



Allegheny County Sportsmen's League Legislative Committee Report

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ALLEGHENY COUNTY SPORTSMEN LEAGUE ON THE INTERNET <http://www.acslpa.org>

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Gun Owners and Pro-Gun Legislators Draw Line in the Sand Against More Gun Control

On April 24th over 700 gun owners gathered for a news conference in the Harrisburg Capitol Building in support of over a dozen pro-gun pieces of legislation that would clarify and strengthen the rights of citizens to defend themselves and their loved ones and to possess firearms.

This event began with the steps of the rotunda filled with pro-gun legislators who, in a surprise move, applauded the gun owners for taking the time to travel to Harrisburg in support of our freedoms. These legislators, spearheaded by Rep. Metcalfe and Rep. Gergely, took their turns at the podium to reassert their belief in the lawful ownership of firearms and their opposition to greater infringements on our constitutional freedoms. Because of the outpouring of legislative support it was necessary to expand the time of the news conference to accommodate all of the representatives and senators who adjusted their busy schedule to show their support.

Phase two of the day began after the news conference when the assembled gun owners broke up into teams of ten or more with the assignment of visiting the offices of legislators to emphasize the importance of our freedoms. Armed with a synopsis of the issues, gun owner after gun owner engaged virtually every legislator throughout the day in polite but insistent discussions about gun control and the

misguided nature of it. Some anti-gun legislators chose to close their doors while some braved the situation and actually discussed their views however shortsighted.

The end result was a terrific outpouring of support for not only our freedoms but also for the many pro-gun legislators who have been getting pounded by a biased and anti-gun media. Rep. DeWeese has stated that as Majority Leader HB 760 will not make it to the floor and he further reiterated his support for our freedoms as did Rep. John Perzel in a visit recently to the Pitcairn Monroeville Sportsmen's Club.

One sour note occurred at the conclusion of the news conference when a group picture was being arranged on the steps of all of the rotunda of some of the gun owners on hand. Two attendees chose this opportunity to present a message, without our permission, that was easily twisted by the media into a racist statement. While we did not approve of or sanction this statement the most appalling actions took place after the poster was displayed. Virtually every media outlet used this controversy as a means to try and discredit gun owners and our message in vulgar and disparaging terms. The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus presented their own approach of lambasting gun owners as extremists and committed their own tar and feathering effort. All of this has not been lost on gun owners across this state who saw just how despicable and narrow minded our anti-gun opponents are.

In the end it was a terrific day of grassroots activism that generated a great deal of good will with legislators who feel reassured that we will not abandon them when times are tough.

I am proud of you all! Thank you!!!

Proposed Anti-gun Legislation:

[HB 0018](#) [HB 0020](#) [HB 0021](#) [HB 0022](#)
[HB 0023](#) [HB 0024](#) [HB 0025](#) [HB 0028](#)
[HB 0029](#) [HB 0030](#) [HB 0073](#) [HB 0277](#)
[HB 0291](#) [HB 0452](#) [HB 0467](#) [HB 0485](#)
[HB 0608](#) [HB 0649](#) [HB 0760](#) [HR 0035](#)

News Briefs:

Activists Split Over NRA, Dents Deal To Expand NICS

by Dave Workman Senior Editor

Fallout from the mass shooting Apr. 16 at Virginia Tech predictably led almost immediately to the announcement that legislation would be introduced to expand the National Instant Check System (NICS) to include data on mentally ill persons not allowed by law to purchase firearms.

Within days of the shooting, *The Washington Post* reported that the National Rifle Association (NRA) had allegedly "begun negotiations with senior Democrats over legislation to bolster" the NICS system. Leading that effort,, according to the newspaper, was Michigan Congressman John Dingell, a former NRA board member.

Gunman Cho Sueng-Hui (or Sueng-Hui Cho, as some newspapers are reporting his name) apparently should have been blocked from buying either the 9mm Glock or the .22-caliber Walther pistol he used in the killings because he had been ordered by a court to undergo treatment for mental disorder. However, he was not committed because a judge modified the original order.

But just as predictable as the announcement of new legislation came a firestorm of anger from some corners of the gun rights movement that the NRA would even think of adding more information to the NICS databanks to disqualify even more people from buying and owning guns. Others argued that the NRA should demand something in return, such as the repeal of a gun control law, or passage of a law requiring universal recognition of all concealed carry licenses by all of the states.

Discussions raged on two of the nation's busiest gun rights forums, [KeepAnd-BearArms.com](#) and [TheHighRoad.org](#), with sentiments split, and at times bristling. Some accused the NRA of "folding" under pressure while others insisted that mental patients should be identified in NICS data as being disqualified from firearms ownership.

As this issue was going to press, the legislation in question had yet to be written, and a source at the NRA told *Gun Week* that until a written bill is available, nobody could say how NRA would react.

The newspaper suggested that Democrats are still mindful of gunowner backlash and losing Congress in 1994 and the White House race in 2000. According to *The Post*, "Democratic leaders are anxious to bring the NRA aboard as they try to respond" to the Virginia Tech shootings.

But instead of getting on board with legislation that would add mentally ill data to the NICS system, some gunowners want NICS abolished. They see it as a "prior restraint" to the exercise of a constitutionally-protected civil right.

While the more strident gun activists clearly voiced their opposition to legislation, and spared no criticism of the NRA for possibly being involved, others were just as adamant that the NRA is a strong gun rights force that has kept the gun control floodgates largely closed.

NRA spokesman Andrew Arulanandam told *Gun Week* that the NRA has been on record for years supporting inclusion of mental health records in the NICS system; however, opposition has traditionally come from the medical community and the ACLU. [The New GUN WEEK](#), May 1, 2007

Thompson Column on VT Shooting Ignites Calls for 2008 Candidacy

A post-Virginia Tech analysis by actor, ormer US senator from Tennessee and possible Republican presidential candidate Fred Thompson that appeared in the *National Review On Line* has ignited gunowners across the country who immediately called on the former Tennessee senator to get into the 2008 race.

Thompson, whose screen characters are invariably non-sense types that have ranged from being a Navy admiral to an airport operations chief, was equally direct in his Apr. 19 column in which he toted, "Many other universities have been swayed by an anti-gun, anti-self defense ideology. I respect their right to hold those views, but I challenge their decision to deny Americans the right to protect themselves on their campuses-and then proudly advertise that fact to any and all."

In his "Signs of Intelligence" column, which swiftly circulated across the internet to appear in such places as [CheHighRoad.org](#), Thompson observed that "Virginia, like 39 other states, allows citizens with training and legal permits to carry concealed weapons. That means that Virginians regularly sit in movie theaters and eat in restaurants among armed citizens. They walk, joke, and rub shoulders everyday with people who responsibly carry firearms-and are far safer than they would be in San Francisco, Oakland, Detroit, Chicago, New York City, or Washington, DC, where such permits are difficult or impossible to obtain."

His remarks elevated his status among 'gunowners almost immediately.

One person admitted, "I liked Fred before, but damn, that is amazing." Another offered that "this is the most astounding (and encouraging) reaction I have heard from someone who actually has genuine chance to be our next (president)."

A third poster on TheHighRoad forum declared "Man, that guy is awesome." And the overwhelming sentiment among gunowners who entered the conversation was summed up in this remark: "Run, red! Run!"

There has been some conjecture that Thompson, currently appearing as a hardboiled but pragmatic district attorney in the long-running "Law and Order" series on NBC may be waiting until after the season is finished before announcing his candidacy. The timing could be significant for a number of reasons, not the least of which are reports that the television series is beginning to lose steam after more than a decade of prime time, plus a couple of spin-offs.

If the series is, indeed, losing momentum, it's clear that Thompson is gaining traction among gunowners for his remarks.

Acknowledging that there are "a lot of people who are just offended by the notion that people can carry guns around," Thompson pulled off the gloves to portray anti-gunners as social bigots.

"They view everybody, or at least many of us, as potential murderers prevented only by the lack of a convenient weapon," Thompson wrote. "Virginia Tech administrators overrode Virginia state law and threatened to expel or fire anybody who brings a weapon onto campus."

"Some people think that power should exist only at the top, and everybody else should rely on 'the authorities' for protection," the actor observed. "Despite such attitudes, average Americans have always made up the front line against crime. Through programs like Neighborhood Watch and Amber Alert, we are stopping and catching criminals daily."

He recounted how "Normal people tackled 'shoe bomber' Richard Reid as he was trying to blow up an airliner," and that "It was a truck driver who found the DC snipers."

After explaining that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has assembled data indicating that at least a half-million times each year, firearms are used by private citizens to prevent crimes, Thompson brought his focus squarely on Virginia Tech and other so-called "gun free zones."

"When people capable of performing acts of heroism," he said, "are discouraged or denied the opportunity, our society is all the poorer." [The New GUN WEEK, May 1, 2007](#)

Bolton Warns of Global Gun Control Threat

by Dave Workman Senior Editor "These people, if nothing, are persistent."

That was the warning from former United Nations (UN) Ambassador John Bolton, keynote speaker at this year's National Rifle Association (NRA) banquet, in his cautionary speech about the campaign for global gun control. Bolton, prior to leaving as ambassador in December of last year, had led the charge to defend American gun rights at the UN.

Described by NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre in his introduction of Bolton as "a leader the anti-gunners love to hate," the former diplomat told the audience of about 2,000 people that "It's our freedom and our democracy that are endangered."

The UN has been working on citizen disarmament programs around the world, and the biggest obstacle anti-gunners face is the United States Constitution. Bolton said the anti-gun campaign is "cleverly disguised" as a project aimed at "small arms and light weapons," but is actually aimed at privately-held firearms.

"We do not support measures," he said, "that prohibit private ownership of small arms."

But this could change with a new administration. Bolton also warned that "foreign diplomats concentrate on wearing us down." They will continue coming back, using different strategies, until at some point, with the right administration and Congress in power, they will succeed.

This was the strategy in a decision back in 2001 to have a second conference on small arms at the UN. The first foray, held in 2001, was not successful because the US delegation, led by Bolton, fended off gun control efforts. The UN anti-gunners then decided to hold a second summit in 2006, apparently in hopes that the 2004 presidential election would have had a different result, with a different team representing the country at the UN.

That did not happen, but when Bolton's nomination came up in the Fall for permanent appointment, the newly-empowered Democrat Senate made it clear that Bolton's nomination would be rejected. Leading that charge was Sen. Joe Biden, a perennial anti-gunner from Delaware.

Reminding the audience that gun rights here in America differentiate the US from every other nation, Bolton observed, "How many countries around the world have our kind of freedom?"

"We have the moral high ground of democratic legitimacy," he said.

Bolton tried to reform the UN over the past two years as ambassador, and he noted that "many people here believe this is a complete waste of time and that we ought to just get out of the UN."

That remark brought applause, but Bolton cautioned NRA members that they need to pay attention to UN activities. This country pays 22% of the budget at the UN, Bolton said.

"We should get what we pay for," he observed. Shifting topics, he said there is "no doubt in my mind that North Korea would sell nuclear weapons to al Qaeda if it could come up with the money." Despite attempts to negotiate, he said North Korea will "never give up pursuit of nuclear weapons."

As a result, America must remain vigilant, and he suggested that this country will "never find solutions in the UN."

"This is not a time to fall prey to the illusion that we are living in a safe world," Bolton said. "Stay active this year and next year, and keep the fight going forward." [The New GUN WEEK](#), May 1, 2007

NEWS RELEASE

SAF SAYS D.C. CIRCUIT DENIAL ON RE-HEARING OF PARKER CASE WAS RIGHT

BELLEVUE, WA – This morning's decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to deny a petition from the District of Columbia for a hearing of Parker v. District of Columbia before the full court was "right and proper," said Alan M. Gottlieb, founder of the Second Amendment Foundation.

"This is a strong signal that the D.C. Court of Appeals, which is the second most powerful court in the country, feels the original ruling by Senior Judge Laurence H. Silberman is solid," Gottlieb stated. "It is now up to the district to accept the ruling and begin the process of licensing handguns to be kept legally in district residences, or to appeal the case to the Supreme Court."

The Parker case has become the most significant Second Amendment case in the nation's history, because for the first time, a gun control law was struck down on the grounds that it violated the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. Judge Silberman's ruling found that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to bear arms that goes beyond service in a militia.

"The time is long past due for the Supreme Court to hear a case that has such gravity in terms of the Second Amendment and its true meaning," Gottlieb observed. "For almost 70 years, a state of confusion has existed over whether the Second Amendment protects an individual

civil right, as we are certain it does, rather than affirming some convoluted 'collective right' of the states to form militias. That interpretation has been carefully fabricated over the years by anti-gun zealots whose ultimate goal is to strip American citizens of their firearms rights.

"We think this question must be answered," he continued, "to forever silence those gun control extremists who have been misinterpreting – we believe deliberately – the 1939 U.S. v Miller case in an on-going effort to destroy the cornerstone of the Bill of Rights, and the foundation for liberty in this country. This appears to be the right case, and this is certainly the right time."

-END-

Cubans Beat Security Drill

While hundreds of US law enforcement agents intercepted imaginary Cuban migrants during a massive training exercise in south Florida, two boatloads of actual Cubans sneaked ashore on Miami Beach in early March, according to Reuters news service.

Boaters dropped off 21 Cuban migrants at a popular nudist beach and left 19 others on another beach a few hours later, the Border Patrol said. Both vessels escaped.

"It's our belief that they were the result of organized smuggling," Border Patrol spokesman Steve McDonald said. You think?

The Cubans arrived on day two of a training exercise to test "Operation Vigilant Sentry," the US Department of Homeland Security's plan to halt a possible mass migration from the Caribbean. About 325 agents from 85 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies took part in the exercise, which ended on Mar. 8.

"We're not embarrassed at all," McDonald said. "It's not uncommon for them (Cubans) to have landings." [The New GUN WEEK](#), May 1, 2007

Maybe a New Song Due Soon

Singers often write songs about life experiences they've had, but it's anybody's guess if singer/songwriter Billy Joe Shaver got any new material from an incident Mar. 31 in which he shot a man outside a Lorena, TX, bar.

Shaver, 67, is out on \$50,000 bond after turning himself in to the Lorena police. The shooting occurred outside Papa Joe's Texas Saloon, according to *The Houston Chronicle*. Published reports said Shaver had left the bar and was followed outside by a stranger who allegedly came at him with a knife. The man, who was not identified, was allegedly drunk and aggressive. Shaver reportedly shot him in the cheek.

The aging singer, who has recorded at least 20 albums, grew to stardom in the country music field in the 1970s after writing such hits as "Georgia on a Fast Train." He was part of the "outlaw" movement that included the late Waylon Jennings and country icon Willie Nelson.

Shaver lives in Waco, not far from Lorena. He faces assault and weapons charges, the newspaper reported. [The New GUN WEEK](#), May 1, 2007

'Jokesters' Popped by WDFW

Proof positive that even *Gun Week* can sometimes underestimate the stupidity of some people comes in the form of a report from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) about three jokesters who decided to play a prank that backfired.

WDFW Director Jeff Koenig reported to the Fish & Wildlife Commission last month about these three morons who were not identified. It seems they called a taxidermist in eastern Washington and asked if he could mount a grizzly bear that they had killed near the small town of Concrete on Highway 20 in far northern Washington's Skagit County. Grizzly bears are protected in Washington.

To his credit, the taxidermist told them no, punched his phone keypad to backtrack the caller's telephone number and reported that to a game cop.

According to Koenig's report, the wildlife agent did an analysis of the caller's telephone records that led to additional contacts, including one with a meat cutter the caller had contacted to ask if he would butcher a grizzly bear, cut and wrapped. That meat cutter also told our prankster to pound sand, but it gets better.

The game agent went to a judge, got a search warrant on probable cause, and when a herd of wildlife cops descended on the suspect's home, they didn't find the grizzly bear, but they did find evidence that he and his pals had shot a 5-point blacktail buck out of season, this past winter.

The ringleader of this fiasco swore it was all a joke about the bear. We're certain the game wardens were laughing hysterically when they arrested the trio for poaching the deer. [The New GUN WEEK](#), May 1, 2007

NSSF Bullet Points:

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- **STUDY: MICROSTAMPING OF FIREARMS 'FLAWED'** . . . Researchers at the University of California at Davis have completed a [pilot study](#) on the reliability of a new patented technology known as firearms microstamping, which is a process that micro-laser engraves a firearm so that

the make, model and serial number of the gun would be imprinted on the cartridge casing of a bullet fired in the gun. The study proved that the patented technology is "flawed" and "does not work well for all guns and ammunition." The study comes at a time when the California legislature is again considering legislation to mandate this technology for firearms manufactured and sold in California. [Full Story](#)

- **JUDGE FINDS FAULT WITH ATF FINDINGS ON IDAHO RETAILER . . .** Ruling that the ATF exaggerated and omitted findings to justify revoking the federal firearms license of Red's Trading Post in Twin Falls, Idaho, a federal judge granted a request by the FFL to stay the ATF's sanctions until a final verdict on the legality of the revocation has been decided. Learn more about this case in the [Twin Falls Times-News](#) and by reading the [court's order](#) granting the injunction.
- **REPORT: DRILLING SQUEEZES OUT HUNTERS . . .** A report released by the Environmental Working Group and the National Wildlife Federation has found that oil and gas drilling is squeezing hunters off public land and destroying habitat for antelope, mule deer, elk and sage grouse, [the Associated Press reports](#).
- **TIME REPORTS ON FIREARMS IN SWISS SOCIETY . . .** Each September, 12- to 16-year-olds in Switzerland participate in Knabenschiessen, the world's largest youth rifle competition. [Time.com reports](#) on the annual competition and firearms in Swiss society, where "firearms are as ubiquitous as chocolate and edelweiss."

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- **ATF 'Sets the Record Straight' on Tracing**
- **ACTING DIRECTOR ADDRESSES FALSE CLAIMS . . .** In a move sure to disappoint New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and his fledgling Mayors Against Illegal Guns coalition, ATF acting director Michael Sullivan "[set the record straight](#)" on the issue of firearms trace data in a Scripps News op-ed column today. Sullivan addressed the many false and inaccurate claims put forth by, among others, Bloomberg in arguing for public access to ATF trace data, including the misconception that law enforcement cannot share trace data. Commenting on the director's column, NSSF senior vice president and general counsel Lawrence G. Keane said, "Acting director Sullivan's remarks correcting the record will help Congress and members of the public to cut through anti-gun rhetoric and better understand the real reasons why Congress has wisely limited the public access to 'law enforcement sensitive' firearm trace data. NSSF strongly supports reauthorizing the Tiahrt Amendment. Congress should continue to put the lives of law enforcement and the integrity of criminal investigations ahead of anti-gun politics." Similarly, the president of the Fraternal Order of Police this weekend blasted Bloomberg's coalition and its false claims in [his own op-ed](#) that appeared in The Wichita Eagle. He writes, "Firearms trace data is collected by ATF for public safety, not for civil litigation."
- **CBS AFFILIATE REFUSES TO AIR BLOOMBERG AD . . .** New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's anti-gun crusade featuring paid television advertisements that call for

repeal of the Tiahrt Amendment (legislation restricting public access to firearms tracing data) took a hit last week when a Wichita, Kan., CBS affiliate refused to air the anti-gun message. The station's director of programming, Laverne E. Goering, said, "This is issue advertising, where the station is responsible for the truth or fairness of the ad, unlike political advertising, where the politicians can pretty much say what they want." The ad buy is part of a campaign launched by Bloomberg's Mayors Against Illegal Guns coalition.

- **NSSF LOBBYING HELPS THWART ILLINOIS ANTI-GUN LEGISLATION . . .** Proposed legislation in the Illinois State House, HB796, that would have set up a state system for licensing gun dealers was soundly defeated following a strong lobbying campaign from NSSF. While supporters of the bill claimed the legislation would crack down on "shady dealers," NSSF hit the phones, offices and mailboxes of the legislators successfully demonstrating that the anti-gun bill would only inconvenience law-abiding retailers and do nothing to curb criminal access to firearms. The legislation failed 51-66.
- **FORMER POLICE CAPTAIN TO BECOME NRA PRESIDENT . . .** John Sigler, retired captain of the Dover, Del., police department and a corporate attorney, has been elected president of the National Rifle Association of America. Sigler's goals, according to Lee Williams in an article in The News Journal, are to defend the Second Amendment's protection to keep and bear arms, increase the number of firearm ranges and increase NRA membership.
- **MANY UTAHANS PROUD TO HAVE CONCEALED CARRY ON CAMPUS . . .** Following widespread speculation on how the Virginia Tech tragedy may have been minimized if the college community was allowed to legally carry firearms, the Associated Press reported that Utah is the only state to have legislated the right to concealed carry on state property, including public colleges. "What happened at Virginia Tech might have been stopped," said Christine Zabawa, a medical researcher at the University of Utah. Also quoted is Michael Waddoups, Utah state senator, who said, "If government can't protect you, you should have the right to protect yourself."
- **SAF WANTS SAM DONALDSON BARRED FROM GUN STORIES . . .** The Second Amendment Foundation today sent a letter to ABC News president David Westin asking that reporter Sam Donaldson be barred from ever again reporting on gun rights issues because he is serving as master of ceremonies at a fund-raiser for the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence.

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- **LAWMAKERS PROPOSE NICS REPORTING REQUIREMENTS . . .** In the wake of last week's tragedy at Virginia Tech, senators Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) and Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), alongside anti-gun Rep. Carolyn McCarthy (D-N.Y.), have promised to introduce legislation seeking to institute gun control over law-abiding citizens. Statements from the trio have indicated they will first attempt to make uniform state record reporting requirements

to the FBI National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), which holds the names of those individuals prohibited from possessing firearms. McCarthy is already listed as a co-sponsor to legislation backed by pro-gun Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.), which would enhance funding for updating NICS. NSSF has for several years supported additional funding to improve the NICS system in general and mental health records specifically. NSSF will be monitoring all federal and state legislation in response to this tragic incident.

- **NRA NEWS KICKED OUT OF AHSA PRESS CONFERENCE . . .** It seems the self-professed "alternative" firearms rights organization, the anti-gun American Hunters and Shooters Association, was concerned about firearms owners and enthusiasts hearing and witnessing their true anti-gun agenda. AHSA crashed the NRA Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Mo., and held a press conference in support of New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and his "Mayors Against Illegal Guns" coalition. NRA News reporter Ginny Simone, a credentialed member of the media, was refused admittance to the press conference despite her press credentials. Watch a video clip that shows Simone being denied access by AHSA president Ray Schoenke and AHSA executive director Robert Ricker. Footage is courtesy of NRA News. It appears AHSA has issues with the first amendment, too.
- **MISS AMERICA 1944 STOPS INTRUDER WITH HER HANDGUN . . .** Venus Ramey, 82, may have won the Miss American crown in 1944 with singing, dancing and comedic talent, to go with her good looks, but she demonstrated other attributes when her dog alerted her to intruders. Thieves had previously made off with old farm equipment from her storage building, but this time, Ramey shot the tires of the would-be thieves' vehicle and prevented them from leaving her south-central Kentucky farm while authorities were notified.

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- **RANGE SURVIVAL SEMINAR COMING TO PENNSYLVANIA . . .** Survival on the range in the frontier days required a whole different kind of advice than the critical information to be dispensed to range managers and shooting grounds owners at "The Range Survival Seminar" on Saturday, April 28, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m, at the Atglen Sportsmen's Club on Creek Road in Parkersburg, Pa. Information on range management, community relations, risk assessment, lead migration, range insurance and more can breathe new life into a shooting facility. Call 717-232-3480 or e-mail info@pfsc.org to learn more about and register for the program presented by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc., in cooperation with the National Shooting Sports Foundation.
- **HUNTING HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP GRANT DEADLINE . . .** State Agencies interested in seeking funding for new and innovative approaches that target the recruitment and retention of hunters or increase hunter access are encouraged to apply for assistance through the NSSF's Hunting Heritage Partnership program, which offers

a total of \$500,000. To date the program has invested more than 1.7 million dollars in 33 partner states. "Over the past four years we have funded creative and far-sighted efforts that aim to resolve the real barriers that today's hunter faces," said Doug Painter, president of NSSF. "The resulting benefits provided by this program are increases in lands open to hunting and a noticeable expansion of hunting participation within our partnering states." Grant submissions must be received no later than 5 pm on April 30.

- **WINCHESTER PLEDGES \$500,000 FOR NRA ENDOWMENT . . .** Winchester Ammunition has made a groundbreaking \$500,000 pledge to permanently endow NRA's Marksmanship Qualification Program. The gift allows Winchester to become the exclusive, permanent sponsor of the program, which will now be formally known as the [Winchester/NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program](#).
- **NEW POSITION FOR OLYMPIC RIFLE CHAMPION . . .** Launi Meili is a seven-time national champion in three-position rifle, and now she has added another title to go with a new position. The American Olympic gold medalist at the Barcelona games in 1992 [has been named head rifle coach](#) at the Air Force Academy. Meili comes to the academy from the University of Nebraska, where she led the Cornhuskers to a No. 2 national ranking this season and earned "coach of the year" honors in 2006.
- **NRA LOOKS TO INDUSTRY . . .** With the 2008 election on the horizon, accompanied by new threats to the Second Amendment and the firearms industry, the NRA wants to make sure that it enters the battles for Congress, the courts and political campaigns with the most support ever. At a meeting attended by 150 key firearms and outdoor industry representatives at the NRA Convention in St. Louis last Friday, an industry committee pledged to help build NRA membership through manufacturer, distributor and retailer outreach efforts. Details of the multi-faceted plan will be unveiled later in the year. Members of the industry committee are Smith & Wesson, Beretta, Savage Arms, Taurus, Big Rock Sports, RSR Group, Davidson's, AcuSport, Gander Mountain and Turner's Outdoorsman.
- **BOLTON WARNS OF ENEMIES "WITHOUT" . . .** At the NRA's 136th Member's Banquet on Saturday night, the guest speaker, former UN Ambassador John Bolton, warned that anti-gun forces in the U.S. were supporting international pressures to take guns away from U.S. citizens. A good summary of Bolton's speech appears in today's [The Shooting Wire](#). His comments echo the concerns of industry officials and underline the importance of the [Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute](#) (SAAMI) in the international body with its Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) status. Total attendance for the April 13-15 NRA Annual Meetings and Exhibits, still not officially finalized, has already been acknowledged to have set, by a wide margin, a new record for any convention ever held in the St. Louis and may exceed the NRA's all-time record of 62,000 set in Pittsburgh in 2004.

News Links:

07/05/04 Philadelphia OKs gun control laws, but they may not be enforced

The skyrocketing murder rate is forcing a showdown between city and state lawmakers, with City Council passing gun control legislation and threatening to sue the Legislature in order to enforce it.

Only state lawmakers have the right to enact firearms laws in Pennsylvania. But with 137 homicides in Philadelphia so far this year, Councilman Darrell Clarke said the city had to do something. <http://www.centredaily.com/129/story/87111.html>

07/05/04 Phila. faces down state, passes gun law

Council had no legal right to pass the bills, including a limit to one gun buy a month. Just who blinks next is anyone's guess.

http://www.philly.com/philly/hp/news_update/20070504_Phil_a_faces_down_state_adopts_gun-control_laws.html

07/05/03 Murder Charges Dropped Against Kings Mountain Woman

KINGS MOUNTAIN, N.C. -- Cleveland County's district attorney has dropped murder charges against a woman accused of killing her husband.

Tina Brown Weaver, 40, was arrested in November after police say she shot Ronald Todd Weaver several times at their home on South Ridge Drive in Kings Mountain. The man was pronounced dead at Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

<http://www.wsocvtv.com/news/13253634/detail.html>

07/05/03 Shots fired at armed midnight intruder (AR)

Responding to a call for help around midnight, the parents of Rebecca Little of 150 County Line Road arrived to see a man armed with a shotgun fleeing from the residence. When told to stop, the man reportedly turned and pointed the shotgun at the parents, and a shot was fired at him in return before he fled into a wooded area.

http://www.guardonline.com/?module=displaystory&story_id=39478&format=html

07/05/02 Gun owners as scapegoats

I wonder why Seung-Hui Cho was let into this country in the first place. The gun control crowd always wants to disarm the law abiding citizen, yet ignores the fact that Cho was not here in 1991. He was allowed in by the same people who want to strip the American public of its right to self defense.

http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/yourview/ci_5803051

07/05/03 Gun Free Zones Make for a Target: Packing Heat Can Save Lives

If only Virginia Tech's mass murderer had read the school's policy handbook. He would have learned the college was a gun-free zone. So then he wouldn't have brought any guns on campus and the tragedy could have been averted. That's roughly the logic used by many proponents of gun control. Adding more laws, rules and regulations to the thousands already on the books will somehow stop the violence.

http://www.nationalledger.com/artman/publish/article_272613108.shtml

07/05/03 Regulators Are Asked To Share Data on Guns

WASHINGTON — When handguns with bullets that can pierce body armor showed up on the streets of [New Jersey](#), [Senator Lautenberg](#) asked federal regulators to share data that could help local police figure out where the weapons were coming from. That information, the New Jersey Democrat was told, is off-limits. <http://www.nysun.com/article/53711>

07/05/03 Gun Group Presses for Firearms on Campus, Center Says (Update1)

May 3 (Bloomberg) -- The National Rifle Association, a gun- rights group with 4 million members, is pressing lawmakers in U.S. states to allow staff and students to carry firearms on campus, according to the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence. <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=aN.nCmskZSlk&refer=us>

07/05/02 Confiscation of Registered Guns Begins in Illinois

The Chicago Police Department and the Illinois State Police have teamed up to make good on Mayor Daley's pledge that, if it were up to him, nobody would have a gun. Daley and his elite "CAGE" unit are apparently taking advantage of gun privacy loopholes to pinpoint certain individuals for inclusion in the confiscation program. <http://www.isra.org/>

07/05/03 LETTER: Drastic measures needed Hingham - We are living in a very different world than when the Constitution was written 220 years ago. The Second Amendment, which enabled every citizen "to bear arms," is no longer relevant. When this right was established, individuals feared for their safety from marauding Indians and "to keep the wolf from the door." <http://www.townonline.com/hingham/opinion/x588618535>

07/05/03 Letter: Guns, the left wing and America

With the recent massacre at Virginia Tech, predictably, the radical left wingers, who would like to make all Americans as defenseless as those poor students, are once again singing their tired old disarm America tune. Of course, we have come to expect liberal lunacy at times like this. <http://www.2theadvocate.com/opinion/7305436.html>

07/05/03 Good luck taking handguns away I am writing in reaction to the letter from Marc C. Stephens regarding his plan to reduce incidents like the Virginia Tech shootings by outlawing handguns ("Only criminals need a handgun in this country," April 26).

http://www.gazette.net/stories/050307/fredlet203525_32326.shtml

07/05/03 City to sue state over gun laws

Fed up with foot-dragging in Harrisburg over gun control, Philadelphia is now taking its case to court. City Councilman Darrell L. Clarke said last night that the city plans to file a lawsuit today in Philadelphia Common Pleas Court alleging that the General Assembly has failed in its duty to protect the

residents of the city.

http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/20070503_City_to_sue_state_over_gun_inaction.html

07/05/03 Baltimore Mayor Unveils Strategy to Attack Increase in Gun Crime

BALTIMORE, May 2 — With shootings rising sharply here, Mayor Sheila Dixon announced plans Wednesday to form a task force on illegal guns and install a system to track where and when guns had been used in crimes. http://www.nytimes.com/2007/05/03/us/03baltimore.html?_r=1&oref=slogin

07/05/03 Illinois Senators Cautioned Against Supporting Gun Bill

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 3 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- The following was released today by the ISRA Political Victory Fund (ISRA-PVF):

The ISRA-PVF is warning Illinois state senators that a vote in favor of a recently introduced gun control bill would jeopardize the political support they receive from Illinois hunters and sportsmen.

http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/news_press_release.100005.shtml

07/05/03 Gun Laws Expanded for Self-Defense Law-abiding citizens will be able to use deadly force in self-defense in more places under legislation that unanimously passed the state Senate Thursday and is on its way to becoming law. Currently, Tennesseans can use deadly force when faced with a threat of death or serious injury in their own homes. The bill approved by the Senate Thursday and by the House last week extends those areas to include all homes and vehicles, regardless of who owns them.

<http://www.dicksonherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070503/NEWS02/70503057>

07/04/26 SUNY Cobleskill student suspended for gun pose

COBLESKILL -- A State University of New York at Cobleskill student, suspended after posting a picture of himself posing with a shotgun on the Internet, said he received a five-day academic suspension.

<http://timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=584142&category=FRONTPG&BCCode=HOME&newsdate=4/26>

07/05/03 Campus killer thinks guns should be eliminated

Newsweek recently sat down with another campus carnage perpetrator, Wayne Lo, who on the evening of Dec. 14, 1992, approached a security-guard shack on the campus of Simon's Rock College of Bard in Great Barrington, Mass. and began shooting indiscriminately. Lo was 18 years old then. He is serving a life sentence.

<http://libertyzone.blogspot.com/2007/05/campus-killer-thinks-guns-should-be.html>

07/05/03 PA legislators are idiots Faced with the unavoidable fact that their fascist House Bill 760 blows goat in voters' eyes, state

representatives Angel Cruz and Rosita Youngblood decided to amend their confiscation scheme.

<http://libertyzone.blogspot.com/2007/05/pa-legislators-are-idiots.html>

07/05/03 Judging the 2nd Amendment A massive change may be coming regarding your right to own a gun, and possibly coming very soon. Though the last 40 years have seen massive battles in legislative halls between gun-rights supporters and gun-control advocates, the emphasis of this movement is now moving into federal courtrooms.

http://worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=55493

07/04/05 St. Martin shooting death ruled self defense ST. MARTIN -- No charges have been filed against a 17-year-old male involved in the shooting death Tuesday night of 20-year-old Michael Pittman, who lived at 15608 Belmont Drive in St. Martin.

<http://www.gulflive.com/news/mississippypress/index.ssf?/base/news/1175768165223720.xml>

07/03/27 Attorney Says Fatal Shooting Case of Self Defense

Man Arrested After Shooting At Waianae

Residence HONOLULU -- The attorney of a man accused of shooting and killing an alleged gunman said the fatal confrontation was clearly self defense.

<http://www.thehawaiichannel.com/news/11404057/detail.html>

07/02/04 Store Owners shoot in Self Defense

Working in a convenience store can be one of the most dangerous jobs in America, and many in this industry have taken it upon themselves to take steps to protect themselves.

http://www.ohioccw.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3812&Itemid=83

07/02/12 Woman Claims Self Defense In Gaston County Shooting, Won't Be Charged GASTON COUNTY, N.C. -- A woman in Gaston County claims she shot her ex-husband in self defense while he tried to strangle her. Our newspaper partner the Gaston Gazette reports police did not arrest her in Christopher Friday's death. <http://www.wsocv.com/news/10985917/detail.html>

06/12/20 Murder Charges Against Rock Hill Man Dropped; Shooting Deemed Self Defense

ROCK HILL, S.C. -- A man won't be tried on murder charges after he shot and killed a young father late Tuesday night, according to the Rock Hill Solicitor's Office.

<http://www.wsocv.com/news/10577259/detail.html>

06/10/15 East Texans Weigh In On Proposed Self Defense Bill Some East Texans are supporting a proposed bill from a state legislator that would give more rights to individuals defending their life and property against attackers. The proposed bill is authored by

a Republican state senator from San Antonio.

<http://www.kltv.com/Global/story.asp?S=5542578>

07/04/26 Gun Control Isn't Crime Control This past Tuesday the governor of Virginia announced he would close the loophole that allowed Seung-Hui Cho to buy the guns he used to kill 32 people -- and himself -- on the Virginia Tech campus. OK, it's a good idea to keep guns out of the hands of people who are mentally unstable. But be careful about how far the calls for gun control go, because the idea that gun control laws lower gun crime is a myth.

<http://abcnews.go.com/2020/story?id=3083618&page=1>

07/04/27 Gun debate ignores human factor When I read the "Derby" from our President of the Union, I was expecting a tirade against the evils of guns and a call for tighter regulation or an outright ban. I was relieved and impressed when I saw that his position took the correct view in attacking not the guns, but the motives of the people that use them for crime or, as was the case recently, a destructive rampage.

http://poly.union.rpi.edu/article_view.php3?view=5500&part=1

07/04/28 Criminals don't register their guns; why should we? Alabama legislators who introduced House Bill 600 in early April are probably hoping to use the tragic murder of 32 students and faculty at Virginia Tech for their own anti-gun political agenda.

<http://www.al.com/opinion/birminghamnews/index.ssf?/base/opinion/1177748214243960.xml&coll=2>

07/04/25 Our God-given right of self-defense Within hours of the tragic murder of 32 students and faculty last week on the campus of Virginia Tech, liberals both at home and abroad began to cry out for "gun control," as if the two handguns that were used in the killings were more to blame than the disturbed student who pulled the trigger.

http://www.wnd.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=55366

07/04/29 Aim for sensible improvements to gun regulations Americans have been arguing over what to do about the dangers posed by guns since the dawn of the 19th Century, when the nation experienced its first gun violence crisis and enacted the first comprehensive gun control laws.

<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070429/OPI NION02/704290537/1068/OPINION>

07/04/29 "All the means of Self Defence".... Letters of Delegates to Congress: Vol. 4

John Hancock to the Colonies

Gentlemen, Philada. June 7th. 1776. I am **commanded by Congress** to transmit you the enclosed Resolves, and to request your immediate Attention to the same.(1)

http://keepandbeararms.com/news/nl/display_day_archive.asp?d=4%2F30%2F2007

07/04/27 Utah is Only State to Prohibit Concealed Weapons Bans on Campus

(AP) Utah is the only state that prohibits public colleges and universities from banning concealed weapons on campus.

<http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=1154716>

07/04/28 Armed and ready? About 1 in 40 Utahns packs a concealed weapon If you are ever in a room with 40 or so other Utahns — say at a theater, restaurant or back-to-school night — odds are that at least one person there has a concealed weapon permit and could be legally packing a loaded handgun.

<http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,660215878,00.html>

07/04/27 How To Create A Police State [H]ow would one disarm the American population? First of all, federal or state laws would need to make it a crime punishable by a \$1,000 fine and one year in prison per weapon to possess a firearm. The population would then be given three months to turn in their guns, without penalty.

<http://www.thelibertypapers.org/2007/04/27/how-to-create-a-police-state/>

07/04/28 Expert offers teachers free weapons training The mad homicidal rampages in American schools will halt when attackers find out that faculty and students sometimes are armed and trained to use those weapons effectively, so an expert in the defensive use of guns is offering free training to educators.

http://wnd.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=55436

07/05/02 Cleveland Mayor: Armed robber is a 'victim' On March 14, 2007, Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson [announced](#) that he was going to spend precious taxpayer money to sue the State of Ohio over its decision to make all gun laws in the state uniform. <http://www.buckeyefirearms.org/article3712.html>

07/03/26 Ten Threats To Our Ohio Gun Rights In 2007 In August of 2006, the Buckeye Firearms Association produced a list of [ten people](#) who are threatening your Ohio gun rights. Since then, Ohio gun owners successfully passed HB347 and helped elect several pro-gun candidates. To some degree, all of the people who were previously listed are still threatening your Ohio gun rights, but there are now new threats that need to be addressed. Shockingly, a large number of the threats on our Ohio gun rights are coming from OUTSIDE of Ohio!

<http://www.buckeyefirearms.org/article3622.html>

07/04/27 You have a right to keep and bear arms — NOT!

The Second Amendment guarantees a right to bear arms. Like the First Amendment, it includes both a public and private dimension. For instance

<http://lonestartimes.com/2007/04/27/you-have-a-right-to-keep-and-bear-arms-not/>

07/04/27 READER'S VIEW: Gun laws mean nothing to evil people

In the wake of the Virginia Tech campus shootings, and the like, one thing should be abundantly clear to all - and that is that evil people will commit evil acts regardless of law. Laws cannot stop

evil; laws can only punish the perpetrators) after the fact, but not in all cases, as at Virginia Tech where the predator committed suicide.

<http://www.patriotledger.com/articles/2007/04/27/opinion/opin02.txt>

07/04/27 Congress Should Slash Funds of Virginia Tech and Other Colleges for Undermining Right to Self-Defense, says Gun Rights Advocate WASHINGTON, April 27 /[Christian Newswire](#)/ -- Gun rights advocate John M. Snyder said here today that Congress should deny federal funds to institutions of higher learning that prohibit students or faculty from carrying guns on campus if the individuals have state issued permits to carry concealed firearms.

<http://www.earnedmedia.org/saf0427.htm>

07/04/27 10 Questions: Opposing Gun Control Last week's killings at Virginia Tech are still on all of our minds—and it may be too soon to talk about a public policy response. But the fact is, national activists and politicians already are. For last week's "10 Questions," just days after the VT assault, we spoke with [a leading proponent of gun control](#).

<http://www.cbsnews.com/blogs/2007/04/27/couricandco/entry2734640.shtml>

07/05/04 Gun control no answer to violence No, the state does not need stricter gun laws. You could see this issue popping up after the recent tragedy on the Virginia campus. There is a valid argument that if they didn't have such strict laws on campus, perhaps he could have been stopped. We'll never know, but this much I know -- those who want more gun control will strip us of our Second Amendment rights.

<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AI D=/20070427/OPINION02/704260364/1014/OPINION>

07/05/01 Illinois Anti-Gun Legislation Moving Swiftly!

State Senator could vote on legislation sponsored by former gun-ban lobbyist and current State Senator, Dan Kotowski (D-33), which would ban the manufacture, possession, delivery, sale, and purchase of standard capacity ammunition magazines capable of holding more than ten (10) rounds. If the State Senate is capable of limiting our standard ammunition capacity to ten (10), they will limit it to five (5), and they will keep on limiting our right to keep and bear arms until there is nothing left.

<http://www.nraila.org/Legislation/Read.aspx?ID=2928>

07/05/01 Heidi Get Your Gun Each September the hills around Zurich are alive — with the sound of gunfire. Nobody is alarmed, however, because they know it emanates from a bunch of teenagers doing what comes naturally to nearly every Swiss: sharpshooting.

<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1616393,00.html>

07/04/26 Three Philadelphia men accused of selling guns near school

Three men were arrested Wednesday on charges they illegally sold 22 guns to an undercover agent and conducted most of their business within 50 feet of a middle school.

http://www.mcall.com/news/nationworld/state/all-a6_illegalguns-a.5820747apr26.0.7350422.story

07/04/30 Texas Governor Signs Emergency Powers Bill Into Law!

Thank You for Your Calls and Support of SB112 During the Legislative Session! On Friday, April 27, Governor Rick Perry (R) signed into law Senate Bill 112, NRA-backed legislation to prevent the confiscation of firearms and ammunition from law-abiding citizens during a future state of emergency or natural disaster. <http://www.nraila.org/Legislation/Read.aspx?ID=2923>

07/04/30 Setting The Record Straight About Firearms Trace Data

"During the past several weeks, numerous questions and articles have arisen in the media, regarding the ability of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to share firearms trace data among members of the law-enforcement community," writes Michael J. Sullivan, acting director of the BATFE. "With the recent tragic events surrounding the senseless criminal use of firearms; I felt the need to clarify this important issue."

<http://www.scrippsnews.com/node/22041>

07/04/30 Ex-Dover Police Captain to Lead NRA

- *The New Journal*

Delaware was one of the last states in the nation to add a handgun hunting season. The bill passed in large measure because of the efforts of the man who wrote the legislation--gun-rights lobbyist John Sigler, a Delaware native, retired Dover police captain, corporate attorney and newly elected President of the National Rifle Association.

<http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2007/04/30/NEWS/704300374/1006/NEWS>

07/04/30 Feeling Safe, Isn't Safe

- *TownHall.com*

The murders two weeks ago at Virginia Tech naturally set off a cry in the usual quarters--The New York Times, the London-based Economist--for stricter gun-control laws. Democratic officeholders didn't chime in, primarily because they believe they were hurt by the issue in 2000 and 2004, but most privately agree.

http://www.townhall.com/Columnists/MichaelBarone/2007/04/30/feeling_safe_isnt_safe

07/04/30 More Anti-Gun Nonsense

The response to gun violence has been predictable and consistent. We've held candlelight vigils, worn ribbons and heard speeches, all properly intended to make us feel better. We've passed laws forbidding guns within 1,000 feet of a school and the manufacturing of "assault weapons." Now, in the wake of the Blacksburg shootings, calls for stiffer gun-control laws have become louder and more strident, writes Tracy Price. What has

not been tried is the obvious: The time has come for us to defend our children and ourselves, and take steps that will drastically reduce the number of attempted mass shootings and provide for a defense of the innocent when they do occur.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/op-ed/20070429-100042-5512r.htm>

07/05/01 Lawmakers Urge Philadelphia Gun Registry

State Reps. Angel Cruz and Rosita C. Youngblood announced April 30 another effort to allow the city to create a gun-registry system.

http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/pa/20070501_2_lawmakers_urge_Philadelphia_gun_registry.html

07/04/30 World's Parliaments Urged To Act On Gun Control

Parliamentarians around the world should press for urgent action on gun control, particularly in view of recent tragedies, the head of a global body representing lawmakers said April 30.

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/JAK158938.htm>

07/04/30 Sticks And Stones

"It bothers Americans when we're told how unpopular we are with the rest of the world," writes former Sen. Fred Thompson (R-Tenn.). "For some of us, at least, it gets our back up--and our natural tendency is to tell the French, for example, that we'd rather not hear from them until the day when they need us to bail them out again."

<http://article.nationalreview.com/?q=YTQ3OWE3ZTY2N2U4MTFhOTBhYWYWRiYzhlMmFIMWU1ZmM>

07/04/30 Anti-Gun Nonsense

- *Washington Times*

"As an airline pilot, I knew pilots who carried guns in their flight bags prior to 1987, when the Federal Aviation Administration effectively disarmed all pilots," writes Tracy W. Price. "I did not own guns then, and I thoughtlessly bought into the conventional wisdom that airliners should really be 'gun-free zones.' The September 11 attacks jarred my perspective, and I quickly came to realize that I had been living in a fool's paradise."

http://www.washtimes.com/op-ed/20070429-100042-5512r_page2.htm

07/04/28 Liberals Are Wrong About Not Carrying Guns

- *Allentown Morning Call*

"If society insists upon disarming the populace, then a lot more money needs to be invested in armed guards," writes attorney Donald P. Russo.

<http://www.mcall.com/news/opinion/anotherview/all-column.5823687apr28.0.5976619.column?coll=all-newsopinionanotherview-hed>

07/04/28 State Law Trumps Local Rules Regarding Guns

The state, not local governments, will decide where Kansans can carry concealed guns. That's the main effect of a vote April 27 by the Kansas Senate on a bill that negates local gun-control laws.

<http://www.kansas.com/196/story/56595.html>

07/04/27 NICS Legislative Efforts

The National Rifle Association has always supported including the records of individuals adjudicated mentally defective into the National Instant Background Check System. We believe that the NICS should serve the intent of Congress, which is to prohibit the legal sale of firearms to criminals and other prohibited persons, such as adjudicated mental defectives. However, we must not forget that the NICS also serves the purpose of clearing firearm purchases by law-abiding Americans. Too often, the system has been abused and has not delivered on the promise of a fair and instant check.

<http://www.nraila.org/Issues/FactSheets/Read.aspx?ID=217>

07/04/27 Legislation to Ban Assault Weapons Pending in Louisiana House!

House Bill 869 would establish far-reaching restrictions on semi-automatic firearms (dubbing them "assault weapons") and ammunition magazines. HB 869 affects every firearm modified to conform with the now-extinct Clinton Gun-Ban plus other semi-automatic firearms that have no resemblance to those rifles that were banned. Please contact the members of the House Criminal Justice Committee and respectfully urge them to oppose HB 869.

<http://www.nraila.org/Legislation/Read.aspx?ID=2913>

07/04/26 Gun Control Isn't Crime Control

"This past Tuesday the governor of Virginia announced he would close the loophole that allowed Seung-Hui Cho to buy the guns he used to kill 32 people--and himself--on the Virginia Tech campus," writes John Stossel. "OK, it's a good idea to keep guns out of the hands of people who are mentally unstable. But be careful about how far the calls for gun control go, because the idea that gun control laws lower gun crime is a myth."

<http://abcnews.go.com/2020/story?id=3083618&page=1>

07/04/20 North Dakota Castle Doctrine Self-Defense Bills Heads to Governors Desk!

Please contact Governor John Hoeven (R) and respectfully urge him to sign House Bill 1319, critical Castle Doctrine self-defense legislation. The bill passed the House of Representatives on Tuesday, April 10 by an 80-13 margin, with one abstention. It passed the Senate on March 23 by a 44-2 margin with one abstention. This legislation allows the use of deadly force in self-defense, removes the duty to retreat, and provides the individual acting in self-defense immunity from criminal and civil prosecution.

<http://www.nraila.org/Legislation/Read.aspx?ID=2874>

07/04/20 Pennsylvania Gun Registration Legislation Introduced!

The "Gun Registration Act of 2007", [House Bill No. 760](#), sponsored by State Representatives Angel Cruz (D-180), Rosita Youngblood (D-198), Cherelle Parker (D-200), Jake Wheatley (D-19), Lisa Bennington (D-21), and Lawrence Curry (D-154) has been introduced in Harrisburg.

This misguided proposal would require **every gun** in Pennsylvania to be registered annually with the state. The registration would cost law-abiding gun owners \$10 per gun each year. **Of course, criminals won't pay anything BECAUSE CRIMINALS DON'T REGISTER GUNS!** In fact, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Haynes v. U.S.* (309 U.S. 85 (1968)) that since felons are prohibited from owning firearms, compelling them to register them would violate their 5th Amendment rights against self-incrimination. However, if a law-abiding gun owner fails to register it, he or she will be jailed and lose his or her Second Amendment rights **FOREVER**.

The measure would require each gun owner submit to fingerprinting, have a background check, and include passport-style photos for the registration cards. The registration card for each gun would then have to be carried with that gun at all times. To make matters worse, if the state should reject your application for any reason, **YOUR GUNS WILL BE CONFISCATED!**

<http://www.nraila.org/Legislation/Read.aspx?ID=2835>

07/04/20 Gun Laws Kill

Thirty-two fine young men and women are dead and that is a huge tragedy, writes Michael Reagan. It is also, however, a tragedy that the death toll could have been substantially lower if it were not for an absurd law that kept the students and faculty from exercising their Constitutional right to protect themselves and others by bearing arms on campus.

<http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=20349>

07/04/20 The Right Kind Of Law

I've always lived in neighborhoods where deadly popping noises have become commonplace, so perhaps my perspective on gun control is different from that of the elite pundits in New York City and from celebrities who can afford armed bodyguards, writes Alicia Colon. For all our tough gun control laws, chances are the gun fired that night was an illegal one.

<http://www.nysun.com/article/52897>

07/04/19 The False Promise of Gun Control by Daniel D. Polsby

Polsby explains why gun control does not prevent criminals from acquiring guns, and it diverts attention from the roots of our crime problem.

<http://www.nraila.org/Issues/Articles/Read.aspx?ID=237>

07/04/19 Bloomberg Anti-Gun Campaign To Air Ads

Mayor Bloomberg's nationwide campaign against guns is taking to the airwaves, with the launch of a targeted television and Internet advertising campaign aimed at bullying Congress into repealing an amendment restricting non-law-enforcement access to information about guns used in crimes.

<http://www.nysun.com/article/52806>

07/04/17 War Over Firearms

Gun Control: Left-leaning editorial boards both here and in Europe leaned so hard after the Virginia Tech shootings that they fell all over themselves making spurious arguments. It was, of course, predictable.

<http://www.ibdeditorials.com/IBDArticles.aspx?id=261702633250266>

07/04/18 Wanted: A Culture Of Self-Defense

There's no polite way or time to say it: American colleges and universities have become coddle industries, writes Michelle Malkin. Big Nanny administrators oversee speech codes, segregated dorms, politically correct academic departments, and designated safe spaces to protect students selectively from hurtful (conservative) opinions while allowing mob rule for approved leftist positions.

<http://article.nationalreview.com/?q=MjdiNzFkMDNIOWE3MjY4YTvkOGIzMTcwMjVhMGFhMDA>

07/04/19 A Gun Ban And The Gunman

Last year Virginia legislators considered a bill that would have overridden policies at public universities that prohibit students and faculty members with concealed handgun permits from bringing their weapons onto campus.

<http://www.washtimes.com/commentary/20070418-093635-9233r.htm>

07/04/19 Gun bans? Take A Look At How Drug Laws Work

The urge of lawmakers amid the unthinkable is to entertain the feel-good notion of legislation that could have prevented the awfulness. The inclination to legislate the worst impulses out of the human condition is understandable in the wake of the horror at Virginia Tech that left 32 dead at the hand of a gun-toting sicko, who then shot himself. But as we know only too well, if only from anecdotal experience, laws have their limits.

<http://www.washtimes.com/metro/20070418-104850-4951r.htm>

07/04/19 Pennsylvania Rep. Saylor Opposes Gun Registration Bill

- Rep. Stan Saylor

Rep. Stan Saylor (R-York) announced he opposes a controversial bill that would establish an annual \$10 registration fee for most guns in Pennsylvania and said he would vote against the measure if it came before the House for a vote.

<http://www.repsaylor.com/?sectionid=78&parentid=1§iontre=&itemid=367>

07/04/18 Va. Tragedy Likely To Put Gun Control In Spotlight

Ten years ago, when a man armed with a pistol shot seven tourists on the observation deck at the Empire State Building, New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani responded with an unequivocal call for more federal gun control. "The United States Congress needs to pass uniform licensing for everyone carrying a gun. Congress must do more," said Giuliani, then a leading proponent of gun control.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/nationworld/bal-te.guncontrol18apr18.0.303950.story?coll=bal-nationworld-headlines>

07/04/17 Blue Ridge Evil

pause that the nation collectively took to digest the enormity of the Virginia Tech shooting won't last long. The argument is

already beginning over whether school officials and the police reacted appropriately to Cho Seung-Hui's rampage, and over what policies might prevent another such tragedy. All sides in this debate should always keep in mind that Cho Seung-Hui is the only one responsible for the massacre.

<http://article.nationalreview.com/?q=YWE3YjBiYWUyMTA2NjZkMDgyMWVmZWVmZjZkOGFiOWY>

07/04/17 Reid Warns Against Rush On Gun Control

- Forbes

After the worst mass shooting in U.S. history, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid cautioned April 17 against a "rush to judgment" on stricter gun control. A leading House supporter of restrictions on firearms conceded passage of legislation would be difficult.

<http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2007/04/17/ap3623467.html>

07/04/18 Democrats Wary Of Tightening Laws

Advocates of stricter gun laws, such as Rep. Carolyn McCarthy (D-N.Y.), met with Democratic leaders, determined to resurrect an issue that has been dormant since the shootings at Columbine High School near Denver in 1999. Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) elicited a pledge from Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vt.) to hold a hearing on the shootings.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/04/17/AR2007041701780.html>

07/04/16 Who Needs Another Alternative To NRA

Hot on the heels of the American Hunters and Shooters Association comes yet another group that promises to represent the views of traditional hunters and shooters. This time the promises are directed at union members who own guns and carry NRA membership cards.

<http://www.nraaila.org/Issues/Articles/Read.aspx?ID=236>

07/04/23 Missouri latest state to bar police from taking guns

Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt has signed legislation ensuring that Missouri residents could not have their guns taken away during an emergency. <http://www.belleville.com/180/story/17727.html>

07/04/15 Ex-Envoy Warns Of Foreign Threats To U.S. Gun Owners

Gun-control advocates want to use international treaties to restrict rights in U.S., former Ambassador John Bolton tells the NRA members here. Gun owners should watch out for threats to their rights from overseas as well as at home, John Bolton, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, told 3,500 members of the National Rifle Association Saturday night at the Edward Jones Dome.

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/stlouiscitycounty/story/678C97A81F2A2D6A862572BE000BF246?OpenDocument>

07/04/14 Restoring the Second Amendment in Parker v. Columbia

Alan Gura: "Fear and disinformation have long been the hallmarks of the movement to end private gun ownership. Not surprisingly, the D.C. Circuit's decision in Parker v. District of

Columbia, confirming that people have an individual right to keep and bear arms, has elicited outrageous predictions of doom from gun prohibitionists. The Violence Policy Centers Josh Sugarmann neatly summed up the hysteria in warning that Parker `may mark the beginning of a long, national nightmare from which we will never recover as a nation.` Allow me to offer a more optimistic view: Parker not only marks the beginning of the end of gun prohibition, it might also reverse the erosion of our individual rights by re-enforcing the primacy of judicial review and preventing sophists from defining rights out of existence. <http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/hotline/2007/04/restoring-second-amendment-in-parker-v.php>

07/04/16 Gun Issue Likely To Be A Showdown

For thousands of Texans, the right to own and carry a gun is no less an essential ingredient of life than the right to own a house, a business or other piece of property. <http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/editorial/robison/4717185.html>

07/04/17 Gun Registration Bill Triggers Strong Public Opposition

A proposal to impose ultra-strict registration requirements on Pennsylvania gun owners has them up in arms. The bill, introduced by Rep. Angel Cruz, D-Philadelphia, would require a \$10-a-gun yearly tax and force gun owners to submit a recent photograph and be fingerprinted. <http://www.centredaily.com/116/story/70948.html>

07/04/12 Defending The Second Amendment

- *Harvard Gazette*

Like a courtroom version of High Noon, legal guns are squaring off this year in a confrontation over the Second Amendment. And whoever wins, the battle will touch off a longtime culture war that rivals *Roe v. Wade*, said National Rifle Association President Sandra Froman in an April 5 visit to Harvard. <http://www.news.harvard.edu/gazette/2007/04.12/05-nra.html>

07/04/13 Firearms Industry Responds To Bloomberg`s Latest Anti-Gun Efforts

York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has once again distorted the facts surrounding an important piece of legislation designed to protect law enforcement. The Tiahrt Amendment, while restricting access of firearms tracing data to the general public, does not, as Mayor Bloomberg contends, restrict law enforcement from either accessing or sharing the sensitive information. http://www.nssf.org/news/PR_idx.cfm?AoI=generic&PRloc=common/PR/&PR=041307.cfm

07/04/09 Rep. Cappelli Opposes Firearm Registration Legislation

- *Rep. Steven Cappelli*

In order to protect the rights of law-abiding gun owners in Pennsylvania, Rep. Steven Cappelli (R-Williamsport) today announced his opposition to House Bill 760, which would create the Firearm Registration Act.

<http://www.stevencappelli.org/?sectionid=16&parentid=1§iontree=&itemid=524>

07/04/09 Rep. Benninghoff Opposes Pennsylvania Gun Registration Bill

- *Rep. Kerry Benninghoff*

Local residents are voicing their opposition to a recently introduced piece of legislation that would require most guns in Pennsylvania to be registered with the state. Rep. Kerry Benninghoff (R-Centre/Mifflin), a long-time supporter of gun owners rights, said he will oppose the bill if it comes before the House.

<http://kerrybenninghoff.com/?sectionid=84&parentid=1§iontree=&itemid=706>

07/04/11 Gun Owners Up In Arms Over Pa. Registration Bill

House Bill 760 has outraged gun owners across the state because it would require annual registration of every weapon they possess other than antiques -- guns manufactured before 1898 -- certain collector`s items, and law-enforcement duty weapons.

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/s_502099.html

07/04/10 The Right To Bear Arms

As expected, District of Columbia officials on April 9 moved to overturn a recent federal court ruling which found that the city`s strict gun ban violated the Constitution.

<http://www.lvrj.com/opinion/6949862.html>

Rudy Giuliani`s Narrow Reading Of The Second Amendment

Jacob Sullum takes a look at Rudy Giuliani`s "support" for the Second Amendment.

"If the federal government should overpass the just bounds of its authority and make a tyrannical use of its powers, the people, whose creature it is, must appeal to the standard they have formed, and take such measures to redress the injury done to the Constitution as the exigency may suggest and prudence justify."
-- **Alexander Hamilton** (Federalist No. 33, 3 January 1788)