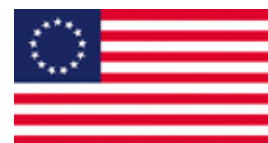


WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT  
TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

COMPLIMENTARY. TAKE ONE.

# GUNNews

CELEBRATING OUR  
30<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE

**PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE, INC.**

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2023

AFFILIATED WITH ILLINOIS GUN RIGHTS ALLIANCE, JPFO, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES AND OTHERS



*Alliance including Guns Save Life filing suits in federal court*

# SEE YOU IN COURT!

(GSL) - Days ago, Senate President Don Harmon haughtily proclaimed, "See you in court" as the Illinois Senate approved HB-5471, the gun and magazine ban law.

Now that it's law, Guns Save Life has a message for him: "Your terms are acceptable."

Seeing the momentum building even before the first of the year, Guns Save Life joined together with other key players in Illinois to fight the measure not so much in the General Assembly, but in court. Our new coalition is now known as the **Illinois Gun Rights Alliance**.

We've identified potential individual plaintiffs, retained two outstanding Illinois-based legal teams. We've also signed up the Second Amendment Law Center and Chuck Michele from California to backstop our Illinois attorneys.

In the coming days, we anticipate filing the first of several legal actions to block the new law in federal court. Gun owners should expect us to nail down a Temporary Restraining Order to block enforcement of the measure sometime in February. Given the *Bruen* precedent from the

US Supreme Court last year, and decisions since then, we expect a permanent injunction blocking the law.

For more on the law's provisions, see page 5. To learn more about the IL Gun Rights Alliance, see page 6. Turn to page 8 for what you can expect to happen in the coming days and weeks and page 9 for more on how you can help.

Law-abiding gun owners have never faced an attack like this one before in our state. Fortunately we have the *Bruen* Supreme Court precedent in our back pocket. With the supercharged Second Amendment, we're going to court to kick in some teeth.

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul better hire some new attorneys, because his current A-Team didn't do so well trying to protect the new "No Cash Bail" law from lawsuits to block its implementation. In fact, the Illinois Supreme Court not only refused Kwame's motion to vacate the temporary stay for the 64 counties it covered, but instead the Illinois Supremes expanded it to all 102 counties. Nice lawyering there Kwame.

## LaSalle County GSL is back!

*We'll meet on the Second Thursday, Feb. 9th at Jamie's Outpost in Utica!*

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*This issue in memory of Gary Moore.*

## February 2023

- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **February 6**, March 6  
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **February 7**, March 7  
Pontiac Sportsman's Club, 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **February 1**, March 1  
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **February 2**, March 2  
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 W. Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
- **Champaign County:** Second Tuesday: **February 14**, March 14  
KC Hall, 1001 N. Ohio St., Rantoul
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **February 8**, March 8  
Golden Corral, 445 E. Palatine Road, Arlington Heights  
*\*Meeting program starts at 6pm for this location...*
- **Charleston:** Second Thursday: **February 9**, March 9  
U Hotel Conference Center, 920 West Lincoln Ave, Charleston
- **LaSalle County:** Second Thursday: **February 9**, March 9  
Jamie's Outpost, 602 Clark St. Utica
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: **January 29, February 26**, March 26  
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



Members of the Lincoln Heritage Pheasants Forever Young Guns in Charleston - a great group of young people.



It doesn't look like your daddy's rifle, but this precision air rifle will shoot through the same hole at 10m every time.



### Gary Moore 1942-2022

(GSL) - America lost some of her treasure as Gary Moore passed away. Gary was one of our regulars at the Sangamon County GSL. He died on Christmas Eve. An old die-hard Crimson Tide alumni, he seemed so ordinary. In reality, he was extraordinary, but you might never know it.

In the last half of his life, he worked as a professional photographer, picking up from where he took photos at the University of Alabama while in college.

His obituary mentioned that he "served his country in the US Navy during Viet Nam."

Well, there's an understatement. But like many true heroes, he seldom talked about his brave and courageous service to his country. It was always just "doing my job."

Howard Gary Moore was one of the very first US Navy SEALs. Some say he was a commander of a SEAL Team when he eventually retired from service with the SEALs, but he never mentioned that to me personally.

He fought in Viet Nam in the early 1960s. Shot twice, he recovered each time. If he was in the mood he might tell you about the nasty wound he got after a dead man bit him on the shoulder after getting knifed. "That was worse than getting shot," he recalled.

He also travelled to exotic locations aside from Southeast Asia, including doing some work in an island nation just off America's coast in that same time frame.

Between his upbringing and his service to America, he staunchly supported America's Constitution and the Second Amendment in particular.

We're going to miss him a whole lot. He was an exceptional man, yet humble and unassuming to the core.



The coolest gun, ever! The Greener Mk. 2 Light Harpoon gun. The harpoon launches off the end of the barrel and is sighted with one of the barbs. It was used for hunting large fish, including sharks. It was also featured in Jaws.



Marcus Melnick, left, our NW Chicagoland Regional Director with Wayne S. who won the Sig Mosquito pistol.



State Rep. Dan Caulkins in Springfield.



David Sproul won a Ruger 9mm pistol in Rantoul. He's pictured with our Champaign Co. Regional Director Dick Brandt.



NRA's Kelvin Curtis, right, addresses the audience at our Northwest Chicagoland meeting.



Richard Parks, left with Gary Berkshier who won in Peoria.



The pictures, top from Charleston, bottom from Sangamon County, don't really do the crowds justice. Charleston had about 120+, Springfield closer to 130+.



Vitali from NW Chicagoland talking about a road rage incident.



Greg Worrell won the 50/50 in Rantoul.



Rob Lewis won the Colt Single Action revolver and M. Robiclard won the 50/50.



Steve Rairden won the Mossberg Maverick 88 shotgun and Dave Thomas won the 50/50 in Charleston.

### CHICAGO INSANITY CONTINUES

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

#### 2022 Totals

Shot & Killed: **665**  
Shot & Wounded: **2937**  
Total Shot: **3602**  
Total Homicides: **736**

Most of America wouldn't tolerate that in their hometowns. Numbers courtesy of HeyJackass.com.



## Meeting Summaries

### Chicagoland.

We did not have a Chicagoland meeting in December because of the Christmas holidays. **We will return on the last Sunday in January.**



Brian Smith, right, demonstrates with Alfreda how to make it more difficult for bad guys to grab you and drag you away. (Hint: Relax and become "dead weight.")

Nationally-known firearm and personal defense instructor **Brian Smith** will be our featured speaker.

### Pontiac.

John Boch called things to order at the **Pontiac Sportsmen's Club**. As custom, they had good, home-cooked food and a warm welcome.

We had a good crowd to hear **Mr. Boch's Executive Director's Update**, and he shared the latest out of Springfield. While we didn't pass the hat, we did have some legal fund donations provided to us.

For our main speaker, we welcomed **Coach Joe Miller of the Central Illinois Precision Shooters**. He coaches at one of America's designated **US Olympic** training facilities for **USA Shooting** in Bloomington and they help nurture a lot of good shooters there. Good enough, in fact, that they have four alumni attending colleges on full ride shooting scholarships and another they're grooming to shoot on the US Olympic shooting team.



Joe Miller and Jeff Simpson, coaches at CIPS.

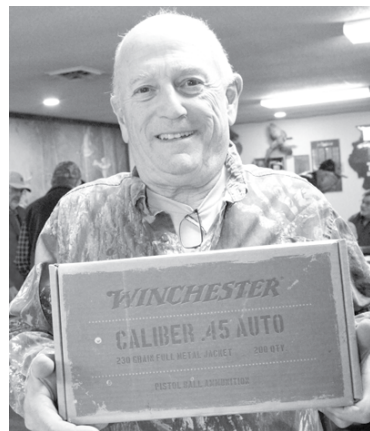
How good? They can hit the dot on the "i" on a Pepsi can at fifty yards with their smallbore rifles. Or consistently hit the period in the last sentence at ten meters indoors with their air rifles.

Coach Miller showed some of the hardware the kids are using - all highly customized rifles. They record the settings for the adjustments and that allows multiple shooters to use these very high end precision rifles.

Asked how light the triggers were, Miller said they were about 900 grains, or about two ounces. Basically light enough that the shooter can will the rifle to shoot.

Throughout his presentation, he emphasized the importance of older shooters like us taking out young people to infect them with the fun and excitement of shooting sports. Without them, our gun rights will end in a generation or two. "So take your kid or grandkid out. Don't have one handy? Take your neighbors kids or grandkids," he told everyone.

He remarked on one disabled young man in their shooting program who doesn't have use of his right hand. He can't excel in traditional school sports, but he won the gold medal at the National Championships for his age group. Joe said successes like that and seeing the thrill on kids' faces when they win are why he loves coaching.



Terry Riccolo.

We held our drawings as usual for both the 50/50 and the "gun" - in this case .45 ACP and .38 Special ammunition. **Terry Riccolo** won the ammo haul. Congrats to him.

### Decatur.

Our **Decatur Regional Director Dave Randolph** called the meeting to order. He announced that he's "retiring" as the Decatur RD after four years in April-ish. He's looking for someone to slide into his shoes. If you're interested, please contact him. He's done a great job, in part thanks to his great steering committee team that will remain.



State Reps. Brad Halbrook, left, and Dan Caulkins in Decatur.

**State Representatives Dan Caulkins and Brad Halbrook** tag teamed a **Legislative Update from Springfield**. Both men represent (or will represent) areas in or near Decatur. They lamented a lot of things and despite their super-minority status, they're fighting the good fight.

**The Bullet Trap owner Dan Cooley** offered the **Industry and FOID report**. On the industry side of things, this new gun ban is going to throw a monkey wrench into sales. FOID-wise, he noted how the FOIDs will automatically renew every time you purchase

a gun if you have fingerprints on file.

**GSL's Executive Director** delivered his report. "We're gonna kick their teeth in," John Boch said in terms of GSL's plans to take Pritzker and crew to court over the proposed gun and magazine ban. We also passed the hat for legal donations and **collected \$1858**. Thank you all!

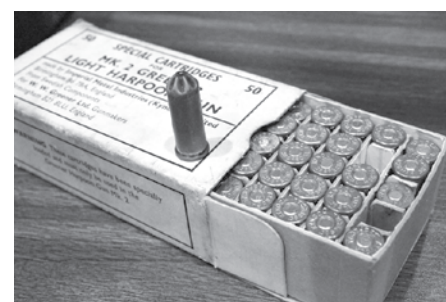
**Macon County State's Attorney Scott Rueter** filled the role as our main speaker, talking about the **"No Cash Bail Act"** and its status. "We tried to lobby against this. We tried to tell them this thing had problems, but they ignored us back then," he said. And now, he noted, Democrats are unhappy that the State's Attorneys went to court to block the measure.

"Be hopeful, but don't count your chickens before they hatch," he said of his estimation that the No Cash Bail aspect of the law will be permanently blocked.

For **tech time**, we had two impressive specimens. First, **Jeff Olson brought a Greener Martini Action Light Harpoon Gun** with accessories in an original box. Yes, this is the gun from the classic movie **Jaws**.



The gun uses a Martini rifle action and fires a .38 blank cartridge to propel a small harpoon (hollow on the inside as it rides over the "barrel" of the Martini "rifle") weighing about a pound into a tuna fish, shark or (very) small whale. Olson indicated that the string had a test weight of about 600 pounds.



He bought it for less than a thousand dollars from a museum in Alaska that went out of business. His kit looks brand new and even partial set-ups of this Greener gun have sold for over \$8000.



The Charleville musket.

The harpoon gun sort of eclipsed another outstanding **Tech Time piece**, the **1766 Charleville Musket** reproduction brought in. The Charleville was the gun the American side often used during the Revolutionary War. With the bayonet installed, this musket was over 6' tall and weighed more than a Garand, but it shot a lot slower rate of fire. At .69 caliber, it shot roughly a one ounce ball at about 1200fps, enough to wreck someone's day on the receiving end.

**Scott Stonecipher (sp?)** won the gun. Congrats to him!

*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!



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

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

**Charleston Feb.: EAA Witness .40 cal**

**Sangamon Feb.: Henry Goldenboy .357 Magnum levergun** (awesome!)



## Executive Director's Report

YOU can join the fun...

### 'Operation Ridicule' coming their way

by John Boch

GSL Executive Director

Just like racist bigots in the Jim Crow South fought against desegregation of public schools after *Brown v. Board of Education*, some Illinois politicians ignored the *Bruen* decision and passed a gun and magazine ban.

Now that "Public Act 102-1116" has become law, don't make any dumb or ill-considered posts on social media. Don't paste a target on your own back by saying, "Molon Labe."

Instead, focus your anger and use it constructively.

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

First and foremost, join Guns Save Life and contribute to the legal defense fund(s) (see page 9 or our website). Use your employer match if it's available. Encourage clubs and organizations where you belong to donate to our legal fight.

Here's the part where things get fun.

The days of congeniality have passed. Those who support this rabid gun control law *hate you*. They hate your independence and your beliefs. They haughtily mock you and your family as though you're all knuckle-dragging Neanderthals.

Return the love.

In *Alinsky's Rules for Radicals*, the old communist author wrote that **ridicule is man's most potent weapon**.

Use it ruthlessly.

Write letters to the editor of your local dead-tree newspapers.



Make it personal with the politicians who voted for this. Ridicule them about scandals past and present.

For example, Rep. Carol Ammons was subject to a criminal investigation for allegedly shoplifting a designer Coach purse from a charity thrift store in Urbana. Mention that in passing while you discuss her vote to further burden poor families by

handicapping their ability to defend themselves from violent criminals.

In the coming weeks, once we get the restraining orders in place blocking this new law, you can really **rub their noses in the humiliation of defeat**.

Relentlessly ridicule those local politicians who voted for this law despite the *Bruen* decision coming down last summer.

- **Mention the racist roots of gun control, and how armed blacks don't get oppressed.**
- **Note that if gun control worked, Chicago would stand as a beacon of peace and tranquility.**
- **Attack them for referring to "gang violence" as "gun violence." Ask if they're more interested in protecting gang members than law-abiding families.**
- **Remind folks how gun control disarms victims, not criminals and that it is un-American.**
- **Compare the politicians who voted for this to the racist bigots in the south who refused to integrate the last of America's segregated schools after *Brown v. Board of Education* came down in the 1950s.**
- **Express the irony that the people voting for this have armed good guys protecting them as they voted to strip the best-selling personal defense guns from the little people like you and me.**

Other tip: don't use the other side's adjectives. Remember to describe these guns as America's most popular self-defense firearms, not as "assault weapons." Refer to the affected magazines as "standard capacity," not "high capacity."



**Visit them at town forums** When these politicians hold town forum meetings, make sure to attend. Leave your gun culture apparel at home, and ambush them with tough

questions about their votes, the failure of gun control and/or the racist roots of gun control. Watching them squirm will prove priceless.



#### What else? More letters...

Send these pols letters to their residences expressing your opposition to their votes. I guarantee a staffer won't be the one reading a letter sent to their homes. One or two paragraphs, tops - and even a single line will work: "Just wanted to let you know how disappointed I am to learn of your vote to take guns from the little people while you enjoy armed guards where you work." Don't hide behind anonymity - sign your name. Need addresses for your "favorite" elected officials? Visit the Illinois State Board of Elections website and search candidate filings.

If you see these pols in public, interrupt them to express your opposition to their votes and leave it at that. Don't feel badly about it. After all, they didn't feel too badly about voting away your ability to protect your home and family with the most effective guns.



Don't want to interact with them in person? Leave a love note on their car.

And if you see Rep. Carol Ammons at any retailer, keep a close eye on her. Please don't hesitate to call the police if you see her shoplifting.



Carol Ammons.

And if you see Senator Michael Hastings beating his new girlfriend in public or in the car, call the police.

## Potential scammers descend upon Illinois gun owners

### Beware of Dorr Brothers...

An email we received:

Be aware that the Dorr Brothers (Specifically Chris) are using targeted Facebook Ads to solicit e-mail information from IL gun owners with a follow up request for donations. This time around he's using the front of the American Firearm Association. If you're not familiar with these guys, they're known for soliciting money for their pro 2A non profits all around the US and paying their for profit consulting firm (themselves) with the money.

I've attached a screen shot of their Ad for educational purposes.



### Ohio's experience with Dorr Brothers

(Buckeye Firearms) - A recent investigative report by Cleveland.com suggests the leader of an Ohio organization may be running a fundraising scam, asking for donations purportedly to help pass pro-gun laws, then funneling the money to an out-of-state, for-profit business and pocketing the money along with family members....

The formula appears to be identical across all of these organizations: use Facebook videos to attack pro-gun lawmakers and gun rights organizations, then ask for money. They also oppose pro-gun legislation, then take credit for other people's work when the legislation passes.

### Illinois Sheriffs Association warns of phone scam

(The Center Square) - The Illinois Sheriff's Association is alerting Illinoisans about scammers trying to take advantage of the assault weapons ban and the sheriffs opposed to it.

Officials said people are being contacted by phone with a request to make a monetary donation to the ISA and are told the supposed contribution would go toward fighting the weapons ban.

The association said the suspected phone number used for the calls was from the 224 area code, which is Cook County.

## LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

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Download an application at [dewittcountysc.com](http://dewittcountysc.com) or by mailing a request to DCSC, PO Box 322, Clinton, IL 61727.





## NO MORE SALES, FOR NOW

### Pritzker signs gun ban bill

(GSL) - On Tuesday, January 10th, Governor Pritzker signed HB-5471 into law. With an immediate effective date, it impacts gun stores and gun owners alike rather dramatically in some ways, and in other ways there's a 90 day grace period.



Rep. Bozo Bob Morgan celebrates Pritzker signing HB-5471 with some Moms Demand Action harpies.

It bans sales and possession of America's favorite rifle, the AR-15 and pretty much all semi-auto centerfire rifles. It also bans possession and sales of pretty much all semi-auto shotguns (think shorty shells to easily exceed the five-round limit in the law). Bans more than a few hot-selling defensive handguns too based upon features (threaded muzzles equals icky, prohibited gun).

Class 3 felony for two or more prohibited guns, unless you register them (make, model and serial number) as an existing owner and get a FOID endorsement to legally keep them.

After 90 days you can possess your scary guns anywhere, so long as it's on your property.

There is language about transportation to "licensed" ranges, but Illinois doesn't have a range-licensing program. (That may be coming this spring in the General Assembly.)

Bans possession and sales of magazines over 10 rounds for rifles, 15 for handguns. 90 days to get rid of them or to get the endorsement to your FOID card. After 90 days, you're very limited where you can use them

and they must be transported unloaded and encased. \$1000 fine as a petty offense for each one in violation of the law.

**Bans .50 BMGs**, including ammunition unless you register. Got a cartridge and no registered gun? Class A misdemeanor.

**Got parts that can make your gun shoot faster...** bump stock, forced reset triggers, binary triggers for example? Each of those are good for a Class 2 felony RIGHT NOW.

**Other icky parts not on a gun:** like telescoping stock, thumb-hole stock, flash suppressor, a forward grip, grenade or flare launcher? Class 4 felony for the first item and Class 3 for subsequent.

The Illinois State Police are already ignoring the written law and making things up as they go. They're saying that trips to and from a range are okay, even though there are no "licensed ranges." ISP also says that gun registration may be completed up to December 31, 2023.

The law, Public Act 102-1116, also contains language giving the Illinois State Police carte blanche to pass any emergency rule making when it comes to guns and accessories.

There are other issues in the bill that will impact even more Land of Lincoln residents. Even if you think you're in the clear, you may not be. And if you make a mistake and fail to register two or more prohibited guns, that's a Class 2 felony.

Mad yet?

Here's what you can do:

1. **Join or renew your membership in GSL.**
2. **Donate to one or more of the legal defense funds:** Aurora Sportsmen's Club, FFL-IL, or the Second Amendment Law Center.
3. **Got an employer matching program?** Have your employer match your giving.
4. **Get any clubs and orgs you belong to involved.** Have them donate towards our legal funds.
5. **Do you know any gun shops or sporting goods stores?** They should be supporting our legal efforts too.



### IL Supreme Court puts 'No Cash Bail' on ice

Atty Gen. Kwame Raoul tried to appeal the initial ruling from Kankakee County and then the Illinois Supreme Court broadened the restraining order to the entire state...

(CWB Chicago) - The Illinois Supreme Court has ordered courts statewide to continue operating on the cash bail system until further notice, according to an order issued by the court Saturday afternoon.

A provision of the SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform bill scheduled to go into effect on January 1 would have eliminated cash bail across the state. But a Kankakee County judge found that portion of the law unconstitutional last week.

The Supreme Court's action stems from a filing by DuPage County State's

Attorney Robert Berlin and Kane County State's Attorney Jamie Mosser on Friday afternoon that sought guidance from the Supreme Court to clear up confusion about whether the Kankakee County judge's decision affected all 102 counties or only the 60-plus counties that were involved in the lawsuit that challenged the SAFE-T Act.

Berlin and Mosser asked the Supreme Court to step in because, without intervention by the high court, "defendants in different jurisdictions will be subject to different treatment upon arrest and throughout

pretrial proceedings, creating an equal protection problem for citizens across the State."

Confusion about the future of the bail measure began shortly after Judge Thomas Cunningham's ruling was announced Wednesday evening. Soon after Cunningham's decision came down, Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul's office issued a press release saying Cunningham's finding was "not binding" in any county. But more than 60 counties involved in the lawsuit said they would not adopt the bail reform measure.



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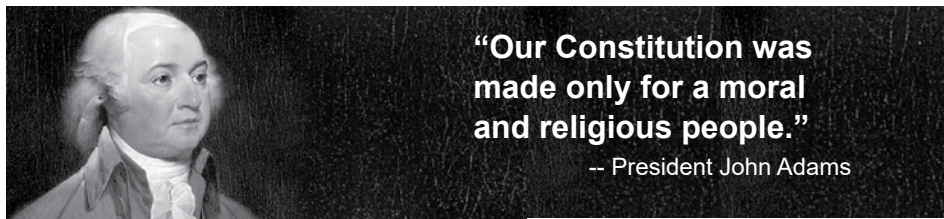
### Join Guns Save Life today.



Membership application on back page of GunNews



# Country Character



## George Washington

by Justin Thyme, a GSL member

Often referred to as the Father of our country, George Washington demonstrated himself a man of courage, compassion and virtue. Without him, our Revolutionary War would likely have failed. What's more, without God's favor, General Washington might not have even survived to fight in the Revolutionary War.

Prior to the Revolutionary War, Washington fought in battle during the French & Indian War on July 9th, 1755. While writing to his brother John, he referenced his experience of that battle: "But by the All-Powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectation; for I had four bullets through my coat and two horses shot under me, yet escaped unhurt, although death was leveling my companions on every side of me."

Further information of this event arrived fifteen years later as Washington traveled in the same area as that battle. While assembled around a council fire, an old Indian chief, through an interpreter said, "I am a chief, and the ruler over many tribes... it was on the day when the white man's blood mixed with the streams of our forest that I first beheld this chief. I called to my young men and said, Mark yon tall and daring warrior? He is not of the red-coat tribe- he hath an Indian's wisdom and his warriors fight as we do- himself is alone exposed. Quick, let your aim be certain and he dies. Our rifles were leveled, rifles which but for him knew not how to miss - 'twas all in vain; a power mightier far than we shielded him from harm. He cannot die in battle..."

Upon entering the service of our country, GW's mother, Mary, wrote to him, "Remember that God is our only sure trust. To Him I commend you... my son, neglect not the duty of secret prayer."

Washington lived a life of faith and trust in the Lord, displayed by his practices of church attendance, prayer and fasting, according to his diary. In June of 1774, as the Colonies were seeking God's will about breaking ties with England, Washington's diary records this

entry, "Went to church and fasted all day."

General Washington expected all officers and soldiers not engaged in duty to attend worship services to seek the blessing of heaven for their safety and defense. It was also expected that those attending worship services would bring their weaponry with them to be prepared for immediate action as necessary. He also discouraged cursing and drunkenness amongst the soldiers.

Following the Revolutionary War, Washington arrived in Philadelphia to meet with James Milligan, Comptroller of the Treasury to settle the accounts.

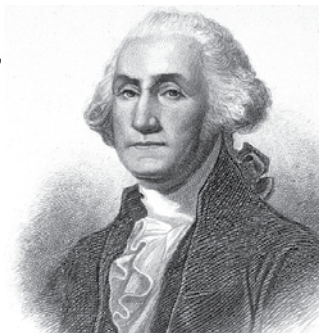
While General Washington had declined to take a salary, he kept detailed accounts for the agreed upon reimbursement of his expenditures. The final audit showed that his records were honest, accurate and complete. He also returned more than \$27,000 of public money which remained in the military chest.

These are but a few examples displaying the character and quality of leadership surrounding the beginning of our country.

There are many churches in our country, yet not nearly enough to contain the citizenry.

However, on Sunday morning our churches do not overflow with worshippers to praise and thank the God whose blessings have been shed on our country.

Consider this: "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14



Guns Save Life a founding member of Illinois Gun Rights Alliance

## New alliance forms to stop Pritzker's gun ban law

(Illinois Gun Rights Alliance) - A coalition representing sporting and self-defense interests from across the state is coming together in an effort to put the brakes on Illinois' recently enacted gun ban. The new law bans the manufacture, sale, and possession of a wide variety of popular firearms and accessories. Coalition members feel that the new law unduly burdens lawful firearm owners and levies a restraint of trade on Illinois' thriving small arms industry.

"All people of good will certainly want to see an end to criminal violence," said coalition spokesperson Mandi Sano. "But expecting lawful citizens to pay penance for the misdeeds of others is not the solution. This new law is divisive, unenforceable, and offers dubious efficacy as a crime-fighting tool. The coalition plans a vigorous legal challenge to this dangerous infringement on the rights of the lawful citizen. When all is said and done, we hope to steer the legislature's focus back to the true cause of violent crime – the unbridled thug."

"Illinois has become the latest state where a simple legislative majority has jammed outright tyranny down the throats of their citizens," said Erich Pratt Senior Vice President, Gun Owners of America. "This unconstitutional ban has drawn the ire of sheriffs and states attorneys across the state, with many pledging to simply not even enforce the law. GOA and GOF are excited to get involved in this case, and we look forward to forcing the anti-gunners, many of whom are from Chicago, to bend the knee to the Bruen decision."

### About the coalition.

Interest in the coalition is growing by the day as the impact of the new law becomes more widely understood. The core of the coalition currently consists of:

**Federal Firearms Licensees of Illinois (FFL-IL)**

**Aurora Sportsmen's Club (ASC)**

**Guns Save Life (GSL)**

**Gun Owners of America (GOA)**

**State Line Rifle Association (SLRA)**

The coalition's legal team is currently being assembled and consists of:

**Chuck Michel, Michel & Associates.**

Chuck has over 25 years of successful litigation experience related to Second Amendment issues – most notably in California.

**Mark Shaw and Mike Danforth.** Messrs. Shaw and Danforth are local counsel possessing a combined half-century's worth of experience in litigating firearms law.

"Nobody should doubt the resolve of the coalition and its supporters," commented spokesperson Mandi Sano. Our intention is to right this wrong in favor of the good people of Illinois."

CONTACT: Mandi Sano (630) 464-1300  
Website: [ilgra.org](http://ilgra.org)

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**GSL**  
GunsSaveLife.com

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Learn More



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

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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*



## Amateurs talk operations; Professionals talk logistics

While it may be only a legend, supposedly General Dwight Eisenhower once remarked that when he was the Supreme Commander of Allied Forces Europe in World War II, his G3 Operations officer would tell him what he should do in an upcoming military campaign, but his G4 Logistics officer was even more important, because he told Ike what he actually could do, given supply considerations. In short, you can have all the tanks and artillery in the world, but if you don't have enough fuel or ammunition, you have problems.

It would seem that the vaunted post-Soviet armed forces never studied *Crusade in Europe*, Ike's account of the war, but even worse, they may have overly relied on their own military greats such as Georgy Zhukov and Konstantin Rokossovsky. And while those two men whipped the vaunted German army time and again, Vladimir Putin should have really paid attention to two men you have never heard of: Andrei V. Krulov and K. E. Goretskii. Both were masters at stockpiling thousands of tons of Soviet supplies before every offensive against the Germans. But it wasn't just that; logistics included weapon repair and maintenance, clearing and maintaining supply routes such as roads, pipelines, and railways, and ensuring that the production base kept churning out everything from "beans to bullets."

The Ukrainians had this figured out. Within two days after the Russian invasion, Ukrainian Railways confirmed that all rail links between Russia and Ukraine had been destroyed, which meant that Russian rail repair units would have to start working overtime.



The Ukrainians also read the theories of Prussian military theorist Carl Clausewitz, who introduced the concept of culminating point, where on the offensive, "the attacking force can no longer continue its advance, because of supply problems, the opposing force, or the need for rest."

To make matters worse for Russian logistics, instead of advancing on 1-3 attack axes, where they could concentrate mass and make movement of supplies simpler – simpler

is better in logistics because if it is complex, what can go wrong will go wrong – Putin chose about five directions from which to attack.

Where was the Russian army general in charge of logistics, and why did he not warn Putin of the potential logistical pitfalls? Silent. Because authoritarian leaders often make poor decisions because they are insulated from reality – subordinates are afraid to give them the truth. But part of the problem has been changing Russian objectives. While we do not know what is truly inside anyone's head in the Kremlin, here are some pronouncements:

February 24, 2022 – Vladimir Putin – "The purpose of this operation is to protect people [in the Donbas] who, for eight years now, have been facing humiliation and genocide perpetrated by the Kiev [Kyiv] regime."

March 1, 2022 – Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu – "The main thing for us is to protect the Russian Federation from the military threat posed by Western countries, who are trying to use the Ukrainian people in the fight against our country."

May 1, 2022 – Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov – "We are demanding that he [Ukrainian President Zelenskyy] give the order to release all civilians and to stop resisting. Our goal does not include regime change in Ukraine."

July 24, 2022 – Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov – "We will help the Ukrainian people get rid of the absolutely anti-popular and anti-historic regime."



So where is old Vlad right now logistically speaking? Retired U.S. Army Lieutenant General Ben Hodges recently said that Ukraine will "continue to pound" Russian headquarters and lines of communication over the next few weeks through February 2023, so that Ukraine can set the conditions for freeing Crimea from Russian control, which Hodges described as the "decisive phase of the campaign. I expect them to liberate Crimea by August [2023]."

Avril Haines, Director of National Intelligence, who spoke at a defense forum on December 3, 2022 reportedly said: "[The intelligence community sees] shortages of ammunition, poor morale, supply issues, logistics – a whole series of concerns that they're facing."

Today, many military analysts opine that Putin may be so desperate that he will use nuclear weapons. I guess that could happen, if Putin perceives he cannot win in the current trend the war is taking. I would posit something less drastic because once the nuclear genie is out of the bottle, no one truly knows how to put it back in. Maybe that is all a Russian deception plan. "If I want to I can take Kiev in a fortnight," said Vlad early on in the Russian offensive. While it probably will not happen, I would not rule out what Putin could do now, that he should have done last February.



Hoard all his supplies if he hasn't already started to. Concentrate all available offensive capability in Russian and Belarus territory north of Kyiv. It's 140 miles. The Russians probably will have 14 days before they hit their culminating point in this attack. They get their best commanders and units, blow a hole in whatever Ukrainian defenses are in place, and try to replicate the German 1944 Ardennes Offensive. Take the Ukrainian capital in those 14 days and offer a negotiated settlement. That might be the only option Putin has to survive.



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JB Pritzker signs HB-5471 into law in a hastily set-up signing ceremony. Image via WGLT.

## Food for thought on the new gun ban

### Expect State Police sting operations at dealers.

JB Pritzker needs a win. Especially after all but a handful of the state's sheriffs told him to go pound sand on enforcement of his new gun and magazine ban.

Look for him to send plain-clothes ISP into gun shops to attempt purchase of now-"prohibited" firearms, magazines, .50 ammo or parts. If he find a shop that makes that sale, Pritzker will publicize that to the ends of the earth as they bankrupt the business with fines and/or a license revocation.

We've heard of some shops still selling now-banned firearms and mags in the day or two after Pritzker signed the new law. Shop owners and managers, beware.

### Challenges to online purchases.

Larger vendors have reportedly errored on the side of caution and blocked most online orders from shipping to Illinois customers. This reportedly includes MidwayUSA, OpticsPlanet and AIMSplus.

Some dealers are reportedly having issues with their suppliers too.

Give them a few weeks to sort things out and try again. Don't try to order magazines or other now-banned items and have them shipped to your residence. That could prove quite costly to you.

### State Police sting ops at big gun merchants just over the borders

South Chicagoland gun owners might think to themselves: "Hey, Gov. Pritzker... I'll just go to Cabela's in Hammond, IN!"

I think it's a pretty safe bet that Pritzker's people over at the Illinois State Police's leadership have thought the same. Your Illinois license plates will stick out like a sore thumb at big gun shops in neighboring states.

If you take an out-of-state trip to Cabela's or another major retailer, don't be surprised if you suddenly find yourself seeing red and blue lights in your rearview once you cross back into the Land of Lincoln Tyranny. They'll search your car for contraband and confiscate any food they discover for the governor.

Rest assured, J.B. Pritzker would love nothing more than to get the scalps of a couple of Illinois gun owners bringing back now-banned guns or magazines.

Ol' J.B. would milk that for publicity until the next sale at the all-you-can-eat buffet.

Senate President Don Harmon: 'We'll see you in court'  
Good Guys Alliance: 'Your terms are acceptable.'

## Chicago Tribune

Anti-gun Democratic operatives with bylines weigh in on gun ban...

## Preparing the battlespace: For DEFEAT

(GSL) - Gun grabbers know they're going to lose in court trying to defend Illinois' new gun and magazine ban (and registration scheme). And they are right.

And now, just days after enactment, both the *Chicago Sun-Times* and the *Chicago Tribune* have prepared the battlespace for a defeat in court.

nois) is going to be challenged, and there is a good chance it will be overturned..."

Eugene Kontorovich, a law professor at George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School, said the bill contained several provisions that were "clearly unconstitutional" on their face.



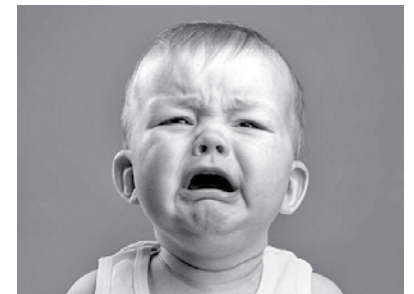
### SUN-TIMES: Why Illinois' new assault weapons ban might not hold up in court

(*Sun-Times*) - Illinois' new assault weapons ban is only days old, but it's already on uncertain legal footing.

Republican lawmakers and gun shop owners say so. But so do constitutional law scholars.

=====

Brace yourself for the coming caterwauling when a temporary restraining order blocks implementation of the gun ban.



And then watch for the epic howling when a permanent injunction comes along.

### TRIBUNE: Illinois' sweeping firearms ban certain to end up in court, and some experts doubt it will stand

(*Chicago Tribune*) - In his closing remarks before a vote on a sweeping firearms ban, Illinois Senate President Don Harmon pushed back at critics who contended the prohibitions would violate the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

The Oak Park Democrat concluded with a message for Republican lawmakers and other opponents of the measure, which was passed in response to the deadly mass shooting at Highland Park's Fourth of July parade: "We'll see you in court..."

[Rabidly anti-gun UCLA School of Law professor Adam Winkler] "The law (in Illi-

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## WHERE WE'RE AT FIGHTING THIS...

Guns Save Life has joined a coalition to counter this new law in court and in the court of public opinion. And clearly GSL joining this alliance allows us to present an even stronger unified front to this gun grab. We are working overtime and then some to serve our members in this fight.



Guns Save Life has already identified nearly two dozen potential individual plaintiffs. Our alliance has already retained not one, but two law firms here in Illinois to file a lawsuit in federal court.



Our original plan was to file within hours of the Governor signing it into law. Then again, we didn't expect JB to sign the bill until late January.

We believe in quality filings over quick filings, so our coalition team's attorneys will likely file sometime in the last week of January. As of this writing, our alliance easily has the best attorneys of anyone challenging HB-5471.

Then we'll file at least one and probably more follow-on lawsuits in the days or weeks afterwards to keep up the publicity nightmare for the governor - and also those who voted for this patently unconstitutional bill.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO.

**First, you can join Guns Save Life.**

We're at the tip of the spear fighting this move against our fundamental constitutional right to keep and bear arms. Having a bigger membership base helps a whole lot. Our members prove themselves exceptional people constantly and we work hard to take good care of them.

At GSL we're altruistic in our advocacy and we serve our members, not the other way around. As an example, unlike one organization, we negotiated a 15% discount for our members who sign up with US Concealed Carry Association instead of taking a 40% commission on all sales. We owe our members to do our very best for them, and if we can help them save money at the same time, we'll do it.

Not only that, but our recommendations and endorsements as an organization and its leadership are *not for sale*.

**Secondly, you can donate to our alliance's legal defense funds.**

**\*ALL\* monies donated will go to attorneys.** We're not sending out fundraising letters, emails or requests for attorney's fees only to co-mingle that money with our operating funds or even a separate bank account while letting someone else pay the lawyers. Yeah, that happens elsewhere, but not here and not in our alliance.

To help fund our local counsel, our coalition has agreed to steer everyone to the FFL-IL organization's legal defense fund or a similar fund set up by the Aurora Sportsmen's Club. It's not perfect, but time is of the essence and the FFL-IL's leadership, including its head Dan El-

dridge of Maxon's, assures us that all donations to FFL-IL's fund will be exclusively earmarked for our Illinois legal fight. I TRUST DAN ELDRIDGE on this, and you should too. This one is not tax deductible.

[ffil.org/donate](http://ffil.org/donate)

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 local 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](http://secure.2alc.org/contribute)

## GSL's commitment

We've passed the hat at meetings and had members send us checks towards this legal battle, even though we've asked people to donate directly to FFL-IL or the Second Amendment Center. As we noted earlier, **\*ALL\* monies donated will go to attorneys.** As a matter of transparency, we've listed those "pass the hat" amounts in the meeting summaries.

At our board meeting at the end of January, the GSL organization will donate at least \$20,938 (total collected as of this writing) to our legal teams. That represents 100% of donations plus additional monies towards this fight. To some that might not sound like a whole lot. However, as a part of our annual income, that would be the equivalent of the Illinois State Rifle Association putting close to \$300,000 of their organization's money towards lawsuits in this matter. Or the National Rifle Association writing a check for \$42 million. Yeah, it's *real* money.

## Donate today. Don't delay.

We anticipate additional gun control measures, equally repugnant to the Second Amendment, to be filed in the new Spring Session. There's already one that bans the transfer or sale of ammo unless it's purchased at a licensed gun shop.

We will go after those measures as well. At the same time, if we meet with the success we anticipate, we will go after existing gun control laws 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 wouldn't that just be a cryin' shame.

To those donating to FFL-IL, ASC, the Second Amendment Law Center or GSL for this fight, we thank you for your trust, confidence and support.







## Chicago: 700+ homicides 3 years running, Some areas 3x more dangerous than military deployment in Afghanistan

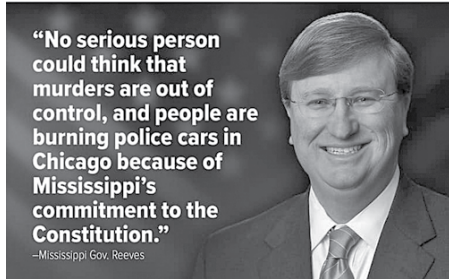
As the year winds down the Windy City has notched 736 homicides (and counting). 2022 marks the third year in a row for 700+ homicides in the Windy City, and four times so far this century. Sadly, life in some parts of America's third-largest city has become more akin to life in a third-world cesspool, three times more dangerous than a combat deployment in Afghanistan.



Officer Olivia Sardella.

Yes, there are some outstanding people living in Chicago. This includes many of the police officers who work heroically to try to keep a lid on the endemic violence. Just before Christmas, Officer Olivia Sardella above, helped save the lives of eight by rescuing them from a house fire.

On the other end of the spectrum, people like Chicago's Mayor Lori Lightfoot have done an exemplary job running Murder City further into the ground and keeping the city's reputation for violence intact. If you doubt it, just ask her and she'll tell you that the only rational choice is to return her to office.



How? *Crime without consequences...*

## 16-year-old carjacked 12 people in less than 7 hours, Chicago police say

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — A 16-year-old boy carjacked 12 drivers in less than seven hours on August 20, Chicago police said today as they announced charges against the juvenile. Police officers arrested the boy Thursday.



## Soros-funded Cook Co. State's Attorney: Three shots to head is clearly self-defense

Chicago (GSL/TTAG) - Chicago Police wanted murder charges after a felon illegally carrying a gun shot a man repeatedly, killing him. Not only did Juan Ferba, 26, fire at least 14 rounds, striking Kristopher Willett a number of times, including three times in the head, but Ferba also hit a woman on a CTA bus with an errant round.

However, Soros-funded Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx looked at the case and pronounced it "self-defense." Now Mr. Ferba only faces charges related to felon in possession of a firearm instead of murder. Should Mr. Ferba post \$1000 in cash he can go home ahead of a trial.



*Never attribute to malice that which is adequately explained by incompetence.*

## With major crime reports up 41%, Chicago's mayor says her crime plan is 'working'

Chicago (CWB Chicago) - With major crime reports up 41% last year and Chicago police staffing down 12% since she became mayor, Lori Lightfoot says she has a public safety plan that's working.

## Forget reading and math. Lori Lightfoot wants CPS students working on her reelection campaign

(GSL) - Just 6% of black students in Chicago Public Schools (CPS) show grade-level proficiency at math and 11% in reading. Instead of working to fix that problem, Lori Lightfoot's mayoral campaign tried to entice CPS teachers to allow students to skip class to campaign for her re-election for twelve hours to earn class credit.



Who needs ethics or decency when you have a struggling re-election campaign to win? It's the Chicago way, after all.

## Surber: Hundreds of staffers in school system had sex with students in Chicago Public Schools

by Don Surber

Chicago - Sex 'n' drugs 'n' rock 'n' roll have replaced readin', writin' and 'rithmetic in Chicago schools.

Dylan Sharkey reported, "Chicago Board of Education Inspector General Will Fletcher reported 470 sexual complaints against Chicago Public School employees from students in 2022."



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## Armed robbers rob Loyola students, cops don't chase

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — A group of people who may be as young as 13 carjacked a woman and then robbed two Loyola University students on Chicago's North Side last night. Chicago police and Loyola University police spotted the hijacked car in Rogers Park early Saturday morning, but pursuits of the suspects were terminated due to safety concerns, according to CPD radio transmissions.



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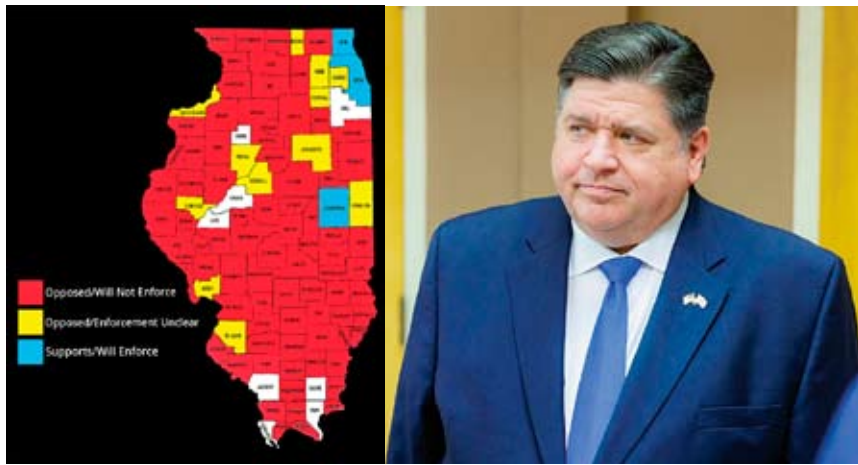


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## GO POUND SAND: 90+ sheriffs, county boards, state's attorneys share message to JB Pritzker over gun ban law

(GSL/TTAG) - Poor Governor J.B. Pritzker. He thought he was going to look like presidential material signing HB-5471, the gun control bill that bans America's hottest-selling self-defense firearms and imposes gun registration upon Illinois residents. He even signed it behind a podium that looks just like the one the president uses.

Within a few hours, a couple of dozen Illinois sheriffs told him to go pound sand. Then some county boards got involved and 48 hours later, 90+ sheriffs and/or county boards told the governor to go pound sand. This includes both Democrat and Republican county sheriffs, state's attorneys and county board members.

Far from being a statesman or effective executive destined for national office, Pritzker suddenly looks weak and impotent in the face of widespread resistance from county sheriffs—of both parties.

Many of these sheriffs have the full support of their local state's attorneys and county boards as well.

*Weak and impotent JB Pritzker is not handling rejection well...*

## Pritzker threatens to fire police for not enforcing his unconstitutional gun ban

(WTVO) — After several Illinois law enforcement agencies said they won't enforce the new gun ban, Gov. JB Pritzker had a strong response: Comply or hit the road.

"As are all law enforcement all across our state and they will in fact do their job or they won't be in their job," Pritzker said Tuesday during a press conference...

At least two groups say they are preparing lawsuits to overturn the law that Pritzker signed Tuesday night, saying it's

unconstitutional, something that Guns Save Life Executive Director John Boch says will be proven in court.

"This thing is going to be blocked by sometime early February at the latest, and it's gonna be done at that point," Boch told WMAY. "There's already Supreme Court precedent on this. There's already other states that have tried to do the same thing that have been shut down."

Several suits are expected to be filed in federal courts next week.



*Meanwhile in Chicago...*

## Teen charged with 'ambush' murder during carjacking attempt has been arrested 3 times for felonies since 2021, prosecutors say

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — A 17-year-old accused of shooting a man to death during a carjacking attempt at an Englewood gas station this week has been charged with two gun crimes and a stolen motor vehicle case in juvenile court since 2021, prosecutors said Thursday, but all of those cases were either diverted or "informally adjusted."

Rafael Harvey did not attend his bail

hearing in person on Thursday morning because one of the victims shot him during the carjacking attempt and he remains hospitalized in serious condition, according to officials.

The gas station's surveillance system recorded the alleged hijacking attempt and shooting. Chicago Contrarian posted footage of the crime earlier this week.

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## Unfired M240B sold at auction...

(GSL) - Morphy Auction in Pennsylvania sold a mint-condition fully transferrable M240B machine gun recently. Firing the 7.62x51 NATO round, the M240B replaced the M60 machine gun in the mid-1990s and is commonly used by America's armed forces where generous application of ballistic therapy is needed.

tray is flash-chrome plated. Optic mounting bracket present at the left side of the receiver. Bipod present. These guns are extremely scarce in the National Firearms Act Registry, There may be as many 11 fully transferable specimens, and 17 Pre-86 dealer sample guns in the Registry."

[Editor: It sold for \$480,000. Images courtesy Morphy Auction. [morphyauctions.com](http://morphyauctions.com)]

From the description: "This particular specimen utilizes a wood buttstock. The feed



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## DOJ announces new 'Stabilizing Brace' rule - Register or Destroy.

By Michael Keleher

And the hits just keep on a coming.... isn't it 2024 yet?

On January 13, 2023, right on schedule three days from the SHOT Show in Vegas, the Justice Department along with BATF announced a new rule/law/sanction/decreed/mandate/edict/instruction/dictate/declaration with new requirements for possessing "stabilizing braces." Yes the same wrist braces for pistols they previously said were fine. Repeatedly. But that was way back before ole Shotgun Brandon "won" the 2020 election.

This announcement (short description - "stabes are bad and need to be reeled back in") comes on the heels of a Federal Court this week smacking down a very similar administrative edict concerning so-called "bump stocks." Those devices, also previously legal and sanctioned/approved by BATF, until they just arbitrarily changed their mind.

Anyone see where this new stabilizer rule is headed? Anyone? Bueller? Hint: Check Waze on your magic glowing boxes for commute time to the nearest federal courthouse.

DOJ and BATF's beef with braces allege that they convert some pistols, like AR based pistols, into short barreled (under 16") rifles (SBRs) which are regulated under the National Firearms Act. SBRs have specific registration requirements for ownership, and must be registered with the BATF following a \$200 tax stamp payment.

This time around they won't charge the \$200 tax to keep what you already own, but owners will have still to register their "new" short barreled rifles with the BATF E-Form 1 within 120 days of the new "law" being published in the *Federal Register*, which reports administrative rules of the fed government.

If you have never seen a volume of the *Fed Register*, think of a set of thousands of rules published each and every year the government is in operation. Words to snooze by, but necessary to keep the government - well... governing.

The Federal Register publication will probably show up in Feb-Mar of 2023. The E-Form 1 is available on the BATF website at ATF.gov. It's so easy to complete that it comes with a 17-page instruction manual. Oh yes, and you will be obtaining and sending your fingerprints

in as well. Simple right? Until they just change their minds again and say "This is the way...now."

BATF and DOJ says nothing in the rule bans stabilizing braces, or the use of stabilizing braces on pistols-or more frustrating to those agencies, how you shoot a pistol with a stabilizing brace. They say they are OK if they are "objectively designed" or help disabled people, or just not obviously made to be shouldered like a rifle. You know, no fooling around... real wrist braces.



The BATF missive says you have to either register your short barreled rifle or "the short barrel removed and a 16-inch or longer rifle barrel attached to the firearm; or permanently remove and dispose of, or alter, the "stabilizing brace" such that it cannot be reattached; or the firearm is turned in to your local ATF office. Or the firearm is destroyed."

Oh, how the ATF offices will have to "brace" for all the guns and stabilizers which will be turned in. They could be inundated by citizens who suddenly want to get rid of their previously sanctioned legal firearms based on this new opinion. Sure.

DOJ has had this in the works all year, and had to put up a notice of the proposed new rule for public comment back in June. They received 237,000 public comments. Pretty sure they received zero comments stating "You guys are great. Keep up the good work. Love ya."

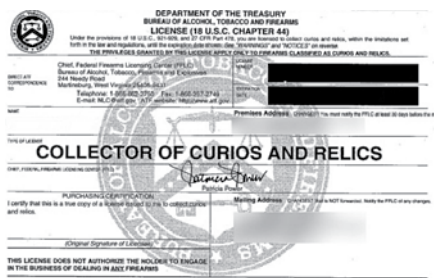
Yes, ATF remains just another example of an agency ignoring the citizenry and Second Amendment rights.

The new final rule, all 293 pages of it, can be found by googling: Factoring Criteria for Firearms with Attached "Stabilizing Braces".

Illinois 'Pistol Brace' Owners:

## Here's what you need to do to legally retain your braced gun!

(GSL) - With the BATF announcing their new rule on "stabilizing braces," existing owners will need to either destroy their firearms, destroy the pistol brace and put a rifle-length barrel on the receiver, surrender the gun, or file the BATF E-Form 1 within 120 days after the Federal Register publishes the rule (likely in February).



If you elect to register your firearm as a Short-Barreled Rifle (SBR), you will need a Curios and Relics Federal Firearms License to become eligible to legally have an SBR here in Illinois. The only other way around this is to maintain a membership in a military re-enactment group.

The C&R license application form is at the BATF website. (Google Curios and Relics license application.) The form is 12 pages long, but you only need to fill out the first four. It will take less than fifteen minutes

to complete. Maybe a half-hour if you read the directions extra closely. It's \$30 for a three-year license and the application is very similar to a Form 4473 that we all fill out when buying a firearm.

You'll fill it out, mail a copy to BATF and a second copy to your Chief Law Enforcement Officer in your locality. About 4-6 weeks later you'll get a packet or two from your new-found friends at F-Troop, including your very own original license. You don't do anything with that except scan/copy it, unsigned, and store the original.

That license will permit you to legally register (or apply for) a SBR "tax stamp." It looks like the BATF will be literally giving away the stamps for brace-equipped gun owners looking to register them. There are some rules about class 3 firearms and you'll have to read up on them.

Having the C&R FFL license will allow you the option of registering your brace-equipped firearm as a SBR if you so choose. If you don't have the C&R license (or membership in the reenactment organization), you will have to either surrender the firearm, remove and destroy the brace, or put a rifle-length barrel on your "pistol" or destroy the firearm to remain legal.



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# SAFETY TIP: Don't try to catch a falling gun

by John Boch

I confess. I dropped my carry piece one morning last week. It slipped from my grasp and tumbled to the floor as I reached for it to holster it for the day. Fully loaded, it landed on some unfolded clothes in a laundry basket (procrastination really paid off in this case).

Despite my initial impulse to try to catch it, I pulled my hands away and watched as it fell seemingly in slow motion.

I knew better than to try to catch a falling gun. In the end, my pride suffered the only damage.

For the past twenty-five years, my fellow trainers and I have always cautioned both new and experienced shooters not to try to catch falling guns. Clearly it's very tempting to try recover a gun that's slipped from one's grasp. All of us have tried to catch dropped objects for our entire lifetime. When it comes to guns, though, it's critically important to resist that temptation strongly.

Humans are fallible and dropped guns happen. Guns sometimes come out of holsters a lot easier than people expect when they haven't gotten the proper grip while drawing. Other times they can fail to grasp the gat securely when accepting a gun that's being handed to them.

I've seen guns fall off tables on the firing line and others tumble as a disabled, older, or just plain clumsy shooter stumbles and falls during a movement drill.

Some people worry about dropped guns discharging when they hit the ground. If you're using a modern handgun, outside of a few Derringers or a Cowboy-style guns, handguns will almost never discharge when they hit the ground, no matter the orientation.

Even in the aforementioned groups of not-so-drop-safe guns, discharges when

dropped remain quite unlikely.

But they can happen. Frankly, you shouldn't be carrying a gun that might kill you if you drop it. Take the "gentleman" at a doctor's office in Peoria back in 2019. He carried a Cobra Derringer in his coat pocket. As he was wrapping up his appointment, he dropped his coat and it landed with a "bang."

The round went through the chair where he had parked his butt and narrowly missed his femoral artery as he was still mostly seated. Fortunately he lived, but the Illinois State Police pulled his carry license for a time.

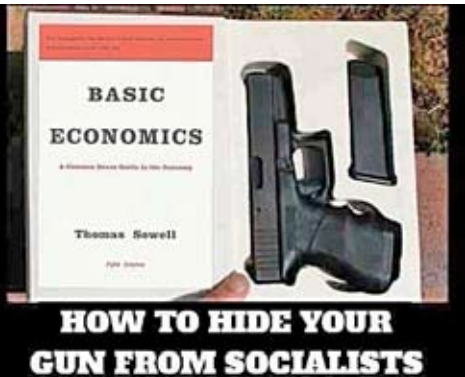
If you're using a non-drop-safe handgun at a range, you should be very careful with it, especially when it's loaded. In Cowboy Action Shooting, they leave an empty chamber under the hammer to help ensure any dropped guns don't go bang. That's a good rule for all of us when using guns that don't have safety mechanisms to prevent a discharge if a dropped gun lands on the hammer.

Easily the most dangerous scenario occurs when attempting to "catch" a falling gun involves inadvertently pulling or pressing the trigger.

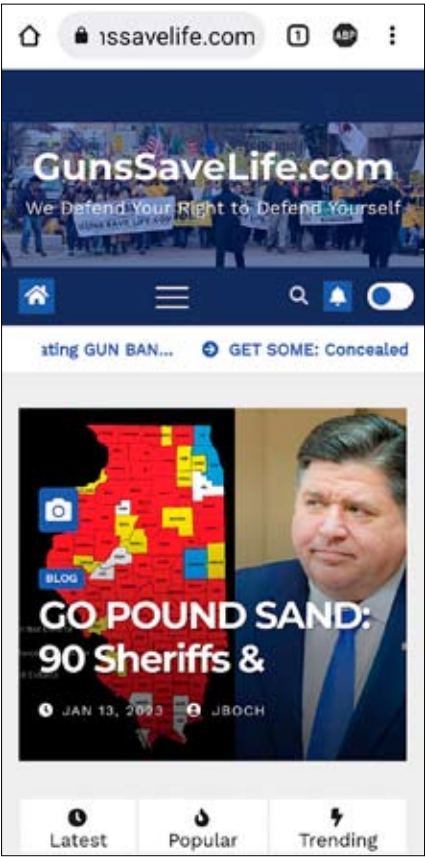
What's the first rule of gun safety? Keep your muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Muzzle control is kind of hard to do with a falling gun

What's the second rule of gun safety? Keep your finger off the cotton-pickin' trigger. With little difficulty someone can break both rules unintentionally with potentially horrific consequences in trying to catch a gun that's under gravity's spell.

So the next time you drop your piece, the safe thing to do is... just let it fall.



# Visit the upgraded GSL website!



Keep up with the very latest in news, analysis, information and legislative updates at our organization's website. Visit daily if not several times each day.

**GunsSaveLife.com**

# TV worth watching Subscribe to 'Freedom's Steel' on YouTube

Todd Vandermyde, the former long-time NRA-ILA contract lobbyist in Illinois, has a new YouTube channel. He does a great job laying down quality content on his "Freedom's Steel" channel. Frankly, for gun aficionados in Illinois, it's must-watch TV for those wishing to keep up on legislation and litigation.



Vandermyde shares brilliant analysis on what's happening both in the legislature, in courts and behind the scenes. Go to YouTube and enter "Freedom's Steel" in the search bar and it will come right up.

Again, it should be on your subscriptions list.



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Child abduction thwarted thanks to gun

### 'Let go of my kid'

(GSL/TTAG) - Hats off to the mother in downtown Des Moines who thwarted the abduction of her child without firing a shot from her concealed carry piece. The story could have ended very differently, but in the end, the attempted child abductors were arrested without fresh perforations or blood loss and the mother got her kid back unmolested.

DMPD Sergeant Paul Parizek praised the woman for her handling of the attempted child abduction without bloodshed with her lawfully-carried gun. "It certainly looks like the big turning point here, the pivotal piece to keeping her child safe was the fact that she was lawfully-armed with a handgun, and she produced it and told them 'let go of my kid.'"

Police arrested the child abduction suspects a few minutes later.

### Big, bad wolf died doing what he loved

San Antonio, TX (KSAT) - A man shot and killed a suspected burglar who kicked down the door to his apartment north of downtown on Tuesday morning, according to San Antonio police.

The incident happened at about 7 a.m. in the 500 block of W. Euclid Avenue, near San Pedro Avenue.



According to an SAPD spokesperson, an apartment resident said a man kicked down the door in an attempt to burglarize it. Since the door was bolted, police said, that man had to use immense force to kick down the door.

### Armed robber's plans thwarted as 3 good guys had guns

Gilmer Co., GA (Breitbart) - An alleged robber pulled a gun in a Gilmer County, Georgia, convenience store Monday night only to have his plans thwarted when all three of the store's customers, at the time, turned out to be armed.

WSB-TV reported the robbery suspect, 39-year-old Shawn Sutton, entered the store while his wife, 39-year-old Melody Sutton, allegedly waited outside with a getaway car.

Sutton acted like he was a customer before allegedly pulling panty hose over his face, pointing a .45 caliber pistol at the clerk, and demanding money.

### LA mom shoots home invader beating her with shovel

Hammond, LA (GSL/TTAG) - Don't mess with mama bear. Or bring a shovel to a gun fight. A Hammond, LA woman faced down a masked home invader in her bedroom last Sunday morning. As he beat her with a shovel, she accessed her pistol and shot her attacker repeatedly to protect herself and her children. It turns out her attacker had attacked and carjacked a good Samaritan hours earlier.



Mr. Rheams.

Following the mother's application of deadly force, Mr. Rheams died on scene.

The Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office identified the suspect as Robert Rheams, 51, of Hammond, LA. Mr. Rheams, virtually a one-man crime wave, had been recently released after serving twenty long years for armed robbery.



### Soros-funded Houston prosecutor sends self-defense shooting to grand jury

Houston (TTAG) - In recent days, millions of Americans saw the video of a good guy shooting down a masked, armed robber at a Houston taqueria.

The thief, 30-year-old Eric Eugene Washington, was killed in a hail of gunfire.

Apparently not wanting to make the call herself by either charging or clearing the armed customer, Houston District Attorney Kim Ogg has decided to put the as yet unnamed man's fate in the hands of a grand jury.

Given that District Attorney Ogg was heavily backed by George Soros in her last election, that may be about the best outcome the armed customer could have hoped for.

### Georgia armed robber slipped on ice. Repeatedly?

Gainesville, GA (GSL/TTAG) - Sometimes Karma catches up with bad people with evil in their hearts. In Gainesville, Georgia, police say Luis Sajbocho-Ordonez waited behind a business early Christmas morning to rob the joint. Instead, when he pulled a gun on an employee who emerged from the back door, he got into struggle over his gun. Then, when a second employee showed up, Luis fired a shot and ran like a scalded dog.



Luis Sajbocho-Ordonez had a bad day.

Unfortunately for Mr. Sajbocho-Ordonez, the unusually cold weather had left a patch of ice on

the ground. He slipped and his face met pavement. Maybe more than once. That's the story of the two employees, at least.

We're glad none of the intended victims were injured. Hopefully paramedics carefully treated the robber's wounds with plenty of rubbing alcohol to ensure Mr. Sajbocho-Ordonez's wounds didn't become infected.

### St. Louis now citing crime victims

(GSL/TTAG) - The city of St. Louis has a long and proud tradition behind it. But present day, under a Soros-funded prosecutor and a radical leftist mayor, crime has skyrocketed. Per capita, St. Louis is America's most dangerous city. And now, gun owners who fall victim to car break-ins are being cited by the city for not having a safe inside their car to store their personal defense gun.

St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones says of citing crime victims with local ordinance violations: "I think it's great."

We all know that keeping your gun on your person remains the safest place for it. Few people want to leave a firearm in a locked vehicle, but oftentimes prohibited location signs necessitate it.

Like here in Illinois, Missouri has a lot of prohibited locations. Or at least they did before constitutional carry. Unlike Illinois, ignoring those signs in the Show-Me State carries relatively trivial penalties for carrying in most posted locations.

However law-abiding people tend to be law-

abiding to a fault. If carry is prohibited, we disarm and leave our carry gun in the car.

Couple that with criminals who commit crimes with impunity with little fear of apprehension or prosecution, and, thanks to a city ordinance enacted a few years ago, St. Louis cops regularly hand out violations to those whose guns are stolen. Violations are punishable by a \$500 fine and up to 90 days in jail for failing to secure a firearm in a vehicle in a safe.

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## Relax. Take a deep breath. Act now on braces though.

by John Boch

So I took a break from layout on this issue of *GunNews* Sunday morning to enjoy breakfast at the DeWitt County Sportsman's Club. Listening to other everyday members of the gun culture, it didn't take long to sense the shared anxiety among my fellow gun owners.

It seemed like this new Illinois law occupied everyone's minds. "I don't know what I'm going to do," several said in conversations with family and friends. They're not even sure which of their guns are prohibited or even if they can keep them. Or, in the case of at least two people, they wondered *if* they *should* keep them. The more common refrain, however, went along the lines of about ninety sheriffs: "I will not comply."

One member had already made arrangements to re-home his "icky" guns and mags with family down south. Extreme? Over the top extreme, in my opinion. But when your girlfriend is a police officer for the state of Illinois... and you need a FOID card for your job, you're kind of over a barrel. Twice.

Folks, take a deep breath and relax.

Here's the quick and dirty: We have until about April 10th until most of the measures begin to impact how and where you can possess your newly-restricted firearms and magazines.

Meanwhile, GSL and others in our alliance have worked overtime laying the groundwork to stop this new law. We have the best lawyers and we're going to get a temporary restraining order to block enforcement of this repugnant law.

We anticipate filing the suit on or about the last week of January and securing a temporary restraining order sometime in early February.

If we fail to secure that restraining order by the end of March, it might be time to make some plans on the disposition of your collection of guns and mags. And prohibited parts like flash suppressors and the like.

### Act now on braces.

For those of us who have pistol support braces, NOW would be a fine time to apply for your \$30 Curios and Relics Federal Firearms License. If you choose to keep your braced "pistol" in its current configuration, you'll need to get a tax stamp and register your firearm as a "Short Barreled Rifle." And to have an SBR in Illinois, you'll need to have your C&R license.

No, you don't have to register your braced firearm, but having the C&R will keep that option open for you to remain 100% legal with our old "buddies" at the BATFE (and really big fires) as the federal deadline approaches.

So take a few minutes to fill out your FFL license application from the BATFE's website and fill it out.

Once completed, take another deep breath and relax.

It's a glorious time to be alive. We're watching a landmark civil rights battle unfold right before our eyes.



HINT: Horrific crime happens in small-town America, too

## Stabbed in face, 79-year-old man shoots attacker dead in small town

*Elderon, Wisconsin (GSL/TTAG)* - Some people think that violent crime almost never happens in small towns. The reality is that horrific crimes do sometimes occur in sleepy, small towns, including the wholesale slaughter of entire families. While we read more about what happens in places like Philadelphia, Portland, Chicago and their endless parade of violent crime, bad things happen in small town America, too.

In the teeming metropolis of Elderon, Wisconsin (pop. 159), a 79-year-old

man was accosted outside his home at 2:30 a.m. as he stepped out of his car. It seems his attacker followed him home intent on robbing the older man.

Unbeknownst to the attacker, the homeowner carried a pistol. Police say that Mr. Homeowner, after being stabbed in the face, shot Alexander T. Watters once in the chest.

Watters, 22, managed to wrest the gun away from the elderly man, but before he could turn it against his victim, Watters fell down and expired.

## MAIL CALL

### Why does government wish to disarm us?

In response to "Repeal the Second Amendment" story from the *Washington PA Observer Reporter* on page 17 of the previous issue regarding originalism...

There is a great misunderstanding of the Second Amendment by many citizens and intentional misinterpretation of those who would disarm us. The Founding Fathers would allow modern weapons and bullets because that is what the enemies will be using. The Second Amendment allows the ability to stop a tyrannical government. In other words, the citizens can form militias to fight the military of the opposing entity be it the Jesse James gang or a tyrannical government.

I ask you, the citizen, to consider this – what does the government wish to do to its citizens that cannot be done while we can defend ourselves?

Mark Mortell  
Illinois

### 'A few dozen seed pods escaped from the Garden of Stupid' Moms Demand Action!

WCIS Channel 20 News reports: "More than 100 people gathered [Thursday] at the Capitol to make their voices heard on the Protect Illinois Communities Act. Activists from Moms Demand Action... encouraged lawmakers to pass the bill." Fine, but who the hell are these "Moms" and why they be pickin' on me? I ain't shot nobody. C'mon man!

To find the definition of "Moms", search for bat-sh\*t crazy or Shannon Watts. They're synonymous.



It seems a few dozen of these little seed pods escaped from the Garden of Stupid and made their way to the Illinois Capitol to voice

their support for a bill that's nothing more than a thumb in the eye of the 2nd Amendment.

This public display of grassroots nitwittery belies the money Bloomberg and other sugar daddies have sprinkled among bored housewives, teacher unions, social justice do-gooders, and assorted leftists seeking to glom onto some cheap virtue. However, it's Illinois' Uniparty government that allows crap like this bill to be passed by the shameful stooges who are Illinois' lawmakers.

Eventually, courts will intervene to tame the tyranny of the majority. But then, isn't that how the Constitution is supposed to work?

Just like the ruling that stalled the Pre-Trial Fairness Act from taking effect on January 1, the courts will defang the Moms' gun ban before it takes effect. However, the Moms will return, firm in their child-like belief that Chicago's thugs will stop their killing once the law-abiding citizens outside of Chicago are disarmed and defenseless.

Gary Hetherington  
Springfield, Illinois



### Dear John

Find enclosed a check for \$1000 to be used to fight HB-5855 and other issues regarding the Second Amendment.

Thank you for your hard work.

Don N.  
Illinois





# The Financial War on Guns

States must protect firearm industry from 'woke' big businesses

by Erick-Woods Erickson

(Substack) - A significant portion of board members and executives for Fortune 500 companies are deeply progressive and want to use their position to enact social change.



One example of this is the growing trend of companies cutting ties with the firearms industry. Wells Fargo is the latest bank to abruptly terminate its relationship with a popular gun store after doing business with the owner for 25 years.

The official statement from Wells Fargo was, "we recently reviewed your account relationship and, as a result of this review, we will be closing your above-referenced accounts." Yikes.

Conservative states need to systematically fight back or this issue will only get worse.

## Pritzker's empty triumphs are good for his ego, but bad for Illinois

(National Review) - Illinois governor J. B. Pritzker had quite the year. The wealthiest sitting governor in the nation — his billionaire family co-founded Hyatt Hotels — won his reelection campaign in the sixth-largest state in the nation on November 8, with the Associated Press calling the race within one minute of polls closing. Pritzker put \$152 million of his own money into the campaign, or about \$70 a vote.

His summer included speeches for the Florida and New Hampshire Democratic parties and a visit to the White House, part of what many viewed as campaign exploration for president of the United States.

But his state is looking worse for wear at the end of 2022: Illinois has the second-highest unemployment rate in the nation, the second-highest property taxes in the nation, and one of the worst Covid-19 job recoveries...

During the past four years, Illinois has experienced 24 tax and fee hikes, taking \$5 billion more from residents. Those include increased vehicle-registration fees and a doubled gas tax, boosting Illinois from No. 10 to No. 2 for the nation's highest gas taxes. Pritzker's new taxes took \$2,721 more from the average Illinois

family...

Unstable jobs and a poor economic climate perpetuate racial employment gaps, hurting many disadvantaged communities. In early 2022, black Illinoisans were more than three times as likely to be unemployed as their white peers — a gap far wider than the rest of the nation.

The compounding effect of unstable state-government finances coupled with the constant threat of new tax hikes is too much for many residents and businesses. They are leaving.

In 2022, residents moving to other states were responsible for the state's population dropping by a record-setting 104,437 people — the second-worst population decline in the nation. Five major companies announced this year that they were relocating their headquarters to other states with more business-friendly environments, taking hundreds of jobs with them.

But Pritzker has dismissed these troubling departures, essentially saying they are "no big deal."

The state is left with massive, permanent holes to fill — lost revenue, lost jobs, lost prestige, and lost hope. No big deal.

## Toxic masculinity strikes again: Man who saved 24 stranded motorists in Buffalo snowstorm identified

By Monica Showalter

Buffalo, NY (American Thinker) - The best story of the day comes from the deep snows of Buffalo, New York, where 50 inches of snow buried the city in blizzard conditions, leaving cars on the road stranded and 40 people dead.

Except that there would have been a lot more of them had this man not stepped up.

According to ABC News:

Police in the town of Cheektowaga, just outside of Buffalo, credit 27-year-old Jay Withey with saving the lives of two dozen people during the deadly storm by rescuing strangers from cars trapped in the snow and bringing them into a school for shelter.

"I feel 100% that Jay's actions were heroic and 100% saved lives," Cheektowaga Police Chief Brian Gould said.

It all began when Withey went to pick up a friend who was stranded. But with only a quarter of a tank of gas left, his car quickly became stuck in the whit-out conditions.

"The wind blowing, the snow falling — you couldn't see if you stuck your hand out. You couldn't see the top of your fingers of your own hand," he said.

Soaking wet and freezing, Withey decided to seek shelter inside a local school and broke a window to get inside. But instead of hunkering down and resting, he ventured back out into the dangerous conditions to help others who were stranded.

"I can see there's a couple other vehicles stuck in the vicinity of the school. So I go to them and tell them I've broken into the school and that there's heat in there," Withey said.

"It was a matter of survival. It was just a very scary situation to be in," he said.



Withey not only brought in 24 people stranded in cars on the snowy roads (and based on the pictures, a couple of pets), but busted open the school's kitchen door and got them provisions. Then he made his way to the nurse's office for blankets.

After the 24 lives were saved, Withey and his 24 new friends for life cleaned up after themselves, and Withey left a note on the door, apologizing for breaking into the school.

The police identified the man by putting out a notice — to praise him for his quick-thinking courage, resourcefulness, and risk-taking to save others in danger of dying in the snow...



Jay Withey.

It was a stunning rescue that saved two dozen human lives that otherwise would have likely frozen to death — there have been some bad news stories about people freezing in their cars or dying of carbon monoxide poisoning — based on the initiative of one man who had the courage, the selflessness, and the willingness to sacrifice to save others, all very masculine virtues that aren't often seen in plummy affluent settings full of whiny people drinking Starbucks, playing videogames, and complaining about President Trump.

When it's a matter of life or death, the masculine virtues become lifesavers.

So much for toxic masculinity. New Year's Day more or less is a day of many stunning masculine rescues in recent years — from the Subway Superman, Wesley Autrey, a humble construction worker who rescued a distressed man who fell into New York's subway tracks by diving into them as an oncoming train approached and covering the man with his body to keep him from being torn apart by the train, to the Miracle on the Hudson, where Captain Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger saved a planeload of people on a jetliner with two disabled engines by using his glider-pilot skills, landing a gigantic airplane in a perfect flat float onto the Hudson River in New York, saving hundreds with his calm skill and quick thinking in the most terrifying of conditions — and like a true ship captain, after all the passengers were rescued, he was the last to walk off the plane.

They were heroes, and Withey joins them in that pantheon.

Maybe January 1 should be called Men's Day to celebrate these masculine virtues and the men who have them. They should be celebrated, if for nothing else, then to teach the wokesters something new. Many wouldn't be alive without them.



## 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](mailto:jboch@gunssavelife.com).

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



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

[a-human-right.com](http://a-human-right.com)  
[blog.olegvolk.net](http://blog.olegvolk.net)



## Meeting summaries

*Continued from page 3.*

### Peoria.

We had a big crowd and our **Peoria Regional Director Richard Parks** called the meeting to order. He's recovering nicely from his knee replacement and we're glad he's doing well.

He asked for a couple of people to help us by handling drawing ticket and 50/50 sales ahead of the meetings. Contact him at 309 645-4603 or richardsguns01@hotmail.com.

**John Boch** did his usual dog and pony show on the machinations at the state capital and our expectation that a gun and magazine ban will pass. Given the size of the battle ahead, we're working with a coalition with great lawyers and key organizations and groups to defeat it in the courts. **We passed that hat to help with upcoming legal costs and raised \$949.** Thank you all.

Our **main speaker Steve Davis** shared a presentation on how to learn from self-defense use-of-force incidents in the news. He reminded folks that ability, opportunity and jeopardy must all be clearly present to legally employ force in self-defense.



GSL's Steve Davis.

The law doesn't say "clearly" present, but remember how your average jury includes people with below average intelligence along with skeptics of the whole "using force in self-defense" concept. Add in some prosecutors who decide to charge for political reasons and the prudent person will exercise great reluctance to use force for good reason.

For example, Kyle Rittenhouse showed great restraint in the face of a huge mob that tried to kill him and he was still charged in a political prosecution.



Ahmaud Arbery was murdered by some good old boys who didn't understand the laws relating to using force in self-defense of life (not property in most instances). Shooting Arbery bought them effectively life in prison for being felony stupid (and likely racists on top of that).

The Arbery case provided a nice transition to a warning not to chase suspected bad guys. Don't confront them because things might escalate to a deadly force incident and you might get hurt, crippled or even killed. For instance, catalytic converter thieves. Sure, a couple of vehicle owners have confronted the thieves in Chicago. One owner was killed in a confrontation.

"Don't get killed over a property crime," Davis warned. Call the cops instead and wait inside for the police.

Davis also warned folks to make sure they put away their carry piece right away after a deadly force incident. Anytime you use your gun in a public space, you have to worry about the bad guy's fellow perps, responding police and potentially trigger-happy fellow concealed carry holders.

Expect tunnel vision and auditory exclusion as you concentrate on the bad guy. Force yourself to break the tunnel vision and look around so you don't get shot by responding cops or others.

Davis concluded by sharing some lessons he learned in a recent training session by nationally-known instructor. "Is crime as bad as they say it is?" he asked rhetorically.

"It's a helluva lot worse," he answered. Today, many crimes aren't reported to police because people know the cops aren't going to solve the crime. (Editor: Crime reports are down 60% in Chicago in the last 20 years, for example.) A third of the reported crimes aren't reported to the FBI by politicians trying to look better to voters. On top of that, 25,000 to 30,000 people simply disappear each year. Most of them are murder victims, many killed by serial killers who are proficient at body disposal.

So carry your gun everywhere you can, every damn day.

For **Tech Time**, we did an improvised "**Show us your Bug Out Bag.**" John Boch brought his out. He did a quick rehash on how he's gone from a 50+ pound bag that he couldn't hike a mile with to a more comfortable, under 20-pound pack.



He said he's never really needed to use it for its intended purpose, but he has used the spare change of clothes a few times for spills or getting caught in a heavy rain.

Among the contents besides spare clothes: work gloves, wool socks, stocking cap & long polypropylene long johns, Geiger counter (\$50 from Amazon), ultra-small 2-way radios, survival tarp, tent stakes and 550 cord, flashlight, spare batteries, water bottle, water filtration and \$100 cash. There's also a whistle, compass, multiple ways to make fire, personal toiletries, survival food bars, first aid, waterproof box (for phone, etc.), metal cup and eating utensils, soap, baby wipes, signal mirror, plastic ponchos, mylar sleeping bag, heavy plastic tarp and some OTC meds.

What wasn't there? The heavy stuff people often overload their packs with including spare guns and ammo, water and MREs.

**Gary Berkshier** won the gun. Our 50/50 winner absconded before the governor could get his name or his cut.

### Sangamon County.

GSL's President **Rich Goodall** called the meeting to order at **SCHEELS in Spring-**

**field.** We had a near-record turnout of close to 140 present.

We lost one of our long-time regulars, retired US Navy SEAL **Gary Moore**. He was the older fellow who always had an Alabama shirt or hat as he loved his alma mater.

**GSL's Executive John Boch** brought an update on the gun ban about to pass the General Assembly and our plans to deal with it. We took up a collection for the legal fight and came up with **\$2506.** *Thank you all!*

**State Rep. Dan Caulkins** escaped from the Capitol building to serve as our main speaker. He gave a candid assessment on how gun owners don't have the votes to stop gun control. When the new legislators get sworn in the House will have polarized even further.

Caulkins had some good news though. GSL members **Chris and Mary Miller** are doing great in both the Illinois House (Chris leads the Illinois House Freedom Caucus) and the US House (where Mary serves). And Lil' Jimmy Durkin is out as minority leader.

Pritzker's enacted the radical left's agenda on almost every front now and Dan expects he's going to run for President.

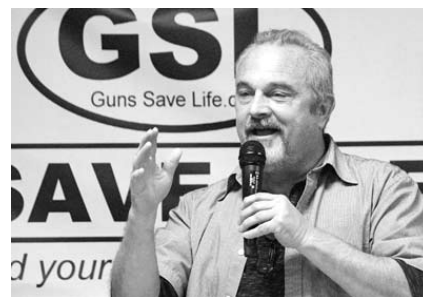
One of our members (who didn't share his name) indicated that **Menard County** was about to consider a resolution blocking enforcement of any gun bans and he asked people to either show up and help there or to do the same in their own respective counties.

A first time attendee M. Robiclard won the 50/50 and **Rob Lewis** won the gun.

### Champaign Co. / Rantoul.

**Dick Brandt** called things to order in a packed house at the **Knights of Columbus** in Rantoul. **Lois Morton** offered a blessing for the night and from there, we went right into the meeting.

**John Boch** shared his **Executive Director's Report** with an update on the gun ban that passed earlier in the day and GSL's plans to block the measure in court as part of a coalition. We also passed the hat and **collected \$1858** towards the legal battle ahead. **THANK YOU** to everyone who chipped in!



Steve Schuren.

**Steve Schuren of Schuren Nursery** served as our main speaker and he talked about "**emergency gardening.**" In a nutshell, emergency gardening is a lot like regular gardening (duh!) with a few twists.

But first, Steve mentioned that he's also the director of **Restoration Urban Ministries** in Champaign and they help get the very poor back onto their feet and into society. "Don't get overwhelmed. God can handle this," he advised folks.

*Continued on page 19.*

## Sullivan Gun Club

**2023 Events... Open to public**



### Bowling Pin Shoots

Mar 11th | April 1st  
May 6th | June 10th  
July 15th | August 12th  
September 9th | October 14th  
November 4th



### Aspirin Shoots

March 25th | April 22nd  
May 20th | June 24th  
July 29th | August 26th  
September 23rd | October 28th  
November 18th

**Trap Shooting every Friday night**  
**Open 6pm - Derby at 7pm**

### Matches start at 9a.m.

**\$10 per firearm. Kids free.**

All dates are subject to the weather.  
Follow us on Facebook for updates.

### Sullivan Gun Club, LLC

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c/o Tracy Bettinger  
PO Box 584  
Lovington IL 61937.



## Meeting summaries

*Continued from page 18.*

He gave a brief overview of gardening, giving a crash course in how to prep the soil (both composition and to keep things flat), how much to water (not too much), when to water (mornings) and how to plant seeds (3x diameter of the seed) and don't put them in full sun all day. "It's not rocket science," he grinned. Oh yeah, and don't water in the evenings unless you're wanting to grow fungus.

Seeds you buy in stores, stored in cool, dryish conditions (like a ziploc bag) will last a long time - ten years or more. Refrigerate them and they'll last longer. Stagger your planting dates by a week or two so you won't have a mountain of "fruit" all at the same time.

Don't use grass clippings as "mulch" as they'll rob the soil of nitrogen as part of their decay process.

We had a tech time with some pistol caliber carbines and similar guns. Thank you **Denis and Dick**.

**David Sproul** won the **Ruger 9mm pistol** and **Greg Worrell** snagged the 50/50. Congrats to both!

### Northwest Chicagoland.

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

**Special note, starting next month, we'll launch the meeting program at about 6pm** as the restaurant closes at 8pm. So come early. The Golden Corral is going to give us additional room for overflow attendees. So come hungry.

**John Boch** shared his **Executive Director's Report** with an update on Pritzker's new gun ban and much more. He took a number of questions. We also took a collection for our upcoming legal battles and finished the night with **\$384**. Thank you all!

**Kelvin Curtis** from the **NRA's Institute for Legislative Action** joined us. He admitted the Pritzker and the gun grabbers won this skirmish, but "relax" he said. "We're going to win this war."

He spends a lot of time in Chicagoland and notes that a lot of people in Chicago's poorer neighborhoods are just learning about their gun rights. They've been under the impression only cops and crooks have guns.

Curtis said the NRA-ILA's legal team is working to support legal challenges to our new gun ban law. "We're not abandoning Illinois," he assured everyone. He also welcomes people to contact him. **He can be reached at [kelvin@nrailafrontlines.com](mailto:kelvin@nrailafrontlines.com) or 703-539-9065.**

**Abraham Avalos** from the **State Line Rifle Association** spoke. Like Bob Morgan, he was at the Highland Park massacre. Unlike Bob Morgan he didn't run like a little girl, but instead helped treat the wounded. Also unlike Bobby Morgan, Abraham remains a staunch supporter of self-defense rights.

Avalos recommended building a relationship with your local and state elected officials no

matter which party they belong to. If you really want to make a difference, become a precinct committeeman and maybe run for office and/or participate in community events/parades, etc. After all, you never know when those relationships may help influence positions of said politicians some day down the road.

**Vitali** (last name redacted) discussed a self-defense incident from almost two years ago. He was the victim of a road rage incident where an angry driver forced him off the road and blocked him in. "I showed him my gun and he quickly drove away."



To make a long story short, the police pulled him over twenty minutes later and arrested him. He was (note tense) a USCCA member but they refused to represent him.

Vitali did get a lawyer (Steve Fagan) and charges were dropped. However the Skokie PD filed a "Clear and Present Danger" report against Vitali and because of that, even though criminal charges were dismissed, the ISP has slow-walked return of his FOID and his CCW license.

He shared the lessons he learned, at significant expense.

1. "Keep it in your pants," he said, referring to the gun. NO NOT BRANDISH the gun.
2. The gun is a tool of last resort, not first resort. It's stupid to brandish the gun.
3. Don't talk to the police. They aren't your friends, no matter how cordial they sound.
4. Call 911 RIGHT AWAY in a road rage incident. He who calls first is considered the victim usually.
5. Don't assume your self-defense insurance will ride to your rescue in the aftermath of incidents where you don't deploy force.

**Marcus Melnick** then shared an incident he

had while with his two kids. The aggressor in his case followed him. Melnick called 911 while his kid recorded with another phone.

The guy messed with him until he drove to a police station at which point he left.

We held our 50/50 and gun drawings. **Wayne S.** won the Sig Mosquito pistol. Congrats to him!

*[Editor's note: Given the political climate in Chicago, we're a little more circumspect about using last names in certain cases.]*

### Charleston.

Our **Charleston Regional Co-Directors Keith Pippin and Justin Bawcum** called our biggest ever crowd of the faithful to order. About 120 people attended and we gave them a great meeting. And just like in Rantoul, a woman from the Philippines won the prize for travelling the furthest to attend.

**GSL's Executive Director John Boch** shared his update, encouraging folks to remain hopeful and calm in the face of the very unconstitutional gun grab just executed by the Governor and the General Assembly. We talked about our legal strategies and from those present, **we collected \$1453 in donations**. Thank you all!

Our main speaker(s) hailed from the **Lincoln Heritage Young Guns clays team**. Their adult **VP Brandi Will** opened the presentation, noting how they knew about the legislation and had concerns about how it would impact their program and their shooters. The team members present certainly received quite a lesson on gun rights advocacy and how Guns Save Life has mobilized to the new law.

The Lincoln Heritage Young Guns, one of many youth clays programs in the nearby area, is open to kids from 4th grade through high school. Currently 22 kids are actively competing and they are largely sponsored by the Lincoln Heritage Pheasants Forever Chapter. The PF chapter covers most of the birds, shells, insurance and other incidentals. They aren't school sanctioned.

*Continued on page 20.*

## Illinois Largest Hunting & Trade Shows

**\*\*\* BUY • SELL • TRADE \*\*\***  
**GUNS • KNIVES • AMMO • SCOPES**

### 2023 Schedule

**Jan. 21-22 - Bloomington: Interstate Center**  
2301 West Market Street

**Mar. 4-5 - Bloomington: Interstate Center**  
2301 West Market Street

**Mar. 11-12 - Belleville: Belle-Clair Fairgrounds**  
200 South Belt East

**Mar. 25-26 - Springfield: Illinois State Fairgrounds**  
Illinois Building - 801 East Sangamon Ave.

**June 24-25 - Belleville: Belle-Clair Fairgrounds**  
200 South Belt East

**Aug. 12-13 - Bloomington: Interstate Center**  
2301 West Market Street

**Aug. 26-27 - Belleville: Belle-Clair Fairgrounds**  
200 South Belt East

**Nov. 4-5 - Belleville: Belle-Clair Fairgrounds**  
200 South Belt East

**All Shows: Saturday 9-4, Sunday 9-3**

**Admission \$7 per day or \$10 for both days**



Jeff Edwards - Show Promoter - 618.367.3118

Email: [5570elj@gmail.com](mailto:5570elj@gmail.com)

Denise & Ron - Show Coordinators

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## State Line Rifle Association

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

**American Legion**

**111 E. Main Street**

**Round Lake Park, IL 60073**

**StateLineRifle.com**

*see us on Facebook*



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armed self-defense 'North of I-80'*





We presented the Lincoln Heritage Young Guns team with \$370 for birds and ammo at the Charleston GSL meeting. That's are our Regional Co-Directors Keith Pippin with the money on the right and Justin Bawcum behind him. =

### Meeting summaries

Continued from page 19.

Early on in the evening (we usually don't pass the hat once, and twice is almost unheard of) we passed the hat for the Young Guns and collected about \$370 for them for extra ammo and clays.

Each of the team members overcame their anxiety about speaking in front of 120 people and said a few words, along with one of the coaches. They talked about their favorite type of clay competition along with what they got out of the program. They liked the shooting and the competition (and winning), but they also liked the social aspect of competing too.

Prospective shooters can come out for two practice sessions (fifty birds each) to try out the program. The organizers have plenty of loaner shotguns and team members sometimes borrow guns, or other times they will have their own. Most of them shoot 12 gauge guns and some start with 20s but then

want to move up to 12s.

It is the fastest growing youth sport and the safest without a single gun-related injury.

**Kelvin Curtis from the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action** joined us. Grassroots activism is his mission and he liked what he saw in Charleston, just as he was at our Northwest Chicago meeting the previous night.

Curtis said the NRA-ILA's legal team is working to support legal challenges to our new gun ban law. "We're not abandoning Illinois," he assured everyone. He also welcomes people to contact him. **He can be reached at [kelvin@nraifrontlines.com](mailto:kelvin@nraifrontlines.com) or 703-539-9065.**

We held our drawings and **Steve Rairden** won the gun for the evening. Congrats to him.



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## A Message Received ...

by Kelly James

(Deer Hunting Guide) - In May of this year, I lost my dad after a four year long battle with cancer.

I lost many things that day, one of them being my hunting buddy that I shared many hours with in the woods, waiting and watching in hopes of seeing deer in the area where we sat in the early morning or late afternoon.

On the day my dad passed, one of the things I told him was that I would wait for him at my spot, one he knew well and if he had the opportunity, to come and visit me.

This past Saturday, I finally got a weekend where I wasn't working that I could spend in the woods with Boonie, my cousin Jane's husband.

It was either Boonie, my dad and I or Reggie spending the fall days together sharing the wonders of mother nature.

Some days were good, others not so much but there was always a story to tell or an experience that couldn't be found anywhere else.

The walk from Boonie's garage back to my spot was a lonely one, even with Boonie there.

I couldn't help thinking about the last time I walked this path cleared of brush and grass.

The last weekend of last year the three of us went hunting, I had to pick dad off the ground after he stumbled in the near pitch black conditions just before sunrise.

How we laughed, just another one of those things that happened in the woods that you had to be there to appreciate.

That night when we got home, he had a war wound, a red welt on his nose that he showed mom while we laughed as he told his tale.

After getting settled at my tree, I sat in anticipation as the morning light slowly started to show the woods below me.

It wasn't long before I saw two deer walking in from my right down the hill from where I sat, a doe and what appeared to be last years fawn.

They lingered below me for a time but then the doe decided to come up the hill in my direction.

My spot is a small landing half way down a hill that allows me to view down the hill and in every direction.

The doe started up the left side of the landing and continued until she was to my immediate left about 20 feet away.

She stopped and looked right at me.

Although I didn't move, she knew something wasn't right so she picked up her pace and continued up the hill.

The other deer went in the opposite direction, into a thicket that hid him from view for a short time.

About five minutes later out he came, found mom's trail and started to follow it.

Up the hill he came until he too stopped to my immediate left where his mother had moments before.

He looked at me and grunted at me, not once but twice.

Looking at him, I could see the buttons between his ears, a buck who's antlers weren't long enough to break the skin.

After lingering there for a few more seconds, he continued up the hill but chose a different path than his mother.

He circled around my back and then came along my right side where he proceeded down the hill back into the thicket.

If you know anything about deer, they are skittish and do not hesitate when they smell human scent.

He had to have smelled me at least once with the wind circling the way it was.

If he did, I didn't seem to concern him at all.

The last time I spoke to my dad, I asked him to visit me, and Saturday I think he did. I also believe he found a way to tell me everything is okay.

I haven't been able to stop thinking about that 15 minute exchange, I don't think I ever will.



## Illinois Bobcat season harvest looks like previous years

Springfield, IL (Outdoor News) — Roughly halfway through the current bobcat season, harvest figures appeared to mirror previous Illinois seasons.

"While numbers can change by the minute, as of January 3 the current harvest was right at 128," Stan McTaggart, head furbearer biologist for DNR, reported.

Those numbers are slightly above last year and about level with 2019. The numbers are also slightly below the 2018 and 2020 numbers at the same point in the season.

"Weather plays a big role in harvest numbers," McTaggart said. "Things came to a standstill before Christmas when the sub-zero weather hit."

Typically, about two thirds of the harvest comes in the last half of the season, which ends on Feb. 15. So this season is right on track to be an average harvest.

Archery and gun hunters usually harvest the most bobcats, with trappers following close behind. A smaller number of bobcats are salvaged, most often from roadways. A permit holder is allowed to use their tag on these bobcats.

WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT  
TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

# GUNNEWS

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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## Calendar



### GUN SHOWS...

**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 4-5: Bloomington Gun Show**, Interstate Center in Bloomington. Jeff Edwards 618 367-3118.

**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 fxt1984@gmail.com or 708 921-6768.



## Some gun-related Internet web sites worth visiting - on a daily basis

Google these to find the websites, then bookmark them for daily reading.

### Gun-related.



**Guns Save Life**  
Well, duh!

**YouTube "Police Activity" channel.** Police bodycam videos, including a lot of officer-involved shootings.

**Reddit Defensive Gun Use** Just like it sounds. A great compilation of self-defense stories.



### The Truth About Guns

Our own John Boch writes for a national audience on TTAG. It is one of, if not *the* biggest gun blog on the web.

**AWR Hawkins on Breitbart** Hawkins covers national news stories involving guns and gun rights.

**GunFreeZone.net** Great commentary on deceptively named blog.

### Illinois-centric.



**HeyJackass.com**  
Tracking homicides in Chicago.

**CrimelsDown.com** Real-time Chicago scanner radio traffic, both police and fire.

**CWBChicago.com** Reporting on crime in Chicago.



**WirePoints.org** Non-profit doing research on Illinois and news aggregator.

**YouTube "Freedom's Steel" channel.** This is Todd Vandermyde's channel with updates on legislation and litigation including analysis.

**Illinois Gun Owners Together (On Facebook)** Great Facebook-based gun rights group active in real life as well as on The Book.

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## The Armed Women of America

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



*Elections have consequences...*

## Murder conviction rate falls to 57% in Gwinnett as DA says she's 'bringing justice and equity'

*Gwinnett Co., GA (GSL)* — Gwinnett County's Soros-funded prosecutor Patsy Austin-Gatson brags how she's bringing woke politics to prosecuting crime. "I'm bringing justice and equity and fairness to the situation," she told WSB-TV.

Indeed. What's more, in the handful of murder trials she has brought to trial, her prosecutors failed to gain convictions almost half of the time. In nearby Cobb County, prosecutors won all of their cases and in Fulton County, the state won 87% of cases.



## COPYCATS: Colorado seeks to enact copy of IL gun ban

*(Colorado Public Radio)* - A bill drafted by three Colorado Democrats would ban the purchase of what it describes as "assault weapons", though it would not require people to give up the guns they already legally possess.

*Why are they protecting criminals?*

## Maryland Dems seeks to restrict CCW in public spaces

*(Breitbart)* - Maryland Democrats are pushing restrictions for licensed concealed carry that would prevent the legal carriers from being armed for self defense in public places.

## New Jersey's new 'sensitive places' restrictions blocked

*(Breitbart)* - U.S. District Judge Renee Marie Bumb granted a temporary restraining order (TRO) Monday against New Jersey's new gun controls barring licensed concealed carry in "sensitive places."

*What could possibly go wrong?*

## NY will no longer prosecute anyone under age of 12

*NYC (Gothamist)* - Children under the age of 12 will no longer face arrest and prosecution for virtually all crimes in New York under a bill signed into law late this week by Gov. Kathy Hochul.

The bill signed by Hochul raises the lower age of the state's jurisdiction for juvenile delinquency, a move that will prevent those under the age of 12 from arrest except in the case of a homicide.

## Fifth Circuit strikes bump stock ban in 13-3 decision

*(Breitbart)* - The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit handed down a 13-3 decision Friday striking down the regulatory gun control that banned bump stocks under former President Donald Trump.

Reuters reported that the court intimated that actions on guns should be taken by Congress rather than the executive branch.



*America LOVES GUNS!*

## 16.4M guns sold in 2022

*(Breitbart)* - Year-end figures from the FBI show there were over 31 million National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) background checks conducted in 2022 and over 16 million guns sold.

FBI figures show nearly 31.5 million NICS checks were conducted in 2022. The National Shooting Sports Foundation's Mark Oliva noted that of those nearly 30 million background checks, 16,425,484 were for gun sales.

## Epic GANG violence, not gun violence! 600 round gang shootout!

*Louisville, KY (ABC News)* - Six men have been arrested in a connection with a massive New Year's Day shootout in which nearly 600 rounds were fired near an apartment complex in Louisville, Kentucky, police announced this week.



Officers with the Louisville Metro Police Department responded to reports of two groups shooting at one another early on Jan. 1, the department said in an update on Friday. Nearly 600 rounds were fired in total by both groups, and multiple firearms were recovered at the scene, police said.



*But not Illinois!*

## Half of America has Constitutional Carry

*(Breitbart)* - Alabama's constitutional carry law took effect January 1, 2023, meaning law-abiding Americans in 25 states can now carry a gun for self-defense without paying the government a fee or getting government permission.



On December 14, 2022, Breitbart News noted some 25 states had passed constitutional carry legislation and Alabama's would take effect at the start of this year: "Those states are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming."

## Concealed carry permits surge to 22 million, 25 states don't even require it

*(Washington Examiner)* - The gun craze sparked by the 2016 presidential election, the COVID crisis, and the flurry of random and mass shootings has also led to a record-breaking issuance of concealed carry permits, especially to women and minorities seeking self-protection.

A new and authoritative report put the number of permits held by Americans at 22.01 million. That number was a 2.3% surge over last year, according to John Lott's Crime Prevention Research Center.

The new report, provided to Secrets on Thursday, was the first on the issue since the Supreme Court struck

down New York's "may-issue" concealed handgun law in June, signaling that states trying to block getting permits to pack heat will be penalized.

What's more, even at a historic high of 22 million permits, the number only includes half the nation. The other half has moved swiftly to remove permit restrictions, allowing citizens to carry guns with them, though rules vary by state.

"As more and more states decide not to require permits, the number of people who can legally carry a handgun will increasingly outpace the number of permit holders. The number of people who carry permit-

ted concealed handguns is clearly related to the cost of getting permission. When there is no cost whatsoever, concealed carry becomes very popular," said the report.

According to available data, Lott's report found that 8.5% of adults have a carry permit.

Alabama has the highest concealed carry rate — 32.5%. Indiana is second, with 23.4%, and Georgia is third, with 15.5%. The report also said that six states have over 1 million permit holders: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Texas. Florida is No. 1 with 2.57 million permits.



## Philly Soros-funded DA Larry Krasner impeached, trial delayed in PA Senate

*(NBC Philadelphia)* - Pennsylvania's state Senate voted Wednesday to postpone a trial seeking to remove Philadelphia's progressive district attorney on the heels of a court ruling that said the impeachment articles don't meet the constitutionally required standard.



## Clarence Thomas volunteers

*(Via Twitter)* - Justice Clarence Thomas caught quietly volunteering to lay wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery to honor fallen service members at Christmas. Love this man.



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## The helicopter ride

(Author unknown)

Morris and his wife Esther went to the State Fair every year, and every year Morris would say, "Esther, I'd like to ride in that helicopter."

Esther always replied, "I know Morris, but that helicopter ride is fifty dollars and fifty dollars is fifty dollars."

One year Esther and Morris went to the fair and Morris said, "Esther, I'm 85-years-old. If I don't ride that helicopter, I might never get another chance."

To this Esther replied, "I know Morris, but that helicopter ride is fifty dollars and fifty dollars is fifty dollars."

The pilot overheard the couple and said,

"Folks, I'll make you a deal. I'll take the both of you for a ride. If you can stay quiet for the entire ride and not say a word, I won't charge you! But if you say a word, it's fifty dollars."

Morris and Esther agreed and up they went. The pilot did all kinds of fancy maneuvers, but not a word was heard. Mr. Pilot did his daredevil tricks over and over, but still not a peep.

When they finally landed, the pilot turned to Morris. "By golly, I did everything I could to get you to yell out, but you didn't. I'm impressed!"

Morris replied, "Well, to tell you the truth, I almost said something when Esther fell out, but you know, fifty dollars is fifty dollars."