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TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

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GUNNews



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE, INC. AFFILIATED WITH ILLINOIS GUN RIGHTS ALLIANCE, JPFO, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES AND OTHERS

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WILL NOT COMPLY

(Guns Save Life) - Months ago, nobody could have predicted that Illinois gun owners would lead the nation in refusing to comply with a gun registration scheme. With less than two weeks left for gun owners to register banned self-defense firearms, only 8143 FOID holders of over 2.4 million have complied - or about a 99.7% non-compliance rate.

Yes, while Governor Pritzker can legitimately tout that "thousands" of gun owners have complied, we can also say that millions have not.

The latest spin from Attorney General Kwame Raoul's team during a recent federal court hearing is that "maybe there aren't as many owners of these guns as we thought."

The judge chuckled and said, "maybe people just aren't registering them."

With less than two weeks left, existing owners have a decision to make. Do they register their "naughty guns" and risk possible confiscation, future insurance requirements, fees or finding one's self subjected to a "completely random" tax audit from the Illinois Department of Revenue? Or do gun owners have a tragic boating accident, bury them or temporarily re-home them out of state? Probably the most commonly chosen option for most is "do nothing and

don't worry about it."

The Illinois State Police, already short-handed, don't have the manpower to start auditing gun owners for compliance checks. That's not to say they won't investigate snitch line tips.

Inside this issue, we share strategies for greatly reducing the likelihood that someone reports you as a non-compliant gun owner. We offer recommendations to not answer police questions or consent to any searches at home. We also encourage folks to make sure other members of their household are also on the same page.

On top of all of that, we invite you to join us at one of our regional grassroots meetings next year. They're free and open to everyone. You'll meet some outstanding people, keep yourself up to date on what's going on in Illinois and beyond. Plus you'll have a good time. Food, firearms and fellowship can always be found at GSL events! You might even win a gun!

Lastly, keep the faith. Obviously these are trying times for the gun owners in our state. At the same time, we fight hard in court to get Pritzker's gun ban struck down. We will win, but it's going to take a while. In the meantime, come out and join us at a meeting or three!

Happy New Year!

See our meeting updates page 2.

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Rich Goodall, President
Guns Save Life.com
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Join GSL.

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January 2024

- **Quincy:** Last Wednesday: **January 31**, February 28
Eagles Club, 3535 N. Fifth Street, Quincy
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: **January 28**, February
American Legion Post 1198, 1631 Western Ave. Chicago Heights
Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.
- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **January cancelled.** February 5
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **January 2**, February 6
Pontiac Sportsman's Club, 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **January 3**, February 7
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **January 4**, February 1
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
- **Danville:** Second Monday **January 8**, February 12
Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville
- **Champaign County:** Second Tuesday: **January 9**, February 13
KC Hall, 1001 N. Ohio St., Rantoul
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Normally Second Wed: **January 10**, February 14
Prairie House Tavern, 2710 Main St., Buffalo Grove
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6pm-ish.
- **Charleston:** Second Thursday: **January 11**, February 8
U Hotel Conference Center, 920 West Lincoln Ave, Charleston
- **LaSalle County:** **NEW! Fourth Thursday: January cancelled**, February 22
Jamie's Outpost, 602 Clark St. Utica

Dinner, conversation, exhibits at 6 p.m. Program starts at 7 p.m.
Come on out and join us. Good food, good fun and good friends.

Dinner is optional but we encourage attendees to eat to support the venue.

Meetings are **free** and open to all.



Making memories and sharing good times in Peoria!



Making memories and sharing good times at the Air Combat Museum in Springfield. John Boch and "Beefy" are in the foreground. That's a real Corsair F4U fighter in the background and it flies, too.



Benjamin Dillard talked about counter-active shooter training in Springfield.



Former GSL President Bear St. Pierre has returned! He spoke in Danville and is pictured alongside John Boch.



Apologies to John B. on the left for photographer fail. Congrats to our winners!



Our happy winner in Peoria.



Happiness is winning a new gun at NW Chicagoland just before Christmas! John Coyne, left, and our winner.



Our Pontiac winners of a Henry .22 Classic. Congrats Steve!



Decatur's winner!



We have racks available for distribution locations that could use them! Email your regional director for more information.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE CHANGES

December

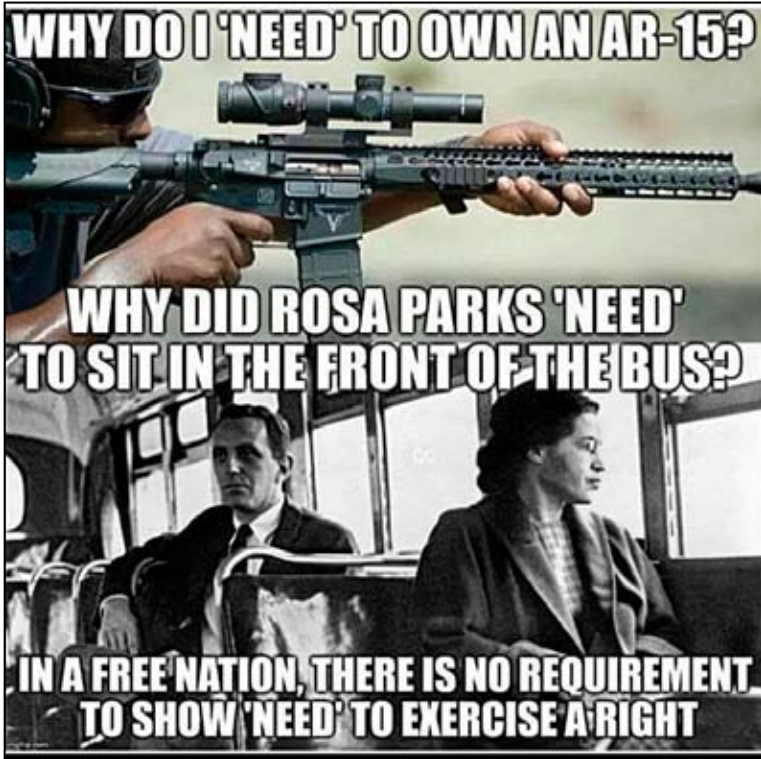
Chicagoland. Our Chicagoland chapter will not meet in November or December because of the holidays.

Quincy. Our Quincy chapter will not meet on the last Wednesday in December because of Christmas/New Year's. We'll return in January!

January.

Sangamon County GSL is cancelled as it falls on New Year's Day. Have a great Christmas and New Year's and we'll see you at SCHEELS on the first Monday in February.

LaSalle. We will have no meeting in January because Jamie's Outpost is closed. **We will return on a new meeting date: the 4th THURSDAY in February.**



CHICAGO INSANITY CONTINUES

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

TASTY: Chicago mayor offers word salad plan to reduce rampant violent crime



Meeting Highlights

Quincy.

We hosted current first assistant Adams County State's Attorney Todd Eyler and Adams County Sheriff Tony Grootens. They discussed the good and the bad on the current legislature and their radical agenda's impact on local residents in our area.

With the Christmas holidays, we will not have a December meeting.

Chicagoland.

With the holidays, we did not meet in the last weekend of November. We'll be back on the last Sunday in January! With not one, but two guns! How sweet is that? Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sangamon County.

We had a great meeting at the Air Combat Museum. Many thanks to Mike George for making the facility available to us.

Two big announcements: First, no January meeting. Secondly, for those who distribute *GunNews*, we have a bunch of racks available. Contact Tim Weir, Joel Gain or Rich Goodall to get as many as you need for those locations that could benefit from having a rack for *GunNews* distribution.

Benjamin Dillard talked about strategies he learned from a recent class about countering active shooters. There was some great information with church security applications as well.



Also, Land of Lincoln Honor Flight's Steve Wheeler dragged Mr. Boch up and the pair talked about last September's Honor Flight with the GSL group and how we're looking for a new batch of friends, family or neighbors to go on another GSL flight next Spring or Summer. Download the applications from Land of Lincoln Honor Flight's website and indicate it's for the GSL group if you submit it directly to them. Otherwise, get completed apps to your local regional director.

Pontiac.

We talked about South Post Guns' new indoor range and their Class III rentals. Definitely worth the trip if you've never shot suppressed or full auto before. They were supposed to make the meeting but something came up.

Decatur.

Pastor Steve Holden asked for volunteers to help at the Wreaths Across America on December 16th at Camp Butler.

Dan Cooley gave the Industry/ISP update.



From there Anthony Bellin shared potentially life-saving information about controlling bleeding until medical professionals arrive to take over. "This can save your life," Bellin said. "Or that of someone you love." In short, get good tourniquets, but try to use pressure on the wound site first. And don't pull out impaled objects like knives - unless it's a bad guy. (Just kidding about the bad guy thing. Really.)

Northwest Chicago.

Cop, nationally-known firearms instructor and all around great guy John Krupa gave an insider's view on how Illinois police can learn about your collection even though there's no formal gun registry - at least until now.

Peoria.

We had a full house at Barrack's in Peoria. We welcomed Sally Owens who discussed her campaign for the 46th Illinois Senate District. She's pro-gun and then some but she's got tough sledding ahead to take out a roughly 20-year incumbent. 90% of Mr. Incumbent's donors come from outside of this district and he is squishy on guns.

Danville.

Bear St. Pierre, former GSL President, made an appearance. It was his first since losing his leg in a motorcycle accident caused by a negligent construction worker. He discussed his work to rebuild Cross Trail Outfitters. Between his accident crippling (no pun intended) his ability to remain active, COVID and some key local leaders moving out of Illinois, it's been challenging.

CTO is a faith-based organization for young men ages 7-18, especially those from single-parent homes. They build Godly men, preserve our heritage and share faith through events and activities including camping, hunting and fishing.



The impromptu auction with "Easy" left, and Jack holding up the NRA flag.

In a bit of fun, we held an informal auction of an NRA flag and a couple of other items and raised a chunk of change to benefit GSL.

Rantoul.

A number of members shared some very entertaining hunting stories from their past, making it a very fun and nostalgic night. John B. (not Boch) won the 2000+ rounds of high quality .22 rimfire ammo from a single ticket purchased for the drawing. Congrats!



John Krupa at Jamie's Outpost in Peru.

LaSalle County.

That nationally-known firearms instructor John Krupa visited to talk about a number of topics including an insider's view on how Illinois police can learn about your collection even though there's no formal gun registry - at least until now.



Leo won the bonus drawing for the Red Rider BB gun... just in time for Christmas!

Charleston.

Retired Champaign police officer Jack Turner entertained the audience discussing some of his adventures during his cop days. Among them was a description of the first couple of hours of the first - and last - time his wife went on a "ride-along" with him while he was on duty. Then more recently, between wrestling the naked man high on bath salts on the Interstate as a retired cop and even more recently, fighting with a burglar who broke into an abandoned house, Jack's a veritable crap magnet.

Jack offered tips for traffic stops, post shooting interactions with the police and about cops at the door asking questions about your guns. "Yeah, I wouldn't answer questions or consent to a search either."

Larry won the gun but he left shortly before the drawing, hence no picture.

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 Jan: Taurus TX22 and Ruger Super Wrangler .22 Mag/.22LR
Chicago Feb: Ruger 10/22

Peoria Jan: Canik 9mm

Decatur January: Standard Manufacturing "Switch" gun in .22 Magnum.

Rantoul January: ~2400 rounds Federal AMM-22 40gr. match .22s

Danville Jan.: 1000 rounds PMC .223 Rem

Quincy Jan.: 1000 rounds Remington .223 Rem

Sangamon Co. Dec: TBD.

NW Chicagoland Jan: Charles Daly 1911 Field Grade .45 ACP
NW Chicagoland Feb: Taurus 605 Polypro- tector .38

Executive Director's Report

Anxiety reigns

by John Boch
Executive Director

I'll admit, like many folks, I'm feeling anxiety as the end of the year approaches.

"What do I do with my 'naughty guns'?" was first and foremost on my mind as it is with hundreds of thousands of my fellow gun owners in our state.

For the record, I will not register any guns or accessories. Period. At the same time, I've divested myself of those magazine-fed semi-automatic rifles and other "naughty guns" temporarily, moving them to a safe space a few miles outside of JB Pritzker's reach.

Meanwhile, thanks to the ISP clarifying that a handguard is not a barrel shroud, I've dusted off the M1 Carbine, cleaned the gun and the glass on the sight and installed new batteries in the optic. So now I'm rockin' a 75-year-old firearm with some modern Hornady Critical Defense hollow-points as my home defense carbine.



Others' anxiety

Word has it that gun dealers in Illinois are buying precious metals at bargain prices. How so you ask? A few people are eager to sell PICA "banned" guns for pennies on the dollar. Why? Because the owners don't want to register and at the same time they don't want to risk arrest for failure to register. They're not used to living on the wrong side of the law. They're scared.

One dealer called them cowards. He then clarified a little. "They're typically older guys, retired and scared. They're rule-followers to the bitter end."

Even though possession of a single item is only a trivial misdemeanor, I understand a reluctance to "break the law." Timid submissiveness should come at a price though. They're lucky it will only cost them a stack of C-notes at the present time.

Sam Adams once famously wrote: "If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquillity of servitude better than the animating contest of freedom, go home from us in peace. We ask not your counsels or arms. Crouch down and lick the hands which feed you. May your chains set lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that ye were our countrymen."

If you don't have the skill sets and the mindset to use effective tools like firearms to defend yourself and your family from threats, both foreign and domestic, then you're not dangerous. You're harmless.

Back in Samuel Adams' time, Sam Whittemore lived as a dangerous old man. He too was a rule-follower - until he wasn't. At 80 years old, when he learned that the British Redcoats were burning homes

and shooting residents as their soldiers marched to confiscate guns, ol' Samuel took his then-banned guns and proceeded to put the hurt on some Redcoats. Because of his actions that day, he lived another 18 years.

Cops aren't going to show up at your house, unless...

There aren't enough cops to audit sales records or do random compliance checks at peoples' homes. The only way you will come onto the radar of law enforcement is if you take your unregistered, now-prohibited firearms off your property or do otherwise stupid things with them. Or run your mouth to the wrong people that you're not registered jack poop and the governor can go pee up a rope and self-procreate.

Instead of playing tough guy card, play the smart guy card instead. Tell everyone who will listen that you've taken your "naughty" stuff outside of Illinois. Feel free to rant about how it's illegal, unconstitutional and just plain wrong but you're not gonna risk a felony by keeping them around unregistered. I'll even give you permission to use a profane word or two while carping about it.

If someone who doesn't like guns (or really doesn't like *you*) knows you had these guns but now learns you gave them up, that person has no reason to call CrimeStoppers or their local ISP Troop Headquarters to report you.

In our hyper-politically polarized world, most of us have someone who doesn't like us or our politics. Maybe it's someone you fired at work or an ex-spouse (or bad date). Cover your bets and tell everyone that you've gotten your stuff out of state even if you're doing nothing of the sort.



Lastly, speaking of anxiety... if the police do show up at your door and you didn't call them... don't answer questions. If you didn't call the police, don't answer their questions.

Make sure your spouse and any teenage or adult kids living at home are on the same page. The last thing you want when you're at work or running errands is your well-meaning significant other or teenage or adult child welcoming a highly-trained, smooth-talking ISP investigator into the home and helpfully opening your safe or closet to show them that you have nothing to hide.

Remember, highly trained police might employ their verbal judo and tell you they'll be as lenient as possible if you cooperate. Pro-tip: a lenient felony is still a life-changing felony. Don't cooperate, but instead assert your rights including the right to remain silent and to refuse consent to any searches absent a warrant.



COOK COUNTY RESIDENTS BEWARE: 'Registering' black guns puts you at risk of immediate confiscation and arrest for 'violating' the Cook County gun ban

(GSL) - Ladies and gentlemen, as if you needed another reason not to register your guns with the State of Illinois, we have another one for our state's most populous county. Cook County residents should know that if they register guns restricted by the so-called "Protect Illinois Communities Act," they are admitting to violating Cook County's ordinance against ownership of said firearms.

And by registering those banned guns to enjoy the "so-called" grandfathering for existing owners (for now, at least) from the state, registrants the risk of immediate confiscation of said guns along with arrest and prosecution for violating the Cook County local ban on the guns.

The whole registration process gives local law enforcement all they need to get a warrant and come make an arrest.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

DeWitt County Sportsmans Club

Clinton, IL



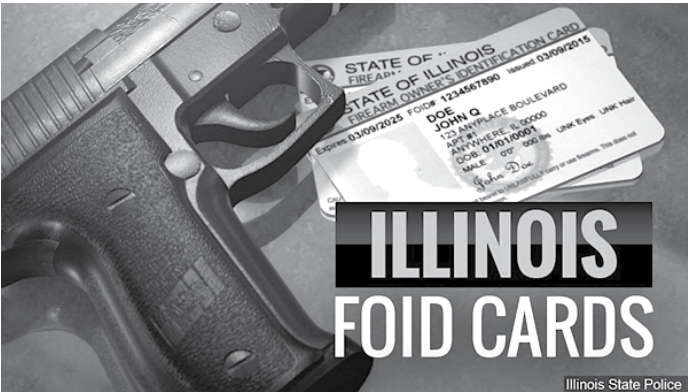
BREAKFAST! First and Third Sunday. 8:30a.m.
Now after-breakfast Turkey Shoots too!
JOIN US! Open to all.

>>>> Memberships Available. <<<<

Come join a growing, ever-improving club, with three independent ranges and permissive rules which allow shooters to practice from holsters, double-taps, movement and so forth. Centrally located on Route 10, six miles east of Clinton, IL (15423 State Highway 10). Great people and a warm atmosphere. Facilities include *three* ranges, clubhouse, a *real* publicly-accessible restroom and more. **Dues are currently \$60/year plus two work days (\$45 each on deposit, prepayment required). Over 65 dues are \$45 and no workdays.**

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





Revoking fundamental constitutional rights without due process?

ISP revokes 4,000 FOID cards without any due process

(The Center Square) – ISP recently said is has denied or revoked more than 4,000 FOID cards based on clear and present danger reports. There are more than 2.4 million FOID card holders in Illinois. Illinois State Police statistics show in November, nearly 1,000 were revoked. Of 14,300 applications, 1,300 were denied.



Two points of view... both equally fair

Gov. Pritzker: Thousands are registering Our take: Millions AREN'T registering

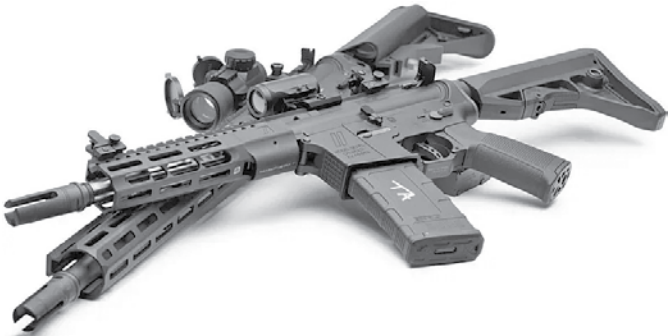
(GSL) - With less than two weeks remaining for Land of Lincoln gun owners to register their “naughty” guns, 99.7% of registered gun owners have refused to comply. The latest numbers from the Illinois State Police show that of the 2,415,481 FOID card holders, only 8143 have registered something.

Governor JB Pritzker has proudly touted that “thousands” of gun owners have complied with the law and registered

their magazine-fed semi-automatic rifles and other banned guns, accessories and ammunition. What he didn't say is the millions aren't.

While it's fair to say that all 2.4+ million gun owners don't own a now-prohibited item, given that those banned make up the hottest-selling, most popular self-defense firearms in America, it seems reasonable that half or more probably do own one or more item.

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



Not complying with gun registration? You're not alone.

99.7% NON-COMPLIANCE WITH ILLINOIS GUN REGISTRY

(GSL) - On Monday, December 18, the Illinois State Police updated their gun registration statistics. Ten weeks into the mandated registry for existing owners to continue legally owning banned self-defense firearms, a paltry 8143 gun owners have filed 24,831 “disclosures” of banned items.

Which means 2,407,338, or 99.7%, have chosen *not* to register a single item.

UNDERSTATEMENT: Some Illinois law enforcement say enforcing gun ban violations not a priority

(The Center Square) – Illinois' gun ban registry deadline is a month away and some in local law enforcement say investigating and prosecuting infractions will not be a top priority.

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Country Character



A brand new year... what will we do with it? What will you do?

"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing"
-- Edmund Burke, orator, author and leader in Great Britain.

by Justin Thyme
a GSL member

Here we are again, a brand new year. What will we do with it? What will you do with it? We do not get many re-dos in this life.

New Year's is a great time for restarting - or making real changes to improve one's life. For some it might be a lifestyle change to go to the gym and eat healthier.



Of course 2024 brings us an election with life-changing implications. With that in mind, do you know the names of your state and federal representatives and senators? You can find this online at the Illinois State Board of Elections website.

Once you know who they are, you should help them learn who you are. Visit their offices and introduce yourself to their staffers. Make time to attend their community events as a constituent. Visit your local city council and/or county board meetings as time allows. Meet every elected official you can and help them understand the truth about guns so they can be better, smarter politicians.

Hopefully your efforts will help influence their decision-making prior to their votes. Praise your politicians for good votes and give them some polite feedback for bad votes.

Don't know how to run a computer to help keep tabs on them? No worries. You're not alone. I struggle with them myself. If

you need technical help, recruit your kids or grandchildren to help you. Have they already left Illinois? Ask the neighbor kids for help. They may enjoy helping, and by doing so, you can use it as a teachable moment. Encourage them to support liberty by opposing gun control schemes and other government control. We need to progress toward a future of freedom, not a system that reenacts past tyrannies.

We all know people who have fled the once prosperous Land of Lincoln for greener pastures.

Illinois can become great again, but citizens will have stand up for freedom for that to happen.

Don't forget political candidates. Help them figure out what changes we can do to more fully take advantage of the ideals voiced in the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Volunteer to help the really good candidates.

Just as important, work to help your friends, neighbors and coworkers to understand the truth about guns. Assuming, of course, they haven't already figured out the proven benefits of firearm ownership and bought their own first gun in the past few years.



Though I cannot promise you a happier New Year, you will have a happier New Year knowing that you've done some things to help preserve the freedoms bequeathed to us from previous generations.

'The most secure election in history'

Poll: One in five mail-in voters admit to committing voter fraud in 2020 election

(Just The News) - One in five voters who cast mail-in ballots during the November 2020 election admit to committing voter fraud, according to a new poll by The Heartland Institute and Rasmussen Reports.

The poll of 1,085 likely voters released on Tuesday, which was conducted from November 30 to December 6, asked, "During the 2020 election, did you fill out a ballot, in part or in full, on behalf of a friend or family member, such as a spouse or child?" A total of 21% of respondents who said they

had cast mail-in ballots answered 'yes.'

All states prohibit filling out a ballot for another person, but many states allow people to provide assistance with voting, The Heartland Institute noted.

Furthermore, 17% of mail-in voters admitted they voted in a state where they "were no longer a permanent resident." Seventeen percent also said they signed a "ballot or ballot envelope on behalf of a friend or family member."

"The results of this survey are nothing short of stunning," said Justin Haskins, director of the Socialism Research Center at the Heartland Institute. "For the past three years, Americans have repeatedly been told that the 2020 election was the most secure in history. But if this poll's findings are reflective of reality, the exact opposite is true. This conclusion isn't based on conspiracy theories or suspect evidence, but rather from the responses made directly by the voters themselves."

Senate President Don Harmon's buddy hit with \$99,500 in penalties for failing to file campaign spending reports on time

(Cook County Record) - A political spending committee run by a close political ally of Illinois State Sen. President Don Harmon, and which spent millions of dollars to ensure Democratic control of the Illinois Supreme Court, has been hit with one of the largest fines in state history for violating campaign finance rules...

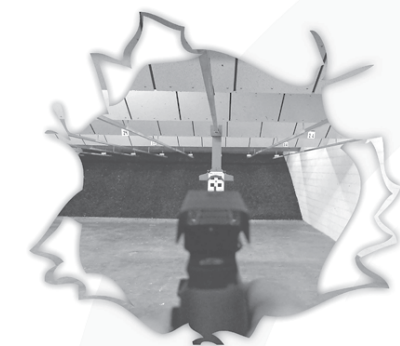
On Nov. 21, the Illinois State Board of Elections signed off on an order directing the All for Justice campaign committee to pay \$99,500 in penalties for refusing to file campaign spending reports, as required by state law and Illinois elections rules.



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In regione caecorum rex est luscus

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

by Desiderius Erasmus, a GSL member

ANATOMY OF A COVER-UP

I really hope this doesn't happen and were I an advisor to the Governor I would tell him so, but I'm not, so here it is.



Sometime soon, a sequence of events will happen in Springfield and Chicago, Illinois – a series of discussions between mid-level Illinois State Police officials, the Director of the Illinois State Police, the Attorney General of Illinois and the Governor of Illinois. It will not be a pleasant series of meetings. Not everyone will be present at every meeting; invitations to each will be on a need-to-know basis. It probably will not be recorded, nor will notes be taken.

There will only be one topic – the status of mandatory registration of firearms. Illinois residents who own certain semi-automatic firearms are now required by law to register them with the state police, as part of the state's ban on "assault weapons." Affected gun owners have until January 1, 2024, to register their firearms to be "grandfathered" under the new law, which has been challenged by several lawsuits, claiming that the legislation infringes on Second Amendment rights. Those challenges are winding their way through the court system, and pieces have even reached the doors of the US Supreme Court. Closer to home, numerous sheriffs have publicly stated they would not enforce the law.

There are currently some 2.4 million FOID cardholders in Illinois, but the exact number of individuals possessing firearms that are now banned remains unknown. For argument's sake, let's just assume that this number is one million, with another 200,000 being owned by criminals without FOID cards. Registration is done through an ISP portal online, so registration is known instantly, and constantly updated.

The first meeting will be between ISP officials who run the portal and the Director of the Illinois State Police. It will be bad news somewhat along the lines of: "Sir, we have a problem; our figures on registration shows that of the estimated one million semi-auto rifle owners in Illinois, who are required to have registered by January 1, less than 2% have done so. And it appears that none of the 200,000 weapons owned by criminals have been registered."

At this point, Cover Up #1 – burying information – occurs, and from now on, there will be no mention of the 200,000 semi-autos owned by criminals, because this was one of the arguments made against the new law – that it would only affect law-abiding

gun owners because street gangs and other hardened criminals never bother to follow any law. And *shazaam!* – that's exactly what is happening.

With that understood, the Director of the Illinois State Police and one or two experts on the ISP registration portal tromp over to the office of the Attorney General to give him the bad news.

Cover Up #2 probably occurs now – hiding the trail, as administrative personnel in the AG office are instructed to schedule a meeting with the Governor, but tell the Governor's staff that the subject of the meeting is confidential, as are the names of those attending. The AG knows that the Governor – his boss – will not like these results, and asks the ISP personnel if there might be another way of determining which citizens in Illinois have the banned weapons. This is getting close to illegal conduct because someone is going to suggest that the ISP start raiding FFL dealers – under the auspices of checking sales records – and capturing every transaction concerning these weapons.

This is Cover Up #3 – using euphemisms. The personnel in the AG meeting will not use the term "raids" but rather something like "administrative compliance inspections." In this meeting, the attendees will conclude that it is not important if a weapon is registered; what is truly vital is that law enforcement in Illinois know exactly where every one of the million-plus "naughty" firearms is. To protect the AG, there is no mention of Cover Up #1; so he can later say that no one ever informed him how many illegal rifles were in the possession of criminal organizations.

The AG, the Director of the ISP, and maybe one other person, go see the governor. That one other person will wait in the Governor's outer office – the less people in the know from here on out, the better. Depending how tight the ISP Director is with the Governor will determine if he too stays outside the Governor's private office.

The AG goes inside and gives the Guv the bad news. The Governor explodes and orders the AG to make examples of folks that law authorities are certain have these weapons, and then go to their homes and arrest them, with compliant news media filming the ensuing perp walk with the gun-owner in handcuffs and twenty heavily-armed officers guarding the scene, holding up the offending rifle – reminiscent of the Carcano carbine of Lee Harvey Oswald infamy. They'll do this in counties where the state attorney and sheriff are big supporters of the law, and "advise" the local yokels to go for the max penalties under law. That will be Cover Up #4 – an attempted improper influence of a court.

The AG talks the Governor out of this draconian response, which is where Cover Up #5 – "I know nothing" occurs. The AG says that there are other ways to get information on weapon ownership and he will do a full-court press with those for a month to see if the numbers go up. That way the governor can later say that the AG never provided details on why the numbers later went up. Cover Ups? To borrow phrases from Alfred E. Newman & Feldwebel Hans Schultz, "I know nothing, nothing!" "What, Me Worry?"

LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

Legal Defense Fund Donations...

Folks, it looks like we're going to the US Supreme Court to fight for our right to purchase, possess and transport the most effective firearms for personal defense.

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We still absolutely endorse and support FFL-IL and their fund for our Illinois attorneys, however donations to them are not tax deductible. Aurora Sportsmen's Club's SADEC gets 100% of donations to the same place only in a tax deductible fashion.

We would prefer folks send donations directly to the above funds. The easiest way for everyone involved is to make the donations online, but we've included mail addresses here for the non-computer savvy.

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Jun 8th, July 13th, Aug 10th,
Sept 7th, Oct 12th, Nov 2nd



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GunNews Magazine - 8 - January 2024



Just say 'NO':

Educate your family on NOT answering police questions or consenting to searches

by John Boch

Governor Pritzker's so-called Protect Illinois Communities Act requires existing owners register their defensive semi-auto, magazine-fed rifles and other defensive firearms by December 31st.

Given the current non-compliance rate of 99.7%, clearly there are potentially millions of banned guns out there still unregistered.

Will police knock on your door? That's very unlikely. Unless of course someone phoned in a "tip" that you've got banned guns that remain unregistered. Got a vindictive former spouse or former romantic partner? Maybe you have a "woke" family member or neighbor who viscerally hates guns, gun owners and anyone who doesn't want to bow down and kiss Gov. Pritzker's feet as our Lord and Savior. They might just drop a dime on you.

How do you handle police at the door when you didn't call them for service? We've covered it repeatedly the past few issues of *Gun-News*. It's easy: **Don't talk to the police.** Don't answer any questions. Don't consent to searches and we'll tell you why...

First and foremost, *nothing you say or do* can help prove your innocence in court. But anything you say *can and will be used against* you at trial.

So *you* know why it's important to *not* talk with the police, to answer questions or consent to any searches, but...

What if someone else answers your home's front door?

What happens if a well-trained, slick-talking Illinois State Police investigator chats up your spouse or children at the door?

Will your spouse or child unwittingly say something that might later be used against you in a court of law? Even worse, would they maybe consent to a search thinking either (a) police officers are their friends and/or (b) your family has nothing to hide?

Remember, that LEO has undergone countless hours of training and has conducted thousands of "interviews." Cops call them "interviews" because that's so much less intimidating than calling them by what they really are: interrogations.

How do you educate your family about how to protect their rights while interacting with police? Pull up the YouTube video from Regent University Law Professor James Duane entitled, "*Don't talk to the police.*"

PRO-TIP: Sit the whole family down to watch that video. Popcorn is optional. It's entertaining and incredibly educational. (See his follow-up video "*You have the right to remain innocent*" as well.)



Law Professor James Duane from "Don't talk to the police."

Emphasize with your family that what your family has when it comes to guns is not open for discussion to anyone but close friends in the proper environment.

It's sort of like educating your family about not asking you if you're wearing your gun while you're out in public.

Along those lines, educate everyone not to be afraid to answer the door if police knock. They may have important information. But if it's a criminal investigation, like asking about whether you've registered some guns (or not registered some guns) decline to make any statements then ask them to leave.



This goes for minor children too. Do you think for a moment that an overzealous investigator with orders to get results would decline accepting a consent to search from a minor living there when mom and dad aren't nearby? Even if the search gets tossed (and it may not, depending on circumstances), your pals at ISP are still gonna keep your confiscated stuff.

Make sure everyone there knows to just say "no!"

Teach everyone in your home to protect their right against self-incrimination, even accidentally.

Tell investigating cops that you can't speak with them without an attorney and to leave.

NAUGHTY

Starting immediately, play the smart guy card

Tell everyone you got your naughty guns out of Illinois

(GSL) - As of this writing, 99.7% of gun owners in Illinois have elected not to comply with the new PICA gun and magazine ban's gun registration requirement. That is effectively everyone.

We've repeatedly covered multiple reasons for not registering. These include the governor's plans to "close the existing owner loophole" after a mass casualty incident next year by demanding those who registered guns and accessories to surrender them within 90 days or face felony charges.

Outside of people doing really stupid stuff, we don't see most folks coming onto the radar of police reference these now-banned firearms. Frankly, for most folks really the most likely way they might come to the ISP's attention is from an informant's call.

With specifics of what you've got and where you store them, that might have enough to motivate a police agency to seek out a warrant from a judge.

How do you fix this?

You tell everyone who will listen that you've moved all of those banned guns out of state until this new law is struck down.



It doesn't matter if you moved them or not. You tell everyone you did. Mention it to neighbors, friends, family, in social media posts, maybe even letters to the editor or your kids' teachers. Tell everyone, loudly and emphatically.

You can be angry about it. I'll even grant you permission to use a swear word or two.

Your goal is to give the snitches – wherever they might exist in your world – the perceived satisfaction that they've "won." Let them think that you submitted to gun control, obediently, like a good little boy or girl.

If potential snitches believe they've won, they have no reason to call the police.

Start today, my friends.

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If you cannot secure a volunteer to bring your business, range or organization a bundle of *GunNews* from one of our distribution hubs, we can mail a priority mail medium box filled with about 50 copies of *GunNews* to you each month. All we ask is that you reimburse us for postage and printing costs. These will arrive about six days after the third Tuesday of the month. Email jboch@gunssavelifelife.com for more information.

\$228 for 12 months.

Chicago 'Justice' protects criminals, not victims

One man's quest for justice in Chicago

(via Reddit) - In early April, I was spat on by an assailant in a road rage incident. I immediately went to an adjacent building and asked someone at the front desk if there were any surveillance cameras facing the intersection. He very graciously scrolled back to find perfectly clear footage of the incident and allowed me to record it on my phone.

I filed a police report which a few days later was told had been closed immediately because the officer on the phone assumed I didn't have any evidence. So I filed a second police report and a few days later was contacted by a detective who sent me a link to upload the video and the assailant's license plate #. Then a few days later they had me go into the police station to pick out the assailant from a photo array, which I did correctly.

A week later I was told I could now request a summons for the assailant's arrest (for some reason the police don't do this themselves) so I had to go to the courthouse, speak to a summons officer, and make the request in person. The case then had to go before a judge to determine whether a summons was warranted - I was told this could take up to 10 weeks, but it actually took even longer. In July I stopped receiving responses to my emails to the assistant DA because it turned out she left for another job and just didn't bother to inform people on her caseload. Finally the summons was approved by a judge in August.

At this point the assailant finally has been called into court, scheduled for mid-October. I, as the complainant, also had to show up for this. I showed up, the assailant did not. But

for some reason, Chicago allows the assailant two more opportunities to miss court dates before they issue a warrant for his arrest. So a second court date was scheduled for mid-November, which he also did not attend.



So now it is nearly December and a warrant has still not been issued for the assailant's arrest (though it will likely happen at the next court date in a few weeks).

I wanted to share this story because it illustrates how frustrating and difficult it is to get justice as the victim of a crime in this city. You essentially have to do everything yourself - gather the evidence, coordinate between the police and the prosecutor's office, request that the assailant be arrested, show up to the courthouse for the summons hearing, and wait for months in between each step.

My experience completing the Illinois PICA gun registration affidavit



by Nick Klementzos

While completing the legally required affidavit to register some now-banned magazine-fed semi-automatic rifles, the

Illinois State Police page demands that I affirm that I am disclosing the registration information voluntarily.

I do not agree with that statement and believe it is a violation of my rights.

I can not in good conscience check off the affidavit box. However, without checking the box the submission form will not allow registration of the firearms and open me to prosecution.

In reality, I am only checking the box due to the threat of prosecution.

I am not sure what effect it will have but if i don't say something it means I agree with an unlawful act and I most definitely object to the statement that I am voluntarily providing the information.

Again, I am only complying with this demand to "affirm" the "voluntary" nature of the submission to avoid prosecution for failure to comply.

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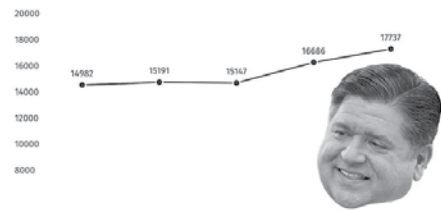
Pritzker: 'Illinois is back', 'Chicago crime is down' Reality: Chicago crime up 68% since 2020

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker unloaded a whopper of a lie on Monday that would make even the Chicago Police Department's boldest press relations executive blush.

"Violent crime has been coming down [in Chicago], actually for three years, but in particular over the last year," Pritzker said during an afternoon Q&A with Crain's Chicago Business, according to The Center Square...

What is our governor smoking?

Violent crimes in Chicago through November 19



Spend more on police and less on illegal aliens

CRIME: Half of Cook Co. residents don't feel safe visiting downtown Chicago

(The Center Square) — Just months after Gov. J.B. Pritzker boasted the city's tourism industry is back, a new Harris Poll finds almost half of Cook County residents insist they don't feel safe visiting downtown Chicago.

The poll also finds that 7 of 10 Cook County residents think the city should be investing in more public safety initiatives.

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to steal stuff..."

Migrants sold shoplifted merchandise outside Loop shelter

CHICAGO (CWB Chicago) — Two Venezuelan migrants have been charged with trying to sell shoplifted merchandise outside a downtown Chicago shelter. And three other migrants were recently arrested together after a sharp-eyed CTA employee noticed they boarded a bus with \$2,000 worth of merchandise that still had shoplifting sensors attached.



Four-time felon and registered sex offender worked as armed security

'Security guard' who fatally shot man three times for refusing to wear COVID mask sentenced

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — When prosecutors accused liquor store security guard Chester Holmes of shooting a customer three times because they refused to put on a mask during the COVID pandemic, his defense attorney suggested that the shooting was self-defense.

by not wearing a COVID mask.

The argument didn't go over well during that first court hearing, and it apparently didn't become more convincing with time.

Yesterday, with a public defender listed as his attorney, Holmes was sentenced to 18 years in prison.

Holmes, barred from possessing a firearm because he is a four-time convicted felon and registered child sex offender, was working as an armed security

guard at a liquor store in the 6000 block of South Racine when a 28-year-old man walked in without a COVID mask on August 23, 2021.

Holmes, 44, and the victim argued about the mask policy and the victim eventually walked out. But then he turned around and walked back in. When he did, Holmes met him with a drawn handgun and shot him, prosecutors said.

[Editor: The deceased's family is going to own that store when the lawsuits are wrapped up.]



Chicago man arrested three times since October, flips off mugshot camera twice

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — Victor Barrera Silva has managed to get arrested three times since October 13, and he spunkily flipped off the Chicago police mugshot camera two of those times.

Join Guns Save Life today.

Membership application on back page of GunNews

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

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Sun., Jan. 28th

Wed., Jan. 10th

>> Meeting program at 6pm <<

GSL NORTHWEST CHICAGOLAND

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Defending your right to self-defense in the courts

Illinois Litigation Update

by John Boch

I wish I had better news. We've received a number of disappointing rulings over the past month, but we're still in the preliminary stages of these lawsuits. At the moment we're litigating injunctive relief which requires a high burden to achieve. I expect we will soon begin the litigation on the merits phase of these cases.

We have watched as the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals has effectively thumbed their nose at the US Supreme Court when it comes to the Second Amendment. Many of the judges on the Seventh continue to treat the 2nd Amendment as a second-class right and ignore their role as an *inferior* court to the US Supreme Court.

That's going to change, but we're going to have to be patient. Rome wasn't conquered in a day, and other important Supreme Court decisions weren't always treated with deference by inferior courts right away in the past. *Brown v. Board of Education*, here's looking at you. Many of the same people who advocate for stripping you of your gun rights today were of the same political persuasion who wanted to maintain racial segregation.



Democrat Gov. George Wallace: "Segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever!"

Remember the words of Democrat George Wallace in 1963 following his election as Governor of Alabama: "Segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever!" Wallace supported gun rights... for whites.

No relief before registration closes.

For those hoping against hope, we're not going to get court relief before the registration window closes on December 31. Frankly, only through a lot of hard work do I think we'll get a resolution by this time next year. Otherwise, we're looking at 2025 and that's only if nobody gets sick on the US Supreme Court between now and then.

The Seventh Circuit denied a petition for an *en banc* review of their decision to maintain the stay of Judge Stephen McGlynn's injunction blocking Illinois' PICA gun and magazine ban law. We expected it.

Where to from here? A number of plaintiffs in the various cases are flirting with an ap-

peal to the US Supreme Court but that will take time. They might not even take our case as there are others percolating through the process in other states.

Guns Save Life's amended complaint.

We had our hearing on December 12th on our (admittedly longshot) amended complaint to block the gun registration scheme. Judge McGlynn indicated a strong reluctance to issue any injunctions as it would likely create more problems than it would solve. While it seems as though we are unlikely to succeed, we did learn a lot from the judge.

Our strategy moving forward

I alluded to our strategy on the GunsSaveLife.com website in a post after that December 12th hearing. In a nutshell we have a multi-pronged strategy that we're keeping close to the vest. Not only do we not want to offer any roadmaps to our old buddy Kwame Raoul but we also want to continue to show that our lawsuit offers short-term relief while laying the groundwork for long-term success not only in Illinois, but in the rest of the nation.

Thomas Maag's case shut down.

Judge Stephen McGlynn denied Thomas Maag's motion to strike PICA on vagueness grounds. I've learned that "vagueness" challenges are very difficult to win. Given the Seventh Circuit's rulings since Maag's case was argued, this decision from Judge McGlynn shouldn't surprise anyone.

Lightning in a bottle.

Dan Caulkins might have caught lightning in a bottle in his appeal to the US Supreme Court. He filed his certiorari request back in November. On December 1st, the State of Illinois waived filing any sort of response. Then on December 4th, Caulkins' team filed a supplemental brief, outlining another \$7M in indirect campaign contributions to Rochford and O'Brien - illegal contributions in that they were not properly reported before the election.

Now, Justice Amy Coney Barrett has sent Caulkins' filings to the entire court for discussion at their Jan 5th conference. I know I predicted that Caulkins' case was unlikely to gain cert, but nobody expected it to be put in front of the entire court at their next conference. This is a good sign.

Also Robert Bevis filed for emergency injunctive relief with Amy Coney Barrett. SCOTUS, without comment, denied that application. JB Pritzker and a complicit mainstream media tried to make that nothingburger into a something it was not.

In reality, the decision was expected. The move by Rob Bevis and the National Association for Gun Rights was a Hail Mary. I've learned how SCOTUS almost never gets involved in preliminary injunction issues.

BUYER BEWARE: Capital Cartridge & problematic Russian 'Murom' Primers

(GSL) - For reloaders, primers are an indispensable ingredient. Given the scarcity of American-made primers after the great ammo crush of a couple of years ago, there's a lot of companies offering imported products to try to fill the void at affordable prices. However, not all of the imported products meet the standards American gun owners expect.

Enter Capital Cartridge in Houston. They're a company that specializes in, well, cartridge components. Among the products they sell are Russian-made "Murom" primers.



A couple of our GSL family bought these Murom small pistol primers and here's what they found:

I loaded 300 Small Pistol and had 3 to 4 misfires per 100 and 5 to 6 hangfires per 100.

When contacted by email on multiple occasions, Capital Cartridge didn't respond. Our guy finally got a phone number for the place and the woman who answered said their company was only the reseller and that in so many words "it's not our problem." She did share an email for the Russian company that's selling them.

What's more, the primers are still listed, as of press time, on Capital Cartridge's website.

It's understandable that Capital Cartridge doesn't want to eat a ton of money by refunding an order and taking back sub-standard product.

At the same time, if they keep selling known inferior product without making it clear to prospective customers that these are problematic, that's another story. People need to know about Capital Cartridge's apparent indifference towards its customers so those customers can make an informed decision about whether or not to do business with the company at all.



AmmoToGo: Good to go!

by John Boch

(GSL) - Years ago in the BC era (before children), I had a lot more time to devote to pulling the triggers in training, practice and recreation. Pretty sure I'm not the first fire-arm aficionado to suffer from this malady.

Back when I lived and worked in Champaign as an unmarried guy, I got to know my UPS driver by name while he got his exercise carrying cases of ammo. My single-day personal best was five, 1000-round cases of 7.62x51 ordered after the then-Champaign Police Chief claimed that there were about four thousand gang members in Champaign County.

After all, if you don't have enough bubblegum to go around the classroom, you're in big trouble, right?

They set me back \$120 each, delivered. Man, if I could go back in time... between crypto and ammo, I'd be wealthier than some guy by the name of Pritzker.

Alas we're in the real world and trigger time slowed down with marriage and now kids.

This fall, the management at Ammunition To Go, an online ammunition supplier based in Houston contacted me and made an interesting proposal. They offered to ship me several hundred dollars worth of ammunition if I'd mention them in at least three product reviews. Intrigued by the unusual offer, I poured over their website and found a virtual cornucopia of different calibers and loads and more, with competitive prices both by the box and by the case. Shipping was quite reasonable too.



"How do you review ammunition?" I kept thinking to myself. I pondered it for a week or two and came up with an idea to try various defensive loads in multiple guns. After all, most of us don't have C-notes to burn just to explore the subtle differences between loadings on defensive loads. The goal would be not of cosmetics or reliability (although that did become an issue) but to gather overall impressions in how various loads perform from the shooter's perspective. Do lighter weight projectiles (bullets) really feel noticeably easier to control for follow up shots? Hint: Yes, but as much as I expected. Do "reduced recoil" loadings impact reliability? Spoiler alert: in some guns they surely do! And how does the newest Speer .45 ACP+P hollowpoint, the G2, handle in full-sized 1911-style guns? Read on for that one.

My story ideas met with the approval of AmmoToGo's management so I placed an order just as John Q. Public would do with a very special "coupon code." I remembered to place my order on a Sunday evening - a little over a week after the 10/7 attack upon Israel when ammo sales were spiking nationwide. Within moments, their computer sent back

a nice message asking me to upload a scan or photo of my FOID and Driver's License to comply with our state's silly laws on ammo purchases. I did. Uploading was easy.

On Monday morning, a real person had reviewed my documents. They emailed to confirm that they put the documents on file (no need to re-send for future orders) and that the product had been shipped.

Late Wednesday I had a plain brown box waiting for me on my doorstep, full of freedom pills. Whoa!

The Speer G2s were first up as I needed some defensive .45ACPs. I'm dabbling in the venerable .45 cartridge guns in case the Illinois State Police wants to play stupid on "readily convertible" magazines. I figure if I have to have fewer rounds in my bubblegum dispenser, they may as well as be thumpers. While a 9mm might expand to .45 caliber, a .45 bullet will never shrink to 9mm.



Sneek peek: I loved how these +P 230gr. JHPs handled out of three different 1911A1 Government Model .45s. So much that I ordered 250 additional rounds for my carry ammo.

Running through the second order, it was almost as easy as ordering from Amazon which I view as kind of the gold standard for online ease-of-ordering. With my magical VISA card and existing customer account, ordering was easy as confirming some information like shipping and billing. Then, on the third or fourth day, my plain, brown box of freedom pills had appeared as if by magic. I felt giddy and then some.

I'm getting old enough that for smaller purchases like a box or five, or sale prices, I prefer my local gun shops for ammo purchases.

However, with the increasing scarcity of brick and mortar shops, that's not always feasible for many people. Online ordering comes into play in those instances. Yes, you have to pay shipping, but \$20 in shipping is the same as \$20 in gas plus you save the windshield time and wear and tear on your ride.

I know there are plenty of online vendors where you can order ammunition. Over the last thirty-plus years I've ordered from most of them. Some make it pretty easy. Others seem as though they enjoy tossing up roadblocks to navigate because of our ZIP Codes from the People's Republic. What's more, some retailers don't keep track of their inventory real-time and sometimes product gets back-ordered. In my experiences, AmmoToGo has their stuff together and they are every bit as fast or faster than Amazon Prime when it comes to putting product in your hands.

Consider this a big "two thumbs up" for AmmoToGo.com for your online ammo.



Rising crime feeds booming gun sales to new 'reluctant' firearm owners

Philadelphia (Inquirer) - Janice Tosto never thought she would become a gun owner, especially now at age 58.

But over the last year, she began feeling a growing sense of lawlessness and danger in the city and particularly in her Germantown neighborhood. Now, she's applying for a permit to carry a firearm.

"I'm not thrilled that I have to do this," she said. "I'm kind of scared about doing this, but at the same time because of the way that things are going [with] all this lawlessness in the city, ... as a Black woman, I just feel that it's really important for me to have all the tools necessary to be able to defend myself."

Tosto's far from alone.

Since the pandemic began, gun sales and permit issuances have risen sharply in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania, matching nationwide trends. In 2021, the city issued 52,230 new license-to-carry-permits, an increase of more than 600% from the year prior. In both 2020 and 2021, there were more than a million gun sales or transfers across Pennsylvania.



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M1 Carbine for Self-Defense



A capable, Illinois-legal defensive carbine rifle suitable for everyone - including women and teens

by John Boch

(GSL) - After showing an unwillingness to arrest, prosecute and incarcerate gang members shooting up Chicago on a daily basis, Democrats in the Illinois General Assembly instead neutered the good guys and gals of our state. These gun control jihadists have banned the hottest-selling, most effective self-defense firearms for the law-abiding.

Not only that, but gun control advocates have further priced defensive guns out of the reach of the working poor. Once again proving that gun control is racist, classist and sexist.

For those of us who have had boating accidents or used our shovels instead of registering our more modern self-defense magazine-fed semi-autos, we now have to evaluate what remains of what we can "legally" possess and use in the Land of Lincoln.

Shotguns remain a solid choice for home defense, especially with "reduced recoil" buckshot or slugs in 12ga. Absent training, smaller folks like petite ladies or teenagers (or petite teenagers) won't like a shottie's recoil one bit. That fearsome recoil will make them practice-adverse and reduce their ability to deliver accurate defensive fire thanks to jerking the trigger as they anticipate the punishing kick.

Shooter-friendly Illinois-legal options do remain but they're gonna cost some bucks. One has a proven record of perforating bad guys from nearly a century ago in World War II: the M1 Carbine.

It checks a lot of desirable boxes for not only defensive-minded men but also women and teens. A light, carbine-length rifle, it offers simplicity of use and minimal recoil. Plus, for history buffs, the gun stands as a genuine piece of history.

With 30-round magazines, it has good capacity. On the other hand, the shorter 15-round magazines have better reliability.

Learn how to use it.

A lot of folks just buy a gun for self-defense and put it in their closet. They may not even shoot it more than once or twice.

Aside from familiarizing one's self and family with the gun's nomenclature and function, it's good to actually practice now and then so when the bad actors come, you have improved survivability.

Keep in mind you don't have to be Mr. Navy SEAL in terms of skill sets or cardio. However, you darn sure better be more capable than the average gang banger who shoots regularly (at people) and has learned everything he knows from social media and Hollywood.

Standard upgrades.

You should put a sling on every long gun you use for hunting or self-defense. Slings give you better accuracy. They also allow you to sling the gun to free up your hands for other tasks.

Next, mount one of the M1 Carbine magazine pouches on the stock. That allows you two additional 15-round magazines on the gun. Civilian defensive gun uses are usually "come as you are" affairs. Most of the time defenders don't have the time or opportunity to kit up, and if they do, that time would probably be better spent evacuating ahead of attack.



Lastly, if you want to bring your carbine into the 21st Century, Ultimak builds a great M1 Carbine Scout Mount rail which will securely mount a modern optic. If you have 18-year-old eyeballs, it's not really needed. For those of us at or past "middle age," optics make a huge difference in the ability to deliver good hits, especially in low-light or no-light conditions. And defensive gun uses often fall into that category as bad guys prefer darkness. For those who like gun-mounted lights, you can even mount a light as well.

These three upgrades (sling, mag pouch and tactical rail) along with some practice and familiarity with the carbine will greatly improve you and your family's survivability, particularly against multiple aggressors.



Ballistics.

The M1 Carbine fires the M1 Carbine ammunition. What a coincidence, right? These rounds perform somewhere between more traditional rifle rounds and handgun rounds.

First and foremost, M1 Carbine owners should remain keenly aware that the full metal jacket (FMJ) loads are extremely penetrative. "How penetrative?" While the FBI prefers defensive rounds to penetrate between 12 and 18 inches of ballistic gelatin (which simulates human tissue), the Carbine's FMJ blows through 27" of gel with ease. In simpler terms, the "ball" rounds will go through two bad guys front-to-back and probably into a part of a third. Caveat emptor if there's a busload of widows and

orphans behind your evil-doer.

To overcome some of that issue and improve energy transfer, seek out soft-point rounds or Hornady's Critical Defense hollow-points for defensive use. Looking at a number of ballistic gel tests posted online, these typically deliver 16-24" of gel penetration and expand to some degree.

For those slow on the uptake, even defensive M1 Carbine rounds will easily defeat soft barriers like glass and car doors. At the same time, unless you're poking holes in super-sized "persons of size," those round will likely pass through your attacker as well.

Downsides and availability.

Price: The M1 Carbine remains available for sale in our state both on the new and "pre-owned" market. I'd avoid the "Universal" brand of these guns, either new or used.

Here's where the poor folks lose out and the classist nature of gun control comes in, thanks to our lawmakers. Inland makes them currently and they're priced at about \$1100. Used WWII or Korean surplus models will sell for close to that but offer better reliability. If you want the best modern production, go to Fulton Armory, but they're gonna set you back about \$2500.

Ammunition, both practice and defensive is in stock and available online from both local gun shops and online from retailers like Ammunition to Go (ammunitiontogo.com). It's not cheap at .75 to a dollar a round for practice rounds and close to \$1.50 for defensive loads like Critical Defense or Federal hollowpoints, but it's available.



Then there's the PICA law which precludes buying 15-round mags legally in our state.

Have I mentioned some of the great weekend getaways in states like Indiana, Wisconsin and so forth? Incorporate a visit to gun shops or gun shows (Indy 1500 or Crown Point) where M1 Carbine mags are often available over-the-counter or they can be ordered for later pickup. Don't be afraid of "used" military surplus mags because they tend to be very reliable. What's more they aren't terribly expensive.

One last caveat: Compared to ARs, the M1 Carbines do have a bit higher rate of malfunctions. Be sure to practice your malfunction-clearing drills if you're counting on this rifle to save your life. If you experience a stoppage, tap the magazine to ensure it's seated, rack the bolt handle and apply a trigger press as appropriate.


Conclusion.

Don't think there aren't options just because your unregistered AR-15 has become a less desirable defensive choice thanks to legal complications. And an M1 Carbine, especially with some upgrades, will provide years of faithful service keeping you and your family safe from determined desperadoes.

Images courtesy LuckyGunner.com.

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LAWDOG: ‘Murder Needles’ get LawDog’s Paw of Approval

by LawDog
“Herself” has been teaching courses at a Liberal Arts university in near-by Little Big City, and despite being in Texas, the university is rather Non-Permissive when it comes to defending yourself.

Big on “Thoughts, Prayers, and Action Committees”, short on anything — you know — effective.

So, when I heard that our friend Ben over at Bjorn Bladeworks was making a run of his Murder Needles, I ordered a set in Jade for her.

These little jewels are fairly simple: about 3/4 of an ounce of G10, about 9 inches in length, and a diamond cross-section about half an inch thick at its widest.

And the narrow end ground to the wickedest little needle point you can put on a stick of high-pressure fibreglass and resin composite.

The execution is simple elegance: it goes in your hair. Unless you’re Toshiro Mifune (and he doesn’t need a hair stabbie), this limits it somewhat to the distaff side of the species — and I’m okay with this.



For those who aren’t familiar with it, G10 is a material used in knife and pistol grips for decades. It is high-strength (for a fibreglass/resin laminate) and doesn’t absorb moisture, or — important here — hair oil.

Hair sticks are used by the ladies to hold and/or decorate hairbuns, pony-tails, and other hair-dos, and go completely unnoticed by 99% of everyone. I guarantee you’ve walked by a woman with pencils, knitting needles, pens, dowel rods, or stainless-steel straws stuck through a bun — and never gave it a second thought.

Yes, LawDog, but how does it work?

Well, I’m glad you asked. When I ordered the ones for Herself, Ben contacted me and asked if I would like one for testing?



WWW.HAIRBORNEDEFENSES.COM

Hell, yes.

So. In my backyard is a heavy bag that I’ve modified over the years. Currently the inside is a couple of rolls of carpet, a metric butt-ton of sand, and a polymer centre core.

I wandered out there, and under the supervision of Chuy the Wonder Chiweenie, gave it a flat-footed WTF? stab:



Five inches.

Rather impressed, I gave it a full fencing lunge:



Turns out the polymer core in my heavy bag is about 7 inches in.

Deep breath, and I went full Monkey With A Screwdriver:

Not sure how deep I went during the cycles, but I hit my thumb and index knuckles on the bag most of the time, so 4 – 6 inches?

Yes. These will do nicely.

Now, don’t get me wrong — these are last-ditch, one-incident-use tools for places where the Light Of Your Life isn’t allowed to carry anything more substantial.

Are they as good as a real knife or a firearm? Of course not, but they’re a damned sight better than fingernails and harsh language.

By “One-incident-use tools” I mean exactly that. If your Best Beloved has to pin-cushion Joe Critter or Abdul the Moderately Rabid, these little darlings are going to wind up in a evidence bag, an Operating Room floor, or the rubbish bin.



They’re \$30, plus shipping. If the surgeon winds up pulling her old ones out of her Personal Chew Toy, buy her another set. Ben’s email (if you don’t like Facebook) is: bjorn-bladeworks@gmail.com

These little jewels get the LawDog Paw of Approval.



Both the FBI Director and Alex Jones sounding the alarm
 Hamas & Hezbollah sleeper cells... UPDATE

(GSL) - Remember how a madman shot up three locations in the town of Lewiston, Maine in the last week of October? With the killer running loose, local police issued a “shelter-in-place” order, leaving local residents very fearful for their safety. You can bet those who had guns felt a lot more empowered and at ease than those who didn’t. In fact, those who didn’t have guns probably wished really hard that they had one as the lunatic stalked the town.

The incident provides a sneak peek of what might happen should Hamas and Hezbollah sleeper cells ever activate here in America.

We’ve discussed this for a couple of months now, and in the past couple of weeks, the FBI Director Chris Wray testified that the threat of Islamic terror from these sleeper cells is “higher than ever.” He didn’t say if he thought it was higher than so-called Global Warming or that evil “White Supremacy” but the fact that he’s talking about it at all should prove alarming.

Then Alex Jones discussed it in his interview with Tucker Carlson. Jones claimed that in the documents he read, the US government fears there might be as many as 30,000 to 40,000 sleeper agents, not just the 3800 we discussed back in October. 38,000 seems impossibly high.

Imagine if just 10% of that

3800 decide it’s a good day to die – that makes almost 100 4-man cells killing people and breaking things. A trained quartet of bad guys could probably wipe out a whole shift of small or even medium-sized town’s police agencies as they wreaked havoc.

They’ll hit soft targets for human casualties, including hospitals, churches and schools. Places like Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis would probably be a high-profile target, along with mega churches. (Because they love Jews and Christians...)



These terrorists will also attack infrastructure, leaving parts of the nation without electricity and potentially phones and internet as well.

What might trigger these cells? The US attacking Iran again might do it. Remember what happened the last time we traded shots with Iran? Spoiler alert: In an eight-hour day we sank half of their navy as part of Operation Praying Mantis.

Fortunately open conflict with Iran looks unlikely at this stage of the Gaza War. However, if these cells activated in America, they would create major chaos in the short term.

While you can’t fix the border problem, you can things in your personal life to keep you and your loved ones safe. First and foremost: Always be carrying (ABC!). Maintain your situational awareness.



At home, revisit plans for your family for potential emergencies. Just as you have a plan for your family for a house fire in the night, or a home invasion any time (you do have those plans, right?), you should have a plan for what to do in case cell phones or power goes down and mom and dad can’t make it home from work right away for whatever reason.

For steps you can take to improve your self-sufficiency for the short term, visit Ready.gov. It offers a wealth of information about preparedness. Obviously they don’t cover the defensive angle, but you’ve hopefully got that covered.

A modicum of prudent preparations can help you and your family turn a life-threatening emergency into an inconvenience. Add in some personal defense tools and you can sleep soundly while the authorities work to restore something approaching normalcy.



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Wife shoots home intruder with .44 Mag

Punk felt lucky until the .44 Magnum went 'boom'

Wasilla, AK (Alaska Public Media) - A 22-year-old Houston man was shot to death Sunday during a residential burglary in Wasilla when he fought with the couple who lived there, according to Alaska State Troopers.

An initial report of the home invasion reached troopers at 9 a.m.

Sunday, an online dispatch said. Troopers found Justice Beaudoin-Martinez, who was unknown to the residents, suffering from a single gunshot wound. Medics attempted lifesaving measures, but he died at the home.

"Investigation revealed the two residents of the home had discovered Beaudoin-Martinez inside their home and a physical altercation ensued, during which the male resident was stabbed in the arm," troopers said. "The female resident retrieved a firearm and fired a single gunshot, in defense of her husband, which struck Beaudoin-Martinez and resulted in his death."



The homeowner in custody following the shooting. Expect to be 'detained'/'arrested' after a defensive gun use, even in your home.

Home invasion crew runs in, then runs out minus one

LA (KTLA) - The Los Angeles Police Department is investigating after a homeowner shot and killed a home invasion suspect.

Officers were first called to a home in the 11400 block of Swinton Avenue in Granada Hills around 5 a.m. Saturday morning on calls of a "hot prowler," or a burglary in progress when the homeowner is present, law enforcement officials said.

"The officers' preliminary investigation determined that approximately three to four armed males in their 20s entered the home with the intent to burglarize the location," LAPD said on X, formerly Twitter, just after 1 p.m. Saturday afternoon. "A suspect pointed a weapon at the victim and while the suspects were inside the residence, the victim produced a firearm and a shooting occurred."

One of the suspects was struck by gunfire and died at the scene, police said... "It is believed that an additional suspect was injured during the incident due to a trail of blood located during the investigation," LAPD officials said.



Armed robbery trio runs into CCW holder customer

Memphis (GSL) - Reports say a masked armed robbery trio stormed into a Memphis Dollar General on November 28th. A customer at the 6770 Winchester Road store saw the robbery, drew his gun and when threatened, he shot and killed one of the trio. Instead of rendering aid to their fallen comrade, the now-duo of aspiring armed robbers ran from the store with great haste.



Smash and grab artists wanted no part of S&W

Pleasant Hill, CA (FOX26) - A group of young men who looked like they were about to commit a smash-and-grab robbery at a store in the East Bay were lucky to get out with just their lives after a worker pointed a handgun at them.

Robbery duo meets CCW in Chicago

Chicago (GSL) - According to the "Let's Talk Defensive Gun Use" website, a concealed carry license holder shot two men who opened fire on him as part of a botched armed robbery attempt around 1am on Saturday, December 9th.

The incident took place in the 1600 block of North Hamlin Avenue. The 44-year-old robber, Edwin Lopez, died on the scene from a chest wound and his partner, age 37, was transported to the hospital with a wound in the shoulder.



Activist 'aghast & appalled' gun buybacks feeding secondary arms market

(Breitbart) - A gun control activist was "aghast" and dismayed to learn that the burgeoning blue-city gun buyback culture is actually feeding a secondary arms and gun parts market.

The *New York Times* focused on a recent gun buyback in Flint, Michigan, noting that Gunbusters, a Missouri company, was contracted to handle the weapons which were surrendered.

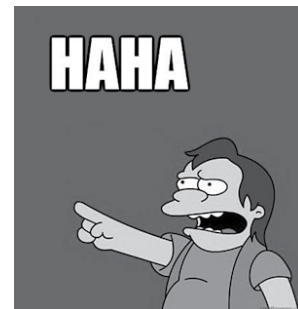
According to the NYT, "[Gunbusters] has taken in more than 200,000 firearms over the past decade from about 950 police agencies around the country, from Baton Rouge, Louisiana,

to St. Louis to Hartford, Vermont."

However, Gunbusters does not necessarily destroy the firearm which is handed over at these buybacks. Rather, it often destroys the part on which the serial number is located, then sells the remaining gun parts on the gun parts market. As a result, "Gunbusters and its five licensees across the country, for example, recently averaged more than \$90,000 a week in combined online sales of hundreds of disassembled guns from government clients."

Upon learning of the way the buybacks feed a

burgeoning secondary gun market, Detroit's Rev. Chris Yaw said he was "aghast and appalled."



He added, "It tells me that our society is set up really well for buying and selling guns, but it's not set up very well for disposing of them."

You know who else still wears masks? BAD GUYS

(GSL) - COVID is effectively over, yet some people still wear those paper or cloth face masks, thinking that the masks protect them from COVID. Others wear them for virtue signalling reasons. The mistaken belief about mask efficacy had its origins in government and the mainstream media promoting the fake news narrative that masking saves lives.

Today, outside of big cities, less than one in fifty still wear masks. Even in deep blue bastions of virtue signalling, less than 10% still mask up to feel better about themselves.

But you know who is still reliably masking? Bad guys.

While out in public, any time you see someone masked, that should serve as a yellow flag to pay attention. If you see a group of young men masked up either in a car or in a business, you should probably keep an eye on them. Do your best to put distance and obstacles between you and them while you're at it.





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Enjoy every minute. . .

The Christmas holidays have come again this year. It's a holy time of year with an atmosphere of warmth and love all around us for the most part.

Enjoy every minute of time with your friends and family. Share your love with them.

Why?

Because the intuitions among many of us are screaming that bad things are coming before next year's elections. "The country will be a very different place," many notables have expressed publicly. Privately, many of us remain hopeful, yet at the same time we're weary of what's in store for us.

Our nation's current leadership is desperate to remain in power. Desperate people do desperate, often unpredictable things. At the same time they work overtime to lower our standard of living and quality of life for all but the very wealthy, all in the name of radical environmentalism.

Hopefully we won't look back upon Christmas 2023 as "the good times" but live as though that may indeed be true. Hug your kids and grandkids. Tell them you love them. Hug your mom and dad if they're still around. Wish well both your friends and family.

At the same time keep your guns cleaned and lubed and your powder dry. Improve your personal readiness for bad times as your family's time, finances and abilities allow. Learn useful skills and work on self-improvement.

MAIL CALL



Pritzker's gun ban is a threat to self-defense

Illinois firearm owners beware: An unconstitutional bill, slammed through the legislature in the middle of the night last year at the tail end of a "lame duck" session, was implemented immediately upon the governor's signature with no public input.

It will soon make felons of lawful citizens owning currently lawful defensive firearms!

The Protect Illinois Communities Act was named to gaslight "low-information" citizens. It requires registration of firearms long used for defense of homes and families, but its real objective is confiscation and possible imprisonment for those who do not comply with the soon-to-be-introduced "closure (of) existing-owner loophole."

When elected officials, who have sworn to uphold and defend our U.S. and Illinois constitutions in their oaths upon taking office, create laws undermining those very constitu-

tions and citizens' constitutionally protected rights, it is time to hold those politicians accountable for their treasonous actions.

Semi-automatic firearms, both rifles and pistols, developed over 100 years ago, have been the overall standard for civilian and law-enforcement use for defense and personal protection. Standard-capacity magazines sold with these firearms, the heart of defense, hold enough ammunition to protect from mob violence that has become prevalent nationwide.

No politician writing laws disallowing use and ownership of standard tools used for self-protection by law-abiding citizens should ever be allowed personal protection funded by the very taxpaying citizens to whom they deny ownership of essential defense tools.

David Martin
Urbana, IL



Democrats are just going through the motions on gun control now

by Zachary Faria

(Washington Examiner) - Gun control enthusiast Vice President Kamala Harris is making her new big push for gun control. It is as stale and unoriginal as every other Democratic gun control push, and it shows just how the Democratic gun control agenda is running out of juice.

Harris was named by President Joe Biden to lead the new Office of Gun Violence Prevention, which was formed in September. You may remember that Harris's view of gun control is that the president should be able to overrule Congress by executive order to take people's guns. She wants a "mandatory gun buyback program" and thinks the president should be able to impose that by dictatorial decree. It was only natural that Biden put her in charge of gun control.

Three months into her new responsibility, Harris has come out with her first few ideas. Naturally, she wants to ban so-called "assault weapons" and high-capacity magazines and to "strengthen" background checks, two frequent Democratic proposals that are as vague as they are useless. They do next to nothing to

prevent criminals from acquiring guns, including "assault weapons." They simply put additional burdens on law-abiding civilians.

Notably, though, the big push here is Harris asking state legislators to take up these proposals, not for the federal government. Even Harris, who adores the idea of the executive branch wielding monarchic power, sees that there is no avenue nor appetite for a grand federal gun control push. She wants to punt it to the states, where that power already belongs and where Democrats have already been talking about "assault weapons" bans and other gun control cliches for years before this.

Harris and Biden are going through the motions here, but it is clear that the surge in gun ownership during the pandemic (partially due to Democrats ignoring gun crimes from actual criminals) has changed the political landscape on this question. Democrats have simply run out of ammunition, and it appears that even they have pushed gun control way down on the list of priorities.

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Guns Save Life

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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:

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Is old ammunition SAFE to shoot?

by John Boch

As a longtime firearms instructor, people ask me all sorts of questions. All questions have merit, especially for people who are new to guns.



That price tag reads "\$2.21".

Among these questions, folks will ask about the safety of shooting old ammunition. I tell them that in general, old factory-loaded ammunition should be perfectly safe to shoot.

The ammo gods showered me with old ammo in the past few years. .22s, shotgun shells, rifle ammo - the whole nine yards.

Yeah, some of it looks a little rough. At the same time, I've shot plenty of old rounds loaded long before I came into this world and they usually function pretty well. I wouldn't use them for a match or competition, but for plinking or skills-building? You bet.

I have cheerfully accepted windfall of shotgun shells including ancient paper-hulled load over the year. Sometimes paper-hull shells fail on occasion if not stored well. But for most loads, unless shotgun shells are kept at the bottom of Lake Michigan after an unfortunate boating accident, they tend to forgive owners who store them in less-than-ideal conditions.

If you have old shotgun shells that don't fire reliably, consider giving them to a reloader to recycle the components. Or sell them to someone you don't like. Lots of police departments will take unwanted ammunition for disposal, too.

While most experienced shooters will merily dispose of (that's spelled s-h-o-o-t) your "old" factory-loaded ammo, I do avoid other people's reloads. You probably should too, unless you know the person who made them and trust them with your health, well-being and fingers.

People with attention deficit disorder sometimes don't make good reloaders. Why don't I like reloads? In short, squibs. Squibs happen when the person or machine

fabricating the cartridge failed to include a powder charge in the round. The primer will push the bullet into the barrel, where it will remain. If the squib goes undetected and a shooter then fires the next round into a now-obstructed barrel, bad things will happen. It can result in serious injury to both the gun and shooter.

I have shot a lot of rounds in my life and the only squibs I've experienced came from the home-rolled stuff from guys who should have stopped reloading long before they finally did.

Conversely, if a reloader double-charged the powder in a shell, that can also cause an unwanted, rapid discombobulation of things in your gun

If in doubt about whether or not ammunition came from a factory, look for factory boxes. The FBI calls that a clue. Inside the box, do they all share the same headstamps and color (nickel vs. brass)? Are the primers of uniform color? Are they all the same gauge or caliber (see above).

Do the headstamps match the box? For instance, do the headstamps say Winchester in the Winchester box? Or do you have Remington rounds in a CCI or Fiocchi box?

If everything looks consistent and the case headstamps are uniform and match the brand on the box, the ammo is probably factory loaded.

I mentioned American-made ammo above. Old foreign ammo will also shoot in modern firearms of the appropriate caliber. However, some old foreign ammo may prove corrosive to some degree. For those who clean their gun before the sun sets, no problem. For others, like me, you may find a light patina of rust on your barrel two weeks later. Lesson learned.

Remember, if you encounter old ammunition, do not use it for self-defense unless you have no other ammo available. Don't buy someone's old ammo to protect yourself and your family. Even if you find some old .357 Magnum hollow-points.

In closing...

In general, old factory-loaded ammo typically will retain its functionality for a long, long time. Yes, even if it doesn't look pretty on the outside. One may encounter a few duds with really old or poorly-stored ammo, but by and large, it will go bang every time. To stay extra safe though, try to avoid reloaded ammo to reduce dangers from someone else's home-made mistakes.

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Perp says, 'Ain't nothing you f***** can do about it.' Gun owners might disagree.

'Bomb the churches': Charming transgendered southern IL man indicted for threats to rape Christian schoolgirls, bomb churches

Nashville, IL (*Christian Post*) - A trans-identified Illinois man and alleged self-described "pedophile" is facing charges for making social media threats to sexually assault Christian girls and commit copycat attacks similar to the attack at a Christian school in Tennessee earlier this year.

Jason Lee Willie of Nashville, Illinois, was charged Nov. 7 in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois with 14 felony counts of interstate communication of a threat to injure, according to a federal indictment.

The threats, which are dated between March and August, include repeated references to Christians, black Americans, the Republican Party, and others.

Among the alleged threats cited in the indictment are threats to "bomb the churches": "...We're gonna bomb them, we're gonna bomb them. We're gonna bomb

the churches. We're gonna bomb them. You know it. We're going to kill you..."



Meet Jason Lee Willie, aka "Alexia Willie" of Nashville, IL.

In an online video, Willie — who also goes by "Alexia N. Willie," according to court documents — made reference to "Christian trash," adding, "They're transphobic, they're homophobic, they're no different than the [expletive] white supremacists...."

The indictment alleges Willie also frequently used

racial epithets and threatened to target anyone "with a cross around your neck."

Prosecutors say Willie also specifically mentioned harming children, with online video threats such as, "...We're coming for your children. We're not going to hurt you. We're not going to hurt you.

"You have to understand, I know how to get to you, and that's by [pounds fist into palm twice for emphasis] f--- your children. By hurting your children. And that's exactly what we're going to do."

In August, Willie made an online video in which he allegedly said, "Well, I guarantee I'll be in the bathroom raping your Christian daughters and there ain't nothing you f--- can do about it. You hear me?"

Nashville, IL (pop 3100) is about halfway between Belleville and Mt. Vernon.

HOPLOPHOBES' HOPES CRUSHED: Homicides down in Florida now that permitless carry is law

(TTAG) - Florida's permitless carry law has been in effect for almost six months now. It's too early for statewide data, but I looked up a couple of cities that report their data regularly. At this time last year, Miami had 84 homicides. This year it is at 74. For Jacksonville, it was 159 at this time last year compared to 145 this year.

We'll have to wait for statewide data of course, but so far, the usual predictions of a huge surge in homicides due to permitless carry haven't panned out.

Criminals who commit most homicides were already carrying illegally anyway. Permitless carry didn't change that at all.



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A scary experience from Central Illinois

via Facebook (What's happening in DeWitt County group)

Between Springfield and Clinton on Rt. 54
(Edited for readability) - Last night was easily the scariest night of my family's life.

Coming home to Clinton from Springfield around 5:30pm on Route 54 west of Mt. Pulaski, we came up behind a pickup truck. We followed this truck not thinking anything of it until we got to a no passing zone. The truck slowed down and eventually stopped dead in his tracks in the middle of the road so we couldn't really get around him. We stopped far enough back we couldn't read the license plate of the dually truck but it was either white or light tan in color.

Not seeing any deer or any other reason to stop, all the sudden I had a gut feeling that something wasn't right. I told my husband to leave.



He started to back up and eventually whipped around and started heading back towards Springfield. After we turned around I looked back and saw the truck had turned around and was now chasing us.

We made a turn and the truck followed, catching up to us. My husband told our 9-year-old daughter to get down and for me to start calling the cops. We didn't know what else to do. We were in a tiny Kona going 80mph on back roads with the truck right behind us.

Fortunately we reached 911. Dispatch told us officers were on their way and for us to head towards Mt. Pulaski. We did make it back onto Rt. 54 with the truck hot on our tail at speeds up to 100mph as we tried to get away.

We passed cars, fearing for our lives just trying to get away. Meanwhile the truck stayed right behind us like it was a game.

At one point, while still going at 90+mph, the truck shut off all his lights so we couldn't see them. As we came up to the bridge of 121 and Mt. Pulaski, the truck turned the lights back on. Sometime shortly after that we lost sight of the truck.

Once in the city, we went to meet the cops.

I tell you I've never seen my 29 year old husband fearing for the safety of himself his wife and one of his three daughters.

He's kicking himself because he couldn't see the guy's license plate and obviously the cops couldn't do much without it. We don't know if it was an act of road rage or something worse.

And I'm not even sure why I'm posting it here except for to make others aware if you're taking the roads to Springfield or Lincoln at night to be careful. We're thanking the Lord but we're definitely still shaken up about it. Be aware of your surroundings.

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OUT OF CONTROL: Send a text message or enter your wife’s ice shanty without permission in Michigan, lose your guns for eight years under new domestic violence law...

Lansing, MI (Lapeer County Tribune) – Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed a slate of new gun control bills into law on November 20 that confiscate firearms and ammunition from people in Michigan who have been convicted of both violent and non-violent misdemeanors under new legal definitions of “domestic violence misdemeanors” established in the new laws.



MI Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

These bills, passed by the democrat-controlled state house and senate, broadly expand the category of misdemeanors considered to be “domestic violence” to include many infractions that are clearly not violent, allow law enforcement to confiscate all firearms from anyone convicted of these misdemeanors, and prohibit anyone convicted of these misdemeanors from buying or owning firearms or ammunition for 8 years.

One of the bills, Senate Bill 528 Sec. 115 (1), clearly defines the act of stepping foot into your current or ex-partner’s vacant ice shanty without her permission as a domestic violence misdemeanor – as long as the shanty is worth \$100 or more.

Another section (Sec. 540E (1)) says if you annoy or “disturb the peace and quiet of another person” who is your current or

former domestic partner using a telecommunications service or device, you are guilty of a domestic violence misdemeanor.

The consequence of having a domestic violence misdemeanor on your record is the forced confiscation of all your firearms and ammunition. You will, also, be unable to purchase or own firearms or ammunition in Michigan for eight years.

Whitmer insists the new laws are about protecting women...

A careful reading of the bills proves these bills are not designed for public protection as much as to make it easier for more people to be convicted of misdemeanors for which the government has the power to confiscate weapons by force.

When democracy turns to tyranny...

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Calendar



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
Fourth Saturday: Trapshoot starting at 10 AM.
All open to the public.
Second Sunday: Annie Shoot/.22 steel plate shoot.

DeWitt County Sportsman's Club
First & Third Sundays: Breakfast at 8:30a.m.
Turkey shoots afterwards. Open to 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.
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GUN SHOWS...

January

Jan 14: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St Charles, IL. Mick Stout (815) 217-2266

Jan 20-21: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike (630) 363-3131.

Jan 27-28: Sauk Trail Gun Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton, IL. Dan Fritz 309 689-1934.

February

Feb 11: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St Charles, IL. Mick Stout (815) 217-2266

Feb 10-11: Quad Cities Gun Show, QCCA Expo Center, Rock Island. Mark Craft. (309) 371-3593.

Feb 17-18: New Berlin Gun Show. Sangamon Co. Fairgrounds. Patrick Keen (217) 971-1519

Feb 24-25: Decatur Gun & Knife Show. Decatur Conference Center. Mark Craft. (309) 371-3593.

FRIENDS OF NRA...

Saturday, January 27: Southern Illinois Regional. Thelma Keller Convention Center, Effingham.

Saturday, February 3: Logan County, Knights of Columbus, Lincoln, IL.

Thursday, February 22: Salt Kettle FNRA. St. Mary's Hall, Westville.

Saturday, March 2: Madison County FNRA. Collinsville VFW.

Saturday, March 9: Shoal Creek FNRA. Farm Heritage Museum, Greenville..

Thursday, March 14: Southeastern IL FNRA. The Holiday, Olney.

Saturday, March 16: Kishwaukee Valley FNRA. Ferandas, DeKalb.

Saturday, March 23: Macoupin County Patriots FNRA. Concordia Hall, Staunton..

Thursday, March 28: Little Egypt FNRA. The Pavilion, Marion..

For more info, visit FriendsOfNRA.org.

Anti-gun orgs love to report 'school shooting' stats included any gunfire, or even report of gunfire, within half a mile of a school, at any time, including in the middle of the night.

Stats show blacks behind most school shootings, busting media's fake news narrative

(*National File*) - Recently released statistics show that black Americans are massively overrepresented among school shooters, accounting for more than half of shooters identified so far in 2023, despite accounting for just over 13% of the total population of the United States.

Despite overwhelming media depictions of school shooters and other mass murderers as white, poorly adjusted males full of latent racism and sexual frustration, data recording the race and ethnicity of school shooters arrested in the year 2023 shows that a super-majority of them are black.

What's more, is that despite the aforementioned media depictions, whites are massively underrepresented among school shooters, accounting for just around 6% of those arrested in 2023, while making up roughly 60% of the total US population...

Again contradicting the well-established media narrative, additional numbers compiled by teams from Radford University

(Virginia) and Florida Gulf Coast University show that a majority of American serial killers are black.

Despite comprising just over 13% of the US population, blacks have been responsible for over half of serial killings in the United States in recent decades, while vastly outpacing their share of the population before that.



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GunNews & CrimeNews

Biden's handlers hate Jews, self-defense

Biden blocks 20,000 rifles to Israel

(ZeroHedge) - There's been some serious mixed messaging and contradictory signals coming from the White House of late regarding Israel and the Gaza War. President Biden on Tuesday had for the first time offered criticism of Israel's "indiscriminate bombing" of Gaza - even while keeping the massive defense aid flowing to Israel's military on an unconditional basis. He said Israel risks losing the world's support.

But even as it hands over 2,000-pound bombs and other heavy munitions, the US administration has ironically enough temporarily blocked a shipment of more than 20,000 rifles on fears the small arms could fuel more Israeli settler violence against Palestinians in the West Bank. Most or all of the rifle shipments appear to be M-16s.



Dems fail to get votes in US Senate to ban most semi-auto rifles, pistols

Washington (GSL) - In what turned out to be a virtue-signalling stunt to distract from Biden administration failures and scandals for a couple of news cycles, Senate Democrats proposed a bill that would ban all semi-auto rifles and pistols along with magazines over ten rounds.

Days later, the Democrats couldn't even muster a simple majority of votes, much less the 60 necessary to pass the measure through the Senate.

Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) stood against the bill, noting that "Democrats defunded the police— now they want to disarm the American people."



Speaking of scandals...

CHUTZPAH: Hunter Biden's attorneys seek dismissal of gun charges in light of Bruen

(Breitbart) - Hunter Biden's attorneys filed a motion in a U.S. District Court on Monday, seeking to have gun charges against him dismissed in light of the Supreme Court's Bruen (2022) decision.



2.5x more packing over last four years

Tired of high crime, NYC bodega owners strap up

NYC (NY Post) - They're stocked, locked, and loaded.

Hundreds of Big Apple supermarket and bodega owners are arming themselves as the epidemic of violent theft continues to plague their businesses.

"You see the necessity because the city is getting out of hand with the crime rate," said one supermarket owner... "I feel safer having a . . . weapon with me."



LeBron James doubles down on stupid

Athlete calls for more gun control after gun control fails at UNLV campus

(Breitbart) - L.A. Lakers star LeBron James called for more gun control following Wednesday's handgun attack on the gun free University of Nevada, Las Vegas, campus.

He continued, saying, "The fact that we haven't changed anything — it's actually been easier to be able to own a firearm. ... It's stupid."

James did not provide an example of how buying a firearm has become easier.



NY politicians chase off a 207-year-old, world-renowned business

Remington says 'adios' to New York State

Ilion, NY (Times-Union) — Two hundred and seven years after it was started in this Herkimer County village and two years after their new private equity owners said they weren't leaving, Remington Arms is packing up its New York state gun factory and moving it to Georgia...

The factory is expected to close down on March 4, 2024. Some employees may be offered jobs at the new location, but it was unclear how many. About 300 currently work at the Ilion facility, down from 700 a few years ago and more than a 1,000 at its peak.

ACLU steps in to help NRA against New York State's Attorney General

(The Hill) - The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is representing the National Rifle Association in a free speech case against New York's Department of Financial Services.



"We're representing the NRA at the Supreme Court in their case against New York's Department of Financial Services for abusing its regulatory power to violate the NRA's First Amendment rights," the ACLU said in a post in Saturday thread on

X, the platform formerly known as Twitter. "The government can't blacklist an advocacy group because of its viewpoint."

Despite their representation of the gun rights group, the ACLU said it does not "support the NRA's mission or its viewpoints on gun rights, and we don't agree with their goals, strategies, or tactics" in another post in the thread.

"But we both know that government officials can't punish organizations because they disapprove of their views," the ACLU continued.

Back in November, the Supreme Court said it would hear the NRA's case against a former New York regulator, alleging she infringed on the gun rights group's speech by way of discouraging banks and insurers from working with them.



When confronted, they admit to breaking federal gun laws 'for years'

New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence commits felonies taking guns into an Albuquerque school, then giving them to students

(GSL) - Virtue-signalling do-gooders with the New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence organization are scrambling after media covered a stunt of theirs that involved someone from the organization committing multiple felonies for taking guns into an Albuquerque school and giving them to children.

While the NMPGV stunt was promoted as "converting guns into musical instruments," that doesn't change the fact that the guns were not properly "deactivated" per federal ATF rules. As such they remain firearms in the eyes of the law.

When made aware of their mistake, NMPGV doubled

down. In a series of posts on "X," the group acknowledged committing multiple felony violations of NM state law as well as federal gun laws "for years" and that they would proudly continue to do so as part of their virtue signalling.

Grab your popcorn, folks. This is getting good!



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Rising peak demand, 83 GW of planned retirements create blackout risks for most of US: NERC

(Utility Dive) - Rising peak demand and the planned retirement of 83 GW of fossil fuel and nuclear generation over the next 10 years creates blackout risks for most of the United States, the North American Electric Reliability Corp. said Wednesday in its annual Long-Term Reliability Assessment.

While most regions should have sufficient electricity supply in normal weather, both the Northeast and Western half of the U.S. face an elevated risk of blackouts in extreme conditions. And parts of the Midwest and central South areas could see power supply shortfalls during normal peak operations.

To address the growing risk, NERC said

new gas capacity is needed, the nation's transmission network must be expanded and grid planners must develop processes to better account for variable resources and the interconnected nature of the power and gas sectors...

The Midcontinent Independent System Operator faces a projected 4.7 GW shortfall beginning in 2028 "if expected generator retirements occur," NERC found. The grid operator is adding more than 12 GW to shore up a previously identified reserve deficit but more will be needed.

[Editor: MISO is the regional outfit that supplies juice to the vast majority of Illinois.]



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