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TO DEFEND YOURSELF.**

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GUNNEWS

CELEBRATING OUR
30th
ANNIVERSARY



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE, INC.

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ISP: GUN BAN STANDS DESPITE COURT RULING

(GSL) - Despite a Macon County judge's ruling striking down the new gun and magazine ban as "facially unconstitutional," the Illinois State Police has submitted "guidance" to dealers and gun owners claiming the court's ruling only applies to the named plaintiffs and not to all across the state.

Meanwhile, the plaintiff's attorney Jerry Stocks has pushed back, advising anyone subject to enforcement actions after the ruling was signed to contact an attorney to pursue court action against not only government agents involved, but the Director of the ISP as well. *For more on this turn to page 5.*



Two civil rights giants join us at GSL Chicagoland meeting

From left, Shawn Gowder, Charles Sykes, Alfreda Keith Keller, and Michael Moore. See page 11.



Danville, Quincy GSL meetings coming soon!

Guns Save Life proudly announces the two newest regional chapters that will launch this summer: Danville and Quincy. *More on page 2.*

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April 2023

- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **April 3**, May 1
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **April 4**, May 2
Pontiac Sportsman's Club. 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **April 5**, May 3
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **April 6**, May 4
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 April 6. Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
- **Danville:** Second Monday STARTING IN JUNE
Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville
- **Champaign County:** Second Tuesday: **April 11**, May 9
KC Hall, 1001 N. Ohio St., Rantoul
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **April 12**, May 10
Golden Corral, 445 E. Palatine Road, Arlington Heights
Meeting program starts at 6pm for this location
- **Charleston:** Second Thursday: **April 13**, May 11
U Hotel Conference Center, 920 West Lincoln Ave, Charleston
- **LaSalle County:** Second Thursday: **April 13**, May 11
Jamie's Outpost, 602 Clark St. Utica
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: **March 26**, Apr. 30, May 29 (*tent. w/ holiday*)
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.

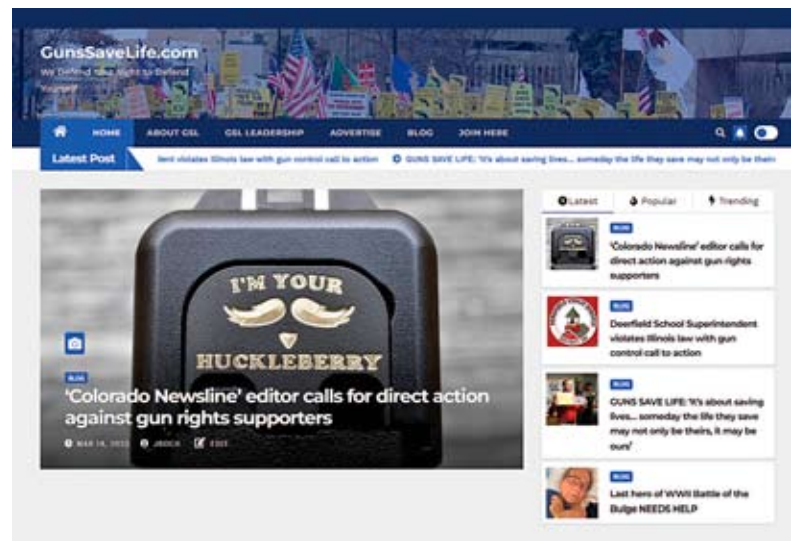
Sights from GSL meetings across Illinois



From left, Lydinela "Nell" Black, Todd Black (winner of the Ruger 9mm), Terry Doyle (50/50 winner) and Champaign County's Regional Director Dick Brandt.



Don Batterton asks for folks to keep an eye out for paper racks to display GunNews.



Stay up to date... Visit **GunsSaveLife.com**

Stay up to date on the latest in Illinois and national firearms news, including important updates on legislation and litigation by visiting GunsSaveLife.com. You can also pull down a schedule for upcoming meetings. Near the first of the month you can download and share an electronic copy of *GunNews*. Please leave comments on the stories...



Ron Beatty showing some of the tech time guns and answering questions after the Rantoul meeting.



Kelvin Coburn dazzled the audience in Decatur with his charismatic, dynamic style. He should have been a preacher.



The NRA-ILA's Kelvin Curtis speaks in Chicago.



Carry a trauma kit. Here's one from Charleston.



Jerry Garrett, left, won the 50/50 and Rick S. won the Henry .22 lever gun in Charleston.



Kevin S. won the Taurus GX4 in Pontiac.



Jason Shimmin talks carry comfort in Peoria.

GSL Danville coming in June.

John "Jack" Land has stepped up with a steering committee team and will be bringing monthly GSL meetings to Danville, IL starting on Monday, June 12th. We welcome everyone to come out to Ella's Restaurant on Vorhees St.. If you would like to join the steering committee team, contact him at johnfland1962@gmail.com.



GSL Quincy coming this summer.

Glenn Sanders and others have banded together to bring GSL meetings to Quincy starting this summer - likely in July. To join the Quincy team, email Mr. Sanders at mvhfa.quincy@gmail.com.



Justin Bawcum presents Brandi Will a check for youth clays shooting.

THANK YOU PEORIA GUN 'BUYBACK'!

GSL sponsors Lincoln Heritage Pheasants Forever Young Guns team with 'buyback' cash (GSL) - Last November, the do-gooders in Peoria put together a "gun buy back event" to "Take Back Our Streets." While no gang bangers or other criminals turned in their Glocks, Guns Save Life did participate and we walked away with several hundred dollars for youth shooting programs thanks to members who donated their junk guns for just such a program.

The Lincoln Heritage Young Guns clay shooting team came out to GSL Charleston back in January and gave a great presentation on their program. Following that, we earmarked about half of the Peoria Gun "Buyback" haul to helping fund that program.



Justin Bawcum talks about his best friend from the military saved by a cop with a trauma kit. "Carry medical gear," he implored.



Second-time attendee Tony B. won the Ruger with a Viridian laser. He's pictured with Richard Parks, our Peoria RD.



"Tom" won both the 50/50 and the S&W Shield at the NW Chicagoland meeting.



It was 'bring your favorite .22' in Decatur.



Meeting Summaries

Chicagoland.

We held our February Chicagoland meeting on the last Sunday at the **Park Forest American Legion Hall in Chicago Heights**. As custom, our charming **Chicagoland Regional Director Alfreda Keith Keller** called the meeting to order.

Alfreda had cupcakes to celebrate her birthday and she handed out certificates for those present during the previous month's presentation by **Brian Smith** from the **Metropolitan Police Self-Defense Institute**.

John Boch shared his **Executive Director's** report and took questions.

Kelvin Curtis from the **NRA-ILA Grassroots** division spoke next, sharing a presentation on how he reaches out everyday people to proselytize a pro-gun message. Kelvin noted how a lot of those folks are just learning about their right to own a gun and more about their right to self-defense. Frankly, they're excited to learn that they too can have a gun - legally.

He's a single-issue advocate, working in a non-partisan way to advance gun rights. Kelvin chuckled about the story of his life taking him from a poor neighborhood in Florida to a regional director for the NRA-ILA. "I never guessed I'd work for the NRA," he remarked.

Fritz Fitzgerald also spoke. He does a lot of gun shows and other events as one of Kelvin's volunteers. He would certainly welcome those who could come out and assist him at some of these events to reach both pro-gun folks and those sitting on the fence about gun ownership and gun rights advocacy.

The main speakers for the night stand out as giants in Second Amendment civil rights. We welcomed **Shawn Gowder** and **Michael Moore**. We owe much of our present day gun rights to the lawsuits these courageous men filed. After all, the Illinois legislature was never going to recognize our civil rights and overturn long-standing racist gun control schemes.

See page 11 for their cases and we will soon have more up on the website detailing their first-person accounts of why they got involved. It was an honor to welcome them!



Crete Gun Club President (and GSL Director) Howard Kaye welcomed everyone out to the **Crete Gun Club's** meeting hall for the First Monday night meetings. They also have some events planned for Easter. If you're available that weekend, come on out!

We held our drawings and **John Boch** won the 50/50 and **John B.** won "the gun" - **1000 rounds of 9mm ammunition**. He put half of it up for auction to benefit GSL and **Nick K.** won the auction. Thanks to all!

Decatur.

Our **Decatur Regional Director Dave Randolph** called the meeting to order. He reminded folks that he wants to "retire" after the April meeting and we're looking for someone to fill his shoes to lead our little pirate ship there in Soy City.

Chaplain Steve Holden offered an invocation, noting that America is the greatest country in the world.

And during our newcomer introductions, we had a young man from Alaska win the "came the furthest for the first-time meeting" award handily.

Dan Cooley stepped up and delivered his **Industry Report**, starting with a salute to **Dave Randolph** for leading what's become a hugely successful chapter, and its role in helping make GSL bigger, better and stronger.

On the industry front, guns are plentiful and so's ammo. We've even seen a few primers. He also cautioned folks that if the new gun ban law isn't struck down by July 1st, all private gun transfers/sales will have to go through a dealer.

The Bullet Trap has sponsored a bus for **IGOLD**. Contact them for a ride!

Kelvin Coburn from Springfield returned as our main speaker and for the first time in 30 years, we sang the National Anthem. He then talked about what the lyrics meant then and now for good people in our nation.

Tech time was "Bring your favorite .22" pistol and we had a bunch.

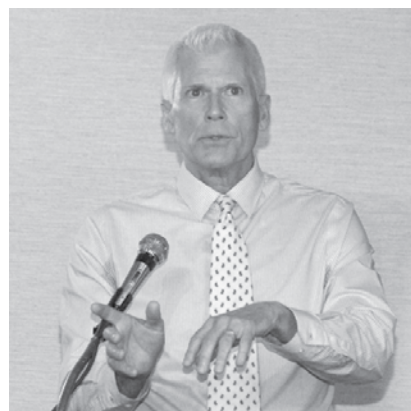
Amy R. from Springfield won the gun. Congrats to her.

Peoria.

Richard Parks, our **Peoria Regional Director**, called the meeting to order. Once again, we asked the regulars to please RSVP by the link (available at GSL's website) or by phone for food to help Barracks get a handle on quantities.

John Boch shared his **Executive Director's Update**, leading to our main speaker of the night, **Tazewell County State's Attorney Kevin Johnson**.

Mr. Johnson shared his love of gun rights and his affinity for good guy gun owners before talking about how they do things a little differently "across the river."



Tazewell Co. State's Attorney Kevin Johnson.

Over in Tazewell County, they stand squarely behind the police and put bad guys in prison. And unlike Cook County, bad guys spend real time in prison when they victimize the innocent. Johnson shared a case where a bad guy declined a plea offer of 18-20 years. He got 41 instead from the judge. He won't be

back in circulation anytime soon.

Most of his presentation involved the "No Cash Bail" Act and its problems. We will be posting more on his remarks on the website. He gave a truly outstanding presentation that we can't do justice in a few paragraphs. Suffice it to say we could use a lot more prosecutors like Kevin Johnson and a lot fewer like Kim Foxx.



Jason Shimmin answers questions after the Peoria meeting.

Jason Shimmin made a **Tech Time presentation** on holster selection, mostly for men but with a few ideas for the fairer sex. He discussed balancing ease of access with comfort and a safe presentation (as in don't throw a pistol in your purse or pocket with a bunch of other stuff and not expect bad things to happen.) He shared everything from inside-the-waistband to purses, to belly-band style rigs for the ladies. What's more, he noted how sometimes changing guns depending on the season can help. You can't conceal nearly as much gun with a t-shirt as you can a sweater or hoodie.

And after his presentation he won the 50/50 and **second-time attendee Tony B.** won

the gun - a Ruger 9mm with a Viridian laser. Congrats to both.

Sangamon County.

GSL's President Rich Goodall called the meeting of the faithful to order at SCHEELS in Springfield.

Joel Gain spoke first, reminding folks **IGOLD** is coming up on **Wednesday, March 29th** in Springfield. He'll be there early and is seeking three or four more volunteers to join him passing out *GunNews* and greeting people coming into the "Bank of Springfield" Center (Prairie Capital Convention Center).

Dan Batterton detailed how he delivers a whole lot of *GunNews* for us and he could use some more stands. If you find some abandoned ones or something at a yard sale (or if you can fabricate some yourself), please bring them to the meetings or contact GSL's leadership. Even if they're in rough condition, we can rehab them with TLC and spray paint.

John Boch shared his **Executive Director's Report** and he introduced **Rena Rojas** to speak about her experience with the Springfield PD and the local state's attorney.

The Reader's Digest version is on page 13. While at the meeting, we presented her with a shotgun, ammo, pepper spray and a one-year membership in the **Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network**.

Our main speaker for the night was **Steve Wheeler** from the **Land of Lincoln Honor Flight** (see page 7 or the Charleston wrap-up.) We passed the hat and collected almost \$500 for the program even though we were short for time.

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!

Chicago Mar: Stoeger P3000 12 ga w/ extended magazine
Chicago Apr: Ruger 10/22
Chicago May: Taurus 605 3" .357

Peoria Apr: Mossberg 500 synthetic stock
Peoria May: PSA Dagger 9mm + 10 mags

Pontiac Apr: Canik TP9SC Elite 9mm
Pontiac May: S&W M&P EZ 9mm
Pontiac Jun.: PSA Dagger 9mm + 10 mags.

NW Chicagoland Apr.: PSA Dagger 9mm + 10 mags.

Decatur Apr: Savage Mark II
Decatur May: CVA Scout .350 Legend
Decatur Jun.: PSA Dagger 9mm + 10 mags.

Charleston Apr.: Tri-Star 20ga
Charleston May: 1000 rds .223

Sangamon April: Taurus Model 856 .38Spl
Sangamon May: 1000 rounds .223

Executive Director's Report

We do law-abiding... and real world

by John Boch
Executive Director

We had a magnificent lineup of speakers at our March series of meetings. Regrettably, we also had a couple of minor incidents.

In Pontiac, we had few mostly unknown people speak, each telling the audience how modern day gun control laws are unconstitutional. They advocated for not only mass, overt non-compliance but they sought even more aggressive actions to change the laws.



GSL's John Boch.

Before their speech-making ended, a half-dozen or more of our regulars walked out.

To his credit, one of the group apologized for his intemperate language.

We're pretty sure they were misguided souls and not government agents or informants sent to assess our willingness to "bend" or break the law to affect political change.

Suffice it to say we've instituted new policies on unknown speakers taking the microphone at our meetings.

Then, the next night in Northwest Chicagoland, we had a woman drop a stack of papers on the podium in front of me. She told me to read them - as I was in the middle of Q&A. In short, she claimed that citing a 1906 court case would absolve anyone of firearms-related charges. Sure thing, ma'am.

Audience members asked her for her bona fides to make such an assertion. She had none. In fact, she wouldn't even give her full name.

We still welcome (almost) everyone

We welcome everyone who is willing to work within the system to promote and defend gun rights.

But some things just aren't welcome at GSL meetings. First and foremost, **if you want to foment violence, sedition or illegal actions directly or indirectly, stay home.** You can do you. We'll do law-abiding without

you.

If you just have to bellyache that we're wasting our time in court and it's hopeless, or you want to attack us as weak, sell-outs, or bad people because we follow our flawed laws and have FOID cards and carry licenses to carry guns in public in the Land of Lincoln, then you're welcome to do your thing with your like-minded friends. Elsewhere.



And if you're a government informant or undercover agent looking for illegal activities, c'mon out if you can behave. You will meet plenty of current and retired law enforcement folks, attorneys (and even judges), medical peeps, educators, business owners, politicians, religious and community leaders and other professionals from both blue- and white-collar fields.

Not only will you interact with truly outstanding people, but you'll find the safest venues in the state, where you could put a stack of cash or tens of thousands of dollars of firearms or electronics on a table, leave the room to get food or use the rest room, and have every expectation that everything would be there upon your return. Well, the guns might be looked over and handled, but you get the idea.

If you're a government-sponsored agent provocateur advocating illegal activities, we'll cordially invite you to leave. It's not personal.

We serve law-abiding good people - men and women - and we've built a reputation of providing pragmatic recommendations that don't run afoul of the law. Our members are law-abiding, almost to a fault.

In happier news...

We've looked into a report of the Illinois State Police doing "compliance checks" of concealed carry license holders on traffic stops. ISP tells us they have no program of such checks current or planned.



We've also looked into the Chicago Public Schools allowing murderers, child sex offenders and drug dealers access to their students. This after one of their "Safe Passage" workers was arrested for selling drugs and guns. It was discovered he had a murder conviction from the 1990s. Instead of assuring us that no further staffers are murders, drug dealers or child sex offenders, Chicago Public School leaders have offered no comment. Another reason I thank the Lord my kids aren't in Chicago Public Schools.

We helped a Springfield woman, disabled and living by herself in a not-so-nice part of town get her gun back. Cops took it last September because her FOID had recently expired and she didn't realize it. Cops came out for a prowler call and left with her gun and just as importantly, her peace of mind.

We also presented checks to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to sponsor a Wingshooting Clinic using funds we raised from trading in some junk to the Peoria Police gun buyback program last year.

We also donated \$250 to a Pheasants Forever youth clays shooting team in Coles County with the rest of those Peoria Gun Buyback monies.

Our FOID challenge awaits a judge's decision. We expect he's taking his time writing the decision as it'll no doubt be one of the five most meaningful cases of his entire legal and judicial career.

And the federal lawsuit challenging Pritzker's gun and magazine ban is moving slowly but it is moving.

We're working hard on all fronts to help gun owners across Illinois.

We thank you for your trust, support and confidence.



'No Cash Bail' and Gun Ban challenges to appear in front of IL Supreme Court

Pritzker offers contemptuous answer to a reasonable question on judicial recusal

(Wirepoints) - Should judges who received a million dollars each from Gov. JB Pritzker for their campaigns recuse themselves from decisions on the constitutionality of two of his pet pieces of legislation — the SAFE-T Act and the assault weapons ban?



Pritzker reacts defensively to questions about his million-dollar donations.

That's a predictable and fair question which surely has occurred to many Illinoisans. Recusal probably isn't in the cards for reasons I will explain, but the question certainly didn't warrant Pritzker's answer, which was smug, autocratic and unresponsive.

Pritzker started with the go-to response used by today's left: "right wing." Just brush off any question you don't like as being from the right wing.

Is reducing violent crime and homicides a priority? Not for IL government

With crime now under control, Gen. Assembly moves bills to ban cat de-clawing, criminalize lap dogs

(GSL) - With homicides in Chicago leading the nation for 11 years running, one would think the big priority of legislators would be bringing down violent crime. Not so.

rich whites lives from Highland Park spur them to action.



After all, 95% of shooting victims are black and brown. We've seen for generations how to the ruling class, thousands of black and brown lives don't really matter. Certainly not like a half-dozen

Race issues aside, what does the Illinois General Assembly address in lieu of locking up violent of-

fenders and gang members who prey upon the innocent lives? They moved bills to ban cat de-clawing (HB-1533) and criminalize lap dogs while driving (HB-2910).



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



ISP gun confiscation program limps along

Just 3% of IL departments take 'firearm enforcement' grants from ISP. They took guns from 472 former FOID holders... Shouldn't we instead be targeting felons carrying full-auto Glocks?

(GSL) - Each year, the Illinois State Police solicits grant requests from law enforcement agencies to perform "firearm enforcement" activities. Translation: the ISP pays local LEOs to conduct "compliance checks"... confiscating guns from those who fall out of compliance with the Illinois FOID Act.

According to a February 24th press release from the ISP, 30 agencies accepted the grants in 2022 to conduct these confiscations.

Those 30 agencies conducted 1,115 firearm enforcement checks (call it about three dozen per agency over the entire year). They found guns with 472 of those individuals and "brought them into compliance."

Who are they targeting? Well, from the ISP press release . . .

The enforcement details focus on individuals who have become the subject of a Firearm Restraining Order or Clear and Present Danger, or received a criminal conviction, among other reasons.

"Among other reasons..." such as an expired FOID card.

The Land of Lincoln has 994 police agencies. That works out to 3.01% who took the grants. Clearly the vast majority of the police departments aren't beating down the ISP's door looking for "free money" to conduct gun confiscation raids over expired FOID cards.

Recently, at several Guns Save Life meetings, we've had sheriffs say they aren't doing any gun confiscation runs. One said it extra succinctly. "Hell no, we're not," he said. "If they want them that badly, they can pick 'em up themselves."

Is it worthwhile for the Illinois State Police to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars per year to bring 472 "individuals into compliance" with the FOID Act? Especially when these individuals are formerly registered, card-carrying good guys and gals?

Would that money perhaps be better spent on details dedicated to nabbing recidivist felon gang members in larger cities who are toting fully-automatic Glocks?



Perhaps there's a simple reason why LEOs prefer going after FOID holders and not hard core 'bangers.

At one of our GSL meetings, the leader of an ISP group that conducted some of those "firearm enforcement" details in the past candidly admitted that the ISP officers under him were people just like the rest of us. "We get paid the same to visit the house of a old veteran with an expired FOID card as we did to pay a visit to some genuine bad guy with warrants for his arrest. I don't have to tell which ones got priority for us from an officer safety standpoint."

If you're a little slow on the uptake, that means they treated the old vet with kid gloves. They helped him get his guns to a friend or family member until he got his FOID renewed. Sometimes they may have even helped that old person navigate the online process for applying for a new FOID card. And wouldn't you know it, that chewed up a big part of their day. Then, with a little smirk, he added, "Sorry boss. Didn't have time for the others...."

He noted that people with outstanding warrants usually avoid answering the door when 5-0 comes a-knockin' so they still considered it a good day's work.

Until the FOID Act has been struck down and appeals by the State of Illinois have been exhausted, Illinois residents should avoid visits from ISP or any other law enforcement agency by making sure their FOID cards don't expire.

Hunters harvest more than 158,000 deer during 2022-2023 seasons

Springfield, IL (IDNR) – Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary total of 158,010 deer during all 2022-2023 archery and firearm seasons that concluded Jan. 15. The total preliminary deer harvest for all seasons compares with a total harvest of 146,438 deer for all seasons in 2021-2022.

During the 2022-2023 deer seasons, hunters took 45.04% females and 54.96% males.

Rep. Dan Caulkins' accuses Pritzker of 'weaponizing' IL State Police after ISP publishes 'guidance' saying the 'facially unconstitutional' ruling only applies to named plaintiffs

(GSL) - A Macon County, IL judge issued a final judgment in Rep. Dan Caulkins' legal challenge to the Illinois Firearm Ban Act in state court. Judge Rodney Forbes ruled that the new gun and magazine ban to be 'facially unconstitutional.'

conduct.)



State Rep. Dan Caulkins.

A facial challenge differs from an "as applied" challenge that only impacts specific individuals (usually named plaintiffs - much as Tom DeVore's state court cases challenging the same law.)

From the Texas Law Review: *In an as-applied challenge, a party maintains that the Constitution forbids a statute's application to his or her case. In contrast, a facial challenge asserts that a statute—or, more commonly, a provision of a multipart statute—exhibits a defect that renders it invalid as applied to all cases, even if a more narrowly (or occasionally a more broadly framed provision could have prohibited the challenger's*

Despite a ruling striking the new law as 'facially unconstitutional,' the ISP has chosen to offer "guidance" to dealers and Land of Lincoln residents that the decision doesn't mean what it says. Instead of blocking the law for all, ISP claims it only impacts specific named plaintiffs. From the Illinois State Police website:

The current Macon County judgment and any TROs entered in other actions are only applicable to the specific Plaintiffs and Defendants in those actions. More information will be forthcoming as additional rulings transpire through the state and federal

courts and when the Illinois Supreme Court rules on the matter.

Caulkins and his attorney hit back a day after the ISP's "guidance" urging anyone who faces enforcement actions under what they now describe as a null and void law should contact an attorney "to investigate taking legal action against the Director and any sworn officer involved."

This would seem to suggest a Section 1983 lawsuit against the government officials involved for "deprivation of civil rights under the color of authority."

The Illinois Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in Attorney General Kwame Raoul's appeal of the case in mid-May. Then expect a decision in the months afterwards.

In the meantime, keep your popcorn handy. This isn't over yet.



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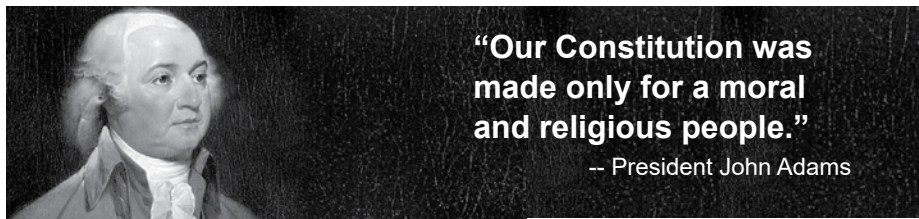
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Country Character



Missouri church prays for alleged assailants: ‘Holy Ghost turf’

by Justin Thyme, a GSL member

It was Sunday, February 12th of this year, Ferguson, Missouri. Four men entered the All Creation Northview Holiness Church and seated themselves at the rear of the church.

With guns in their waistbands and wearing masks, they were likely attending with ill intentions. As a former St. Louis police officer, Pastor Marquello Futrell’s police training kicked in as he observed these four visitors. Calling upon his training and guidance from the Holy Spirit, the Reverend took action. He directed the media team to focus their cameras on the four, as the service was streaming online, and asked the congregation to pray, as staff locked doors to protect the children’s ministry and contacted police.

With microphone in hand, the Reverend interrogated the men, also notifying them they were on “Holy Ghost turf” and “God is changing the plot.” “Let’s praise God for them coming” as men surrounded the four, laid hands on them and prayed for them as the audience applauded. About twenty minutes later the men left. Later, it was found they’d been involved in robberies of convenience stores. We will likely never know the original intent of the four, but we do know the situation was handled without a shot fired and the effect this reception had on these young men is yet to be determined. Hopefully this event will be a new beginning for these young men. This amazing event can be viewed online.

The Power called upon in the prior situation belongs to the same God who has been called upon throughout the years of our country, even in the beginning. He is the Lord, and as Scripture tells us: “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8 ESV) His power not only protected this congregation in this case, but is the power of resurrection.

A few short months ago we celebrated Christmas – the birth of Jesus, Son of God. As we approach the remembrance of His sacrifice on Good Friday, we must bear in mind that it could not have been accomplished had Jesus Christ not left Heaven and dwelled on earth. God is good, but God is just. Sin had to be paid for, and this was accomplished by Christ’s atoning sacrifice on the cross. The great exchange – Christ took our sin and gave those who believe by faith His righteousness! His last words from the cross were “It is finished!”

But wait, there’s more! Just three days later God raised Christ from the dead – the total conquering of sin and death! Now the ball’s in our court. Hebrews 2:3 ESV warns us “...how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?”

“...behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” 2Cor 6:2b



IGOLD 2023

Wednesday, March 29th in Springfield

Meet around 11:30 at the Prairie Capital Convention Center

Illinois Gun Owners Lobby Day will take place Wednesday, March 29th in Springfield. People should meet at the Prairie Capital Convention Center (BoS Building) around 11:30a.m. If previous years’ schedules hold, folks will march to the Capitol Complex around 1pm.

A couple of points this year. First, it might be a good idea for a few dozen people to visit the commons area at the Illinois Supreme Court building. Secondly, we have some messages to deliver.

For the good guys: **“Keep up the good work!”**

For the squishes: **“We’ll be watching you.”**

And a warning for the lunatics: **“Keep poking the bear and you’re going to have a lot less gun control in a couple of years than you have right now. We’ve seen you in court and your attorneys aren’t very impressive.”**

Remaining LEGAL with support braces

by John Boch

So you have a “pistol” equipped with a support brace. Welcome to the club alongside about 30+ million other Americans.



At the end of January, the BATF posted new rules that now define those formerly “a-okay” items as now making your pistol a “short-barrelled rifle” (SBR) as of May 30th. You have until then to take steps to remain legal under federal rules.

For now, I continue to recommend waiting to see what the courts do with this through the month of April.

To keep your options open, if you think there’s maybe a chance you might want to keep your braced gun in its current configuration and later register it as an SBR with the ATF then I strongly encourage you to go to the ATF website (atf.gov) and apply for a Curios & Relics Federal Firearms License.

With that C&R license, you can register an SBR in Illinois. It takes ATF about three weeks to process those C&R applications.

The C&R license application process is easier than applying for a FOID card and costs \$30 for a three-year license.

I applied for mine at the end of January and it arrived about three weeks later.



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

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

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

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



In regione caecorum rex est luscus

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

Worried that a .22 isn't enough? It beats nothing...

HINT: A hit with a .22 beats anything from the guns you left at home

The little ole .22LR. Almost no firearms expert would recommend it for self-defense against a bad guy intent on killing you. No outdoors expert has ever opined that it's good grizzly bear "medicine." [Editor: Unless you're with a "friend" or "spouse" and your friendship or marriage has run its course...]

Most importantly, for the younger generations, John Wick has never used a .22 in his first three movies – the fourth (which I can't wait for) remains to be seen, although Jardani did use a Bond Arms 9mm deringer in JW3 to wound the doctor who patched him up, so it would look like the doc had to help him or die.

So why should you own one? If you really become proficient with a .22, you can defend yourself with it, especially if that is all you are carrying. C'mon; how many of us have at least once not carried because: I'm just walking the dog around the block; I'm just going to Dollar General cause we ran out of milk; it's broad daylight, what could possibly happen? One of the major reasons not to carry on what might be that fateful day, is that what you usually carry is too bulky; you likely won't have hearing protection (and firing that bad boy is going to hurt/damage your ears); or you don't practice too much because ammo is really expensive; and/or the recoil of that "cannon" is unpleasant. Maybe all of these.



If you do not own any pistols, why start with something that turns out to be too bulky to routinely carry, or unpleasant to shoot, because if you don't like to practice, you won't practice, and if you don't practice, you won't be able to hit anything when you are nervous; it is probably at night; you are likely alone; and there may be more than one attacker. Now for this old codger, I would probably remain at home under those situations, but that's situational awareness and a topic for another day. And what if someone breaks into your castle?

You will know within the first 25 rounds if you can handle a .22. A .22 pistol can have a reasonable price tag. You generally can purchase .22LR ammo at 8-12 cents a round; buying in bulk gets it cheapest. You can keep 1,000 rounds at home without busting the bank and so you don't have to worry about a .22 shortage that happens every so often.

Now, the million dollar question. Revolver or semi-auto? If you are recoil sensitive, a revolver generally feels like it has more recoil than does a semi-auto. That is called "felt recoil." Let's not get into phys-

ics, but a semi uses some recoil to operate its ejection and reloading sequence that throws the spent cartridge out and loads an unfired cartridge into the chamber so you can fire that with another pull on the trigger. Well, if both have pretty negligible recoil, why worry? Just always go with a semi because it generally carries more rounds, and reloading a new magazine is much quicker than opening the cylinder, ejecting the spent cartridges, loading fresh cartridges in, and closing the cylinder.



The rub is that .22 rounds do not fire as reliably as center fire cartridges do because .22s are rim fire. It appears to me that the "dud" rate of .22 ammo itself is maybe about 3% to 10%, depending on quality of the ammo maker (I've never had a dud Eley in my Mauser target rifle.) Also, rounds in a magazine do not always sit correctly as the bolt comes forward, causing problems. So what to do? When you carry for defense, use high-end ammunition, just as with any other caliber. If it doesn't fire on the range, use that as a training opportunity to be able to handle malfunctions. In a revolver, if the round doesn't fire, pull the trigger again, the cylinder will rotate a new round and the hammer will fall on that new round.

But a .22 revolver or semi? If you can very, very quickly "fix" a malfunction in a semi, under pressure, you do have more rounds and faster addition of even more ammunition in another magazine. If you cannot do that, don't feel bad, just consider getting a revolver with a 7-10 round cylinder, but remember: more rounds generally means it will be bulkier, bigger and heavier. And if, therefore, you don't carry it, that defeats the whole purpose.

It's all about "carry ability" in this case. If it doesn't feel right you won't carry it. You need to try it before you buy it. See if a store salesperson will let you try it in your carry holster; does it fit in your purse? If you normally carry it in a pocket, how does it fit there? Or see if a friend will let you carry it for a while. My opinion doesn't matter; it's your personal-feel for the weapon that counts. Because you don't want to go out alone.



JOIN US: GSL Honor Flight slated for April 2024

(GSL) - Land of Lincoln Honor Flight sends America's veterans to Washington, DC to visit eight memorials, as well as Arlington National Cemetery and the Smithsonian. This one day trip includes air and ground transportation, meals and snacks, t-shirt and cap, and other items provided completely free of charge to the veteran in honor of his/her service to our country.



Guns Save Life has reserved an entire Honor Flight out of Springfield through the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight. It will happen in April 2024 (final date is to be announced but it will almost assuredly be a Tuesday).

If you are a Vietnam-era veteran or older, you are eligible to go free of charge. If you know any veterans who served during Vietnam or earlier, they are welcome to go at no charge as well.

If you or your veteran live outside the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight's Central Illinois region, you/they can still go with

the "GSL" flight if you/they can travel to Springfield as part of our "group."

Download the application at the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight web site. Or pick them up at most GSL regional meetings.

LandofLincolnHonorFlight.org

Please submit completed applications to your local GSL Regional Directors, ideally before the end of May.

We have room for about 90-95 veterans and it's generally first come, first served.

Each of the veterans can request a specific guardian (spouses excluded). If the veterans don't have a friend or family member to accompany them, Honor Flight does have some "free agent" guardians.

If you would like to serve as a free agent guardian, complete the guardian application and submit it to your local regional director.

Guardians will have to pay their own ticket for the trip (about \$525), but the memories you will bring home from your role helping a veteran will last you forever and are priceless.

This is for more than just GSL members... it's for our friends, our family members, our neighbors and others too. Land of Lincoln Honor Flight is basically using GSL to fill this flight. Sign up the veteran(s) in your life today!

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Is it worth it? One of our reloaders offers his thoughts

Adventures in reloading steel cased ammo

by Nick Klementzos

As I mentioned in an earlier story, I shoot steel cased ammunition. I buy it cheap and the lower cost allows me to practice more to improve my skill sets.

Normally, imported steel-cased ammo (especially from the former Eastern Bloc nations) has Berdan primers and is not (easily) reloadable thanks to the two flash holes in the base of the steel case. This doesn't allow easy removal of the spent primers.

Most folks are more familiar with American-manufactured ammo and its Boxer-type primers with a single flash hole in the base of the cartridge. This allows easy de-priming of the spent cartridge cases.

For the new shooters or novices, think of the primer as the spark plug in your engine. It makes "spark" that ignites the powder to drive the bullet/projectile out of the barrel.

Now back to reloading steel cases.



Our friends over at Winchester started making 9mm Luger with boxer-primed steel cases. They marketed them as USA Forged in 150 round boxes. The price was right and I don't know if Winchester had supply chain issues or if they just tried to bring

more affordability to consumers.

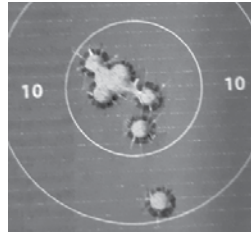


Either way, it's not like Winchester and other companies in America didn't have experience with steel-cased ammo. Back in 1941 the United States got involved in a multi-theater conflict. You may have heard of it: WW2. Brass became a scarce commodity. In order to keep feeding the War machines to supply our troops and the allies, we started to manufacture .45ACP and .30 carbine ammo using steel cases in roughly 1943.

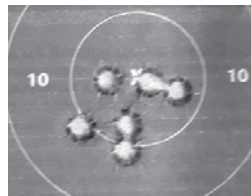
So where did I first get my paws on the American steel-cased stuff? Well, during winter PPC Match season at my gun club, one of the shooters donated his empty "brass" to Uncle Nick for use in my laboratory. Thanks Eric (names changed to protect the guilty).

I washed 'em, baked 'em and lubed 'em with a light spritz of lanolin and 90% alcohol (rubbing, not drinking). Then a quick dive into my reloading manuals and I selected Winchester 231 smokeless from my powder pharmacy, along with some of my home-brew cast lead bullets. The projectiles get

powder coated and sized to .357 diameter at 120 and 125 grain. Primers were Genix. For liability reasons, I'm not going to share my load data, but you can do your research.



Feeding, firing and function all worked every bit as flawlessly as factory-loaded, brass-cased gun food. Accuracy was good (see photos 7 yard, offhand, Glock 19 and Kimber 5" 1911-style). I didn't find any down-side to reloading Winchester steel cases.



So will I continue to reload steel cases? Is it worth it?

Probably not. While picking up spent cases with a magnet is really awesome (especially as I'm not getting any younger), there's just not enough boxer-primed steel-cased stuff out there.

It'd probably just be a lot easier to find some young people to pick up the brass stuff for me instead.



Kwame doesn't respect the First Amendment either

Kwame seeks 'Firearm Industry Responsibility Act' to regulate the commercial speech of firearm industry

(Illinois Attorney General's Office) - I commend President Biden's action to increase the number of background checks conducted before firearms purchases, which the majority of Americans support as a commonsense means of preventing dangerous individuals from purchasing firearms. The president's order also encourages the Federal Trade Commission to analyze how gun manufacturers market firearms to minors and to all civilians. I am pleased to see the federal government take action that is in line with what we are doing at the state level to protect communities from gun violence.

"In Illinois, I am initiating the Firearms Industry Responsibility Act, which I urge

members of the General Assembly to support. The Firearms Industry Responsibility Act, or FIRA, will make clear that the Attorney General's office can use Illinois' Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act to take enforcement action against firearms dealers and manufacturers that engage in dangerous sales and marketing practices. We are talking about sales and marketing practices that are dangerous and harmful to the public, that unlawfully advertise in a manner appealing to children, or that encourage unlawful militia activity. FIRA would amend the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act to clarify that such actions are violations of the law for which our office can seek monetary and injunctive relief.




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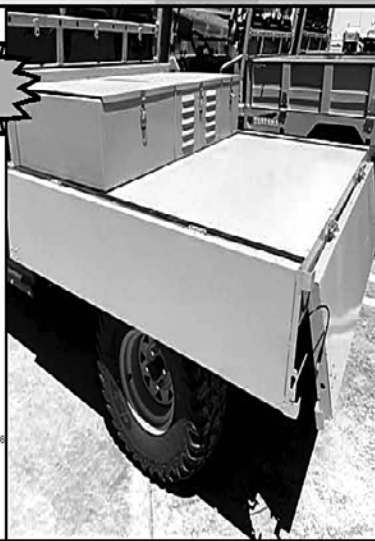
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Litigation Update...

by John Boch
(GSL) - "Where are we at on our court case?" remains a very frequently asked question in my world. So where are we? Buckle your seatbelts, because here we go.

First off, Kwame Raoul has lost at every court appearance he's made to defend the new gun ban. Every. Single. One. The only case where a judge ruled in favor of the new law was the Naperville case where Kwame didn't even show up. That and the judge has been overturned on every major 2A decision she's handed down over the years. So yes, the only case Kwame has "won" was the one he didn't even show up to argue.



We had a status hearing on February 24th. Judge Stephen McGlynn told lawyers on both sides *three times* not to bury him in paper. So six days later, IL AG Kwame the Magnificent dumps three reams of paper on court filings. Then, just before St. Patrick's Day he and his allies dumped almost another dead tree on the pile. Keep digging, Kwame. Would it be improper to send Kwame a bigger shovel and more paper?

I've skimmed it so you don't have to. Much of it was trash. Example: The state brings forth Rep. Bob Morgan as an expert witness for gun control. That's like asking for your waitress' expert opinion on rocket design.

We have **oral arguments coming up April 12th**. Our goal is to get this thing litigated quickly, before the Illinois Supreme Court hears the Macon County case from Dan Caulkins. We expect Kwame to seek delays for our cases to allow others in other venues (state court, and in the Northern District of Illinois in federal court) to proceed so he doesn't have to face the elite attorneys with the FFL-IL (GSL) / NRA (NSSF) and SAF (ISRA) cases.

Speaking of state court cases: Dan Caulkins got a final judgement in his state case challenging the Illinois Firearm Ban Act. Judge Rodney Forbes signed an order ruling the law unconstitutional on Equal Protection grounds in Macon County. However, between the governor, the Attorney General and the Illinois State Police, there's no shortage of confusion about the order.

For example on the Illinois State Police website's frequently asked questions section, ISP claims the judgement only impacts the named plaintiffs.

The day after on St. Patrick's Day, Dan

Caulkins and his attorney issued a press release urging anyone facing enforcement action of a law adjudicated unconstitutional to contact an attorney to bring a legal action against both the government agents involved as well as the Director of the Illinois State Police.

The Illinois Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in Kwame's appeal of the Macon County decision in mid-May. Expect a decision no sooner than 30 days later.

Back to to the issue of timing: Should the Illinois Supremes back the lower court decision striking the law on Equal Protection grounds, the other suits both state and federal would all be mooted out of court.

The General Assembly would then take up the matter again. Given how they are even more radical than last session, they would pass a new law. And we would have to start from scratch (at great expense) in federal court.



State Rep. Dan Caulkins.

I'm not sure why Tom DeVore's so darn hostile to Caulkins and the Macon County suit. I don't know if Tom's jealous that Caulkins got his case to the IL Supremes first, or if he's genuinely trying to win bigger issues as well (or maybe both). Maybe it has to do with money. All I know is that DeVore has been brutal attacking Caulkins, and some of his claims about the Macon County decision aren't helping to clarify things for dealers or consumers.

Either way, a whole lot of gun shops remain unsure about whether or not they can proceed and buy guns and mags. On one hand, we have to respect the gun shops reluctance to avoid the wrath of the ISP's Gun Dealer Licensing people. On the other hand, nobody wants to have ISP knock on their door over a gun purchase.

The bottom line: Every gun that doesn't get sold is a big win for Gov. Pritzker, Kwame Raoul and the rest of Team Gun Control.

Our advice: If you're leery about the state court ruling, I strongly suspect we'll get a federal injunction before the end of April. In the meantime, if you're unsure about liability exposure as a buyer or seller, play it safe.

Save your shekels and bide your time. When that federal injunction comes, buy that gun you've been flirting with, along with plenty of magazines to feed your entire collection. Buy parts you need for repairs. And stock up on ammo while you're at it. Take nothing for granted in the Land of Lincoln.



Let's go Brandon! 'Defund the police' doesn't go far enough...

Mayoral candidate Brandon Johnson advocated zeroing-out police budgets

(Wirepoints) - This week Johnson is claiming, "I never said, defund the police." But that's not what the record shows. Confronted directly in last week's Chicago mayoral debate, Johnson sidestepped any explanation of his 2020 comment – shown on video during the debate – that defunding police is not "a slogan, it's an actual real political goal."

Those comments by Johnson were one of a series of remarks that were either at odds with maintaining present funding levels for law enforcement, or that excused looting.

In 2020, as a Cook County Commissioner Johnson said, "Reducing the sheriff's budget is a case that I believe that we want... There is no number big enough."

That year speaking at an panel titled "We Don't Call Police: A Town Hall on a Police-Free Future," Johnson said, "part of it is removing

ourselves away from this, you know, state-sponsored policing, but also the tools that have been placed against black folks that have been used violently, whether it's policing, or administering standardized tests, or ... around how white supremacy finds its way in every facet of our lives, that we have to fight and resist that."



Brandon Johnson.

Looting stemmed from "frustration and anguish"

In a WGN-TV interview as the city reeled from Michigan Avenue looting and rioting in summer 2020, Johnson also defended looting as "an out-

break of incredible frustration and anguish" tied to "a failed racist system."

Chicago was becoming a national case study in failed leadership during the urban crime crisis that began after Floyd's death. Eighteen people were killed in Chicago in one day on May 31 as rioters, looters, and shooters ran free citywide. That same day, neighborhood business districts were attacked by bands of organized criminals.

Looted stores "have insurance and assurance"

Retailers weren't taking it well, understandably. Johnson was asked by a WGN-TV interviewer at that time, "Do you worry about stores leaving Chicago and the county because they don't think it's safe?"

Johnson bristled at the concern. He replied, "these companies have insurance and assurance."

BRANCO Americans for Limited Government ©2023 Creators.com



Incompetence (and incompetents) on the way out of leadership

LIGHTFOOT OUT, CPD'S BROWN QUILTS

Chicago (GSL) - In a landslide loss, Lori Lightfoot was soundly rejected by Chicago voters in the city's March mayoral election. With just 17% of the vote, Lightfoot finished a distant third, but at least she soundly beat the serial "passed out drunk at the wheel" DUI driver Kam Buckner.

Meanwhile, Chicago's top cop, David Brown promptly submitted his resignation effective March 16th. Lori Lightfoot brought Brown to oversee the latest surge in homicides and other major crimes as she defunded CPD, cut the number of cops on the streets by 19% during her term and then begged the federal government for more resources to fight crime.

Career criminal, accused murderer 'vehemently denies' being passed out drunk behind wheel with another gun... but it's the FOID cardholders driving crime in Illinois...

Chicago man, on 'electronic' monitoring for murder and gun cases, was found unconscious in driver's seat with yet another gun, officials say

Chicago (CWBCChicago) - A Chicago man on electronic monitoring for a pending first-degree murder case and a separate felony gun charge was allegedly found unconscious in his car at 2 a.m. Wednesday with a gun sticking out of his pocket.

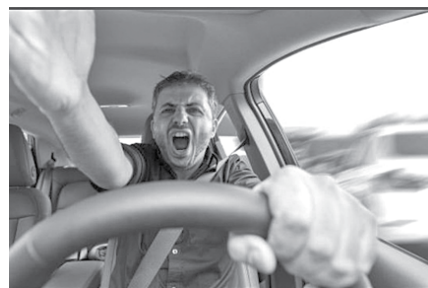
Judge William Fahy ordered Xavier Tucker, 35, held without bail during a bail hearing on Thursday afternoon.



Cook County residents may not be able to register support-braced guns as SBRs under ATF rule

(GSL) - Because Cook County's ban on black rifles still stands, the ATF has been denying applications for support-braced guns to get a tax stamp as a registered short-barreled rifle.

Early applications have been "disapproved" because of the local ordinance.



Road rage preceded 40% of highway shootings...

ISP warn of 'alarming' rise in road rage

Springfield, IL (The Center Square) - The Illinois State Police are warning the public about an increasing trend in road rage incidents on Illinois highways.

In 2022, road rage was reported in about 40% of Chicago area highway shootings handled by state police, a 12% increase from 2021. While police singled out Chicago in their warning, 20 other highway shootings have been reported around the state so far this year.



JOIN US!

Chicagoland GSL meeting
Last Sunday of the Month.

Dinner & conversation at 4:30ish.
Meeting program at 5:30.

Park Forest
American Legion Post
Chicago Heights, IL

NEXT MEETINGS:
Sunday, Mar. 26th
Sunday, April 30th



Wednesday, Apr. 12th

Dinner 5:00 pm

Meeting program 6:00pm
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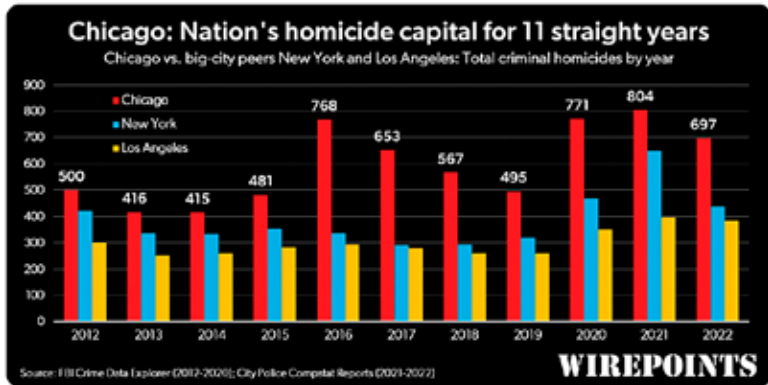
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Block Club Chicago photo.

Chicago crime...



Chicago suffered the 2nd-highest murder rate among the 20 largest U.S. cities in 2022. The courts, the schools, and the city's leadership are all to blame...
-- Wirepoints

Chicago: Never mind last year's 41% crime spike. It's up *another* 55% this year.

Chicago (Wirepoints) - Reported major crimes are up 55 percent in Chicago through Sunday February 19, versus the same seven-week stretch of 2022. That comes after a full year in 2022 when major crimes were up 41 percent from 2021.

Meanwhile under Ron DeSantis, Florida crime is at a 50-year low...

(Tampa Free Press) - Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis's policies have helped push crime in Florida to a 50-year low. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement recently released numbers for 2021, the most recent available.

Overall, the number of crimes was down 8.3% compared to 2020, and the crime rate dropped 9.5%.

Within that subset, murders fell 14.2%, robberies dropped by 17.5%, aggravated assaults dipped by 1.6%, and burglaries declined by 15.1%...

"Other states endanger their citizens by making it easier to put criminals back on the street. Here in Florida, we will continue to support and enact policies to protect our communities and keep Floridians safe," DeSantis said in a statement.

Join Guns Save Life today.



Membership application on back page.



From left, Shawn Gowder, GSL Director Charles Sykes, GSL's Chicagoland Regional Director Alfreda Keith Keller, and Michael Moore.

Civil rights giants who helped kill off the Chicago gun registry and get us concealed carry

CIVIL RIGHTS GIANTS! Shawn Gowder & Michael Moore at Chicagoland's GSL meeting

At Chicagoland's GSL meeting on February 26th, we hosted two men whose courage led to a renaissance in gun rights in Illinois. Gun owners across our state owe these two men a great debt of gratitude for their trailblazing legal challenges to antiquated and racist gun control measures that kept good people disarmed and helpless.

Of course, the Land of Lincoln's political leadership steadfastly refused to allow right to carry. Politicians of both parties stood in the way of it, defending the racist gun control law prohibiting carry of firearms outside the home.



Shawn Gowder.

Shawn Gowder told an abbreviated version of his story first. Chicago denied him a Chicago Firearms Permit which would allow him to maintain firearms at home. They picked the wrong guy to mess with. He went through the appeals process where City of Chicago administrative law judges adamantly defended the racist system to limit the law-abiding a right to keep guns in their homes.



Michael Moore.

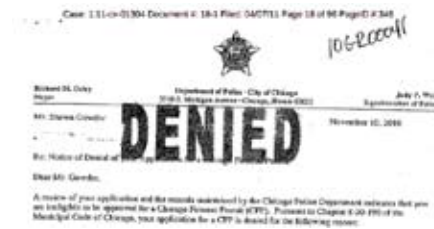
In the end, the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals decided that Illinois' arbitrary prohibition on carry was unconstitutional and gave the state six months to remedy the matter. Michael Madigan and the rest of the Democrats waited until the last minutes of the last day to pass a bill, which then Governor Pat Quinn vetoed. The legislature, facing a threat of pass this or Illinois gets "Constitutional Carry" returned to Springfield to override Quinn's veto.

We feel honored and blessed to have both of these men on the same evening share their incredible tales of virtue and perseverance in the face of overwhelming odds.

If the mainstream media didn't control the narrative today, these men would be considered the modern-day equivalent to Rosa Parks, the Freedom Riders or the Little Rock Nine.

We owe these men so much for their courage. We also owe it to them to continue the fight to defend and expand everyone's right to defend themselves. Because there will always be people who advocate for racist, classist and sexist gun control.

Instead of manipulating people to support gun control, we want people to understand the truth so we will all be better, smarter citizens



In the end, he moved to federal court, and with the help of national Second Amendment litigators including Cooper & Kirk (GSL's attorneys in some of our present-day litigation) and CD Michel & Associates (GSL's attorneys backstopping our Illinois lawyers). The outcome of his lawsuit gutted the Chicago Firearm Permit system after about three years of litigation.

Meanwhile, Michael Moore wanted the right to "bear arms" outside of the home, as residents of 48+ additional states enjoyed.

Chad Berck: Stabbed, then arrested in his front yard by Normal, IL PD

In Pontiac, GSL member Chad Berck described an incident from last May where he was arrested in his front yard after being stabbed 19 times by a neighbor. He described the long and arduous process to clear his name, and then get his gun rights restored by the State of Illinois and lessons learned.



Stab wound went to bone.

"It all started over a dog," he said. He lives in the affluent Ironwood subdivision in Normal, IL. His new dog, restrained by an "invisible fence" system, yapped at his neighbor's German Shepherd when the owner walked the GSD past Berck's residence. The neighbor, a man with numerous run-ins with police, told Berck multiple times to "take your dog inside when I walk by with my dog."

It went downhill pretty quickly from there when Chad refused his neighbor's demand.

A pattern of abuse soon formed and fast forward to last May. Late one night, James DeWitt attacked Berck late with a knife on Berck's front lawn. They fought and Berck, unarmed, sustained 19 stab wounds before cops arrived. Incredibly Normal PD arrested Mr. Berck.

From that point forward, DeWitt went full-on lawfare against Berck, filing an order of protection and pursuing prosecution. Berck missed getting served with notice of the full hearing for the Order of Protection because he was in jail when the emergency order was issued. It then took Herculean efforts to schedule a new hearing to get the order thrown out.

Of course, the Illinois State Police were in no hurry to restore the FOID card and carry license.

Then, DeWitt began harassing and threatening Berck's children and others at the bus stop, making a finger gun and pointing at them.



Chad Berck talks about his arrest after getting stabbed 18 times in his front yard in Normal, IL.

As a subscriber to US Concealed Carry Association, Berck said they were great. They paid for the attorney and over the course of about six months the tide turned. Mr. DeWitt didn't take it well, cussing the judge and getting thrown out of court more than once for contempt. At the same time, countless neighbors testified in court to the problems and threats from Mr. DeWitt. Eventually the special prosecutor dismissed the charges. Ultimately the judge apologized for the legal system failing to protect the real victim.

Now Berck has the order of protection against the neighbor and his gun rights restored. He also has his carry license again. He thanked GSL for our help and John Boch's for his assistance and guidance which proved very helpful. "John didn't even believe me at first, but I won him over with evidence and persistence. It is a very crazy story."

Lessons learned: Never, ever give a statement to police without an attorney present, even if you were attacked on your own property. Have self-defense legal insurance. It's priceless. And find someone who will keep their mouth shut to talk with about your situation and your frustrations.

Looking back, Chad sincerely believes his attacker is an evil man. "He was giggling as he stabbed me that night," he said. What's more, Berck later learned that Mr. DeWitt had a hand axe in his backpack. Berck knew he had to win that fight that night because his front door was unlocked and his family were asleep inside. Now that it's over, Berck wonders if DeWitt had plans for the rest of Chad's family that night.

There's a whole lot more about this dramatic incident that will get posted on the GSL website in the coming days.

Federal court judge slaps down cocky NJ lawyer

Camden, NJ (GSL) - On St. Patrick's Day, Attorney Edward Kologi represents the New Jersey legislature's Democrat-controlled House and Senate leaders against a challenge to that state's new gun control law passed after the Bruen decision last summer.

He brought with him great hubris that ran smack into federal court Judge Renée

Marie Bumb. She had none of it.

"Guns only have two functions - to kill or to seriously injure," Kologi said.

Before he could continue, the judge interrupted him. "You forgot the right to self-defense," Bumb said.

She continued: "You're saying when there's more

guns, there's more violence. That's the analysis you want to engage in. But that's not the record before me. We're talking about law-abiding citizens who obtain permits. You're asking this court to presume that those who have valid carry permits will somehow engage in violence, and that is a step taken too far."

IL State Police deny any 'compliance checks' of CCW holder magazines

Guns Save Life emailed the Illinois State Police a media query about an incident that occurred Sunday, March 5th on I-55 north of Bloomington. A young woman with a CCW license was stopped for a traffic infraction. Before the stop concluded, the Trooper asked to see the woman's carry gun to do a "compliance check" to ensure she didn't have a magazine over 15 rounds.



She challenged the officer's description, noting that gun owners had 90 days from the law's enactment to "come into compliance." The trooper agreed, but asked

again to see the college coed's gun as the ISP was trying to get troopers used to this new program.

The officer had no probable cause or reasonable articulable suspicion that the woman was in violation of the law - which had been struck down as unconstitutional the preceding Friday afternoon.

Here's the official response from ISP:

ISP has not given or planned to give direction to ISP officers to check for compliance with the Protect Illinois Communities Act during traffic stops. ISP is not taking any actions inconsistent with the various court orders and cases. ISP will continue to follow guidance from the Attorney General's office. It is not a standard practice to request to see the firearm of someone with a Concealed Carry License without probable cause, reasonable suspicion, or by way of consent.

NOT IF, BUT HOW MANY: Chicago Public Schools still mum on murderers, child sex offenders and drug dealers working near kids

Chicago (GSL) - Appalled by Chicago Public Schools allowing a convicted murderer to work as a "trusted adult" around school children each day on one of the "Safe Passage" routes in the City, GSL's John Boch contacted the CPS Communications office and asked, in writing, how many drug dealers, child sex offenders and murderers they have working around kids.

Chicago Public Schools describes "Safe Passage" program as such: "The Chicago Public Schools Safe Passage program is offered to select schools to provide a positive, trusted adult presence for students as they travel to and from school."

One would think they would proudly proclaim the answer would be "ZERO" if they indeed had no additional murders, child sex offenders or drug dealers working near kids.



Six weeks later, they remain "radio silent" on the inquiry.



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Rena Rojas tells her story at the GSL meeting in Springfield at SCHEELS.

Guns Save Life steps in to help disabled veteran living by herself

Rena got her gun & peace of mind back!

Springfield, IL (GSL) - Imagine you're a senior citizen living in a not-so-great neighborhood in Illinois' capital city. You call the police to report a prowler one day and thankfully, the boys and girls in blue show up quickly.

They search for the person pounding on your window but find no suspects. You thank the officers profusely in your living room. To make a long story short, they ask if you've got a gun. You show them your gun. And then they take it. Because your FOID recently expired and you didn't realize it. But not only did they take your gun, as a disabled female living alone, they took your peace of mind as well.



Rena Rojas' seized S&W EZ pistol.

Fast forward a couple of months, when you get your new FOID, the police won't return the gun. They say call the State's Attorney. When you call the State's Attorney, the office staff act less than professional about the matter.

Rena Rojas from Springfield called and called for weeks to recover her gun. Nobody would return her call from States Attorney Dan Wright's office. So she contacted us in February seeking help recovering her S&W pistol.



Dan Wright's office ignored an email from GSL's John Boch and Dan himself failed to respond to a second one. Not quite two business days after the second email, Boch posted Rojas' story at *The Truth About Guns*.

The story instantly became the #1 post in readership the day it was published and its popularity continued the next day as it held the most-read post for a second day in a row. That's impressive considering TTAG

has approximately the circulation of Guns & Ammo every three or four days.

Suddenly, Dan Wright had become famous - nationally. Angry people were calling and e-mailing his office. Less than two hours after the TTAG post went live, he called Rojas to personally assure her that the return of her gun had been approved.

Rojas picked up her gun the Friday before the Monday Sangamon County GSL meeting.

At that meeting, Rojas told her story, emotionally describing how those officers that day took not only her gun but her peace of mind. She also was very emotional in her thanks to John Boch and Guns Save Life for bringing resources to bear on her behalf.

We presented her with a shotgun, ammunition, pepper spray and some Army Strong stickers (she's a veteran, too). We also presented her a GSL membership and a year's subscription to the Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network, so in the unlikely event she ever has to use deadly force, she'll have the best legal defense money can buy.

As John Boch explained at the meeting: "She's probably never going to call 911 for a prowler ever again. If she does call the police, it'll be to report a dead perp in her kitchen. At least now she'll have the best legal defense money can buy to explain to investigators precisely why she didn't call 911 sooner."

Did Dan Wright apologize to her for blowing off her messages? Nope. Instead, he blamed John Boch for writing about the incident without all the facts.

For a whole lot more to this story, including the long email from Mr. Wright to Mr. Boch and Boch's biting response, see the Guns Save Life website in the coming days.

We're chalking this up to a big win for the little people over bureaucracy, even if Dan Wright won't be sending us a Christmas card this year.

Even a day later, when Mr. Boch called to check up on her, Ms. Rojas said she was still emotional about the previous night, still trying to process it all. She once more extended her deepest and most sincere thanks for the warm welcome at the meeting and for our willingness to go to bat for a little person up against government bureaucrats.

We're glad to help and glad she can sleep soundly once again. Like the sign slogan goes: Roses are red, my gun is blue. I

Watch your daughters / granddaughters...

14YO NC teen abducted, found in Arkansas

Denton, NC (Fox8) — The search for Savannah Childress is over. The Denton teen was found safe by police nearly 800 miles away from her Davidson County home in Lonoke County, Arkansas.

Police and community members came together and worked against the clock to find her.

"The good Lord was looking out for that child for her to be found alive and coming home," said Tanzy Sierra, who lives in Denton. "Relieved and glad that somebody was able to find her as quick as they did."



Savannah Childress.

Davidson County sheriff's deputies began investigating her disappearance on Feb. 11. Authorities said 14-year old Childress was using her school laptop to communicate with 38-year-old William Ice from Pennsylvania.

"If it can happen here, it can happen anywhere," said Sierra. "Whether you're in a small town or a big city, you've got to keep an eye on your kids."



Appropriate sentence upon conviction...

Dallas girl abducted, taken to NC, locked in shed and raped

Davidson County, NC (WGHP) — A teen who was allegedly abducted from Dallas, Texas, was found in Davidson County, North Carolina, over the weekend, according to the sheriff's office.

The Davidson County Sheriff's Office says that Jorge Ivan Santos Camacho from Davidson County is accused of taking the 13-year-old girl and bringing her to North Carolina.

On Friday around 6 p.m., the Davidson County Sheriff's Office was called by the Texas FBI about a missing 13-year-old. The sheriff's office says that messages exchanged between Camacho and the 13-year-old on a chat app were consistent with grooming and enticement, and he took her from her Dallas home.

Warrants allege that Camacho "took indecent liberties" with the 13-year-old, and she was kept where Camacho was staying "with the intent that the 13-year-old female be held in sexual servitude."

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Humane Society of the US tries to gin up opposition to predator hunting events; conservation expert says events serve purpose

Springfield, IL (Muddy River News) — The Humane Society of the United States released Wednesday the results of a February undercover investigation at the Nuggets Night Vision Coyote Hunt, a wildlife killing contest in Mendon during which roughly 86 participants killed at least 405 coyotes in a 45-hour period.

However, a retired sergeant with the Illinois Conservation Police says contests like this serve a purpose and are a benefit to local farmers.

“The Humane Society of the United States has made a nationwide priority of doing away with all wildlife contests, whether it’s a coon hunt that the local FFA or the local volunteer fire department puts on,” said Glenn Sanders, who now serves as president of the Mississippi Valley Hunters and Fishermen’s Association. “There is no natural control of the coyote population out there. It is legal in Illinois to kill coyotes year-round. In fact, they’re one of the few animals that (the Department of Natural Resources) has recognized needs no protection whatsoever.

“It’s a benefit to the rural farmers who have got livestock. The coyotes are predators on

newborn calves. A hunt like this is a benefit to your cattle farmers. Not only did they kill some of the coyotes that potentially could have killed the calves, but they’re also scaring the heck out of the coyotes for at least a short period of time.”

When he heard Ayers’ comments, Sanders noted the timing of the press release.

“(The Humane Society of the United States) would have been putting this together at the same time they were running a bill in the Illinois legislature trying to ban all these contests,” he said. “Legislators were smart enough to figure out that coyotes don’t need protection and that they were being played by the Humane Society. The sponsor agreed to pull the bill once some people met with her and explained to her what the real world was like out there.

“There’s a number of videos out there of little kids being attacked by coyotes. So once the bill sponsor saw that and figured out she would be played by the Humane Society of the United States, she pulled the bill on her own about two weeks ago.”

Humane Society downgraded by CharityWatch

(Humane Watch) - On the heels of the Humane Society of the United States being downgraded by Charity Navigator and losing its accreditation from the BBB Wise Giving Alliance, a third charity watchdog has some bad news for America’s supposed “most effective” animal charity. The respected CharityWatch has downgrad-

ed HSUS to a “D” grade in its most recent rankings due to HSUS’s highly inefficient spending practices.

Even worse, HSUS cloaks millions of dollars in overhead as program costs. Essentially, HSUS counts fundraising material as “educational” costs. Imagine a direct-mail letter in which

75% of the letter is written off as an “educational” program expense, but only the last paragraphs asking for money are counted as “fundraising” overhead—even though the entire mailing is designed to raise money. HSUS counts millions of dollars as “program” expenses in this way...

PETA admits: Vegan diets kill animals too

(Center for Consumer Freedom) - After years of harassing people with “meat is murder” messages, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) recently made a surprisingly honest admission: Vegan diets kill animals.



“Does farming plants kill animals? In short, yes,” PETA acknowledges in a recent blog on its website.

Growing fruits and vegetables requires the mass use of pesticides to kill millions of birds and other animals

to prevent them from destroying crops. Harvesting these crops, meanwhile, maims or kills field mice and other animals caught in the path of machines...

One study from Australia confirms this stark dynamic: it found that producing wheat and other grains resulted in at least 25 times more animals being killed per kilogram of usable protein than farming red meat did.

Every gun owner should make a pilgrimage to the massive NRA Convention *at least once in their lifetime.* This year it’s right next door in Indianapolis.



NRA 2023 Annual Meetings slated for April 14-16 in Indianapolis

The 2023 Annual Meetings & Exhibits will take place at the Indiana Convention Center on April 14-16, 2023 in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Exhibit Hall is open all three days and will showcase over 14 acres of the latest guns and gear from the most popular companies in the Industry.

From entertainment to special events, it’s all happening in Indy! Make plans now to join fellow Second Amendment patriots for a

freedom-filled weekend for the entire family!

Free for all NRA members and their families! Skip the lines! Have your admission badges shipped directly to you for FREE. You can pre-register for the event at NRAAM.org. Your complimentary badge(s) will give you full access to the exhibit hall for all three days.

We’ll see you there!



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Naked woman's home intrusion doesn't end well for anyone

Austinville, Virginia (GSL) - Even if you live in Virginia, you should lock your doors even while at home to keep one or more naked women from walking in your back door. Why? Because that naked woman might not have gotten the memo that Virginia is for lovers.

Some poor guy living in Austinville, Virginia might not have believed his luck when he found an "unclothed" woman in his kitchen early in March. Unfortunately for the resident, romance was not in the air. Instead, Paula Michelle Locklear apparently had homicide on her mind.



Cops say Paula Locklear (pictured above), 35, saw the man and started screaming at him. She picked up a cast iron frying pan and struck the homeowner in the head. He pushed her out of the house and locked the door, but after she attempted to force entry a second time, he shot her.

Moral of the story, gents: Lock your doors. That naked woman waltzing in your back door may not be of sound mind, and might want to brain you with a skillet or filet you with one of your kitchen knives.

Sudden, profound error in victim selection

Homeowner caps pair in TX

Garland, TX (Star-Telegram) - Two suspected burglars were found dead at a Garland apartment complex after a man said they broke into his apartment and began firing shots. The resident returned fire, fatally shooting both, police said.

Better late than never

Woman exonerated after three long years

Ladson, SC (Post & Courier) - More than three years after a woman shot a 20-year-old man to death outside a Ladson gas station, a judge granted her immunity from prosecution after determining she acted in self-defense.

Tunisia Monique Bryant shot and killed Javion Tyrese Ford on Aug. 15, 2019, at the Scotchman gas station at the intersection of U.S. Highway 78 and Von Ohsen Road. The 39-year-old woman cooperated with authorities at the scene. She was charged later that day with murder and a weapons offense, according to court documents.

Detroit robber learns how chest wounds suck

Detroit (WDIV) - An armed robber was shot in the chest while holding a CPL holder's friend at gunpoint so he could steal a wallet outside a Detroit store, officials said.

The shooting happened at 9:53 p.m. Feb. 8, but the details of the incident were revealed March 10 in a criminal complaint...

While holding a black, semi-automatic handgun in one hand, [Joshua] Fordham patted down the CPL holder with the other, according to police. As he was being patted down, the CPL holder pulled out his gun and fired a shot, authorities said.



Despite when politicians & media claim, there is no firm, sustained support for Gun Control

(Newsweek) - A frequent talking point in the gun control debate is that Americans overwhelmingly support "common sense" gun control measures, such as universal background checks and red flag laws. The Biden administration referenced these surveys last month, when it announced that \$231 million will go to states that enact "red flag" laws and push gun control policies. These surveys are constantly invoked in legislative hearings and in the media. But surveys often compress complicated bills down to one-sentence summaries, and the results are often unreliable.

Gun control advocates claim that over 90% of Americans support universal background checks, which would require checks for privately exchanged firearms. Fact-checkers from Politifact and Snopes support these claims. When asked why Congress won't pass a universal background check law, academics point to the lobbying power of the National Rifle Association.

But in 2016, despite billionaire Michael Bloomberg's overwhelming financial backing, ballot initiatives for universal background checks failed in Maine by 4% and won in Nevada

by less than 1%. In both Maine and Nevada, the background check initiatives had far more financial support, and the media was overwhelmingly sympathetic to the cause.

If the surveys conducted by gun control advocates were accurate, these should have been easy wins...

But the bottom line is these surveys do nothing more than provide talking points for interest groups and dishonestly try to make people on the other side of the debate feel isolated and out of step with the rest of the country.

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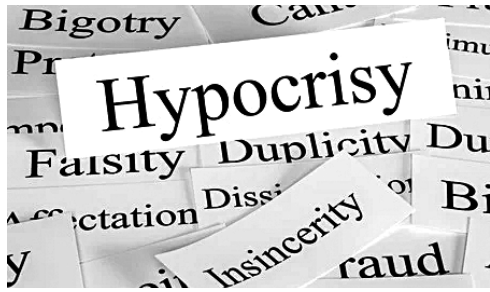
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The deep hypocrisy from Illinois' leaders

The hypocrisy from the people running our state knows no bounds.

When Governor Jay Robert Pritzker signed the Illinois Firearms Ban Act on January 10th, he said that we don't get to pick and chose which laws we obey and which we ignore. That's pretty big talk from a guy who ignores federal immigration laws on a daily basis.

Pritzker also crowed that "no Illinoisan, no matter their ZIP Code, should have to go through life fearing their loved one could be next in an ever-growing list of victims of mass shootings."

Unless, of course, they live in Chicago's poor, crime-ridden neighborhoods. In which case their suffering will be ignored as just another day of black-on-black crime.

Governor Pritzker tells us about this "wonderful" act he signed into law, he doesn't mention the crime victims he creates by stripping the good people in those violent neighborhoods of the most effective guns available for self-defense. Because with 20% fewer Chicago cops assigned to the streets than four years ago, the cops aren't going to keep them safe.

Chicago has more homicides than any other city in America. Heck, Lori Lightfoot's Windy City has more homicides in that single city than two thirds of American states have in their entire states.

Chicago's remaining law-abiding residents need effective guns for self-defense. JB Pritzker's security detail has them. Lord knows Lori Lightfoot's 90-person strong protective detail has them! Why shouldn't the single-mother or family in a bad part of town not have them too?

Meanwhile over three-quarters of Illinois sheriffs told the governor to go pound sand on enforcing the new gun ban. That incensed the governor who stomped his feet and banged his fist on the lectern like a petulant child. Ol' JB even threatened to fire them. In our state though, the governor can't "fire" elected officials like sheriffs.

We accepted Senate President Don Harmon's challenge to see him in court. Since then, we've seen Attorney General Kwame Raoul's legal team, at least when they actually show up in court. They aren't impressive and they've lost every time they've appeared in court to defend unconstitutional gun control thus far.

Guns Save Life, along with our fellow Illinois Gun Rights Alliance coalition members, we lead the charge to restore fundamental constitutional rights on guns for both self-defense and other lawful purposes. While no plan survives first contact, we're coming after older gun control laws that keep our streets safe for the criminals while leaving good people to fear bad guys and their bad guy bullets.



West Coast, Messed Coast™: The Left's Unconstitutional Assault on Guns

by Victoria Taft (PJ Media) - As you are well aware, this is among the most confused and Leftist areas of the country. Confused because Washington, Oregon, and California have made themselves sanctuaries for all manner of lawbreakers by letting criminals out of jails and prisons, reducing penalties for felonies, and even redefining felonies in the name of equity. You are not allowed to smoke

tobacco on Seattle's bus system, for example, but Fentanyl smokers can fire up without fear. Leftists defund the cops and then make it harder for citizens to protect themselves.

When the crime rates predictably go up, these same Leftists blame legal gun owners. As one West Coast, Messed Coast™ reader wrote me, "How come they call it cartel violence when it's south of the border, but it's gun violence

here?" Better PR.

Illegal aliens, drug-addicted-tent-dwellers, abortion seekers, and underaged children who are secretly brought to their states for trans surgeries and puberty blockers, all have the protection of government... unlike legal gun owners.

Come to the West Coast, Messed Coast™, and live your best drug-addicted life while smoking your rent while living in a tent.



Late-breaking news: Federal judge blocks California handgun restrictions

(The Reload) - California can't ban residents from buying modern handguns.

That's the ruling handed down by Federal District Judge Cormac J. Carney, a George W. Bush appointee, on Monday. He found California's requirement that all new pistols sold in the state include a series of uncommon or even theoretical safety devices is unconstitutional. He ruled the regulation, which has resulted in no new handgun models being sold to civilians in nearly a decade, violates the

Second Amendment.

"Californians have the constitutional right to acquire and use state-of-the-art handguns to protect themselves," Judge Carney wrote in his preliminary injunction for Boland v. Bonta. "They should not be forced to settle for decade-old models of handguns to ensure that they remain safe inside or outside the home."

The decision is the latest blow to California's strict gun-control laws in the wake of the Supreme

Court's 2022 opinion in New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen, which set a new standard for reviewing gun laws. Late last year, a federal judge also blocked the state's attempt to discourage legal challenges to its restrictions. Many of the state's other high-profile gun restrictions are similarly embroiled in ongoing litigation, and Monday's ruling may signal they may face a tough climb to clear the bar set by the Supreme Court.

MAIL CALL

ISP, FOIDs and firearm dispositions

Two years after our escape from IL I received a letter from ISP regarding my expired FOID. It was sent to my updated address in another state.

I called ISP, explained I left IL and had no plans to return. They told me to ignore the letter.

A month later I received a more forceful letter about my now lack of a valid FOID. Now they demanded to know the disposition of my firearms. I called ISP again and told them that information is none of your business!

Ella D.
via the website





More Chicago cops won't help until criminals are prosecuted and sentenced

by Matt Rosenberg

(Wirepoints) - It's popular in Chicago to call for hiring more police or to suggest, as we have at Wirepoints, that more of the city's existing officers be assigned to district-level patrol duties. But to focus only on police force strength, deployment or accountability — and ignore prosecutions and sentencing — is to settle for re-arranging the deck-chairs on the Titanic.

Our courts are broken. Too many who are granted leniency are later charged with new crimes including murder, attempted murder, criminal sexual assault, carjacking, and robbery. The system is a revolving door.

Don't count on relief until Chicago elected officials, community leaders, and media demand that Cook County Chief

Judge Timothy Evans and Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx stop the door from spinning.

Felony offenders on the loose pose deadly risks to the community

Chicago's first murder of 2023 is still under investigation. Police said they were searching for a murder suspect with five prior felony convictions who was released from prison two years ago — after serving just half of his latest sentence — for an armed home invasion. He's wanted in connection with the slaying of a security guard at a Chicago hookah lounge. The victim, 38-year-old Austin McAllister, was a black father of six, and an Iraq veteran. State authorities said the suspect wasn't checking in with his parole officer and making his whereabouts known, as required.

Foucault, who sexually abused 8-year-old boys, advocated for fellow pedophiles

MICHEL FOUCAULT: Meet the pedophile behind the prison abolition movement

by Daniel Greenfield

(Front Page Mag) - When Angela Davis, a domestic terrorist, wrote, "Racialized Punishment and Prison Abolition", she began by extensively citing an ex-Marxist French philosopher. "Michel Foucault's 'Discipline and Punish' is arguably the most influential text in contemporary studies of the prison system," she argued while crediting herself with an analysis of the "racial implications" of his ideas.

There is a straight line that runs from Foucault and Davis to the "prison abolition" movement that in its mildest form encompasses police defunding and reducing penalties for offenses and diverting criminals away from prison, and to proposals like Rep. Rashida Tlaib's BREATHE Act that would create a "roadmap for prison abolition," with the "full decarceration of federal detention facilities within 10 years".

Terms like "carceral" or "decarceration", now commonly used by leftists agitating for the elimination of prisons, police and the criminal justice system, owe much to Foucault.

Foucault's Prison Information Group had originally been set up to aid Communist terrorists behind bars in Europe, but quickly linked together the idea that criminals were revolutionaries and criminal justice needed to be abolished. Angela Davis, who faced her own criminal charges over Marxist terrorism, took Foucault's ideas and racialized them. And now they're broken out.

While black nationalists are more likely to cite Davis and other black nationalists, she and leftist intellectuals very clearly credited Foucault and his Marxist analyses of criminal justice. Neither group tends to mention that aside from leftist extremism, Foucault was also a pedophile.

Many political activists have hidden or not so hidden private lives, but Foucault's pedophilia was a fundamental element of his opposition to prisons and the criminal justice system.

Two years after Foucault wrote 'Discipline and Punish', the book described by many defunders as the founding text for the prison abolition movement, he signed a petition calling for legalizing sex with 13-year-olds. This was not a one-time event. Foucault had signed another petition "calling for the freedom of three men accused of sex with boys and girls between age twelve and fifteen" as part of his vocal activism on behalf of legalizing the act of molesting children.

Foucault's interest in prison abolition for pedophiles was not strictly objective. A decade earlier, he had been sexually abusing eight-year-olds in Tunisia...

The Left has much to say about America's original sins and how they define the present, it has far less to say about its own original sins and how they define its movement. Prison abolition, police defunding and similar criticisms of the justice system are built on a child rapist's conviction that raping children should not be a crime and that no one should be locked up for it.



Anti-Gun AGs: Nice credit card companies you got there... be a shame if somethin' was to happen to 'em

by Dan Zimmerman

(TheTruthAboutGuns.com) - The Civilian Disarmament Industrial Complex isn't taking the news of America's credit card issuing companies "pausing" their gun transaction tracking efforts very well. They had dreams of regular Suspicious Activity Reports flooding into ATF from Visa, Mastercard, Discover and Amex, paving the way for eventual de facto registration of all legal gun purchases. And if the processing companies — with some help from gun regulators — could ID "suspicious" buyers, it's not much of a leap to expect them to (one day) decline their purchases.

But a funny thing happened on the way to privatized Operation Choke Point nirvana. The card processors didn't like the amount of heat they were feeling from state and federal elected officials over the privacy-destroying plan.

Bills have been introduced in a number of states banning use of the new gun store Merchant Category Code. State Attorneys General were asking for and getting in-person meetings with card processing com-

pany executives to register their Second Amendment concerns about purchase tracking. And action on the federal level was being threatened, too.



Never mind the not-so-small detail that none of the companies have the ability to identify exactly what's being purchased in any particular credit card transaction, a fact that Visa's former CEO admitted before caving to the anti-gunners' demands.

So...when the news that the card issuers had decided to halt work on deployment of gun transaction monitoring, the gun control industry collectively lost their sh!t.

Not only were they subjected to the usual and entirely predictable name-calling from the usual suspects—shameful, complicit in future shootings, yadda, yadda, yadda — but now they're

being "urged" to reconsider...this time by a bunch of blue-state anti-gun AGs, let by New Jersey's Matthew Platkin.

So the credit card companies have been made a couple of offers, neither of which they can refuse. Youse (sic) can push ahead with the gun purchase tracking that those in the gun control industry — along with their friends in government and the media — really want to see happen. That, however, seems sure to result in legislation, not to mention "significant confusion and legal uncertainty."

On the other hand, youse can kill the gun store merchant tracking code and risk what happens when you disappoint capos like Matthew Platkin.

Good luck, credit card company CEOs. It seems it's not easy doing business in a hyper-politicized world where authoritarians in government are determined to enlist the help of private companies to do what they can't accomplish through the regular legislative, law-making process.

GunNews Magazine

The monthly journal of Guns Save Life

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

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



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

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

Meeting summaries

Continued from page 3.



Steve Wheeler from Land of Lincoln Honor Flight speaks at SCHEELS.

Terry Z. won the gun with a ticket purchased at the Pontiac GSL meeting - congrats to him.

Pontiac.

John Boch called the meeting to order at the **Pontiac Sportsman's Club** following a great meal. Come hungry folks. They have great food.

Mr. Boch then presented his **Executive Director's Report**. While taking questions, we had some folks who wanted to speak and after about four of them, we shut it down after they riled up the audience and caused a number of folks to walk out. For more on this, visit the website or see the Executive Director's Report on page 4.

For our main speaker, **Chad Berck** described what happened to him last May in Normal, IL. See page 12 for the Reader's Digest account and more will be coming on the website soon. It was a great program with lots of lessons we can all learn from the experience.

We held the drawings and **Kevin S.** won the nice **Taurus GX4**, courtesy of **RP Home and Harvest in Pontiac**.

Northwest Chicagoland.

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

John Boch shared his **Executive Director's Report** and took questions.



GSL Vice-President John Coyne.

GSL's Vice-President John Coyne spoke next, discussing how he took a walk in the vicinity of the Highland Park Massacre from last Fourth of July. He noted that of scores of businesses within a block of the incident, he only saw a single business with a "No Guns" sign posted.

Considering how Highland Park Mayor Nancy Rotering loves to proclaim her community's supposed overwhelming support for gun control, when the rubber meets the road, Coyne says her claims don't hold up in the real world.

Jay Swindler from **Above Biometrics** addressed the faithful with updates. His company will help with FOID & CCW applications and they do electronic prints for FOIDs and carry licenses. Having said that, he

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recommends skipping the prints for FOIDs. He did say you will need two hard-copy print cards for each E-form 1 Short-Barrelled Rifle application you submit to the BATF as part of the "pistol brace" amnesty.



For our **main speaker, Joe Friedman** from **"Plan Prepare Do"** (planpreparedo.com) joined us. Friedman who has worked as a firefighter, paramedic and police officer has a long list of training and certifications. He loves sharing life-saving skills with good people and his company provides training to groups and companies, as well as health and safety consulting. Obviously he encouraged everyone to get basic first aid training. The life you save might be your own!



Joe Friedman.

He shared some reasons to bone up to basic first aid training, including events like the Highland Park massacre where paramedics were initially delayed while police initially tried to find the killer and secure the scene. One of his former students used what she learned to shepherd her family to safety during the shooting. "If she and others had only had their guns," he noted, things might have turned out a lot differently.

"Tom" won both the 50/50 and the gun for the night, a **9mm Shield Plus** pistol.

LaSalle County.

Our **LaSalle County Regional Director Glenn Pratt** called the meeting to order among a crowded field of the faithful at **Jamie's Outpost** in Utica, IL.

Mr. Boch was unable to attend as he was in Charleston this night, but he did send some of his notes to bring folks up to date.

Our main speaker **David Winters**, the Illinois team leader of the **Convention of the States Project** came out to talk about the initiative to hold a Constitutional Convention to consider term limits, a balanced budget and to bring legislative jurisdiction back to where it started.



David Winters of Convention of States.

Folks always ask about the potential for a runaway convention that might modify or stike the Second Amendment. That can't happen as they can only consider the three topics approved by the state legislatures. And should something cause things to go rogue, any changes must be approved by 34 states.

You can sign their petition to help nudge Illinois legislators to approve this at **ConventionofStates.com**.

Steve G. won the **Colt 1911** (*whoa!*) for our monthly gun.

Charleston.

The **Justin and Keith show** launched in Charleston this month. Ahead of the meeting at the **Unique Banquet Center**, they had both the MantisX system set up and running as well as the LASR X system. Both had SIRT training guns as well, providing a great opportunity to "play" with the systems to assess your skills.

John Boch delivered his **Executive Director's Report** and took questions.



Steve Wheeler from the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight group.

Next up, **Steve Wheeler** from the **Land of Lincoln Honor Flight** came out to discuss the program where they send Vietnam-era veterans and older out to Washington to see eight memorials, the Smithsonian and Arlington National Cemetery. While there, they're treated like royalty with reverence and respect everywhere they go. It's a long, very emotional day capped off with a return to Spring-

field and a packed airport terminal welcoming the veterans back home. The memories will last a lifetime, not only for the veterans but their guardians as well.

Next April, Guns Save Life has reserved one of their flights for our friends and family. Membership is not required and it's open to all. Applications can be downloaded from Land of Lincoln Honor Flight, the GSL website or we usually have some at most regional meetings. Get completed apps to your regional directors by the end of May.



Darrell Cox, retired Coles Co. Sheriff.

Next up, **Darrell Cox**, the retired **Coles County Sheriff** spoke next. He presented a check for \$700 from his cousin **Brett Castle's estate**. Mr. Castle, a long and devoted 2A advocate passed away of complications from COVID. On behalf of GSL, we thank the former sheriff and his family for their support and are honored by their trust and confidence in our work for gun rights across Illinois and beyond.

For **Tech Time**, we planned to have a talk not about guns but about on fixing traumatic injuries. **Justin Bawcum** instead spoke about his best friend from Afghanistan getting

Continued on page 19.

Sullivan Gun Club

2023 Events... Open to public



Bowling Pin Shoots

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

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PO Box 584
Lovington IL 61937.

Meeting summaries

Continued from page 18.

shot by some gang members last fall in Cocoa Beach, Florida.

A police officer who previously served as a combat medic in the military was first on the scene and his trauma kit and life-saving care in the field saved Justin's friend's life.

"Carry your medical gear," Bawcum implored. It's not very expensive but it can become priceless if you can save your life or someone you love should the worst happen.

Rick S. won the gun and **Jerry Garrett** won the 50/50.

Rantoul.

Our Rantoul meeting kicked off with our **Regional Director Dick Brandt** calling things to order. The **Knights of Columbus** had no food this night because of a staffing issue but food would return next month.

John Boch shared his **Executive Director's Report** and took questions.

Frank Hubbard, the retired Decatur cop and training junkie who now serves as the **Decatur Park District's Police Chief** joined us as our main speaker.

He's very pro-gun and pro-good guys with guns. In his thirty-plus years in law-enforcement, he's seen a lot. He recalled how people used to scatter at gunshots. Today, gang members will oftentimes stand firm in the face of people shooting at them, pounding their chests and taunting their adversaries.

There's a LOT he talked about in a terrific presentation that we simply don't have space to cover here. It's in a post at the **Guns Save Life's** website, including very dramatic footage of a Decatur police officer clearing a malfunction in the middle of a gun battle to save his own life. **GunsSaveLife.com**. Make it part of your regular sites to visit everyday.

For **tech time**, we have a number of British rifles from the early 1900s, including the **British P14 and P17 rifles** and the **SMLE**. Warren and Ron brought a number of these mostly-British bolt-action rifles and discussed them at length.



Warren D. with an Enfield drill rifle.

Ron also brought a **Beringham Small Arms** rifle which was a wonderful little training rifle used by the Brits and later imported into America. It was a Peabody-Martini action chambered in the .310 Cadet. Very similar to the .32-20 (or .32 Winchester Centerfire), it was a mild-shooting, well-mannered gun with great sights (for 18-year-old eyeballs, at least). Unfortunately ammo today needs to be home-brewed.

Terry Doyle won the 50/50 and **Todd B.** won the Ruger 9mm pistol. Congrats to both.



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

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Does everyone in your home know what to do to maximize safety?

Answering the door, especially to an unexpected late night caller

by John Boch

We feature lots of neat stuff on the GSL website. Recently we posted the story, with video, of a home invasion.

In short, an angry bully demands to see someone they believed to be inside. Sixteen seconds later, he kicks down the front door and enters, along with a female. Lucky for the bully, the resident either didn't have a gun or didn't have time to access it. Nobody was hurt, but the physical damage was quite evident.



Can you access your firearm in your home, load it and bring it to bear within 16 seconds from a cold start? Most folks can't on a good day, especially if they spend the first five or ten seconds trying to evaluate the situation.

Most of us would all agree that screaming lunatics who kick a door open at a residence have earned a ballistic prize.

But what do you bring with you for your garden variety knock at the door or a doorbell that's not the Amazon/FedEx/UPS driver?

I'd half expect readers of *GunNews* to answer "a gun, of course." While a gun is very useful, there's a better answer: prudence and common sense.

First and foremost, especially at night, that unexpected visitor might wear a police uniform. Maybe someone stole your car and the cops recovered it. Or maybe someone died or got hurt. Have kids? Did one get in trouble? Or the police might be there to make sure a dangerous fugitive hasn't broken into your home or garage while running from the law.

So answering the door with a visible firearm carries big risks and few benefits for you. Cops go from calm to pointing guns while thinking with the lizard brain pretty quickly when they encounter a person with a gun in their hand. While your estate might collect a wrongful death claim if you get shot through your window by a trigger happy cop outside, but there's better ways to earn a buck or two.

There's nothing wrong with having a snub-nosed revolver tucked in your pants or a pistol holstered gun on your hip. Just practice discretion and keep it concealed. Gun or no gun, bring a phone in case you need to call 911.

Secondly, don't be in a hurry to answer the door, especially if things seem the least bit suspicious. Stand back at least six or eight

feet from the door, announce yourself and then move.

Got a Ring doorbell or an Arlo camera system? Check it. How many people are outside? How close are they to the door? Do they look anxious or suspicious on camera? Body language will communicate a lot as bad guys will "leak" pre-violence indicators with their body language. Use your Ring doorbell to communicate with that unknown individual at the door.

Now, I know most gun owners with even half an ounce of situational awareness will think to themselves, "C'mon John. Do you think we're stupid or something?"

Here's the thing: While you might not blissfully answer the door the next time some unknown character knocks or rings the bell, have you coached others in your home to use similar common sense and caution before answering the door? Remember, contrary to common custom, you don't *have* to answer the door.

For instance, in my case, I've got a pair of 4-year-olds who I'm trying to break of the habit of racing to open the front door every time the Amazon driver or the guy in brown rings the doorbell when leaving a package.

Maybe it's your spouse, grandchild or even a guest. Encourage them to stop and evaluate circumstances before opening the door. And even if things seem okay, there's nothing wrong with lurking nearby ready to engage in an instant if things go sideways.

Other strategies to make your house less inviting to those with bad intent? Make it look less appealing to bad guys than the neighbors' place. Install and use good exterior lighting. Keep your shrubbery trimmed. Keep your garage door closed and lock your car doors. Have a dog. Lock your darn doors.



What else? Buy a metal strike plate and install it with long construction screws. Also, install a door reinforcer (*above*) which holds your door together at the door handle and the deadbolt. \$50 in parts and you can turn your door from a single-kick affair to something that needs some effort to breach. That gives you precious time to react to an unwelcome violent and tumultuous intrusion.

But again, your best defensive preparation: practice situational awareness. Make sure others in your home know to use good sense before opening the door to an unknown visitor.

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Incarceration works wonders at cutting crime - homicides down 97% since 2015

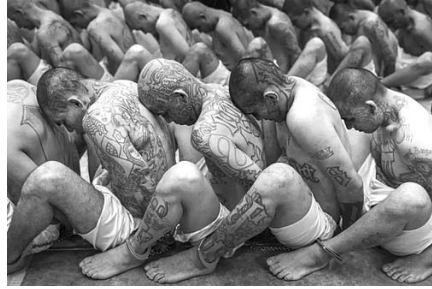
El Salvador cuts its homicide numbers by 84.7% in a single year by incarcerating gang members

(GSL) - On March 27, 2022, El Salvador suffered 62 homicides in a single day. At that point, the country's president asked for and received permission to crack down on gang members. Part of the crackdown involved constructing a massive super-prison to hold gang members.

After arresting about 65,000 criminal gang members, El Salvador's government has put them into the new prison, assuring the residents the gang thugs will no longer be able to harm the population.

What has incarcerating about 65,000 of the worst gang members done for the small Central American nation? Homicides and violent crime have plummeted.

In the first two months of 2023, the nation only saw 23 homicides... and 84.7% drop from the same period in 2022.



Homicides have declined an incredible 97% since 2015.

He actually advocated putting bad guys in jail... Hope he's ready to retire...

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS: Washington DC police chief proposes 'radical' plan for lowering crime

Washington, DC (TTAG) - As crime continues to skyrocket in the nation's Capitol, Metropolitan Police Department Police Chief Robert Contee has come up with a truly radical idea for addressing the problem: stop releasing criminals back onto the streets and keep them behind bars.

press conference alongside Mayor Muriel Bowser, Fox News reported.



Chief Robert Contee.

"What we got to do, if we really want to see homicides go down, is keep bad guys with guns in jail. Because when they're in jail, they can't be in communities shooting people," Contee told reporters during a

"So when people talk about what we gonna do different, or what we should do different, what we need to

do different, that's the thing that we need to do different," he explained. "We need to keep violent people in jail. Right now, the average homicide suspect has been arrested eleven times prior to them committing a homicide," the chief continued. "That is a problem. That is a problem..."

Maybe, just maybe, we should go back to the radical idea of prosecuting criminals, jailing them, and reestablishing law and order to protect law-abiding citizens.

Biden fails to explain how his 'Plan to Reduce Gun Violence' will stop criminals

(Townhall) - After the White House announced a new executive order focused on the president's "plan to reduce gun violence" on Tuesday, Biden addressed his latest fiat from Monterey Park, California. As usual, Biden's remarks had, at best, a tenuous connection to truth and reality.

Pledging that his latest executive order dealing with firearms will "accelerate and intensify" his administration's supposed crackdown on illegal firearms, Biden said his order would keep firearms out of the hands of criminals by taking "every lawful action possible to move us as close as we can to universal background checks."

Calling it "just common sense," Biden did not explain how his executive order would keep firearms out of the hands of criminals who, unsurprisingly, don't follow gun laws.

Also notably absent from his executive order and remarks on Tuesday was any action to secure the U.S.-Mexico border and stop those capitalizing on the open border to traffic guns, among other contraband.



Remember when the colonists stood in line to register their muskets?

Me neither.

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Calendar



GUN SHOWS...

March

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

March

Apr 1-2: Chillicothe Sportsman's Club, Chillicothe, IL. Al Sansom 309 231-3196.

Apr 1-2: Crown Point Gun Show, Lake County Fairgrounds Crown Point, IN (765) 855-3836.

Apr 16: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St Charles, IL. Mick Stout (815) 217-2266

Apr 22: National Civil War and Collector Arms Show, Duple County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, IL. Zurko Promotions. 715 526-9769.

Apr 22-23: Will County Gun Show, Will County Fairgrounds. Peotone, IL. Mike 630

254-0221.

Apr 30: McHenry County Gun Show
McHenry County Fairgrounds Woodstock, IL
Donald Cichoski (815) 385-1982

May

May 5-7: Pecatonica Gun Show. Winnebago Co. Fairgrounds, Pecatonica, IL. Marv Kraus 563-608-4401.

GUN CLUBS

Foosland Sportsman's Club

Shooting opportunities open to the public at the Foosland Sportsman's Club.

Second Tuesdays: 6p Tuesday night trap shoots

Second Sunday: Splatter board through March 13

Fourth Saturday: Trapshoot starting at 10 AM. All open to the public.

Second Sunday starting in April: Annie Shoot/.22 steel plate shoot.

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.

Now Biden wants to disarm our troops too

(NY Post) - The military should stop selling guns to troops under the age of 25, in a bid to help combat suicide, an independent Pentagon panel found.

The Suicide Prevention and Response Independent Review Committee (SPRIRC) was formed in March 2020 to address the rising rates of suicides by members of the armed forces.

"On DoD property, raise the minimum age for purchasing firearms and ammunition to 25 years," the committee wrote in their report, which was released Friday, Fox News reported.



Got a backup plan?
Have you tested it lately?

Physical attacks on power grid rose by 71% last year, compared to 2021

(CBS News) - Physical attacks on the U.S. power grid rose last year by 71%, compared to 2021 and surpassed 2020 figures by 20%. The industry's preeminent clearinghouse predicts the number of serious incidents will continue to rise this year.

CBS News has obtained a confidential analysis of physical attacks on the U.S. power grid authored by the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC), which is a data center documenting threats against the electrical system and a division of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)...

A "unusual" number of "repeat and clustered attacks" on infrastructure in the Southeast, Midwest and Pacific Northwest occurred in 2022 involving "individual sites being repeatedly targeted or multiple sites being targeted within close proximity to one another."

One of those attacks occurred last December, with the deliberate shooting of power substations in Moore County, North Carolina, leaving 45,000 people in the dark for several days.

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The Armed Women of America

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Guess what comes next!

Biden's buddy in Brazil demands gun owners 're-register' guns by Mar. 30

(Breitbart) - Brazilian collectors of weapons, professional shooters, and hunters (CACs) are facing the deadline for a new rule that requires them to re-register their firearms by the end of March.

JP News reported that the new rule was "instituted by the Minister of Justice, Flávio Dino," and any CACs who refuse to comply will be "committing a crime against the disarmament statute."



GASP! Polish Minister of Justice packs heat

A gust of wind revealed how the Polish Justice Minister Zbigniew Ziobro carries a defensive handgun in public.



Australian bed-wetters shut down airspace to test fire a single-shot .50 rifle

(GSL/TTAG) - In a classic illustration of fear porn, the Royal Australian Air Force shut down airspace over an air force base to test fire a "high-powered" single-shot .50 caliber rifle. When it comes to firearms, it's all about sensationalism in service to civilian disarmament to help convince the public to surrender guns that are seldom, if ever, used in crime.

They even had those present wear face diapers — outdoors — because COVID infections apparently skyrocket in the presence of such wickedly powerful boomsticks. And the bed-wetting Australian media ate it all up.



Smith & Wesson TN facility coming along nicely

Maryville, TN (GSL) - Smith & Wesson announced in 2021 that they planned to leave Massachusetts for the far more gun-friendly state of Tennessee. Construction began last year on the \$125M facility expected to create about 750 jobs for the Maryville, Tennessee area.



Not only will S&W relocate its headquarters to Blount County, TN, but also its distribution, assembly and plastic injection molding operations.



Cori Bush marries a guy with a gun

Cori Bush marries bodyguard

St. Louis (GSL/TTAG) - The hypocrisy of politicians who advocate for gun control for the little people knows no bounds. Case in point: Cori Bush, the rabidly anti-gun Missouri Congresscritter who wants to defund the police to make life more dangerous for her constituents while spending hundreds of thousands of dollars for her own private, armed security.



Recently, Cori Bush tied the knot in a private marriage ceremony. Did she pick a scrawny, like-minded soy boy who eschews firearms like David Hogg? Hardly.

Instead, Bush married a member of her private security detail— someone who was/is on her payroll — named Courtney Merritts. A man who likely carries a firearm everyday for his "job" even though he wasn't properly licensed in Missouri.

Not your friends

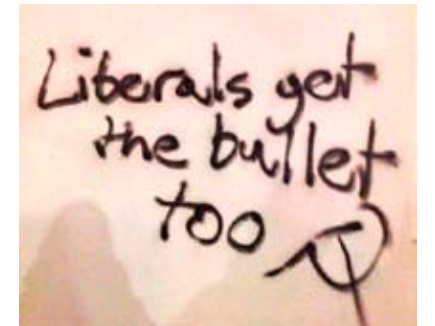
Socialist Rifle Association group shares goal: arming communists, disarming patriotic Americans who stand in their way

In a recent tweet, the Socialist Rifle Association of Minnesota published a post that most freedom-loving Americans should find troublesome at best and outright seditious at worst. "F*** the 2A," it began. "We are not in favor of 'guns for everyone', we are in favor of arming those groups who stand most to gain from the end of capitalism, and disarming those who stand in our way."

We've seen time and time again that many of these folks have skills no better than the average Joe Sixpack, sometimes a lot worse. But they don't need super-Ninja skills. They just need to get lucky.

They feel righteous in their sick cause and too many are more than willing to kill and/or die for their beliefs.

The good news is that they are even better at killing fellow travellers who they believe aren't "pure enough" in their ideological beliefs.



These folks seem quite happy to contemplate slaughtering millions more to take their attempt at creating the communist utopia. Because 100 million + dying at the hands of communists in the 1900s wasn't enough?

Remember folks, you can vote yourself into socialism but you'll have to shoot your way out of it.

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GSLDefenseTraining.com





That *that's* a senior picture...

Colton Pulke has had a love for guns since he has been old enough to walk. He enjoys everything from civil war-era guns to the most modern of guns and is actively supporting organizations that are working to preserve our 2nd Amendment.

Leaving you with a smile...



CNN correspondent - with security - reporting on San Francisco street crime falls victim to car break-in

(NY Post) - A CNN correspondent in San Francisco to report on the city's "rampant street crime" had her rental car broken into Friday — even with hired security tasked with watching the vehicle.



A bit of humor...

The elevator

A friend and I stopped by Hooters for some wings and a beer. He asked me, "Which of these waitresses would you like to be stuck with in an elevator?"

I responded, "The one that can fix elevators. I'm old. I'm tired. And I pee a lot."



Biden does a little Irish dance just in time for St. Patrick's Day.

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