**July 2023** 

### President Joe Biden's fantasy gun control agenda

Official Publication of Western Missouri Shooters Alliance

1600 Pennsylvania Ave., we have a problem. The president is on the loose again, uttering nonsense about the Second Amendment.

President Joe Biden spoke to a collection of political donors as he's gearing up his 2024 re-election campaign and used his gun control grindstone to churn out well-worn and discredited Second Amendment tropes. The problem is—it's all malarky. No kidding, man.

Biden might just be the lying dog-face pony soldier he accuses others of being.

### F-16s and AR-15s

The president belittled Americans who agree that the Second Amendment exists to prevent a tyrannical government from usurping power from the people.

"You know, I love these guys who say the Second Amendment is — you know, the tree of liberty is water with the blood of patriots. Well, if [you] want to do that, you want to work against the government, you need an F-16. You need something else than just an AR-15," said President Biden, according to Fox News.

Aside from the veiled threat to use actual weapons of war against the American people, President Biden's swipe at Americans who value their rights was intended to target the lawful ownership of Modern Sporting Rifles (MSRs). There are over 24.4 million MSRs in circulation today. They're the most popular-selling centerfire rifle in America.

### **Second Amendment second thoughts**

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

"We have to change," President Biden said. "There's a lot of things we can change, because the American people by and large agree you don't need a weapon of war. I'm a Second Amendment guy. I taught it for four years, six years in law school. And guess what? It doesn't say that you can own any weapon you want. It says there are certain weapons that you just can't own. Even during when it was passed, you couldn't own a cannon. You can't own a machine gun. No, I'm serious."

First, he's overselling his authority as a law professor. President Biden briefly served as Benjamin Franklin Presidential Professor of the Practice at the University of Pennsylvania for two years between his terms as vice president and his campaign for The White House, according to a fact check by the Austin American-Statesman. He was paid \$900,000 and his duties "involved no regular classes and around a dozen public appearances on campus, mostly in big, ticketed events," the Philadelphia Inquirer reported.

His description as a "Second Amendment guy" might come as a surprise to other "Second Amendment guys." That doesn't normally include ideas like universal background checks that would require a national firearm owner registry, restrictions that would ban entire classes of firearms, repealing the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA) to allow frivolous lawsuits against firearm manufacturers for the criminal misuse of lawfully sold firearms by remote third parties or — as the president points out here — a clear ignorance of the National Firearms Act.

Fox News reported, correctly, that the Second Amendment makes no mention of firearm restrictions. Gun control laws at the federal level didn't start until 1934, when the National Firearms Act was signed by President Franklin Roosevelt. That's 143 years later.

Americans can legally own machine guns, although it is extremely restricted. No automatic firearm produced after May 1986 is available for commercial sale but those produced before then can be — and are — legally owned. Owners have to pay a \$200 tax stamp and register them with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

When it comes to cannons, well, President Biden blasted that one, too. It was legal to own a cannon when the Second Amendment was ratified in 1791. It's still legal to own one today.

President Biden made the same erroneous claim in April 2022 and in June of 2021, when The Washington Post fact-checked him on that one. He earned "Four Pinocchios," writing "Biden has already been fact-checked on this claim — and it's been deemed false. We have no idea where he conjured up this notion about a ban on cannon ownership in the early days of the Republic, but he needs to stop making this claim."

### Rapid-fire falsehoods

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None of this is new. President Biden, who claims to own two shotguns, is hardly the Second Amendment expert he presents himself to be. He once told his wife she should "fire two blasts" of a shotgun blindly into the air if she felt threatened. That's terrible and dangerous legal advice. Among the four fundamental firearm safety rules is to know your target and what is beyond.



...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:

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- Confront the media's twisted portrayals of gun rights issues.
- Politicize and activate gun owners in defense of their rights.
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### **COMING EVENTS**

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

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Sept. 26, 2023

Nov. 28, 2023

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**BIDEN** (Continued from page 1)

This advice was actually invoked in a court case, where the accused, Jeffrey Barton, was charged with aggravated assault. Prosecutors ended up dropping those charges and instead charged him with police obstruction, of which he

President Biden once argued to ban 9 mm Glocks, claiming in an interview with Charlie Rose that he could kill more people with a .38-caliber revolver. He also oddly told police they should shoot "unarmed" attacking criminals wielding knives "in the leg." Police ripped that suggestion. Fox News reported the Fraternal Order of Police said it was "completely ridiculous," "unrealistic" and a "pandering talking point."

President Biden didn't stop there. He believes that 9 mm handguns are especially dangerous.

"A 9 mm bullet blows the lung out of the body," President Biden said. "The idea of a high caliber weapon, there is simply no rational basis for it in terms of self-protection, hunting."

The president's 9 mm claim was debunked as "bullsh\*t," by a federal agent with 15 years of service. Another with 20 years said, "Not possible." A 21-year veteran of the U.S. Marshal fugitive recovery task force told Breitbart that President Biden's claim is, "... not even in the realm of possibility."

That's the problem with President Biden. He's living in a fantasy world of utter nonsense.

#### Montana AG Sounds Alarm: Armed IRS Agents Rounding Up Gun Purchase Records

Montana Attorney General Austin Knudsen spoke to Breitbart News Saturday morning and told us that armed IRS agents rolled into Great Falls' Highwood Creek Outfitters Wednesday and seized dozens of boxes of ATF form 4473s, the background check form containing information on gun purchasers.

Store owner Tom Van Hoose said, "At 7:30, I came in and they pulled in behind me with 20 heavily armed agents.'

He said by the time all was said and done, the agents left him with about 30 minutes of time to do business so he lost virtually an entire business day.

Van Hoose believes his store is targeted because he sells guns the White House opposes: "I can only assume that it's because of the style of weapons that we have and the press that's so against them. The current administration seems to be hell-bent on getting those guns out of the hands of average Americans."

The ATF form 4473 has a gun purchaser's name, address, birthdate, state/city of birth, gender, social security number, and the serial number of any guns purchased in the store. The information is perfectly suited for use in a registry or registry database.

The danger of federal agents taking this information was not lost on AG Knudsen, who told Breitbart News, "I spoke with the shop owner who told me that 20 heavily armed IRS agents from multiple states in our region served a warrant before his business opened. They took dozens of boxes full of 4473s — more than a decade's worth. **This is** extremely concerning because it seemingly exceeds the search warrant which limited the scope of the search to financial records. These aren't financial records, they're records of lawful firearm purchases. What the hell does the IRS need with 4473s? We know the ATF in Washington, DC is trying to scoop up as many of these purchase records as possible, and that's what it looks like they're trying to do here."

Knudsen added, "There's a clear and disturbing pattern developing of the Biden administration sending federal agents to harass American gun owners, shops, and manufacturers."

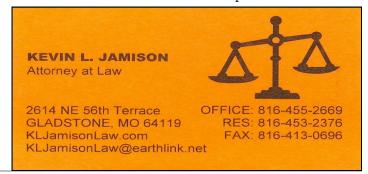
He also noted that this harassment is happening while Biden is pushing to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA), thereby opening up gun makers to lawsuits over the illegal use of firearms.

Knudsen said, "Biden wants to repeal PLCAA so they can shut down gun companies and coerce states to implement 'red flag' laws so firearms can be seized without due process. Now, they're sending federal agents door-to-door in my state to intimidate people. There's no question about it, this is the most anti-gun administration in the nation's history."

"In the '70s and '80s, many of these guns were as available as they are now, but we weren't having these mass shootings that we have today. So I think we need to really ask ourselves the question of what has socially brought us to this point in history, and what have we done, and what can we do differently to change society. That's certainly a question that needs to be continued to [be] ask[ed], because I don't know that taking everyone's guns, and buying everybody's guns back, is going to cure the national massacres that we've had in recent history."

Democrat Rep. Vicente González





### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

#### **GUN VIOLENCE**

K. L. Jamison

We hear those two words all the time. But gun violence works both ways. I asked one of my concealed carry students why she was taking the course. "I've been raped twice," she replied. "There isn't going to be a third time."

People use "gun violence" in self-defense literally all the time. There was a detailed study in the early 90's which found that firearms were used in self-defense 2.5 million times per year. That figure was against criminals. Adding in rabid dogs and wild animals was another 300,000 cases. The Clinton administration found that unbelievable. The Center for Disease Control was ordered to refute it. In 1996, 97 and 98 it studied armed self-defense incidents. It found about 2.5 million incidents per year. This is not what it wanted to find and kept the results a deep secret until a freedom of information request uncovered the secret. A recent study found that the rate was 1.67 million incidents of self-defense gun violence per year.

Of these 1.67 million incidents in only 15% is the gun fired. When a gun is pointed at a bad guy he surrenders or runs, they are bullies not gunfighters. In approximately 1 case out of 10,000 is the criminal killed. The usual suspects want to limit self-defense cases to these few deaths.

The point is that self-defense gun violence works. The usual suspects often claim that there is no such thing. Self-defense laws have existed for thousands of years. Law makers would not have created these laws unless these things happened.

Self-defense gun violence does happen. We see it recorded in various gun magazines. We even see it in the pages of the local paper. Our self-defense gun violence is usually minor. A gun is presented and the criminal is suddenly civilized.

I know that pacifists will claim that no amount of violence is acceptable. That absolute peace is the only way and we must set an example for the violent. This only guarantees that the violent criminal's DNA will survive to infect new generations. The peaceful DNA will disappear. I saw a documentary about a litter of minks that were separated at birth. The peaceable minks were placed in one cage, the violent ones in another. After several generations the cages were quite different. One cage was generally peaceful. The other was violent. Our gun violence ensures that our DNA will survive. Some things are worth fighting for.

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

#### A CHEAP LEGAL NOTE

FORCED RESET TRIGGERS

K. L. Jamison

The BATF has declared forced reset triggers to be machine guns. I disagree; but I only work here I don't make policy.

The BATF has the customer lists of the companies that sold such triggers. People who purchased them have been getting letters demanding that they be turned in. There are two choices. You can turn them in or fight it in court. I know, you can hide it can claim that it was lost or sold or stolen. This will get you more attention than the device is worth. If the government really looks they can find some crime you have committed.

If it was purchased at a gun show for cash there may be no trail for the government to follow. However criminal cases are filled with persons who did not believe their secret would be uncovered. At some future date the BATF may decide continued possession of the triggers is a crime.

If you turn it in, you only have to call the number on the letter for the local BATF office. They will send someone to collect it. Get a receipt. Put the receipt in a safe place. The BATF tells me that they only want to recover these triggers. They say that they will close the file and take no further action. The trigger was legal when purchased and turned in when requested they would have a great deal of trouble making a case against you if this policy changed in the future. We are presumed to know the law. We are not presumed to know what the law will be in the future.

A lawyer could turn the trigger in for a small fee. This would cut off any chance of an unfortunate comment by the citizen. If you turn it in yourself do NOT get into any conversations. We do not want the agent to go back to the office and say that you are an opinionated militia nut. Do NOT ask if any other gun, part or accessory is legal. Ten agents could give ten different answers. One of those answers could be handcuffs.

Of course it is possible to litigate the issue. I approve of lawyers being given vast sums of money to fight the government. But. The government has greater resources. Right or wrong may not be the issue. One litigant spent \$1.5 million taking his case to the Supreme Court only to be told it had to go back to the trial court for further proceedings. There have been lawyers who called their clients to proclaim victory after protracted litigation; only to find the number was no longer in service and the company bankrupted by litigation expenses.

A far better course of action would be to invest the money in Republican Presidential futures. A victory there is likely to give a more permanent victory.

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

LEGAL (Continued on page 5)

LEGAL (Continued from page 4)

Please send questions to Kevin L. Jamison 2614 NE 56<sup>th</sup> Ter Gladstone Missouri 64119-2311 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.

### America's "Culture War" Over Guns

It is perhaps no accident that the first example Dictionary.com uses under its definition of "culture war" is "a culture war over the right to own a gun."

This example is the result of a deep narrative that has been meticulously, and dishonestly, established by guncontrol advocates who know that treating the Second Amendment as a fungible thing caught in the throes of a culture war can lead people to conclude that a compromise between warring sides must be found. And compromising a constitutional right is an incremental type of trap that would erode any civil liberty into dust.

For this reason I have disagreed in this column before that this is an actual culture war.

That declaration is just too convenient for gun-control groups; also, it is more accurate to say this is a struggle between elites—many of whom have armed security—and a gigantic swath of the general public.

To substantiate this second point, I would point out that today's anti-Second Amendment elites control mainstreammedia outlets, many academic institutions, much of Hollywood and more. Still, as they're a small, mostly well-heeled and protected class of people, these elites have never been able to create large membership associations to support their gun-control positions. (Who wants to join an anti-American-freedom association anyway?)

Meanwhile, on the other side, there are well over 100 million American gun owners. These gun owners fit into every demographic pollsters can separate us into, and millions of these citizens are members of the NRA.

To speak in terms an academic in a liberal arts department can understand, this is almost a *bourgeoisie* versus the *proletariat* situation. In this case, the *bourgeoisie* are the gun-control elites and the *proletariat* are, as in the French usage, the working class. But I did say "almost," as again, gun owners fit into every demographic, socioeconomic and otherwise.

Still, I must admit that, in certain contexts, an elites versus a dominant percentage of the population scenario can be called a culture war; after all, Dictionary.com does define "culture war" as: "[A] conflict or struggle for dominance between groups within a society or between societies, arising from their differing beliefs, practices, etc." And this can be categorized as a disagreement between two groups "arising from their differing beliefs," but, again, the gunowning segment of America is so diverse it feels dishonest to call them a group—though many gun-control advocates like to claim most gun owners are white, middle-aged guys from the South, this simply isn't true.

I bring this all up and try to nail it down because it is actually the swing voter who mostly gets news and opinion (I realize there is no longer much of a distinction between the presentation of these two categories) from mainstreammedia outlets, on social-media platforms or from comedians on late-night television and all of these media are mostly controlled by the gun-control elites. Given this, it can feel surprising that the struggle for Second Amendment freedom has made so much progress.

But then, that's freedom for you. With guns, people can feel freedom in their hands; even Hollywood has to give the hero a gun to defeat the villain.

Such is the struggle in this—okay, I'll call it this even if it is deceptive—"culture war."

"I wholeheartedly believe that the media is politicizing this tragedy. It seems that gun control laws is the major topic of conversation rather than focusing on the bigger issue of 17 innocent lives being taken at the hands of another human. ... I know many people who are pro-gun and others who support gun control but it seems that the media is specifically targeting those in support of gun control to make it seem as if they are the majority, and the liberal news outlets are the ones that seem to make the bigger effort to speak to these people."

-Brandon Minoff, a student of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School

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### LIBERTY NOTES

By Kevin L. Jamison

It is a Good Day for Liberty.

"My position on gun control is that I'm not going to take away anybody's guns. I'm a constitutional maximalist and the issue has been settled by the Supreme Court...I understand personally the heartbreak of gun violence...we have to stop school shootings...if it comes down to protecting schools like we protect airlines, we'll do that. We also have to look at the role of psychiatric drugs...prior to the introduction of Prozac we had almost no events like this. When I'm President we will thoroughly investigate and address the link between these drugs and school shootings."

— Robert F. Kennedy, Jr via Twitter (@GraduatedBen)

I hope Mr. Kennedy means what he tweets. He is running for President on the democratic ticket. He may not be coming for our guns, but is he going to make it burdensome and expensive to keep them? I hear a great many prohibitionists say that they support the Second Amendment. I wonder what they think the Second Amendment means.

A Mr. Neely, with a history of mental illness and criminal assault, threatened the passengers of a New York City subway car. A Mr. Penny, a Marine veteran, subdued him along with two other passengers. Mr. Neely died, allegedly due to a choke hold applied by Mr. Penny. Mr. Penny, alone, was charged with manslaughter. The left considers this a racist murder.

"If a madman were to come into this room with a stick in his hand, no doubt we should pity the state of his mind but our primary consideration would be to take care of ourselves. We should knock him down first, and pity him afterwards."

--Samuel Johnson

I've read a book called "Verbal Judo." It teaches skills for defusing a situation without violence. The author has been an English professor and police officer. It provides practical advice on resolving conflicts without calling me at 2 in the morning. If the worst thing happens you can confidently tell the police that you tried to defuse the situation.

There has been much fuss over restricting our gun rights. The claim is that it will prevent criminals from getting guns. A Maine newspaper, The Bangor Daily News, investigated where criminals get their guns. They interviewed violent felons in prison. The newspaper was told that they did not get them from gun shows and rarely from gun shops. They bought on the black market from family, friends and other criminals. Guns entered the black market from theft and straw sales. Restricting our rights will not cut off criminal access; it is a distraction.

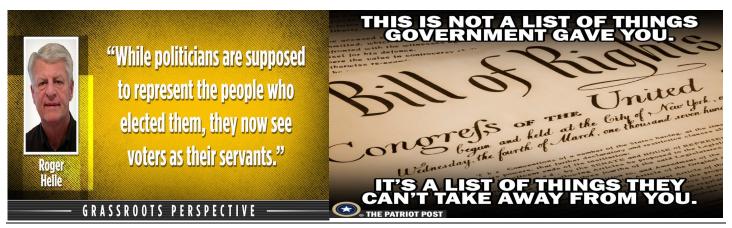
The Board of WMSA has decided to hold local Gun Rights Rally's. Dates and places are not decided. Kansas City area locations on a weekend or evening so that people don't have to take time from work are guiding principles.

The House of Representatives has passed a bill revoking the bump stock ban. Of course, the bill is very unlikely to get through the Senate and President Biden will veto it if it does. This does not mean it is a worthless exercise. It raises the profile of our movement. But, it is mostly symbolic. Certain representatives will tell us that they voted for it because they are our friend. That may be true. They also knew that it was symbolic and accomplish nothing. We need to get them to do something that is effective.

The Second Amendment Preservation Act is coming up for hearing in the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. The Western District Court for Missouri (In Kansas City) found it unconstitutional. The Missouri Attorney General is vigorously defending the law. The law does not, repeat NOT, nullify federal laws. State laws cannot nullify federal law. It prevents local law enforcement from enforcing confiscatory federal gun laws unless there is an equivalent in Missouri law. There are few federal laws which do not have a Missouri equivalent.

There are groups trying to raise money for the legal fight. The Attorney General is fulfilling his duty under the Missouri Constitution by protecting this statute. There are a number of lawsuits regarding gun rights filed by the Second Amendment Foundation, Gun Owners of America, the NRA-ILA and more. You could also invest in 2024 Presidential futures; of which there appear to be many. In 2003 Missourians for Personal Safety hired a law firm to protect the brand -new License To Carry law. We did not entirely trust the Attorney General at the time. In the end the AG's office did a great job and we have concealed carry. I still think that our efforts were worthwhile. It does not hurt to keep the politically powerful honest.

I Second That.



# NSSF DISAPPOINTED BY U.S. SENATORS VOTING DOWN PISTOL BRACE RESOLUTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. — NSSF®, The Firearm Industry Trade Association, was disappointed by U.S. senators who voted along party lines in a 49-50 vote to reject H.J. Res. 44, which was passed with a bipartisan vote in the House of Representatives last week.

"This vote was disappointing, if not expected. We are deeply troubled by the unchecked growth of the administrative state that threatens our fundamental rights and liberty," said Lawrence G. Keane, NSSF Senior Vice President and General Counsel.

H.J. Res. 44 was intended to nullify the Final Rule issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) titled "Factoring Criteria for Firearms With Attached 'Stabilizing Braces," published on Jan. 31, 2023. The Final Rule established new criteria for determining whether a pistol equipped with an attached stabilizing arm brace is a short-barreled rifle (SBR) and thus subject to regulation (and registration) under the National Firearms Act. The Congressional Research Service estimates there could be upwards of 40 million braces that have been lawfully purchased over the past decade after ATF determined affixing a brace did not convert a pistol into a rifle.

Several senators, who face reelections in states where gun rights are critical to voters ceded their authority as legislators to the Executive Branch to unilaterally draft criminal law allowing their constituents to be turned into criminals by administrative fiat

"These senators must now explain to their constituents why they failed to act to safeguard against the Biden administration's executive overreach that is chipping away at their fundamental Constitutional rights," said Keane. "Come election day, NSSF will work to educate gun owners in these states about how these legislators turned their backs on the Second Amendment and failed to uphold their duties as lawmakers who write the law not the Executive Branch. Failing to maintain the balance of power grants unchecked authority to President Biden to run roughshod on citizens' rights."

Those senators voting against H.J. Res. 44 and facing tight reelection bids include: Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), Sen. Bob Casey (D-Pa.), Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.V.) and Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.).

After publishing the Final Rule, ATF announced that in order to remain compliant with the new rule, any law-abiding gun owner who possessed stabilizing arm braces attached to lawfully-purchased pistols had 120 days, or until May 31, 2023, to either remove the pistol's shorter barrel and attach a longer rifled barrel; permanently remove and dispose of the brace; turn in the brace; destroy the brace; or register it with ATF.

### Delaware GOP plan would deny bail for gun-toting felons

Delaware Republicans are pushing for a constitutional amendment that would deny bail for criminal suspects who use firearms while committing a felony. The proposal, which is expected to be introduced in next year's legislative session, calls for amending the state's Constitution to deny bail to suspects charged with possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Danny Short, R-Seaford, said unlike many other firearms-related bills introduced in the General Assembly in recent years, the proposed amendment "targets the individuals who are actually perpetrating gun crimes."

"Anyone who chooses to carry a firearm while committing major criminal acts is demonstrating a calculated willingness to use violence against others," Short said in a statement. Backers of the plan cite law enforcement data showing that of the 158 people suspected of being involved with a shooting in 2020, at least 77% had at least one prior arrest for a violent felony, and 57% had at least three previous arrests.

They point out Delaware state law already allows bail to be denied for certain capital offenses, such as first-degree murder.

Senate Republican Whip Brian Pettyjohn, R-Georgetown, the Senate's main sponsor, said allowing people arrested for felony gun offenses to be released "undermines public faith in the criminal justice system, creates a climate of fear and intimidation and facilitates the possibility of additional crimes being committed in the community."

"We have all seen reports from our local police agencies that they arrest someone that has used a gun in the commission of a felony, and they are [soon] released on bail," he said.

Once it's filed, the measure likely faces a long slog through the Democratic-controlled Legislature. The bill must pass with a two-thirds majority by the House and Senate meeting in two consecutive two-year legislative sessions as a constitutional amendment. It would not require the governor's signature.

Delaware already has some of the nation's strictest gun control laws, and Democrats who control the House and Senate are looking to tighten those restrictions.

Last year, Gov. John Carney signed a gun control bill that banned selling so-called 'assault' weapons, increasing the age to purchase firearms from 18 to 21, strengthening background checks and limits on large-capacity magazines. That law is being challenged in court by Second Amendment groups.

Democrats also pushed through a bill during the recent session to tighten gun control laws by prohibiting firearms in churches, polling stations, in other "safe" locations.

Short is urging Democrats to support the proposed amendment, citing their backing of a previously approved bill that set tougher bail requirements for "violent" felons.

"I would expect lawmakers that supported any of the recent gun control measures on the supposition of reducing violence to support this proposal," he said. "To vote for the former, without doing the same for the latter, would lack any credibility."

### The "Assault-Weapon" Lie

It seems that every time President Biden finds himself in front of a microphone these days, he tries to blame some aspect of his administration's failure to address violent crime on law-abiding American gun owners. Most often, this then leads him to call for a ban on "assault weapons" and claims that "[he's] the guy" responsible for the 1994 federal ban on "assault weapons."

The president had most recently made this claim while giving a commencement speech at Howard University. While many commencement speakers attempt to give the recent graduates motivation as they advance in their professional lives, Biden instead used the opportunity to stump for more gun control, specifically for a ban on "assault weapons."

Biden keeps returning to this talking point because it worked once for him in the past. During the crime wave of the 1980s to early 1990s, gun-control advocates successfully used American's fears about crime and confusion about so-called "assault weapons" to get the federal ban passed in 1994. With violent crime surging once again and an unwillingness to hold criminals accountable for the crimes they commit, Biden is focused anew on convincing the public that if we just banned so-called "assault weapons," America's crime problems would cease.

#### But, that's a blatant lie.

The overwhelming majority of firearm-related homicides are committed using handguns. According to 2021 FBI crime statistics, throughout the U.S., almost 13 times as many murders were listed as having been committed with a handgun than with a rifle of any kind. In fact, more murders were listed as having been committed with "Personal weapons (hands/fists/feet/etc.)" than rifles of any kind. And, more than twice as many murders were committed with knives than rifles of any kind.

Long before the U.S. Supreme Court made clear that Americans have a constitutional right to own and use handguns in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), gun controllers were forced to face the truth—Americans appreciate having the right to own handguns. And support for a handgun ban has only decreased over time. For more than 60 years, Gallup has polled Americans about a handgun prohibition. In 1975, 41% of respondents stated that they supported a ban. In 2021, Gallup recorded an all-time low of 19% support for a handgun ban.

As their handgun-ban agenda stalled, gun-control advocates sought to shift focus to anywhere they might be able to advance their civilian disarmament agenda. In 1988, Violence Policy Center Communications Director Josh Sugarmann explained:

The weapons' menacing looks, coupled with the public's confusion over fully automatic machine guns versus semi-automatic assault weapons—anything that looks like a machine gun is assumed to be a machine gun—can only increase the chance of public support for restrictions on these weapons.

Despite its disconnection to the reality of violence perpetrated with firearms, this cynical tactic proved more effective than gun controllers' attempts to prohibit handguns. In 1994, President Bill Clinton signed the federal ban on commonly owned semi-automatics into law.

Faced with the reality that so-called "assault weapons" are rarely used to commit violent crime, a 1997 Department of Justice-funded study from the Urban Institute acknowledged, "At best, the assault weapons ban can have only a limited effect on total gun murders, because the banned weapons and magazines were never involved in more than a modest fraction of all gun murders."

Presented with the overwhelming evidence of the ban's inefficacy, Congress allowed the ban to sunset after 10 years. In 2014, a decade after the ban sunset, the U.S. homicide rate reached a multi-decade low. Sadly, the homicide rate has risen in recent years amidst many city prosecutors' ongoing refusal to punish violent criminals.

Aside from being bad policy, in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Heller*, *McDonald v. Chicago* (2010) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022) decisions, bans on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms are legally impermissible.

As Justice Clarence Thomas made clear almost a decade ago, semi-automatic rifles are protected by the Second Amendment: Roughly five million Americans own AR-style semi-automatic rifles. The overwhelming majority of citizens who own and use such rifles do so for lawful purposes, including self-defense and target shooting. Under our precedents, that is all that is needed for citizens to have a right under the Second Amendment to keep such weapons.

But violating the Second Amendment has never stopped Joe Biden. He'll continue to push the "assault-weapon" lie while doing nothing to punish the violent criminals responsible for America's crime spike. It's our job to make sure he doesn't succeed.

"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."

"One of the most important reasons for studying history is that virtually every stupid idea that is in vogue today has been tried before and proved disastrous before, time and again. Do we need to keep repeating the same mistakes forever?"

~ Thomas Sowell

### Great Falls gun shop re-opens after a visit from federal agents

A Great Falls gun shop owner says he was targeted by federal agents Wednesday. In fact, he claims that he's been in the crosshairs of the government for a couple of years now. A Great Falls gun shop owner says he was targeted by federal agents Wednesday. In fact, he claims that he's been in the crosshairs of the government for a couple of years now.

"At 7:30, I came in and they pulled in behind me with 20 heavily armed agents," said Tom Van Hoose, the owner of Highwood Creek Outfitters.

Van Hoose says for two years his Highwood Creek Outfitters gun shop has been the subject of surveillance by state and federal agencies including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, the Department of Homeland Security, the State of Montana and now the Internal Revenue Service.

"The fact that they think we make so much money as a gun business that they had to come investigate all the thousands, hundreds of thousands, millions of dollars whatever it is we supposedly absconded with, anybody that knows the margins in the gun business knows they're not that high," said Van Hoose.

Van Hoose says all he was told is that his business had been reported. He doesn't know by whom, or the reason. He thinks it's part of a nationwide pattern and feels it's political.

"I can only assume that it's because of the style of weapons that we have and the press that's so against them," said Van Hoose. "The current administration seems to be hell bent on getting those guns out of the hands of average Americans."

Van Hoose says the agents were cordial and professional, but still felt invaded and now has lost nearly a whole day's revenue.

"I got 30 minutes of operating time in and made one \$16 sale," said Van Hoose.

Van Hoose says his shop has a good relationship with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Fiearms, which was also present. He says because his shop carries "fun guns" like AR-15's and AK-47s their level of licensing draws more scrutiny.

"We have a reputation of dotting all the i's and crossing all the t's because there's so much legal fun to be had," said Van Hoose. "It's just not worth doing things that are going to get you in trouble."

Cascade County Sheriff Jesse Slaughter says there is no law stating that the sheriff must be notified prior to any such investigation by federal agents.

The Great Falls Police Department was notified of the investigation and provided security.

The Montana Department of Justice said that it had no involvement in this incident.

An IRS spokesperson confirmed to MTN News that the agency was at Highwood Creek Outfitters on official business but declined to provide any details.

According to a news release from U.S. Representative Matt Rosenadale (R-MT), the IRS confiscated all the 4473 forms from the store. According to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms website, generally, the forms must be completed at licensed business premises when a firearm is transferred over the counter.

### SAF SUES PENNSYLVANIA SHERIFF TO STOP WARRANTLESS SEARCHES

The Second Amendment Foundation today <u>filed a challenge</u> of Pennsylvania's promulgated firearms regulation and its enforcement by the Pennsylvania State Police and Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, which includes warrantless searches.

SAF is joined by Shot Tec, LLC and a private citizen, Grant Schmidt. They are represented by attorneys Joshua Prince and Dillon Harris, Civil Rights Defense Firm, of Bechtelsville, Pa. Defendants are Col. Christopher Paris, commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) and Montgomery County Sheriff Sean Kilkenny, in their official capacities. The action was filed in the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania.

The petition challenges Col. Paris and the PSP's "interpretation, implementation and enforcement" of the firearms regulation "which is being enforced" by Kilkenny, according to the court filing. The petition alleges that Sheriff Kilkenny "has implemented a policy...which he contends, based on the PSP's promulgation and implementation of (the regulation) permit him, in the absence of probable cause and a warrant and in violation of...the Pennsylvania Constitution, to come into those...homes or business."

Plaintiffs further assert this inspection enables the sheriff to impose sanctions against holders of state licenses to sell firearms "for not having 'safe storage" in the event of an emergency when the PSP has "failed to promulgate any regulations addressing what constitute 'safe storage' or sufficient safeguards...when the General Assembly *only* delegated to the PSP the ability to establish such standards."

"The State Assembly has never enacted a law allowing for warrantless searches of licensees, but the state police promulgated a regulation requiring licensees to submit to such searches, which are now planned by the sheriff's department," said SAF Executive Director Adam Kraut. "We believe there are grave constitutional issues involved in this scheme, particularly when an administrative agency simply waives an individual's constitutional rights by implementing a regulation without any framework from the legislature. Equally troubling is the Sheriff's assertion that he would revoke a license from and individual asserting their right to be free from unlawful searches and seizures. We have filed this petition to ensure constitutional rights are respected."

SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan M. Gottlieb observed, "No statute should allow *carte blanche* regulations to be imposed by any law enforcement agency because of the inherent danger of overstepping legal authority and constitutional protections which must be protected in a free society. We're seeking a remedy from the court to stop this, especially when warrantless searches are involved."

# 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!

### 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

### WILL TOLERATE NO FURTHER EROSION OF THEIR FREEDOMS!

Date:/		
Name:		M-:14
Address:		Mail to: Western Missouri Shooters Alliance P.O. Box 11144
City:		Kansas City, MO 64119
State: Zip:		Hotline (877) 333-WMSA www.wmsa.net
ecupation:		County:
Home Phone: ()	Cel	l Phone: ()
E-Mail	NRA n	nember? Registered Voter?
Check membership type:		
Annual \$35	\$25 Senior (65+)	Associate \$15 (spouse, no newsletter)
$\frac{3 \text{ Year Annual}}{\$100}$	3 Year Senior (65+)	$\frac{3 \text{ Year Associate}}{\$40 \text{ (spouse, no newsletter)}}$
Sponsor \$100 (4 business card ads per year.)	$\frac{\text{Sponsor}}{\$250}$ (12 business card ads per year.)	I



### Western Missouri Shooters Alliance P O Box 11144 Kansas City, MO 64119

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

PRESORT STD AUTO U.S. POSTAGE PAID OAK GROVE, MO PERMIT NO. 60

\*REMINDER\* Next General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jule 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM Meeting located at Bass Pro, Independence, MO

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

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Barbara Washington—D -Dist 9 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 329 Jefferson City, Misouri 65101 (573) 751-3158

John Rizzo-D-Dist 11 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 333 Jefferson City, Misouri 65101 (573) 751-4551

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Tony Luektemeyer—R—Dist 34 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 430 Jefferson City, Misouri 65101 (573) 751-2183

Missouri House

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Josh Hurlbert—R—Dist 8 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 406B Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-0246

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Maggie Nurenburn— D - Dist 15 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 101F Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-4787

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Eric Woods - D - Dist 18 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 135BB Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-2199

Ingrid Burnett—D -Dist 19 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 105A Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-3310

Aaron McMullen-R-Dist 20 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 412C Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-3674

Robert Sauls—D Dist. 21 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 101D Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-5701

Yolanda Young—D— Dist 22 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 102BB Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-3129

Michael Johnson—D—Dist 23 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 105F Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-0538

Emily Weber—D— Dist 24 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 109G Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-4485

Patty Lewis—D— Dist 25 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 109F Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-2437

Ashley Bland Manlove-D-Dist 26 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 105G Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-2124

Richard Brown—D - Dist 27 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 134 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-7639

Jerome Barnes—R Dist 28 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 105C Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Aaron Crossley—D - Dist 29 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 105E Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-3623

Jonathan Patterson - R - Dist 30 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 302A Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-0907

Dan Stacy - R - Dist 31 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 412 B Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-8636

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Chris Sander - R Dist 33 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 235BA Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-9766

Kemp Strickler-D-Dist 34 201 West Capitol Ave Rm.101-1 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-1456

Keri Ingle - D -Dist 35 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 101E Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-1459

Anthony Ealy—D—Dist 36 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 101J Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-9469

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Doug Richey R -- Dist 39 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 207B Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-1468

Gregory Curtis - R Dist 51 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 114A Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-2204

Brad Pollitt— R - Dist 52 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 233A Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-9774

Terry Thompson - R Dist 53 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 300 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-1462

Dan Houx - R - Dist 54 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 413B Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-3580

Mike Haffner—R - Dist 55 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 233B Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-3783

Michael Davis - R - Dist 56 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 110B Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-2175

Rodger Reedy - R - Dist 57 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 411-2 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-3971

Sherri Gallick—R—Dist 61 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 201G Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 751-1344

### WEB ADDRESSES - Get educated!

Gun Owners of America www.gunowners.org 703-321-8585

The National Rifle Association www.nra.org 800-672-3888

The Second Amendment Foundation www.saf.org 425-454-7012

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

Missouri Carry Online Forum www.missouricarrv.com

Arming Women Against Rape and Endangerment www.aware.org 877-672-9273

Women Against Gun Control www.wagc.com 801-328-9660