiding citizens in the community.



Some folks are having success doing just this in Chicago with the judges who let Lawrence Reed loose after 72 prior arrests. Yes, 72 arrests and Judge Teresa Molina-Gonzalez turned him loose on the people of Chicago yet again. And look what happened.

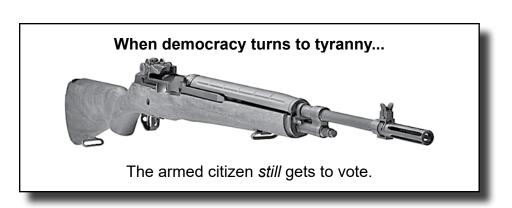
Even the *Chicago Tribune* is picking up on this:

Before he allegedly attacked the 26-year-old woman, Reed, with more than 70 past arrests and a history of mental illness, had been accused of another violent crime—aggravated battery—and had been released in August over the objections of a Cook County prosecutor by Cook County Judge Teresa Molina-Gonzalez. At the time, the judge said, "I can't keep everybody in jail because the state's attorney wants me to."

Those are likely to be words Molina-Gonzalez very much regrets when she next faces voters.

Uh, yes you can hold every violent offender, Your Honor.

So don't be afraid to call out judges in your county who release habitual offenders instead of holding them for trial.





901 Detroit Ave Suite C Morton IL 61550

Mon-Fri 11-7, Sat 10-6

(309)291-5164

kamrange.com

Need a CCL class?

16-hour full class \$135 8-hour class \$75 3-hour renewal \$60 We offer classes monthly Just want to shoot?

Lane fee \$19

Additional shooter \$11

Never a time limit!

You can shoot your own ammo

Need additional training? Private instruction \$40

Memberships start at \$350/yr.

NRA Instructor Training

Need a firearm?
Over 500 guns in stock
New & Used
\$10 rentals/try before you buy
FREE rentals on Friday

Come and enjoy a clean safe range to shoot at. All of our staff are NRA certified Instructors and our range is air conditioned & heated

We offer Veteran, LE, and First Responder discounts, but already have the best prices in town

You can sign up, and pay for all of our classes online at **kamrange.com** or call us at (309)291-5164, or just stop in and see us

Let us Help you Uphold your 2nd Amendment Right

KEN FREY: A boy and his BB gun Of Mice and Marksmanship

by Ken Frey (GSL) - It was over fifty years ago, and I

was just a boy of about nine or ten, though the exact year escapes me now.

My eldest sister had just moved into an old farmhouse about fifteen minutes away. I remember the first time we arrived at her "new" place. Mom and Dad had packed the trunk full of cleaning supplies, buckets, mops, rags, and bottles of cleaner.

When we stepped inside, my sister was already frustrated. I can still picture Mom putting her arms around her, trying to calm her down. The problem? Mice. A whole division of the brown and gray vermin had overrun the house, and she couldn't set traps fast enough to keep up.

The worst of it showed when we opened the basement door and flipped on the light. The walls and floor seemed alive with movement, worthy of a Hollywood horror flick. Ewww.

After we got a tour of the house, my dad handed me a broom and told me to go into the basement and start swatting at whatever I could. So while the others cleaned up mouse droppings and mouse pee, I did my best playing the role of Terminator... with a broom. It wasn't very impressive.

I managed to kill a couple of dozen, but I'm not sure how many died of laughter watching me trying to swat at their brethren.



The next day I came ready. Mom and dad brought more cleaning supplies and tools. I brought my own tool - my BB gun.

It wasn't a Red Ryder like Ralphie had in the movie, but similar. Of course, this happened long before A Christmas Story ever

I had gotten my BB gun a few years earlier for my birthday. We didn't have a lot of money so I learned quickly to perfect my shooting skills and marksmanship because every BB was a gift.

At our house, starlings and house sparrows were fair game. Dad made sure I could identify them before green-lighting them for death by BB gun. Those lessons became my first steps in bird identification. Yeah, at my house there was no limit and no season on starlings and house sparrows.

Even when I wasn't outside I still shot 'em right outside my second-floor bedroom window. At the time I felt like a soldier performing overwatch for the welcome species

So back to my new sister's house. While the family took care of making the upstairs sanitary, my rifle and I took care of the unholy mouse problem. Pretty sure I had a much better time than the rest of my family did. I definitely had a better time than the mice. I'd pop them in the head and guts. I'd shoot them running or standing still. The running ones just

died tired. I shot the baby mice too. I had no mercy.

Every so often I would take a break and collect the corpses. I hauled them out by the bucket. Granted it was a small bucket.

At first I couldn't cock my BB gun fast enough, but as the day wore on it became harder and harder to find willing recipients to soak up my steel balls of death. The smart ones staved behind cover or concealment rather than risk my wrath.



By the time we left that night, I had thinned the mouse herd dramatically. I gave up counting them at over 100 and that was early in the day. I did so well my sister even gave me a hug and a kiss, thanking me for helping. Dad even pulled a couple of tubes of genuine Daisy BBs out of his stash and gave them to me as my bounty for a job well done at pest control.

My point in telling this memory is to encourage you to teach your kids or, for most of our readers, teach your *grandkids* gun safety and how to shoot.

It doesn't matter that it's only a BB gun. It can still be deadly on small critters, and it deserves respect. More importantly, if you teach good fundamentals with that BB gun they can use those with "real" rifles to hit larger game, including two-legged predators that might be hunting them later in life.

Start them off young. I could barely cock my BB gun when I first got it, but I learned how and it gave me muscles.

If you are able, teach them about game and bird identification and let them have a go at real hunting of pests. It will instill valuable lessons for later in life — patience, how to be quiet, and the basics of stalking techniques.

Be like A Christmas Story and get them a BB gun for Christmas or a birthday. Have some fun with them, and pass along the lessons that last far beyond childhood.

As they get a little older, graduate them to a single-shot .22 rifle like the Savage Rascal. And from there a bolt- or lever-action .22 rifle with or without a scope.

That old BB gun remains with me after all these years, and it shoots just as straight as it did back then. It's just as effective against house sparrows and close-in starlings as it ever was, and I enjoy shooting with it just as much now as I did when I was

"I Shoot with You!"

Whatever your goal, whatever your circumstance. Whether you are just starting out, or well on your way, I'll help you to target and hit your financial goals and dreams.

Individuals and Families

- College Planning
- Retirement Planning
- Investments & Portfolio Building
- Traditional and Roth IRA
- Life Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance
- Disability Income Insurance
- Alternative Investments
- Tax-Efficiency Investing



Business

- Employee Benefits
- Business Succession Planning
- Retirement Plans: i.e. 401(k), SIMPLE, SEP, PEP, Defined Benefit
- Educational Services
- Insurances
- Executive and key personnel benefit plans
- Alternative Investments
- Tax-Efficiency Investing



Gerald Arnholt • Financial Advisor

•Ripon College: B.A. Economics

President - Scimitar Foundation & Chairman Scimitar Sportsman's Night

•Donor Representative - Shriners Hospital for Children

•Member - Sons of the American Legion (Germantown, WI)

•Member Milwaukee Elks Lodge #46

Lifetime Member NRA



VantagePointe Financial Group

13400 Bishop's Lane • Suite 150 Brookfield, WI 53005 (262) 784-8400

Securities and investment advisory services offered through **Osaic Wealth, Inc.** member FINRA/SIPC. **Osaic Wealth** is separately owned and other entities and/or marketing names, products or services referenced here are independent of Osaic Wealth. 9/25 8353226

Deciphering modern shotgun shell labels and their proper usage

by Nick Klementzos (GSL) - Shotguns have been with us for some time, first starting with black powder muzzle-loaders and more modern paper/brass shells since the Civil War era.

With the proper ammunition, shotguns can serve a wide variety of applications from clay targets to large game - including on two-legged predatory animals.

For newbies, understanding the sizes, types and loads can quickly become intimidating.

Types of projectiles

The most common loads are bird shot, buckshot and slug payloads. We'll skip the exotic loads.

Birdshot.

Shooters choose birdshot for little birds, big birds, clay birds and other small game at roughly 40 yards or less. Shot size can vary from very small (No. 12: .05") to TTT (.22 caliber). 6, 71/2, and 8 seem to be the biggest sellers.

Duck and goose hunters will use larger non-toxic shot to make more distant shots with the larger birds. (More on non-toxic shot in a moment.)

Buckshot.

Buckshot, with larger pellets and its high level of terminal effectiveness, does a fine job of two-legged critters as well as larger four-legged ones.



Pellet size of buckshot is defined from #4 (.24") to 000-buck at .36" per pellet.

As with most things a lot depends on your shotgun barrel and the brand of shot shell you are deploying. Hence why it's really important to test your shotgun's pattern.

Slug

Slugs come in two types, the original Foster slug and the newer Sabot slug.

Foster slug is basically a large hollow base soft lead projectile with angled fins or veins surrounding the circumference.

Foster slugs, aka rifled slugs, are generally intended to be fired out of smooth bore shotgun barrels. They can be fired out of more traditional barrels gener-

ally used for birdshot with a slight risk of damage to the barrel.



Foster slugs.

Meanwhile the Sabot slugs much prefer to the fired out of rifled "slug" barrels.

Sabots are a cup that centers a smaller projectile in a larger bore and is discarded once it exits the barrel. Once the sabot falls away, the smaller projectile continues to its intended target.

While Foster-type slugs provide accuracy out to about 100 yards in skilled hands, sabot slugs can extend the distance of engagement out to 200 yards or more when fired out of a rifled shotgun slug barrel.

The down side of Sabot slugs is 1) the need for a rifled barrel and 2) the are very pricey. How pricey? A five-pack of premium sabot slugs can run upwards of \$60 or more for a five pack, where Foster slugs sell for \$5 to \$8 all day long and twice on Sunday.

Is all this complicated enough? But wait! There's more!

So let's decode the descriptors on a box of shells. There will be the caliber, shell length, possibly velocity, how much powder and how much payload it contains.



For example: 12 gauge refers to the "caliber" of the ammo. 2 3/4" refers to the shell length. Some boxes will feature an approximate velocity (although this is a newer feature that wasn't around 30+ years ago). 3 drams refers to the weight of the powder charge. 1 1/8oz is the weight of the shot each shell contains and lastly, the shot size is listed (#8 in this case).

First, you need to know your gauge, and that's almost always printed on the barrel of your shotgun. Modern big ones are usually 12ga.,

smaller ones are 20ga. and the really small ones are .410. Older ones may be 10ga., 16ga., or even 28ga. And you might even find one in 24ga. sometime in your life if you look hard enough.

Shot shells come in different lengths. In America, 2¾ inch is the norm followed by 3 inch and lastly 3½ inch. Longer shell lengths mean more punishing recoil.



Magnum, 12-pellet 00-Buck loads offer punishing recoil.

Velocity is approximate and "hotter"/more powerful loads will usually feature higher velocities. Your shoulder will not thank you for those hotter loads if you don't really need them.

The dimensions of the payload (shot size) are listed. The shot can be made of lead, steel or bismuth. #8 is mainly used for doves and clays. Federal regulations require steel or bismuth when hunting ducks or geese, but these alternative shot types are more expensive.

When dealing with medium game or pests (like pheasants or opossums and raccoons), choose a larger shot size (such as #4). Bigger game yet will require larger pellet sizes to decisively put them down.

For larger critters like twolegged ones, it's time to break out the buckshot. You can get by with #4 Buck for home defense, but generally the larger and more dangerous the animal, the more you'll appreciate the stopping power of the larger buckshot sizes (#00 for instance) or rifle slugs.

Remember: birdshot is for birds, buckshot (and slugs) is for large game, bears and bad guys. Sure, at near point-blank range birdshot will stop bad people with evil in their hearts. But do you want them to get that close?

One more thing about buckshot, you will see options with 8, 9, 12 or more pellets. Basically, more pellets equals more punishment to the shooter.

My recommendation is to stay with 8 pellet loads as it will normally pattern tighter and is very effective.

Thanks to the proliferation of



NAVIGATE WITHOUT GPS

Don't be dependent on your smartphone or GPS device in an emergency. These systems are the first to fall in a disaster. Your survival and that of your loved ones depends on your level of surviva and self-reliance skills.

BASEPLATE COMPASS 101
SATURDAY JANUARY 17th,
1:00 PM till 3:00 PM
HAMMOND INDIANA
CABELA'S SECOND FLOOR
CONFERENCE ROOM



MAP READING & LAND NAVIGATION SATURDAY FEBRUARY 21st, , 1:00 PM till 3:00 PM HAMMOND INDIANA CABELA'S SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE

FREE: American Survival and Self-Reliance Education Series Sponsored by. Live Free USA at AmericanSurvivor.org.





Claims people driving by his house yelling 'retarded' at him

Tim Walz cries victim at Trump calling him 'retarded'

(GSL) - Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, aka Jazz Hands, is fighting mad over President Trump referring to him as retarded. This after Walz called President Trump a "bastard" and a "son of a bitch." Walz also labelled Trump's supporters as fascists, Elon Musk as a "dipshit" and ICE as the "Gestapo." Sounds like someone can't take what they're dishing out.

female police officers, they even have "reduced recoil" loads in buckshot and rifled slugs which provide more than adequate performance while not beating up the shooter. In my experience, the 9 pellet loads always seems to throw one or more of its pellets outside a tight pattern. Meanwhile 12 pellet loads just plain beat the hell out of me. If you like the abuse, have at it.

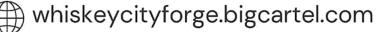
Hopefully this helps in understanding the many types of shotgun shells and their uses.

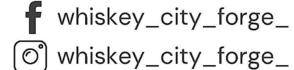


Handcrafted Custom Knives

Dorian Mosack, Bladesmith Army Veteran 2-time *Forged In Fire* Contestant













Storage Containers

For Rent or Sale

Containers Available in the following sizes: 8x10' - 20' 8x8 - 40' 8x8 40' 8x9.6 - 48' 8.6 x 9.6

Perfect for seed or chemical storage

MEL PRICE CONTAINERS

1938 N. Bowman - PO Box 1637 - Danville, IL 61832

217 442-9092 prcml@yahoo.com

217 304-1722 melpricecontainers.com



Al-Qaeda 2.0 hasn't struck yet, but don't become complacent

PREPARE FOR TERROR

by John Boch

Sarah Adams, the former CIA targeter now working on her own, continues to warn of a large Islamic terror attack to overthrow American government. Yes they're pretty optimistic in counting on tens of thousands of disaffected misfits and radicals (think Antifa) to join their cause. Nevertheless there will be a substantial loss of life when the coordinated attacks begin.

After rolling your eyes, you might say to me, "John, this hasn't happened and is unlikely to happen where I live."

Illinois, like California, burdens residents with gun control. This leads to a relative paucity of carry licenses. Without realizing it, our gun-hating political leaders have made us an attractive location to carry out organized attacks. Terrorists thrive on terrorizing innocents. They avoid armed resistance in order to maximize the carnage they can commit before taking a dirt nap and learning that their 72 virgins look like Rosa DeLauro/ Helen Thomas.





DeLauro and Thomas.

What can you do to protect your family? First and foremost, have an Emergency Action Plan. Write it down and have copies at home and in your vehicles. Why? Because it removes stress from an emergency situation because you know you've taken steps to mitigate an emergency's impact on your family's life. Put another way: It takes a potentially life-threatening emergency and turns it into an inconvenience. Here are some suggestions for topics/preps.

Kids. A backup plan working with family to get the kids/grandkids from school/daycare.

Ways to reunite with significant other. What if their car is not running or available? Do they have alternate ways to get home, and appropriate footwear for walking/hiking home. Do they have alternate communications for their trip?

Safe places to shelter. Where can our family go if we can't make it home? Have safe meeting points in mind. Relatives and friends make the best places. For those without either close-by, could that be a school or your church? Also, have paper

maps in your glovebox, including local maps of your community. Don't rely on in-vehicle navigation or your phone.

Communications. How will you communicate if the phones/internet are down? Sarah Adams suggests "What's App" or "Signal" apps for your phone. These messages may get through even if voice calls won't. If the cellular networks are completely down, have a radio network as a backup plan. And have a power bank to recharge your phone if utility electricity is down.

Medications. Have critical medications for at least a couple of weeks, bare minimum. A month is better.

First Aid/Trauma kit. Band-aids for boo-boos, and tourniquets (plural), wound-packing gauze, chest seals and Israeli Battle Dressings for trauma. You might throw in some Celox, Quick Clot or other hemostatic powder just for giggles.

Multiple light sources. Flashlights are good, but headlamps are better as they free up your hands. Have extra batteries (duh!).

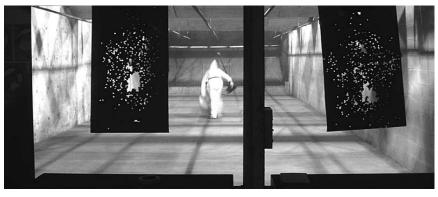
Have a week or more of shelf-stable foods and WATER at home. In case local authorities urge folks to shelter in place at home it would be nice to eat. In case municipal water fails, have a case or two of water on hand along with a way to filter/treat water to have at least a gallon of water per person for seven days, minimum.

Have cash, in smaller (\$20 and less) bills. Cash is king. When plastic won't work in stores, if you have cash you can often get things (like fuel, drugs, food, hotel rooms, etc.)

Fuel. Make it a habit of maintaining at least a half-tank of fuel in your vehicles. Better yet, have ten or twenty gallons of stabilized fuel at home for each vehicle. Fuel storage not available for apartment dwellers? Know which gas stations sell fuel even when the business is closed. For instance, locally in Bloomington, the Meijer store and the FS stations sell gas even in the dead of night (for those with a working credit card).

Defensive tools. And make sure you've shot more than 30 rounds in the past five years. The life you save might be mine in addition to yours.

A few simple items can greatly reduce your anxiety and stress in event of an emergency, in addition to helping to keep your and your family safe. Prepare today. Enjoy tomorrow.



YOU DON'T WANT TO BELONG: 'The Order of Elevated Lead Levels'

Elevated blood lead levels: A hidden society within the shooting community

By Damon Williams; GSL Member Before 2012, I used to cast my own bullets from discarded wheel weights. That year, the EPA banned the use of lead wheel weights on automobile rims. (Thanks, Obama!)

Up until that time, recognizing the risk, I monitored my blood lead levels and kept them in check with prudent practices. When I quit casting, I quit monitoring my levels and became complacent about lead exposure mitigation.

At a recent checkup, my doctor ordered a blood screening. I asked for a blood lead screening as it had been 13 years since my last lead test. The results came back twice what I expected and *three times above* what is accepted as normal. My doc was keen for me to take actions to mitigate my exposure, pronto.

After this consultation and careful consideration, I will no longer be running the shot timer in competitions until my condition improves.

The response from my friends was shocking. Apparently, I have now joined the ranks of a hidden (secret?) society within the shooting community. "The Order of Elevated Lead Levels." It's a society that you really would be best off avoiding.

While my numbers were rookie numbers compared to some of these guys, I prefer taking my health seriously and taking good care of myself. According to the EPA, high lead levels in adults like me can lead to: memory loss, irritability, depression, high blood pressure, kidney problems, digestive problems, decreased sex drive and function, fatigue, joint and muscle pain, nervous system problems.

It ain't so great for kids either.

So, let's look at significant sources of lead exposure and how to mitigate ingestion.

Steel targets: Lead projectiles disintegrate/ splatter into dust that coats the steel targets, stands and the ground beneath them with lots of lead powder. Yes, even if they're jacketed rounds (something not recommended for close-in shooting on steel, by the way.)

Solution: Avoid handling steel targets with your bare hands. If you are setting a popper or plate rack for a competition stage, or resetting a Texas star, you have to sometimes man-handle the steel. Wear gloves or, at least, wash your hands thoroughly and frequently with soap and cold water.

Competition timer operators: In competition, the timer operator is your primary safety

officer. He must be within arm's distance at all times, so he is exposed to not only his own gunshot residue, but the residue of every shooter he times.

Solution: If you are a timer operator, consider shorter shifts. Maybe 100 to 150 rounds per stage, then hand the timer off to another qualified timer. This can substantially reduce your residue exposure. I'm considering giving up the timer entirely. At the same time, how can I in good conscience, expect a colleague with a higher lead level than mine to continue exposing himself at the expense of mitigating my own exposure?

Recovering brass: Maybe more of a common practice for not only cowboy shooters but shooters who reload or collect brass for friends who reload... we are exposing themselves to a lot of lead residue. This includes your kids who might be picking up brass (like many of us did as kids).

Solution: Minimize handling brass with your bare hands. Use pick-up tools (like the pickup tools for older folks) and a container to drop the cases into. Try to wear nitrile gloves or, at least, wash your hands thoroughly with cold water.

Brass tumbling: In my opinion, this is one of the leading causes of lead exposure, rivaling bare hands on steel targets. Dry vibratory tumblers, by design, cause the lead contaminated fouling to accumulate in the media and pretty much everywhere else. These levels compound every time you tumble a new batch. Dry tumblers leach particulate out of the lid as the machine stirs the media around and around for hours. Oh, but wait! The best part is separation at the end of the polishing cycle. The media has to pour through a sifter or spill through a rotating cage slinging dust and media in all manner of unintended directions. Breathe deep! (Just kidding.)

Solution: For the love of all that is holy, run your tumbler outdoors, never indoors, and away from traffic areas. Use a separator that fully encloses the cage. *Wear a respirator* when transferring media between containers. Allow time for dust to settle. Again, try to wear gloves or, at least, wash your hands thoroughly with COLD water. Better yet, use a wet tumbler, I understand that wet tumblers do a better job anyway. Still wear gloves and wash your hands.

Reloading: Now that we have shiny clean brass, do you think that the contamination has disappeared? The polishing compound will leave a waxy film to adhere contamination to the case surface. Each case will swipe fresh contamination into your dies and carry away contamination from previous cases.

JUDICIAL MAYHEM

Continued from front page.

Despite Miller's history, the state's pleadings, and screaming news headlines about failures of the chief judge's electronic monitoring program, Gonzalez refused to detain Miller and sent him home again on an ankle monitor.

CWBChicago's extensive reporting has found that the chief judge's office routinely allows people on electronic monitoring to accumulate extensive violations of their house arrest provisions without consequence. The office has no enforcement mechanism and merely keeps a list of violations that they pass along to the defendant's judge at a future court date.

That's because the county's electronic monitoring program, most of which came under the control of the chief judge's office earlier this year, is sagging under withering criticism after *CWBChicago* revealed that the man accused of setting a woman on fire aboard a Blue Line train in the Loop last month was wearing an

Chicago Judge Hoping 23rd Time Is The Charm For Rehabilitating Violent Criminal



ankle monitor issued by Evans' office at the time of the horrific crime.

Our further investigation revealed that the chief judge's staff was aware that the CTA fire attack suspect, Lawrence Reed, had repeatedly left home without permission, yet they took no action to bring him back.

We also determined that a man recently charged with shooting another man on the Red Line was also on the chief judge's monitoring program.

On December 1, the very day that Judge Peter Gonzalez refused to detain Marlon Miller, a new chief judge took office in Cook County. In his first public policy announcement the next day, Chief Judge Charles Beach II ordered the immediate, comprehensive review of the court's electronic monitoring system.

[Editor: See also, "Name 'em and shame 'em: YOU can help judges make the right rulings under 'No Cash Bail' on page 16.]

Are you setting a lead bullet on the case with your bare hands?

Solution: Again, try to wear gloves or, at least, wash your hands. If you are not loading jacketed bullets, consider powder coated or moly-coated projectiles. (These projectiles are considerations for gunshot residue as well.)

Indoor shooting: Probably the greatest exposure source for non-reloaders. Many of my "high score" colleagues got much of their contamination from indoor competition shooting. We often stress continual practice to hone marksmanship skills, and most city-folk outside of Chicago (America's largest outdoor shooting range) have few options but to visit an indoor range. Yeah, it's kind of a catch-22 situation.

My colleagues shoot indoor competitions down range of the established firing line. They tromp through huge amounts of lead dust and particulate splatter from the backstop and the back-splatter not captured by the bullet trap. They shoot closer to the backstop exposing themselves to even more back-splatter.

Solutions: Well, I don't have many. Indoor competition shooters; set aside a dedicated pair of indoor range shoes. Transport them in a plastic bag. Change clothes after the match. Shower when you get home after washing your hands with cold water. Assess your risk, choose according to your priorities.

As for the occasional shooter who rents an indoor lane, use common sense and carefully wash your hands and then face with cold water to wash away the bulk of the lead from

your skin. Don't eat while shooting. Don't have any open containers of liquids, even on an outdoor range.

Other don'ts: Don't shoot or handle cases while pregnant. Don't wash your hands with warm or hot water as this will opens your skin pores allowing lead to penetrate through the skin into your body. Minimize time your kids handle spent cases, loaded ammo or dirty guns. Make darn sure kids wash carefully with soap and cold water after handling guns/ammo/cases/supplies. Lastly, gents, if you've gotta pee, wash your hands first.

I'd hate to see my comments become detrimental to the patronage of an indoor range because I believe that unless you do dumb things as an occasional indoor range user, it is safe.

Finally, buy some heavy metal disposable wipes: Consider purchasing a container for your reloading bench, range bag, or gun cart. They are not cheap, 150 wipes cost about \$22. Let's face it, I am not going to start shooting with nitrile gloves when it's 95 degrees in the shade. I still need to handle my contaminated reloads in preparation for each stage, or even practice. These wipes serve as a backup to when you forget to take precautions as well as you should or would like to do.

I'm not trying to wave a haughty wagging finger at my readers as result of my own complacent behavior. Health choices are still an individual decision. If I have brought into your consciousness some considerations that you had not pondered to help you reduce your lead in your life, then I have succeeded in my intended task. It all starts with a base-line blood test.

Calendar



GUN SHOWS...

January 2026

January 24-25: Belleville Gun & Knife Show, Belle-Clair Fairgrounds, Belleville, IL. Pope Creek Shows. Mark Craft 309 582-6268. Jan 24 & 25: Sauk Trail Gun Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton, IL. Dan Fritz 309 689-1934.

February

February 7 & 8: Bloomington Gun & Knife Show. Interstate Center. Bloomington, IL. Pope Creek Shows. Mark Craft 309 582-6268. February 14 & 15: Central IL Gun Collectors New Berlin. Sangamon County Fairgrounds, New Berlin, IL. Patrick Keen oldcarbines@ gmail.com

March

March 7 & 8: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike

March 28 & 29: Belleville Gun & Knife Show, Belle-Clair Fairgrounds, Belleville, IL Pope Creek Shows. Mark Craft 309 582-6268. March 28 & 29: Sauk Trail Gun Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton, IL. Dan Fritz 309 689-1934.

April 18: National Civil War & Collector Arms Show. DuPage Co. Fairgrounds. Wheaton IL. Irene Zurko (715) 526-9769.

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

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 fxrt1984@ 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. **December 30 (?):** USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms

January 6: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)

January 13: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms

January 20: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)

January 27: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms February 3: Prairie State Tactical - Pana

(Locked and Loaded)

February 10: USPSA Night at Effingham Ac-

curacy Firearms

February 17: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded) For more info, visit prairiestatetactical.com.



Jan 24: Southern IL Regional, Effingham Jan 31: Land of Lincoln, East Peoria Feb 7: Carroll County, Thomson

Feb 21: Illinois Valley, Mendota Feb 26: Salt Kettle, Westville

Mar 7: Madison County, Collinsville Mar 12: South Eastern IL, Olney Mar 14: Shoal Creek, Greenville Mar 14: Northwestern IL, Freeport

Mar 21: Macoupin Co. Patriots, Stanton Mar 26: Little Egypt, Marion
Mar 28: Perry Randolph, Steeleville Mar 28: Kishwaukee Valley, DeKalb

For more info, visit FriendsofNRA.org.

The Armed Women of America



Visit ArmedWomen.org to find a local chapter.



When I became a man I put away childish things

(The Lawdog Files) - As I drink my morning coffee today, I learn that Australia — a safety utopia ever since they got rid of all those nasty guns — has been the scene of a mass shooting at a Jewish religious celebration

Paul the Apostle, in a letter to the Corinthians. wrote:

"When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things."

Children have the luxury of childish thinking. "If 'x' then 'y'"; no "unintended con-sequences", no "second order effects", or "third order effects". To children good intentions yield good results, the world can be perfect, and dreams can be realized with little effort.

As adults, we are supposed to put this thinking aside. The world is messy, and will never come close to touching the hem of the garment of "perfection"; we should understand that most of the time "good enough" is the best we can hope for — and damned difficult to get that far — and that the best of intentions can result in catastrophe. Adults know that the second- and third-order outcomes of the noblest ideas are frequently reprehensible, sordid, or detestable.

The idea of gun control is an example of childish thinking. There is a Bad Effect. If we just do This One Thing, then Pixies! Unicorn Poop! All Will Be OK!

Taking guns away from the good people has absolutely no effect on the evil people. Adults understand this; but children do not.

If the initial reports are correct the terror attack on the beach in Australia was stopped when an unarmed bystander rushed one of the critters, took the gun away, and turned it on the other bastard.

Eleven people died before that hero got the gun away and did the needful on at least one of the terrorists. How many would have died waiting for Australia's version of SWAT to show up?

How many fewer would have died if one or more — of the attendees had been able to draw their own weapon?

Governments have been experimenting with national-level gun control for almost a hundred years. National-level gun control is a simple idea for a complex problem, and is the benchmark for childish thinking. It doesn't work, it never works, and it's time to stop thinking like children and try something else.







Advertising Opportunities

GSL currently prints about **20,150 copies** of *GunNews*, distributed primarily in Illinois to members and select distribution sites. We have members in 39+ states.

Description Full page Half page vertical Half page horizontal	Dimensions 10.375"x12.375" 5" x 12.375" 10.375" x 6"	Single \$250 \$150 \$150	4+ \$200 \$125 \$125	Annual \$150 \$100 \$100	Total annual \$1800 \$1200 \$1200
Quarter page vertical Quarter page horizontal	5" x 6" 10.375" x 3" 2.5" x 6"	\$100 \$100 \$100 \$65	\$80 \$80 \$50	\$65 \$65 \$40	\$780 \$780 \$480
Eighth page vertical Eighth page horizontal Sixteenth page vertical Sixteenth page horizontal	5" x 3" 2.5" x 3"	\$65 \$65 \$40 \$40	\$50 \$50 \$35 \$35	\$40 \$40 \$25 \$25	\$480 \$300 \$300

Ad Submission Information

Email ads to jboch@gunssavelife.com or mail on media to GunNews, PO Box 51, Savoy, IL 61874. For payment and scheduling, email jboch@gunssavelife.com.

Guaranteed full-color ad placement is twice the rate price with limited availability. Please inquire for availability. Submit ads in .pdf format, with at least 300dpi resolution. See your application for help / instructions.

Advertising deadline: Please submit advertising by the SECOND TUESDAY of the month for the following month's issue. For instance, submit by the second Tuesday in March for inclusion in the April issue.

Gun, Crime & Freedom News





Can you spell dystopian hellhole?

IT consultant arrested after posing with gun on LinkedIn

Formerly Great Britain (UK Telegraph) - An IT consultant was arrested by police in Britain after he posted a picture online of himself posing with a gun in the US.

Jon Richelieu-Booth said he was shocked by the "Orwellian" decision by West Yorkshire Police (WYP) to prosecute him over the social media post.



J6 bomber didn't fit the political/media narrative by Benny Johnson

 (\dot{X}) - The January 6th pipe bomber terrorist was...

- a young black guy
- radical anti-Trump activist
- sued Trump & ICE & DHS
- extreme racial justice advocate
- works at his family bail bonds company that frees criminal aliens from ICE custody

Yeah, this explains exactly why the FBI & DOJ could not "find" this guy for 4 years. The Biden FBI had mountains of evidence against Brian Cole. Receipts, cell data, license plate, photos and videos of the crime. They knew exactly who did it!

But Brian's profile destroys their entire 'MAGA white supremacist insurrection bomber' narrative in one blow.

The FBI didn't "fail" to catch him. Leftists protected their own. This is the biggest FBI cover-up scandal in history. What a nightmare...



Illinois will no doubt jump on board, right?

Coming to a school near you: A federally-funded K-12 2A curriculum

(Second Amendment Foundation/Shooting News Weekly) - All eyes are turning toward the University of Wyoming, which recently received nearly \$1 million in federal dollars to create Second Amendment curriculum for high school students that "highlights ongoing debates about firearms education in American schools and the federal government's role in shaping how constitutional issues are taught," according to a UW press release.

The U.S. Department of Education awarded a \$908,991 grant to the college this year to develop what university officials have promised would be "historically grounded school curriculum on the Second Amendment."



DOJ's Civil Rights Division head

Harmeet Dhillon talks the talk about gun rights

(X) - "Our civil rights do not defend themselves, and I can promise you that protecting the American people's Second Amendment rights is a TOP priority of the US Department of Justice and its Civil Rights Division"



'Mayor Pete' Buttigleg less popular than the Klan among blacks

(Mediaite) - Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg is less popular among black voters than former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke was in 2016, according to a new poll amplified on social media. Drug-addled son under arrest... if he only had a gun...

Rob Reiner, wife dead after robbery in Brentwood home

LA (GSL/SNW) - Rob Reiner, a giant in the land of liberal "activism," spent his whole life attacking gun rights for the little people. He railed against the NRA, and ignored gang violence while telling us all about so-called "gun violence." What's more, there wasn't a gun he didn't support banning.



Rob Reiner. How's that "hands up" surrender position work for you, buddy?

While most people put away that childish

thinking about guns (*if we only banned guns, crime would plummet!*) when they reach maturity, Rob Reiner didn't. The woke mind virus wouldn't let him. As such, when one or more armed robbers showed up on his doorstep in his tony Brentwood neighborhood, he didn't have anything except a harsh word to answer that big blade.

When the slashing and stabbing was over, Reiner and his wife lay dead in their respective pools of blood.

And now LAPD's robbery division is investigating their homicide. Meanwhile, all their lefty friends are lamenting the "great loss"

But if Rob, aka "Meathead" from his All in the Family days, had not been a meathead, but instead embraced his God-given Second Amendment right, he might still be with us. But alas he's not.



Philly 'Thoroughbred Thieves' picked wrong county & wrong state to loot from a FL Dick's

Polk County, FL (UK Daily Mail) - A gang of Philadelphia teenagers accused of robbing a Dick's Sporting Goods store in Florida while attending a football tournament have been named and shamed by a no-nonsense sheriff

Members of the eight-strong mob were arrested and hit with felony charges after their alleged December 6 theft spree - something they may not have expected in their Pennsylvania home city, whose district attorney is a notoriously woke prosecutor called Larry Krasner.

The teenagers are members of the United Thoroughbreds team from Philadelphia and were in Davenport to face the Coco Tigers team for the Prolifix Sportz National Championship

Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd mocked the gang at a press conference on Monday, saying their alleged spree cost their team the championship game after their arrests meant they missed the showdown.

'I don't know if these were starters or not, but we were finishers,' Judd said...

All eight were taken to a juvenile detention center in Florida and now face two felonies each - retail theft over \$750 and conspiracy to commit retail theft.

Although they were released from custody, the teenagers will be required to go back to the state to face charges.



Tricia McLaughlin.

Twin morons nabbed for death threats against ICE

(DCNF) - The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the arrest of two New Jersey men Tuesday who allegedly threatened to torture and murder assistant secretary of Homeland Security for public affairs Tricia McLaughlin.

Authorities charged Ricardo Antonio Roman-Flores and Emilio Roman-Flores over posts on social media that declared their intentions to shoot United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents on sight and to hang McLaughlin, according to a Tuesday release by DHS.



Tashella Sheri Amore Dickerson.

OKC Black Lives Matter leader indicted

Oklahoma City (ABC News) -- A federal grand jury indicted the leader of the Black Lives Matter movement in Oklahoma City over allegations that millions of dollars in grant funds were improperly spent on international trips, groceries and personal real estate, prosecutors announced Thursday.

Tashella Sheri Amore Dickerson, 52, was indicted earlier this month on 20 counts of wire fraud and five counts of money laundering, court records show.



They pissed off the wrong daddy!

Father of slain 22-year-old wants federal prosecutors to handle daughter's murder case

(South Carolina Daily Gazette) - "You pissed off the wrong daddy!"

Stephen Federico tore into what he says are systemic failures after his 22-year-old daughter, Logan, was shot and killed in a South Carolina home invasion by a career criminal with 39 arrests and 25 felonies.

"Bang! Dead. Gone. Why? Because Alexander Devante Dickey — who was arrested 39 Goddamn times, 25 felonies — was on the street.

"My daughter was forced on her knees with her hands over her head, begging for her life, begging for her hero — her father, me — that couldn't be there. She was 5-foot-3, she weighed 115 pounds. My daughter wanted to be a teacher. She finally figured it out two weeks before she was executed.

"And you will not forget her. I promise you, you will be sick and tired of my face and my voice until this gets fixed. I will fight until my last breath for my daughter.

"What y'all did, you wake up a beast — and you pissed off the wrong daddy. You need to fight for the rest of our children — the rest of the innocents — and stop protecting the people that keep taking them from us."







GunNews Magazine - 24 - January 2026

BE A GOOD FRIEND: Sign up a friend for only \$20 more

Renew or sign up for a new membership in Guns Save Life, and you can sign up a friend for an annual membership for only \$20 more! If you sign up for multiple years, you can sign up multiple friends, too. Share the love!



Join the Guns Save Life family today!

Membership in GSL is just \$40 annually and that allows us to continue our work at the local and state level defending your right to defend yourself. Membership has its privileges as well!

- Get GunNews delivered to your door every month.
- · Stay up-to-date on the latest news & information
- Learn strategies & tactics to keep your family safe
- Discounts with some legal coverage providers
- Pride of ownership in our famous highway signs Yes, you may call them "your own" when telling friends about them.
- · 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 HEREI

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

Name:					
Addre	ss:				
City, S	tate and Zip:				
Phone	: E	Email:			
	(for urgent alerts only)	We need your email to allow you access to Members' Only content on the GunsSaveLife.com website.			
	o \$120 - Three-year n o \$60 - Sign up three o \$50 - Family memb o \$150 - Family mem o \$50 - Business men o \$1000 - Life member Total enclosed. Is s form and payment (a	nd (with regular annual membership or renewal) nembership / Renewal friends (with a three-year membership/renewal) ership bership three-year mbership ership			

Contributions or gifts to Guns Save Life are not deductible as charitable

Savoy, IL 61874

contributions for federal income tax purposes.