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# 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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## ACSL Lawsuit against Pennsylvania State Police

Since last month's report we have not received any additional information regarding our lawsuit against the Pennsylvania State Police. The case is still pending before the court. It has been over 18 months since the court first heard the case.

## Beware of Continued Attempts To Extend Clinton Gun Ban

Originally enacted in 1994, the Clinton crime bill claimed that banning gun ownership by law-abiding citizens was the solution to violent crime. But anti-gun politicians were able to pass a measure banning so-called "military-style" semi-automatic firearms only after agreeing to "sunset" the ban in a decade.

Now, with the September 13 expiration of the Clinton gun ban fast approaching, anti-gun activists across the nation are making a renewed push to re-enact this ineffective legislation. But time is running out. Congress will return from its summer district work period on September 7 and will be in session for only 4 work days before the sunset date arrives, and because time is short, the anti-gunners are redoubling their efforts to extend the ban. One such group the Jewish Women International sent out the following email.

**TELL THE PRESIDENT TO BAN ASSAULT WEAPONS NOW!** Please contact President Bush on Thursday, September 9th, 2004, and tell him to call on Congress to send him a bill to renew the assault weapons ban. The current ban on military-style, semi-automatic assault weapons is set to expire on September 13, 2004 unless Congress and the President act. We need your help! In 2000, George W. Bush said, "It makes no sense for assault

weapons to be around our society." Tell President Bush to keep his promise and support renewal of the assault weapons ban. Recent surveys show that the majority of citizens - including gun owners, across the country in states like Florida, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Arizona support the assault weapons ban. Assault weapons are the weapons of choice for criminals and terrorists and have no place in our communities. Every major law enforcement organization, representing hundreds of thousands of law enforcements officers, supports the assault weapons ban. On Thursday, please call the President and tell him to stand with law enforcement and support public safety. Tell him to call on Congress to send him legislation to renew the assault weapons ban TODAY! HOW YOU CAN HELP:

STEP 1: On Thursday, September 9th, 2004, call the White House between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm EST at 202-456-1111.

STEP 2: Tell the President to listen to law enforcement and renew the ban on assault weapons before it expires on Monday, September 13th.

STEP 3: ENLIST YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO HELP ON TUESDAY. Please forward this action alert to everyone in your email address book! For more information on assault weapons, go to [www.underassault.org](http://www.underassault.org)

----- Deborah Rosenbloom, Esq. Director of Programs Jewish Women International 2000 M Street, NW, Suite 720 Washington, DC 20036 T: 202.857.1300 or T: 1.800.343.2823

**NRA-ILA Daily Updates Alerts**

July 27, 2004

## **NRA Hails Missouri Appeals Court Decision; Reckless St. Louis Lawsuit Thrown Out**

The National Rifle Association (NRA) commends the Missouri Court of Appeals decision to dismiss St. Louis' frivolous lawsuit against the lawful firearm industry. The opinion upholds a lower court's ruling that the City of St. Louis' claims are without merit -- firearm manufacturers and dealers are not liable for the criminal misuse of guns.

"This sound decision is a victory for gun owners and all who believe society must hold criminals accountable for their crimes," said NRA chief lobbyist Chris W. Cox. "These baseless lawsuits have done nothing but squander taxpayer's money.

"There has never been any merit to these lawsuits -- in fact, the majority have been dismissed," Cox added.

"Unfortunately, big-city mayors and money-hungry lawyers have played into the hands of gun-banners, who designed these suits to crush the American firearm industry under a weight of legal fees."

More than 30 states, including Missouri, have adopted common-sense laws to prevent cities and municipalities from filing further suits against the lawful firearm industry. The Court of Appeals found Missouri's preemption law was a proper response to keep the courts from regulating from the bench.

"Lawsuits designed for the sole purpose of bankrupting a respectable industry have no place in our judicial system. NRA applauds this sensible ruling and will continue working with lawmakers to pass additional laws protecting firearm manufacturers from reckless lawsuits," concluded Cox.

## **Penal System Population Hits New High**

- *The Washington Times*

The nation's federal, state and local correctional system population reached a record of nearly 6.9 million adult men and women last year, an increase of about 131,000 over 2002, the Justice Department says.

**July 29, 2004**

## **Guns Divide Kerry's Campaign**

- *The Hill*

Gun-control advocates say that Sen. John Kerry's presidential campaign is divided about how vocal the senator should be in calling for the assault-weapons ban to be renewed. Kerry's reluctance to mention the controversial issue on the campaign trail has agitated proponents of the ban, which is scheduled to expire Sept. 13.

**July 31, 2004**

## **Democratic Convention Rolls Out Big Anti-Gunners**

A host of very prominent anti-gun politicians spoke at this week's Democratic National Convention. Notable among the group was Representative Carolyn McCarthy (D-N.Y.), who urged her willing party to do all that it can to renew the so-called "assault weapons" ban.

Fearing the fate of Al Gore in the 2000 elections, Democratic Presidential nominee, Senator John Kerry (D-Mass.) and his cronies have gone far out of their way this election year to try and hoodwink voters--gun owners in particular--into believing they are pro-Second Amendment. Of course, we know their ruse is outrageous. The official 2004 Democratic National Platform statement plainly declares, "We will protect Americans' Second Amendment right to own firearms," by, "reauthorizing the assault weapons ban, and closing the gun show loophole."

While certainly not all Democrats are anti-gun, the party leadership, led by John Kerry, unarguably is.

In her July 28 speech to the convention, McCarthy said that when the ban expires: "We won't have to go to Iraq to find weapons of mass destruction" [emphasis added].

**August 9, 2004**

## **Gun-Free America Still Aim Of Some**

- *The Jacksonville Daily News*

This campaign season, the Democrats seem to be throwing everything they can think of at George W. Bush to see what sticks. It doesn't seem to matter if the charges are true or even if the president has any connection to the subject in question. One of the most recent charges is that Bush endangers Americans if he doesn't actively push for a renewal of the Clinton-era ban on certain semi-automatic rifles and pistols.

**August 10, 2004**

## **Election Likely To Alter Supreme Court**

- *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

It may not loom as large for voters as Iraq or the economy, but the direction of the U.S. Supreme Court could depend on who is elected president in November.

## **Move Over, Move On**

- *Washington Times*

Left-wing "hate Bush" groups just recently proudly announced they have raised some \$75 million to run attack ads against President Bush in battleground states. A good chunk of these funds are from Democratic gazillionaires like George Soros. The hypocrisy of the left on campaign financing is truly stunning.

**August 11, 2004**

### **Buying Gun Now Easier For Some**

- *The News & Observer*

Gov. Mike Easley on August 10 quietly signed into law a measure that makes purchasing a handgun in North Carolina easier for people who hold concealed weapons permits.

The law allows people with a concealed-carry permit to skip the normal approval process when buying a pistol. That process requires a purchase permit from the local sheriff and a background check.

The bill overwhelmingly passed both houses of the legislature.

Proponents of the legislation argued that the background check was redundant for concealed permit holders, who already have passed a rigorous vetting process that includes a federal criminal history check and weapons training.

### **Hunt Groups Happy With Bush**

- *Washington Times*

Safari Club International and the National Wild Turkey Federation have voiced their strong support for President Bush's conservation initiatives, announced last week in Le Sueur, Minn.

**August 16, 2004**

### **Air Marshals Cover Only A Few Flights**

- *Washington Times*

Federal air marshals protect less than 5 percent of daily U.S. flights, and the numbers are declining, despite assurances by the federal government that most planes would be protected, according to estimates provided by marshals, pilots and a retired airline executive.

### **Sunday Hunting Advocate In Pa. Is On Target**

- *Wilkes Barre Times-Leader*

The question of Sunday hunting has always been contentious, but that hasn't stopped state Rep. Ed Staback, D-Lackawanna, from trying to strip no-Sunday-hunting laws from the books.

**August 17, 2004**

### **Clinton Gun Ban Didn't Reduce Violence**

- *Washington Times*

The Clinton gun ban, scheduled to expire in September, is not responsible for the nation's steady decline in gun-related violence and its renewal likely will achieve little, according to an independent study commissioned by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ).

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**August 18, 2004**

### **Dangerous Liaisons**

- *National Review Online*

If the TV-viewing public knows nothing else about this election, they at least know now that the self-indulgent class--celebrities, that is--loves John Kerry. From the moment he became the presumed Democratic nominee, Kerry has done little besides indiscriminately cozy up to Hollywood. Foul-mouthed has-been comedienne, notorious Vegas party boys, gun-toting rappers: The Kerry camp embraces them all as the "heart and soul of our country."

**August 19, 2004**

### **John Kerry: Life-Long Hunter And Animal Rightist?**

- *NewsMax.com*

Lifelong hunter, pheasant slayer, dove eviscerator, John Kerry gets a perfect 100 for his Congressional voting record from every animal rights group in the U.S. The National Rifle Association just sent out a notice to this effect. "I've had my name on every piece of animal rights legislation ever passed by Congress!" Kerry boasted - not in rural Iowa - but to the Humane Society a bit later.

And don't confuse Humane USA with the folks who build shelters for orphaned puppies and kitties. Humane USA is a PAC (political action committee) for a gaggle of the most virulent animal rights groups in the U.S., all opposed to hunting, trapping, fur-wearing, animal testing - the whole bit. Since these groups are technically "charities," they can't fund political candidates. So they go through Humane USA.

**August 23, 2004**

### **John Kerry's Voting Record on Second Amendment Issues**

His voting record makes John F. Kerry the most anti-gun Presidential nominee in United States history.

Since his election to the U.S. Senate in 1984, John F. Kerry has cast 59 votes (NRA did not score 4 of them) on issues involving firearms rights and hunting. These votes included votes to ban guns, to impose waiting periods on gun buyers, to financially punish gun manufactures for operating a legal business and to restrict the free speech of Second Amendment advocates.

### **August 24, 2004**

#### **Police Fear Serial Hammer Killer Stalks London**

- *Netscape Network*

Police are investigating whether a serial hammer killer is targeting women in London after a French woman was bludgeoned to death in circumstances similar to other attacks.

### **August 26, 2004**

#### **Report Says Million Guns Not Registered**

- *Calgary Sun*

More than a million guns remain unregistered in Canada, 18 months after a registration deadline, a document released by the Canada Firearms Centre confirms. The total number of valid firearm license holders who still haven't registered a gun stands at a whopping 406,834.

### **September 2, 2004**

#### **Coors No Fan Of Gun Laws**

- *Rocky Mountain News*

Queried at the Republican National Convention about his stance against continuing the federal assault weapons ban, Pete Coors responded that in Colorado, "we believe in the right to bear arms without restrictions."

### **September 3, 2004**

#### **Anti Hunting Organization Endorses John Kerry for President**

- *HSUS*

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), which is adamantly opposed to all hunting, recently endorsed "hunter" John Kerry for President, calling him "a strong advocate and supporter of pro-animal legislation".

#### **Banning Guns In The U.K. Has Backfired**

- *John Lott.com*

Worried that even showing a starting pistol in a car ad might encourage gun crime in Britain, the British communications regulator has banned a Ford Motor Co. television spot because in it a woman is pictured holding such a "weapon."