

BOLLE



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Merry Christmas & Happy Hanukkah



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President's Message

New York State Rifle and Pistol Association vs. Bruen

Fellow patriots, over the years—and particularly with the granting of certiorari in our current Supreme Court case—I've been besieged with many questions about the process, procedures and the plaintiffs involved in this case. While the process is very simple, at times it can be complicated and time consuming.

Let me take the opportunity to answer two of the most frequently asked questions about New York State Rifle and Pistol Association vs. Bruen:

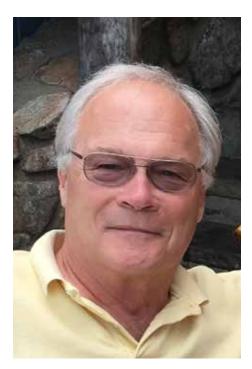
How did the case get its start?

Approximately five years ago, Mr. Nash—a NYSRPA member—came to me complaining that he had a restricted permit for several years. Even though he had taken several advanced pistol courses, his request to have the restrictions removed was declined.

I asked him to bring me copies of his correspondence, so I could review them and I told him he would hear from me soon.

How did the case get before the U.S. Supreme Court?

After reading all of Nash's documents, I spoke with Marie D'Amico—a lawyer who is also an NYSRPA board





member—and we decided this was a good case to try to move forward in the courts.

Then, I contacted Chris Conte, an NRA attorney who was responsible for reviewing and recommending cases to the NRA's legal team. Our case passed muster and were off to the races.

Next, we looked for another plaintiff. After many weeks of searching, we found Mr. Koch. Believe it or not, one of the most difficult tasks was finding another gun owner who wanted to be included as a plaintiff in the case. It seems most people we contacted were afraid to lend their name because of assumed reprisals. Kudos to Nash and Koch for their courage and conviction.

Plaintiffs in hand we investigated their claims and prepared our briefs. When the briefs were complete, they were filed with the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. The case was delayed for a long period of time by this court before it turned it down for not having merit.

The filing had to be rewritten and refined for submission to the U.S. Supreme Court. We also needed to create a new brief to request certiorari—a writ or order by which a higher court reviews a decision of a lower court—to that court.

While waiting for the Supreme Court to decide if it wanted to hear the case, we searched for an attorney. When we were granted certiorari, we chose Paul Clement a former U.S. solicitor general under President George W. Bush, to make our argument, which were heard by the court on Nov. 3, 2021. Each side had 70 minutes to make their case. You can listen to the arguments at www.supremecourt.gov/oral_arguments/audio/2021/20-843.

Unlike the courts we are most familiar with, the Supreme Court has no jury, and the decisions are not rendered shortly after the arguments end. In this case, the decision will be announced in three to six months. Why? Because in addition to the papers filed by each side, there also are Amicus Briefs filed by supporters of each side of the argument. These briefs need to be reviewed and their citations need to be examined for accuracy and proper use.

When this is complete there usually is a discussion of the facts and a decision is made. Afterward, Supreme Court justices will be chosen to write the majority and minority positions.

Once this is completed, the decision will be announced.

Interesting piece of trivia

As near as I can ascertain, 48 Amicus Briefs have been filed in support of our position; and fewer briefs were filed to support New York state's position.

My favorite Amicus Brief that supported our case was submitted by

The Black Attorneys of Legal Aid, and the Bronx Defenders and others.

The essence of this brief is that New York's discretionary permitting scheme for both public carry and simple possession of firearms discriminates against people who are not rich or politically connected and is especially biased against Black and Brown citizens who often have the greatest need for self-protection. Not only does New York's licensing regime render the Second Amendment a "legal fiction," the BALA brief argues, but also the demonstrated bias in administering the system is an outgrowth of explicit government intent to criminalize gun ownership by racial and ethnic minorities. The brief shows how the 1911 Sullivan Law, which grounds the challenged regulations, was passed in response to establishment paranoia "about organized labor ... and hysteria over violence that the media and the establishment attributed to racial and ethnic minorities—particularly Black people and Italian immigrants."

Happy Holidays to everyone



High School, College Students Benefit by NRA's Refuse To Be A Victim Program by Gerrett O'Leary



Helping both college students and campus police with crime-prevention is the focus of NRA's Refuse To Be A Victim® (RTBAV) Collegiate Edition.

"Students can be empowered by learning useful tips about dorm safety and the importance of traveling in groups. How best to avoid criminal confrontation is a key component in empowering students," said Eric Lipp, NRA national manager of Community Outreach.

Although college students can be vulnerable to theft, online stalking or assault, they can help devise personal-safety strategies to help avoid becoming victims through participation in the RTBAV Collegiate program.

The NRA offers free training for law enforcement and campus-safety personnel, which allows them to incorporate the program into their campus-preparedness efforts. The RTBAV college class, which is not a firearms or self-defense class, is about

an hour long, and student materials are free.

Designed to fit into the lives of busy college students, the RTBAV focuses on topics ranging from general campus life to the dangers of sexual assault, while also addressing:

- Student housing,
- · Social media,
- Phone and technology security,
- Mental awareness and preparedness,
- Cyberstalking and cyberbullying, and
- The psychology of criminal predators.

Lipp said the Collegiate Edition of the course was developed in response to years of requests from NRA instructors and communities across the nation. In fact, high schools are asking for help preparing their students for college and contacting the NRA about the RTBAV training. So far, thousands of students have taken RTBAV training sessions, and the reviews have been positive. One such example is from a recent training session held by the Fairfax County Police Department in Virginia.

"The Refuse To Be A Victim
Collegiate Program has been very
positively received by members of
our community. We are lucky to be
able to offer such a well-planned and
comprehensive curriculum to all in an
effort to best inform and safeguard
our community members within the
college and university environment—
while reassuring concerned parents,"
said Maj. Ed O'Carroll, commander of
the Major Crimes Bureau for Fairfax
County Police.

"Our ability to share the impressive Refuse To Be A Victim Collegiate Program with our community has demonstrated how much we care about personal safety, awareness and prevention. Nearly every attendee shared how empowered they were after taking the collegiate class. We are thankful to be able to offer this valuable program to our community," Maj. O'Carroll added.

To learn more about RTBAV or get information on training, visit our website at refuse.nra. org, or contact us at refuse@nrahq. org or (800) 861-1166.

This article was first published November 3, 2019 and republished here with permission from America's First Freedom.

Permission Should Not be Needed to Exercise Second Amendment Rights

by Jim Collins

As you know, the NYSRPA has brought a lawsuit about the issuing of handgun licenses in New York State to the U.S. Supreme Court. Recently, the court heard the case and its oral agreements.

Licenses across the U.S.

Forty four of the 50 states grant licenses to carry a firearm without asking why. If the man or woman is of a certain age and he or she has no criminal record or other limiting factor, the license is issued.

Only six states—New York included—require the applicant to state a specific need or reason to request a license to carry a firearm.

In my view, this is a basic violation of our civil rights under the U.S. Constitution. The New York state government is doing it because it can, and I sincerely hope that the U.S. Supreme Court brings a halt to it.

I find it interesting that of the 44 states that are shall-issue states, 21 of those states also are constitutional-carry states. What does that mean? Well, in those states, if you are of a certain age and you have no criminal record, you may carry a concealed firearm with no license required.

The constitutional-carry states nearest to us are Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. I am unaware of any gun-permit problems in those states. They allow honest men and women to exercise their God given civil rights!

I write from the belly of the beast on Long Island. In my youth, Nassau and Suffolk counties were vastly different from today. Back then, in the 52 school districts in Nassau County, and I believe every high school had a rifle team. It was no different from having a football team, baseball team or basketball team. Today, if you said that there were firearms in the high school, many folks would go nuts!

What has changed? Well, nothing in my view. When I was involved with the rifle team from 1961 to 1965, there were absolutely no problems. What has changed is voter opinion and party registration without grounds for change. We still should have rifle teams. Nothing is so strongly held as a preconceived notion. It can be proven that more injuries and even deaths have occurred to high-school football players while, in my memory, no injuries or deaths have occurred to rifle team members.

But, I digress. I hope and pray that the U.S. Supreme Court rules in favor of the case brought by the NYSRPA.

I have been a member of this outstanding outfit since 1970. Just as we do not need permission from any government body to exercise our right to attend church or synagogue or profess any religion, we do not need permission to exercise our Second Amendment right to possess and carry firearms for lawful purposes.

I urge all members who read this to do as I have done. Politely and forcefully write your elected officials and inform them that as Americans we are determined to preserve our freedoms. Patriots gave us these freedoms by giving their lives for us. They did the heavy lifting. Shame on us if we do not live up to their sacrifice by continuing the effort to maintain those freedoms!

As always, may God watch over and protect the brave men and women serving us, at war, in our patriotic Armed Forces and may God bless America!

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The Right to Bear Arms Gets its Day in Court

November 3 was a historic day for constitutional rights in the United States, as the U.S. Supreme Court delved into a detailed and sophisticated exploration of the meaning and scope of the Second Amendment's right to "bear" arms in public places, in a case brought by the New York State Rifle & Pistol Association (NRA's affiliated association in New York).

In 2008, the U.S. Supreme Court confirmed what was already clear to most Americans: The Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms, including handguns, regardless of service in an organized militia.

In 2010, the high court ratified the equally straightforward principle that states and localities—and not just the federal government—are bound to respect that right.

Since then, however, the U.S. Supreme Court has remained virtually silent on the Second Amendment, with lower courts filling the vacuum by denying most Second Amendment challenges to gun control laws that came before them.

It took over 10 years for the high court to revisit the meaning of the Second Amendment in depth.

Last Wednesday's argument proved worth the wait, with the right to keep and bear arms at long last being treated with the dignity and respect accorded other constitutional rights, a treatment notably lacking in many of the lower court cases.

As in the 2008 and 2010 cases, it took a particularly unusual and sweeping restriction to command the justices' attention. Those earlier cases involved what amounted to outright bans on the possession of handguns. The current case, New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen, concerned New York's may-issue regime for the licensing of concealed handgun carry, the state's only lawful method for carrying a firearm outside one's home for self-defense. New York's scheme requires the presumptive denial of most applications, with only those showing an extraordinary need for self-defense that distinguishes them from the general population eligible for consideration.

In practice, this means that a New Yorker's access to the Second Amendment right to bear arms depends on the person's locality, the whims of local licensing officials, and—particularly in New York City—whether the person has been a public official or attained celebrity status. The right, in other words, is treated as a state-administered privilege for the few and the special.

The arguments in Bruen were notable for their length, depth, and the degree to which the gun control advocates defending the law departed from the more confident and sweeping assertions their counterparts typically make in the lower courts.

The justices heard nearly two full hours of argument by three highly credentialed advocates. The resulting transcript is 136 pages long.

Representing the plaintiffs challenging the law was former U.S. Solicitor General Paul Clement, a man who has argued more cases before the Supreme Court than almost any lawyer alive today.

Defending New York's law was New York State Solicitor General Barbara Underwood, and—in a special appearance on behalf of the Biden Administration—Brian Fletcher, principal deputy solicitor general for the U.S. Department of Justice.

All of the court's justices joined in the questioning of the litigants, with both sides being pressed to opine on complicated questions of law, history, and hypothetical scenarios.

The justices will certainly have their work cut out for them in sorting through the competing claims of the litigants and the numerous "friends of the court" that submitted briefs on a variety of topics. But several themes emerged during the argument that seemed to resolve issues that lower court cases (perhaps even disingenuously) treated as open questions, with the gun control side retreating from some of its bolder claims.

Underwood, for example, admitted on behalf of New York that, with regard to the Heller decision, she is "quite content to treat it as rightly decided" and has "no quarrel" with it.

More fundamentally, both Underwood and Fletcher treated as a given that the Second Amendment applies to carrying firearms in at least some public places for purposes of self-defense.

The gun control litigants also agreed that the legitimacy of gun control laws primarily hinges on the history and tradition of arms regulation in the United States, rather than on a "balancing of interests" that allows judges to put their thumbs on the



scale for whatever side they happen to prefer.

All parties agreed, in other words, that the relevant question in the case is not if law-abiding Americans have a right to carry firearms in public for self-defense but whether there are sufficient precedents in American history for limiting that right as drastically as New York has.

In admissions that may come back to haunt them, the gun control litigants acknowledged that New York's scheme is, at bottom, an attempt simply to restrict as much as possible the total number of firearms in the state, regardless of the risk profile of their possessors. Clement, however,

retorted: "In a country with the Second Amendment as a fundamental right, simply having more firearms cannot be a problem and can't be a government interest just to put a cap on the number of firearms."

The justices also probed at length for answers about what sorts of restrictions would still be permissible if New York had to recognize a right to bear handguns publicly as a general matter. This seemingly would not have been necessary if the consensus was that New York's current regulations are permissible.

There are, of course, no guarantees that any court case will go any particular way.

The most any litigant can hope for is to put forth their best arguments before judges who are willing to give them serious consideration and who will be thorough and professional in rendering a final decision.

There was every indication those thresholds were met in the Bruen oral argument.

That, for now, is a substantial victory in vindicating the Second Amendment, one that was made possible by the NRA and its members and supporters.

This article was originally published on Nov. 8, 2021 by the NRA-ILA and was used with permission.

The results are in! 2021 New York State Outdoor Precision Pistol Championship

The results of the 2021 New York State Outdoor Precision Pistol Championship are now complete. Unfortunately, once again the match was held in only two locations—DCPA & Niagara County Sportsman's Association.

The "New York State Outdoor Precision Pistol Champion"—winning his second title in a row—and the "Wukovits award" was granted to Thomas S. White of New Rochelle, N.Y., firing a 2553-74x.

"1st Master" honors went to James Hitt of Stamford, N.Y., who fired a score of 2548-82x.

Top "Expert" honors were earned by Chris Thiel of North Tonawanda, N.Y., who posted a 2476-65x.

The "1st Sharpshooter" was Allan Kutyla of Manorville, N.J., who posted 2425-46x.

Bruce Caron of Newfane, N.Y., won his second "Marksman" title putting a 2284-33x on the scoreboard.

The "High Grand Senior" honors went to Gary P. Peterson of Levittown, N.Y., who fired 2491-54x.

The "High Senior" was Richard Powers, of West Falls, N.Y., posting 2505-62x.

The "High Woman" winner was Linda Wegryzn of Sanborn, N.Y., posting 726-8x.

Winning the "Martinez Award" (High NYS Hard Ball shooter) for the first time was James Hitt, of Stamford, N.Y., posting a 274-3x.

The New York State Team Championship award went to Niagara County Sportsman's Association firing a 3309-84x. Team members included Captain Bob Henschel, James Hitt, Richard J. Powers and Mike Schlabach.

Congratulations to all these winners! As always thanks go out to the match directors—along with their kitchen

directors—along with their kitchen and range personnel—who work hard to make this match a success.

The composite Match results were sent out electronically (via email) to each match director or his or her designated staff member at each of the locations that held the championship match. They were directed to forward the results to each of the competitors who attended the match at their locations. This process was done to eliminate some of the match costs (e.g., printing and postage).

Over the past several indoor and outdoor New York State Championship Precision Pistol matches the attendance has been declining. The cost of running these matches at every location has gone up and the cost of mailing and rewarding the winners with plaque awards has increased.

Going forward, unless we can boost the attendance for these matches, changes will have to be considered. I encourage match directors at clubs who wish to hold New York State Championship matches to send me any recommendations or ideas that may be helpful for consideration.

Good shootin'!

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Safety First While Shopping this Holiday Season

With less than two weeks left before Christmas, many of us are still browsing the web and the stores in search of the perfect gifts to complete our holiday shopping. We can all get wrapped up in the chaos and fun, but—whether you're out at the mall or shopping online—always remember to put safety first. Criminals are constantly coming up with new ways to steal your personal information and money ... so, here are some tips to being a proactive shopper:

In-store shopping Be cautious with purses and wallets

• If you carry a purse, don't let it hang by your side in such a way

that a robber could run up and easily grab it. Carry your purse in front of you or hold it close to your body.

- In the situation where a criminal confronts you, and asks for your belongings, you should already know what your response will be. Will you comply, flee or fight? It is important to decide this in advance, so your response is automatic.
- Law enforcement authorities recommend keeping a small amount of cash in an easily accessible pocket or in your purse to satisfy criminals who

are primarily interested in taking your cash.

Approaching your car

- Always park in a well-lit location, preferably near the entrance of the building or mall.
- Avoid filling your arms with packages, equipment or personal belongs when you go to your car. Approach your car with your keys out and ready to use in case you need to hit the panic button or get into your vehicle quickly.
- Don't hesitate to ask a security guard to escort you to your car. Guards are accustomed to



receiving such requests and they will be glad to help.

Online shopping Activate fraud alerts

- Get updates sent to your phone or email. Most banks have a mobile app for additional alerts on-the-go, including instant notifications of irregular or suspicious activity.
- Ensure that your credit card company and bank has your most up-to-date contact details, especially your mobile phone number, so they can contact you in the event of possible fraud.
- Do not respond to unsolicited or spam emails. Credit card email communication will usually include your first name, last name, and the last five digits

of your account number. If an email claiming to be from your credit card providers does not include this inform or contains attached files or links, report it immediately.

Change your password regularly

- Changing your password regularly can help prevent unauthorized access to your online account.
- Identity thieves may steal user IDs and passwords from one website and use them to log into other sites.
- Use combinations of at least eight letters, numbers, and symbols, and be sure to use different passwords across your

banking, email, and social-media accounts.

Only use secure connections

- Look for a padlock screen icon or a key icon at the left of the URL to indicate a safe and secure internet purchase.
- If you are purchasing merchandise online and using a credit card, be sure the company has set up a secure connection.

Tips brought to you by NRA's *Refuse To Be A Victim* program. For more information and to find a seminar near you please visit rtbav.nra.org or email refuse@nrahq.org.

This article was first published Dec. 21, 2015 and republished here with permission.



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Women in the Shooting Sports

By Jackie Emslie

Gun for her, not for you

In almost every class I have ever conducted for women, I hear the tale of a woman who had been illadvised regarding the purchase of her first handgun. I've also have stopped counting the number of conversations I've overheard in gun shops that usually go like this:

Man: My wife wants to get a gun for personal protection. Let's look at .380s.

Woman: But I'm just starting out, and these guns are too heavy.

Man: Oh, you'll be fine.

Woman: Can't I start out with something simple, like a .22?

Man: Nah, you want something bigger than that.

And, it goes downhill from there. He gets impatient, she gets frustrated, and they walk out emptyhanded. I know these men mean well and they want to keep the women in their lives safe and get them great toys ... I mean, tools.

Allow me to impart a few observations from years of teaching women about firearms, so you can be her hero instead of her antagonist.

Observation No. 1: Women want (lots of) training.

Many women will not get serious about guns until they have had a chance to take a training course or three. So, if you want to get her started, offer to pay the registration fee for gun courses. You can't go wrong.

Observation No. 2: Women take their time.

If you push her unreasonably, you run the risk of alienation. Let her move



along the path of responsible gun ownership at her own pace and under her own terms. With the holiday season coming up—plus Valentine's Day and Mother's Day (if it is applicable)—this is the perfect time to give great starter gifts, which include: hearing protection, eye protection, range bag, gun cleaning kit, stapler and staples (JT21 works great for women) and gift cards to local gun shops.

Observation No. 3: Small is best for beginners.

For new shooters just starting out, .22 revolvers or semi-automatics are a great choice. She is perfectly capable of making her own decisions. As her confidence level rises with experience, she will decide when it is right for her to move into the personal protection arena. Give it time.

Observation No. 4: Respect and support.

Want to completely turn a woman off from firearms? Treat her like she's the "little woman" only to be coddled and have the decisions made for her. Instead, sincere encouragement and support will go further than you can possibly imagine. Enjoy the journey together.

To be clear, these are general observations and not the rule. There are many women who make the leap from zero to personal protection and do just fine. You know your situation best.

My sincerest wishes are with you during this holiday season, and I hope 2022 brings you joy.





Our Fight for Freedom: New York

by Carl Gottstein

The fight for freedom in New York is ongoing and critical to a free state. Politicians gather in Albany yearly, and unfortunately much of their time and energy is wasted on pondering solutions from the wrong vantage point. Often, they fail to recognize the truth of a situation, a truth that—when looked at objectively—can be quite simple.

Truths like, evil exists in the world and people sometimes chose to do wrong are easy to say, but when people make those kinds of choices, often the only way to limit damage being inflicted by an evil aggressor is by inflicting greater damage.

I know common wisdom says you cannot—or maybe it's you should not—fight fire with fire, but the sad truth is, returning fire often is the only possible lifesaving solution. When the only viable option is to return fire, that's not the time to come to understand the need to have your own firearm, and it's certainly not time to argue merits or righteousness of the premise or doctrine of self-defense. The time to have that discussion, and to prepare for an unfortunate set of circumstances, is long before you ever need them. Even if you never need to use a weapon in self-defense, it's important to have this discussion. We do not have to spend our lives feeling defenseless or living in fear.

That's one of the reasons why we have the right to keep and bear arms—for personal defense in the event of hostile confrontation. This right helps us preserve and protect domestic tranquility. As they say, an armed society is a polite society.

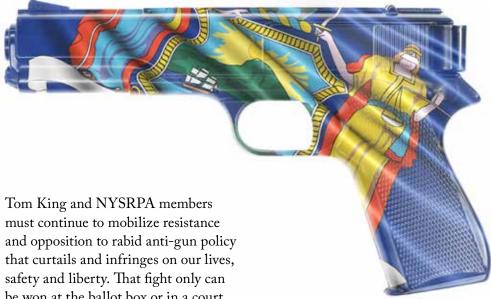
That brings us to NYSRPA v. Bruen ... Once again, Tom King and the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association went before U.S. Supreme Court in the hope of overturning a bad gun policy in New York state.

For more than 150 years, we have been dedicated to the good fight to protect our rights and resist draconian unconstitutional restrictions on the free exercise of our Second

Amendment rights in New York state. Laws that so many believe are unconstitutional and even racist; laws that when enforced amount to nothing less than limits and infringements on the free exercise of protected constitutional liberties in our great state.

New York's highly restricted carry laws amount in practice to disenfranchisement of nearly every individual's right to bear arms outside the home in New York. And, it's just the latest in a long line of gun restrictions (from the early days of openly racist handgun restrictions by the Democrats of Tammany Hall—an obviously unconstitutional oppression of the Second and Fourth Amendment rights of New York City's immigrant populations). Over the years, racist and leftist authoritarian Democrats have united to suppress the Second Amendment rights of Americans. Right now, over 20,000-gun laws exist in this country. Yet, these politicians cannot point at any rational justification for their actions that bears scrutiny, nor any quantifiable success derived from their many infringements.

NYSRPA's President Tom King has been actively engaged in defending our rights in court while being a central source of educational material on the Second Amendment-related issues and laws; and NYSRPA provides an organizational structure of volunteer support for shooting sports. Unfortunately, no matter how many facts exist on the merits of lawful gun ownership and lawful gun owners, the song remains the same with anti-gun elements of our society. They just don't get it.



Tom King and NYSRPA members must continue to mobilize resistance and opposition to rabid anti-gun policy that curtails and infringes on our lives, safety and liberty. That fight only can be won at the ballot box or in a court of law. We only have *inalienable rights* until we are alienated from them by aggressive leftist policy. The reality is our rights must be fought for and affirmed by each generation, or they are diminished, watered down and in effect may be lost over the passage of time. The fact is, there are people who are dedicated to infringing on our gun rights!

The latest case Tom King took to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of NYSRPA is vital because this infringement is not just happening in New York, it's also happening in 11 other states. The fact is, in many states Democrats remain united and dedicated to the consistent attacks on the Second Amendment. Therefore, we must always be vigilant and when necessary, mobilize in defense of our God given rights!

If it is successful, I hope that our case will enable New Yorkers, Hawaiians, Californians, and many other Americans to enjoy the same rights as Americans in the 43 shall-issue states. I think that's one of the reasons Tom was able to enlist the good folks at

the National Rifle Association in our good fights. In the last several years, the NRA has been a steadfast partner in NYSRPA's battles in New York to completely restore and protect the right to keep and bear arms.

Periodically, the NRA has made New York a high priority over the years. New York is the belly of the beast and the anti-gun battle rages on endlessly and unabated here. Often, our state is the test crucible for anti-gun legislation. That said these last several years, the NRA has paid special attention to our state. It's not always what you know, at times it is who you know. New York's exclusive NRA affiliate is one of the NRA's favorite sons, and the NRA knows our membership always is ready to stand up as needed.

NYSRPA is standing tall once again. If you want to infringe on the rights of a New York resident, Tom King will see you in court.

Enjoy the holidays!

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NRA Comments on NYSRPA v. Bruen Oral Arguments

"Police officers are being forced off their jobs. Headlines remind us of sharp declines in criminal prosecutions. Americans live in an increasingly dangerous world. That's why it's vital for any law-abiding New Yorker who wishes to protect themselves and their families, outside their home, not be held hostage to the whim of any local official. That is the essence of this case."

-NRA CEO Wayne LaPierre

"Under current New York law, a lawabiding resident becomes a felon the moment he or she steps outside their home with their firearm. This is a clear infringement of the Second Amendment. The NRA is grateful that the Supreme Court is tackling this critical issue. We are proud to be a part of this case, and we look forward to a future in which lawabiding Americans everywhere have the fundamental right to self-defense the way the Constitution intended."

-NRA-ILA Executive Director Jason Ouimet

"It's high time the Empire State goes after violent criminals instead of depriving its citizens of their basic Constitutional rights. The NYSRPA is proud to take the state to task on this egregious overstep, and we're thankful to the NRA for their invaluable help and support in bringing this case to the highest court in the land. We look forward to the court's opinion next year."

-NYSRPA President and NRA Board Member Tom King



Out-of-Business Dealer Records Prompt Concerns of Backdoor Gun Registry



In recent weeks, Americans have rightly become concerned over a somewhat obscure ATF recordkeeping regulation that has a profound impact on gun rights. If gun control advocates get their way in changing this federal regulation for the worse, altering how ATF maintains these records, and are successful in criminalizing the private transfer of firearms, American gun owners would find themselves subject to what amounts to a backdoor gun registry.

Federal law requires those who purchase a firearm at a Federal Firearms Licensee (gun dealer or FFL) to fill out a form 4473. This record of the firearm transfer is then stored by the dealer on their premises. This creates a system whereby if a gun is found at a crime scene ATF can trace the firearm to the last retail purchase. However, since the records are stored with each FFL, the system is decentralized in a manner that protects against government abuse of gun owner data.

Gun dealers are required to maintain 4473s for 20 years. When a dealer goes out of business they must send their last 20 years of records to ATF's National Tracing Center to facilitate firearm traces. Some of ATF's materials appear to deliberately omit the 20-year requirement, seemingly in the hopes that FFLs will send all of their records to the National Tracing Center, regardless of age.

Under this system, over a million outof-business dealer records are sent to ATF each month. Records obtained

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by gun rights advocates show that in 2021 ATF processed a staggering 54.7 million of these records.

ATF proposed rule 2021R-05 would make this record-keeping requirement more burdensome for FFLs and diminish gun owner privacy. Under the proposed rule, FFLs would be required to maintain 4473s indefinitely and relinquish all such data to ATF upon going out of business. NRA-ILA is opposed to this rule change.

The implications of this transaction retention requirement are even more concerning given ATF's longtime goal of "modernizing" the records at the National Tracing Center.

Describing the current record retention system, the New York Times reported in May,

The gun lobby, led by the National Rifle Association, has for years systematically blocked plans to modernize the agency's paper-based weapons-tracing system with a searchable database. As a result, records of gun sales going back decades are stored in boxes stacked seven high, waiting to be processed, against every wall.

The paper records, which must be fed by hand into scanning machines to be stored as visual images, represent three distinct layers of dysfunction: the lack of a modern online filing portal, the prohibition against allowing records to be input as searchable data—so they would not have to be scanned like old family photos—and the failure of Congress to fund enough people to process the information as quickly as it comes in.

The type of electronic searchable database the ATF is seeking to develop would amount to a partial firearm registry. And as all gun rights supporters and gun control advocates know, firearm registries facilitate firearm confiscation.

This understanding was at the heart of the debate over the Gun Control



Act of 1968 and the development of the current recordkeeping system. In 1985, Sen. James McClure (R-Idaho) explained, "The central compromise of the Gun Control Act of 1968—the sine qua non for the entry of the Federal Government into any form of firearms regulation was this: Records concerning gun ownership would be maintained by dealers, not by the Federal Government and not by State and local governments."

In fact, the current tracing system has already been abused to compromise gun owner privacy.

In February 1994, Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen (ATF was then under the Department of the Treasury) announced the reclassification of three models of shotgun as destructive devices. Under Bentsen's view, the Striker 12/Streetsweeper and USAS-12 shotguns were not "generally recognized as particularly suitable for sporting purposes" and thus met the definition of "destructive devises." Up until this point, these shotguns had been sold in the same manner as any non-NFA firearm.

In a press release announcing the reclassification, ATF explained how they intended to enforce the new ruling, ATF will be working with the manufacturers and federally licensed firearms dealers to determine who owns these weapons. All owners will be receiving a notice from ATF with instructions on registering the weapons. Owners will be given 30 days from the time the receive ATF's notice to register the weapons without payment of the transfer tax. Any weapons not registered within that time will be subject to seizure and forfeiture, and the owner could be subject to a criminal fine of up to \$250,000, or up to 10 years in jail, or both.

This is sometimes referred to as a forward trace. Rather than working from a gun found at a crime scene, ATF went to the manufacturers of the newly restricted firearms and then followed the paper trail forward to the 4473 of the lawful purchasers.

In this instance, gun owners who had complied with the law when purchasing their shotgun were forced to register themselves with the government or forfeit their firearm. It is easy to see how a digitized searchable firearm tracing database/registry would help to facilitate the further harassment of lawabiding gun owners or even gun confiscation.

The National Tracing Center could take another step towards a firearm registry if anti-gun lawmakers criminalize the private transfer of firearms—sometimes referred to as universal background check legislation. By funneling more firearm transfers through FFLs, lawmakers would create additional opportunities for recordkeeping on firearms and gun owners that could end up in the National Tracing Center database.

Gun owners have every reason to jealously guard information pertaining to firearm transfers. NRA-ILA will continue to work to help ensure gun owner privacy and to keep gun owners apprised of the ongoing attempts to cobble together a backdoor firearm registry.



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by Nancy Lewandusky

Nancy's Corner

As we all know, right now it is quite difficult to obtain an Unrestricted (Concealed Carry) Pistol Permit in New York state. What's more, most people who receive a permit have certain restrictions listed on it.

As a new pistol-permit holder, I wanted to break down the process to obtain a pistol permit. I live in Rensselaer County, so I am going to explain the process I followed in my county—the process may be slightly different in your county.

While I found the process a little daunting, in the end it paid off because I now have my permit, which was my goal.

Steps to obtain an Unrestricted (Concealed Carry) Pistol Permit

Step No. 1: The application.

You can get the application on the Rensselaer County website by searching for "pistol permit," which will give you a link to the application. When you print it out, remember that it cannot be printed as a double-sided document. Instead, it must be printed on two separate sheets of paper, and you need to print out two copies. You must fill out the application in black ink only, and when you turn it in, you must have a check or Money Order for \$60. Once you get two copies of your passport photo—a \$15 fee you can make an appointment with the Sheriff's Office to submit your paperwork.

Step No. 2: Character references.

During your meeting with the sheriff, he or she will give you a form for

each of the character reference whom you have listed on your application to complete. Helpful tip: When you select your references, I suggest you pick people who live close to you. Meet them somewhere with a notary, and have them fill out the paperwork and get it notarized immediately, so the paperwork never leaves your sight—this offers the fastest possible outcome. People are busy, and paperwork is easy to lose—especially when it's not something personal to them.

Step No. 3: Fingerprinting.

In Rensselaer County, you cannot get fingerprinted at the sheriff's office for your permit. Instead, you are referred to IdentoGO in Latham, N.Y., which charges you \$202 for the process. Don't forget: You need to schedule an appointment.

Step No. 4: Approvals.

After your permit has been approved by a judge, you will receive a call from the County Clerks Office. After which you will need to make an appointment to pick up your permit. At the County Clerks Office, your photo will be taken, and you'll have to give a thumbprint and sign for your permit. The cost of the permit is \$10 (cash or check).

At this point, you will know the type of permit for which you've been approved (i.e., are there any restrictions). The clerk also will give you several forms for when you buy a pistol. You must fill out the form and bring it back with the payment of \$3 to add the firearm to your permit. FYI: Permits are only good for five years before you must get them renewed.

This entire process took about four months from start to finish and cost me \$287. What a process! It was important for me to follow through with such a process, so that I could show my boys: that once you start something you finish it; what it takes to carry out our constitutional right to bear arms; and that it is our duty to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

Our court case

I also would like to mention our court case. Without our members support with membership and donations we would not be able to fight the good fight. Every dollar counts! We are at the edge of our seats waiting on the decision from the U.S. Supreme Court, we are hopeful this decision will be in our favor, and that we will see things become more constitutional here in New York, "our rights shall not be infringed."

The NYSRPA e-Store

Recently, the NYSRPA launched our e-Store—and it has gone great. We quickly sold out of everything we had! And, now we are back up running with great products, so check out our site NYSRPA.ORG and get yourself some swag.

Are you missing your membership card?

One last thing, we have a new database at the NYSRPA, and things are starting to smooth out, but you may be missing your membership card. If you are, please contact me at (518) 272-2654 or by email info@nysrpa.org and I will get that out to you ASAP. Thank you for being patient as I am still pretty new to this.

Member Clubs

List your club's events FREE! Not a member? Call us for an application.

110 Rod & Gun Club

275 Gidley Road Pleasant Valley, NY 12569 3rd Sun.: 3 Gun Shoot 4th Sun.: Sporting Clays M. Rossi (845) 471-7497

336 Rifle & Pistol Club

Glen Head, NY
.22 rifle, centerfire pistol, .22 pistol
www.336rifleandpistol.com

Armed & Unarmed School of Security Inc.

Defensive Pistol/Rifle/Shotgun Training Nick M. (845) 878-4804 Trap Tues./Sat. Trap Instruction Mon./Sun. Special Event Range Usage (845) 270-4232

Attica Rod & Gun Club High Power Tournaments Action Pistol

G. Logan (585) 591-2820D. Hojnicki (585) 591-1705T. Thompson (585) 591-0697

Bar-20 Cowboy Action Shooters

At Eatonbrook R&G Club West Eaton, NY SASS, IDPA, Rimfire Challenge www.facebook.com/ bartwentysportsclub

BayRidge Rod & Gun Club

6716 Ft. Hamilton Pkwy. Brooklyn, NY 11219

Beaver Brook Rod & Gun Club

776 County Road 22 Narrowsburg, NY 12764 Trap & Skeet Sunday mornings B. Hofaker (845) 557-8522

Binghamton Rifle Club

Pistol W. Platt (607) 723-2658 wlplatt@stney.rr.com P. Matway (607) 723-1418 pmatwey@stny.rr.com

Black Rock Fish & Game Club

31 Liberty St. Highland Falls, NY 10928

Bog Trotters R&P Club

Eden, NY (716) 992-4292 High Power Pistol edendds@roadrunner.com

Brookhaven Pistol Club

41 Brook St. Sayville, NY Pistol shooting Brookhaven_pc@yahoo.com

Broome County Sportsmen's Assoc.

PO Box 1794 Binghamton, NY www.bcsportsmen.org

Brunswick Sportsman's Club

Cropseyville, NY 12052 Smallbore, Highpower, Trap & Skeet Pistol, Air Rifle, Women's Activities www.brunswicksportsmansclub.org

Burlington Flats Fish & Game Club

Edmeston, NY Pistol, Bullseye, Skeet, Trap, Jr. Rifle, F-Class Smallbore Shotgun (607) 965-8096 www.bffgc.com

Busti Trap Club

1181 Southwestern Drive Jamestown, NY 14701

Camillus Sportsmen's Club

High Power Light Rifle Pistol Shotgun Smallbore www.camillussportsmensclub.com

Caribou Rifle & Pistol Club

PO Box 6012 North Babylon, NY 11703 Meetings in East Islip Dan (631) 327-4942 Rory (631) 232-1354 www.caribougunclub.org

Castleton Fish & Game Club

Light Rifle Pistol Shotgun castletonclub@gmail.com

Columbia Greene FNRA

Leeds, NY M. Conway (518) 537-5441

Conservation Club of Brockport

Smallbore Pistol (585) 637-5961 www.ccbrockport.org

Cooperstown Sportsmen's Association

Skeet, Trap, 100-yard range (607) 547-8104

Cortland County Pistol Club

H. Terwilliger terwilligers@yahoo.com www.cortlandpistolclub.net

Depew Rod & Gun Club

PO Box 11 Depew, NY 14043

Dunham's Bay Fish & Game Club

Queensbury, NY (518) 668-4475, (518) 792-8821

Dutchess County Pistol Assoc.

47 St. Nicholas Road Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 (845) 297-4481 Depistol.org info@depistol.org

East End Regulators

Westhampton, NY Cowboy Action Shooting Club 1st Sunday of every month D. Share (516) 640-8082

Eaton Brook Rod & Gun Club

4700 Wilcox Road West Eaton, NY 13334

Elma Conservation Club

Elma, NY R. Kraft (716) 675-5318

Ephratah Rifle & Gun Club

Fort Plain, NY Trap Sundays 9 a.m. Hunter Training (518) 993-3061

Forbes Rifle & Pistol Club

Albany, NY Highpower M. McGill (518) 355-5475

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Pistol League
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K. Smith (518) 858-5404
Cabin Fever Bow League
L. Jennings (518) 821-9213 5 Stand & Sporting Clays
T. Brorup (518) 755-5997
www.glenacdiarodandgun.com

Grand Island Rod & Gun Club Inc.

1083 Whitehaven Road Grand Island, NY Trap & Skeet, Sporting Clays, Pistol, Women's & Jr. Activities (716) 773-3529

Great Lot Sportsmen's Club

Boonville, NY Snowshoeing 10 a.m. 2/2 & 16 3/23 & 30 G. Case (315) 378-7592

Greenfield Fish & Game

Yorkville, NY CMP Jr. & Sr. Shoots T. Internicola (315) 859-0796 Trap Tues. nights M. Bambino (315) 724-4954 Hunter Safety Courses www.greenfieldrange.com

Hartland Conservationist Club

3606 Orangeport Road Gasport, NY 14067 (716) 772-7390

Hendrick Hudson Fish & Game

Poestenkill, NY High Power, Pistol NRA Silhouette/Smallbore A. Dorman (518) 573-5176 hhfgscc@gmail.com Shotgun A. Cole (518) 674-3756

Hudson Falls Fish & Game Club

Archery, Rifle & Pistol Indoor/Outdoor Skeet, 5 Stand & Trap 10 a.m. Mon., Thurs., Sun. (518) 747-4850 www.hffgc.net hudsonfallsfishandgame@gmail.com

Hudson Fish & Game Club

PO Box 85 Hudson, NY 12534 (518) 828-6111 Trap Fri. 7-10 p.m. Dave (518) 567-7991

Hudson Valley Sportsmans Assoc.

PO Box 1294 Wappingers Falls, NY www.HVSA.org

Ilion Fish & Game Club

PO Box 177 Ilion, NY (315) 894-2938 Trap & skeet, Sporting clays

Jamestown Rifle Club

NRA/CMP Highpower League www.jamestownrifleclub.org Junior Smallbore/Air Rifle NRA Light Rifle League J. Schmitt (716) 397-4378 Jschmitt1452@yahoo.com Adult 4-position League D. Allen (716) 763-5000 lizardvolts@yahoo.com WNY/PA Pistol League S. Slagle (814) 730-3904

Kinderhook Fish & Game

376 Fowler Lk Road, Ghent, NY (518) 392-3332
Rifle, Pistol, Archery, Fishing, Small bore, Shotgun, Hunter Safety, Pistol Pre-Licensing Courses
Trap Sun. 9-12, Wed. 3:30 Seasonal kinderhoodsportsman@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/kinderhooksportsmensclub/

Long Island Antique Historical Arms Society Inc.

www.liahas.org

Long Island Black Powder Rifles

118 Wood Ave. Mastic, NY 11950

The Maidstone Gun Club Inc.

411 Wainscot NW Road East Hampton, NY 11937 (631) 537-7887

Marbletown Sportsmens Club

Stone Ridge, NY Outdoor Range, Jr. Programs, WOT Clinic, .22 Matches www.marbletownsportsmensclub.com

New Paltz R&G Club

Trap Open to the public. Contact M Schmidt trap@newpaltzrodandgun.org

North East Arms Collectors Assoc.

PO Box 185 Amityville, NY 11701

North Forest R&G Club

Lockport, NY Skeet, Trap, 5 Stand, Clays (716) 438-2009 www.nfrgc.com

North Star Sportsman's Club

Hamlin, NY Shotgun F. Petricone (585) 456-8824 www.northstarsportsmansclub.org

Northern Chautauqua R&P Club

Fredonia, NY (716) 672-3488

Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club

Rhinebeck, NY 12572 T. Abrahams (845) 389-2661 www.ndrgc.com

NYC Womens Sport Shooting League

info@nycwssl.org

Old Breed R&P Club

Nassau County Range Bullseye Rimfire/Center Fire Sun. 9 a.m. Bob (516) 404-9166

Oneida Rifle Club

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Oneonta Sportsmen's Club

Shotgun every Sunday www.oneontasportsmensclub.com

Owlkill Rod & Gun Club

Eagle Bridge, NY www.owlkill.org

Paris Gun Club

Utica, NY M. Burline (315) 796-7766 K. Froit (315) 796-5518

Parkchester Rifle & Revolver Assoc.

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Pathfinder Fish & Game Club

116 Crescent Drive, Fulton, NY Rifle/Pistol Ranges for Centerfire, Rimfire, Muzzleloading, Air Rifle; Trap, Skeet, 5-Stand & Sporting Clays; Cowby Action, USPSA, Steel, Indoor, Outdoor & 3-D Archery, Youth hunting, air rifle & archery www.pathfinderfishandgame.com

Pearl River Gun Club

PO Box 48 Pearl River, NY Pearlrivergunclub.com

Peconic River Sportsmen's Club

Manorville, NY Club Office (631) 727-5248 NRA registered matches High Power T. Najdzion (516) 982-0612 Tnajdzio@optonline.net

Philmont Rod & Gun Club

65 Railroad Ave., Philmont, NY Community supported & supporting Shotgun, Rifle, Pistol, Fishing, Archery Outdoor 3D Archery Competition Adult/Youth Instruction, Boating, Archery, Hunting, Trap prgc1923@gmail.com (518) 672-4108

Pine Tree Rifle Club

419 Johnson Ave. Johnstown, NY Fishing, hunting, shooting, military, Buy-Sell-Trade NRA Basic Shotgun 6/9 Registration (518) 883-8605 Skeet Tues./Thur./Sat. Trap Sat., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (518) 883-8605

Plattsburgh Rod & Gun Club

Indoor Range NRA Rifle Matches League Competitions Junior Programs Equip & Instruction Provided P. Visconti (518) 534-1730 roughridersrifleteam@yahoo.com

Pleasantville Rifle Club

Westchester County NY All Shooting Disciplines NRA Firearms Instruction M. Berman (914) 245-8618

Ramapough Sportsmens Assoc.

PO Box 366 Nanuet, NY Smallbore, Pistol, Women's & Junior Activities

Ridge Runners Shooting Club Inc.

Champlain, NY
www.ridgerunners.us
www.facebook.com/
ridgerunnersrange
G. Graham
back2biloxi@yahoo.com

Rockland Rifle & Revolver

Camp Smith Jim Treacy Jingie6br@gmail.com 5 Drury Lane Highland Falls, NY 10928

Rockland Rifle Club

West Point E. Mahecha emahecha@verizon.net

Roosevelt Rod & Gun Club Inc.

Box 2458 Seaford, NY 11783 Hunting big & small game

Roslyn Rifle & Revolver Club

1130 Broadway, Westbury 11590 Indoor Pistol NRA Conv. Pistol Intnl. Pistol Sectional M. Gorman (917) 929-8717

Saranac Lake Fish & Game Club

PO Box 588 Saranac Lake, NY 12983 (518) 891-2560

Saugerties Fish & Game Club

168 Fish Creek Road, Saugerties, NY Trap Thurs. & Sun. (open to public) D. Zeeh (845) 481-4465

Shortsville Rod & Gun Club

Shortsville, NY 14548

Southampton Pistol & Rifle Club

919 Majors Path Southampton, NY 11968

Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park

CMP Matches J. King (518) 896-6596 sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org

Square Deal Sportsmen Inc.

Maine, NY USPSA/IPSC C. Brinser (607) 748-2771 Highpower/CMP D. Canfield (607) 625-7571 Dcanfield@xcapfg.com

Stephentown Valley Rod & Gun Club

PO Box 545 Averill Park, NY (518) 766-5350

Sunrise Fish & Game Assoc. Inc.

93 Bayview Ave. Massapequa, NY 11758 (516) 658-4057

Taconic Valley Rod & Gun Club

420 Dater Hill Road Troy, NY www.tvrgc.com

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Ruger Rimfire
B. Waite (215) 688-0614
CMP Rimfire sporter
Conventional Pistol
B. Aube (607) 754-6182
IDPA
B. Vernola (607) 754-0740
Trap ranges
L. Howe (607) 659-5069
Skeet
D. Mider (607) 642-8419

5 Stand

K. Gee (607) 237-6786 Cowboy Action B. Compton (607) 659-4770 Silhouette M. Porter (607) 687-2472

Trenton Fish & Game

CMP Matches Bullseye Rimfire/ Center fire B. Kapfer (315) 896-6596 Action Pistol B. Judycki (315) 732-0873 Trap L. Pawlings (315) 723-5657

Tri-State R&G Club

Port Jervis, NY Highpower Pistol Shotgun Smallbore (845) 551-9265 Ladies' Events M. Mann (845) 551-9265

Troy Pistol League

Troy, NY www.troypistol.com HsvictorR22@gmail.com

Trumansburg Rifle & Pistol Club

PO Box 10 Trumansburg, NY 14886

Tupper Lake Sportsmen's Club

PO Box 1005
116 Lake Simond Rd.
Tupper Lake NY 12986
(518)359-9715
www.tupperlakearchers.net
savagemw49@gmail.com
Indoor/outdoor archery
3D shoots
Northern Challenge fishing derby
(biggest in the region)
tupperlakearchers.
nettupperlakearchers.net

Twin City Shooting Club

North Tonawanda, NY Pistol, Light Rifle, Indoor Range www.twincityshootingclub.com

Voorheesville Rod & Gun Club

52 Foundry Road, Voorheesville (518) 765-9395 www.vrgclub.com
Open daily @ noon
Trap Sun. & Tues. at 1 p.m. Pistol
Classes 1st Sat. & 3rd Sun. Wolfgang
or Tony (518) 441-2160 Berne Range
9 a.m.-1/2 hr. before sunset
rangeinfo@vrgclub.com Archery:
clubhouse grounds Target points only,
brdheads prohibited.
Crossbows bring own bolt backstops

Call club to book parties or events

Walden Sportsmen's Club

1823 NYS Route 52 Walden, NY 12586 www.waldensportsmensclub.org Trap Sun. 9-12, year-round 3D Archery, Women's Sporting, Action Shooting, Boy Scout Training, & Hunter Education

Wallkill Rod & Gun Club

Clays & 5 Stand Sun., 10 a.m., year-round Wed. evenings in summer Harry (845) 219-9327 Bucky (845) 542-8571 www.walkillrodandgun.com

Waterloo Rifle & Pistol Club

Waterloo, NY Smallbore Highpower Sporterifle Pistol Women's & Jrs. waterloorpc.com

Whortlekill R &G Club

Hopewell Junction, NY Indoor Pistol & Handgun Instruction G. Robinson (845) 298-3263 Shotgun J. Stern (203) 232-7896 Hunter Education P. Scarano (845) 401-6636

Wolcottsville Sportsmen's Club

1525 Phelps Road Cofu, NY 14036

If your club is a member and would like to be listed, email club info to: info@nysrpa.org

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Commercial/business advertisements are subject to space availability in any given issue of the *Bullet*.

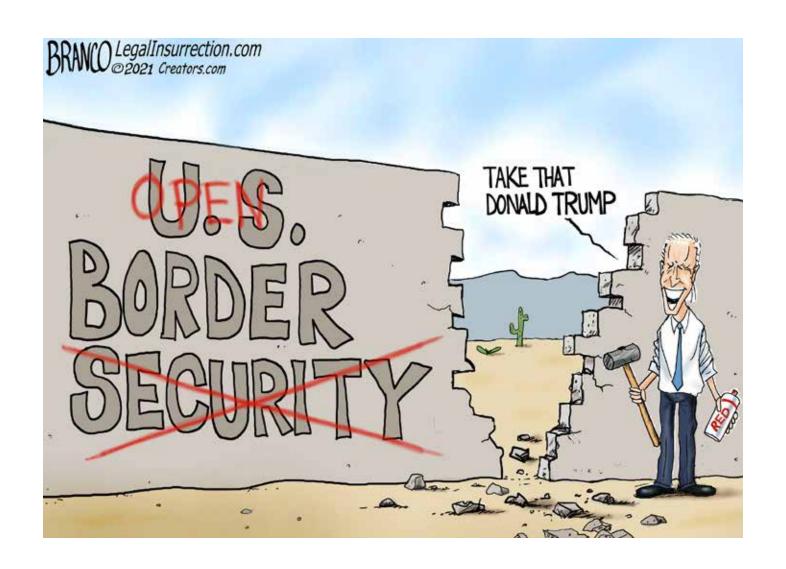
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For pricing on premium placement, page bleed, inserts, two-page spreads, or other special considerations, contact the editor at info@nysrpa.org or (518) 272-2654.





THE GUN OWNERS VOICE IN ALBANY!



GET MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION HERE

www.nysrpa.org



Are your friends members? If not, use the application below to sign them up. Make copies if you have lots of friends!

Application for Individual Membership Please select your enrollment type/term PO Box 278, East Greenbush, NY 12061 ☐ Active Military\$25.00 \$ _____ *Please check one* □ New member ☐ Adult - 1 year (ages 18-64) \$30.00 \$ ☐ Renewal (NYSRPA #_____) ☐ Junior - 1 year (under 18)......\$15.00 \$ _____ Name (Please PRINT) ☐ Family - 1 year\$50.00 \$ ___ Address _____ ☐ Life (under 65) \$500.00 \$ ☐ Life (ages 65-over)......\$300.00 \$ _____ City State ZIP ☐ Additional Voluntary Contribution\$ County (NYS residents only) TOTAL ENCLOSED\$ __ *Disabled American Veterans qualify for the Senior 1-year dues rate Phone (home) Please indicate your payment method: ☐ Check/money order (payable to NYSRPA) ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard CVV# (required)_____ Date of birth (required) (MM/DD/YY) _____/____/ Acct.# NRA Member? No Yes (NRA #______) Signature____ For statistical purposes only, please indicate \Box Male \Box Female This application was referred to NYSRPA by: NYSRPA Membership # Address



Here is the bottom line: DIG DEEP.

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