

## Biden Gun Order Fails Background Check

*Nothing the president has done would have stopped a single shooting we've witnessed.*

Like most grandmothers, Carolyn Pettiford thought she was done raising children. A horrible February night in 2022 changed that forever. Her daughter, Ashley, had been parked on a Kansas City Street when a man walked up, leaned into the car, and fired a gun twice. When the police arrived, they found Ashley and her boyfriend dead, and Carolyn's terrified five-year-old grandson alive, but shot badly in the face in the backseat. "He's a pretty strong kid," Carolyn says. But "to have to tell a five-year-old that he won't be able to talk to his mother... that he will never be able to see his mother or to hug her, it's hard."

There are 20,138 families like Carolyn's, who started 2023 with an empty seat at the dinner table because gun violence killed someone they loved last year. And while everyone's stories are different, they all have one thing in common: There isn't a single gun control policy that could have prevented them.

President Joe Biden, standing in front of a California dance hall where 11 people were mowed down in January, claims otherwise. Last Tuesday, by executive order, he announced a series of new attacks on the Second Amendment — all under the guise that stricter gun policies will somehow end the violence. It's time, he said emphatically, to "do something. Do something big." The trouble is, Democrats don't seem to care if that "something" is the right thing.

Under Biden's latest congressional end-run, he aims to move America "as close to universal background checks as possible without additional legislation" — which, as conservatives know, is just his lawless way of pushing the country closer to a national firearms registry that could facilitate totalitarian control. Like most Republicans, Congressman Greg Murphy (N.C.) is outraged by the idea, since a) Biden has no constitutional authority to impose these policies without Congress, b) it's an invasion of Americans' privacy, and c) it won't do anything to prevent the bloodshed on our cities' streets.

"The sad thing is," Murphy said on "Washington Watch," "this is an absolute aberration and misunderstanding of who commits crimes with guns. It's not law-abiding people, but that's who he's after." So what purpose does any of this grandstanding serve? "I don't know of one," the congressman replied. "I don't know that [there's] any need for ... the government to know who owns a gun and who does not own a gun. I'd love for them to know which criminals own guns — I could probably get behind that. But ... law-abiding citizens? That's not the right of the government. We have a right to own a gun for hunting, for self-protection. And the government has no right to intrude upon that privacy."

Among other things, the order also weaponizes the DOJ to crackdown on gun sellers they believe aren't policing buyers strongly enough. But gun sellers aren't the problem, the data argues. Criminals are.

Josiah O'Neil, a former deputy sheriff in southern California who just ran for Congress, believes there's a major flaw in the Left's thinking, which is that gun control laws always assume someone who's willing to commit murder would hesitate to break gun laws. "I've never met a criminal, whether in my local law enforcement or federal work, that respected laws. By definition, criminals don't," he explained on "Washington Watch" after the Uvalde massacre.

If anything, these knee-jerk reactions — these supposed "gun control" efforts — turn innocent citizens into sitting ducks. "When places adopt stricter gun control laws, there tends to be an increase in violent crime," explained scholar John Lott. His research at the Crime Prevention Research Center found that "every place in the world that's banned, either all guns or all handguns has seen an increase in murder." Domestically, "over 94% of the successful mass public shootings that have occurred in the United States since 1950 have taken place in areas where citizens weren't allowed to ... have guns."

Just look at Chicago and Baltimore — cities with some of the strictest gun laws in the country. Gun-related violence is through the roof. That's because the same criminals who break the law to shoot someone are breaking the law to get the guns to do it with.

In Kansas City, where Ashley was killed, federal investigators say there are more than 2,000 stolen and illegal guns "floating" around the area. In fact, the man who ended her life and blinded her son used one. That's also in keeping with the Justice Department's findings from 2019 (the most recent data available). Only 10.1% of the inmates the government surveyed got their guns from a retail source. The other 90% either stole their firearms, bought them from an underground store, took them from their victims, received them as a gift, had someone else buy them, or bought, borrowed, traded, or rented them from friends or family. Barely 7% bought the gun in their own name and just 6.7% underwent a background check.

Last month, a blockbuster report from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms confirmed the trend, pointing out that more than a million guns were stolen from private citizens from 2017-2021. "Crime guns may change hands several times after that first retail sale, and some of those transactions may be theft or vio-

**BIDEN** (Continued on page 3)

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*...dedicated to the restoration of the inalienable right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment*

**The Alliance is a regionally-based, grass-roots organization that seeks to:**

1. Counter the designs of malicious legislators.
2. Confront the media's twisted portrayals of gun rights issues.
3. Politicize and activate gun owners in defense of their rights.
4. Acquaint the public with the true nature of the Second Amendment.
5. Network with other pro-gun groups to coordinate local, state and national strategies.
6. Train people in basic firearm safety and handgun defense.
7. Sponsor and support pro-gun legislation
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**COMING EVENTS**

Events may be cancelled at last minute due to Covid Restrictions.

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**WMSA**

**General Membership Meeting**

**May 23, 2023**

July, 25, 2023

Sept. 26, 2023

Nov. 28, 2023

**7:00 PM**

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**MVACA**

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**July 29-30, 2023**

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• • •

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**BIDEN** (Continued from page 1)

late [firearm laws]. But what we know is from the large numbers of gun sales, there are lots of ways that legal guns end up in the hands of prohibited persons.”

And unfortunately, thanks to the Democrats’ other failed policies — defunding the police, for one — there’s a serious shortage of law enforcers to track those illegal guns down. From small towns to big cities, National Police Association spokesman Betsy Branter Smith warns that the “anti-police rhetoric of 2020 and its political fallout” has put departments at their lowest populations in 30 years. “I think this could be a generational problem,” she warned. “This could go on for years. Even if, let’s say, I could flip a magic switch tomorrow, and everyone loved the police and every kid in America wanted to be a cop ... it takes nine months to a year from the date of hire for a person to become a police officer.”

But it isn’t just the reduction in force, it’s the reduction in penalties too. When people do commit crimes, Democrats are seeing to it that they aren’t punished. In Washington, D.C. right now, two-thirds of the arrests (67%) aren’t even prosecuted. The city’s criminal code has been so relaxed that “about half the people charged with murder typically have a prior gun arrest, according to police, though not necessarily a conviction.”

Even on routine traffic stops, The Washington Post reports, police are finding and seizing illegal guns. It’s a regular occurrence, officers say. In a single week last year, D.C. arrested 23 people for gun offenses, and “prosecutors did not pursue charges against 13 of them.” The city’s police chief, Robert Contee, fumed that the refusal to punish offenders is “very frustrating,” especially since so many of these people who are released from custody could be “picking up another gun.”

“[I] want to see people going to jail and being held accountable when they violate our community and go out there and use illegal firearms in our city.” Until then, Contee argues, nothing will change. The Left can scapegoat legal gun owners and sellers all it wants, but that doesn’t solve the deeper problems their policies are creating.

As plenty of people have pointed out, nothing the president has done would have stopped a single shooting we’ve witnessed — not Uvalde, not Monterey, not even Ashley Pettiford. This latest order isn’t action; it’s political theater, designed to play on people’s emotions and fears. Biden isn’t “accelerat[ing]” the work “to save more lives.” He’s distracting Americans from the border crisis, growing national security threats, and the economy — and wiping his feet on the Constitution as he does it.

Carolyn — and every parent who’s buried a child — deserves better.

### **National Gun Registration Legislation**

Pennsylvania RINO Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick has just introduced National Gun Registration legislation (H.R. 715).

As the lead sponsor of H.R. 715, *he’s enlisted 180 Democrat cosponsors . . . all Communist gun-grabbers!* Because a Republican like Fitzpatrick is the lead sponsor of this bill, there’s a real danger to our Second Amendment rights in the House.

More than a dozen RINOs voted for gun control last summer! Please keep reading, I’ll explain below.

#### **Here are the details:**

H.R. 715 creates a national registry of every gun owner in America, setting the stage for Joe Biden (or a future gun-grabbing President) to implement widespread gun confiscation down the road! And should you dare to sell or give one of your firearms away to a family member, a friend you’ve known for decades, or anyone else without first registering that gun with the federal government, you would be facing FELONY charges.

H.R. 715 is the backbone of National Gun Registration and outlaws the private transfer of firearms unless you add your name to a trackable government database. This is a dream bill for Biden and the Dems, and now they have a Republican leading the charge!

As I mentioned earlier, there is a much talked about legislative maneuver where this bill could pass. Even though Republicans control the House, a discharge petition could be used to pass this and get it over to the Senate.

Currently there are 213 Democrats in the House. All would vote for H.R. 715.

If the Dems can find a handful of Republicans (5) to go along with their gun-grab, they could get to 218 and pass this bill out of the House via a discharge petition.

Remember, there are 18 Republicans in the House who represent Biden-won districts. They vote like RINOs.

Fitzpatrick is giving the Dems the “bipartisan” support they need that could lead to a discharge petition disaster. Second Amendment supporters need to FIGHT BACK!

With the shooting at “gun-free” Michigan State last night, expect the gun control crowd to fire up in a big way.

We’re monitoring the situation on Capitol Hill as the details unfold.

Most importantly, take action today to make sure weak-kneed Republicans don’t cave to the gun-grabbers!

**For America,**

**Chris Dorr, President**

**American Firearms Association**





## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### RALLY DAY 2023

*K. L. Jamison*

The annual Gun Rights rally is actually a rally for the rights of gun owners. Guns are an inanimate object and do not have rights. However, as I write this someone may be writing a manifesto that guns have the right not to be owned by me.

About 170 people showed up for Rally Day on 19 April, 2023. This was the anniversary of that day in 1775 when an ancestor was a toll taker on Concord Bridge. With the family musket he took a toll of British soldiers who had come to take his neighbors' guns. It is also the anniversary of the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto uprising when starving Jews with a handful of small arms held off nazi troops for thirty days. They were only defeated when the nazis burned down the ghetto building by building. The date was a coincidence. It was a Wednesday. We wanted a day in the middle of the week when we would be assured of having the legislature's attention. It was also a workday. Our people took time from work to be there. The legislature was also at work. Of the dozen or so legislators who had expressed a desire to speak, only a few were able to break away from their duties to do so. Representative Jim Schulte came to see us before the festivities started and he had to answer the call to vote. Mike Ceipot and Bill Eigel spoke forcefully for our rights as did Representative Mazzie Boyd. Ms. Boyd gave an enthusiastic speech. She has a bill to make the Hawkin rifle the state firearm. The Hawkin was made in St. Louis in the frontier days and is featured in many movies and histories of the period. Decades ago a Hawkin collector brought his collection to Rally Day. He removed the percussion cap mechanism so they could not be said to be capable of use. We were told that the antiques must be immediately removed. Times have changed. For the latest Rally Day I showed my License to Carry and walked through the metal detector with my pistol.

Vivek Malek, the Missouri State Treasurer took time from signing our tax refund checks to speak. He spoke sincerely in support and closed with "God bless you."

Susan Myers from the DC Project spoke. The DC Project is a women's group formed to take their gender back from the anti-gun rights crowd. She spoke passionately and led the crowd with a rousing chant of "Hey Hey Ho Ho Gun Free zones have got to go!"

There is movement in that direction. The bill to allow concealed carry license holders to carry on buses and into churches has passed the legislature. It is going to the Senate which needs encouragement to vote on it. Under the bill churches can still post themselves "no guns."

Next year will be the Twentieth anniversary of License to Carry going into effect. It will be an important day. I will see you there.

It was a good day for Liberty and our presence made it great.

I thank-you for the honor of being your president.

## Constitution ruled unconstitutional

In 2021, Missouri Republican Governor Mike Parson signed into law a bill dubbed the Second Amendment Preservation Act. The law aimed to protect Missourians' Second Amendment rights from potential infringement by the federal government. The Biden administration sued, and on Tuesday U.S. District Judge Brian C. Wimes, a Barack Obama appointee, ruled that the law was an unconstitutional breach of the supremacy clause, which elevates federal laws over state ones. However, the Constitution and Bill of Rights protect individual rights the federal government cannot outlaw. Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey has promised to appeal the ruling.

"Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness of the people; and not for profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men."

—John Adams

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## LIBERTY NOTES

By Kevin L. Jamison

It is a Good Day for Liberty.

At the American Legion Gun Show I saw a NAA mini-revolver in .22 short. I have decided that will be my extreme-old age-arthritis gun. The seller was selling it with a NAA .22 magnum mini-revolver. I already have one of those. It may be a way station on the road to the .22 short. I shall have to develop an effective .22 short cartridge. The amount of gunpowder in a .22 short is limited. I shall have to work on the bullet. People have developed hollow-point bullets, fragmenting bullets, and bullets with a central post. My bullets will be better. My bullets will have bayonets.

I saw a DVD movie called "Violent Night." It is a comedy action film about Santa Claus. Santa Claus is a retired (in some way) Viking raider whose favorite weapon was a war hammer. Santa is delivering presents to a wealthy child on his extremely good list. A gang of thugs take the family hostage. Santa locates a sledgehammer which brings back memories of old skills. Suddenly "Santa Clause is coming to town" has a whole new meaning. He makes new use of the naughty list.

There is an interesting book out, "Master Slave Husband Wife." In 1850 a slave couple escaped to Boston through a unique ruse. They joined other escaped slaves on the abolitionist lecture circuit. This antagonized the slave states who demanded that the North fulfill its Constitutional duty to return escaped slaves. They threatened to secede. I don't believe they thought this through. If they had formed their own country the North would no longer have a duty to return escaped slaves. The book is interesting in its description of the divisions in the abolitionist movement. There were differences over tactics, disputes over finances and personalities; some of the leaders hated each other. Our movement also has these differences. The good news was that the escaped slaves were effective speakers. Frederick Douglas believed that if the nation knew the reality of slavery, it would rise up against it. He was over-optimistic. Still, the speakers were effective as were their books and newspaper interviews. We have a similar resource. Self-defense victors can provide a compelling story. They also refute the opposition's claim that there are no acts of self-defense. Minorities refute the claim that we are only old white guys. It seems that drag queens will give us access to new venues.

I listened to James Paterson's audiobook "The Perfect Assassin." The plot required some suspension of disbelief, but I was completely stopped at only two points. In one a female assassin is described as firing a .50 machine gun from the shoulder. This seems unlikely to me. First, the M2 machine gun weighs 84 pounds. Second it is fired by a butterfly switch at the very rear of the gun. It cannot be fired from the shoulder. Later it has the same assassin flick the safety on a Glock. Our people know that a Glock does not have an external safety. These passages caused me to disbelieve other passages. The old saying is "False in one, false in all." Hemingway cautioned authors to be accurate in their descriptions. Our speeches and writings will be nit-picked for mistakes. We have to fact-check. I know. The opposition from the President on down tells lies that the media accepts without question. We cannot do the same.

A thief in New York City shot an employee. The employee took the gun from him and shot back. The thief was charged with assault and illegal possession of a gun. The employee was charged with the same crimes in some bizarre idea of equity. This is the prosecutor who is keeping the city safe from President Trump giving hush money to a porno star. There was an outrage over the charges against the employee. The prosecutor dismissed those charges and blamed the police for bringing them. This is almost certainly a lie. Police do not file charges, they may recommend charges, but it is the prosecutor who files them.

A Michigan man was cleaning out his deceased brother's car and found a gun. Being on parole he turned it in to his parole officer. He was immediately charged with being a felon in possession of a gun. There was a case twenty-five years ago in San Francisco. An ex-felon was at a party that was invaded by robbers. He disarmed a robber and saved the day. He was also charged with being a felon in possession of a gun. Some people are so deranged about guns that their actions defy common sense. We have to deal with such people.

The St. Louis Metro Transit sells ads on its buses and light rail. It refuses to sell advertising advising people not to make straw purchases for guns. A straw purchase is buying a gun for a prohibited person. Straw purchases are a crime and a major source of guns for the criminal world. The ads are a joint project of the firearms industry and the ATF. It seems that the Transit Authority saw the word "gun," had a fit and stopped thinking. They do not want to credit the firearms industry with anything.

I Second That.

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**A CHEAP LEGAL MEMO  
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*K. L. Jamison*

I put the word "insurance" in quotation marks because the self-defense "insurance" policies being sold are not insurance. They are not vetted by the Missouri insurance commissioner or the insurance commissioner of any state (to my knowledge). A very few states have banned the sale of such policies (not Missouri). In a very few states there is litigation over banning the sale of such policies (not Missouri).

These agreements are really just membership benefits. The individual joins an organization and as part of the membership the individual is assured that legal fees will be paid in self-defense cases. There is sometimes a limit on how much will be paid. The price of the defense for a minor self-defense case involving brandishing a firearm or assault is about the price of a good used car. The cost of defense for a major self-defense case in which a person is shot is about the price of a good new car. The cost of defense when the assailant is killed is about the cost of a new house in a good neighborhood. Bail will be an additional cost. Expert witnesses will be an additional cost. Investigators will be an additional cost.

It is widely said that if one has a good shoot, a justified shoot, then nothing bad will happen. I wish this was true. I have had several cases and read many more in which an innocent man was prosecuted.

There are many groups offering this membership benefit. Some are financed by an insurance policy backing up the organization. Others are financed by a fund gathered in some way by the organization. The size of the fund is important. A group that has paid for two or three George Zimmerman size trials may be bankrupt. Membership in such an organization is akin to holding an empty sack. Before signing the contract see what states where it is not valid.

Various charts display the differences in the membership benefits of different groups. These may be helpful, but only if it is determined who wrote the chart. Some groups provide instructional videos or magazines giving self-defense advice. This allows the member to argue that he or she was keeping up to date on proper behavior and law.

Some groups limit representation to firearms self-defense. Some will not cover the case if there is a plea. Over 95% of criminal cases end in a plea to a lesser charge. When a prosecutor charges an A felony punishable by thirty years in prison and offers to drop it to an A misdemeanor and will not ask for more than thirty days in jail; that can be a hard offer to reject.

The group will offer many benefits beyond legal representation. It is critical to read the contract. If it does not offer three things, it is useless.

1. Money for the lawyer of your choice. The money must be paid up front and as billed by the attorney. Payment at the end of the case is far too late. Some of these groups require the member to select a lawyer from their list. Hiring a lawyer is a very personal matter and requires a degree of latitude.
2. Money for bail. I have only had one client instruct me not to ask for bail. The deceased's family threatened to kill him if he got out.
3. Money for expert witnesses and investigators. I have had private detectives use metal detectors to search for bullets and find witnesses who do not want to be found. I have hired gunsmiths to tell me if a gun was functioning properly. Medical examiners, psychologists, police defensive experts and many more are increasingly necessary in our legal system.

If the contract does not offer these three things, walk away.

*Kevin L. Jamison is an attorney in the Kansas City Missouri area concentrating in the area of weapons and self-defense.*

*Please send questions to Kevin L. Jamison 2614 NE 56<sup>th</sup> Ter Gladstone Missouri 64119-2311 [KLJamisonLaw@earthlink.net](mailto:KLJamisonLaw@earthlink.net). Individual answers are not usually possible but may be addressed in future columns.*

*This information is for legal information purposes and does not constitute legal advice. For specific questions you should consult a qualified attorney.*

"In a nation of more than 330 million people, where more than 125 million citizens own firearms, mass assaults are rare, despite the 24/7 wall-to-wall commercial media churn to sell advertising. And on the subject of sensational headlines about the death of innocents, where does the MSM think mentally ill people get some of their inspiration for such attacks?"

—Mark Alexander

"The Armalite 15, or AR-15, is not a military weapon that was ported to civilian use. It is a civilian rifle that later the military modified for itself. To say it is a military weapon is to repeat a talking point but reject a truth."

—Erick Erickson

"Everyone has the right to a trial to prove innocence." —Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) ("*In Constitutional America, it's 'innocent until proven guilty.'* *In Democrat fascist America, it's 'prove your innocence.'*")

—Tim Young)





**Missouri AG prioritizing Biden social media collusion lawsuit, defending Second Amendment law**

A lawsuit against President Joe Biden’s administration for alleged collusion with social media companies and defending Missouri’s Second Amendment Preservation Act are priorities for Republican Attorney General Andrew Bailey.

Litigation in both cases began while Republican U.S. Sen. Eric Schmitt was serving as Missouri’s Attorney General. After the State of the State address on Wednesday, Bailey, who was appointed in November to replace Schmitt, said depositions in the social media collusion case are leading toward an injunction.

“We have documentary evidence, we have testimonial evidence and we intend to seek more evidence in the coming weeks,” Bailey said in an interview with The Center Square. “We’re on an expedited discovery timeline. At some point, we’re going to get into a procedural posture where we’re going to ask for an injunction to prevent further coercion and collusion from the federal government and prevent Biden and his team from censoring speech.”

**Missouri v. Biden** was filed by Schmitt and Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry in May and they were granted a motion for discovery to expedite a possible preliminary injunction in July. In addition to releasing documents in the case, they released the transcript of a **deposition of Dr. Anthony Fauci**, Biden’s chief medical advisor who recently retired.

Last week, Bailey released emails from White House Digital Director Robert Flaherty and other associates to major social media platforms. It included an **email from Flaherty to Facebook** asking why a video by Tucker Carlson on COVID-19 vaccines didn’t violate the social media platform’s standards.

“What we’ve demonstrated and what we believe is going on is censorship because it’s unelected federal bureaucrats targeting specific speech that they disfavor and asking that it be removed from big-tech social media platforms,” Bailey said. “That’s the problem. It stifles free, fair and open debate and it undermines our First Amendment. There should be marketplace of ideas that is free from government censorship.”

Bailey said defending the Missouri’s Second Amendment Preservation Act in **lawsuits** also will be a priority. The city of Arnold filed a lawsuit and St. Louis City and County and Jackson County filed a separate suit seeking to overturn the law. Both lawsuits claim the law restricts local police cooperating with federal law enforcement on gun violations.

“The Second Amendment is what makes all of the other (amendments) possible,” Bailey said. “It prevents enforcement of federal firearm regulations that exceed or violate the Second Amendment. We need to be going after criminals and not guns, first and foremost. I think most law enforcement officers in the state of Missouri agree with that. If we spent more time going after the criminals and not the guns, we will have safer streets.”

Bailey said the Missouri law is aligned with the principles of the authors of the U.S. Constitution.

“The founders understood that, number one, our rights come from God and not men,” Bailey said. “The federal constitution was a floor, not a ceiling, and the states could be guarantors of individual liberties. So the state legislature wants to expand upon the foundational rights codified in the Second Amendment and they have authority to do that. It’s about federalism and individual liberty.”



**Roger Helle**

**“While politicians are supposed to represent the people who elected them, they now see voters as their servants.”**

**GRASSROOTS PERSPECTIVE**



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 THE CONSEQUENCES OF GUN CONTROL
 

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Within hours of a shooting at Michigan State University that left three dead and five in critical condition, Michigan State Rep. Ranjeev Puri took to Twitter to address the nation. "F\*\*\* your thoughts and prayers," he said, riffing on the progressive meme that thoughts and prayers in the aftermath of a school shooting distract from needed action on gun control. "Living in a society plagued by gun violence can be prevented," he said. "Our office will continue to work tirelessly to pass common sense gun control."

Forget, if you can, how embarrassed you would be if your son said something like that. Even on his terms, there is little chance the "common sense" regulations Puri had in mind would have prevented what unfolded Monday at Michigan State.

The shooter, Anthony McRae, was a disturbed forty-something who lived with his father. He had no connection to the university, had never been committed to a hospital, or been adjudicated incompetent. His only connection to law enforcement, save a handful of traffic violations, was an arrest in 2019 after he was found with an illegal firearm. Prosecutors dropped the felony charge and McRae pleaded down to a misdemeanor, resulting in probation. Had McRae been convicted of the felony, it would have been illegal for him to possess a firearm. But they didn't.

The standard menu of "common sense" measures would not have stopped the shooting. "Tightening up the background check system" wouldn't have done much; McRae didn't have a felony conviction or an outstanding commitment order, as would have been required to deny him a weapon under Michigan law. "Banning assault rifles" wouldn't have done much, either; police haven't said what weapon he used, and in any case, McRae had a record of obtaining guns illegally in the past and there's no reason to suspect he couldn't have done so again.

There are two only things, really, that could have prevented Monday's tragedy: confiscating every firearm in circulation, and enforcing existing laws against illegal possession. The first option, though it is probably the one Puri prefers, is a nonstarter. The second option—enforcing existing laws—is plausible, but as Connor Freirsdorf reports, progressive prosecutors around the country have been unwilling to do so.

In 2022, the *New York Times* reported that Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg would "avoid prosecuting people for gun possession unless they were actually involved in violent crime." (He later changed his tune in response to pressure from Mayor Eric Adams.) Los Angeles's George Gascon filed 63 percent fewer gun-related sentencing enhancements than prosecutors had averaged over the previous nine years, saying "raw emotions and fear mongering" had resulted in a "tremendous amount of inequity" in the criminal justice system. Philadelphia D.A. Larry Krasner deferred seven times more gun possession cases between 2017 and 2018 than had been deferred in the two years before he took office.

Each was concerned that gun-law enforcement disproportionately burdened racial minorities. Others make more race-neutral arguments. In Michigan, defense lawyer Wade Fink defended the practice of pleading a first-time firearms defendant down to a misdemeanor charge to the *Detroit News*.

"It is exceedingly common for someone who doesn't have a criminal history and was carrying a concealed weapon. If everybody went to prison for that, you would have an overcrowding problem and you would be giving a lot of younger people felonies, which hurts them their whole life."

Fink is right that better enforcement of existing weapons laws would increase the number of people incarcerated and the number of young people with felony convictions. That is a non-negligible human cost. But it is inevitable feature of gun control legislation.

Prosecutors are tasked with enforcing the laws passed by legislators. Limited resources and the demands of justice may lead him to decline prosecution or plead particular defendants down. But at the level of principle, the passage of a law signals the state's willingness to prosecute those who violate that law. The legislature should not pass a law it would not see enforced, and gun control advocates should not push for new criminal penalties if they're unwilling to live with "overcrowding" in prisons or larger numbers of young felons.

Gun control advocates have to face that every "common sense" gun proposal, from expanded background checks to extensive permitting requirements, is backed by the threat of felony conviction. They also have to face another harsh reality: The group most disproportionately represented among the offenders of American gun laws are not evangelicals, downscale whites, Trump voters, or frat boys—the enemies of state—but African Americans. Nearly 50 percent of all people arrested on weapons charges in 2021 were black. Nearly 70 percent of Michigan homicide victims were, too.

If you enact the kind of "common sense gun laws" Representative Puri has in mind, you are going to create an entire class of gun owners who, overnight, go from being law-abiding gun owners to potential felons. A lot of them might be black. That is not necessarily an argument against those laws. It is a recognition of what might follow if gun control advocates get what they're asking for.

"Perhaps the president should reissue his executive order and say that all immigrants and refugees coming into the country must undergo more severe background checks just in case they want to purchase a firearm. The Left would really be in a bind then!"

—Gary Bauer

"Arbitrary power has seldom ... been introduced in any country at once. It must be introduced by slow degrees, and as it were step by step."

—Lord Chesterfield





**Livingston County Sheriff clarifies his position on gun control legislation**

Livingston County Board of Commissioners vow to support the Second Amendment, direct Sheriff, Prosecutor to not enforce any law contrary to Constitution

The Michigan state legislature passed a series of bills regarding extreme risk protection orders, also known as red flag laws Wednesday. However, local counties are already saying they'll defy the future laws. Livingston County is among them.

A subcommittee of the Livingston County Board of Commissioners has already approved a resolution reaffirming their commitment to upholding the Second Amendment. In it, they pledge to not allow resources to be spent enforcing any law deemed to be contrary to the Constitution.

The Livingston County Sheriff is explaining why he won't be enforcing the new gun control laws passed by the state. However, local counties are already saying they'll defy the future laws. Livingston County is among them.

Livingston County Sheriff Mike Murphy admits he took issue with the initial wording of the new resolution because he felt it hamstrung his office.

"The heartburn I had with the initial resolution was the fact that it essentially spoke to how I was going to do my job here at the sheriff's office," explained Murphy. "You know, the board of commissioners can't tell me how to run my office quite frankly." He's clear on where he stands on the new gun control legislation.

"You know, I made it very clear early on where I stood on the whole constitution thing. I was one of the first sheriffs that came out and said I was not going to enforce the mask mandates that the governor had overstepped her authority to continue. So there's really no question or should be a question in the voters' minds where I'm at," said Murphy.

He says, overall, he thinks the recent gun control coming from the Michigan legislature is a "feel good thing." He admits he's unclear of the final language of the red flag law, which just cleared the state senate Wednesday. Absent those bills, however, he doesn't believe the new laws are unconstitutional.

"Everything that has been passed to this point, short of the red flag laws, are all 'after the fact laws,'" said Murphy. "In my opinion, it was very disingenuous that this was being sold as a 'This is going to protect people, this is going to save people.'" As for the red flag laws, he's worried they will violate the public's due process.

"For me, it's going to be a true hearing that takes place in a court where both sides are heard," Murphy said.

So, what does he think could make a big difference? "The biggest thing in gun control is mental health. It always has been," explained Murphy.

State Representative Kelly Breen is one of the authors of the gun control legislation. She responded to Murphy's assertion.

"You know what? I am so glad that so many people are behind improving our mental health system. And I'm going to hold them to that. But this is not an either-or situation. There's no reason in the world why we can't utilize these fire-arm bills and improve affordability and accessibility to mental health," said Murphy.

She reacted to some counties and law enforcement asserting they will not enforce the new and future laws.

"I have the utmost respect for law enforcement and that's why we worked hand in hand with the Michigan Sheriff's Association and these bills have earned the support of the Michigan Sheriff's Association, the Michigan Chiefs of Police, as well as the Fraternal Order of Police," Breen explained

She also responded to the suggestion the red flag laws could infringe upon the public's due process.

She said guns can be removed from a person if a judge approves the request.

"What happens after that? There's a hearing, there's evidence, there's testimony. The respondent will have the ability to confront the petitioner. So that is due process," said Breen.



**"Fact: Rifles of any type, and shotguns, are used in less than 3% of all homicides, but Biden never lets facts get in the way of his political agenda."**



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# Henry Big Boy Rifle Drawing

**We will have a limited number of raffle tickets (1,000).** We will not mail tickets to members to sell. Tickets will be available at all General meetings and at events where WMSA has a table. Additionally, to build our treasury for the coming year, this year's raffle is aimed towards gaining more WMSA members.

**The tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20.** As an added incentive, bring in a new member at a General Membership Meeting and get a free raffle ticket. Any current member who brings in a new WMSA member gets a free raffle ticket for each new member added to our rolls.

Bring your prospective new member to a general membership meeting and when the new member completes the membership application and pays their dues, you are handed a ticket, no charge! **The drawing will be in January 2024, either at the RK Shows or the WMSA General Membership Meeting.**



Henry Big Boy Rifle Cal. .44 Magnum

**Go recruit new members, get a free ticket for every member, and exhaust our limited number of tickets.**

**Tickets can also be obtained via mail by sending a check to the WMSA, P.O. Box 11144, Kansas City, MO 64119.**

**Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20**

**Come to our next General meeting and buy your tickets!**

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# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## WESTERN MISSOURI SHOOTERS ALLIANCE

The Alliance is a regionally-based, grass-roots organization that seeks to;

- 1) Counter the designs of malicious legislators.
- 2) Confront the media's twisted portrayals of gun rights issues.
- 3) Politicize and activate gun owners in defense of their rights.
- 4) Acquaint the public with the true nature of the Second Amendment.
- 5) Network with other pro-gun groups to coordinate local, state and national strategies.
- 6) Train people in basic firearm safety and handgun defense.
- 7) Sponsor and support pro-gun legislation.
- 8) Make politicians aware that gun owners are awakening from their accustomed apathy and  
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Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

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Registered Voter? \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_ Senior (65+)  
\$25

\_\_\_\_ Associate  
\$15 (spouse, no newsletter)

\_\_\_\_ 3 Year Annual  
\$100

\_\_\_\_ 3 Year Senior  
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\_\_\_\_ 3 Year Associate  
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\_\_\_\_ Sponsor  
\$100 (4 business card  
ads per year.)

\_\_\_\_ Sponsor  
\$250 (12 business card  
ads per year.)

Mail to:  
**Western Missouri Shooters Alliance**  
**P.O. Box 11144**  
**Kansas City, MO 64119**

Hotline (877) 333-WMSA  
[www.wmsa.net](http://www.wmsa.net)  
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**Western Missouri Shooters Alliance**  
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*...dedicated to the restoration of the inalienable right to  
 keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment*

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**\*REMINDER\*** *Next General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 7:00 PM*  
*Meeting located at Bass Pro, Independence, MO*

## CONTACT INFORMATION - *Let them know what you think!*

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 703-321-8585

The National Rifle Association  
[www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org)  
 800-672-3888

The Second Amendment Foundation  
[www.saf.org](http://www.saf.org)  
 425- 454-7012

Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance  
<http://www.gclastl.org/>  
 866 385-GUNS (4867)

Missouri Carry  
 Online Forum  
[www.missouricarry.com](http://www.missouricarry.com)

Arming Women Against Rape and Endangerment  
[www.aware.org](http://www.aware.org)  
 877-672-9273

Women Against Gun Control  
[www.wagc.com](http://www.wagc.com)  
 801-328-9660