

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

*"The Supreme Court is not well. And the people know it...Particularly on the urgent issue of gun control, a nation desperately needs it to heal."*

Letter to the Supreme Court from Senators **Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RIO), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Mazie Hirono (D-HI), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), and Dick Durbin (D-IL).**

*"AR-15s are perfect for women... Despite the size, they are lightweight and have hardly any kickback. This allows us to aim well and shoot the target where we want to."* **Mary Chastain, a writer and gun owner, said in a Washington Free Beacon interview**

*"New Zealand's willingness to act swiftly after a national shooting tragedy stands in stark contrast to the US. For too long, a powerful gun lobby persuaded some lawmakers to stop laws proven to protect people from gun violence. But their power is waning, and Americans are acting."*

**Tweet by Shannon Watts of Everytown for Extreme Control**

## MAKE THE CASE FOR GUN RIGHTS

As I think I've made the case in recent months our Second Amendment rights, guaranteed in black and white in the U.S. Constitution, are under attack. We only have one major political party that is openly vowing to take guns away from citizens...not take guns away from criminals, but take away property from law-abiding citizens, which is a Fourth Amendment violation.

So as citizens of this great country we are under attack from within. The First Amendment is openly under attack in that any opinion or speech that the Left doesn't like is classified as hate speech. If you have an opinion about the right to bear arms and voice it in social media you will be banned. If you are a gun rights advocate in the public square you are attacked as a lackey of the NRA and a "killer" or someone who supports "the slaughter of Americans."

The Democrat Party has always been out to nullify the Second Amendment, but previously they have done it behind closed doors. Now they are completely out in the open – "hell yes we're going to take your guns." Every single Democrat candidate for president is on board. Not one of the outrageous anti-Second and Fourth Amendment statements made in their debates or campaign speeches have been opposed by any of them. What are we left to do?

First and foremost is to VOTE. Be active in your family and social circles and encourage our fellow Americans to support candidates that believe in and support the U.S. Constitution. Voter and citizen apathy is a big problem in this country. It is up to us, true believers in this great country, to get motivated and be active and encourage our family and friends to be active voters.

"So are you willing to fight for gun rights? We are in a long-term nationwide fur ball over gun policy at every level of government. Our opposition is motivated, funded and organized and tends to dominate the press narrative and social media discussion. It is tempting, in the face of that opposition, to at least rhetorically jump to the extreme options of threatening or suggesting civil (or even uncivil) disobedience. The gun community is fraught with symbols on bumper stickers, tattoos and hats to that effect, and that very imagery gets used against us."

"I offer that before you bury your beloved AR under your rose bushes or "lose" your standard capacity magazines in a tragic boating accident – and certainly before you go full-scale armed siege with the ATF – perhaps you should honor our Founding Fathers and participate in this grand representative democracy by doing some of that "citizen" stuff. That includes voting. It includes petitions, assembly and public advocacy. It includes belonging to, and donating to, political advocacy groups that will advance your interests. You will tend to have the most influence at the local level – through – say, personal connections at your favorite Waffle House or on social media."

"When you pledged allegiance to the republic for which our flag stands, that was part of it. Guns are an insurance policy on our rule of law, but we should be working to strengthen that rule of law rather than even joke about threatening it if it "treads" on us. The people trying to place restrictions on your guns are a lot more scared of your voice and your vote than your modern sporting rifle, and the constitutional election cycle provides for a continuous and peaceful revolution. You have to be armed and prepared for the war of words and ideas along with your readiness to shoot bad guys."

"We, the gun-rights community, need you as a passionate gun owner, to be a positive ambassador and effective advocate for us...You have to make a case with power and precision. You have to advance our brand and our side of the story with people who are unsure or even

actively hostile to us. That's hard...That doesn't mean we have to concede ground or accept the BS arguments, but we have to be charismatic and respectful." Quoted, in part, from a contributor's letter to the USCCA November/December issue.

## TACOMA TAX ON GUNS AND AMMO HEADED FOR A CITY COUNCIL VOTE

Posted at 4:00 pm on November 12, 2019 by Cam Edwards  
City council members in Tacoma, Washington have been mulling over a huge tax increase on firearms and ammunition for months now. A vote originally scheduled for last month was delayed for several weeks, but it looks like the vote will happen at Tuesday's city council meeting, and though the bill may be amended, gun store owners say it still represents an existential threat to their ability to remain in business in the city.

The \$25 tax on every firearm sold, and five-cents per round of ammunition (two-cents for every round of .22LR and lesser calibers) isn't designed to have an effect on violent criminals. It's designed to make it more expensive to be a gun owner, but its biggest impact would be on the closure of gun stores. After Seattle passed its own guns and ammo tax a few years ago, shops either moved or closed, and now just one store is responsible for 80% of the revenue raised by the tax. Seattle didn't see the financial windfall it was hoping for either. Supporters of the tax said it would raise nearly a million dollars a year. Instead, it's raising around \$100,000 to "prevent gun violence." Unfortunately, even that money isn't making a difference in Seattle, where violent crime is trending upwards, not down.

<https://bearingarms.com/come/2019/11/12/tacoma-tax-guns-ammo-headed-city-council-vote>

Read more: <https://www.ammoland.com/2019/11/scotus-decision-allows-sandy-hook-survivors-to-sue-remington/#ixzz65MyAClpQ>



## SCOTUS DECISION ALLOWS SANDY HOOK SURVIVORS TO SUE REMINGTON

Ammoland Inc. Posted on November 12, 2019 by Dave Workman

U.S.A. --(Ammoland.com)- The U.S. Supreme Court Tuesday "cleared the way" for families of nine victims in the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre in 2012 to sue Remington Arms Company, owner of Bushmaster, which manufactured the AR-15 rifle used by killer Adam Lanza to murder 26 people, most of them children.

Remington had sought review by the high court, but the court declined, allowing the case to go forward in Connecticut, but it could wind up back in federal court due to the federal Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA).

Plaintiffs in the case have argued that Bushmaster "negligently entrusted to civilian consumers an assault rifle that is suitable for use only by military and law enforcement personnel and violated the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act (CUTPA) through the sale or wrongful marketing of the rifle," according to ABC News.

Plaintiffs' attorney Josh Koskoff of Koskoff, Koskoff & Bieder, asserted that the Sandy Hook families have always wanted "to shed light on Remington's calculated and profit-driven strategy to expand the AR-15 market and court high-risk users, all at the expense of Americans' safety."

But Fox News is reporting that the high court's order allowing the lawsuit to move forward in Connecticut "does not mean Remington or other gun manufacturers will face any immediate liability, but it does set the stage for potential court battles over whether or not the gun industry is responsible for the Sandy Hook massacre and potentially open the door to other suits in relation to other mass shootings or murders."

Fox News quoted Remington's argument in its petition to the high court to hear the case: "The decision will have immediate and severe

consequences, exposing the firearms industry to costly and burdensome litigation." Timothy D. Lytton, a professor at the Georgia State University College of Law, was also quoted by Fox predicting the decision will "unleash a flood of lawsuits across the country."

Alan Gottlieb, founder and executive vice president of the Second Amendment Foundation, which litigates against gun control laws, observed, "While the high court chose not to hear the case at this time, I am sure that if a final verdict goes against Remington it will be back before them." This suit is just plain wrong and should never have been allowed to proceed," Gottlieb added.

According to CNBC, there is an exception to the PLCAA to allow legal actions "in cases where the gun manufacturer knowingly violated the law through its marketing practices, paved the way for the families to launch their suit."

Plaintiffs contend Remington "marketed the weapon 'as a highly lethal weapon designed for purposes that are illegal – namely, killing other human beings.'" CNBC reported.

The argument is that the firearm was marketed in a way that "inspired Adam Lanza to commit the massacre." But this seems to ignore the fact that his mother was the buyer, one Washington state retailer noted Tuesday on social media.

<https://www.ammoland.com/2019/11/scotus-decision-allows-sandy-hook-survivors-to-sue-remington>

## VIOLENT CRIME DROPS AS CONCEALED CARRY NUMBERS INCREASE

Posted at 9:04 am on October 4, 2019 by Cam Edwards  
We learned from the FBI this week that violent crime and homicides declined in 2018. Now a new report from the Crime Prevention Research Center shows while crime is down, the number of Americans who possess a concealed carry license is growing. In fact, the number of concealed carry license holders grew by 1.4 million people to 18.66 million, and at this pace, will eclipse 20-million concealed carry holders in 2020. The new report notes that the rise in concealed carry licenses comes even as several more states have become "Constitutional Carry" states, where no license is needed for legal gun owners to lawfully carry.

In thirteen states, more than 10% of adults have permits, down from just fifteen last year. The three states that now fell below 10% are now all Constitutional Carry states – Arkansas, Oklahoma, and West Virginia, where people no longer need a permit to carry in their states. South Carolina was the one state that had been below 10% that was now above it.

According to the Crime Prevention Research Center, the state with the largest percentage of concealed carry holders is Alabama, where more than 1-in-4 adults possess the concealed carry license. Nationwide, about 7% of adult Americans have a concealed carry license, and Texas, Florida, Pennsylvania, and Georgia each have more than 1-million concealed carry holders within their borders.

The number of concealed carry holders, as high as it is, would be even larger if states like California, New Jersey, New York, and Massachusetts didn't have "may issue" laws that greatly restrict the ability of legal, law-abiding gun owners to obtain a concealed carry license. In fact, this year's report by the Crime Prevention Research Center contains evidence that LA County may be discriminating against minorities when issuing concealed carry permits.

Hispanics and women had much lower permitting rates than the general population and the rates that those groups obtained concealed handgun permits in places that don't allow authorities discretion in determining whether people have a justifiable need to carry a gun for protection.

The full report by the CPRC also highlights individuals who've been denied a concealed carry license in their "may issue" state, despite having good cause to carry a firearm, including Californians who were denied even after taking out criminal protection orders, or receiving threats. Gun control activists love these discretionary policies that allow issuing authorities to deny people their right to carry for any reason, or for no reason whatsoever, but the evidence is clear that these policies prevent law-abiding Americans from exercising their constitutional right to bear arms.

The entire report is worth a read, and it clearly demonstrates that, despite the continued legislative, legal, and cultural attacks on the 2nd Amendment, the right of self-defense and the right to bear arms is only growing in popularity.

<https://bearingarms.com/come/2019/10/04/violent-crime-drops-concealed-carry-numbers-increase/>

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