



Honest citizens should NEVER have to prove their innocence to the government in order to exercise a God-given, constitutionally-protected right. We don't require journalists to undergo background checks before publishing their stories. We don't force pastors to get their sermons screened.

We don't do these things because they're unconstitutional, and because giving government officials the power to decide who is "allowed" to enjoy their liberties will inevitably result in abuses. That's the problem with the NICS background check system, which is nothing more than an "infringement" on the 2nd Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans.

And this infringement is resulting in tremendous abuses:

- Nearly 200,000 military veterans have lost their gun rights because they were deemed as "mental defectives," having suffered from ailments such as PTSD.
- And the Obama administration is now working to disarm those receiving Social Security benefits if they have someone handling their financial affairs.

But military veterans and seniors are just the tip of the iceberg. Consider what the President now has in store for the rest of us:

1. Barack Obama's illegal "executive actions" would vastly extend the NICS requirement to gun collectors and hobbyists -- threatening them with five years in jail and fines of \$250,000. This turns more than 200-years of freedom on its head. Private individuals will no longer be able to freely buy and sell firearms, but they'll constantly wonder if their next private sale might result in draconian penalties. Of course, the only reason that Barack Obama could even expand background checks is because the NICS infrastructure already existed -- the Instant Check law having been drafted as a "compromise" by another pro-gun organization in the early 1990s.

2. As a result of Obama's latest war against gun owners, any person who is illegitimately stopped from buying a gun because of the NICS check is NOT being allowed to appeal his or her denial. Why? Because according to USA Today (1/20/16), the FBI has decided to ignore federal law and halt all appeals of errone-

ous gun denials. Never mind that subsection (f) of the Statutes-at-Large portion of the Brady Law requires the FBI to explain the reason for a denial within 5 days, and subsection (g) requires an "immediate" correction of erroneous records. That is now being thrown out the window.

USA Today reports that since October, the FBI has transferred all 70 appeals examiners to other duties -- illegally. Presumably, the FBI's intention is to refuse to comply with the law unless Congress gives them more money. But, of course, if "mortals" refused to comply with the Brady Law, they would go to prison.

Bottom line: The Obama administration says they don't have enough resources to implement the Brady Law -- instead, choosing to deny honest gun owners their right to keep and bear arms. If they can't protect the rights of gun owners under the Brady Law, then they shouldn't be allowed to illegally expand the law to deny the rights of even more gun owners. (*Gun Owners of America email 25 Jan 2016*)

Virginia Reciprocity

Last month I highlighted that the Virginia Attorney General announced that they would cease honoring the permits from 25 states that they previously did honor. This would have some far reaching impacts as six of those 25 states would also stop honoring the Virginia permit due to the decision. We outlined the implications in last month's article.

Now it seems that the legislature has come to an agreement between parties to pass a new law that would have the effect of keeping the reciprocity where it had previously been, effectively cancelling the changes while restricting the permits from certain "dangerous individuals."

The attorney general has agreed to delay the effect of his decision to March 1st which would in theory allow enough time for the newly proposed law to be passed and signed into effect. So for now, during the month of February we continue with the current state of things as they have been. (*various sources including Gun Owners of America email*)

Quotes from the World of Gun Control

(*from various sources including NRA's "Freedom Magazine*)

"Since we last debated in Las Vegas nearly 3,000 people have been killed by guns. Two hundred children have been killed. This is an emergency." Hillary Clinton in the Nov 14 Democrat Debate. (Amazingly the AP researched and reported "The claim to be unsupported on all counts")

"It goes back to what I've talked about for a long time; there are too many guns. This is why we need to restrict access to guns."
VA Gov Terry McAuliffe

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“If guns were not so readily available, if there were universal background checks...maybe we could prevent this kind of carnage.” Hillary Clinton

“Assault weapons are not about hunting, or even self-defense. There is no reason on earth, other than to kill as many people as possible in as short a time as possible, that anyone needs a gun designed for the battlefield.” U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro D-Conn.

“...We need a national gun registry...a smart-gun mandate...a modern sporting rifle ban...all guns stored separately from ammunition...gun ownership for only a select group...” Hillary Clinton in various venues

“That has never happened...Data shows it doesn’t happen...” Shannon Watts, Moms Demand Action in a television interview commenting on Wayne LaPierre’s statement “that the only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun.”

“When was the last time you heard of a civilian stopping a crime with a gun? You’re watching too much ‘True Detective.’” Geraldo Rivera on Fox News’ “The Five”

(Florida State professor Gary Kleck showed that in 1993 that there were as many as 2.5 million defensive gun uses each year in the U.S. Later the U.S. Dept. of Justice sponsored a study, “Guns in America: National Survey on Private Ownership and Use of Firearms, that estimated 1.5 million defensive gun uses annually.)

“Americans are tired of killing. They’re tired of our streets, schools, churches and other public spaces being treated as war zones. And they’re tired of the NRA’s carry-a-gun or be killed mentality that has led to tens of thousands gun deaths each year. President Obama is taking appropriate action to require more gun sellers to have a Federal Firearms License, thereby expanding background checks. This will help close the gun show loophole, but my legislation, which would require background checks for all gun sales at gun shows, would give the administration the authority it needs to do more. Private sales without background checks need to be eliminated so that we can stem the flow of guns to criminals.

“President Obama is also working to promote smart gun technology. The private sector has already created guns that can

only be fired by authorized users. This technology has been fought by right-wing extremists, who oppose any gun safety efforts. By supporting research and procurement of smart guns, the President is helping to improve the development and use of this technology. Every year more children die from gunshot wounds than cancer. Smart guns can stop many of these accidental deaths. The only thing standing in the way is the NRA, and its supporters.” U.S. Rep. Carolyn Maloney D-NY (Rep Maloney’s web site)

Supreme Court Up For Grabs

Don’t forget that the next President will appoint up to four new justices to the Supreme Court. Finally also remember that the two latest Second Amendment cases to come before the court were 5-4 decisions. Vote wisely for freedom.

In Closing...

Do American citizens have a right to self-defense? This is simple for you and me. We know the right to defend yourself is a basic one we’re all born with, and NOT a permission to be begged for from the government. Some of us don’t believe we should have to receive permission from the state to exercise a right that has been protected from government infringement by the U.S. Bill of Rights. As enumerated in the Bill of Rights, the Second Amendment is what is called a “negative liberty,” or a restriction ON THE GOVERNMENT. Like the other nine amendments in the Bill of Rights they were enacted primarily by the Founding Fathers because of their fear of a federal government.

The gun control movement knows that public opinion supports the right of self-defense, so they are changing tactics. Their aim is a federal database of gun owners that they can use to control all gun purchases. Their ultimate goal is to dump all available information into the Brady background check database. They are already using medical records from the Veterans Administration and Obama recently announced his plan to use data from the Social Security

Administration. Plans are in the works to seize records from state governments and feed the ever expanding federal database. What part of “...shall not be infringed.” do gun grabbers not understand? (Dudley Brown, President National Association for Gun Rights in the Fall Issue of “The Gun Activist”)

Please let your congressional representatives know how you stand.

Richard Stouder – Oakridger48@msn.com

THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS

The Right to Keep and Bear Arms (RKBA) column is now available each month on the ORSAONLINE web site at (www.orsaonline.org/rkba.asp). From time to time, the RKBA column will be included in the printed version which is mailed to members’ homes when space permits.

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