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Citizens Association for Responsible Gun Ownership = CARGO

www.cargogunclub.org

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Hello Fellow CARGO Members,

The next meeting will be held at Napoli's on Thursday, May 12th.

We will meet at Napoli's in Wylie.

Napoli's
701 N Highway 78 # A
Wylie, TX 75098

For the dinner portion of the meeting, we will be in the meeting room between 5:45 and 7:00 for food and fellowship. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and run until about 9:00.

Under the new Texas Open Carry Law, you could be committing an offence if you remove your pistol from its holster while open carrying. While at Napoli's DO NOT remove your pistol from its holster unless it is an emergency.

Member Don Bridges has volunteered his shop for the meeting. There are a very limited number of chairs at the shop, so please bring a camp chair for the meeting. We will meet there from 7:00 (ish) until 9:00 (ish)

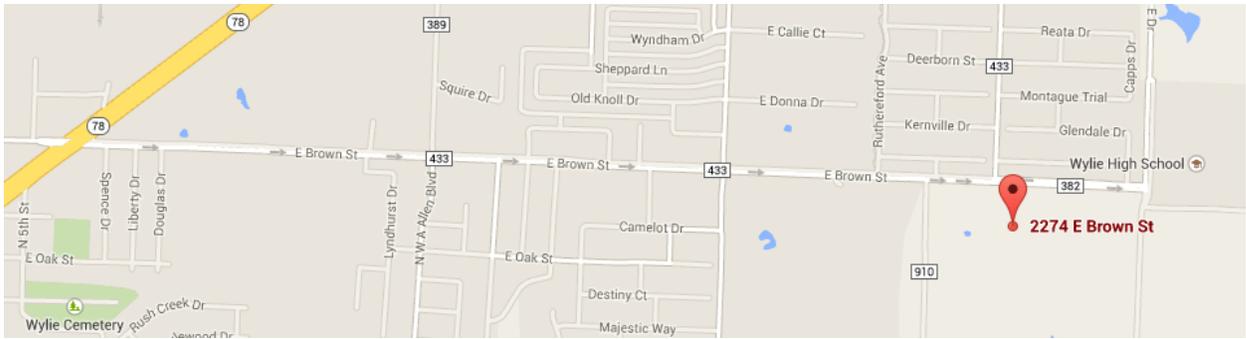
The address is:

2274 EAST Brown Street in Wylie

While heading east on Brown Street, it is 1/2 mile past stop sign that's at the intersection of Brown Street and Kreymer Lane on the right hand side.

The shop is behind a small white house with a picket fence around the front yard.





Since all of the Club officers will be traveling to the NRA convention in Louisville so we voted to move the meeting to the second Tuesday of the Month (May 12th).

Meeting gun topics:

- Do you have a gun that you have purchased because you saw it in a Movie or TV show?
 - Please bring any guns that you have in your collection to share and to let us know what show influenced your decision! – maybe a 1911 long slide because of Terminator, something from Gun Smoke, the Big Valley, the Lone Ranger, Magnum PI, wanted Dead or Alive, Tour of Duty or the Hurt Locker?
- Have you ever purchased a gun because someone famous owned or used one similar?
 - Did you have to get a Single Action Army because of Roy Rogers or 30 30 lever action because of John Wayne, A 1911 because of Tom Selleck, An Uzi because of Chuck Norris, a Mare’s leg because of Steve McQueen, Beretta 92F or MP5 Bruce Willis?
- Do you have a backup gun in case your primary gun fails? If so bring the primary gun and back up to the meeting!

From last month’s meeting: Please take some time to look at this website:

www.22kill.com from the site:

#22KILL is a global movement created by veterans with a mission to:

- Honor those who serve(d)
- Raise awareness to veteran suicide and mental health issues such as PTS and TBI
- Educate the public about current veteran-related topics and issues
- Recruit Veteran Advocates aka “Battle Buddies”
- Support various veteran empowerment programs; i.e. Honor Courage Commitment, Inc. (HCC), Equest Hooves for Heroes, Brain Treatment Foundation, Center for BrainHealth, REACT, Adaptive Training Foundation, and more.

If you have any suggestions for future speakers or topics please send your feedback to

CARGO@att.net.

When was the last time you visited our web site? Please take some time to go to the CARGO website at www.cargogunclub.org

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/va-second-amendment-veterans/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20160408_FridayDigest_24&utm_campaign=/blog/va-second-amendment-veterans/

VA Revokes Second Amendment Rights of Over 250,000 Veterans

by ADMINISTRATOR on APRIL 4, 2016



Marines! (*Photo: Wikipedia*)

Veterans looking to secure their Second Amendment rights may want to think twice before getting help from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to manage their finances.

The Hill [reports](#) that 257,000 former members of the military have lost their right to keep and bear arms after receiving financial management help from the VA. According to two Republican senators fighting the gun ban, the VA reports to the “mental defective” category of the FBI’s background check system any veteran to whom they assign a fiduciary.

“The National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) is effectively a national gun ban list and placement on the list precludes the ownership and possession of firearms,” Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee Chairman Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.) and Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) wrote in a recent letter to VA Secretary Robert McDonald.

“Under the current practice, a VA finding that concludes a veteran requires a fiduciary to administer benefit payments effectively voids his Second Amendment rights,” the senators explained. “At no time in the process does the VA determine a veteran to be a danger to himself or others, a key determinant for whether someone is a ‘mental defective,’ precluding the right to own firearms.”

According to The Hill, Senator Grassley has requested that lawmakers “block the VA from continuing this practice in the upcoming budget negotiations.” He also complained about the practice in another [letter](#) sent last year to the Justice Department.

If this song and dance sounds familiar, there’s a reason. The Obama administration was [harshly criticized](#) earlier this year for using the same tactic to revoke the Second Amendment rights of Social Security beneficiaries who need help with their finances. It is now clear that this administration has been using the fiduciary excuse to ban veterans from owning firearms for much longer.

In [an article](#) outlining the practice, the Los Angeles Times quoted Dr. Marc Rosen, a Yale psychiatrist who has studied how veterans with health problems manage their money: “Someone can be incapable of managing their funds but not be dangerous, violent or unsafe,” he said. “They are very different determinations.”

The article points to 30-year-old Marine veteran Steven Overman, who says his case demonstrates the flaws of judging gun safety through financial competence.

Overman's Humvee hit a roadside bomb in Iraq in 2007. The VA deemed Overman incompetent and made his wife his fiduciary after he was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and a brain injury that weakened his memory and cognitive ability.

When he found out he was being reported to the background check system, "he gave his guns to his mother and began working with a lawyer to get them back."

"[Target shooting is] relaxing to me," Overman said. "It's a break from day-to-day life. It calms me down."

"Though his wife had managed their financial affairs since his deployment," the LA Times reports, "Overman said he has never felt like he was a danger to himself or others."

"I didn't know the VA could take away your guns," he said.



https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/how-hillary-clinton-will-actually-take-your-guns/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20160408_FridayDigest_24&utm_campaign=/blog/how-hillary-clinton-will-actually-take-your-guns/

What Hillary Clinton Can Actually Do To Take Your Guns

by ADMINISTRATOR on APRIL 5, 2016

Hillary Clinton's gun control proposals are, quite frankly, nauseating. Slogging through the [nine ways Hillary plans to stop guns from killing people](#) is tough work for anyone who values the Second Amendment and possesses even a basic understanding of U.S. gun law. I don't advise it for anyone with a weak stomach.

Her reason for overhauling the current gun control system is simple: according to her webpage, "About 33,000 Americans are killed by guns each year." What she means, of course, is, *People kill 33,000 other people or, more likely, themselves with guns each year (about two-thirds of all gun deaths are suicides)*. Not even Hillary believes guns by themselves are responsible for American deaths, right?

She might. Seven of her nine proposals target guns themselves rather than the criminals who actually pull the trigger and even those target people who *might* pull the trigger in the future, but haven't yet.

So what are Hillary's proposals? What would it take to turn them into law? And would they do anything to bring down the number of gun deaths in the United States?

I've published the nuts and bolts of each proposal below, under which you'll find my analysis. But be warned: it's not for the faint of heart.

Federal Background Check Legislation

1. *Comprehensive federal background check legislation. Background checks reduce gun trafficking, reduce the lethality of domestic violence, and reduce unlawful gun transfers to dangerous individuals. It is reprehensible that bipartisan legislation supporting background checks failed in Congress after the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School. But Hillary is not giving up—she will continue to fight for legislation to build on the Brady Bill's success.*

Anyone who buys a gun from a firearms dealer has to pass a background check. Every person. Every time. It's false to imply that Congress failed to support background check legislation, and she's hoping her supporters don't know enough about gun law to call her out. When Hillary says, "comprehensive federal background check legislation," what she means is "universal background check legislation." This would require all private firearm transfers to be done through a licensed dealer who can run a background check. So if you want to give a gun to your son or sell your shotgun to a buddy, you'd have to make a trip to an FFL to make it legal.

In practice, this legislation could (and likely would) create a registry of all guns in the United States. Such a registry, of course, would only tell the feds which law-abiding citizens owned which firearms (since criminals don't tend to get their guns legally), but that's not important to the anti-gun crowd. Gun confiscation might not be politically viable now, but universal background checks could give future federal officials a powerful tool to enact total, nationwide gun confiscation. Always remember: the anti-gunners play the long game. Their goal is to put the tools in place today, so they can act as soon as they achieve a majority in Congress.

FINAL ASSESSMENT: This proposal would require legislation from Congress.

Charleston "Loophole"

2. *Closing the ‘Charleston Loophole.’ Hillary will push Congress to close the loophole that allows a gun sale to proceed without a completed background check if that check has not been completed within three days. This loophole allowed the alleged Charleston shooter to purchase a gun even though he had a criminal record.*

This is the first of three “loopholes” Hillary wants to “close.” Anyone unfamiliar with basic gun law might conclude that current gun policy is riddled with ways for criminals to get around the law. Not that criminals follow the law anyway, but I repeat myself.

This particular “loophole” allows an FFL to release a gun to a customer after [three days](#) if the FBI has not given a final determination on the customer’s background check. In the case of the Charleston shooter, [a clerical error](#) kept the FBI from locating his criminal record within the three-day window. The law ensures a customer’s gun purchase isn’t held up by federal officials indefinitely, which could, in effect, revoke his or her Second Amendment rights without due process. Extending the window by a few days might be a reasonable solution, but labeling the three-day time period a “loophole” is inaccurate—a felon who attempts to purchase a gun cannot know ahead of time whether or not their background check will be delayed. It is impossible, therefore, for that person to intentionally take advantage of the “loophole” Hillary proposes to close.

FINAL ASSESSMENT: This proposal would require legislation from Congress, as it requires an amendment to the Brady Bill. That being said, [these Democratic senators](#) from Connecticut believe President Obama could close the “loophole” through executive action.

Gun Show, Internet “Loophole”

3. *Tightening the gun show and Internet sales loophole if Congress won’t. If Congress refuses to act, Hillary will take administrative action to require that any person attempting to sell a significant number of guns abide by the same*

commonsense rules that apply to gun stores—including requiring background checks on gun sales.

The myths of the internet and gun show loopholes have been refuted by the pro-gun community *ad nauseum*. You can read the rebuttals [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#). There are more, but you get the point.

What Hillary is proposing already exists under federal law, which requires anyone in the business of selling guns (i.e., someone who sells a “significant number of guns”) to perform a background check every time they sell a gun no matter where they sell it. If they sell a gun online, they’re required to send that gun to another Federal Firearm Licensee of their customer’s choosing. That FFL must conduct a background check before releasing the firearm to the customer.

Hillary’s policy wonks can get away with including such a redundant platform goal because Hillary’s supporters (and probably the policy wonks themselves) don’t know anything about gun law (notice a pattern here?). Still, considering the number of articles debunking the gun show loophole myth, they don’t have much excuse.

FINAL ASSESSMENT: Unless Hillary plans to change the definition of who must obtain an FFL, she can’t enact this proposal because it already exists.

Ending Gun Industry “Immunity”

4. *Repeal the gun industry’s unique immunity protection. Hillary believes the gun industry must be held accountable for violence perpetrated with their guns. Hillary will lead the charge to repeal the so-called “Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act,” a dangerous law that prevents victims of gun violence from holding negligent manufacturers and dealers accountable for violence perpetrated with their guns.*

This is probably the most egregious set of lies on the whole list.

In reality, the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act [expressly prohibits](#) firearms dealers from selling a firearm “when the seller knows, or reasonably should know, the person to whom the product is supplied is likely to, and does, use the product in a manner involving unreasonable risk of physical injury to the person or others.”

The firearms industry does not have special immunity. They’re liable for negligence just like the car industry, the food industry, and every other economic sector, and, as [this gun store owner](#) recently proved, they’re more than capable of shouldering this responsibility.

FINAL ASSESSMENT: This proposal would require legislation from Congress.

Unscrupulous Gun Dealers

5. *Revoke the licenses of bad-actor dealers. Hillary believes we must do more to crack down on gun stores that flood our communities with illegal guns. As president, she will provide funding to increase inspections and aggressively enforce current law by revoking the licenses of dealers that knowingly supply straw purchasers and traffickers.*

The idea that gun stores are “flooding our communities with illegal guns” is mere hyperbole. As ATF agent Charles Mulham [told Forbes](#) in 2014, “Sometimes an employee might steal guns or something, but gun store owners are rarely the problem.”

If Hillary wants to enforce existing law, fine. But if the anti-gunner track record is any indication, aggressive enforcement looks more like a denial of civil liberty than a pursuit of justice. In “[Operation Choke Point](#),” for example, federal officials threatened banks with inspections and audits if they approved loans to gun stores. There is nothing wrong, in theory, with enforcing the law. But if Hillary’s tactics are anything like her predecessor’s, legal gun stores could face costly, time-consuming, and unreasonable legal actions.

FINAL ASSESSMENT: As head of the executive branch, Hillary could accomplish this proposal without an act of Congress.

Target Domestic Abusers

6. *Support legislation to stop domestic abusers from buying and possessing guns. Although federal law generally prohibits domestic abusers from purchasing or possessing guns, this protection does not apply to people in dating relationships or convicted stalkers. Hillary will fight for legislation to prohibit all of these domestic abusers and stalkers from buying guns.*

The domestic abuse protection does, in fact, apply to people in dating relationships. [Stephen Voisine](#), for example, was charged in 2011 with unlawful possession of a firearm after he was convicted of assaulting his girlfriend. What Hillary doesn't like is that the [Lautenberg Amendment](#)—the federal law that prohibits domestic abusers from owning guns—doesn't specifically mention dating relationships. It does, however, mention cohabiting persons and anyone “similarly situated to a spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim,” categories broad enough to apply to most serious relationships.

As for stalking, I'll let our friends at the NRA explain the absurdity of that idea. As they outline in their recent letter to lawmakers, “‘Stalking’ offenses do not necessarily include violent or even threatening behavior. Under federal law, for example, stalking includes ‘a course of conduct’ that never involves any personal contact whatsoever, occurs wholly through the mail, online media, or telephone service, is undertaken with the intent to ‘harass’ and would be reasonably expected to cause (even if it doesn't succeed in causing) ‘substantial emotional distress’ to another person.”

None of this, of course, even addresses whether or not individuals convicted of a misdemeanor deserve a lifetime denial of their constitutional rights. Perhaps some do, but that debate warrants more space than this venue allows.

FINAL ASSESSMENT: This proposal would require legislation from Congress, which is already [in the works](#).

Make Straw Purchasing a Federal Crime

7. *Make straw purchasing a federal crime. When an individual with a clean record buys a gun with the intention of giving it to a violent felon—only so that felon can avoid a background check—it should be a crime. Hillary will fight to make so-called ‘straw purchasing’ a federal crime.*

Like Hillary’s plan to close the “gun show loophole,” this proposal already exists under federal law. Purchasing a gun for a prohibited person is illegal—both on the state and federal level. In 2014, furthermore, the [Supreme Court ruled](#) to allow “strict enforcement” of the federal ban on gun straw purchasers.

So, thus far, two of Clinton’s nine gun policy proposals already exist. It’s a wonder she can claim to fight gun violence when she clearly doesn’t understand the basics of existing gun law.

FINAL ASSESSMENT: Hillary can’t enact this proposal because it’s already a federal law.

Close Mental Health “Loophole”

8. *Close loopholes that let persons suffering from severe mental illness purchase and possess guns. Hillary will fight to improve existing law prohibiting persons suffering from severe mental illness from purchasing or possessing a gun. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives should finalize its rulemaking to close loopholes in our laws and clarify that people involuntarily committed to outpatient treatment, such as the Virginia Tech shooter, are prohibited from buying guns.*

More loopholes. Hillary isn’t clear to which “loophole” she’s referring. It might be [this one](#), supposedly closed by President Obama earlier this year, but it’s hard to say.

In any case, gun control efforts aimed at those with mental illnesses usually receive broad support, but their efficacy isn’t backed up by the facts. While the *perceived* link between mental illness and gun violence is well-established, [this study](#) found that less than 5

percent of gun-related killings in the U.S. from 2001 to 2010 were carried out by people found to have a mental illness.

In addition, the federal government's history of properly enforcing the mental illness rule is far from spotless. Some Social Security recipients and military veterans have had their Second Amendment rights revoked merely because they were deemed incapable of [managing their finances](#). Dr. Marc Rosen, a Yale psychiatrist who has studied how veterans with health problems manage their money, [explained](#) why this practice doesn't hold water: "Someone can be incapable of managing their funds but not be dangerous, violent or unsafe," he said. "They are very different determinations."

FINAL ASSESSMENT: Hillary could likely accomplish this proposal without Congress.

Reinstate “Assault Weapons Ban”

- 9. Keep military-style weapons off our streets. Military-style assault weapons do not belong on our streets. They are a danger to law enforcement and to our communities. Hillary will work to keep assault weapons off our streets and supports reinstating the assault weapons ban.*

This is a popular proposal in the anti-gun community as well. High-profile mass shootings like the one in San Bernardino scare those who trust their personal protection entirely to law enforcement or federal authorities. Anyone not familiar with criminal gun usage or the history of gun law may conclude, like Hillary, that “assault weapons do not belong on our streets.” But facts have a way of describing reality, and lawmakers have a responsibility to craft law that corresponds with fact.

For example, of the 12,664 homicides committed in the United States in 2011, [323 were perpetrated with a rifle](#) (any kind of rifle, not specifically AR-15s or AK-47s). That's less than 2.5 percent of all murders—a lower percentage than knives, blunt objects, and fists. This trend holds true for 2007-2010 as well. For Hillary to imply that “assault weapons”

pose a grave danger to our law enforcement and communities is, again, mere hyperbole. They pose nothing of the kind.

History confirms this. The United States banned assault weapons in 1994 under the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. Anti-gunners couldn't get enough support to renew the law, and Congress allowed it to expire in 2004. That year the University of Pennsylvania released a [study](#) that summarizes the ban's effectiveness: "We cannot clearly credit the ban with any of the nation's recent drop in gun violence. And, indeed, there has been no discernible reduction in the lethality and injuriousness of gun violence."

FINAL ASSESSMENT: This proposal would require an act of Congress.

Conclusion

Hillary Clinton's nine gun control proposals do nothing except reveal her ignorance of gun law, gun history, gun ownership, gun usage, and, most importantly, gun owners. Law-abiding citizens don't perpetuate gun crime. Guns don't perpetuate gun crime. If Hillary and the larger anti-gun community wants to "stop guns from killing people," they should focus on the people who actually pull the trigger.



Hillary Clinton, the next president of the United States of America? (*Photo: HillaryClinton.com*)

About the Author: *Jordan Michaels is a new convert to the gun world. A Canadian immigrant to the United States, he recently became an American citizen and is happily enjoying his newly-acquired Second Amendment freedoms. He's a communications professional, a political junkie, and an avid basketball fan.*

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/time-kill-lethal-force-can-used/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20160506_FridayDigest_28&utm_campaign=/blog/time-kill-lethal-force-can-used/

Should I Shoot? When Lethal Force Can Be Used

by ADMINISTRATOR on MAY 4, 2016



Editor's Note: *The*

following post is from Sammy Reese, a former Marine Corps Artillery Officer and retired police officer from California. He is a part-time range master for the police department he retired from as well as a life-long martial artist and combatives coach.

I've spent the better part of the last 20 years teaching cops, military and private citizens how to stay alive in a sometimes not-so-nice world. In the beginning of my firearms instruction career, I was pretty much focused on the mechanics of shooting and the hardware. Over the years, I have found myself focusing just as heavily on the software involved in personal defense for both law enforcement and responsibly armed Americans. By "software," I mean using the most powerful weapon we possess — the human brain. All the best gear combined with inaccurate knowledge of deadly force laws, poor mindset and poor training is, quite frankly, a disaster waiting to happen.

But accurate knowledge of deadly force laws, proper mindset and quality training—combined with the best gear available—could mean the difference between getting home safely or not getting home at all.

In the beginning, I want to be hands-on, as do all new gun owners. They want to learn to shoot, and “Can you help me?” is the question I hear most. I always answer with, “I sure can, but we need to cover a few other things as well.” I won’t get into everything I ask right now, but one of the first things I do ask is what they know about the laws when it comes to using deadly force in self-defense. (It applies to the use of, not the method; I will go much deeper into the actual application of deadly force in future columns.)

I spend a lot of time traveling around the U.S., and since I’m a retired police officer, I’m covered by HR218, which is nationwide concealed carry. It’s nice to be armed wherever I go, but that doesn’t mean I don’t have to do my homework before I go so I know the laws of each state. For those with multi-state CCW, knowing the laws in each state is a must.

Since I reside in California, I’ll use the laws we have here to shed some light on the question of when I’m justified in using deadly force to defend myself.

[California Penal Code Section 9.32.](#) Deadly Force in Defense of Person.

This is the most important section for those who carry firearms for defensive purposes. The Penal Code here (and I would guess in most states) was written by lawyers and can, therefore, be very confusing. To most laypersons, Shakespeare’s iambic pentameter is easier to follow.

I prefer to keep things as simple as possible so the good guys here know when they can use deadly force; we use some very simplified verbiage that is the same as used when teaching law enforcement and for the most part, this applies across the board, even in extremely anti-gun states.

Deadly Force is authorized/legal:

- When in fear of imminent death or great bodily injury (GBI).
- When in fear of imminent death or GBI of another.
- To stop an armed fleeing felon who has committed murder or GBI and, if not stopped, is believed will continue to kill or inflict GBI upon others.

This last one was traditionally more directed at law enforcement officers, but with school attacks, church attacks and other rapid mass murders being a more immediate reality these days, it bears mention.

Another very important part of various states' penal codes covers the use of deadly force in the home — more commonly known as the “Castle Doctrine.” Some states require a homeowner to retreat, even while in his or her home, before using deadly force. (I'm amazed that California hasn't changed the law here to make us just hand over the keys and deed to the house if requested by a crook — but I digress.)

[For example, California Penal Code Section 198.5](#) grants a justification for deadly force inside one's residence. If someone forces his or her way into your home and you have a “reasonable fear of death or great bodily injury,” then you would be justified in using deadly force to defend yourself or another.

The Castle Doctrine leads into some very murky water also known as “Stand Your Ground” laws. Simply, such laws mean you don't have to run or attempt to retreat before defending yourself. The media has spun this verbiage to make it seem like those who defend themselves have almost picked the fight by not attempting to run away. In most cases, the fight you aren't in because you saw trouble coming and went the other way is the best fight to be in, but what if you can't avoid it? Knowing what the law is in your state or the ones you travel in can save you a lot of money — or time being locked up.

When lethal force can be employed might seem like a simple question, but when you break it down to its component parts, it can be very confusing. Whenever you elect to

carry a defensive arm, it is imperative that you know and follow your state and local laws, especially when concerning any requirement to retreat before employing deadly force. As this series progresses, I'll be shedding light on the entirety of the subject and, hopefully, get people to think about an immensely weighty topic into which they may have put precious little thought.

For more critical information on the use of deadly force and other firearms and self-defense topics, visit www.uscca.com/GunsAmerica.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/worst-enemy-airport-carry/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20160506_FridayDigest_28&utm_campaign=/blog/worst-enemy-airport-carry/

Why We're Our Own Worst Enemy: Ep. 1 Airport Carry

by DAVE HIGGINBOTHAM on APRIL 27, 2016



Some of the guns from last week's confiscatory efforts.

We are our own worst enemy. Maybe that's not true. Perhaps Hilary Clinton is our worst enemy, but she's not done the damage we've done to ourselves this week.

Well-meaning gun owners. Americans who exercise their constitutional rights to keep and bear arms. We're providing the proverbial ammunition to our enemies. When we have our rights infringed, will we still have the moral high-ground?

Perhaps you have read that the TSA [confiscated 73 firearms](#) from carry-on bags in American airports this past week. 73. If this number was down in the single digits, I would still be appalled. I'd make excuses. But I can't make excuses when 73 idiots (assuming one gun per idiot) took guns to the airport.

Airport Safety

When opponents to Second Amendment rights point fingers at American gun owners, they often label us as “irresponsible.” So we slap gun locks on guns, lock them up in bedside boxes, and store them in lockers and residential security containers and educate our kids and keep watch over each other and then... then we head out to the airport with a pistol we’ve completely forgotten about tucked in our carry-on.

It isn’t just our safety that’s at risk. Despite what the voices say over the bathroom intercoms, those bags are not under the owner’s control at all times. And what happens when the bags are searched? I hope the guns aren’t loaded, and that the TSA screener who discovers the gun knows how to safely handle a loaded firearm. Of the 73 found last week, 68 were loaded.

Stupidity

Are these 73 idiots shells or plants? I wouldn’t doubt it. After two years of regularly reading [Prepping 101 content](#), I feel a bit like [Fox Mulder](#). Trust no one. If this is a conspiracy to make us look stupid, it is working incredibly well.

But what if we’re just stupid? Or *some of us* are just that stupid? Are we so casual with our habits that we forget we have guns with us? I doubt it is ignorance of the law. There are half a million pieces of signage and audio warnings that drone of the dangers of flammable underwear, and water bottles, and guns.

But how many rounds of .40 S&W will you need with you on that outbound flight from the Hays, Kansas Municipal Airport? If the photo below is any indication, this passenger was expecting more than just turbulence.



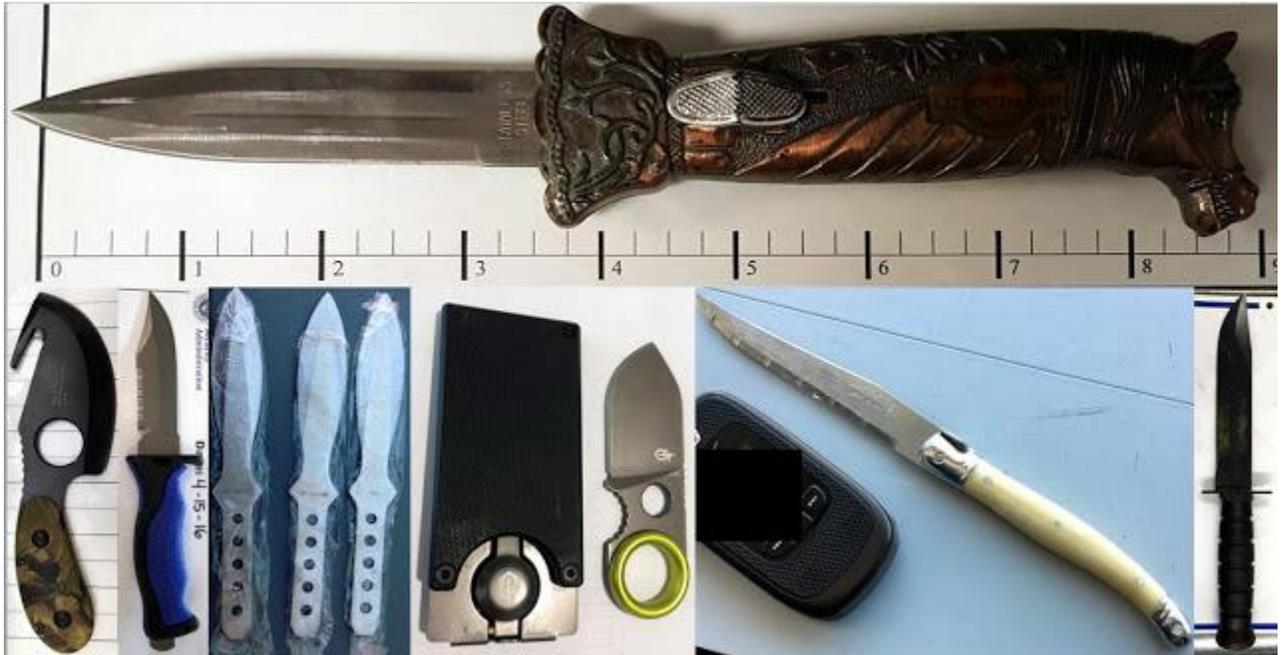
A box of 100, a box of 50, and five mags? Plenty of ammo for the short hop from Hays, Kansas to Wichita.

Testing

There has been flap recently about using federal funding to study gun violence. I've got a simple study that would be very easy to administer, and wouldn't cost a dime. It is a simple question that each and every idiot caught with a gun in his or her carry-on bag would have to answer.

1. How long have you owned a gun?

That's it. That's the only question. My jaded suspicion is that most of these people are new gun owners. In fact, when I look for "rational" explanations, I come up with two options. I presume that these are inexperienced noobs or the opposite, that these are old-timers who have gotten extremely complacent in their attitudes. I realize there are other possibilities. Regardless, we have to understand the problem before we pose rational solutions.



Knives, too. I assume most of these were loaded. You never know when you might need a good throwing knife while cruising at 30,000 feet.

Prevention?

I do a lot of traveling, and I fly with guns. If I can carry where I'm going, I fly with my guns. I've got the checked baggage method down to a science. But I'm still nervous. I'm typically shooting wherever I go, and I have powder residue on my hands, my clothes, my boots. I often leave a range and drive straight to the airport. As such, I'm emptying pockets, double checking carry-ons, checking my list of prohibited items and anything new I've picked up on the way.

It isn't easy, but I've yet to screw up. What's the old adage? *There but by the grace of God go I.*

My favorite method is the pre-flight bag dump. Before I fly, I empty my carry-on completely. Every camera bag is emptied. My man purse is emptied. My backpack, etc. I feel inside every pocket—unzip every zipper—and repack everything one item at a time.

And now, for family travel, I have segregated my “gun-bags” from my “family travel bags.” I never take my family bags to the range, and I don't let family members use my designated range bags for travel. I've grown fond of large totes and Pelican cases because they don't have tricky hidden pockets where loose rounds can hide.

What's the Takeaway?

If we're going to stand a chance in this contemporary political environment, we have to wise up and unify. Look at the writing on the wall. There is a very important election coming. Trump has massive support from the unwashed masses. Cruz and Kasich are scheming to split the remaining primary contests, desperate for an open convention. Clinton has a clear road to the nomination.

As vocal as the Trump supporters are, my money's on a Clinton win. There have never been two more polarizing politicians in the same race. And it isn't the support for either Clinton or Trump that will decide this election. Instead, it will be the throngs of people who use their votes to keep a candidate they can't stomach out of office. People who don't love Clinton will vote for her because they think Trump is a joke. Trump will receive votes from Americans who simply hate Clinton.

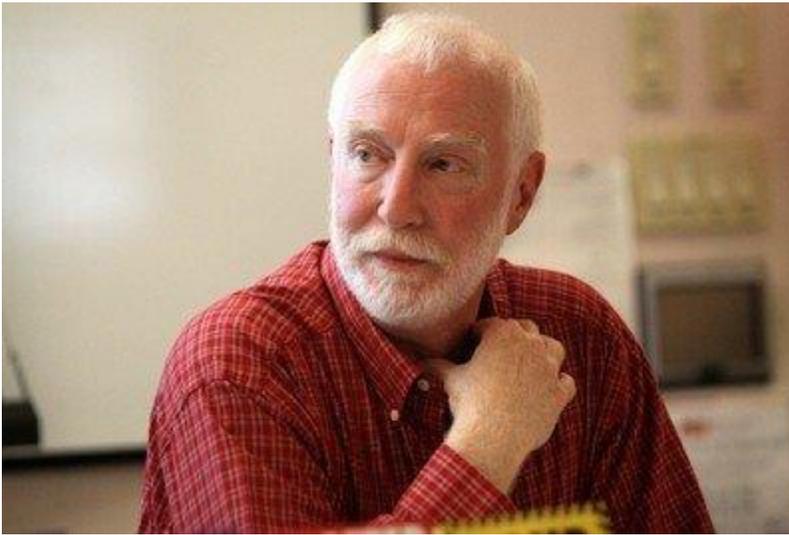
What happens if she wins? Let's assume, for this one moment, that she does. We, the gun owners of America, have to have our shit together. We have to come together. We have to stand together. We will no longer be our own worst enemy. Our constitutional rights will be in her crosshairs.

And if we continue to behave like this? Well, I think it is clear. She won't have to lift a finger to prove that we're incompetent. And incompetent people have no business owning guns.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/korwin-new-supreme-court-gun-case-protects-helpless-women/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20160422_FridayDigest_26&utm_campaign=/blog/korwin-new-supreme-court-gun-case-protects-helpless-women/

Korwin: New Supreme Court Gun Case Protects Helpless Women

by ALAN KORWIN on APRIL 21, 2016



Alan Korwin, visit his website GunLaws.com.

The *Caetano* Supreme Court gun decision had so many critically important features it is unfathomable it did not steal the entire news cycle when it hit on March 21, 2016. A mere shooting by a sick person in a small town does that.

The U.S. Supreme Court just handed down such a monumental Second Amendment decision—its 113th gun case—that if the mainstream media had been doing its job it would have dominated the front page for days, and devoured cable news chatter for 24 hours daily, worse than the jihad or any other minor preemption that consumes news.

The decision recognized that brutish boyfriends terrorize their women and the women can be helpless based on size and strength—except for protection the Second Amendment

and weapons provide. Read that again. All eight Justices unanimously said this. They formally recognized that orders or protection, issued repeatedly against the same brute, are, in their words “futile.”

But you haven't even heard about the *Caetano v. Massachusetts* case.

It basically confirms that guns are good. They protect the helpless. They have social utility. Lower courts that attempt to write this out of the law by making things up, ignoring history and legal precedent—like the Massachusetts court did—have no place in our legal system. Concocting inventions from thin air that don't even make sense, to advance an anti-rights agenda, earned ridicule. Read [the decision](#) yourself, it's in basic English.

Even the liberal SCOTUS Justices all joined the decision. This is news. It's big news. It's *monufrickinmental*. Where are the talking heads? The fact that it has been broadly suppressed by the very organization responsible for telling you—The United States journalism profession acting in concert—demonstrates the astonishing bias that infects the nation's culture and “news” media. This is proof.

If news like this proliferated as it should, you and the nation would be *bombarded constantly* with the good side of guns, the side that keeps streets safe, the idea that people who are armed can protect themselves, and do all the time just like Jaime Caetano did. It's the plan the Founders gave us, that has made this the greatest nation the world has ever known. The failure of reporters, producers, editors, news directors and publishers is unaccountably grave. Look at what this case contains.

Jaime's story

Ms. Caetano's boyfriend beat her up so severely (the lower court called it a “bad altercation”) she was hospitalized. This was after she got multiple restraining orders against the thug, which the Supreme Court called “futile.” When a friend offered her a

stun gun for self defense against the brute, she took it. “It’s a good thing she did,” the Supreme Court’s finding reads.

That’s because, as the Court tells us, one night when she was leaving work, her ex-boyfriend was laying in wait for her, came out and, screaming, threatened her. He was nearly a foot taller and 100 pounds heavier than she. You’ve gotta read this case, it’s amazing. Here, read this extract:

But she didn’t need physical strength to protect herself. She stood her ground, displayed the stun gun, and announced: “I’m not gonna take this anymore... I don’t wanna have to use the stun gun on you, but if you don’t leave me alone, I’m gonna have to.” The gambit worked. The ex-boyfriend “got scared and he left her alone.”

You don’t think it’s news that our U.S. Supreme Court made this public? Put it in their unanimous decision?

Next the Court points out that, “It is settled that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms” and that this right vindicates the “basic right” of “individual self-defense.” Leftists and *hoplophobes* (people with morbid fear of guns) can make their bogus arguments, but there’s the truth.

The High Court stated: “By arming herself, Caetano was able to protect against a physical threat that restraining orders had proved useless to prevent.” It’s front page news: “Flash! SCOTUS announces: Guns beat orders of protection! Read all about it!” Instead? Crickets.

Unspeakable Legal Abuse

Under Massachusetts law however, even though Jaime may have saved her life, her possession of the stun device was illegal, so when police found it later she (not the guy) was arrested, tried and convicted.

To make it stick, the local courts bent over backwards, inventing the argument that, because stun guns didn't exist in 1791 when the Bill of Rights was ratified, it wasn't "eligible for Second Amendment protection." They had unwritten what the Supreme Court had written. She was imprisoned.

The Supreme Court *had* to take this case to prevent inferior courts from removing the scrotum from SCOTUS. That's partially why it's unanimous—the lower court was thumbing its nose at the system. (You can almost hear the liberal Justice's bemoaning, 'Why'd it have to be guns?')

**vulnerable individuals like Caetano
who must defend themselves
because the State will not.**

"This reasoning defies our decision in *Heller*, which rejected as 'bordering on the frivolous,' the argument 'that only those arms in existence in the 18th century are protected by the Second Amendment.' The decision below also does a grave disservice to vulnerable individuals like Caetano who must defend themselves because the State will not," Justice Alito wrote, slapping them in his concurrence.

Years of history between this woman and her abusive partner are outlined in the 12-page decision. In typical elitist fashion, while state law denies non-lethal stun guns to the public, it grants them to the king's men, also called officials and peace officers.

Massachusetts argued further that Caetano must be guilty because stun guns fall within the "traditional prohibition against carrying dangerous and unusual weapons." But, as SCOTUS notes, "Although the Supreme Judicial Court [of Mass.] professed to apply *Heller*, each step of its analysis defied *Heller*'s reasoning." There was no limit to that lower court's hubris—*Heller* emphatically rejected accepting only arms in existence in the 18th century: "the Second Amendment extends, *prima facie*, to all instruments that constitute bearable arms, *even those that were not in existence at the time of the founding*." Massachusetts just ignored the rule of law, and cited an unrelated case.

SCOTUS emphasized that “the Second Amendment accordingly guarantees the right to carry weapons ‘typically possessed by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes,’” and that this “is true for the weapons most commonly used today for self-defense, namely, revolvers and semiautomatic pistols.” Front page news. “SCOTUS Declares: Top Self-Defense Weapons Are Revolvers And Semi-Autos!” More crickets.

Electronic stun guns are no more exempt from the Second Amendment’s protections, simply because they were unknown to the First Congress, than electronic communications are exempt from the First Amendment, or electronic imaging devices are exempt from the Fourth Amendment.

When Massachusetts tried to justify its assault on the right to bear stun guns, using a “dangerous and unusual” ploy, the High Court saw right through it and would have none of that either. First, as they point out, it is a *conjunctive* test, both conditions must apply, and the state’s effort to apply them separately had to fail. But more to the point, as Alito writes, “If *Heller* tells us anything, it is that firearms cannot be categorically prohibited just because they are dangerous.” The case notes that “virtually every covered arm would qualify as ‘dangerous.’” So you can see what that lower court was trying to do—outlaw everything—and why the Supreme Court had to step in and slap some sense into them.

Piling it on, the Massachusetts court also tried to ban stun guns saying they had no usefulness in warfare. The Supreme Court dissolved that by listing all the militia uses the devices have in suppressing insurrections and riots (a constitutional function, they note) and listing branches of the armed services that have requisitions and training for stun weapons to “incapacitate a target without permanent injury or known side effects” (with fascinating reading at the many links they provide).

The lower court’s argument that guns outnumber stun weapons is brushed aside as pointless drivel, and besides, “Otherwise, a State would be free to ban *all* weapons *except* handguns, because “handguns are the most popular weapon chosen by Americans for self-defense in the home... While less popular than handguns, stun guns are widely

owned and accepted as a legitimate means of self-defense across the country. Massachusetts' categorical ban of such weapons therefore violates the Second Amendment."

"The reasoning of the Massachusetts court poses a grave threat to the fundamental right of self-defense."

The conclusion is too good to paraphrase (citations omitted):

The Supreme Judicial Court suggested that Caetano could have simply gotten a firearm to defend herself. But the right to bear other weapons is "no answer" to a ban on the possession of protected arms. Moreover, a weapon is an effective means of self-defense only if one is prepared to use it, and it is presumptuous to tell Caetano she should have been ready to shoot the father of her two young children if she wanted to protect herself.

Courts should not be in the business of demanding that citizens use more force for self-defense than they are comfortable wielding.

Countless people may have reservations about using deadly force, whether for moral, religious, or emotional reasons—or simply out of fear of killing the wrong person. I am not prepared to say that a State may force an individual to choose between exercising that right and following her conscience, at least where both can be accommodated by a weapon already in widespread use across the Nation.

A State's most basic responsibility is to keep its people safe. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts was either unable or

unwilling to do what was necessary to protect Jaime Caetano, so she was forced to protect herself.

To make matters worse, the Commonwealth chose to deploy its prosecutorial resources to prosecute and convict her of a criminal offense for arming herself with a nonlethal weapon that may well have saved her life. The Supreme Judicial Court then affirmed her conviction on the flimsiest of grounds.

This Court's grudging per curiam now sends the case back to that same court. And the consequences for Caetano may prove more tragic still, as her conviction likely bars her from ever bearing arms for self-defense.

If the fundamental right of self-defense does not protect Caetano, then the safety of all Americans is left to the mercy of state authorities who may be more concerned about disarming the people than about keeping them safe.

If it's about guns and it's in the "news," it's probably 100% wrong. Unless it's not there at all.

<https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/2a-covers-police-batons-dirk-knives-rules-connecticut-supreme-court/>

2A Covers Police Batons, Dirk Knives Rules Connecticut Supreme Court

by S.H. BLANNELBERRY on DECEMBER 17, 2014

I'm purloining this [update](#) from the Volokh Conspiracy, which is a great source for legal commentary on a bunch of different topics, from Constitutional law to politics and everything in between. In essence, the Connecticut Supreme Court ruled this week that dirk knives and police batons are covered under one's Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms.

Here's a quote from the ruling in the case [State v. DeCiccio](#), courtesy of Volokh:



Japanese WW2 Naval Dirk (*Photo: Wiki*)

This widespread acceptance of batons within the law enforcement community also supports the conclusion that they are not so dangerous or unusual as to fall outside the purview of the second amendment. To this end, the fact that police batons are inherently less lethal, and therefore less dangerous and less intrinsically harmful, than handguns,

which clearly constitute “arms” within the meaning of the second amendment, provides further reason to conclude that they are entitled to constitutional protection. Cf. People v. Yanna, supra, 297 Mich. App. 145 (“[T]he prosecution also argues that Tasers and stun guns are so dangerous that they are not protected by the [s]econd [a]mendment. However, it is difficult to see how this is so since Heller concluded that handguns are not sufficiently dangerous to be banned. Tasers and stun guns, while plainly dangerous, are substantially less dangerous than handguns. Therefore, [T]asers and stun guns do not constitute dangerous weapons for purposes of [s]econd [a]mendment inquiries.”); D. Kopel et al., supra, 47 U. Mich. J.L. Reform 184 (“[K]nives are far less dangerous than guns. Any public safety justification for knife regulation is necessarily less persuasive than the public safety justification for firearms regulation.”).

Indeed, expandable batons are intermediate force devices that, when used as intended, are unlikely to cause death or permanent bodily injury. For these reasons, we are persuaded that the police baton that the defendant had in his vehicle is the kind of weapon traditionally used by the state for public safety purposes and is neither so dangerous nor so unusual as to fall outside the purview of the second amendment’s right to keep and bear arms.

The court also addressed how bans on the transportation of these arms contravenes the 2A (Paragraph breaks added by Volokh):

[T]he prohibition against transporting a dirk knife and a police baton to a new home constitutes a significant restriction on the right to possess those weapons in that new home. Indeed, aside from an outright ban on possessing those weapons, it is difficult to conceive of a greater abridgement of that right than a restriction that bars the use of a vehicle to transport either of those weapons from one home to another.

Moreover, under § 29-38, it is unlawful for an ordinary citizen, like the defendant, to transport those weapons from the place of purchase to the purchaser’s home. As a consequence, the statute’s complete proscription against using a vehicle to transport the two protected weapons deprives their owner of any realistic opportunity either to bring

them home after they have been purchased or to move them from one home to another. In fact, at oral argument before this court, the state acknowledged that, in light of that statutory prohibition, there may be no lawful means of doing either....

In light of the nature and extent of the restrictions at issue in the present case, we agree with the state that intermediate scrutiny represents the applicable level of constitutional review. “[A]lthough addressing varied and divergent laws, courts throughout the country have nearly universally applied some form of intermediate scrutiny in the [s]econd [a]mendment context.” ... Nevertheless, to establish the requisite substantial relationship between the purpose to be served by the statutory provision and the means employed to achieve that end [under intermediate scrutiny], the explanation that the state proffers in defense of the provision must be “exceedingly persuasive.” ...

Post-Heller case law supports the commonsense conclusion that the core right to possess a protected weapon in the home for self-defense necessarily entails the right, subject to reasonable regulation, to engage in activities necessary to enable possession in the home. Thus, the safe transportation of weapons protected by the second amendment is an essential corollary of the right to possess them in the home for self-defense when such transportation is necessary to effectuate that right. Conversely, in rejecting second amendment challenges to measures prohibiting the possession of handguns outside the home, courts have deemed it significant that those regulatory schemes contained provisions including, in addition to the right to possess handguns in the home, limited exceptions permitting the transportation of handguns between homes, or between home and dealer or repairer.

We conclude that the state has not provided sufficient reason for extending the ban on transporting dirk knives and police batons to a scenario, like the present one, in which the owner of those weapons uses his vehicle to move them from a former residence to a new one.

What are your thoughts about the court’s ruling? Did the court get it right?

From AR15.com:

The 145th NRA Annual Meeting is just around the corner!

This year's meeting will once again be held in Louisville, KY, May 20-22, 2016.

"Celebrate the National Rifle Association and Freedom's Safest Place with 500,000 sq. ft. of spectacular firearms displays at the Kentucky Exposition Center, plus high-tech shooting and hunting gear from the world's top brands! Book the hunt of a lifetime, view priceless gun collections, check out the latest ATVs, and get tips and tricks from industry pros in exclusive seminars. And don't forget the ticketed events—these gatherings feature some of the top names from politics and entertainment. Mark it down now, the NRA Annual Meetings is your can't-miss event of the year!"

The NRA's biggest celebration, it features an action-packed lineup of events that includes dinners, auctions, concerts, raffles, seminars, workshops, book signings and more. For many, the main attraction is the spectacular consumer show, where you'll find every major firearms manufacturer spread out over seven acres. Exhibit Hall admission is free to all current NRA members, uniformed military, law enforcement personnel and organized youth groups.

Hope to see you there!

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/army-picks-hk-for-sniper-rifle-marines-go-back-to-cleaning-rods/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20160415_FridayDigest_25&utm_campaign=/blog/army-picks-hk-for-sniper-rifle-marines-go-back-to-cleaning-rods/

Army Picks H&K for Sniper Rifle, Marines Go Back to Cleaning Rods

by MAX SLOWIK on APRIL 7, 2016



Australian Army Pvt. Levi Mooney and his Heckler & Koch rifle in Afghanistan. (Photo: Sgt. Jessi Ann McCormick)

The U.S. Army has selected Heckler & Koch to replace their well-worn inventory of M110 Semi-Automatic Sniper System (SASS) rifles. At the same time, the Marines are rolling back the clock when it comes to cleaning rifles: they're going from pull-through kits back to cleaning rods.

The hunt for an improved Compact Semi-Automatic Sniper System (CSASS) began in 2012. The program's goals included finding a reduced weight, reduced length rifle with improved accuracy and reliability. One of the CSASS program's concerns was rifle

reliability and longevity in extreme environments where abrasive sand and dust pose a real threat to rifle performance.

Details including what rifle and accessory package was selected for the role have not been released, but it stands to reason that it's the HK417 or a variant. Heckler & Koch 417-based semi-automatic sniper and designated marksman rifles serve with armed forces all around the world including the German Bundeswehr and the British SAS.

It's also possible that the Heckler & Koch developed an Army-specific rifle to compete for the CSASS contract. Part of the updated solicitation included an upgrade path for existing SASS rifles still in inventory, so the winning design could be a hybrid Knights' Armament/Heckler & Koch rifle.

The completed solicitation also clearly states that not one but two rifles have been accepted for the CSASS program. This could allow for both new rifles and upgraded guns built on SASS components or completely different rifles for different roles as required by the CSASS agenda.

No matter what rifles wind up replacing the SASS, [the CSASS contract](#) is a big win for Heckler & Koch. The two-year, fixed firm price contract worth up to \$44.5 million to build a maximum total of 3,643 CSASS packages.

The main option includes instructor and key personnel training, spare parts and depot support. There is a second option for acquiring the technical detail package, or TDP, as well.



A basic, inexpensive rod cleaning kit. (Photo: [Brownells](#))

While the Army is looking for new solutions, the Marines are going back to an old fix—a Vietnam-era fix. The Marines are beginning to phase out newer pull-through cleaning kits in favor of simpler rod-and-brush kits.

“Quite frankly, they don’t work as well as the old rods we had that you just screw together,” said Col. Tim Parker, commander of Weapons Training Battalion to [the Marine Corps Times](#). “This is what the fleet was telling us, so we said ‘All right, we tried a good idea — now let’s go back to the original one.’”

What the Marine Corps found is that specialized cleaning tools in the newer kits are easily lost and not used, and in turn, rifle maintenance suffers. The rods are better at scrubbing off fouling and can be used to clear a stuck case quickly and easily.

It doesn’t hurt that the rod kits are a lot less expensive. A basic rod cleaning kit costs about \$20 where a premium Otis soft pack kit can cost close to \$100. The original rod kits were made to store in the buttstock compartment of M16 rifles.

<https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/marines-get-glocks/>

The Marines Get GLOCKS!

by S.H. BLANNELBERRY on FEBRUARY 18, 2015

The Marine Corps has officially approved the usage of GLOCKS! Well, that is at least for some marines.

The Marine Corps Times [reported](#) that the GLOCK 19 was added to [the list](#) of authorized “Individual Weapons, Optics, Modular Attachments and Modifications for FY15 Annual Rifle and Pistol Training” but its use is only reserved for personnel assigned to Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command.

Obviously, this raises several questions: What took the Corps so long to embrace the king of polymer pistols? Are all generations of the G19 approved or just the latest?

Unfortunately, the Marine Corps has not explained the timeliness of the decision nor discussed the matter beyond what it included in a force-wide message issued in mid-February.

“It is unclear why the pistols were only now approved for MARSOC,” wrote the Marine Corps Times. “Marine Corps officials could not immediately address questions from MCT.”

With the G19 added to the list, MARSOC will now have to select a holster.

“Standard holsters for this item are pending source selection,” the force-wide message states. “Command approved holsters are authorized for this item until source selection is complete.”

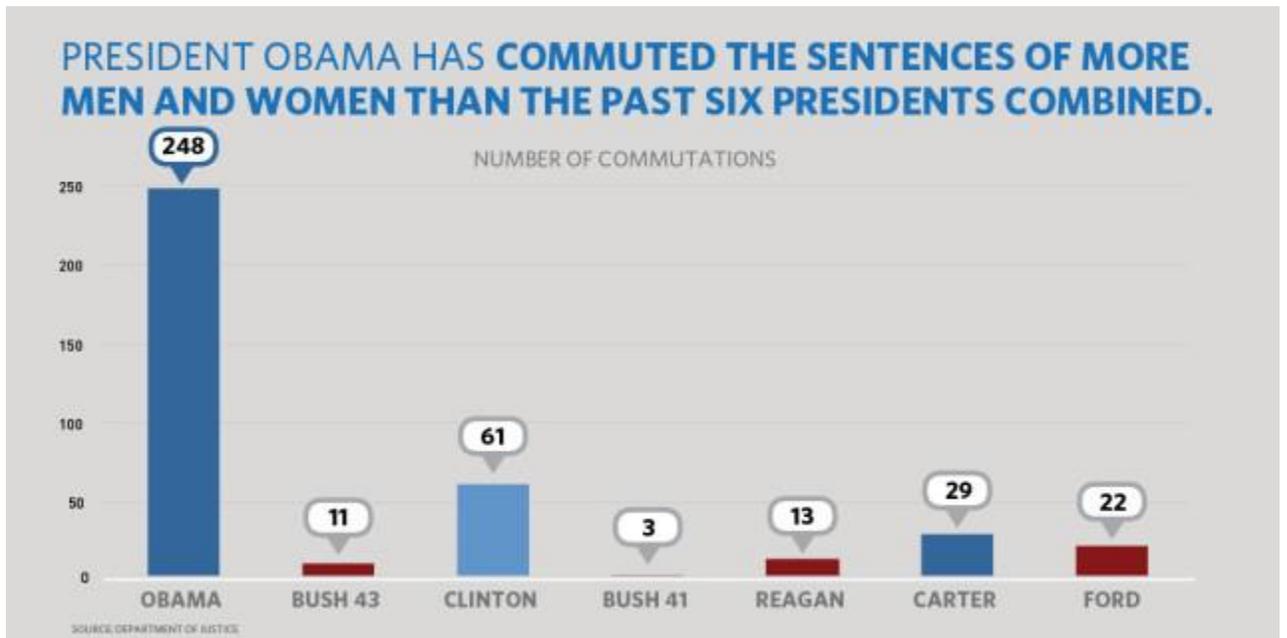
For more on this story, check out the [Marine Corps Times](#).



<http://www.guns.com/2016/04/01/senator-questions-why-obama-commuted-sentences-of-12-in-for-gun-crimes/>

Senator questions Obama commuting sentences of 12 gun offenders

4/01/16 | by [Chris Eger](#)



The President has now commuted the sentences of 248 individuals – more than the previous six Presidents combined, many of whom were drug dealers found with illegal guns. (*Graphic: White House*)

President Obama on Wednesday commuted the sentences of 61 “non-violent” federal inmates serving lengthy time, but it turns out that many went to jail partially because of the illegal guns they carried.

“They’re Americans who’d been serving time on the kind of outdated sentences that are clogging up our jails and burning through our tax dollars,” **said** Obama in conjunction with the announcement.

But the fact that one in five of the inmates to be released from prison on July 28, 2016 were serving time for gun crimes has Alabama Sen. Richard Shelby, a Republican, raising the hypocrisy flag.

“These recent sentence commutations come on the heels of the President’s newly proposed executive actions restricting firearms announced in January 2016,” **Shelby wrote in a letter** to U.S. Attorney Gen. Loretta Lynch on Thursday.

As a member of the GOP-controlled Senate Committee on Appropriations, he warned Lynch that he would not approve current requests to fund the operations of the Pardon Attorney’s Office, a branch of the Department of Justice. So far, in 2016 alone, the office has received more than **10,000 petitions** for pardon and commutation.

“While I feel these actions do more to restrict the rights of law-abiding citizens while having little direct impact on reducing violence, I have supported federal proposals to improve the enforcement and implementation of existing firearms laws,” Shelby continued. “However, enforcing existing firearms laws seems like an uphill battle when this Administration has made a point of commuting the sentences of criminals with firearm convictions.”

As **noted** by White House Counsel Neil Eggleston, “the President has now commuted the sentences of 248 individuals – more than the previous six Presidents combined. And, in total, he has commuted 92 life sentences.”

Of those, Shelby’s office claims as many as 33 of these criminals, repeatedly described as non-violent by the White House, were gun-carrying drug dealers.

“This announcement from the President sends the unfortunate and resounding message to criminals everywhere: if you are convicted of a crime involving a gun, the federal government will go easy on you,” wrote Shelby.

The details of the 12 commutations issued this week that involved firearms crimes, as **provided by the White House** are as follows:

Bernard Beard – Compton, CA

Offense: Conspiracy to distribute cocaine, cocaine base, heroin, and phencyclidine (PCP); felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition; Central District of California

Sentence: 240 months’ imprisonment; five years’ supervised release (May 22, 2009)

Reginald Wendell Boyd, Jr. – Greensboro, NC

Offense: Conspiracy to distribute cocaine hydrochloride; carry a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime; Middle District of North Carolina

Sentence: 180 months’ imprisonment; eight years’ supervised release (October 31, 2005)

Nabar Moneek Criam – Brooklyn, NY

Offense: Possessed with intent to distribute crack; possessed firearms during trafficking crime; Middle District of North Carolina

Sentence: 180 months’ imprisonment; five years’ supervised release (March 30, 2007)

Ian Kavanaugh Gavin – Eight Mile, AL

Offense: Possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine; using/carrying a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offense; Southern District of Alabama

Sentence: 180 months’ imprisonment; eight years’ supervised release (March 8, 2007)

George Michael Gray – Springfield, OR

Offense: Conspiracy to manufacture, possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine; manufacture of methamphetamine; possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine; possession of firearm in connection with drug trafficking offense; District of Oregon

Sentence: Life imprisonment; five years' supervised release (July 3, 1995)

Jerome Harris, Jr. – Mobile, AL

Offense: Possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine; possession with intent to distribute cocaine; use/carry/possess a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime; Southern District of Alabama

Sentence: 300 months' imprisonment; 10 years' supervised release (November 7, 2006)

Vernon Harris – Philadelphia, PA

Offense: Possession with intent to distribute; possession of firearm by convicted felon; Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Sentence: Life imprisonment; 10 years' supervised release (October 25, 1996)

Tommy Howard – Cincinnati, OH

Offense: Use of a firearm during the commission of a drug trafficking offense; Southern District of Ohio

Sentence: 292 months' imprisonment; five years' supervised release; \$1,000 fine (January 8, 2004)

Anthony Lee Lewis – Tampa, FL

Offense: Conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine; distribution of crack cocaine; possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine; convicted felon in possession of a firearm; possession with intent to distribute cocaine; Middle District of Florida

Sentence: Life imprisonment (September 16, 1994)

Ernest Spiller – East St. Louis, IL

Offense: Distribution of crack cocaine (two counts); maintaining a crack house; possession of a firearm in further of a drug trafficking crime; felon in possession of a firearm; Southern District of Illinois

Sentence: 352 months' imprisonment; three years' supervised release; \$1,000 fine (August 3, 2000)

Michael A. Yandal – Murray, KY

Offense: Possession with the intent to distribute approximately 50 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing cocaine base; possession with the intent to distribute marijuana; possession of a firearm in the furtherance of a drug trafficking crime; Western District of Kentucky

Sentence: 195 months' imprisonment; five years' supervised release (April 24, 2007); amended to 180 months' imprisonment (December 11, 2007)

Lamont Durville Glass – Knoxville, TN

Offense: Possession with intent to distribute cocaine base; felon in possession of a firearm; Eastern District of Tennessee

Sentence: 262 months' imprisonment; eight years' supervised release (January 9, 1998)

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/liberals-freak-out-as-online-petition-calling-for-open-carry-at-gop-convention-exceeds-42k/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20160401_FridayDigest_23&utm_campaign=/blog/liberals-freak-out-as-online-petition-calling-for-open-carry-at-gop-convention-exceeds-42k/

Anti-Gunners Freak Out as Online Petition Calling for Open Carry at GOP Convention Exceeds 42K

by S.H. BLANNELBERRY on MARCH 29, 2016

Following Quicken Loans Arena and Subject

Allow Open Carry of Firearms at the Quicken Loans Arena during the RNC Convention in July.

Len Darian Spokane, WA



42,514 supporters
1,488 needed to reach 50,000

I'm signing because... (optional)

or Share with Facebook friends

Sign!

or Display my name and comment on this petition

RECOGNIZE OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO OPEN CARRY FIREARMS AT THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION AT THE QUICKEN LOANS ARENA IN JULY 2016

A look at the petition for open carry at the GOP convention.

(Editor's note: *This article was a submission from freelance writer Jordan Michaels.*)

The [petition](#) calling for open carry at the Republican National Convention has gained tens of thousands of signatures in the last several days. The [most recent articles](#) report over 35,000 signatures; as of 10:00am EST on Monday, that number is up to +42,000. That's nearly 10,000 signatures in three hours, and the number is climbing every minute.

Anti-gunners, predictably, are using the petition's popularity as an opportunity for insults and condescension. One petition commenter, [Jeffrey Thomas](#) from San Francisco, said, "I

signed it because I believe in Natural Selection. I've got my popcorn ready to sit back and watch the fun." Another, [Larry Gassan](#) from Los Angeles (notice a geographic pattern here?), said, "I think that a hastily-brokered convention with a floor-fight can be solved with lots of guns." Brilliant, Larry.

The GOP convention is set to be held in July at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland, Ohio. The petition, published by Change.Org user Len Davies, calls Quicken Loans Arena's gun-free zone "a direct affront to the Second Amendment and puts all attendees at risk."

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump addressed the petition on ABC's *This Week*, but hesitated to offer his support: "I have not seen the petition. I want to see what it says. I want to read the fine print." Senators Ted Cruz and John Kasich—the two remaining GOP candidates—have yet to comment.

As the petition points out, Ohio is an open-carry state, but Quicken Loans Arena [strictly prohibits](#) firearms of any kind on the premises. Though the Secret Service is working with Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, and state and federal authorities to [bolster security](#), petition signers believe these measures are insufficient to keep convention delegates safe.

The GOP, of course, doesn't control the gun policy at Quicken Loans Arena. Also inconvenient for gun-grabbers: the Secret Service, not the GOP, makes the final call about whether or not guns will be allowed at the convention. The Service just released [a statement](#), in fact, saying that they won't.

But if you're an anti-gun liberal, details aren't your strong suit. The primary argument from the left-leaning, gun-grabbing camp accuses the GOP of hypocrisy. Most of the [top petition comments](#), like this [Think Progress article](#), propose some version of, "If the GOP wants guns in schools, they should have guns at their convention! Oh! Burn!" It would be funny if it weren't so inane.

It's quite possible the petition is nothing more than an anti-gun plant. Though the rhetoric of the petition itself is pro-Second Amendment, every top petition comment is from an anti-gunner, and criticizing the pro-gun GOP for something it can't control is #1 in the gun-grabbing playbook.

Either way, the situation demonstrates once again the hatred anti-gunners feel towards supporters of the Second Amendment, and the (il)logical leaps they'll take to accuse us of hypocrisy and ignorance.

<https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/5-tips-winning-hearts-minds-anti-gunners/>

5 tips for winning hearts, minds of anti-gunners

by S.H. BLANNELBERRY on JULY 9, 2014

Anti-gunners are all around us. Not only are they shopping at our corner supermarkets, exercising in our local gyms, frequenting our favorite bars and restaurants, dropping their kids off at our son or daughter's school, working for the employers and businesses that we do, but they may even be living under the same roof.

Don't panic.

While many are misguided and uninformed, anti-gunners are people too. As such they are susceptible to the same humanistic principles that guide our social universe, mainly the capacity to reason, verify facts and recognize when a previously held belief no longer rings true.

With that said, here are five tips to remember when trying to win over anti-gunners.

Attitude is everything

I could sum it up this way: don't be a jerk!



Pro-gun control advocates holding a sign during a rally of One Million Moms for Gun Control in front of the Massachusetts Statehouse in Boston on Jan. 26, 2013. (*Photo: Chitose Suzuki*)

This is easier said than done, of course. When discussing a hot-button topic like gun control, the fatuous idea that our constitutionally-protected Second Amendment right needs to be significantly restricted to save lives, it's easy to get frustrated and angry. But don't.

Let the better angels of your nature shine through during your conversation. What I mean to say is that you should be empathetic, patient, positive and kind. Hostility will get you nowhere. Pugnacity is a non-starter. And yelling your face off is futile, plus it makes you look like a fool.

Unfortunately, as pollster Frank Luntz has told us, a lot of the time it's not a matter of what you say, but what people hear. Your interlocutor will not even begin to hear what you're saying if you come across as a wrathful know-it-all.

So, be nice. And in staying true to that old adage: more honey, less vinegar (On this note, it might behoove one to refer to them as pro-gun control advocates instead of anti-gunners).

Listen!

Don't be afraid to listen. By that, I mean really listen to what they're saying. Don't outright dismiss it because it conflicts with what you know to be true. It's important to pay close attention to the details of their argument because those are what must ultimately be addressed to win hearts and minds.

Before you proselytize the gospel of guns to an anti-gunner, you need to know why the individual feels the way they do, which is directly connected to what they've read, what they've heard, the source of that information, what they've experienced and what they're

innate prejudices are against firearms and the Second Amendment. The only way to discover all of this is to ask questions and listen attentively.

It boils down to knowing your audience. The better you know your audience, the greater the chance that you have to impact the way in which they view firearms.

Facts are your best friend

Facts are your best friend in a conversation. And if your nice, and if you've listened to what your new friend has had to say, then you know what facts you need to share with them to disabuse them of their mistaken ideas.

“We need tougher gun laws because mass shootings are an epidemic in this country.”

Fact: Actually no, they're not. According to criminologist James Alan fox of Northeastern University in Boston, mass shootings have remained constant since 1976, with an average of 20 per year.

“I'm pro-gun control because more guns creates more crime.”

Fact: FBI crime statics over the past two decades show that violent crime (including gun crime), property crime and the homicide rate (including the gun-related homicide rate) have all uniformly decreased while during that same time period gun sales have skyrocketed and permissive concealed carry laws have expanded to all 50 states.

In other words, it's empirically clear that more guns do not have a positive effect on crime rates, in fact, if anything, more guns in the hands of law-abiding citizens has the capacity to decrease violent crime, property crime and the homicide rate.

Those are just two examples, but there are many more.

Firsthand experience

During your productive and hopefully pleasant debate where you've not only imparted some wisdom but built up some mutual affinity it always helps to invite the individual to a range. You know, the old, "Well, don't take my word for it, find out for yourself."



Signs at a pro-gun control protest following the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. *(Photo KEZI.com)*

In my opinion ignorance about and inexperience with firearms is really the biggest reason why people support gun control. They've never fired a gun, they've never been to a range, they know very little about them other than what they see in movies and on the front pages of their local newspaper. Consequently, they buy into the negative stereotype and in many cases become fearful of firearms.

Folks who support gun control need to be aware of the facts, as noted above, but they also need to discover for themselves the positive aspects of keeping and bearing arms. For one thing, shooting in and of itself is a fun activity. It's exhilarating and can even be a stress reliever. Then there's the very convincing argument that owning a firearm is the optimal way to defend oneself, family and property, to say nothing of the other bonuses like hunting and shooting sports.

But given some quality range time, with some insightful instructions on stance, grip, sight alignment, target acquisition, trigger manipulation, it doesn't take long for one to get bitten by the gun bug.

The other reason I invite anti-gunners to the range is because it reveals a lot about their character. Those who refuse the invite for no legitimate reason show that they are deeply driven by an agenda or by an ideology as opposed to the pursuit of real knowledge, that is, the knowledge that's required to make an informed judgment about a precious right.

Rinse, lather, repeat

Chances are you're not going to hit a home run with every anti-gunner you meet the first time around. But if you stay persistent and if you follow all the tips I've illustrated, over time you'll begin to change their perspective.

Think about it. It only makes sense. How long can someone maintain that firearms are the scourge of society when they have had several pleasant conversations with a likable, knowledgeable gun owner (you) who has no shortage of facts to illustrate the good aspects of gun ownership?

My answer: Not long.

http://www.gundigest.com/gun-accessory-reviews-articles/when-did-suppressors-come-about?utm_source=wir&utm_campaign=gd-dwb-wir-160331-ModernShooter&utm_content=831929_GDMS160331&utm_medium=email

When Did Suppressors Come About?

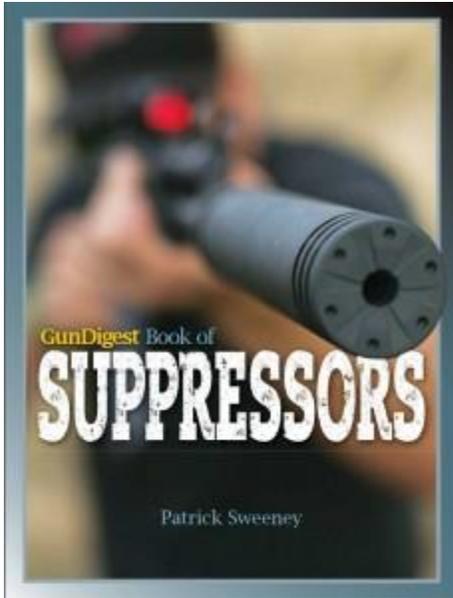
By: Patrick Sweeney | March 29, 2016

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Hiram Percy Maxim is credited with the invention of the first firearms suppressor. Interestingly and logically enough, he also designed and manufactured automobile mufflers.

When did silencers come about? Before we can answer that, there's a couple of things we have to make clear; one, it wasn't possible to have silencers until the invention of smokeless powder.



Become an expert in keeping quiet with the [Gun Digest Book of Suppressors](#).

Oh, you say “of course” but think about it; the percentage of black powder that is actually combusted is small, compared to that of smokeless. Lots of smoke, lots of powder residue, and lots of cleaning afterwards. But then there is also the matter of noise. Having fired black powder firearms (I was heavily into black powder when I was starting the journey that led to here) I can attest to the noise being distinctly different, lower-pitched and perhaps at a lower decibel level as well. That is one thing I intend to look into when I have the time and fully wring decibel levels out with the sound meter.

The second thing is the apparent temporal dysfunction of many anti-gunners. From listening to them, you’d think that “assault weapons” came about in the 1980s, that mass shootings didn’t happen until Reagan was elected to the Presidency, and that silencers were unknown before spy movies became popular.

The invention of silencers occurred in the first decade of the 20th century, patented by a fellow named Maxim. No, not the machine-gun Maxim, but his son. Hiram Percy Maxim was not one to go slowly. Even at a time when precocious young men could attend college at an early age, he not only attended MIT early, but graduated early. He patented his first firearms silencer in 1909. We have to be specific, because the Maxim Silent Firearms Company later changed its name and pretty much only made mufflers for internal combustion engines.

Which, when I found out about it, allowed me to connect a few dots. OK, let’s look at the first decade of the 20th century, firearms-wise and other inventions as well. With Roosevelt in office, we’ve now had about a generation of shooters who are familiar with smokeless powder. And it is noisier than black powder. While no one has thought to actually invent hearing protection (at least, not that I’ve been able to find) they had to have noticed that these new cartridges, and smokeless powder, made your ears ring more than grand-dad’s old black powder rifle.

But what was really making everyone cranky were these newfangled horseless carriages. Not to pick on them, but we’ve all been standing on the corner when a Harley goes by, right? Noisy? You betcha. OK, imagine an early automobile, granted not with the horsepower of a Harley, but completely un-muffled. Even your lawnmower has a muffler. Early automobiles got a reputation for scaring horses, disturbing the peace, making a racket, and generally being unpleasant. And deservedly so. Early autos weren’t all that powerful; it took time to get even the most powerful engines up out of the teens as far as horsepower was concerned. But un-muffled, your average city street corner in 1905–1910 sounded like the parking lot of a Harley dealership. As a comparison, a Harley motor can develop on the order of 65–70 horsepower.

Cadillac won the Dewar Trophy in 1914, with a racing car whose engine developed a thundering 40 to 50 horsepower (records vary). Your average automobile in 1914 probably had half that at its disposal. But by 1914, there would have been thousands on city streets. Noisy? Like you can't imagine, in this era of hybrids and electric cars.

Maxim designed mufflers to tame engine noise. And, since each cylinder combustion was a separate noise event, doing the same to firearms was easy. After all, even an early engine ran at a higher rpm than one of his father's machine guns, right? If he could tame the noise of a 1,000 rpm engine (when you add in the firing of all the cylinders, and not consider just the rotation of the crankshaft) then a single gunshot was a piece of cake.

I've seen early magazine ads for silencers, showing properly dressed gentlemen plinking in their parlors, not even waking up the sleeping dog. If you wanted to buy a silencer back then, you simply sent a check or other funds to the Maxim Company and they mailed you a silencer. (You could probably have simply enclosed cash, since the basic ones were maybe twenty dollars.) Well, they mailed you one if you lived in a rational place. New York City had passed the Sullivan Act in 1911, controlling the purchase of firearms. Meant to keep those unruly southern-European immigrants from getting their hands on guns, I'd be surprised if it didn't address silencers sooner or later, probably sooner.



If you ordered a Maxim silencer, it would come by way of the U.S. Postal Service. Well, back before the Depression, anyway.

I can't say I've had a chance to look at a large number of Maxim suppressors, but I'm not sure anyone alive can say that, with the possible exception of Kevin Brittingham. They were not exactly common when they were new, and time has taken its toll. That, and stupid legislation. But the ones I have seen had some characteristics that jumped out at me. For one, they are all small. I mean, a Maxim silencer meant for use on an '03 Springfield, in .30-06, is not much bigger than what we now make for a .22LR. He clearly didn't believe in making them any larger than he had to, or else the end-users were so happy to have something this glorious, it didn't occur to them to ask, "Can you make it quieter still?"

Second, I have only ever seen a direct-thread mount on a Maxim silencer. I wouldn't be surprised to find he had done some work to make a quick-connect system of some kind, but the only ones I've ever seen were direct-thread. This is solid, simple, easy to understand, and something any competent gunsmith of the time could have managed. Well, a competent gunsmith with a lathe big enough to hold the rifle barrel, perhaps. Now, don't quote me on that, because as much as I've seen, I haven't seen a lot of Maxim suppressors. Heck, I'm not sure anyone alive has seen a lot of them, they are rare.

Last, his designs were all offset. That is, the bullet path was not down the center of the tube, but traveled along a path above the centerline of the tube. This meant the silencer would not obscure the sights. Interesting, and a reminder that back then, iron sights were the only sights.

Editor's Note: This article is excerpted from Gun Digest Book of Suppressors.



[Making Noise Over Suppressors](#)

Patrick Sweeney pulls back the veil on these intriguing apparatuses in the [Gun Digest Book of Suppressors](#). The well-respected gun writer and master gunsmith covers every base concerning suppressors in this practical reference, explaining how they function, their history and their uses. He also gives a number makes and models the once over, giving shooters an idea of the available options and market prices. He also touches upon the modifications your firearms require to get hushed up by a suppressor. [Get Your Copy Now](#)

Thomas Jefferson wrote that "A bill of rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth, general or particular, and what no just government should refuse."

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Paul Curtis
President - CARGO

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"If you can read this, thank a teacher. For the fact that it is in English, thank a Veteran."

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