

# THE PRO SECOND AMENDMENT COMMITTEE



*A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free state,  
the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.*

JULY 2011

LEXINGTON & CONCORD

VOL NO 211  
ISSUE NO. 02

## 2011 Board

President: David Cox, Vice President: Tom Burrows, Secretary: Jaime Cox, Treasurer: None at Current. At Large: John Justman, Rick Kauffman, Richard Predovich, Glen Miller, Sharon Armstrong, and Linn Armstrong

The PSAC Board meets the 1st Wednesday of the month and are open to all members and interested persons. The meetings start at 6:30 at the Masonic Temple off First Street. 2400 Consistory Ct. Grand Junction, CO

## Pro-Second Community

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We had a wonderful annual banquet this March that included our awards ceremony, an emotional, riveting remembrance of our fallen soldiers and James Warner communicated an experience of sacrifice and philosophical realization of the importance of individual liberty unlike any I had ever heard. The evening was well attended and very positive. This years Essay Contest winners were Levi Womack for elementary school, Kyle Propst for middle school, and James Womack for high school. All submissions are included here in the Lexington and Concord Appendix. I would like to thank all those who attended and express my appreciation for your presence. Without our commitment to keeping alive 2nd Amendment principles the basis of liberty will be lost; keeping it alive is both fun and exciting, but alas, a significant time commitment.

During the banquet we elected our leadership for the year. I was elected president, my wife Jaime was elected as secretary, and Debbie England was elected as treasurer. Unfortunately, Debbie England resigned shortly after due to personal reasons. Thus, we are currently looking for a treasurer. If you or someone you know is interested in this position please contact any of the board members, we would love to have you! We also re-elected our 3 odd year board members Glen Miller, Sharon Armstrong, and Linn Armstrong.

A special thanks goes out to our speaker James Warner for traveling all the way from the east coast by car to speak to us. Also, we owe a special thanks to the Missing Man Foundation for presenting such a phenomenal tribute to our fallen war heroes.

The 4th of July is coming up quickly and we can look forward to proudly marching with our guns and patriotic enthusiasm again as our float procedes down Main Street. We are scheduled to meet on Monday, July 4th at 4:15 on 8th and Rood.

One of my primary goals as president was to hold a shooting contest for youth in the Grand Valley and their parents. The enthusiastic response that was expressed by our membership for this idea was clear and I felt certain that we were going to accomplish this important goal. However, it

appears that this task is going to be more difficult to see through than I initially believed and after a couple board meetings and no progress, we remain in the same position as before. We have had difficulty partnering with an organization who has a liability insurance policy or liability exemption that would provide sufficient protection against accidents. 4-H was suggested as an ideal partner for this purpose but I have not been able to get in contact with anyone despite repeated messages. I am considering promoting a generic, unaffiliated contest that would feature a prize for winners but would not have any official controlling body. We would just get together and set up our various shooting challenges and then call it a day after we award the winners. I will consult a lawyer before I pursue this direction as the problems of our litigious society have compelled me to fear for liability issues, perhaps unjustifiable, perhaps not.

Western Slope Conservative Alliance Presents:  
**“Statehood: The Territorial Imperative”**

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with authors Bill Redd and Bill Howell. On July 7th at 6:30 pm at the GJ City Council Auditorium. Having read this book in October of last year, I am excited to encourage our members to attend the authors visit to GJ. I re-read it and am only more impressed by the exhaustive citation and thorough exploration of the documents and historical precedent supporting the obvious yet contemporarily ignored and violated sovereignty that belongs to individuals and their locally controlled and administered States. Of course, the people of the States have voluntarily ceded certain powers to the Federal government in a limited number of enumerated subjects but the Federal government has expanded their activities and powers to include all of the municipal powers that were originally reserved for more personal and locally connected authorities or to each of us individually. As the Federal monster has grown, it has become more and more difficult to even conceive of a system other than that which envelopes us. To start back toward a Constitutional government, the first thing is to understand what precedents empower us to pursue the dismantling of centralized, elitist controlled Federal power. The authors reveal that the essential means of controlling the Federal behemoth is in returning power to the States where we can either customize their functions to our needs or eliminate such activities entirely. This book exposes for plain recognition the historical American empowerment of the States right to determine regulation and law, outside of those powers delegated, within their boundaries. I hope all Pro-Second members will attend this exciting event.

**A republic is ‘an empire of laws, and not of men.**

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By David Cox

This statement came from our second President, John Adams, and catches the essence of what our political union has been historically defined by. The founders knew that checking political power was indispensably linked to freedom and created a document that enshrined the advantages of a republic of laws rather than of men’s dictate. They knew that the equal application of justice and the stabilizing effect of defined boundaries of politically sanctioned power would bring about a great nation. But what happens when there isn’t a plurality of strong, authoritative voices calling out violations of our seminal document in our delegation? Do we still have a ‘empire of laws and not men’ without initiation of an open Congressional debate and executive impeachment process for activity clearly beyond our Constitutions limitations? Considering what just happened in Libya, we no longer have to puzzle rhetorically over the hypothetical, the answer is no. We have allowed our President to brazenly flaunt our foundational legal document and count it acceptable for his administration to engage militarily anywhere as long as he says something, anything, in justification.

Even by the loosest readings of the War Powers Act, which attempts to clarify the Constitutional authority of Article 1 Section 8, in the event of military engagement, the President must request authority after 60 days to continue. He did not make such a request even after 90. Obama's justification didn't even come close to being covered by the War Powers Act. The act gives authority in the instances of "(1) a declaration of war, (2) specific statutory authorization, or (3) a national emergency created by attack upon the United States, its territories or possessions, or its armed forces." Obama admitted that the effort was to avert a "humanitarian crises." There was a call for impeachment but it was very poorly covered by the msm and only two Congressmen, Ron Paul and Dennis Kucinich, and one Senator, Rand Paul, had the credibility to pursue impeachment. The disinterested response to the most basic responsibility of our legislature is appalling. Don't they know they are protecting the foundational requirements for the most successful and productive nation ever known to man? Can't they see we are on the precipice of financial ruin because of loose monetary policy and over spending? Is anyone awake? Even more startling than the callous regard for the responsibilities entrusted to our public servants is their hypocrisy. Joe Biden called for Bush II's impeachment if he were to unilaterally attack Iran without Congressional authorization. Now that Obama has engaged Libya with full scale air attack and CIA organization activities on the ground without Congressional authorization, he isn't saying much in opposition of the POTUS. Neither is the vast majority of all the other "progressives" who decried Bush as a war criminal. Their priorities are now ringing loud and clear as their credibility in the eyes of the American public falls. And what about our own delegation to the Washington DC black hole of truth? All are derelict in their duty, yes, our entire delegation from the great State of Colorado are in violation of their oaths. What we did get from house "leadership" was a pathetic call for an address. House Majority Bohner, in pathetic effectual acquiescence, pleaded with our POTUS for an explanation of himself! While he's scolding, ask him why he stole that cookie from the cookie jar too, Bohner! Our own Rep. Tipton failed to raise the call for impeachment based on these clearly unauthorized actions. Without the boundaries of our Constitution, our elected leaders, especially in the highest offices of Washington DC, are only held captive in their pursuit of power by the likelihood of political repercussions in the next election cycle. But this is the age of lazy pursuit of comfort and the sheeple populating our nation are dull enough to believe the lies and distortions of each new puppet politician who's vague statements and obscure promises are accepted if they "feel" right.

What difference does it make if there is a change in face of whoever is ultimately still beholden to the real power brokers in control of this country? None. As long as people accept mediocrity of performance of duty in exchange for an extension on their tenuously held lease on comfort, there will no return to prosperity and peace. Of course anyone who points out that our leaders are derelict is labeled as a radical and slandered as "unpatriotic." Very few dare to question the almighty Federal government. But we must. We must to save our Republic and it will take re-committing ourselves and our leaders to original principles and demand leadership with a steely determination to weather the incoming tidal wave of repercussions from a century of manipulation. The list of these manipulations is long and deserves elaboration.

Not to mention the egregious violations of the not so distant past such as Vietnam, presently we are engaged in undeclared CIA military actions all over the world and our puppet "leadership" is illegally making war prominently in Libya, Yemen, Somalia, and Pakistan. We have indefinitely suspended the 4th Amendment by the purposefully deceitfully named Patriot Act. A better name would be the Traitor Act because this act gives carte blanche authority to monitor all communications and to take possession of 'any tangible thing' in the course of an arbitrarily declared 'terrorist' investigation. Is their any question this violates the 4th Amendment? What about the Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) which, according to the US Supreme Court decision *Yaser Esam Hamdi v. Donald Rumsfeld*, gives the President authority to indefinitely detain, without being charged, any US Citizen who is declared an enemy combatant. Our executive is a de facto restrained dictatorship.

The only restraint is the remnant of Americans paying attention and feverishly working to stop our fall. In Justice Antonin Scalia's dissent to the damning majority decision, he questioned why a citizen engaged in terrorist activities wouldn't be charged with Treason and tried accordingly in US Federal court rather than being deprived of due process. According to the plurality of justices controlling this decision they concluded that the president had the authority to hold U.S. citizens in prison as enemy combatants. On the issue of whether detainment denies the right of due process, the justices concluded that Hamdi's due process rights had been wrongfully denied and that he should be accorded a greater habeas corpus review. This is ludicrous. If the President has the right to indefinitely detain based on his summarization of an individual as an enemy combatant then the right to question LAWFUL detainment is irrelevant. The detainment is defensible by circumstance only, no written law having been broken. This is an obfuscated de facto elimination of habeas corpus.

The court's precedent amounts to the elimination, as American citizens, of the right to writ of habeas corpus but at least Scalia proved that one of the "Justices" isn't totally blind. The individual US citizen, Hamdi, should have been charged with Treason. Can we have a national identity without the requirement of individual loyalty to our country and the legitimacy of the charge of Treason? Can we have a free system without due process? On both accounts, the answer is No.

Now Barackster is likely to completely ignore the statutory debt ceiling imposed by Congress because of, ironically, Constitutional reasons. The 14th Amendment, Section IV declares, "The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned." How is the Congress holding invalid the debt of the US if it cuts spending and still services the debt? How is the Congress holding invalid the current debts of the Union by refusing to add more debt? They wouldn't be. Certainly, tax receipts could be used to pay promised obligations while cutting unobligated spending such as Federal education dollars, Department of Energy dollars, and any other dollars needed from the myriad of un-Constitutional departments and activities. And perhaps even more importantly, the Fourteenth Amendment, in this case, is contradictory to Article 1, Section 10 which declares, "States shall not make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts." How can the public debt, being represented by fiat Federal Reserve currency, not Gold or Silver, be held valid when it clearly barred by the aforementioned Article? The entire structure of the financial system is blatantly unconstitutional because of Article 1, Section 10. Nearly every Federal agency is unconstitutional because of the 10th Amendment and the nature of the Constitution being a limited delegation of authority to an agent Federal government by the principles of sovereignty, the States.

The simple fact that the States created the Federal structure and not the other way around is lost on deaf ears as momentary issues are forefront. However, it's these structural issues that, if taken seriously and fixed, would solve each of our momentary problems. If the President is really serious about getting our economy going then he will not consider adding extra regulatory and tax burdens to the only wealth producing segment of the society; he needs to be leaving businesses alone to do business. I can personally attest to the enormous burden that tax compliance and other Federal compliance issues impose. I estimate that I spend around 15%, at a minimum, of my time working on tax and regulatory compliance while my wife spends around 60% of her time on compliance. Couldn't all this time be better spent on improving operations and expanding production? By creating new jobs?

It is abundantly clear that the high minded politicians in Washington DC have succumbed to mission creep writ large and are so far in over their heads they haven't the slightest idea what to do next...thus they take no action and continue the Federal government on autopilot, same bankrupt spending policy, same war making adventurism, same meddlesome micro-managing of businesses, food, drugs, and education, same ol', same ol' unconstitutional, un-supportable bloated menace.

## Caught in their own trap: Project Gunrunner, Fast and Furious self-destruct in thinly veiled design supporting the liberal gun control conspiracy.

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President's Note:

Ostensibly, the goal of the controversial "Project Gunrunner" and "Operation Fast and Furious" programs was to use serial numbers on weapons sold to "straw purchasers," who planned to resell the guns to the drug cartels, to trace the weapons after Mexican police apprehended them later at crime scenes. On its face this is farcical. Why would they want to get these guns into the hands of dangerous criminals when their job is to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous criminals? Fast and furious, spurious indeed! After last edition of the Lexington and Concord you may remember that the BATFE was attempting to institute a registration/listing requirement of all purchasers of semi-automatic weapons in border areas. This was blocked and I believe the Fast and Furious project was meant to bring justifiable proof forward to ensure the registration/listing requirement be enacted. Below is the RMGO's take on this issue.

### Getting Furious, Fast

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Posted on June 22, 2011 by NAGR Staff

Operation Fast & Furious – or as we have been calling it, "Project Gunwalker" – is becoming a large scandal very fast and most furiously. One media outlet referred to it yesterday as "worse than Iran-Contra." As you know, the anti-gun brass at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE) conspired to force gun dealers to sell firearms to criminals who in turn walked those firearms across the border into Mexico and into the hands of dangerous drug gangs.

The BATFE administration blatantly ignored its own agents' warnings in order to advance their anti-gun political agenda. By sanctioning and encouraging the sale, literally thousands of firearms ended up in the hands of violent Mexican drug cartels.

The result? At least two American law enforcement agents killed, one Mexican military helicopter shot down and over 100 Mexican officers killed or wounded. That's not counting the crime that could come in the future.

The BATFE purposefully armed men who are considered by our own Federal law enforcement agents to be more dangerous than al Qaeda.

And now, thanks to thousands of gun owners – patriots who took action and called their Congressmen – the anti-gun zealots who run the BATFE are facing a Congressional inquiry.

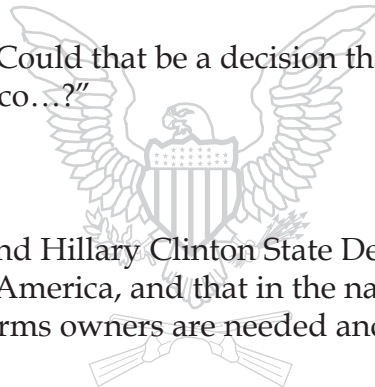
On Wednesday, after a full day of hearings, the Chairman of the US House of Representatives Oversight and Government Reform Committee had this to say regarding guns going into Mexico:

"Could that be a political decision? Could that be a decision that basically, we just want to substantiate that guns in America go to Mexico...?"

You see what's going on here.

Let's retrace the steps:

The Obama administration and Hillary Clinton State Department assert that most of the guns used in Mexican crimes come from America, and that in the name of regional stability "more restriction on law-abiding American Firearms owners are needed and the United States must sign on to the United Nations Small Arms Treaty.



The BATFE begins investigating this “claim”, and creates a “sting operation” to ensure American guns end up in Mexico. Then they force gun dealers to sell firearms to known criminals who smuggle the guns to violent Mexican drug cartels.

Agents on the ground in this investigation said that it was a horrible idea, but the operations were authorized and supported by leading officials in the BATFE and the Justice Department.

The mantra of the anti-gun Left is simple: “never let a crisis go to waste.”

And if there isn't a convenient crisis, go ahead and make one up.

This is exactly the strategy Obama and his anti-gun allies have been practicing for years.

They will use this “crisis” to ram federal gun control legislation down the throats of American citizens.

But I know you won't stand for it.

I'm going to remind them every chance I get, and remind them that you are behind me.

For Freedom,

Dudley Brown Executive Director

P.S. I need your help in getting messages like this one to larger audiences. Those arrogant power-grabbers at the Justice Department and in Washington only listen to large numbers.

## **Wisconsin adopts concealed carry**

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Both chambers of the Wisconsin state legislature have voted to approve one of the nation's strongest Right-to-Carry bills, by solid bipartisan margins. Senate Bill 93, which was strongly backed by NRA, now goes to Governor Scott Walker (R) for his expected signature. When signed, it will leave Illinois as the only state that provides no way for citizens to carry concealed firearms for self-protection outside their homes or places of business.

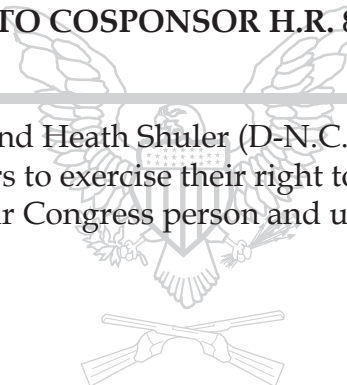
“For more than a decade, NRA has fought for Right-to-Carry in Wisconsin. That perseverance and determination has paid off. Now, Wisconsinites are one step closer to being able to defend themselves outside their homes,” said NRA-ILA Executive Director Chris W. Cox. “Thanks to the actions of a bipartisan majority of state legislators, honest people who choose to get a permit will be less vulnerable to criminal attacks outside their homes. NRA is grateful for the unwavering leadership of Senators Pam Galloway, Rich Zipperer and Neal Kedzie, Assembly Majority Leader Scott Suder and Representative Jeffrey Mursau who fought for the passage of Right-to-Carry in Wisconsin.”

## **URGE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO COSPONSOR H.R. 822, THE NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-CARRY RECIPROCITY ACT:**

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Congressmen Cliff Stearns (R-Fla.) and Heath Shuler (D-N.C.) have introduced vital legislation that will enable millions of permit holders to exercise their right to self-defense while traveling outside their home states. Please contact your Congress person and urge them to support this important legislation.

BATFE moves to justify gun bans



The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (BATFE) is out to get you! This year, BATFE released a 29-page document which revealed their intent to control your gun ownership! Yes, CONTROL YOUR GUN OWNERSHIP!

This study gave specifics that would tighten federal shotgun importation restrictions. This BATFE Study revealed shotguns would no longer be importable if they did not meet BATFE's perverse view of the "sporting purposes" according to the Gun Control Act of 1968.

The BATFE 29-page study lists several features of shotguns that would be considered incompatible with importation. They are:

- Forward pistol grips or other protruding parts designed or used for gripping the shotgun with the shooter's extended hand
- Folding, telescoping, or collapsible stocks
- Light enhancing devices
- Excessive bulk (greater than 3 inches in width and/or greater than 4 inches in depth)
- Excessive weight (greater than 10 pounds for 12 gauge or smaller)
- Magazines over 5 rounds, or a drum magazine
- Flash suppressors
- Integrated rail systems (other than on top of the receiver or barrel)

NONE OF THE ABOVE have anything to do with the lethality or danger of a shotgun! This set of new restrictions is largely arbitrary.

### **United Nations Small Arms Treaty opposed by SAF**

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To Those Who Believe in their Second Amendment Rights,  
The United Nations is not your friend!

Under the guise of a proposed global "Small Arms Treaty" premised to fight "terrorism," "insurgency," and "international crime syndicates" you can be quite certain that an even more insidious threat is being targeted - our Constitutional right for law-abiding citizens to own and bear arms.

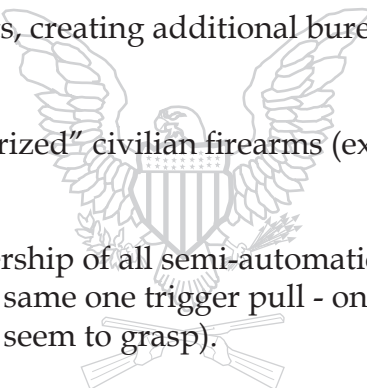
What, exactly, does the upcoming United Nations intended agreement entail?

While the terms have yet to be made public, if passed by the U.N. and ratified by our Senate, it will almost certainly force the United States to:

Enact tougher licensing requirements, creating additional bureaucratic red tape for legal firearms ownership.

Confiscate and destroy all "unauthorized" civilian firearms (exempting those owned by our government of course).

Ban the trade, sale and private ownership of all semi-automatic weapons (any that have magazines even though they still operate in the same one trigger pull - one single "bang" manner as revolvers, a simple fact the ant-gun media never seem to grasp).



Create an international gun registry, clearly setting the stage for full-scale gun confiscation.

In short, overriding our national sovereignty, and in the process, providing license for the federal government to assert preemptive powers over state regulatory powers guaranteed by the Tenth Amendment in addition to our Second Amendment rights.

This plan is very real, with strong Obama administration support. In January 2010 the U.S. joined 152 other countries in endorsing a U.N. Arms Treaty Resolution that will establish a 2012 conference to draft a blueprint for enactment. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has pledged to push for Senate ratification.

Former U.N. Ambassador John Bolton has cautioned gun owners to take this initiative seriously, stating that the United Nations is "trying to act as though this is really just a treaty about international arms trade between nation states, but there is no doubt that the real agenda here is domestic firearms control."

Although professing to support the Second Amendment during her presidential election bid, Hillary Clinton is not generally known as a gun rights enthusiast. She has been a long-time activist for federal firearms licensing and registration, and a vigorous opponent of state Right-to-Carry laws.

President Obama's record on citizen gun rights doesn't reflect much gun rights advocacy either. Consider for example his appointment of anti-gun rights former Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels as an alternate U.S. representative to the U.N., and his choice of Andrew Traver who has worked to terminate civilian ownership of so-called "assault rifles" (another prejudicially meaningless gun term) to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Then, in a move unprecedented in American history, the Obama administration quietly banned the re-importation and sale of 850,000 collectable antique U.S.-manufactured M1 Garand and Carbine rifles that were left in South Korea following the Korean War. Developed in the 1930s, the venerable M1 Garand carried the U.S. through World War II, seeing action in every major battle.

Mr. Obama also served on a 10-member board of directors of the radically activist anti-gun Joyce Foundation in Chicago during a period between 1998-2001 when it contributed \$18,326,183 in grants to anti-Second Amendment organizations.

Here are some believable statistics---

Law-abiding citizens in America used guns in self-defense 2.5 million times during 1993 (about 6,850 times per day), and actually shot and killed 2 1/2 times as many criminals as police did (1,527 to 606). Those civilian self-defense shootings resulted in less than 1/5th as many incidents as police where an innocent person was mistakenly identified as a criminal (2% versus 11%).

Just how effectively have gun bans worked to make citizens safer in other countries?

Take the number of home break-ins while residents are present as an indication. In Canada and Britain, both with tough gun-control laws, nearly half of all burglaries occur when residents are present. But in the U.S. where many households are armed, only about 13% happen when someone is home.

Recognizing clear statistical evidence, 41 states now allow competent, law-abiding adults to carry permitted or permit-exempt concealed handguns. As a result, crime rates in those states have typically fallen at least 10% in the year following enactment.

The majority in our Senate is smart enough to realize that the U.N.'s gun-grab agenda is unconstitutional, politically suicidal for those who support it, and down-right idiotic - right? Let's hope so, but not entirely count on it. While a few loyal Obama Democrats are truly "pro-gun", many hate to vote against treaties that carry the president's international prestige, causing him embarrassment.

It's imperative to stick by our guns in demanding that all Constitutional rights be preserved. If not, we will surely lose both.

This U.N. Agreement Should Have All Gun Owners Up In Arms!

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to [DONATE](#) to Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) as we continue supporting the INDIVIDUAL'S RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS, as GUARANTEED by the United States Constitution. NO United Nations' treaty can take that right away! Help us to continue our efforts to protect your Second Amendment rights! We will continue to DEFEND your rights against the anti-gun Obama administration!

We need your donation to stay in this all-out battle for your gun rights.

Now is the time that I really need to hear from you so our battle can continue to protect YOUR right to bear arms. Now is the time for you to decide: to help in this fight or not. I sincerely look forward to hearing from you on this very urgent battle!

Respectfully,

Alan M. Gottlieb  
Chairman, Second Amendment Foundation

### **Republican Leadership Causing Problems With Patriot Act.**

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Your calls are getting to Harry Reid!

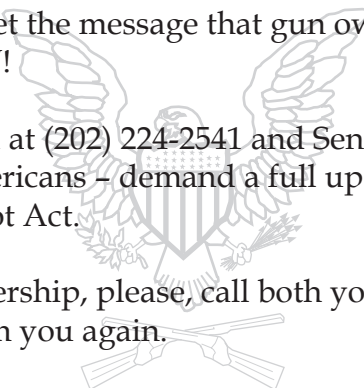
Senior Senate sources told me this morning that Senate chief Harry Reid has buckled under the avalanche of phone calls from gun owners like you, and has promised to allow full votes on all amendments to the mis-named Patriot Act, INCLUDING Senator Rand Paul's pro-gun amendment. However, I've got some bad news. Reid's conspirators in Republican leadership are desperate to protect the Police-State that the Patriot Act enshrines, which is scheduled to expire tonight.

Republican leaders Mitch McConnell and Jon Kyl are blocking a vote on Senator Paul's amendment which would protect gun owners from Patriot Act searches.

Clearly McConnell and Kyl didn't get the message that gun owners sent in the last election. They need to hear from you RIGHT NOW!

Please call Senator Mitch McConnell at (202) 224-2541 and Senator Jon Kyl at (202) 224-4521. Tell them that gun owners - and all Americans - demand a full up or down vote on Rand Paul's pro-gun amendment to the mis-named Patriot Act.

Once you've called Republican leadership, please, call both your senators again. Even if you've already done it, they need to hear from you again.



Call Senator Bennett at (202) 224-5852 and Senator Udall at (202) 224-5941 and demand they stand up for gun owners and support Rand Paul's pro-gun amendment to the Patriot Act. Tell them that gun owners - and all Americans -- demand protection from the Patriot Act-Police state.

Please, don't wait to make these calls.

Action on the Patriot Act will come this afternoon, and Republican leadership and your senators need to hear from you.

Right now... For Liberty,  
Dudley Brown  
Executive Director RMGO

### **Killing of Osama Bin Laden and thanking our Navy Seals**

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Navy Seal Team 6 killed Osama Bin Laden in a daring, early morning raid. According to CBS News, Bin Laden was in a highly fortified compound in the Pakistani town of Abbottabad.

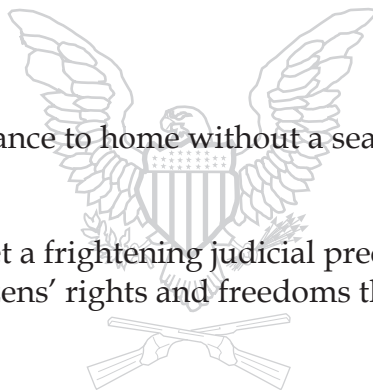
"Nestled in a neighborhood that also was near Pakistani military academy and favored by retired military leaders, the compound was surrounded by walls as high as 18 feet, topped with barbed wire. Two security gates guarded the only way in. A third-floor terrace was shielded by a seven-foot privacy wall. No phone lines or Internet cables ran to the property. The residents burned their garbage rather than put it out for collection. Intelligence officials believed the million-dollar compound was built five years ago to protect a major terrorist figure. The question was, who? The CIA asked itself again and again who might be living behind those walls. Each time, they concluded it was almost certainly bin Laden."

Our brave Seal team should be heartily congratulated for taking out this high profile advocate of murder and suspected mastermind of 9/11 and numerous other acts of destruction world wide. Without our selfless military families and personnel, we would not be secure or free.

I look at the killing of Osama Bin Laden in the process of attempting to take possession of this notorious criminal as the ideal means of addressing internationally based enemies of our freedom. Rather than waging generalized war against an entire group of people, we should be identifying the leadership responsible for atrocities and focus our efforts on apprehending or killing those responsible for actions. The human collateral damage incurred by waging war for generalized territorial control is unjustifiable and hurts our moral authority for taking action. By using identifiable and precision targeted arrest or killing of specific individuals we can more effectively maintain a guarantee of peace here at home and not incite more to hate us abroad, rather, we will command respect for exacting real justice.

Supreme Court Rules to Allow entrance to home without a search warrant under expanded circumstances

U.S. Supreme Court Justices have set a frightening judicial precedent that expands the powers of government and encroaches on citizens' rights and freedoms that were established by our founding fathers.



The Supreme Court's ruling in *Kentucky v. King* now gives law enforcement officials the authority to enter your home without obtaining a search warrant, in expanded circumstances!

The purpose of the Fourth Amendment is to protect citizens' privacy and property rights; but the Supreme Court's decision now allows authorities to violate those rights, and to stage a search and seizure of property without obtaining a warrant from a judge.

Just think about what this will do to your Second Amendment rights!

The "government has denied property and privacy rights in deference to making the job of the police easier," Napolitano said on Fox News. "Why would we let our own government do to us, what we fought a revolution against 230 years ago?"

NAPOLITANO:

"SAFETY WITHOUT LIBERTY IS TYRANNY."

The warrant requirement ranks among the fundamental distinctions between our form of government, where officers are under the law and the police-state where they are the law. In no quarter does the Fourth Amendment apply with greater force than in our homes, our most private space which, for centuries, has been regarded as entitled to special protection.

If the Supreme Court can do this to the Fourth Amendment, then it is just a matter of time before they rule against the First and Second Amendments!

The Fourth Amendment was written to protect us from police excess and police mistakes. In lieu of presenting their evidence to a neutral magistrate, police officers may now knock, listen, then break the door down, never mind that they had ample time to obtain a warrant.

The Supreme Court has given police the right to invade your home on a whim; that whim could simply mean that they know that you own firearms!

NO CHECKS AND BALANCES!

We are in the middle of a crisis, and our Constitution is at stake!

Law-abiding citizens will now have to live in fear of the government - with every single knock at the door!

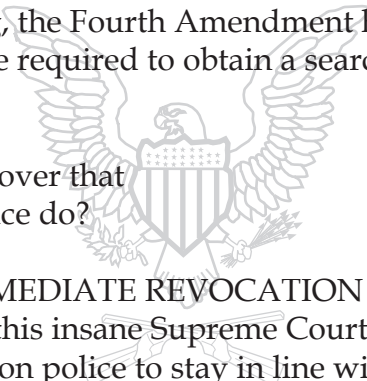
"The Fourth Amendment of the Constitution guarantees the right to be left alone," Judge Napolitano added. "It requires that the government can only come onto private property without the consent of the occupant, if they have a search warrant. And search warrants may only be issued by judges, and judges may only issue search warrants after they have found probable cause of a crime on the property."

But with the Supreme Court's ruling, the Fourth Amendment has been trampled on and everything has changed! Police will no longer be required to obtain a search warrant from a judge before they can lawfully enter a residence.

Once they enter your home and discover that you own firearms, what will the police do?

No one is safe! This ruling is the IMMEDIATE REVOCATION of our private property rights. Every American is adversely impacted by this insane Supreme Court ruling.

"Rather than placing more pressure on police to stay in line with the



Constitution, the court places the weight of proving constitutional rights on citizens," The Seattle Times reports. "The ruling leaves the Constitution's protection against warrantless searches as a symbolic right, easily sidestepped in practice by police. This leaves the law too open to the interpretation of law-enforcement personnel."

The Fourth Amendment was established to protect citizens from government encroachment and to ensure that law enforcement protect the residents in their communities without violating citizens' privacy rights. There is a domino effect afoot - today they're dismantling the Fourth Amendment, and tomorrow they'll be knocking on your door to remove the Second.

How secure are you if a police officer can knock on your door and enter your homes without a warrant? Their word against yours, and no way for you to protect yourself from this intrusion--and all they have to do is say they "thought you were committing a crime."

Consider what Indiana residents are going through after their State Supreme Court ruled that police can enter private property at any time --- without a warrant, without suspicion, without reason...  
SEARCH AND SEIZURE!

This is an annihilation of your Fourth Amendment rights!

Justice Steven David wrote that the Barnes v. State of Indiana decision ruled that "the common law right to resist a police officer illegally entering a home no longer exists."

"A boundary has been crossed, and we're not just going to tolerate it," Sean Shepard said to a reporter for the Northwest Indiana Times. "As citizens, it's our job to be ever-vigilant against our government."

This is not a Red state or Blue state issue. The erosion of our Fourth Amendment affects every resident of every state who simply wants the government to respect their freedom and their rights.

Today it's the Fourth Amendment; tomorrow it's the Second! THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW!

WE MUST POUND CONGRESS WITH EMAILS! If the Supreme Court can rule against the Fourth Amendment, then it is just a matter of time before they rule against the Second Amendment! CCRK-BA believes in protecting the property rights and the freedoms of every law-abiding citizen. THIS IS NOT A PARTISAN ISSUE! The Supreme Court's ruling infringes upon every Americans' rights. Congress must act IMMEDIATELY and pass a law to supersede the Supreme Court's ruling!

Your DONATION to CCRKBA is urgently needed to drive this issue on Capitol Hill so that we can DEMAND that Congress protect Americans' Constitutional rights.

Members of Congress need to hear from you TODAY!

Thank you, in advance, for your response.

Respectfully,

Alan M. Gottlieb

Chairman

Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms



## Latest FBI statistics correlate reduction in crime with increases in firearm ownership

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Preliminary crime data from the FBI for 2010 adds more evidence that gun prohibitionists have been consistently wrong, and that more guns do not equal more crime.

According to the FBI, all four violent crime offense categories show declines nationwide for 2010, with murder and manslaughter down 4.4 percent from 2009, robbery down 9.5 percent and aggravated assault down 3.6 percent. Forcible rape was down 4.2 percent. Violent crime declined in all four regions of the country. At the same time, according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation, firearm sales were up dramatically.

Gun banners can spin data anyway they want, but in the final analysis, their contention that more guns in the hands of law abiding citizens translates to more crime is clearly nonsense. More than 6.2 million citizens are licensed to carry, Wisconsin appears ready to join states with rational carry laws, and the NSSF reports that the largest surge in gun sales happened during the years 2008 to 2010.

Instead of more guns resulting in more crime, increased gun ownership just might be having the opposite effect. Of course, you'd never get the gun prohibition lobby to admit that.

According to the FBI report released this past Monday, violent crime declined in all city categories, with the greatest drop at 6.9 percent in cities with populations of 250,000 to 499,999, although these cities reported a 3 percent increase in murder and manslaughter. Violent crime in rural counties decreased 6.4 percent and in metropolitan counties, the decline was 6 percent, the FBI report said. Murder and manslaughter dropped 25.2 percent in small cities (below 10,000 populations). Robbery is also down across the board, the FBI report said.

The bottom line is that none of the extremist predictions about blood in the streets and skyrocketing body counts as a result of increased gun ownership, reformed gun laws and expanded concealed carry have come true. Once again, the Chicken Little mentality of the anti-gun lobby has been refuted by the facts.

In the meantime, Republican Senator Charles Grassley is following through on threats to play HARD-BALL over what he considers Justice Department STONEWALLING on his requests for information and documents relating to "Project Gunrunner,"

Grassley is poised to put a "HOLD" on nominees for Justice Department positions until Attorney General Eric Holder and his cronies start cooperating with the Gunrunner inquiry he launched four months ago.

U.S. Senator Grassley tells: "We're just getting stonewalled. The next step is we're going to hold up nominations until we get their attention."

Last week, Congressional investigators were once again on the ground in Arizona, interviewing key players in the Gunrunner project, and its Phoenix-based offshoots. However, there has been a "management shakeup" at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives field office in Phoenix, with the transfer and replacement of senior agents.

Senator Charles Grassley additionally explains: "At best, the ATF was careless in authorizing the sale of thousands of guns to straw purchasers. At worst, our own government knowingly participated in

arming criminals, drug cartels and those who later killed federal agents.”

Grassley first threatened to take off the gloves in a floor speech April 14. However, consistent INACTION from the Justice Department, and a pair of disappointing appearances by Eric Holder before the House and Senate judiciary committees earlier this month prompted Grassley’s escalation.

U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa, Grassley’s “counterpart” in the House, has threatened to initiate contempt proceedings over a failure by Acting ATF Director Kenneth Melson to provide subpoenaed documents last month.

Rep. Darrell Issa states: “They stonewalled us on a subpoena. So they’ve made no sufficient response to our subpoena. We consider that it continues to be a cover-up at the highest level of Justice.”

Yes---a cover-up at the highest level!

Here is what you and I are facing...

**LOWER CRIME WITH GUNS!**

**MORE STONEWALLING FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT** on the ATF Gunrunner issue.

My Friend, it just does not add up. This is the most anti-gun administration in the course of recent history. Not only are they stonewalling an ongoing investigation, but they do not portray the crime-free, gun-owner evidence that I (AND THE FBI) HAS JUST SHARED. UN BELIEVABLE, but true.

With more than 650,000 members and supporters nationwide, the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms is one of the nation’s premier gun rights organizations. As a non-profit organization, the Citizens Committee is dedicated to preserving firearms freedoms through active lobbying of elected officials and facilitating grass-roots organization of gun rights activists in local communities throughout the United States.

Thank you, in advance, for your response.

Respectfully,

Alan M. Gottlieb

Chairman

Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms

## **URGE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO COSPONSOR AND SUPPORT H.R. 1093--The “Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Reform Act”**

In March, Reps. Steve King (R-Iowa) and Jason Altmire (D-Pa.) introduced H.R. 1093, the “Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Reform Act.” The bill would roll back unnecessary restrictions, correct errors, and codify longstanding congressional policies in the firearms arena. This bipartisan bill is a vital step to modernize and improve BATFE operations.

NRA Sells Out Second Amendment

Written by Thomas R. Eddlem

Friday, 27 May 2011 21:15

The NRA sold out the Second Amendment during the Patriot Act fight, criticizing Senator Rand Paul’s amendment to exempt gun purchases from search provisions of the Patriot Act in e-mails to Congress while sitting on information showing the need for Paul’s amendment. The information shows that the FBI and the federal government’s Joint Terrorism Task Force have already begun troll-

ing the records of law-abiding gun owners, using the excuse of terrorism surveillance. The NRA published information May 27 — the day after the vote — indicating that Rand Paul (R-Ky.) was right in warning that Patriot Act provisions threatened law-abiding gun owners. In fact, the NRA proved that Patriot Act surveillance of law-abiding gun owners as terrorists was already occurring.

The NRA sent at least two e-mails to Congress during the Patriot Act debate this week calling Rand Paul's amendment to exempt gun purchases from the provisions of the Patriot Act a "poorly drafted amendment" and stating that "the NRA could not support this." The Senate rejected the Paul amendment by an 85-10 vote May 26. And the NRA e-mail, according to Reason magazine, claimed: There have been no reports of the current PATRIOT Act being abused with respect to firearms records, however supporters suggested a far-fetched scenario in which every firearms sales record in the country — tens or hundreds of millions of documents dating back to 1968 — could be sought. Again, we nor anyone else is aware of any case in which this authority has been used to abuse gun owners. (In fact, published reports indicate that few of these orders are ever sought for any reason.) Senate leadership may have relied upon the NRA's advice, according to Redstate.com, citing a letter from Senate Minority Whip Jon Kyl that echoed the NRA letter: "it is extremely unlikely that this authority will ever be used to harass lawful gun owners."

But on May 27, the very day after the Paul Amendment vote, the NRA's own Institute for Legislative Analysis released a press release that proved Senator Paul's warnings prescient. The NRA/ILA claimed:

Since the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is responsible for enforcing federal gun laws, dealers and other federal firearm licensees typically contact that agency (or state or local police) when they encounter suspicious customers. So, it raised eyebrows when the FBI began circulating flyers in gun shops and ranges, encouraging owners of those businesses to report suspicious customers to "your local Joint Terrorism Task Force" instead. The flyers first appeared in Connecticut, with a revised version appearing more recently in Utah.

But the flyers, which the NRA had received from gun shops and gun ranges in the Salt Lake City, Utah and New Haven, Connecticut, areas, contained demands that gun clubs and gun shops submit law-abiding gun owners information to the federal government. The flyers demanded that gun information be proffered up to the FBI's Terrorism Joint Task Force if a gun buyer had an "altered appearance from visit to visit (beard shaved off, hair color changed, etc.)" or "insists upon paying with cash" or had made "racist" or "extreme religious statements" or issued "vague or cryptic warnings." In short, if an American buys a gun and gets a haircut, dyes his gray hair, or shaves his beard, his gun records will be sent to the FBI's Joint Terrorist Task Force for a terrorism investigation. Other "suspicious" activities also raise questions: If a person says homosexuality is a sin, is that an extreme religious statement that would lead to the FBI investigating him as a terrorist? If a person is against affirmative action, is that a racist sentiment that fingers him as a terrorist?

The FBI flyer was clear that the fact that the gun buyer was an innocent, law-abiding citizen was no excuse for a gun shop not to send the gun records to the FBI: "Some of the activities, taken individually, could be innocent and must be examined by law enforcement professionals," the flyer demanded. Investigating law-abiding gun owners as terrorists may be just what President Obama reportedly told Jim and Sarah Brady back on March 30. "I just want you to know that we are working on it," Brady recalled Obama telling the anti-Second Amendment activist organization. "We have to go through a few processes, but under the radar."

While the NRA did not say when it obtained information about the FBI/Joint Terrorism Task Force

flyers sent to gun shops, the phrasing on the press release does suggest they possessed them before the Patriot Act vote: "The flyers first appeared in Connecticut, with a revised version appearing more recently in Utah."

By way of contrast, Gun Owners of America enthusiastically supported the Paul Amendment: "Without Paul's exemption, it is possible that the BATFE could go to a secret (FISA) court, and, in a one-party (ex parte) proceeding, obtain an order to produce every 4473 in the country, ostensibly because a 'terrorism investigation' requires it. If such an action were taken, the government would have a list of every gun buyer in the country going back decades."

## RMGO fights to eliminate centralized CC Database

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Criminals, sex offenders and . . . . . concealed weapon permit holders.

For years, the State of Colorado has stored personal, private information about permit holders in the same database as the most dangerous individuals in Colorado.

Unfortunately, many sheriffs in Colorado voluntarily offer up private data about concealed weapons permit holders in their county to the Colorado Crime Information Center (CCIC).

That's right, your personal information is stored in a "Crime" information center -- all because you went through the trouble of getting a concealed weapons permit.

The private information stored in Colorado's concealed weapon permit holder database includes, but is not limited to, your:

>>> Social Security number;

>>> Driver's license number;

>>> Occupation;

>>> Home address and telephone number.

But that's just the tip of the iceberg.

Your private information is available to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) -- at any time -- subject to be passed onto the FBI's national gun owner database at Quantico, VA.

I do have some good news.

Soon, you and I can stop this unconstitutional collection of private data.

Thanks to the efforts of Rocky Mountain Gun Owners, beginning July 1, it will be illegal for ANY sheriff to share ANY information about concealed weapon permit holders with ANY law enforcement agency for the purpose of creating a database of permit holders.

But that's not all.

ALL information concerning concealed weapon permit holders contained within the CCIC MUST BE REMOVED no later than July 1.

You read that correctly.

The CCIC must be wiped clean of gun owner data by July 1!

I would love to say that you and I will wake up July 2 with our private information no longer collected within a Colorado state government database . . .



With anti-gun Democrat Governor John Hickenlooper sitting in the Governor's mansion anything is possible, even an executive order extending the life of this illegal collection of personal data. You and I must be prepared in case Governor Hickenlooper or CBI bureaucrats decide to stick it to Colorado gun owners.

In fact, I was so certain that you would support a legal challenge to make sure this information is no longer collected -- and destroy what currently exists -- I have gone ahead and filed legal papers.

But taking on Governor Hickenlooper, and the CCIC, won't be cheap.

That's why I'm counting on you to help me cobble together a "Delete the Database" war chest of \$20,000.

I plan on being in Downtown Denver at the headquarters of the CBI on July 5 demanding to receive personal confirmation that the concealed weapon permit holder database has been deleted and is no longer collecting data.

If I find out that the database continues to collect, store and function as an illegal collection of private information about permit holders, I want to be able to file in court -- IMMEDIATELY! Not only am I passionate about protecting your ability to carry here in Colorado but also your ability to carry without ANY government agency knowing that you do.

For years, Rocky Mountain Gun Owners has fought against this illegal collection and storing of data on your behalf.

Now, you and I have an opportunity to end it once and for all.

Will you join me in this battle?

Sincerely,

Dudley Brown

Executive Director, Rocky Mountain Gun Owners

P.S. The State of Colorado is collecting personal, private data about concealed weapons permit holders in a criminal database.

On July 1, Colorado law requires the database to be eliminated and wiped clean -- but only if Governor Hickenlooper doesn't intervene to extend its' life.

## **Chicago Anti-Gun Nut To Head ATF?**

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ALERT: Obama wants to "clean" up the ATF with a Chicago anti-gun nut! ATF acting Director Kenneth Melson has been conspiring with king corruptocrat Eric Holder to walk thousands of high caliber rifles across the border. These firearms were then handed off to drug cartels, while the two buddies sat in their offices in Washington DC. Unfortunately, their political scheme had some pretty big collateral damage.

Select Here - Help SAF Stop Andrew Traver & Defend Your Gun Rights!

Besides the collection of guns that ended up in the possession of violent Mexican gangs, the ATF ran into bigger problems. Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry ended up dead - shot down by the very guns

the ATF was sneaking across the border!

“Project Gunrunner” is the perfect storm for Obama. First, he’ll get to act like the good guy when he kicks Melson to the curb. Then, while everyone is cheering that Melson is gone, he will sneak Andrew Traver in as Director of the ATF. They’ll at least have two things in common - Chicago-style politics and Chicago-style radicalism.

There is no excuse for Obama to use an unthinkable tragedy/bizarre scandal to push yet another one of his far-left nominations. He is DELIBERATELY nominating Andrew Traver - a man who has demonstrated over and over again that he is anti-gun, anti-self-defense and anti-freedom.

Select Here - Help SAF Stop Andrew Traver & Defend Your Gun Rights!

So who exactly is Andrew Traver? He is currently special agent in charge of Chicago’s ATF field division, where he has a long history of working with gun prohibitionists. He served as an advisor to the International Association for Chiefs of Police on that group’s 2007 “Gun Violence Reduction Project,” in cooperation with the anti-gun rights Joyce Foundation.

This project involved several high profile anti-gun-rights advocates (including Chicago Mayor Richard Daley.) Interestingly enough, there was not a single representative from the firearms community on the advisory panel.

Select Here - Help SAF Stop Andrew Traver & Defend Your Gun Rights!

The nomination of Andrew Traver is more proof that Barack Obama has complete disregard for the Second Amendment and the rights of firearms owners. We have serious concerns that the agency, under his leadership, will maintain any semblance of cooperation with the firearms industry, over which ATF exercises considerable control.

### **Traver To Ban Your Hunting Rifle?**

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Traver’s history shows that if he’s successfully nominated, there’s no chance that he will work with the firearms industry. Traver helped develop the IACP/Joyce Foundation report, which recommended banning an array of modern sport-utility rifles and .50-caliber rifles used in long-range competition. The report also encouraged Congress to repeal the Tiahrt Amendment that protects sensitive trace data used by law enforcement in criminal investigations from being misused in frivolous municipal lawsuits that have consistently lost in court, and urged the adoption of restrictive gun show regulations that would effectively force them to close.

Mr. Traver appears to be joined at the hip to various gun control and gun ban efforts. The Citizens Committee, its members and supporters across the country oppose this nomination because Traver’s history clear shows that he is not the right man for such an important job.

Putting Andrew Traver in charge of an organization that decides whether we can buy, sell or transport guns is the first of many steps Obama and his anti-gun zealots are taking to crush our Second Amendment Rights. As we saw with his Supreme Court nominations, Obama’s m.o. is to stuff as many anti-Second Amendment extremists into our most powerful offices of government. Enough is Enough.

We must stop Obama from abusing his power to snatch away our gun rights. If we don’t act now, our rights will be gone forever. We need the help of patriots like you to ensure our right to bear arms and protect ourselves and our families is not destroyed.

**WE CANNOT LET OBAMA CRUSH THE SECOND AMENDMENT!  
IF OBAMA'S NOMINATION OF ANTI-GUNNER ANDREW TRAVER IS SUCCESSFUL WE  
COULD LOSE OUR RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS! THIS IS NOT A FIGHT WE CAN AF-  
FORD TO LOSE**

The Second Amendment Foundation ([www.SAF.org](http://www.SAF.org)) is the nation's oldest and largest tax-exempt education, research, publishing and legal action group focusing on the Constitutional right and heritage to privately own and possess firearms. Founded in 1974, The Foundation has grown to more than 650,000 members and supporters and conducts many programs designed to better inform the public about the consequences of gun control.

Select Here - Help SAF Stop Andrew Traver & Defend Your Gun Rights!

For our projects to be successful, we must count on the voluntary financial support from individuals like you who care.

We need your financial support today to ensure we have the resources to beat back anti-gunners who will stop at nothing to take away our right and ability to defend ourselves and our families. Please give your most generous contribution today. Help me defend your individual right to bear arms in this important Supreme Court case, today!

Your donation for just \$10 will help so much. If you can afford to send \$50 or \$100 or more it would truly be a godsend.

Remember, protecting our freedom is not inexpensive.

But then, it's impossible to put a price tag on freedom.

Donate Now - Help SAF Stop Andrew Traver & Defend Your Gun Rights!

Together, we can preserve the Constitutional rights our Founding Fathers intended our people to have forever.

Thank you. I know I can count on you.

Sincerely yours, Alan M. Gottlieb Founder Second Amendment Foundation

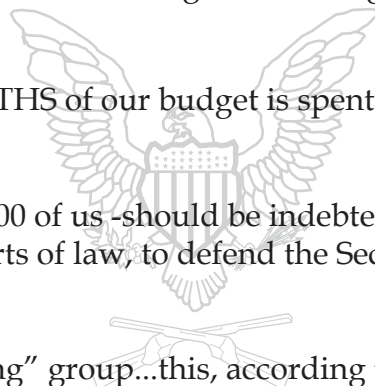
Thanks Second Amendment Foundation!

The Second Amendment Foundation is so much more than a "gun rights activists" group. We are much more than visible on national television news programs. We are so much more than an encouraging camaraderie of gun activists. Much more! We have accomplished enormous progress toward defending and securing your 2nd Amendment rights! The long list of battles and victories below clearly proves this.

Quite frankly, about THREE-FOURTHS of our budget is spent on DEFENDING YOUR GUN RIGHTS IN COURT!

Every owner of a weapon - 80,000,000 of us - should be indebted to the Second Amendment Foundation, for standing up in various courts of law, to defend the Second Amendment - the rights to keep and bear arms!

SAF is not some far-out, "gun touting" group...this, according to our Founding Forefathers, is a



“mainstream” group of those who adamantly cling to the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution!

Please give a generous DONATION to the Second Amendment Foundation to assist us in communicating about the real benefits to gun-owners in adhering to the Second Amendment! We continue to be at the legal forefront representing gun-owner rights as we exercise our freedoms which the Second Amendment guarantees! Your Gift will assist us in our scores of lawsuits that we are handling---RIGHT NOW---in the courts of our land!

But, apparently, the Obama Administration does not want our group to succeed. Quite frankly, many pro-gun groups are against the ANTI-GUN STRATEGY that this current administration conveys.

Here are just some of the lawsuits that YOUR Second Amendment Foundation is involved in---and we’ve spent a lot of money in exercising our legal rights that are already guaranteed by the United States Constitution. Here is just part of what we are involved in as far as GUN RIGHTS LEGAL ACTIONS:

Amicus in San Diego Gun Permit Case...SAF has filed an amicus brief in a California case that challenges the constitutionality of discretionary gun permit rules adopted by officials in San Diego County, California.

SAF and CalGuns Sue California Over “Assault Weapons” Law Arrest...SAF and Calguns Foundation have filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in California, seeking damages for an unlawful arrest and to have the state’s definition of so-called “assault weapons” declared unconstitutionally vague.

SAF Sues Illinois Over Ban On Carrying Guns For Self-Defense...SAF has filed suit in federal court in Illinois, challenging the state’s complete prohibition on the carrying of firearms in public for the purpose of self-defense.

SAF Challenges Ban on Interstate Handgun Sales...SAF has filed suit in U.S. District Court in Virginia challenging the constitutionality of federal and Virginia provisions barring handgun sales to non-residents.

SAF Sues Over Massachusetts Gun Ban For Legal Alien Residents...SAF has filed a federal lawsuit challenging a law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that denies legal resident aliens the licenses required to possess a handgun in the home for self-defense, or purchase any kind of firearm or ammunition.

SAF Files Federal Lawsuit Against Bloomberg Over Gun Permit Fees...SAF has filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg that alleges New York City’s \$340 fee for a permit to keep a handgun in the home is “excessive and...impermissibly burdens the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms.”

SAF Sues N.J. Officials For ‘Deprivation of Civil Rights’ On Permit Denials...SAF filed suit in U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey against several New Jersey officials for deprivation of civil rights under color of law.

SAF Sues Eric Holder, FBI Over Misdemeanor Gun Rights Denial...Acting on behalf of a Georgia resident and honorably discharged Vietnam War veteran, the Second Amendment Foundation today filed a lawsuit against Attorney General Eric Holder and the Federal Bureau of Investigation over

enforcement of a federal statute that can deny gun rights to someone with a simple misdemeanor conviction on his record.

SAF Files Amicus Brief in Nordyke Case, Argues For Strict Scrutiny...SAF has filed an amicus curiae brief in the long-running Nordyke v. King case in California, arguing that Second Amendment issues must be decided on a "strict scrutiny" basis, and that an ordinance in Alameda County banning gun shows at the county fairgrounds is unconstitutional because it would not withstand that standard of review.

SAF Sues Chicago Over Gun Range Prohibition On 1A, 2A Grounds...SAF filed a lawsuit in federal court against the City of Chicago's new gun ordinance, asserting that "by banning gun ranges open to the public...under color of law," the city is depriving citizens of their right to keep and bear arms in violation of the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

On and on, our work never ceases---ON YOUR BEHALF! Please become involved today in this national fight!

SAF Sues in Maryland Over Handgun Permit Denial...SAF and a Baltimore County, MD man sued Maryland authorities in federal court because the man's handgun permit renewal was turned down on the grounds that he could not demonstrate "a reasonable precaution against apprehended danger."

SAF Sues in New York to Void 'Good Cause' Carry Permit Requirement...SAF has filed a federal lawsuit against Westchester County, New York and its handgun permit licensing officers, seeking a permanent injunction against enforcement of a state law that allows carry licenses to be denied because applicants cannot show "good cause."

SAF Sues to Overturn North Carolina's 'Emergency Powers' Gun Bans...SAF filed a federal lawsuit in North Carolina, seeking a permanent injunction against the governor, local officials and local governments from declaring states of emergency under which private citizens are prohibited from exercising their right to bear arms.

SAF Lawsuit Challenging Chicago's Handgun Ban a Supreme Court Winner! A 5-4 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of McDonald v. Chicago incorporated the Second Amendment through the fourteenth amendment to the states and effectively ended Chicago's handgun ban. Thanks to the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and the Illinois State Rifle Association (ISRA) the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms now applies to all fifty states as well as the federal government. This historic Supreme Court ruling is the most important court ruling protecting the right to keep and bear arms in our nation's history.

Gun Rights Organizations Win Lawsuit to Stop Seattle Ban...SAF, National Rifle Association and five local residents won a lawsuit challenging a new Seattle parks regulation that bans firearms, arguing that the ban violates Washington State's long-standing preemption statute. They are joined by the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms and the Washington Arms Collectors.

SAF Sues District of Columbia Over Carrying of Handguns...SAF filed a lawsuit on behalf of three residents of the District of Columbia and a New Hampshire resident, seeking to compel the city to issue carry permits to law-abiding citizens.



SAF Challenges Arbitrary Denial of Right to Bear Arms in California...SAF, Calguns Foundation and three California residents filed a lawsuit seeking to vindicate the right to bear arms against arbitrary state infringement.

SAF Challenges California Handgun Ban Scheme...SAF, Calguns Foundation and four California residents filed a lawsuit challenging a regulation that arbitrarily bans handguns based on a roster of 'acceptable' handguns approved by the State of California.

SAF Sues Eric Holder Over Gun Rights of Non-resident American Citizens...SAF has filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia against Attorney General Eric Holder, seeking an injunction against enforcement of a federal law that makes it impossible for American citizens who reside outside the United States to purchase firearms while they are in this country.

SAF Challenges D.C. Handgun Ban Scheme...SAF and three Washington, D.C. residents filed a lawsuit challenging a regulation by District of Columbia city government that arbitrarily bans handguns based on a roster of 'acceptable' handguns approved by the State of California. In order to avoid another loss in court, Washington, D.C. changed the law.

There is no time to waiver in this all-out battle to keep our guns as prescribed by the Second Amendment! Obviously, we are very busy---ON YOUR BEHALF---across the United States. Will you assist us today?

SAF, NRA Sue Washington State for Discriminating Against Alien Residents...SAF, joined by the National Rifle Association, filed a lawsuit in federal court against the State of Washington, seeking to overturn a state law that discriminates against legal resident aliens who own firearms by violating their Second Amendment rights under the equal protections affirmed by the 14th Amendment.

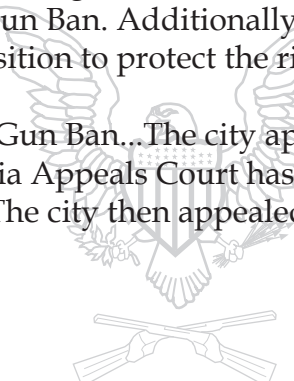
SAF Files Amicus Brief in Hayes Case...SAF has filed an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in the Hayes case (U.S. v. Hayes).

SAF Sues Library System Over Internet Censorship of Gun Websites...SAF and three Washington State residents have filed a federal lawsuit against a north-central Washington regional library system for denying them access to websites that include information on firearms and publications dealing with guns.

SAF Files Amici Curiae Brief in Lawsuit; DC Gun Ban Ruled Unconstitutional...The Supreme Court has overturned the DC Gun Ban, ruling that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms.

SAF, CCRKBA and Madison Society, along with a dozen university law professors, filed an amicus brief in the suit to overturn the DC Gun Ban. Additionally, 13 state Attorneys General filed an amici curiae brief in support of the SAF position to protect the right to Keep and Bear Arms.

SAF Sues to Overturn San Francisco Gun Ban...The city appealed SAF's initial victory overturning the San Francisco Gun Ban. The California Appeals Court has unanimously ruled to uphold the lower court's decision, so SAF won again. The city then appealed to the California Supreme Court, which again ruled in SAF's favor.



SAF Stops New Orleans Gun Confiscation...SAF has negotiated with the City of New Orleans to return the guns they illegally-seized from law-abiding citizens in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

This is merely a “sampling” of our fight for our rights!

But thanks to our anti-gun Obama administration, it appears that we must fight even harder. If they had their way, our gun rights would have already been ABANDONED! It's not just our gun rights---it's our Constitutional rights!

These are just some of the numerous lawsuits that the Second Amendment Foundation has taken on. EACH lawsuit has a “price-tag” of \$60,000 - \$80,000!!

But, guaranteed it, we are in this battle for YOU.

The Second Amendment GUARANTEES the freedom to own a gun to protect you and your family. AND NO ONE WILL EVER TAKE THAT AWAY!  
YOU AND I MUST DEMAND that our rights to own a gun are protected!

Will you assist us with your donation to help in our national media efforts to support our PRO-GUN agenda? Your Second Amendment freedoms and rights are literally at stake!

We need your donation now.

As you can see our legal involvement is quite extensive! Your financial involvement for our pro-gun and pro-Second Amendment Constitutional efforts is commendable!

Sincerely,

Alan M. Gottlieb  
Chairman, Second Amendment Foundation

## **2011 Colorado Legislative Session Comes to a Close**

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The 2011 legislative session of the Colorado General Assembly adjourned sine die on May 11. During this session, three pro-gun bills - Senate Bill 53, Senate Bill 77 and House Bill 1205 - were defeated in the designated Senate “kill committee” which has predictably defeated pro-Second Amendment bills by partisan 3 to 2 votes during the past several years. Senate Bill 53 would have eliminated the authority of the governor to suspend or limit the sale, dispensing, or transportation of firearms during a state of disaster/emergency. House Bill 1205 would have allowed residents to carry a concealed handgun without a permit as long as they were legally eligible to purchase and possess a firearm. Senate Bill 77 would have rectified the noticeable omission of businesses in current self-defense law. Senate Bill 208, legislation in which the NRA remained neutral, passed in both chambers and is now awaiting action by Governor John Hickenlooper.

Senate Bill 53 was voted down by a partisan 3 to 2 vote in the Colorado Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee. This legislation, introduced by state Senator Scott Renfroe (R-13), would have eliminated the authority of the governor to suspend or limit the sale, dispensing, or transportation of firearms during a state of disaster emergency. State lawmakers thought they addressed this issue years ago, but it was discovered that a drafting oversight actually left a component of the old

law on the books. During last year's session, this committee defeated similar legislation on the same partisan 3 to 2 vote.

Senate Bill 77 was defeated in the Senate State, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee by a partisan 3 to 2 vote. Sponsored by state Senator Kevin Grantham (R-2), Senate Bill 77 would have extended Colorado's self-defense law to places of business. This legislation would have permitted all employees to defend themselves by any means of force, including deadly force, if they had reasonable belief that an intruder had committed or intended to commit a crime during unlawful entry.

House Bill 1205 was also defeated in the Senate State, Military & Veterans Affairs Committee by a partisan 3 to 2 vote. House Bill 1205, introduced by state Representative Chris Holbert (R-44), would have allowed residents to carry a concealed handgun without a permit as long as they were legally eligible to purchase and possess a firearm. This bill passed in the Colorado House by a 40 to 25 vote on March 2.

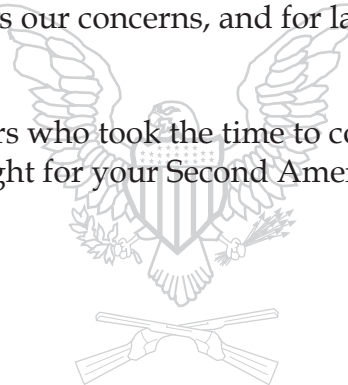
Despite this, the NRA will continue to urge lawmakers and the Governor to support this pro-gun legislation in Colorado next session. The NRA strongly supports the constitutional right of Coloradans to carry for self-defense.

On May 6, Senate Bill 208 passed in the state House, with amendments, by a 49 to 14 vote. The state Senate concurred with the House amendments on May 9 and this bill is awaiting action by Governor Hickenlooper. The House amendments would ensure that monies are expended consistent with the purposes for which they are received, collected, or appropriated. Sponsored by state Senators Gail Schwartz (D-5) and Mary Hodge (D-25), SB 208 will combine State Parks and the Division of Wildlife under the Department of Natural Resources.

The NRA remained neutral on this legislation, but expressed detailed concerns about this merger in an e-mailed letter to lawmakers on the committee. We were very clear that our primary interest is that dollars collected from hunters be used solely for the benefit of hunters. Specifically, sportsmen pay license fees and federal excise taxes on guns, ammunition and certain hunting equipment. Those funds are then returned to the state. Any allocation of those dollars to non-hunter related activities would put the state in diversion and jeopardize those federal monies.

We also have concerns that any newly established boards or commissions having a membership beyond the hunting community may approve policies adverse to hunting and sportsmen. For example, in some states, we have seen public land use closures and lead ammunition bans, among others, that negatively impact hunters despite the disproportionate share of funds contributed from sportsmen. Unfortunately, we have witnessed issues such as the aforementioned in a handful of states where departments and agencies were consolidated. Just this year in Michigan, the Department of Natural Resources split and returned to its former separate structure. While we remained neutral on SB 208, we considered it important to express our concerns, and for lawmakers to be cognizant of potential issues in the future.

Thank you to all of the NRA members who took the time to contact their Colorado legislators this session. The NRA will continue to fight for your Second Amendment Rights!



## LEXINGTON AND CONCORD APPENDIX

PSAC Elementary School Contestants 2011

### 1st Place

#### Levi Womack

The Second Amendment by: Levi Womack 5th grade, Loma Elementary

The Second Amendment is the right to bear arms. It gives us protection. Without it America would be a scary place. That is what the Second Amendment is.

What the Second Amendment means to me is safety. Imagine that there was a burgler, murderer, raptist, child molester, or a terroist in your neighborhood and you did not have the right to bear arms? Now imagine the same thing with our right to bear arms. Big difference!

With out the Second Amendment we would not be able to do alot of things. For example you would not be able to hunt , shoot clay pigeons or defend yourself.

I think that the Second Amendment is one of the most important amendmets. Look at Israel and how bad they have it, if they had the right to bear arms they would be in a lot better situation.

I would never turn in my weapons. That would be asking for trouble. The Jewish people during Hitler's time made that big mistake by turning in their weapons. That cost 13 million lives of Jews, gypsies,mentally ill and impaired human beings that were unarmed. What if America made the same mistake.

The Second Admentment is great!!!!

The Second Admendment reads: " A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

Also without it no other admendments would be possible.

Levi Womack

#### Levi Womack Grades:

Grading Criteria: 10 Very Strong, 5 Acceptable, 0 Very Weak

Strength of Logic Presented: 10

Notes: Excellent connections between the 2nd Amendment and the fundamental right to self protection, necessity of firearms for independent capacity, excellent examples of consequences of government monopoly over use of force.

Order of Progression of Arguments: 5

Notes: progression of arguments is somewhat disorderly but still acceptable for age group

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar: 5

Notes: some misspelled words, missed punctuation, age group acceptable



PSAC Middle School Contestants 2011:

**1st Place**  
**Kyle Propst**

What is the Second Amendment and what it means to me

“A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” This is the second amendment, created over two hundred years ago by our founding fathers. This is still one of the most important amendments, and one of my favorites.

For centuries, we as Americans have used guns to protect ourselves and to put food on the table. In the Revolutionary War, we defended ourselves against the British, giving us the freedom we have today. When the pioneers traveled west to explore the new territory, they hunted for their families so they could survive.

Guns are apart of America’s history and heritage. Even today, we still hunt for and protect our families from intruders with the same tool our ancestors used so long ago- the gun. This is a privilege, and is not meant to be misused. I am proud to be living in the land of the free, able to defend ourselves from danger.

This amendment was needed to safeguard our country, and to be sure the government couldn’t overpower the citizens. Thomas Jefferson even said himself, “The strongest reason for people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government.” Even overseas, our army is using this tool, this privilege, making sure we are safe and secure. It was intended to be utilized for centuries, to aid America and it’s citizens to thrive.

John F. Kennedy once said, “Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.” What we can do for our country, is make sure this Amendment stays! If this right is demolished, part of the constitution dies. Only the black market will be selling guns, and only criminals will buy them. Panic would rule the nation, and since you couldn’t buy guns legally, you would have no way to defend your family from attackers. We must uphold and respect this, so for generations later, Americans can still enjoy and derive benefit from this, and so those horrible events will never happen.

Whenever I use guns, I think of the Americans who laid down their lives for this. Americans are still dying for our country and its rights. My heart will always swell with pride as I carry and cherish this amazing piece of equipment passed down for generations. This is what the second amendment means to me.

Grades for Kyle Propst

Grading Criteria: 10 Very Strong, 0 Very Weak

Strength of Logic Presented: 9

Order of Progression of Arguments: 6

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammer: 7

Total Score: 22



## 2nd Place

Jenica Bjornson

12 years old, 6th grade

### The Second Amendment

The Second Amendment is part of The Bill of Rights in the Constitution of the United States of America. It was made for the freedom of the people of America.

The Second Amendment: A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed. In other words we as the people of the United States have the right to own and keep guns or other weapons.

The Bill of Rights was created in the year 1791 and has been around for 220 years. Before the Bill of Rights was created we had just won America's independence from England. The first plan of government was the Articles of Confederation. In this plan the government had no power to tax or to help fix fights between states. For this government to work states would have to agree about everything. Unfortunately, we are not perfect so therefore this plan caused quite a few problems. In the summer of 1787 a meeting took place in Philadelphia. This meeting was called the Constitutional Convention; this very meeting took place in Independence Hall where the Declaration of Independence was signed. Together the men decided that they would need a new government which would be called the Constitution of the United States. At one time during the Convention no one seemed to think that the states would come to an agreement until Benjamin Franklin said: I have lived a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, it is probable that an empire can rise without His aid? Franklin then suggested that each morning they would begin with prayer and after that day the states began to agree with one another, and eventually all the states agreed on the Constitution and our new government was made. After the Constitution was finished the states agreed that it was time to make sure our freedoms were protected by the law. The Bill of Rights was then added to the Constitution. The Bill of Rights contained ten amendments all to the rights of the American's freedom.

What would happen without the Bill of Rights? In some states you have to have a permit to carry a gun with you outside of your home. This is pretty fair because imagine if a criminal was riding down the road with a gun in the backseat and a policeman stops the man. He asks the man if he has a permit and the criminal will have no proof that he has a permit so therefore he can be arrested, or have his gun taken away which could prevent a shooting. If a criminal did have their guns hidden and the police didn't see it then he could get to a place, perhaps a bank and threaten for everyone to hand over their money or he'll shoot. Someone there could have a gun with them and defend himself/herself. Sounds pretty fair doesn't it? Even in states where you don't have to have a permit, citizens in the certain place where a shooting could take place would be able to defend themselves. Without the Second Amendment let's imagine what would happen. Picture a criminal or just some ordinary person, (or so the people think) is carrying a smuggled gun from another country. He hides it so the police can't find it, and drives to the bank, pulls out his gun and tells everyone to hand over their money. If they don't do what he says they'll be shot because they don't have a gun to defend themselves because it is illegal. So the only people in the United States who would have guns would be criminals and police.

In my opinion, I would say that the Second Amendment is one of the most important rights in the Bill of Rights. It allows us to protect ourselves. Without it we would be in danger constantly, because there are those who do not care whether or not they break the law. If I could turn back in time and change the Second Amendment I wouldn't change anything about it. Our freedom and rights are important and changing them would be like changing the everyday things we do. If someone has

used a gun against you or someone you know do not be angry at guns, be angry at the holder of the gun, for without guns no one would be able to protect themselves against those who attack others.

We not only have the right to own and keep guns, but we have to be responsible gun owners. Without our responsibility others could get hurt. People must keep their guns somewhere safe and secret and away from children. If our guns were left laying around for a little child who might pick it up and thinking it was a toy, shot it and hurt or maybe even killed himself, or if it was an older kid and they didn't think it was loaded maybe they shot it off and hurt someone or broke something. That is why it is our responsibility to keep our guns in a safe and locked place. We also have the responsibility to use our guns for only certain purposes like hunting. We do not just go around showing everyone where our guns are so they can go and maybe hurt someone with your gun and blame it on you because it was your gun. We also must be careful when we are hunting that we don't shoot the gun at a person and hurt them.

Our America rights our different than other countries. Our country was the first to have something like the Second Amendment which is why our nation's number of people grew in 1870. The number was thirty eight million people and in 1916 there were almost one hundred million people. The population had more than doubled in number in nearly forty-six years. How did we get so many people in such a short amount of time? We couldn't have produced so many in that amount of time. Most of the people were immigrants which meant they came from a different country to live in another. They had heard about the freedom and rights that the people had and they had journeyed from their countries to ours for our freedom. If we change that many of our people would leave.

We not only have the right to protect our country with our guns but we must also remember our responsibility as Christians to protect and help our country.

Grades for Jenica Bjornson

Grading Criteria: 10 Very Strong, 0 Very Weak

Strength of Social Logic Presented: 6

Notes: Historical discussion too loosely connected to arguments, recognizes the right to bear arms but then fails to recognize the difference between "permitted use" and a "right." Anecdotal comments ramble on. Very good recognition of the responsibility of gun owners to operate in a safe manner.

Order of Progression of Arguments: 5

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammer: 6

Total Score: 17



### 3rd Place

Madison Vaughn

Benton, Kentucky 42025

14 years old, 8th grade

Why did the Founding Fathers believe in an armed public for a free society?

Founding father, George Mason was once quoted believing in an armed society.

“To disarm the people [is] the best and most effectual way to enslave them.” –George Mason

I believe George Mason on this quote. I live in a free country. Taking away our gun rights would be like enslaving us. Our ancestors immigrated to the United States so they would have more freedom. They had the freedom to vote as soon as the Constitution was ratified. The right to bear arms wasn't listed in the Constitution until it was added as the second amendment.

In spite of this, many founding fathers, both federalists and anti-federalists, believed in an armed public. A contributing factor to why our founding fathers believed in gun rights is Daniel Shay's Rebellion. Shay's rebellion was a historical event that took place in Massachusetts. He led a militia of farmers to rebel against the British. Many leaders were concerned that anybody could just decide to rebel against the government and they could do nothing about it. They were also concerned about the peoples' safety. The founding fathers thought that individual gun rights would help protect them. In my opinion, they thought right.

Here, in the United States, we now have the right to individual gun rights. In China, they don't have the right to bear arms. They could be sent to imprisonment for owning a gun. Despite the fact that China is the most populated country in the world, they aren't the happiest. Our founding fathers wanted a representative democracy, not a communist government. They wanted to have rights and be free.

To sum up my thoughts, our founding fathers wanted a free country. They thought the way to this free country is the right to an armed society. According to Webster Dictionary, the word freedom is defined as having the legal and political rights of a citizen. U.S. citizens need to have the right to an armed society. In our founding fathers' opinions, and mine, an armed society is a free society.

Grades for Madison Vaughn

Grading Criteria: 10 Very Strong, 0 Very Weak

Strength of Logic Presented: 2

Notes: supporting commentary on Shay's Rebellion is ambiguous concerning individual firearm ownership and is exemplary of the difficulties arising from individual ownership. The events of Shay's Rebellion also bring into question whether or not people can peaceably co-exist in mutual armament. Failing to point out that our nation's long term success trumps short term convulsion leaves readers in a position of negativity toward the individual right to bear arms. Summary commentary supporting 2nd Amendment positions does not correlate well with substance of paragraphs.

Order of Progression of Arguments: 5

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammer: 8

Notes: Good sentence usage and punctuation

Total Score: 15



## PSAC High School Contestants 2011:

### 1st Place

James Womack

Fruita Monument High School

11th Grade

Our founding father believed that an armed public is a free society because they knew that the key to freedom is the gun and the knowledge to use it. This idea was not a new one, our founders looked to the past for answer on how to govern a free nation. They found two nations that had figured out how to be a free people. They were ancient Israel and the Anglo-Saxons and they shared many of the same laws.

The Anglo-Saxon law required every freeman age 16 through 60 to arm himself for military service. Our founders based the second amendment and many of our other laws of the Anglo-Saxons and Ancient Israel's laws. They believed that Anglo-Saxon law was the most perfect every made by man. Tomas Jefferson said that the ancient principles were the " wisest and most perfect yet devised by the wit of man." The ancient people of these two countries had many freedoms and our founding fathers thought it was the best system of government to base ours off of.

Our Seconded amendment sates "a well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." our founders knew the hardships of frontier life. George Washington fought in the French and Indian and knew what would have happened to the frontier settlers if they had not been well armed, even more would have been killed by the Indians and wild animals. The battle of Lexington and concord was fought because the British tried to confiscate the minutemen's arms. Which led to the Revolution, if the colonist had allowed there guns to be confiscated that war would not have been possible and we might still be having tea and crumpets and be subjects of Great Britain. Once that war was over our founders knew that it was imperative that our country retain it weapons and militia because they had just escaped the tyranny of England and they did not want to return to that or any other tyrant. They knew that it was absolutely critical that our country had written down that citizens of the united states could never have there guns or militia taken away from them. Unfortunately most people think of the militia as just the national guard. How ever that is not the case, the militia act of 1792 sates "every free able body male." Our founders knew that it was necessary for a militia to defend against any would be tyrant.

Since the militia is consider every able body male I believe it is almost a requirement for them to own weapons just as it was in Anglo-Saxon law. You can't have a militia with out guns, the reason they did this was so it would always be a peoples government That way leaders would not be able to become Tyrants, if the militia fights the would be Tyrant. They may only have rifles fighting advanced technology but if the dictator wanted to wage all out war on the militia. How much of the military would stand by the dictator and fight there own countrymen. I don't very many would, our founders designed the second amendment as a fail safe because with out the cooperation of the people not even a dictator can remain in power. What our founders knew was nothing short of amazing, they knew that to have a peoples government you have ways to protect it from Tyrannical governments, all you need is people with guns to defend there Freedom.

In the last century alone there as be many case of dictators disarming there citizens then executing them. The most popular example is Nazi Germany who established gun control in 1938, then the government then rounded up and exterminated 13 million Jews, gypsies, and the mentality ill. The Turkish ottoman empire established gun control in in 1911 then executed 1.5 million Armenian from 1914-1917. The soviet union established gun control in 1929 60 million dissidents were imprisoned and executed from 1930-1953Chian established gun control and from 1948-1952 20 million Chinese were executed. In 1964 Guatemala established gun 100,000 myna Indians were killed.

Uganda established gun control in 1956. 1957-1972 300,000 Christians were executed. In 1956 Cambodia established gun control one million Cambodians have been executed. In the last 56 million people have died because of gun control. If that isn't a good enough reason to own guns then I don't know what is. Thomas Jefferson said "when people are afraid of the government that is tyranny. But when the government is afraid of the people, that's liberty." The only way to make the government afraid of the people is to own guns.

Grading Criteria: 10 Very Strong, 0 Very Weak

Strength of Arguments Presented: 10

Order of Progression of Arguments: 8

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar: 4

Total Score: 22

## **2nd Place**

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"The Second Amendment to the Constitution: Why it is important to our nation."

To be an American is to be a part of the greatest nation on Earth. Freedom was fought for, starting in January of 1776 and carrying on until July 4th, 1776. On that day, the Declaration of Independence was signed and the United States was formed. The first form of government, The Articles of the Confederation, failed miserably and in 1787, our founding fathers wrote the Constitution. ("United States Constitution") During the eleven years when the Constitution was being written, they knew that the inalienable rights of human beings was their first and foremost priority. Second only to that, was the right to keep and bear arms. Washington was quoted saying, "Firearms stand next in importance to the constitution itself. They are the American people's liberty teeth and keystone under independence ... from the hour the Pilgrims landed to the present day, events, occurrences and tendencies prove that to ensure peace, security and happiness, the rifle and pistol are equally indispensable ... the very atmosphere of firearms anywhere restrains evil interference — they deserve a place of honor with all that's good" (The Founding Fathers). They firmly believe in this, in order to protect life, personal property and the other civil rights they fought for. Without the second amendment, our nation would not be the superpower that it has become.

The second amendment states "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the People to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." ("Find Law") Translated, this means that in order for a nation to remain free, the right of the people to keep and bear arms cannot be violated. Thomas Jefferson knew that a protected state was a free state and pushed for the right to bear arms to be seated high on the Bill of Rights. As the Constitution was being constructed, the writers intended for the second amendment to protect and serve the citizens. Not only were firearms needed to gather food, they were also needed in order to protect against predators, whether human or animal. This is still the case today and it is still vital for the survival of our nation. The second amendment is one of, if not the most important addition to our constitution.

The right to keep and bear arms is the groundwork our nation has been founded on. Looking at the other nations around the globe, especially those with total gun control, one sees that the United States has become a superpower because of the power that has been instated to its people. The right to bear arms enables the citizens to protect and defend life, liberty and property in any case. Australia enacted its firearm laws in the 1980's. Since then, gun-related deaths and the use of firearms in burglaries

ed its firearm laws in the 1980's. Since then, gun-related deaths and the use of firearms in burglaries have skyrocketed. The right that Americans have to keep firearms and use them when deemed necessary has protected families, individuals and property for the past 235 years (Wikipedia).

George Mason, co-author of the second amendment, declared why he supported the amendment. "I ask, Sir, what is the militia? It is the whole people. To disarm the people is the best and most effectual way to enslave them" (The Founding Fathers). The founding fathers were escaping civil enslavement in England and saw this as the most effective way to provide a balance between the government and its citizens. Without the right to keep and bear arms, the United States would have been founded on a different foundation, limiting it from becoming the superpower of the modern world.

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Grading Criteria: 10 Very Strong, 0 Very Weak

Strength of Arguments Presented: 7

Order of Progression of Arguments: 6

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammer: 8

Total Score: 21



**3rd Place**  
**Jake Womack**  
**2/28/2011**  
**9th grade**

### “A Free Society”

The founding fathers believed that a armed public was a free society. This could not be more true even to this day. Without the right for us to own guns we could not possibly be the nation we are today. Look around at the other countries that aren't allowed to own guns. They are often ruled by dictators. Not owning guns would make it so we could not have a lot of the rights we have and enjoy today.

The founding fathers believed not being an armed public would make it so we could not defend our freedoms. “To disarm the people is the best and most efficient way to enslave them.” This was said by George Mason in a speech in 1788. When he said this he meant taking away a persons weapons is like taking away their freedom. In 1992 Yushimi Ishikawa a Japanese author told the LA Times “Americans have the will to resist because you have weapons. If you don't have a gun freedom of speech has no power.” This is coming from a man who lives in a totally different county and a weapon law that states “No one shall possess a fire-arm or fire-arms or a sword or swords.” very few exceptions are made and even then you can only own a shot gun or rifle. He must think owning guns is a necessity for our freedom.

Look at the Holocaust. Hitler made very strict laws concerning guns and ammunition. These laws essentially gave him the power to take guns and ammo from any ethnic group he choose. You have to ask your self “If the Jews hadn't given up their guns would Hitler have been able to kill the millions of them that he did.” They didn't just give away their guns, they gave away their freedom and their protection. Before he took away their guns he took away other things like their jobs and their right to do things like print news papers. Hitler also put in curfews, but when the Jews gave up their guns it was the final piece of the puzzle.

All through out history guns have kept people free and safe. The Ottoman Empire took away the weapons of the Armenians in 1911. Then the Armenians were put into work battalions. In 1914-1918 they were killed. Giving up their weapons was like giving up their will to live. They both ended in the same result, the only difference is one of them you died free.

The Founding Fathers believed an armed public is a free society. A very key word in this in that phrase is free. A lot of countries where you cant own guns are ruled by dictators. Libya is ruled by a man named Qaddafi. He has been in power for the last 42 years. Qaddafi's son said “My family controls most of Libya and won't leave.” “The people can't defend themselves, because the average citizen doesn't own a gun” says Benjamin Harvey. As in most dictatorships Libya has a gun laws that says that the average citizen can't own a gun.

The second amendment states “ A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” The Founding fathers specifically said “Being necessary for the security of a free state.” It must have been pretty important to them to go to the trouble of writing it into what we now call “The Bill of Rights.” I don't know about you but I say we listen to our Founding Fathers and keep our weapons. Never give up you guns, because that would mean handing over you freedom, your protection, and what it means to live in America “The Home of The Free, Because of The Brave.”

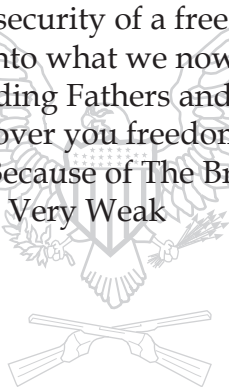
Grading Criteria: 10 Very Strong, 0 Very Weak

Strength of Arguments Presented: 8

Order of Progression of Arguments: 7

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammer: 5

Total Score: 20



**4th Place**

**Adam McGovern**

**15 years old**

**Homeschooled**

### Protecting the American Way

The Founding Fathers had great plans for America; they wanted a nation to take pride in, a nation known around the world. Today America is known for its freedom. One of America's most notable traits is the Citizens right to keep and bear arms. With the ability to own a firearm, every citizen has the ability to protect themselves from foreign invaders, criminals and even a rogue government. The right to own a firearm has been guarded and respected for a long time. But throughout the years of America's growth and aging; freedoms like the second amendment seem to be leaning out of reach. When a foreign nation attacks, our government has a duty to protect us just as the founding fathers had planned. But as citizens, we are not just pheasants and serfs who do simply the ox work and cry to the government to save us. We have the right and the duty of protecting our families and ourselves. When the founding fathers shaped this country, protecting the lives and liberty of the people was a popular agenda.

While we protect our families, we must also look after our neighbors. Organizations like volunteer firefighters existed in the colonial era as well as today. But in the era of the founding fathers, the people also had militias. These volunteers had the duty of not only protecting us from foreign invaders in case the government could not assist in time, but also against the criminals and killers in everyday life. Cities like Detroit and New York are good examples of why we need volunteer police and militias. We must protect our neighbors... the people are the heart of American values.

In the 1700's America was in a politically chaotic state, and the fear of a government overthrow was more than fiction. With the British Government bearing down on the citizens with restrictions and taxes, riots were breaking out and a war was eminent. The comedian Tim Wilson pointed out in a talk that in the colonial era, the second amendment existed so that when the government went rogue against its people, the citizens could respond with equal if not more firepower. Today, if the government went rogue, the people could only respond with futile weapons.

We, as Americans, can no longer ignore the signs. We must stand and fight for our rights like the founding fathers did once long ago. If protesting is necessary, we must protest. When we protest, we fight not for ourselves, but for our county, and for the goodwill of our people. If we pay closer attention to what our founding fathers said, we can understand what they stood for, and why they stood for it. It is more important than ever to stand for our rights. We must read, listen and understand why we must fight for our freedoms.

Grading Criteria: 10 Very Strong, 0 Very Weak

Strength of Arguments Presented: 6

Order of Progression of Arguments: 6

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammer: 5

Total Score: 17



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