

**WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT
TO DEFEND YOURSELF.**

COMPLIMENTARY. TAKE ONE.

GUNNEWS

CELEBRATING OUR
30th
ANNIVERSARY



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE, INC.

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2023

AFFILIATED WITH JPFO, CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES AND OTHERS



HB-5855: MAKING YOU A FELON

- All magazines capable of holding over 10 rounds would be banned. Got two or more? HB-5855 will make you a Class 2 felon...
- Would ban most popular semi-auto rifles & many shotguns, handguns too.
- Makes revolvers great again. You could buy popular defensive semi-auto handguns, but you won't have (legal) magazines to feed them.
- Bill would also prevent anyone under age 21 from owning, possessing or using firearms outside of military service or hunting.
- Would revoke FOID cards for all existing gun owners under age 21.
- Would ban .50 caliber rifles and ammunition.
- Would ban *any* modifications (like forced-reset triggers or binary triggers) which speed up the rate of fire.
- And *much* more.

See our coverage on page 8. See our change in lobbying strategy on page 16. We need your support to get proven results fighting back in court.

MEETING UPDATES FOR JANUARY

- Our Sangamon County meeting will return to SCHEELS in Springfield and take place on Monday, January 9th because of the New Year's Day holiday.
- Our LaSalle County meeting: **No January meeting.** We'll be back in February at Jamie's Outpost in Utica.
- Our Northwest Chicagoland chapter will meet on the Second Wednesday at the Golden Corral in Arlington Heights.
- Our Chicagoland meeting will return on Sunday, Jan. 29th.

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January 2023

- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **January 9**, February 6
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **January 3**, February 7
Pontiac Sportsman's Club, 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **January 4**, February 1
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **January 5**, February 2
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 W. Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
- **Champaign County:** Second Tuesday: **January 10**, February 14
KC Hall, 1001 N. Ohio St., Rantoul
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **January 11**, February 8
Golden Corral, 445 E. Palatine Road, Arlington Heights
- **Charleston:** Second Thursday: **January 12**, February 9
U Hotel Conference Center, 920 West Lincoln Ave, Charleston
- **LaSalle County:** Second Thursday: **No January meeting, Feb. 9**
Jamie's Outpost, 602 Clark St. Utica
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: **No December meeting. January 29**
American Legion Post 1198, 1631 Western Ave. Chicago Heights
Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.

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 GSL meetings across Illinois

History came to life at the Sangamon County GSL meeting in December!



Mike George, proprietor of the Air Combat Museum, brings history to life talking about the World War II-era fighters and other aircraft present. Unlike most museums, these birds are all air-worthy and flown on a regular basis.



GSL President Rich Goodall sells tickets at the Air Combat Museum in Springfield where we held our meeting. That's a Corsair F4U in the background. Go visit the museum, folks. Take your kids/grandkids with you.



Melissa Harden addresses the audience in Charleston about avoiding road rage.



It wasn't just the planes, but we had a genuine Civil War Colt Model 1862 Police "assault" revolver.



David Winters from Convention of the States in Decatur.



Santa Claus training for his ride through Chicago this year.



Look at that technique. Competitive shooter Jeff Nelson demonstrates minimal wasted movement or time at the Charleston November meeting. It was impressive! Great photo, Mr. Pippin!



State Rep. Brad Halbrook now represents part of the Decatur area.



Rep. Dan Caulkins in Decatur.

CHICAGO INSANITY CONTINUES

And they wonder why they've got a violent crime and gang problem...



Generations of strict gun control...

Chicago year to date

Year To Date
Shot & Killed: 647
Shot & Wounded: 2862
Total Shot: 3509
Total Homicides: 712

Courtesy HeyJackass.com

Few prosecutions of criminals for possession of machine guns, despite full-auto Glock "switches" becoming the newest prestige item for gang members

Single day in one CPD district: 7 full-auto Glocks



Patrick Peterson won the Glock 36. He's pictured with Steve Davis and David Snyder who won the 50/50.



Bob Hurst won in Pontiac!



Tim Weir with Chuck Pine who won the 50/50. A gent from Chicagoland won the Glock .40.



Dick Brandt, left, won the .22s and .50s monthly drawing prize and Calvin Dreger won the 50/50 in Rantoul.



John won it, then JC Nash-land won it at auction.



From left, Tom Zuber, Keith Pippin and Harold Benny from Charleston.

Meeting Summaries start here...

Charleston.

November's Charleston meeting was pushed back beyond our publication date for our last issue. Here's a very condensed summary.

One point of note: Soon, we will offer some informal training opportunities at no charge using SIRT laser training pistols ahead of meetings for those looking to learn new tricks or refine existing skill sets. Just another reason to come early in addition to an affordable meal.

John Boch had family obligations this night, but he did send his updated **Executive Director's Report**.

Jeff Nelson, a very serious competitive shooter, brought in four of his competition pistols. He shared some of his daily dry-fire rituals. Nelson raved about how the drills have made him a very improved shooter and they carry over to improved defensive skills. It is incredible how fast this man is.



He tagged his presentation with a very short, "oh by the way, I am the local **USCCA** representative and will be available to answer questions after the meeting."

Dave Clark shared an update on the progress the **Cumberland County BoomSticks** and **Cumberland County high school** clays team have made this past season. One of last year's seniors is now shooting on a scholarship at one of the southern Illinois universities.

Jim Cox won the 50/50 and Gail Hixon won the 1000-plus rounds of AR-15 ammo. Congrats to them both.

Chicagoland.

Because the last Sundays are close to the two big holidays, we cancelled the meetings. We'll return on the last Sunday in January. **Nationally-recognized instructor Brian Smith** will join us as our main speaker. Don't miss this meeting!

Peoria.

Steve Davis called the meeting to order. Our Regional Director Richard Parks is recovering from surgery and we hope to see him back in January.



GSL President Steve Davis.

Steve also mentioned how we've been meeting for ten years in Peoria and **Alan and Wanda Schoch** have helped us by selling tickets for many of those years. They've "retired" and

we're looking for a couple of volunteers (or a volunteer couple) to help us in that capacity.

John Boch brought folks up to speed with his **Executive Director's report**.



Main speaker Kevin Neblock.

Kevin Neblock, of **K&S Gunsmithing**, spoke to the audience. He's one of just a handful of experienced gunsmiths doing custom work in our state. In fact, he's a member of the American Pistolsmith's Guild (he's now the group's secretary) and does some very high-end custom work in addition to more basic stuff like action jobs, night sights and repairs.

He has a whole lot of knowledge and talents, and decades of gunsmithing experience. He told some stories and made the audience laugh and groan. If you're looking for an experienced gunsmith for repairs, improvements or custom work, you can find him at ksgunsmithing.com or call him at 309 251-7214.

Steve Davis then introduced **Terry Zeiters** as "the best rifle shooter in the room." And that's in a room with some pretty distinguished riflemen (and women).



A reproduction French 1766 Charleville Infantry Musket took center state as our Tech Time in Peoria.

Terry showed off a reproduction of the **Charleville Infantry Musket of 1766**. It saw a lot of service on the American side during the Revolutionary War. It had a .69 caliber bore out of a 44 3/4" barrel. The one ounce .65 caliber projectile leaves the muzzle at about 900-1000fps, enough to wreck someone's day. It weighs about the same as an M1 Garand, but doesn't fire nearly as quickly.

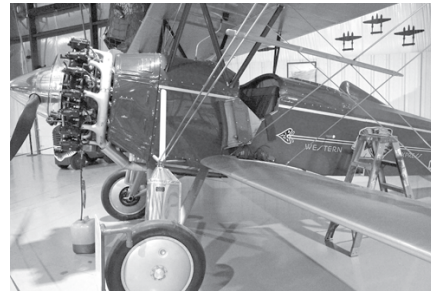
The musket comes undrilled, so it can be shipped right to your door. Think of it as a 99.9% complete "ghost gun" (don't tell the governor!) that only requires drilling a vent hole to shoot. The going rate to order this for your home? About \$700 with shipping. It's super sweet and impressive in many ways.

Patrick Peterson won the **Glock 36 .45 Auto** and **David Snyder** won the 50/50 and donated it back to GSL. Thank you sir and congratulations!

Sangamon County.

Tim Weir and **Rich Goodall** tag-teamed the emcee duties for the night in one of our most memorable meetings in thirty years. History came to life as we met in the aircraft hangar of the **Air Combat Museum in Springfield**, right next to several flying specimens from World War II and earlier, including a P-51 Mustang and a Corsair F4U. We thanked **Mike George** for making the facility available to us for a very awesome meeting.

In his opening remarks, Tim noted how one of our members who drives for FedEx told us how the **IRS office in Springfield** took delivery of 14,000 pounds of Winchester 5.56 ammunition. We estimated that represented about 25,000 rounds. Are they expecting a lot of angry taxpayers?



John Boch shared an update on Springfield and more as part of his **Executive Director's Report** before taking questions.

Our main speaker for the night brought history to life talking about World War II aircraft along with some earlier ones. Surrounded by me-

ticulously maintained flying specimens from the Second World War, **Mike George** shared all about the planes, their performance and their quirks... Including the tendency for one to flip over while on the ground or stall in the air. Their instability in the air made them better fighters though.

Alongside the aircraft sat two street-legal armored cars, a half-track and a Saladin British Scout car. George laughed about taking those out tooling around town getting all sorts of looks. Especially the Scout car with the non-firing machinegun on top.

Mike explained how we were losing the war in 1943 until the Doolittle raid on Tokyo began to turn the tide. In the end, we won in Europe at the cost of 65,000 planes where the Germans lost 95,000 aircraft. The P51 Mustang outflow most of the German fighters and helped keep the German fighters off our bombers. Ultimately the P51 helped turn the war by providing air superiority in 1944.

Friends, come back with your kids and grandkids and tour this facility while it's available. Air Combat Museum, 835 Airport Road, Springfield.

For **Tech Time**, we had a piece of history in a **Colt 1862 Police revolver**. Not a repro, this .36 caliber relic also had the leather issue holster which makes it an ultra-rare find.

The family found it, along with 28 letters the owner sent home during the Civil War. Among

Continued on page 18.

Can't make it to a meeting? Still want to win a gun?
Tickets are available!



You can't make it to a meeting, but you want a chance to win a gun for as little as \$4? Here's your chance! And yes, we've had several mail-in ticket winners in the past few months.

Indicate how many tickets you want for the gun you want (and city of drawing). Tickets are \$5 or 5 for \$20. Or 25 (plus a bonus) for \$100.

GSL's Treasurer Joanne Chandler will electronically notify the Regional Directors of the mail-in tickets sold for their meetings so they can get them into the drawing. If you're late, we'll return your check.

**Attn: Drawings
Guns Save Life
PO Box 8
Clinton, IL 61727**

GSL Monthly Gun Lineup!

LaSalle County Feb.: Ruger Mark IV target pistol (.22)

Plus we'll auction off the ammo donated back to GSL!



Northwest Chicagoland (formerly Lake Co.): TBA

Peoria January: TBA

**Pontiac Jan.: The old FBI AMMO!
200 rounds .45 auto + 750 rounds .38 Special**

**Decatur January: Sig P322
Decatur February: Mantis X-10 Elite** donated by the Bullet Trap in Macon + 9mm ammo!

**Charleston Jan.: Mossberg Maverick 88 12 ga. 28" field grade
Charleston Feb.: EAA Witness .40 cal**

Sangamon Jan: Cabela's 1858 New Model Army Steel .44 (with both a black powder and a .45ACP cylinder)
Sangamon Jan: Henry Goldenboy .357 Magnum levergun (awesome!)

Rantoul January: Ruger SR9 9mm

Executive Director's Report

HB-5855: We will not kneel to anyone

by John Boch

GSL Executive Director

The Illinois General Assembly will likely pass HB-5855, a Draconian gun control measure. If signed into law, it will make the vast majority of Illinois gun owners felons.

How so? There are plenty of ways, but the most obvious: if you have two or more magazines that hold over ten rounds.

Meanwhile, on the streets of Chicago and other cities in Illinois, the Glock "switch" has become the "must have" prestige item for gang members. It turns the pistol into a genuine machinegun. Even worse for the good guys, it's not like they're hard to get. You can print them on a 3-D printer.



We can't recall seeing the Soros-funded Cook County State's Attorney charging any gangsters with possession of these machineguns even when Chicago police recover switch-equipped Glocks on a daily basis. One district recently showed off seven it confiscated in a single day.

If only the anti-gun "legislators" from Chicago cared about as much about criminalizing criminals instead of law-abiding gun owners, our state would become a lot safer for all of us.

But back to House Bill 5855... What are we going to do about it? **We're going to push their "stuff" in,** that's what. And we're going to do it in a court of law.



US Supreme Court building.

Under the *Bruen* decision, modern gun control measures must be historically analogous to *common* gun control regulations on the books in 1791.

For instance, how many states had FOIA cards in 1791? (Our lawsuit challenging the FOIA Act will likely get an initial ruling later this month or in January.)

Prohibitions on whole categories of firearms runs not only afoul of the *Bruen* decision, but of pre-*Bruen* precedent from the Illinois Supreme Court. The "Supremes" in Springfield ruled in 2019 in *People v. Webb* that the state cannot ban a whole category of weapons under the *Heller* and *McDonald* SCOTUS decisions.

And now, we have a MUCH stronger *Bruen* precedent from the US Supreme Court. From the *Harvard Journal of Public Policy*:

Bruen's embrace of the text-and-history test provides clear guideposts for how the constitutionality of these types of bans must now be assessed. In short, there is zero historical support from the Founding—or even the Reconstruction era—for banning commonly possessed arms; under the Bruen test, that is the end of the matter.

Bruen is so profound, in fact, that the chief justice of the US Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals (which covers part of Illinois) said the Second Amendment has gone from a second-class right to a supercharged right.

Clearly the anti-gun political leadership in Illinois doesn't give a damn about Supreme Court precedent - either Illinois or at the federal level. J.B. Pritzker wants this law as one of the centerpieces of his upcoming 2023 announcement that he's running for President.



Making good people helpless won't make bad people harmless.

Pritzker's reportedly bankrolling - to the tune of millions - the public relations push by a new non-profit perversely named "Protect Illinois Communities." Ol' JB hired a politically-connected, high dollar lobbyist and crisis management specialist to sell the unconstitutional gun control measure using fears and emotions.

At this writing, Pritzker and his friends easily have the votes to pass 5855 with a simple majority of both houses after January 1. It has an immediate

effective date, so when Pritzker's pen hits the paper, the bulk of Illinois gun owners instantly become felons. We expect that to happen in mid-January-ish.

To stop this authoritarian stunt, Guns Save Life has joined a coalition of political, industry and advocacy groups, along with the state's biggest gun range to line up competent (key word) local counsel in Illinois to file constitutional challenges to 5855.

Not only that, but we (as the coalition) have reached out to other key groups and stakeholders to work cooperatively with them to coordinate our attacks, minimize duplicative filings and share the load and costs of filing lawsuits.

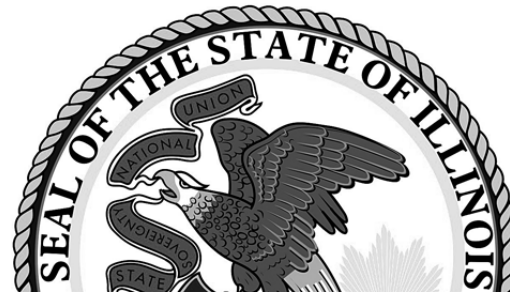
The tentative plan is to file lawsuits in a multi-prong attack over days or weeks following enactment to keep the pressure up. We expect we'll get a temporary restraining order to block enforcement of the new law within a few weeks at most. Once the TRO is in place, we can litigate it and get a permanent injunction.

But these lawsuits will require donations to fuel them. The firms we're working with have pledged discounted hourly rates. Experts like Chuck Michele from California, who successfully got Cali's magazine ban overturned, and then their semi-auto ban overturned, tell us to expect to spend low six-figures per case. Fortunately, we have *Bruen*, so we're not creating (and paying for) new precedent.

In the meantime, we won't be negotiating with the sponsors of 5855 and we probably won't play nicely with anyone who undercuts Land of Lincoln gun owners by negotiating just to have a "seat at the table." We will not give the gun control fanatics a roadmap on how to make a bad bill better.

Not only that, but we encourage individuals not to pick the bill apart in social media posts, or in letters to legislators or newspaper editorial pages. Again, don't give gun control jihadists a roadmap to pass a more palatable bill.

I assure you, we're not kneeling to these would-be tyrants. And you shouldn't either.



Last minute update on 5855.

by John Boch

In the first couple of weeks of December, passage of the HB-5855 gun control bill looked dead-nuts certain. Just to make sure, JB Pritzker greased the skids. He reportedly spent millions of dollars with a PR firm to "sell" the bill to the public and legislators using mostly emotions and a little fear sprinkled on top.

Then the well-oiled machine developed a misfire.

So what gives? Things hit a big pothole at the end of the second public hearing in Chicago. A black man, living on the edge of Harvey, lambasted the committee members in general and the Black Caucus members in particular for proposing a bill that would take away his ability to defend himself and his two daughters. He tore into the House members there and publicly humili-

ated them.

He contrasted the reaction to a bunch of rich white people getting slaughtered in Highland Park with how these same politicians have done *nothing* to end the slaughter of "black and brown" people every week in Chicago - for decades.

That man's testimony stung the Black Caucus members in particular.

Suddenly, the "rah rah" for gun control turned into concerns that "over-policed communities" would suffer from this effort to "criminalize black and brown communities."

The first few days in January will tell the tale. Ordinarily I'd put my money on JB Pritzker, but I'm still learning. More experienced people think there's a chance the Black Caucus

might defect and oppose the bill. We'll see.

Given the potential that the vast majority of gun owners will become felons if this passes, we're working to have our legal challenges ready in January. Counting on hope is a poor strategy... and a poor substitute for preparedness.

If passage doesn't happen in the lame duck session, rest assured it will return in the spring for votes. Given how the new class of legislators will lean even further left, it will pass.

The upside for Governor Pritzker: if it doesn't happen in January is that he'll be able to score media coverage by signing the bill on or near the anniversary of the Highland Park massacre. Perfect timing for his Presidential campaign's launch.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

DeWitt County Sportsmans Club

Clinton, IL



Breakfast! First & third Sundays at 8:30am!
No breakfast on New Year's Day...

>>>> Memberships Available. <<<<

Come join a growing, ever-improving club, with dual, 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 two (soon to be three) ranges, clubhouse, a **real publicly accessible restroom** and more. **Dues are currently \$60/year plus two work days (\$45 each on deposit, prepayment required). Over 65 dues are \$45 and no workdays.**

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





Iroquois County board says “NO” to enforcing HB-5855

(Kankakee Times) - In the face of HB5855, billed by Democrats as Protect Illinois Communities Act, Iroquois County has re-dedicated itself to constitutional gun rights.

If passed, HB5855 would be the most restrictive gun control law in the nation, according to proponents and critics alike...

Iroquois County was one of the original sanctuary counties for gun owners. Now over 60% of Illinois counties are considered sanctuary counties.

Todd Vandermyde has been reporting on HB5855 from his Freedom's Steel YouTube channel. He (discussed) Iroquois County's resolution.



Todd Vandermyde.

“So what does that mean?” Vandermyde said. “Well, the sheriff's department is not going to be going out there and aiding the state police or any other agency in enforcement measures against this or any similar type legislation. The way this resolution reads it doesn't look like the State's Attorney's office is going to be able to expend any funds in the prosecution of anybody under House Bill 5855 should it become law.”



Maxon's shut out of building second store & range in Mundelein

Mundelein, IL (Daily Herald) - Citing recent mass shootings, a suburban real estate developer has scuttled a controversial plan to build a gun store and shooting range in Mundelein...

Maxon Shooter's Supplies, which operates in Des Plaines, wanted to build a second store on vacant land at 320 Townline Road. The site is just west of a Salvation Army store and donation center and near an indoor baseball training facility.

Little tyrants aspire to become big tyrants

Now they're coming for your First Amendment rights too

(Wirepoints) - Anything political said or written maliciously that exposes somebody to “contempt, ridicule or obloquy” would be criminalized, along with lots of other speech, under a new bill pending in the Illinois General Assembly.



Bill sponsor, Rep. Denyse Wang Stoneback (D-Skokie)

So, let's set the appropriate tone for this column at the outset: Contempt, ridicule and obloquy should be heaped on the sponsor of this bill and anybody with a similar frame of mind. In the massive assault on free speech being waged by today's left, few things are as terrifying and flat out absurd as this bill.

[T]he greatest weapon for all of us: free speech.



RE-IMAGINING CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Newly-paroled killer shoots 3 execution-style in Chicago

Chicago (GSL/TTAG) - In the Land of Lincoln, prison sentences are mere suggestions. They're kinda like dog years, only in reverse. Take the case of Samuel Parsons-Salas, released on parole early for a double-fatal home invasion in 2009. Less than three months out of lockup, he shot four this past weekend, killing three execution-style in Mayor Lori Lightfoot's mostly peaceful city. The fourth victim is in critical condition.

Soft-on-crime prosecutors dropped not one, not two, but ten murder counts in that 2009 case in return for a plea bargain deal. In what may be the mother of all sweet-heart plea deals, prosecutors dropped a total of thirty felony charges in the case to get a mere eight years in prison for a guy who reportedly killed two in a deadly home invasion.

Gun control and background checks aren't saving lives in Chicago...

IL FOID holders the most background checked people in the nation

(The Center Square) – Illinois is on pace to lead the nation again this year for the number of firearm background checks and one legal expert expects the numbers will only increase.

FBI National Instant Criminal System firearm background check data by state shows Illinois leading the nation with nearly 4 million firearm background checks through

November. That's more than 300,000 more than second place Kentucky at 3.6 million checks.

For years, Illinois has led the country in checks, mainly because of the additional checks conducted through the state's Firearm Owner's Identification Card system.

U.S. Law Shield President Kirk Evans said while the

number of checks doesn't necessarily equate to the number of guns being purchased, people buy more guns when there's uncertainty.

“It's usually during overall periods of uncertainty, so during COVID, the George Floyd riots,” Evans told The Center Square.

Father of accused Illinois killer faces charges in July 4 parade mass murder for sponsoring FOID

Waukegan, IL (Reuters) - An Illinois prosecutor has filed felony charges against the father of the man accused of opening fire on a crowd watching a July Fourth parade in Chicago's Highland Park suburb five months ago, killing seven people and injuring dozens.

The father, Robert Crimo Jr., turned himself in to police on Friday under an arrest warrant charging him with seven counts of reckless conduct related to helping his son to obtain a state firearms

license in 2019.

Lake County State's Attorney Eric Rinehart said the elder Crimo was criminally reckless when he sponsored his son's application for a firearm owner identification (FOID) card, despite knowing his son was unfit to own a gun.

“He knew what he knew and he signed the form anyway,” Rinehart told a news conference. “This was criminally reckless and a contributing cause to the bodily harm suffered by victims on July

Fourth.”

Rinehart declined to specify what knowledge the father had that should have dissuaded him from sponsoring his son's application.

Authorities have previously acknowledged the accused gunman, [scumbag's name redacted], applied for a FOID card at age 19 in December 2019, three months after police were called to his home for a report that he had threatened to kill family members.

**Firearms
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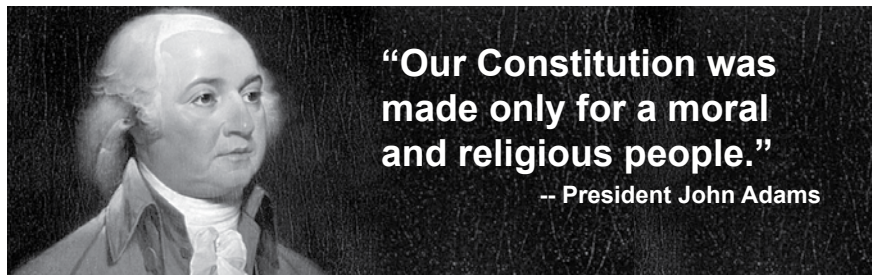
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Call for Dates and Availability
Range Fees Included
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Country Character



How long must this continue?

by Justin Thyme, a GSL member

Well, we made it through 2022 to a brand new year. And guess what? The same old Illinois shenanigans await us, including stomping on citizens' rights. Evidently, the voters are not going to hold the legislators accountable to the constitution.

Will the courts? Stick around and find out. Or vote with your feet. (U Haul and pickup truck).

The Illinois tourism slogan "Discover the Magnificent Miles of Illinois" will mean something other than what the state intended as emigrating residents use them to leave for states which promote and defend Constitutional freedoms.

Also, our businesses continue to flee our state. I assure you plenty more want climate change too - as in a better business climate. As the businesses leave, so do jobs.



Members of the Black Caucus react to the passage of the SAFE-T Act.

The SAFE-T Act's "No Cash Bail" provisions take effect January 1. Thanks to the trailer bill amending the worst provisions, it won't be as bad as we feared. At the same time, I wonder if its supporters' intentions were

misunderstood.

But really, what were their intentions? Consider this: they presented the 764-page bill about one hour before calling it for a vote in the middle of the night. There was no time to read it, much less invite comment or analysis from "stakeholders" like prosecutors, defense attorneys, police officers, judges, or the citizenry.

Why, it's almost as if the bill's sponsors feared debate and wanted this mess.

When all but two of our elected state's attorneys oppose the SAFE-T Act, you know it's bad.

As for the sheriffs, almost half have retired since 2018. What do they know?

And now here comes HB-5855. If passed, it will become the next legislative train wreck in our state. 5855's provisions remain obviously offensive to the Constitution. Gun bans, magazine bans, bans on gun ownership for those under 21 and other unconstitutional provisions all make for political theater to distract residents from our state's dysfunctional leadership.

Nevertheless, if signed into law, the bill will make you a felon for possessing two or more magazines over 10 rounds.

Illinois is our home state.

We voted, we fought, was it all for naught? The Democrats maintained their supermajority in the Senate and expanded it by five seats in the House. They can and will do anything they want unless the courts block them. Or until freedom-minded people simply throw in the towel and move.

How long must this continue? Will the people of Illinois ever wake up?

I pray to the Lord everyday for wisdom in what to do.

What is defensive gun use? How often does it occur?

Although definitions of defensive gun use vary, it is generally defined as the use of a firearm to protect and defend one's self, family, others, and/or property against crime or victimization.

Estimates of defensive gun use vary depending on the questions asked, populations studied, timeframe, and other factors related to the design of studies. The report [Priorities for Research to Reduce the Threat of Firearm-Related Violence](#) indicates a range of 60,000 to 2.5 million defensive gun uses each year. ← No more...

Airbrushing 'science' at CDC to fit an agenda... where have we seen that before?

Emails show CDC removed 'Defensive Gun Use' stats after gun control advocates pressured officials in private meeting set up by Dick Durbin

by Stephen Gutowski (The Reload) - The Centers For Disease Control (CDC) deleted a reference to a study it commissioned after a group of gun-control advocates complained it made passing new restrictions more difficult.

spanned months and culminated with a private meeting between CDC officials and three advocates last summer, a collection of emails obtained by The Reload show. Introductions from the White House and Senator Dick Durbin's (D., Ill.) office helped the advocates reach top officials at the agency after their initial attempt to reach out went unanswered. The advocates focused their complaints on the CDC's description of its review of studies that estimated defensive gun uses (DGU) happen between 60,000

and 2.5 million times per year in the United States—attacking criminologist Gary Kleck's work establishing the top end of the range.

"[T]hat 2.5 Million number needs to be killed, buried, dug up, killed again and buried again," Mark Bryant, one of the attendees, wrote to CDC officials after their meeting. "It is highly misleading, is used out of context and I honestly believe it has zero value—even as an outlier point in honest DGU discussions."



The lobbying campaign



BAD GUY PICKED THE WRONG HOUSE: Pro wrestling legend Jim Duggan reveals he detained home intruder at gunpoint, thanks cops for response

Kershaw County, SC (FoxNews) - Jim Duggan is one of the most recognizable names in pro wrestling and earlier this month he needed to put some of those moves to good use when he was faced with an intruder in his South Carolina home.

Duggan, who goes by

"Hacksaw" Jim Duggan in the wrestling world, revealed in an interview with Wrestling Inc. on Friday that his home was broken into on Dec. 8 and that he faced the intruder himself.

The 68-year-old told the wrestling news outlet that a man in his mid-20s entered through his and wife

Debra's front door. Duggan said he took the man down by himself and grabbed his .44 caliber pistol and held the man at gunpoint. The retired wrestler added that he heard more people outside and thought there could be more trouble, so he turned off his Christmas lights and told the man to keep silent.



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In regione caecorum rex est luscus

In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is King

by Desiderius Erasmus, a GSL member



Never dodge jury duty... it's your opportunity to exercise jury nullification against bad laws or bad / political prosecutions

We, the Jury...

So here we are in Illinois with the imminent start of the no-cash bail law, known more formally as the 2021 SAFE-T Act. As with most government initiatives, the only thing we know for sure about the law won't live up to its name and that a whole lot of citizens are increasingly going to be unsafe.

You might feel helpless now, but you, and plenty of other people, can do a lot to minimize the impact of violent thugs being released after being arrested. Here's how.

First, many of these criminals are going right back to their lives of crime, so if you do not own a firearm, you need to buy one or three before January 1, 2023 and get proficient in using them to defend yourself. Smith & Wesson and other manufacturers have recently offered discounts, so even with inflation you can get a good deal on a self-defense weapon. The Bullet Trap in Macon, and many other local dealers, have very capable home defense shotguns well under \$500, some under \$300.

For all you state's attorneys and district attorneys out there; when one of these perps gets shot trying to rob, rape or kill because for whatever reason (or clerical error) they are not in jail awaiting trial, use your prosecutorial discretion and NOT indict that citizen for discharging a firearm inside the city limit or any other little BS charge. But if that does happen, let Guns Save Life and

others know about it. If you know that good citizen, contribute a few dollars to his or her legal defense.

For all you hard-working members of law enforcement, you have a duty to gather evidence, arrest perpetrators, and so forth. Yours is a thankless task, because you have far more cases to investigate than you ever have time for, which is why so many crimes become "cold cases." Therefore, you must choose wisely where to put your effort. Personally, I would want to solve the beating death of a child, or a rape against a young lady, or maybe an elderly person who was crippled over a few dollars in a robbery.

Conversely, I might have to put a different priority for attempting to solve the shooting of a repeat violent offender. Call it efficient time management.

Back to regular citizens. Never, ever, try to avoid jury duty. Because some day you may be on a jury that is hearing a case against a police officer or a case against a citizen defending themselves because of a politically-motivated prosecution.

On the jury, you'll know when you are in the middle of those situations. So here are a few things not to do and one thing to do. Before the trial, never lie to the lawyers or judge when they are interviewing you as a potential juror – known Voir dire. After

Stay up to date! Check in daily for the latest news & information!

Visit GunsSaveLife.com

We have a new website format!

Come visit our new, improved website, GunSaveLife.com.

On it we will keep you informed about the latest on gun control legislation, litigation efforts, news and information.

We post items we don't have room for in *GunNews* as well as entertaining posts from across the nation along with training-related material.

We'll also post changes to meetings because of weather or other unforeseen challenges.

Comments are welcome and encouraged by our readers. The first comment will be held for approval, but after it gets approved (usually happens within hours or perhaps a day at most), future comments will show up in real time.

The website also shows things we simply can't publish in *GunNews*, including videos, audio files, longer stories and documents and additional photographs. Check it out. **GunsSaveLife.com.**



the trial, never talk to the media or anyone else why you voted the way you did; if you do, they may twist your words, or even leak your name. Never try to play Johnnie Cochran and mention the words: "jury nullification." You can get into problems saying those words after a trial where you served in a jury.



In a criminal case, the prosecution bears the burden of proving that the defendant is guilty beyond all reasonable doubt. A civil case, where someone is suing someone else, is different, usually centering on "More likely than not." But they'll tell you all about

that in a civil case. In a criminal case, everyone has their own feeling concerning reasonable doubt; I can tell you what my level is, but I cannot tell you that your level must be the same as mine. It might be easier if in criminal trials the judge would say, "You do not need to be 100% certain that the defendant committed this offense to vote Guilty. Reasonable doubt is less than that, maybe like 90% certain he did it. If that is your standard, and if you think this defendant has about an 85% chance of being guilty, that would be less than your standard, so vote Not Guilty." I have NEVER heard a judge equating reasonable doubt with a number or percentage.

So, if after a Not Guilty verdict, the judge asks me anything, I'm just saying: "The prosecution did not prove their case beyond my reasonable doubt." And if I am pressed by the judge or prosecutor about what that might take, I'm just saying: "I'll know it when I hear or see it." And then I'm not going on late-night TV, but just go back to writing – but not about that trial!

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HB-5855 MAKES YOU A FELON

House Bill 5855, sponsored by Rep. Bob Morgan drops the fascade of "reasonable gun restrictions" and goes directly for a ban on the most popular firearms for self-defense. It also contains a ban on any magazine that can ac-

cept over ten rounds without any grandfather clause.

What's more, with the immediate effective date, once the governor signs the bill, those currently owning two or more magazines will become Class

2 felons instantly. That's the same as for possession of child porn or sex with a minor over age 13. We estimate this bill, if signed, will turn about 1.5 million currently law-abiding residents into felons.

Commonly known provisions and impacts of HB-5855.

HB-5855 has some pretty nasty provisions. Some of the plainly obvious issues:

It bans gun possession, ownership and purchases by those under 21 years of age. Those current FOID holders under age 21 would be revoked by the ISP. Got a youngster who shoots competitively? Tough cookies. Find a new hobby, kids.

It bans all magazines over ten rounds. That means virtually all of the best-selling defensive handguns make you a felon with the two standard capacity mags they shipped with. Merry Christmas.

It bans entire categories of semi-automatic rifles, shotguns and even handguns. What's more, it has an even more expansive list of the guns it would arbitrarily label as verboten to own than earlier proposals. Current owners could register them within 300 days but good luck finding any (legal) magazines to feed them.

Oh yeah, expect sponsors of this bill to file a new bill next year to call in all those registered guns. Public safety, you know.

It bans .50 caliber rifles and even .50 caliber rounds. The cartridges in my curio cabinet will make me a criminal. And for the record, that's the .50 BMG for you wisecracks asking about .50 caliber muzzle loaders, although all

bets are off in future proposals.

There's also some language limiting non-residents to 24 hours in Illinois if they're in possession of these scary guns or magazines. So much for visiting trainers.

Gun stores and sporting goods shops. Gun shops have a whole new set of worries. Specifically about inventory.

Under this bill, once signed into law, they can't sell or even give away these prohibited items to anyone except law enforcement. Sure, gun shops can hold those items in the back room hoping for a court ruling to block enforcement, but even that poses great personal risk to them.

While the local cops, sheriffs and prosecutors (can you spell downstate "sanctuary counties"?) can and probably would turn a blind eye, you can rest assured "Gun Dealer Licensing" investigators with the Illinois State Police won't. Seeing illegal items might earn the dealer substantial fines or even revocation of their gun dealer license, ending their ability to conduct business.



We need your help!

What Guns Save Life is doing about it...

We know we don't have the votes to block HB-5855 from passing the Illinois House or Senate at this time. It's not even close. While we're working to fracture the coalition of Democrat groups pushing this bill, that's a long shot at best. "Hope" is a poor strategy.

If it passes, the majority of FOID holders in our state will become felons the instant Governor Pritzker signs the bill.

Guns Save Life has joined a coalition of groups to seek injunctive relief in federal court if this bill passes into law. Included among the groups are gun rights organizations, licensed gun sellers, lobbyists, law firms specializing in firearm regulations, political organizations and other key players. Also included is the Second Amendment Law Center from California. Through Chuck Michele's law firm in California, the SALC has successfully argued and won lawsuits challenging various California gun control schemes even before the Bruen decision came down from the US Supreme Court. They've been busy, but they're set to help backstop our Illinois legal teams.

We've already identified individual plaintiffs and Illinois law firms to handle the litigation. In fact, our plan is to have a lawsuit ready to go by mid-January. At that point, it will be ready to file within hours of Governor Pritzker signing the measure.

We will need your help though. Yes, the law firms are giving us discounted hourly rates, but this will still cost tens of thousands of dollars for each suit just to get started.

We're not hiring any professional fundraisers to raise the funds needed for these lawsuits.

Instead, we're asking individuals, organizations and businesses to give and give generously to our fight for our very existence as gun owners. Another thought to ponder: The bad guys aren't going to lay down their guns and mend their ways when they hear that good guy gun owners have been stripped of the best and most effective self-defense firearms under the provisions of HB-5855.

Donate today. Don't delay.

Our coalition has an account set up to accept donations for our Illinois legal team at FFL-IL. All donations will be earmarked for legal expenses. Nobody will be buying \$20,000 suits or taking trips to the Bahamas with these monies.

fflil.org/donate

Donations to the FFL-IL legal fund are not tax deductible.

For those seeking tax-deductibility, a donation to the **Second Amendment Law Center** would be very much in order. Those donations will cover the Second Amendment Law Center and Chuck Michele's law firm's assistance backstopping our Illinois legal teams. **All donations from Illinois residents will be earmarked for our litigation here in the Land of Lincoln.**

**2nd Amendment
LAW CENTER**

secure.2alc.org/contribute

Again, the **Second Amendment Law Center** is a 501c3 charity and donations to them are fully tax deductible.

Rest assured we're not going to stop with defeating HB-5855. We anticipate additional gun control measures, equally repugnant to the Second Amendment, to be filed in the new Spring Session.

We will go after those measures as well, and at the same time, we may go after existing gun control laws in Illinois to roll them back too.

If gun control advocates in Illinois aren't careful, they will soon have a lot less gun control than they currently have. And that will just be a cryin' shame.

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Preparedness includes looking out for loved ones after you're gone
Patience in selling a collection will net the most money, by far...

Disposing of Estate Gun Collections

by John Boch

Mark Twain once famously noted that the only certainties in life are death and taxes. And in modern day Illinois, one can add increasing violent crime.

While a few of us might escape becoming the victims of violent crime, we're all going to die someday - some of us sooner than others. Do your loved ones a big favor: help your loved ones identify and value your firearms collection before you die.

Sadly, many people don't know how to make guns safe, much less how to competently appraise values.

Need an example of this? Each day, non-gun people "turn in" unwanted estate guns at police stations across America. Others will take a thousand-dollar gun to a gun "buyback" and get a \$50 gas card or a \$100 debit card for it.

Despite what woke idiots will tell people, ignorance of gun values is not power. It's just ignorance.



In some states like Illinois, there is an additional urgency. Without a Firearms Owners ID card, those handling the estate have just sixty (60) days to either get a FOID card or dispose of all firearms and ammunition in order to comply with the law.

A widow recently called me worried sick about her husband's gun collection. He had amassed about as many guns as SCHEELS and Bass Pro have on display, combined. He had close to a thousand firearms, most new or almost new. Few were "affordable" guns. And he had probably two tons of ammunition and a UPS truckload of spare parts on top of all that.

This seventy-something woman was in real danger of getting robbed and killed when news of her husband's death went public.

The family ultimately took possession of many of the guns, while a bunch went to auction and she sold some to trusted friends. Thank heavens. But her husband didn't do her any favors by putting her at great risk like that.

Make a list.

First and foremost, make a list. And just like Santa, check it twice...

Include the make, model, serial number, approximate resale value, and any accessories that go with said firearm and their respective value as a package. Take pictures too. This also serves as your opportunity to earmark firearms to go to certain individuals as appropriate.

For those with just a few guns, it will be simple affair. For example:

Glock 19, Gen 3 with Trijicon night sights installed in 2018. 9mm. Ser. 046FJB. With about five spare Glock mags. Estimated value \$400-\$500 with the magazines. I'd like this to go to my son Mark.

For others, it may be more complex.

Ruger Precision Rifle. 6.5 Creedmoor caliber. Serial No. 12345A. Estimated value about \$1000. With Vortex Razor 5-20x50 scope (attached and sighted in). Scope serial No. 6789X. Paid \$1700 for scope. Estimated value at least \$1000ish. Rifle with scope, scope mount (\$100), Harris bipod (\$100), Timney trigger upgrade (\$200), three spare magazines and misc. accessories, as is, should bring at least \$2500 with the couple of hundred custom precision hand-loaded rounds of ammunition nearby in ammo cans. Don't recommend parting it out as you'll never sell the small stuff.

You could take five minutes to compile the above information for each gun now for your wife or kids. Or you could get hit by a bus before getting around to it.

This will protect your loved ones from some unscrupulous person telling them how that custom Ruger Precision rifle is nothing special. Or if the executor of the estate would struggle to know a custom-tuned 6.5 Creedmoor 1200-yard rifle from a Red Rider BB gun, you could be cheating your beneficiaries out of hundreds if not thousands (or tens of thousands) of dollars.

Which scenario would you prefer?

Protect your family from theft and robbery-homicides.

Do you have any black sheep of the family living nearby? Or even worse, drug addicts or bad neighbors who know you have a bunch of guns? Remember, for some sheeple, a half-dozen guns is an "arsenal" - and that desperate people do desperate, stupid things.

If anyone who is anything close to a prolific gun owner and they die, consider the security implications before you post that obituary. If you have theft concerns, get the majority of the guns out of the house to someplace safe and secure ASAP.

Make doubly sure to have one or more trusted friends, armed, at the residence to watch things during the visitation / funeral. Because bad guys, knowing that NRA Joe has a bunch of guns, would never target the house while his wife Jane attended funeral services, right? Actually, it's so common that cops have a name for it: obituary burglars.

Also, having strangers come into the home to look over guns for potential purchase stands as a recipe for a robbery-homicide. Heck, people can't buy an iPhone these days without facing the risk of robbery.

Selling guns individually should be a no-go for safety unless potential buyers are well-known and vetted. Especially for collections of more than a few guns.

Ideally, you'll have family to which you can pass down heirloom firearms and other pieces with sentimental value along with ammo and accessories. If you still have

Patience in selling a collection will net the most money

Disposing of larger collections.

Have guns to liquidate? You have options...

One easy way to dispose of smaller collections is to **work with a local gun shop to put them on consignment**, locally and/or through an online auction service like GunBroker.

Yes, the gun shop will charge maybe 10-20% of the purchase price for the service, but you get the guns out of your house into a secure location right away. Not only that, but the gun shop will handle the paperwork.



The down side is that it may take time to sell them if they aren't priced competitively - and most people think their guns are worth a lot more than they really are. Another downside here is that most stores will want little to do with buying "used" ammunition, primers or powder, even in pristine condition in boxes, or well-labelled by competent hand loaders. Thank the liability lawyers for that.

Another option available for immediate transfer of the guns out of the house are **large firearms auctions**. For example, in Central Illinois, Bauer Auctions in Mattoon has massive, hybrid online/in-person gun auctions four or five times each year. [John Boch recommends them...]

They will have experience at handling multi-hundred gun estates, so you won't overwhelm them with 100 or even 500 guns. They can also sell ammo, powder,

reloading gear, accessories and so forth, too. They typically charge a sliding scale fee depending on the sale price of the items, but it's relatively low.

Depending on when you get the guns to them (or they come get them for larger collections of 25+), it may take a few months before there's a sale. Then about two to four weeks later, you'll receive a check for the net proceeds from the sale. Remember, they can and will sell stuff like ammo, powder, gun safes, parts, reloading gear and collectibles at those auctions.

This will net you the most dollars for your guns with a minimal amount of work on your end.

For high-end collections of collectibles, including guns that sell for mid- to high-four figures and beyond, I'd recommend the world-famous Rock Island Auction.

In a hurry? Yes, there's a way to do that as well. Call nearby gun shops and ask if they'll come out and **make an offer for the entire collection**. Expect to receive about 50% of the *wholesale* price for guns in good shape, and less for poorer quality specimens and next to nothing for accessories, parts, and so forth. That will translate to about 33% of current retail prices. You get the money almost instantly, but you'll pay (dearly) for the urgency.

Lastly, you can always **advertise them for sale to private parties** in publications, if you can find such an animal in today's day and age. For a handful of guns, that's no big deal. Trying to sell a hundred guns? It would become a full-time job dealing with tire-kickers and low-ball artists. And then there's the risk of word getting out and robbers showing up to take the collection off your hands.

In short, before you get hit by a bus, do your loved ones a big favor: inventory your guns and accessories, and include pricing information and recommendations on how to dispose of guns that aren't family heirlooms or sentimental.

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Do you want to volunteer to deliver *GunNews* as your part fighting the mainstream media and their anti-gun fake news and junk science. Distribute *GunNews* in your regular travels to help people understand the truth so we will all be better, smarter citizens. Bulk quantities are typically available **two days after the third Tuesday of each month**.

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Call John Boch at 217 649-3702 for the unit number and access code.

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Chicago's 'progressive' law & order breakdown

Chicago (Wirepoints) - Politico says the Chicago mayor's race highlights the importance of the "progressive" agenda for Chicago and the focus will be on crime. There are grumbles that incumbent Mayor Lori Lightfoot isn't "progressive" enough. But the urban progressive agenda under her – with its emphasis on "social justice," managed outcomes, and performative politics – has hardened the city's horrible results for blacks around crime and K-12 public education.

Black-on-black crime, a phrase at which progressives sharply bridle, is a violent scourge in "progressive" Chicago. Blacks are the primary victims of every type of violent crime here by a wide margin. Meanwhile, the city's K-12 public schools fail black students horribly. One 1 in 10 rate proficient in reading, and just 1 in 20 for math.



The progressive ethos girds destructive social, political, and economic values. Like: police are inherently racist and brutal; criminal defendants – many with prior felony convictions – are actually victims; and disparate outcomes prove "systemic racism." Progressivism holds that achievement tests which reveal chronic academic failure of black and Latino students are racist, unfair and emblematic of "whiteness."

Modern-day urban progressivism in Chicago is a political fun-house mirror in which strident nonsense passes for exalted truth. "Who's more progressive" is key, says Politico, and then rates candidates accordingly. But to cast one of the most pivotal mayoral contests in recent history as a contest to see which candidate can be more progressive is to voice a death wish for the city.

Here are six clear indications that progressive apologetics have undermined public safety, with the toxic effects most deeply felt in Chicago's black communities.

GunNews Magazine - 10 - January 2023

Police have been effectively banned from stop-and-frisk, foot chases and car chases. It is open season on the police. A new state law mandates local police misconduct complaints can now be made anonymously. Police face growing violent hostility, including killings and attacks on police cars. As a result, Police decide to de-police – and to depart. District patrol manpower has shrunk in Chicago.

The streets have been confiscated by miscreants. Chicago enjoys near-record high carjackings, plus trigger-happy "take-over" crews who appropriate the city's streets for stunt driving events but rarely suffer any consequences.

Vehicle-borne armed robbery crews victimize pedestrians in organized sweeps, and catalytic converter thieves protected by gunmen make the rounds as well. Chicago's streets are increasingly dystopian.

Courts have surrendered. In Cook County they have become a revolving door. Alleged criminals awaiting trial are freed on low-cash or no-cash bail, but at least 15,000 times since late 2017 have then been charged with new crimes. The number is dramatically low-balled for myriad reasons. Here are just two. One is the vast extent of unreported crime nationally. Some 60 percent of non-murder violent victimizations are unreported as are two-thirds of property crimes. Another is that for those few crimes that are reported, Chicago has a negligible arrest rate.

Emergency response has been maimed. More than half of high-priority 911 calls languished without a timely response last year, and the problem continued this year as top Chicago Police Department (CPD) supervisors now "code out" so-called "backlogged" 911 calls to hide the problem. At such times and without a reported physical injury, officers may not show up to take a report. *Voila*, crime is down. It is "Defund The Police" without the defunding.

The rhetoric is fierce, and destructive. The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) Chicago chapter – representing six Chicago aldermen – calls Chicago Police a "white supremacist" organization. A DSA alderman's aide refers to CPD officers as "pigs" and draws concerns from local residents who say they need protection. Local activists encourage looting. And Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle describes murders like that of hard-working hairdresser and mother of six Tamiko Talbert, a black woman, as due to Covid plus "historic disinvestment and margin-

alization." Official Chicago's progressive tropes on race are a doubling-down of disinformation riven with the arrogance of unfettered power and callous indifference to wrenching daily tragedies in the city's black communities.

Outcomes of progressivism: violence disproportionately plagues Black Chicago

The signposts of Chicago's public safety breakdown are many. But what about the actual impact of the city's declining safety, specifically on black Chicagoans who are the main intended beneficiaries of progressive governance?



The ugly truth is this: black Chicagoans suffer the lion's share of Chicago's violent crime. Though they make up just 29 percent of the population, they made up nearly 80 percent of the homicide victims from 2018 through November 15 this year...

Black Chicagoans also make up the vast majority of other violent crime victims according to the city's "violence reduction" dashboard. Annual results vary little. In 2022, through November 15, blacks in Chicago – again, just 29 percent of the population – represented 76 percent of non-fatal shooting victims, 66 percent of aggravated battery victims, 60 percent of aggravated assault victims, and almost 50 percent of the victims of criminal sexual assault and vehicular hijacking.

Criminality visited disproportionately upon black Chicagoans is just one of two especially striking impacts of "progressivism" here. The city's public K-12 schools are equally disastrous for black and Latino Chicagoans.



100 a day: Chicago motor vehicle thefts explode

Chicago (Wirepoints) - One hundred motor vehicle thefts a day. That's the recent daily count in Chicago in October as motor vehicle thefts spiked dramatically in the last three months. Compare that to the first half of the year when Chicago was averaging "just" 35 thefts a day.

It's just one part of the Great Unraveling of Chicago's justice system that stems from emboldened criminals, a demoralized police force and a leadership class obsessed with soft-on-crime legislation like the SAFE-T Act.



Ya think?

Paul Vallas: 'There is an utter breakdown of law and order'

Chicago (Sun-Times) - "There are not enough police cars to respond to 911 priority calls. The officers we do have are demoralized and handcuffed. There is no incentive to engage in proactive policing. And the criminals know it, and they're becoming bolder. There is an utter breakdown of law and order," [Paul Vallas] said.



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BLACK GUNS MATTER

by John Stossel
(The Daily Signal) - We know about Black Lives Matter. My new video is about a group called Black Guns Matter.

Maj Toure, a Philadelphia high school dropout-turned-activist, tells me he started it after he got tired of hearing people endless chanting, "Black lives matter," but saying nothing "when it's time for black people to defend their lives."

Toure carries a gun wherever he goes.

"This is my human right," he says. "If anybody wants to come chase me down about that, let's go to court."

He encourages others to arm themselves, especially people who live in high-crime neighborhoods.

I point out that means he wants more guns in places where there are already more shootings.

That's the point, says Toure. "The only thing that's going to stop evil are good, solid people strong enough to stop them."

He sells a T-shirt with the slogan "Make criminals afraid again" printed on the front.

"Criminals should be deathly afraid," says Toure. "If you're robbing people and carjacking, I want you to know that we're gonna arm our community to deal with you very, very properly."

More guns in the hands of

citizens, he says, deters criminals.

There is evidence for that. Economist John Lott, author of "More Guns, Less Crime," points out that crime usually drops in states that approve concealed-carry laws. The explanation is that criminals in those states fear that their victims could be armed.

I push back at Toure, pointing out that more guns also may lead to more accidental shootings.



Maj Toure.

"That's under the assumption that those gun owners aren't getting training," replies Toure.

Training is what Toure does. In 2016, he held his first Black Guns Matter event. He expected 30 people, but 300 showed up. "It was beautiful," he says.

His group now teaches classes all around America.

"We're teaching absolute beginners that want to know how to be safe and responsible firearms owners."

If you are threatened, he

says, you need a gun and need to know how to use it.

In my video, he tells his students, "No one's coming to save me! I have to save and protect myself and my family."

Last year, about 90% of gun stores reported an increase in sales to black people.

"I made it so," says Toure. "Gun control is racist." Gun control was "started to literally stop black people from having the means to defend themselves."

That is true. Before the Civil War, Tennessee changed its constitution to say that only "free white men" have a right to bear arms. Virginia banned blacks from carrying "any firelock of any kind."

Later, when some local governments wouldn't protect blacks from racist whites, blacks often took up arms to protect themselves. Where blacks had access to firearms, there were fewer lynchings.

Toure says gun control is still racist.

"Who's arrested more for firearms possession? ... Black and brown folks. The narrative that anyone with a firearm is a bad guy is a pervasive theme, especially if you are in an urban environment and if you happen to be black."

In his gun classes, Toure tells his students, "Follow the rules, and communicate with law enforcement."

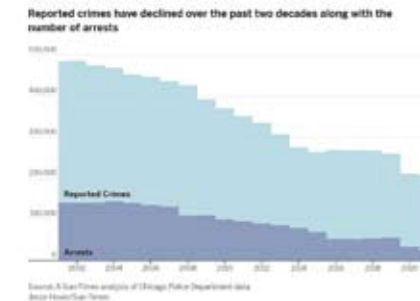
The real clearance rate may be as low as 3.5%

At best, Chicago PD makes arrests in just 5.8% of the worst crimes

Chicago (GSL) - Thanks to the no-snitch culture, and a shortage of police officers, Chicago residents see arrests made in crimes against them just 5.8% of the time for the worst offenses. That number has fallen from 15% twenty years ago - which frankly is appalling on its own.

Overall, including petty offenses, the overall arrest rate for all crimes reported is just 12.8%.

For all crimes reported.



Bad guys have little or no fear of apprehension. Good guys know that too, that's why reported crimes in Chicago are down almost 60% over the last twenty years. Why wait hours for a police response to take a report when it won't matter?

If you believe that crimes are down 60% in Chicago, you may have eagerly sent your bank account information to the Nigerian

prince who asked for your help to collect his lottery winnings.



The 'No Snitch' culture helps drive crime in Chicago by protecting perps.

Putting a little math to that: If crime rates have remained relatively flat in the last twenty years, then the clearance rate / arrest rate for the most serious crimes in Chicago is really closer to 3.5% and 7.7% for crimes overall. That's approaching the point where street justice begins to rear its head.

Because if someone kills or molests your child or your spouse, and you know who the offender is but the cops only have a 3.5% chance of actually making an arrest, it become tempting and then some to take care if the justice end of things yourself.

And why not? You know that the cops have a less than one in twenty-five chance of catching up with you.

Kim Foxx's war on law and order in Chicago expands without opposition

Chicago (Contrarian) - In the latest episode of "Kim Foxx destroys Chicago," the vengeful prosecutor and disciple of far-leftist Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle announced yet another policy change that will place undo legal and procedural burdens on the Chicago Police Department.



Similar to her decision to essentially decriminalize retail theft by imposing a host of new requirements for felony upgrade, a decision that has been catastrophic for business owners throughout the city, Foxx

has now imposed a series of hurdles making search warrants throughout Chicago all but impossible for police to execute without any protection from her predatory prosecutors.

According her announcement, Foxx has created new requirements ostensibly aimed "at improving communication and accountability while eliminating mistaken raids at incorrect locations," according to media reports. It might sound bizarre to an outsider that a city teetering on chaos from violent crime would have a prosecutor obsessed with placing further hurdles in front of police as they attempt to carry out their duties, but such a person would not understand the profound transformation Chicago has undergone since the Soros-backed Foxx first appeared on Chicago's political scene with the support of defense attorneys who have enriched themselves from lawsuits accusing police of misconduct.

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Older folks with hand-weakness finally getting more options...

Ruger introduces double-stack .380 'Lite Rack' micro-compact pistol

(Ruger) - Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc. is proud to introduce the newest addition to its Lite Rack family of pistols, the Ruger Security-380. Chambered in .380 Auto, the Security-380 is full-featured, ideally sized, and modestly priced...

Unlike many micro-compact .380 pistols, this new offering will accommodate a full capacity, 10-round flush fit magazine. Some models of the Security-380 also ship with an extended, 15-round magazine that extends the grip for a secure and comfortable hold. The textured grip fills the hand and helps distribute recoil better than a narrow single-stack pistol.



Designed for new shooters, those who struggle with racking traditional slides, and anyone looking to enjoy a day at the range, the Lite Rack system includes refined slide serrations, pronounced cocking ears, and a lighter recoil spring to ensure easy manipulation of the slide.

Food for thought

What information are you DRIVING around?

Let me introduce you to our children, and because they're involved with extracurriculars, we'll be gone most evenings and/or weekends for practices or games.

We like expensive toys that you can probably find in our garage.

We have a small-breed dog that answers to the name "Max."

This is where we live/work.

This is where our children attend school.

My personalized plate is easier to recall should I unintentionally offend someone or if someone wants to keep track of my vehicle.

We'll have our hands full and be distracted when we get where we're going, making us an easy target.

We like outdoor sports and may have expensive equipment at home or possibly in our car. We'll also be gone on most weekends during peak seasons, leaving our house unattended.

My spouse is away for extended periods of time.

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Do you have self-defense legal coverage? Do you?
GSL member attacked in his own driveway, slashed with knife, arrested by Normal PD
 ISP revokes FOID & CCW, slow-walks reinstatement after charges dropped *and* the court apologizes

Normal, IL (BLNNews) - Imagine the neighborhood bully attacks you in your driveway and does this with a knife?

ary 1st that won't matter because the Safe-T Act eliminates penalties for violating an order of protection....

Then the Normal police arrest you for defending yourself even though other neighbors and your family tell them the victim wasn't the aggressor?

This happened last May to a Veteran named Chad Berck. Charges against him were dropped in November. Neighbors testified in court for him, the judge even apologized for the legal system that didn't protect the victim. Meanwhile his FOID card [and Carry License were both] confiscated...

The aggressor was never charged – James Allen Dewitt. He pled guilty to criminal trespass in 2021. In 2016 he was charged with Aggravated Battery/use of a deadly weapon. It appears those charges were dropped in 2017, they involved stabbing an interracial couple around ISU. Maybe the victims refused to testify.

Berck did not have a criminal history before this.



Chad Berck's leg. Do those look like defensive wounds, or the wounds of an aggressor?

I'd sure like the police to explain why the injured party was arrested and the guy who did it wasn't? Supposedly the attack moved out into the street which is public property. Berck didn't want to give Dewitt access to his house and his sleeping family, so he purposely moved farther from his front door. The police decided the street is public property and used that to justify his arrest. I wonder if they know charges were dropped?

[Editor: In early December, after Mr. Berck enlisted the aid of various elected officials, the Illinois State Police decided to restore his FOID card. He's still waiting for his carry license.]



According to Berck harassment by Dewitt started in November 2021. I have video of Dewitt laying on his car horn in front of their house. I have video of his obscene gestures while driving by. I have MANY more details I won't include. The rest of the Berck family was asleep when Dewitt woke Chad with his motorcycle. Chad took his dog out to pee and that's when the incident started. Dewitt was not arrested for the injuries he inflicted with his knife.

Berck was handcuffed even though he was recovering from shoulder surgery, the Normal police didn't care. The Bercks now have an order of protection against Dewitt. Janu-



Our members make legal actions like this possible! Are you a member? You should be!

Guns Save Life's lawsuit challenging the FOID Act's constitutionality awaiting a court ruling

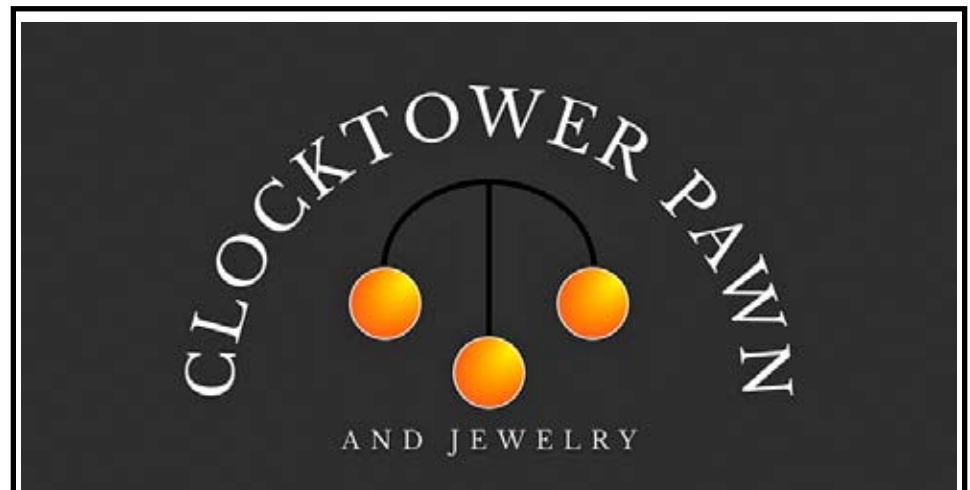
(GSL) - Guns Save Life filed suit challenging the constitutionality of the Land of Lincoln's FOID Act back in 2019. Of course, our court system moves at the speed of smell, and the fact that the Attorney General's files were lost to a ransom-ware attack added to the delays. In this case of *Guns Save Life v. Brendan Kelly*, those delays have likely doomed the state's defense of the law.

It will be a great historic day when the FOID Act is struck down as unconstitutional. Doubt it will be? How many states had a FOID Act in 1791?



The US Supreme Court released its *Bruen* decision this past summer. After that decision, we finished up with the preliminaries and the depositions. And then we filed a brief citing the *Bruen* decision. All of the briefs are now with the Sangamon County Circuit Court and we're expecting a decision probably in January or so.

Expect appeals from both sides until the Illinois Supreme Court makes a final determination, likely in 2024 at the latest.



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Fenix TK16 2.0



Olight Warrior X Pro

Compare and contrast two \$100 super-bright, cutting-edge tactical flashlights

New Pocket Rockets

Olight Warrior X Pro vs. the Fenix TK16 2.0

by John Boch

My affinity for flashlights started in my youth. Call it fear of the dark from childhood or love of signaling the Space Station from the ground as an adult, I love light. While I no longer experience anxiety in darkness, I do still experience giddiness over cutting edge lighting products.

In my world, flashlights get used many times each day. Whether it's finding something in a dark place or using the light to read something without reading glasses, flashlights prove indispensable. And then there's the role they play in the use-of-force continuum.

For almost ten years, EagleTac lights rode in my pocket. Reasonably priced (to me), the lights give good value and performance. However, with hard daily wear, they tend to begin to fail after six months or so. Yes, they have a lifetime warranty - if you ship them to Taiwan (or is it China?) for warranty repairs. I did that once. Instead of getting back shiny new product, they replaced some of the guts and they still weren't 100%. Color me underwhelmed and unimpressed.

Down to my last couple of mostly-functioning EagleTacs, I decided to find replacements. In talking with a fellow flashlight fanatic and firearm trainer Jason Shimmin from Peoria, he turned me onto the Olight Warrior X Pro. My initial impressions were very positive. Then additional pre-purchase research also led me to the Fenix TK16. In the end, each made it into my hands for about \$100 delivered.

Yes, a C-note for a lighting tool. It's real money. On the other hand, these are real lights, not the alkaline battery-powered toy lights found in big box retail stores.

First up, both lights use a relatively new (to me) 21700 size lithium rechargeable battery. The bigger cell provides a lot of current to make a lot of light, and they will run quite a while on a charge. Don't be surprised to see this 21700 cell become the new norm in high-performance lights.

The other thing they share: scalloped bezels for DNA core-sampling of bad guy tissue. These are smoother and more rounded than I'm used to. Sharper bezels (like on EagleTacs) wear holes in your pants. Also, as we're comparing/contrasting the two, Mr. Fenix has a smaller body and a smidgen lighter weight than the Olight.

Here's the pros and cons of each of the lights after carrying them for a couple of weeks.

Olight. A soft touch of the tail switch gives 300 lumens and a harder press gets you 2250 lumens for a couple of minutes before it rolls back to about 1000 lumens to avoid overheating. It's super easy to recharge with the proprietary Olight magnetic cap. It also vibrates momentarily upon activation when the battery falls to 30% capacity.

Criticisms: It's a bit on the large and heavy side for a pocket light - to put it charitably.

I'm used to carrying a big light, but not everyone else wants this much bulk clipped in their pocket, especially if you wear jeans. (Ahem, is that a flashlight in your pocket?) Ladies are not going to want to put this monster in their purses, either. Another mild gripe: the beam is also a great deal tighter than I prefer.

But here's the biggest complaint, one that borders on a deal-killer. If you don't hold your momentary press long enough (about a second) you may enter into the "hard" on mode that requires a second press to extinguish the light. When this failure turn off happens, no matter what you're trying to do, the Olight harshly resets your OODA loop. That would be *no bueno* in a gun fight, both from the distraction angle and how lights can become bullet magnets.

Fenix. The first thing everyone notices is how the TK16 has two buttons on the tail cap, one large and one small. The small one gives instant access to a 3100 lumen strobe light. This is a "WHOA!" moment the first time you fire this up, especially indoors. It can disorient some aggressors and even allegedly cause seizures. I love having that option instantly available.

The *much* larger button, with a light press serves a momentary activation switch. When conditions require a LOT of light, there's up to 3100 lumens inside just waiting for you to set them free. A harder press gets you into a "hard" on/off mode.



Criticisms: Yes, it's a little on the large side, but it's smaller than the Olight. It has some heft. Another criticism: In a small room with light colored walls in the dark, you're very much liable to blind yourself with light splashing back if you're not judicious in applying that strobe. Or in everyday carry use, if you press the wrong button by mistake, like in a dark restaurant trying to read the menu, you'll become the center of attention. In this case, your temporary blindness will preclude noticing annoyed looks from your neighbors. Also, one almost needs two hands to switch brightness modes, but it's workable.

I know a hundred bucks for a flashlight represents big-time money for most of us. If you have the coin and you don't mind a larger body flashlight, you likely won't be disappointed with the TK16. You might even be dazzled with it. Literally - just like the kids today like to say. It has earned its spot as my primary carry light now.

As for the Olight: It's relegated to backup status for the time being.

GSL members sharing at Christmas



Volunteers, including GSL members, place wreaths at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield

Springfield, IL (GSL) - Hundreds of volunteers, including GSL members, turned out on a cold and windy Saturday morning to place wreaths on the gravestones of veterans at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield.

In the end, they placed wreaths on over 19,000 of the gravestones.



A real St. Nick

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Gun succeeds where stern words failed

Texas man defends his mom

San Antonio, TX (GSL) - A man saw his mother viciously attacked by his stepfather and demanded the attack stop. Unfortunately a sternly-worded warning failed to end the assault. That's when the son accessed a firearm and repeated his demand for Dear Ol' Stepdad to quit pummeling the woman.

When that failed, the son opened fire, striking his mother's attacker a number of times. Stop. Bang. Hitting. Bang. My. Bang. Mother. Bang. Now! Bang.

The attack was stopped and the stepdad is now resting not-so-comfortably in critical condition.

Neighbors stopped home invasion of a home with woman & children present

Like good neighbors, gun owners were there...

St. Charles, MI (mlive) - A St. Charles man has been charged with two felonies after armed civilians stopped him allegedly breaking into a home the morning after Thanksgiving.

Toddell Boykins, 32, on Monday, Nov. 28, appeared before Saginaw County District Judge Elian E.H. Fichtner for arraignment on single counts of first-degree home invasion and malicious destruction of personal property between \$1,000 and \$20,000.



Food bank worker holds armed car chase suspect at gunpoint until police show

College Park, GA (Fox5) - Workers at a food bank in College Park helped police catch a suspect after a chase Monday evening.

Feeding GA Families' security cameras captured the heart-pounding moments when a volunteer rushed into the break room and told manager William Joyner that a guy had just bolted through their parking lot with a gun

Joyner, an Army veteran, instantly knew what he had to do.

Restaurant robber experiences Georgia's Constitutional Carry the hard way

Warner Robins, GA (GSL/TTAG) - As of this past April, good guys don't need a license to carry a gun in Georgia. A 23-year-old aspiring criminal learned that the hard way when he pistol whipped an employee of a fast food joint wanting money.

The employee, after enduring the thumping, drew his own heater and fired three rounds at his antagonist.

The freshly perforated robber, later identified as Joshua Hickey, ran out of the restaurant sans any extra holiday cash. Cops found him not far away running low on hemoglobin. Police transported Hickey to a hospital, but didn't make it.

Working-man CCW holder takes out 4-man robbery crew

Chicago (GSL) - A working Joe with a CCW was about to start work Monday morning in the 4700 block of West Arthington in Chicago when an 18-year-old stuck a .45 with an extended magazine in his face and demanded everything.

The driver handled it like a pro, disarming the punk of his piece while drawing his own gun. He then the robber for good measure. That's when a 15-year-old robber hopped out to help his buddy. He got a round for his troubles too. The 16-year-old driver then took one to the grape, causing him to let his foot off the brake. The car then rolled over the remaining robber's leg, giving *him* a compound fracture. He was unable to walk, run or even limp away before police arrived.

Downtown Chicago car theft team thinned by CCW holder

Chicago (GSL) - A quartet of armed robbers thought they could steal a nice ride outside the Cambria Hotel downtown in what used to be a nice part of Chicago. However, the owner came back early and caught one of them in the car trying to electronically hotwire it.

Meanwhile two fellow robbers hopped out of a stolen SUV to engage the car's owner, but they didn't know he was a CCW holder. Mr. CCW did the only polite thing: he shot back, hitting both baddies in their butts. Then when the getaway driver tried to run the CCW holder down, Mr. CCW shot him too. The getaway drive got away, as did the guy inside the CCW's car, but not before he left his phone.

Meanwhile, the two robbers shot in the butt sought help from passers-by. They approached a pair of women and begged them to call for help. One of the robbers even dropped his pants and showed off his new bloody hole in his butt. The woman snapped some photos and saved them for police. At the same time, the driver of the stolen SUV tossed out a couple of loaded mags before he parked in the ambulance bay at a nearby hospital. You can't make this stuff up.



By a nearly 2:1 margin... Bad news for Pritzker, Newsom, Bloomberg and Biden

Strong majority approve of Supreme Court decisions that expand, protect gun rights for Americans

by Larry Keane (NSSF) - A poll from Marquette University School of Law asked Americans about their opinions on the Supreme Court's decision to strike down New York's restrictive and subjective "may issue" concealed carry gun control laws in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*. The 6-3 decision affirmed

that the Second Amendment is an individual right that may be exercised both in the home and in public. Americans, by large numbers, support the Court's decision nearly six months after

The Reload reported the poll showed 64 percent of respondents favor the Court's decision to expand

Second Amendment rights by striking down New York's law with 36 percent strongly in favor. Conversely, just 35 percent noted they were opposed to the decision with 16 percent strongly opposed.

The poll suggested Americans remain happy with expanded gun rights.

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NOT NEGOTIABLE

A fundamental shift in our response...

For a long time, gun rights advocacy existed almost exclusively in the realm of lobbying those involved in the legislative process. The gun control crowd would propose their latest crazy bill, and we would go to work educating politicians in the middle on why it won't work and instead would only make matters worse.

Today "moderates" are extinct. What's more, legislators who support fundamental Constitutional protections of our gun rights are deeply in the minority in our state.

The days of fighting bills in committee hearings and in floor debates is long past us.

We didn't get right to carry in Illinois by lobbying and cajoling political leaders. We got it by taking the fight to the courts.

We're going to get rid of the FOID Act the same way: in the courts. Expect a decision on Guns Save Life's lawsuit challenging the FOID act in the next month or two.

And now, radical legislators who laugh at the idea of "common sense gun law reforms" have proposed a law that effectively bans the best modern self-defense guns out there. It even effectively strips all people under age 21 of any right to possess firearms.

We know we aren't going to convince these political ideologues that their political world view belongs in Communist China. Only a fool would reason with or negotiate with these wild-eyed authoritarians. They demand obedience to government "authority" at the expense of personal freedom, period.

Convincing them of the error of their ways is akin to expecting career criminals or child molesters to suddenly reform themselves because you've explained right from wrong to them.

You can make phone calls, write letters and fill out witness slips until you're blue in the face. It won't make a difference in today's world. Those who change their minds will do so, but not for the reasons you might think.

Court is our next stop, and we've got the *Bruen* precedent in our back pocket.

A Freedom Coalition

Guns Save Life has joined a coalition dedicated to taking back our gun rights. Among the coalition are lobbyists, gun rights organizations, gun shops, gun clubs, a nationally-known civil rights law firm and others who have dedicated their lives to advancing freedom for others.

Our first stop is stopping HB-5855.

Guns Save Life identified and vetted over a dozen courageous, freedom-loving patriots as potential individual plaintiffs.

Others in the coalition have identified competent legal counsel in our state to handle the litigation. This isn't something that a sole-practitioner law firm can handle. We need a team of experienced legal talent and we've got them - a couple of teams in fact. Even better, we've lined up one of the nation's best firms - the **Second Amendment Law Center** to backstop our local legal teams.

The SALC, headed by Chuck Michele, has a proven track record of great work and big wins. They won challenges to multiple onerous gun laws in California, including the mag ban and others. And they did so pre-*Bruen*, too. Since then they've been busy racking up more wins. And the Law Center is willing to help us in Illinois.

Michele also serves as the president of the California Rifle and Pistol Association, so you know he's part of the gun culture.

We'll need your help.

Here's where you come into the mix. We need individuals, organizations and businesses to chip in to make these lawsuits happen.

Freedom isn't free. What's it worth to you? Is it worth chipping in \$20, \$50 or \$100 as an individual to the fight to stop HB-5855? What's your family's safety worth? Wouldn't you do what you could to better protect your life of those of your family members?

Gun shop owners obviously have a lot riding on defeating 5855. We'll need them to chip in too. Some have suggested \$5 for every gun sold. Whatever the amount, if this bill passes and stands, gun sales will slow - at least after everyone buys their first revolver.

We have more bad news: we can assure you that the bad guys in Illinois aren't going to find religion when they learn that the law-abiding good guys have been stripped of the most effective tools for self-defense.

No, bad guys will be even more emboldened and reckless.

So, make a donation or three today. Encourage your clubs and organizations to make a donation to this fight as well.

Support your favorite gun rights organization. **Support our Illinois legal team.**

ffil.org/donate

And for those seeking tax-deductibility, a donation to the **Second Amendment Law Center** would be very much in order.

secure.2alc.org/contribute



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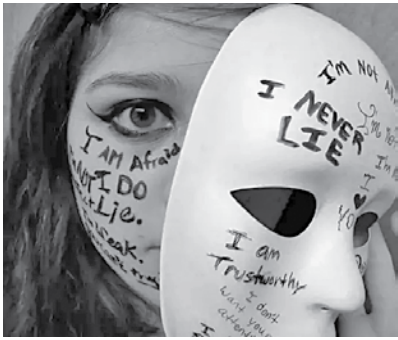
Letter to the Editor: Professional propaganda piece

I recently read the article by Desiderius Erasmus in the January 2023 issue. I recognize it as a professional propaganda piece.

The war in Ukraine is not about Ukraine. It's a proxy war. The Ukrainians are using the Azov unit, the Kraken unit, the Right Sector, the Svoboda unit and more to kill Russian speaking civilians in the Donbass. Those units are all Nazi units. They wear Nazi insignia, and have Nazi tattoos. They are followers of the late Stepan Bandera, the infamous WW2 Ukrainian Nazi. When Ukrainian President Zelensky was asked why he employed Nazis in his army, he replied, "They are what they are".

And speaking of oligarchs, Igor Kolomoisky, a Ukrainian Jewish oligarch, was the man who organized and armed the Nazi Azov unit in 2014. Politics makes strange bedfellows. I will not defend the Wagner group. I understand both sides are using prisoners in certain units. Basically, the war in Ukraine is a war of the Globalists against Russia. The Globalists are the ones pushing open borders, wokeism, sexual perversion on little school kids. The Russians are not the Soviet Union anymore. They're actually rebuilding the churches the commies tore down. Get hold of some of Putin's recent speeches. Beware of the MSM. Thank you.

Larry Hummel
Mattoon-Charleston, IL



The mask has slipped...

Repeal the Second

(The Connecticut Mirror) - It's time to change this frozen political dynamic. We need to reframe the debate to address the root cause of our national inability to effectively curb gun violence. It is time to talk about repealing the Second Amendment...

So let's get started. Say it out loud: "Repeal the Second Amendment." Say it again. Say it everywhere.

Repeal the Second Amendment

(Washington PA Observer-Reporter) - Originalism, the judicial philosophy that drives the conservative majority on the Supreme Court's reinterpretation, does not support an individual's right to bear arms. Given that modern bullets had not yet been invented, much less automatic weapons, it is difficult to argue the Founding Fathers would have given individuals the unfettered right to own such weapons. If the court insists on that interpretation, we should repeal the amendment.



GunNews Magazine

The monthly journal of
Guns Save Life

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

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

END THE CHARADE: Biden & his anti-gun pals were never interested in stopping gun crimes

by Larry Keane

(TTAG) - It is time for President Joe Biden to drop the gun control charade. He – along with his Capitol Hill gun control supporters – were never interested in curbing criminal misuse of guns. They are only interested in controlling you.

President Biden's prisoner swap with Russia of a convicted international arms trafficker for a WNBA star proved that his administration doesn't care about keeping guns out of the hands of those who shouldn't have them. His only interest when it comes to guns is keeping them out of the hands of those who obey the law. His earnest podium admonitions are betrayed by his actions.

President Biden's gun control agenda has never been targeted at stopping criminals. It's always been about stopping law-abiding Americans from exercising their God-given rights.



Americans aren't buying more gun control... They're buying more guns

by Larry Keane

(TTAG) - Historic numbers of law-abiding Americans joined the gun-owning community for the first time in recent years, including large numbers of women and minorities. National gun control groups at the same time continue to shout for stricter gun control laws...

Gun control groups may keep running their same playbook of trying to push for more restrictions and fewer rights. The American people are making their message known loud and clear: they aren't buying more gun control. They're buying firearms.



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



Does anybody really want to put more guns in the hands of [blacks]?

It's time to admit the obvious: The Democrats' gun control laws are racist

by Jeff Charles

(Newsweek) - Seventeen people were shot in Chicago this past weekend. Four of these individuals lost their lives. Tragically, this was just a normal weekend in the Windy City and many others, which are experiencing a spike in violent crime. And Black Americans are bearing the brunt of this violence.

The overall rate of gun violence reached a 28-year high last year with drastic increases in murders among Black men, according to an analysis of federal data conducted by the Wall Street Journal.



Jeff Charles.

Some of this is not new; since 1990, rates of gun-related homicide have been highest among Black men in their twenties. And yet, after the highs of the 1990s, homicide rates plummeted, especially for Black men. What we're seeing now is a reversal of that trend.

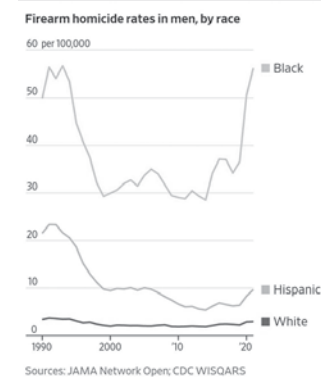
In 2021, there were 142 fatalities for every 100,000 Black Americans, a 74 percent increase since 2014 and a figure that dwarfs the homicide rate for other races. "Homicide rates are as much as 23 times higher among Black men, and as much as nearly four times higher among Hispanic men than among white men," the WSJ analysis found.

Unfortunately, the people who run the cities where Black Americans live are not

up to the task of addressing this problem. During the recent midterm election campaign season, Republicans hammered Democrats for their soft-on-crime policies, which Republicans argued contributed to the increase in gun violence. In response, Democrats downplayed the matter, calling the criticism an attempt to fear-monger, or racism.

But for Black families, the reality on the ground is very real. And it's devastating.

Yet time and time again, instead of defending Black lives, Democrats focus on the wrong thing: They try to curb gun ownership instead of gun violence...



But pushing for more gun restrictions on law-abiding gun owners isn't just the wrong approach; it will directly contribute to the problem that desperately needs solving.

Curbing legal gun ownership has a disproportionately negative impact on Black Americans because it hinders their ability to defend themselves where law enforcement has failed to do so.

To put it simply, the Democrats' gun control laws are racist to their core. And it's time to admit it.

What occurred during an Assembly Judiciary Commit-

tee meeting in New Jersey's legislature provides a prime example. Lawmakers were debating Bill A4769, which proposes to further restrict citizens' right to bear arms...

The New Jersey bill, passed last month, makes nearly the entire state a de facto "sensitive place" where citizens are not allowed to carry firearms. It also significantly increases the fees involved in obtaining a permit to carry, firearms ID card, or pistol purchaser's permit while adding even more requirements.

And then they said the quiet part out loud.

"Does anybody really want to put more guns in the hands of people that live in Paterson and Newark and Elizabeth and Camden?" Assemblyman John McKeon said, arguing in favor of the legislation.

Of course, Newark and Elizabeth and Camden are predominantly populated by Black and Latino Americans. They also have some of the highest crime rates.

The numbers clearly show that deliberately making it harder for Black Americans to carry guns is only placing them in more danger.

Despite what McKeon seems to believe, most Black people are not violent criminals. But they are more likely to be victims of violent criminals. Law-abiding African Americans should have the same opportunity to exercise their right to bear arms as everyone else.

Unfortunately, Democrats, who loudly proclaim their supposed concern for the plight of this demographic do not seem to care about the Black lives lost due to the policies they support.

Meeting summaries

Continued from page 3.

the comments from the letters: "Don't let any Copperhead have any of my check." Copperheads, known as "Peace Democrats" who opposed the Civil War and wanted immediate and unconditional peace with the Confederates.



An original Colt Model 1862 Police with the original issued holster.

We held our drawings and **Chuck Pine** won the 50/50 and **Tom W.** from the Chicagoland area won the Glock 27 and 800 rounds of ammo on a ticket purchased at one of the Chicagoland meetings.

Reminder: Next month, because of the New Year's Day holiday, **we'll meet on the SECOND MONDAY at SCHEELS.**

Pontiac.

The **Pontiac Sportsman's Club** hosted us with a nice facility and great food once again. **GSL's John Boch** called the meeting to order and we recognized a number of newcomers before John shared his **Executive Director's Report.**

Dave Randolph, **GSL's Decatur Regional Director**, shared the story of how his time in **Guns Save Life** began with attending meetings almost three decades ago in Urbana, Illinois.

After taking a job working nights, he was away from it for a bunch of years, but then returned when he left that job. Excited about the work **GSL** was doing, **Randolph** said he started bugging **GSL's** leadership, including **John Boch**, about launching a Decatur chapter.

Finally, he got the approval and they held their first meeting in front of 138 people. It was a monster.

Randolph also talked about his experience going to **Camp Perry** to shoot in the rimfire sporter division. He had quite a good time.

We held the drawings for 50/50 and **Bob Hurst** let out a whoop when his name came out for the **Ruger SP-101** monthly gun. Congratulations to him.

Decatur.

We had a standing-room only crowd in Soy City at **Coz's Pizza**. **Dave Randolph** led off the meeting, bringing up **Pastor Steve Holden**, one of the **Illinois State Police Chaplains**, to give a blessing for the evening.

Mr. Holden invited our members out to **Camp Butler National Cemetery on Saturday, December 17th** to lay wreaths on the headstones as part of **Wreaths Across America**. See page 14.

Next up, **State Rep. Brad Halbrook** spoke for a few minutes. It wasn't his first **GSL** meeting in Decatur, but now his district encompasses much of **Macon County** including (?) our meeting location. He and **Dan Caulkins** think a lot alike on gun rights and

a lot of other issues. We're glad to have them both and look forward to seeing **Rep. Halbrook Brad** again soon.



Rep. Brad Halbrook.

State Rep. Dan Caulkins spoke next for a legislative update. He noted that under extreme pressure, Democrats relented and passed some changes in the **SAFE-T Act**. The fixes are an improvement, but the law will still put bad guys back on the streets, leaving everyday residents vulnerable.

As for **House Bill 5855**, "We're not going to be able to stop this," he said. It's part of **JB Pritzker's** political agenda for his upcoming race for President in 2024. **Dan** also talked about the coalition including **Guns Save Life** that we're building to fight this in the courts.

For our **Industry Update**, **Dan Cooley**

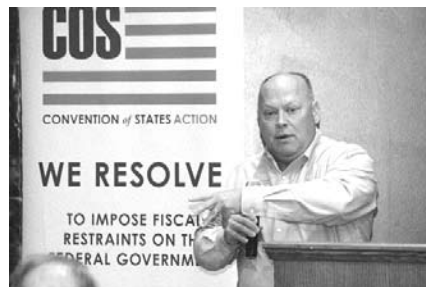
from **The Bullet Trap** brought a lot of information to share. The **Illinois State Police** is sending out those new "updated" **FOID** or **FOID/CCW** cards and a lot have been returned as undeliverable. He also explained how **5855** expands the list of "prohibited" guns to include a lot of new makes and models. And like many, he and other dealers are scrambling for what they'll do if it passes in terms of their inventory.



Dan Cooley.

John Boch shared the **Executive Director's Update** - and took a lot of questions.

Volunteers with the **Convention of the States** made a presentation as our main speakers. **CoS** represents a national effort to call a convention under **Article V** of the **United States Constitution**, restricted to proposing amendments that will impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit its power and jurisdiction, and impose term limits on its officials and members of Congress. It enjoys bipartisan support among many - at least among many that aren't from the establishment wings of both parties.



David Winters.

David Winters the **Illinois State** leader of **CoS** was joined by **Roger Hendricks** and **Charlie Anderson**. They answered the big question on everyone's mind: Would this allow modification or deletion of the **Second Amendment**. **Winters** explained that they would only be authorized to consider amendments in the above areas and anything touching on the **2nd Amendment** would be ruled out of order.

They asked for people to sign their petition to encourage politicians to support the resolution

for **Illinois** to join a **Convention of the States**. Those wanting to learn more about **CoS** should visit their website at **ConventionofStates.com**. You can also sign the petition online.

We held our drawings. **John Boch** won the **Ruger SR-9c** and asked that it be auctioned off to benefit **GSL**. Following a lively auction, one lucky gentleman **JC Nashland** got himself a brand new defensive handgun for \$300 - all of it **donated to Guns Save Life by Mr. Boch**.

Charleston.

Charleston's Regional Co-Director Keith Pippin called the meeting to order. **John Boch** then shared his **Executive Director's Update** and took questions.

Melissa Harden shared some information about road rage as our main speaker. **Melissa** does photography as her day job, including senior photos and head shots for professionals and anyone else who might need one someday.

Her other passion involves teaching people conflict and crime avoidance, along with situational awareness. On this night, she talked road rage. Some big takeaways: don't engage, and stay calm and focused on safe driving. Slow down and don't go home if followed. If ragers have passengers, things may escalate even more quickly. Don't be afraid to call 9-1-1 she advised, as well as not engaging in any way with them.

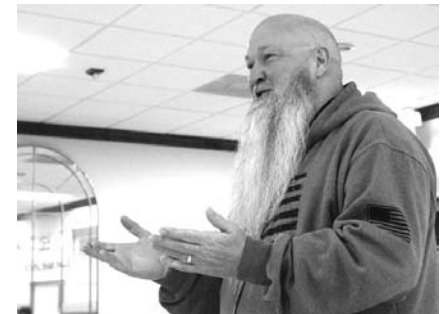
At the same time, avoid "digital communication" with the middle finger or screaming profanities if you encounter a bad driver.

Instead, stay calm. **Melissa** advised showing patience with other drivers who may be legitimately distracted.



Avoid "digital communication" while in public.

She asked for observations or lessons learned from audience members and got a few really good ones. One over-the-road truck driver said that he's noticed that the entry point of construction zones - specifically where one or more lanes are closed brings out all manner of reckless, hot-tempered lunatics.



For a guy who used to buy dope for a living, Jack's a pretty good guy. He talked about the finer points of wrestling a large, naked man

Continued on page 19.

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Meeting summaries

Continued from page 18.

having a violent reaction to synthetic marijuana on the side of I-57, inciting much laughter.

Jack (last name redacted) told the story of an incident on I-57 where he wrestled a naked man trying to carjack a woman with a child in her car. He left the audience laughing heartily as he described how he and ultimately about five others finally got the man restrained.

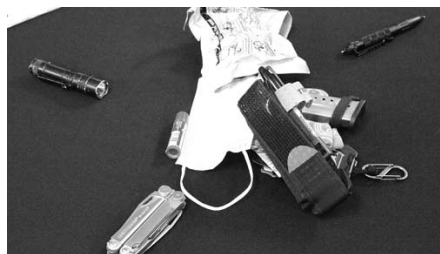
For **Tech Time**, **Keith** selected **three audience members to do a pocket dump**. That proved educational and then some.

Carl had a rather large can of pepper spray and we learned from him that 5.11 makes denim jeans with well-thought out pockets. He also packed a multitool in addition to the usual flashlight (an Olight), gun and spare mag.

Jack packed hand sanitizer as a very unusual item... because, you never know when you're going to have to wrestle a naked man.

Member Dave shared nothing exciting aside from a pair of Chap-stick tubes (for soft lips).

Keith shared his, including a knife ("I've carried a knife since I was about 5."), multitool, tourniquet, Israeli Battle Dressing and a tactical pen.



Stuff Keith carries... flashlight, tourniquet, Israeli battle dressing, tactical pen, spare mag, multitool. He's ready for anything except fire.

Oh, and a bandana which is very versatile for doing so much. He also explained how having a quality belt makes all the difference in keeping things concealed while providing comfort throughout the day.

Thomas Zuber won the **Ruger 10/22 take-down rifle**. Congrats to him. Meanwhile **Harold Benny** won the **50/50**.

LaSalle County.

Our **LaSalle County Regional Director Glenn Pratt** called things to order at our new location at Jamie's Outpost in Utica. He thanked our new hosts and welcomed everyone - including a good sized crowd.

The first order of business was to remind everyone that there will be no January meeting. We'll return in February. We apologize for the jerky liftoff of the LaSalle County chapter, but growing pains happen.

John Boch sent his **Executive Director's Update** - he was in Charleston on this night for the GSL meeting there (and he had to deliver their drawing gun too).

Our main speaker for the night dazzled the audience. **LaSalle County State's Attorney Joe Navarro** addressed the faithful for quite some time, talking about the new "No Cash Bail" law - otherwise known as the "Purge Law" - and all of its problems. Nobody's exactly sure how the implementation will happen, but Navarro made no bones about his opposition to the entire law.

Former LaSalle County Sheriff Tom Templeton joined him and the two tag teamed a lot of good questions from the audience for almost 90 minutes.



Joe Navarro.

We held our drawings and **Gary Small** won the 50/50 and donated it back to Guns Save Life. In a second selfless moment of the night, **John Morton** won the **4,000 rounds** of classic .22 ammunition. He too donated them back to Guns Save Life. Thank you gentlemen. GSL members are some great people. We're going to auction the can o' cartridges off at our February meeting.

Reminder, we'll see you in **February as there's no January meeting**. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Rantoul.

Champaign County Regional Director Dick Brandt called the meeting to order. **Mrs. Brandt** offered a blessing for the evening and we were off to the races.

GSL's Executive Director opened with the challenges we face in his report, sharing the latest on HB-5855 and what GSL is doing about it.

State Rep. Chris Miller gave a magnificent presentation on how things have changed in the last forty years. He also half-lamented about now being known as "Mary Miller's husband." He described what's happening in Springfield as "you can't make this stuff up" as both sides seem more interested in taking care of themselves than improving our state. He also shared the perverse way today's politicians name their bills the exact opposite of what they will do.



State Rep. Chris Miller loves talking with people and sounded like a Southern preacher getting the crowd fired up at the Rantoul GSL meeting.

As an example of changes, when he was a kid, his FFA chapter had a goat barbecue. They brought the animal to the high school where they shot it in the head and slit its throat - in front of their fellow students. As they skinned it, the animal regained consciousness, so they shot it again. Then they gutted it and cooked it over the trash incinerator.

Continued on page 20.

Judge: 'I can't think of anything more tyrannical...'

Judge stops California's effort at fee shifting on gun rights lawsuits

(TTAG) - The sharpest thorn in the side of California's gun-grabbers has done it again. Federal Judge Roger Benitez — who has already issued rulings, currently in the appellate and post-appellate pipeline, tossing California's "assault weapon" and standard capacity magazine bans — ruled Friday that he would be enjoining a California law designed to discourage challenges to California's gun control laws.

The newly-minted California law makes litigants and their attorneys liable for the state's legal fees if they challenge a California gun law and are not 100% successful.

That inverts the usual practice under federal civil rights law, under which a plaintiff is considered the "prevailing party" (and thus eligible for an award of attorneys fees and costs of court) if it prevails on any of its claims challenging the constitutionality of a law.

A plaintiff can also be a "prevailing party" eligible for fees if the state moots the case by changing the challenged law, a la New York's last-minute dodge in the first New York Pistol & Rifle Association case.

While there are situations (e.g., copyright infringement lawsuits) where an unsuccessful plaintiff can be held liable for the defendant's

attorneys fees, a party's attorneys are typically personally liable for an opposing party's fees only if they sign onto utterly frivolous filings (i.e., materials that violate Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11), disobey a court order, unreasonably and vexaciously complicate a case, etc...



California Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Understand that fighting a state like California in federal court is an inherently very expensive proposition, beyond the budget of all but the most well-heeled individuals. This is why organizations like the Firearms Policy Coalition, Second Amendment Foundation, Gun Owners of America, and others are so essential to protecting our Second Amendment rights.

If you file a challenge to a California gun law, the odds are strong that you will draw a judge who will be, shall we say, not as disposed to Second Amendment rights as Judge Benitez. Litigating such a test case will thus likely be a very long and expensive process designed to eventually get the

expected adverse decision from the California district court and the Ninth Circuit in front of the Supreme Court.

But under the new California law, if the district court or Ninth Circuit rules against you on even a subsidiary point of your lawsuit, you

and your attorney would be immediately liable for what would probably be hundreds of thousands of dollars...or even more. That would make challenging even obviously unconstitutional California gun control laws so economically risky that few if any victims affected by the law could do so. And very few attorneys would be willing to represent them, given the economic risks.

That, of course, was the state's reason for passing it.

Judge Benitez ripped the state for playing games with people's constitutional rights, saying, "I can't think of anything more tyrannical." He similarly castigated California's claims that it was somehow justified in enacting the law response to the Texas abortion law, stating "[w]e're not in a kindergarten sandbox. It's not about, 'Mommy he did this to me so I should be able to do it to him.'..."

For now, let's all raise a glass to Judge Roger Benitez for once again upholding the rule of law.




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Meeting summaries

Continued from page 19.

tor. "And people bought tickets and ate it!"

Can you imagine that happening today? He went on to say that when things seem darkest, our goodness shines even brighter. He's confident we're going to win in part through our Christianity, but it will require each of us to take action. "Control what you can and begin with what's right in front of you," he advised.

"I wasn't created to be a slave," he told the audience. "And you're not either." We must fight tyranny and bad public policy.

Ron Beatty did a twin **Tech Time**, discussing how stainless steel media tumbles even the nastiest old brass cases into nice, shiny almost like new with some dish soap. If you really want to go high end, use Lemi-shine and nothing will stick to the cases. Dry them in a food dehydrator (don't use your wife's - buy a used one at a yard sale instead and dedicate it to drying cases).

For his second Tech, he discussed finding a seriously abused and beat-up **Model 29 .44 Magnum in serious disrepair**. He called Smith & Wesson and for \$260 they refinished it and fixed extensive problems - and they had it back to him in a few days, far earlier than the promised two months. Now it looks and shoots almost better than new.

Another member brought a pair of .44 Magnums, a Ruger Redhawk and a Smith 629.

Calvin Dreger won the 50/50 and **Dick Brandt** won the .50 BMG & .22 ammo "gun" drawing. Congrats to both.

Northwest Chicagoland.

Our **Northwest Chicagoland Regional Director Marcus Melnick** called things to order at our new location at the **Golden Corral** in Arlington Heights.

John Boch, **tied up on family duties, sent up his Executive Director's Notes** and best wishes.

For our main speaker, Marcus introduced **Deputy Chief John Fay** (retired) of the Glencoe Department of Public Safety. He's been a firefighter, paramedic, police officer and more. Currently he teaches at Northwestern University and works doing safety and security work for the Chicago Transit Authority.

He "target hardens" good people, including those who aren't permitted to carry guns. Fay explained how his views on good guys with guns has evolved from his early years where he didn't want anyone but cops to have guns. And now, knowing how few cops there are, he's a big fan of trained, responsible good guys carrying guns. He said, paraphrased, "If there's two cops per 1000 residents, that means there's 998 of you that can help when chaos erupts."

He talked about the Laurie Dann incident where a mentally ill woman walked into a second grade classroom in Winnetka and killed one and wounded five more. He was one of the first responders to arrive. "That haunts you," he admitted.

Watch for exits, run away from the noise, be aware of your surroundings. And if you can legally carry your gun, do so.

We held our drawings and **JJ Ontiveros** won the **Ruger SR9c 9mm**. Congrats to him.



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Oregon's LGBT community worries Measure 114's gun control will block defensive gun purchases

(GSL/TTAG) - Despite the fact that a judge has put a temporary restraining order on Oregon's Ballot Measure 114, NPR is highlighting a "marginalized" group who NPR claims would be disproportionately affected. Some members of Oregon's LGBT community say they worry the new gun buyer licensing feature of the law that would give police discretion over who can and can't buy firearms could block them from owning needed self-defense tools.

might preclude approvals to buy guns in the future.

Who could have possibly foreseen that rioting, burning, and looting could potentially cause problems later in life, whatever your sexual preferences?



You don't say. Welcome to the party, pal.

According to NPR's intrepid reporting, some in the "trans and queer" community worry that anti-police viewpoints or prior arrests during the massive rioting that rocked Portland in 2020 and into 2021

'Build Back Better' going swimmingly. Is there anything Biden can't screw up?

Biden's energy policy leaves 'large portion' of US with insufficient electricity for peak demand

Reason #Eleventy billion to own guns (and good flashlights). Bad guys just love blackouts...

(Epoch Times) - As the snow flies and temperatures plummet, regulatory agencies and analysts alike warn that residents in multiple U.S. states are at an elevated risk of dangerous winter blackouts.

Electric Reliability Council (NERC).

plies and an outdated electric grid play a critical role in potential blackouts.

Meanwhile, a "large portion" of the U.S. power grid is at risk of insufficient electricity supplies during peak winter conditions, the agency concluded in the same analysis.



What did socialists use for light before candles? Electricity.

States such as Texas and North Carolina, and also the Great Lakes and New England regions are in the highest risk category, according to a report from the North American

Although climate change advocates claim that severe weather events are the primary culprit, energy insiders say tight fuel sup-

'We will shoot up your Newman center with our new AR14 rifles'

MOSTLY PEACEFUL? Jane's Revenge pledges to shoot up pro-life campus group with 'new AR14 rifles'

Omaha, NE (KETV) — The St. John Paul II Newman Center reported a threatening note found on their door to law enforcement Saturday afternoon, near the University of Nebraska-Omaha's Scott Campus.

attacks against buildings of ideological opponents.

Students for Life (SFL), an anti-abortion group, was meeting at the Newman Center Saturday morning for a political leadership workshop.

In a social media post, the group's president Kristan Hawkins said the SFL team arrived to the threat, directed at the Newman Center's Rev. Dan Andrews,

posted on the door.

Hawkins posted a photo of the threatening letter, that read:

"Dear Dan Andrews,

If our right to abortion in Bellevue is taken away due to the attempt to pass an abortion ban and it gets passed we will shoot up your Newman center with our new AR14 rifles. Sincerely, Jane's revenge."

A statement from the Newman Center said the author of the note claims to represent Jane's Revenge — an abortion rights extremist group that Homeland Security has linked to arson

Malicious gunfire takes down power for 40,000

Moore County, NC (GSL/TTAG) - Gunfire raked multiple pieces of large equipment at a 230kV substation in Moore County, North Carolina Saturday evening, December 3rd, plunging about 40,000 residents into darkness. Because of the type of "sophisticated" equipment that was damaged, those folks will remain in the dark for at least a few more days.

The fact that mere small arms fire can cause such a widespread and lasting loss of power should serve as a reminder to enhance your preparation for disaster.



Federal officials say they've linked the North Carolina substation attack with similar attacks in Oregon and Washington State.

In reporting on the incident, ZeroHedge closed with this sage advice:

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SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE VOLUME 22, NUMBER 8 AUGUST 2016
AFFILIATED WITH JPFO, CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES, ISRA, AND OTHERS

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Quarter page horizontal	10.375" x 3"	\$100	\$80	\$65	\$780
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Eighth page horizontal	5" x 3"	\$65	\$50	\$40	\$480
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Sixteenth page horizontal	5" x 1.5"	\$40	\$35	\$25	\$300

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Calendar



GUN SHOWS...

January

Jan 8: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St Charles, IL Mick Stout (815) 217-2266

Jan 15: McHenry County Gun Show McHenry County Fairgrounds Woodstock, IL Donald Cichoski (815) 385-1982

Jan 19-22: Northern Illinois Outdoor Sports Show - Grayslake, Lake County Fairgrounds, Grayslake. Jennifer 212 564-8823.

Jan 21-22: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike (630) 363-3131.

Jan 28-29: Sauk Trail Gun Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton, IL. Dan Fritz 309 689-1934.

February

Feb 11-12: Quad Cities Gun Show. QCCA Expo Center, Rock Island. Mark Craft (309) 371-3593.

Feb 12: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St Charles, IL Mick Stout (815) 217-2266

Feb 18-19: Central IL Gun Collectors New Berlin. Sangamon County Fairgrounds, New Berlin, IL. Patrick Keen oldcarbines@gmail.com.

Feb 19: McHenry County Gun Show McHenry County Fairgrounds Woodstock, IL Donald Cichoski (815) 385-1982

March

Mar 4-5: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike (630) 363-3131.

Mar 11-12: Aledo Gun & Knife Show, Mercer County Fairgrounds, Aledo, IL Mark Craft (309) 371-3593

Mar 12: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St Charles, IL Mick Stout (815) 217-2266

Mar 18-19: Peoria Gun & Knife Show, Peoria, IL (Exposition Gardens). Mark Craft 309 371-3593.

Mar 19: McHenry County Gun Show McHenry County Fairgrounds Woodstock, IL

Donald Cichoski (815) 385-1982

Mar 25-26: Sauk Trail Gun Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton, IL. Dan Fritz 309 689-1934.

GUN CLUBS

Foosland Sportsman's Club Shooting opportunities open to the public at the Foosland Sportsman's Club. Contact Ron Beatty (217-417-3552) or pagan69@mchsi.com.

Second Tuesdays: 6p Tuesday night trap shoots
Second Sunday: Splatter board through March 13

DeWitt County Sportsman's Club

Breakfast first the third Sunday at 8:30a.m. Open to the public.

Sullivan Gun Club LLC.

Every Friday night: Trap shooting under the lights. Open at 6p, Derby starts at 7pm.

Oak Park Sportsmen's Club.

Falling steel match **First Mondays** starting at 4:30pm.

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.

The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

Democracy dies at the Washington Post

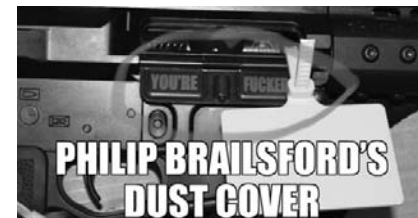
WaPo loses 16% of subscribers since 2021

(Yahoo News) - The Washington Post has lost 500,000 subscribers since Biden took office in Jan. 2021, The Wall Street Journal reported Thursday.

Learn to code, kids

Layoffs coming to WaPo

(Washington Post) - The Washington Post will continue to eliminate jobs early next year, Publisher Fred Ryan said Wednesday, weeks after the paper announced it will shutter its Sunday magazine and lay off 11 newsroom employees.



Mesa to pay \$8 Million to widow of Daniel Shaver, the unarmed man shot while crawling to police

(Reason) - The Arizona Republic reports that the town of Mesa, Arizona, reached an \$8 million settlement last week with the widow of Daniel Shaver. Shaver is the unarmed man who was fatally shot while crawling down a hallway on his hands and knees toward police officers, begging them not to shoot him.

In January 2016, Mesa police responded to a report of a man pointing a rifle out of a hotel window. It was in fact Shaver showing a pellet gun that he used at his exterminator job to a couple other hotel guests in his room.

Police ordered Shaver out of the hotel room and onto the ground, with his hands behind his head. But instead of handcuffing Shaver, officers—bizarrely—started barking confusing and contradictory orders at him to crawl toward them. As a clearly terrified and drunk Shaver tried to crawl toward the police, he appeared to reach toward his waistband to pull up his sagging shorts. A Mesa officer, Philip Mitchell Brailsford, shot Shaver five times with an AR-15, killing him.

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The Armed Women of America

3rd Wednesday (6:00-8:00p)
Christian County
Locked and Loaded, Pana, IL
twaw.christiancountyill@yahoo.com

2nd Thursday (6:30-8:30p)
Bloomington-Normal
CI Shooting Sports, Normal, IL

1st Wednesday (6:00-8:00p)
Champaign County
High Caliber Training Center, Urbana, IL

2nd Monday (6:30p-8:30p)
Chicago Western Suburbs
Range at 355, Bolingbrook, IL

One Monday each month,
email twawcookohare@gmail.com for date
Cook County O'Hare
Maxon's Shooters Supply & Indoor Range, Des Plaines, IL

3rd Monday (6:30-8:30p)
Kane County
GAT Guns, East Dundee, IL

2nd Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
Lake County
5 Star Firearms in Zion, IL

Last Saturday of month
Kankakee County
ISRA Range in Bonfield, IL
twawkankakee@gmail.com

First Thursday (6-8pm)
Macon County
The Bullet Trap, Macon, IL
email twaw.maconco1@yahoo.com

Last Sunday (3:00-5:00p)
Metro East St. Louis
Town and Country Gun Club, Maryville, IL

First Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
Metro Peoria / River City
TacShack, Peoria, IL

3rd Monday (6:00-8:00p)
Sangamon - Menard
MTM Arms, Athens, IL

3rd Thursday (6-8pm)
Effingham County
Accuracy Firearms

3rd Thursday (6:00-8:00p)
Pocahontas
Rampart Range, Pocahontas, IL

2nd Sunday (2:00-4:00p)
Little Egypt
Tombstone Gun Range & Training Center, Marion, IL

2nd Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
McHenry County
On Target Range, Crystal Lake, IL

3rd Thursday (6-8p)
McHenry County NORTH
Second Amendment Sports in McHenry, IL
mchenrynorthchapter@yahoo.com

2nd Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
Winnebago County
KAP Guns, Lovespark, IL

First Tuesday 6-8p
Fox Valley
Fox Valley Shooting Range, Elgin, IL
foxvalleytwawsc@gmail.com

4th Friday (6:00-8:00p)
Quad Cities
Milan Rifle Club in Milan



KILLADELPHIA: Gas station owner hires heavily armed security to protect customers

Philadelphia (GSL/TTAG) - Welcome to Philadelphia, land of gas station robberies and carjackings, to say nothing of organized retail theft. In short, Philly has devolved into a cesspool of violent crime to the point that one gas station owner has had enough. He's hired heavily armed security guards to patrol his business while packing long guns.

When most normals see ostentatious levels of security, we usually ask ourselves if we've found ourself in an unsafe environment. But in Philadelphia, where rampant violent crime has increasingly become the norm, there are fewer and fewer safe spaces left.

The scene looks like something out of a third-world country. But for many Philadelphians, seeing a heavily-armed security guard patrolling a gas station might be a selling point over the station down the street without the deterrence of overtly armed security.

Making the blocking of purchases at gun stores more palatable to Americans

Banks are devising ways to 'flag' potential mass killers in purchases

(Bloomberg) - Banks are developing technology to identify potential mass shooters, according to a CEO backing the push to get credit-card companies to more closely track gun purchases.

"Detection scenarios" are in the works that, if triggered, would prompt banks to file a Suspicious Activity Report to the Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Amalgamated Bank Chief Executive Officer Priscilla Sims Brown said at the New York Times DealBook conference Wednesday.

"We're at the very early stages of this — this particular code just got approved in October, so those detection scenarios are still being brought together," Brown said. "But as this is implemented, those scenarios will be used."

The strategy would mirror ways banks try to identify and stop fraudsters from using customers' funds.



CT Gov. Ned Lamont declares grandfathered AR-15 ownership a 'Loophole,' now wants to ban those guns too

(TTAG) - Important allies are cool to an idea Gov. Ned Lamont unexpectedly floated during a campaign debate and intends to pursue: Repealing the exemption that allows residents to possess AR-15 rifles purchased before the ban on sales in Connecticut.

Twice, in 1993 and then again after the Sandy Hook massacre a decade ago, the General Assembly has passed laws banning the sale of certain military-style weapons, most notably the AR-15 and its many variations.

But each time, the legislature assured gun owners that a "grandfather" provision would allow them to retain those guns. A seizure of tens of thousands of firearms was a legal and political line lawmakers were unwilling to cross. ...



Birmingham Mayor Randall Woodfin. Was he high when he wrote this?

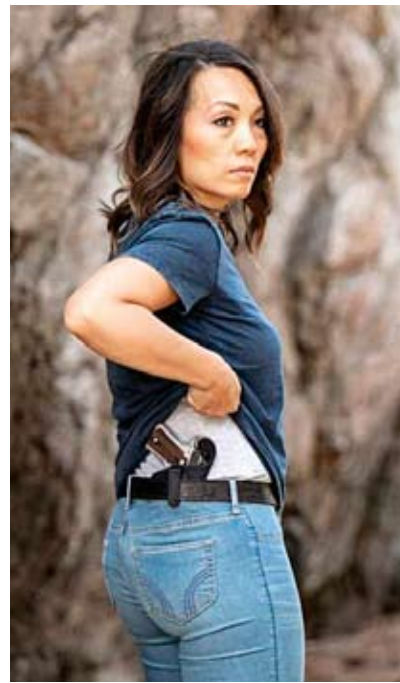
Birmingham Mayor's 'common sense' proposal: just regulate guns in cities

Birmingham, AL (GSL/TTAG) - Birmingham, Alabama's uber-woke Mayor Randall Woodfin offered his latest "common sense" proposal to tackle the rampant black-on-black crime infesting his city. He wants to regulate gun ownership for his city's residents. While we don't want to make assumptions, we suspect he misspelled "ban" as "regulate."

Defunding the police, Soros-funded prosecutors not prosecuting and normalizing violence didn't cause this. It was global warming! Yeah, that's the ticket!

Warm days are contributing to gun violence surge across the US

(Medical Express) - From Philadelphia to Portland, cities across the United States are experiencing spikes in gun violence on warm days.



Number of Americans packing heat nearly doubled to 16M from 2015-2019...

(ZeroHedge) - A new study published in the American Journal of Public Health revealed the number of law-abiding Americans carrying a loaded handgun daily nearly doubled between 2015-19.

The study titled "Trend in Loaded Handgun Carrying Among Adult Handgun Owners in the United States, 2015–2019" found the number of law-abiding US adults carrying handguns nearly doubled from 9 million in 2015 to 16 million in 2019.



If at first they don't succeed...

Seattle radicals trying to defund the police again... permanently this time

Seattle (KTTH) - Despite a rise in crime, some on the City Council are trying to defund the Seattle Police Department again...

The council is currently debating Mayor Bruce Harrell's budget. Anti-police council member Teresa Mosqueda, who once defended a man threatening to murder police, is looking to cut funds from the SPD permanently. She just doesn't want you to realize it's part of the defund movement.



Dems in Washington float defunding police in 2A sanctuary jurisdictions

(GSL/TTAG) - Call it the newest "defund the police" movement. Much like the White House is now "keeping an eye" on the outbreak of free speech on Twitter, Connecticut Senator Chris Murphy — one of the loudest opponents of Second Amendment rights in the federal government — announced that Democrats will have to "have a conversation" about funding law enforcement in Second Amendment sanctuary counties and states.

Impossible! Gun confiscations were supposed to stop this!

6 shot to death in Australia

(NY Post) - Six people, including two cops, were killed in an hours-long standoff in a remote area of Australia on Monday night.

Four officers from the Tara Police Station had arrived to a property in rural Wiam-billa in Queensland around 4:45 p.m. to investigate a report of a missing person, Queensland Police confirmed early Tuesday.

Constables Matthew Arnold, 26, and Rachel McCrow, 29, were shot and killed as they approached the address, authorities said. A third officer was injured.

The shooting gave way to six-hour siege, during which the suspects killed neighbor Alan Sure, 58, who came over to investigate the commotion, officials said.



Don't you feel safer?

ATF busts old man selling guns at Florida flea market

Deland, FL (TTAG) - Charles "Chuck" Palmatier will serve one year and a day in a federal prison for selling guns at the Volusia Flea Market in Deland, Florida without a Federal Firearm License.



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Poor neighborhoods will bear greatest burden of 'Bail Reform' but sponsors don't care

(Wirepoints) - Bail reform has already come in various forms: to Cook County including Chicago, plus New York City, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and other U.S. cities. Now a souped-up version is coming statewide in Illinois. Other states should be on high-alert in coming months and years for bail reform initiatives because buyer's remorse will be part of the package whether proponents want to admit it or not. This is a key takeaway from a new issue brief: "Bail Reform in Chicago: Un-Solving Problems in Public Safety and Court Financing" from the Manhattan Institute by University of Cincinnati professor John Paul Wright. He uses Cook County and Illinois as his primary example.

Wright argues that criminal justice reformers who backed bail changes in Cook County and the SAFE-T Act in Illinois callously ignore the harmful impacts on lower-income, crime-prone minority communities. Says Wright, "The costs of crime are borne on the backs of individuals, families, and businesses that all too often occupy the least privileged neighborhoods in society."

Cook County is already paying the price due to bail reform enacted under Chief Judge Timothy Evans in late 2017. Up to November 19 this year, the crime website CWBChicago reports there have been 87 alleged victims of people facing trial in Chicago just for top-tier violent crime or weapons felonies – and who were out on bail under relaxed rules instituted in by Evans 2017. That includes 49 alleged victims of killings or shootings or attempts to kill or shoot them. More than 15,000 crimes of all sorts have been committed by Cook County pretrial defendants out on bail since bail reform was instituted in 2017, but that amount is lowballed dramatically because most crimes go unreported and arrest rates in Chicago are so low.



Illinois Legislative Black Caucus members cheer passage of the SAFE-T Act.

Wright in the issue brief says bail reform in Cook County is "unsolving" crime problems and that the SAFE-T Act's end of cash bail and its sharp limitation of pretrial detention will worsen crime victimizations – particularly for at-risk communities that can stand it the least.

Wright does not in his paper address some of the broader causes of crime in Chicago: that four out of five black children are born to unmarried mothers; that K-12 public education fails to deliver proficiency in reading and math to about 90 percent of black students; and that sentencing in Cook County courts is weak and systemically immune from transparency and accountability. Wright does however accent the devastating marginalization by policy-makers of minority victims of crimes facilitated by bail reform.

A moment of levity

A Chihuahua

Two women were out for a Saturday stroll. One had a Doberman and the other, a Chihuahua.

As they walked down the street, the one with the Doberman said to her friend, "Let's go over to that bar for a drink."

The lady with the Chihuahua said, "We can't go in there. We've got dogs with us."

The one with the Doberman said, "Just watch, and do as I do."

They walked over to the bar and the one with the Doberman put on a pair of dark glasses and started to walk in. The bouncer at the door said, "Sorry, lady, no pets allowed."

The woman with the Doberman said, "You don't understand. This is my seeing-eye dog."

The bouncer said, "A Doberman?"

The woman said, "Yes, they're using them now. They're very good."

The bouncer said, "OK, come on in."

The lady with the Chihuahua thought that convincing him that a Chihuahua was a seeing-eye dog may be a bit more difficult, but thought, "What the heck," so she put on her dark glasses and started to walk in.

Once again the bouncer said, "Sorry, lady, no pets allowed."

The woman said, "You don't understand. This is my seeing-eye dog."

The bouncer said, "A Chihuahua?"

The woman with the Chihuahua thought about it for a few moments.

"A Chihuahua? They gave me a flipping Chihuahua?!"

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