

## In their Own Words

"I will get the NRA shut down for good if I become president. If we can ban handguns we will do it." Hillary Clinton, Interview with the Des Moines Register August 8, 2015

On 21 April, the Democratic front-runner noted she voted against a law that gave gun manufacturers and sellers broad legal immunity, a measure that Sanders supported and became law. "What that has done is to basically prevent anyone like the families from Sandy Hook, like the families from the Aurora movie theater murders from trying to inject some common sense requirements that people who make and sell guns be held to," Clinton said at a gun control roundtable in Hartford, Connecticut.

## Obama Announces More Gun Control Plans

President Barack Obama announced new steps 29 April to help curb gun violence, including by identifying the requirements that "smart guns" would have to meet for law enforcement agencies to buy and use them as well as sharing mental health records with the federal background check system.

"These common-sense steps are not going to prevent every tragedy, but what if they prevented even one?" Obama wrote in a Facebook post. "We should be doing everything we can to save lives and spare families the pain and unimaginable loss too many Americans have endured."

As Obama unveiled a plan last January to expand federal background checks for gun purchases, he directed the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security and Justice to conduct or sponsor research into smart-gun technology. Obama also instructed the agencies to regularly review the availability of such technology and to promote its use.

In a report released 29 April, the Justice and Homeland Security departments said they expect to complete the work of identifying the smart-gun requirements by October.

The Defense Department will continue to help manufacturers test smart firearms under real-world conditions at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center in Maryland. Gun makers could also be eligible to win cash prizes through the program. The federal government will also continue to help state and local governments as smart-gun technology develops, the report said.

"Many gun injuries and deaths are the result of legal guns that were stolen, misused, or discharged accidentally," Obama said. "As long as we've got the technology to prevent a criminal from stealing and using your smartphone, then we should be able to prevent the wrong person from pulling a trigger on a gun."

The president also called for more attention to be paid to the mentally ill. The Social Security Administration will publish a proposed rule to help ensure that mental health records about people who are prohibited from buying a gun are reported to the background check system. The public will have 60 days to

comment after the proposed rule is published in the Federal Register.

Obama also said the White House will hold a conference in May on preventing gun violence.

*Newsmax, Darlene Superville, Friday, April 29, 2016*

## Polling and Gun Control: Americans Buying Guns for Protection, Not Crime

A majority of Americans believe self-defense is the main reason most people purchase a gun, a new Rasmussen Reports poll reveals.

The telephone survey of 1,000 adults across the country found:

- 66 percent believe self-defense is why people purchase firearms
- 5 percent believe it's to commit a criminal act
- 1 percent believe it's for job-related purposes
- 22 percent say it's for "some other reason."

The poll also found law-abiding Americans are buying guns at a record pace, with nearly one-out-of-four Americans, 23 percent, say they or someone in their immediate family has bought a gun in the past year.

Another 44 percent of Americans think it is too easy to buy a gun in the United States. Only 11 percent say it's too difficult, while 36 percent consider the level of difficulty about right.

Along party lines, 64 percent of Democrats polled believe it is too easy to buy a gun, with only 28 percent of Republicans and 36 percent of those not affiliated with either major political party agreeing. Newsmax, Bill Hoffman, April 13, 2016



## Majority of Americans Oppose Lawsuits Against Gun Makers, Dealers

Nearly three-quarters of Americans support the rights of gun makers and retailers when it comes to victims of crimes and their desire to file a lawsuit.

According to the results of a poll released Monday by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), 72 percent of those surveyed do not think victims of crimes involving firearms should be able to sue gun manufacturers or stores because of what happened to them.

The Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA) of 2005 protects gun makers and dealers from lawsuits stemming from crimes in which their products are used.

The percentage of various groups that support the PLCAA, according to the survey results:

- 91 percent of "strong Republican" voters
- 86 percent of voters who "lean Republican"
- 47 percent of "strong Democrat" voters
- 67 percent of voters who "lean Democrat"
- 75 percent of independent voters

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Within those demographics, the highest percentage of voters who oppose the PLCAA were 45 percent of those who claim to be a "strong Democrat."

Hillary Clinton, the leading Democrat candidate for president, has campaigned against the NRA and gun lobbyists, saying if she becomes president she would fight for tougher gun laws and tighter restrictions on the industry.

"We commissioned this poll to help determine where Americans stand. They have told us," NSSF senior vice president and general counsel Lawrence G. Keane said. "Now, it's time for politicians to demonstrate that they have some respect for the good sense of the people and to stop vilifying the hard-working people of an entire industry and exploiting real tragedy that is the result of criminal conduct."

*Newsmax, Jason Devaney, April 25, 2016*

### **Proposed Gun Rights Protection Act Gains Support**

*Posted by Jenn Jacques on April 19, 2016*

In an effort to protect and restore citizens' Second Amendment rights, Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) has introduced the "Protecting Gun Rights and Due Process Act".

The bill aims to put an end to the Obama administration's unconstitutional executive orders to deny Second Amendment rights to any citizen with an elected representative for social security or veterans benefits if deemed "unfit". To date, this has resulted in nearly 200,000 veterans losing their right to keep

and bear arms.

The VA has reportedly declared 260,381 veterans with fiduciary trustees to the background check system as "mentally defective" and According to the Congressional Research Service, over 99% of all names reported to NICS as "mental defective" are provided by the VA.

Paul's bill would abolish Obama's executive action which allows the infringement on the gun rights of 4.2 million citizens enrolled in the SSA and VA and would restore gun rights to veterans, seniors, and others who have already had their gun rights revoked. If passed, it would also block states and agencies from submitting individual records to the federal NICS "no-guns" database without due process in an actual court of law, complete with the right to counsel and a hearing.

*Personal Liberty, Posted by Jenn Jacques on April 19, 2016 at 1:24 pm*

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## **ANNOUNCEMENT - RANGE CLOSURE DATES FOR THE ACTION PISTOL RANGE**

**The Action Pistol Range will be closed on the following dates:**

- **Monday, May 30, through Saturday, June 4 – Entire Range Closed.**
- **Monday, September 12 through Sunday, September 18 – Entire Range Closed.**
- **Monday, September 5 through Sunday, September 11 – the 100 yard bay, and bays 9,10,and 11 will be closed.**

The reason for these closures is range preparations and building stages for the Tennessee State IDPA Match in June and the Tennessee State USPSA Match in September.

It is a great honor to be selected to host these matches and especially to host both.

Action Pistol including IDPA, Cowboys, USPSA, Steel Challenge, and 3-Gun Nation are incredibly popular shooting activities. There is a local match on the AP Range almost every weekend.

If you are not familiar with Action Pistol, please come out to the range any Saturday and see what it's all about.

*Your understanding and cooperation are appreciated.*  
**Byrl Adkisson (IDPA) and Mark Levy (USPSA)**

### **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](http://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.

Please remember that each edition of the Rangefinder is also available online at ORSAONLINE ([www.orsaonline.org/newsletters.asp](http://www.orsaonline.org/newsletters.asp)) and is normally available before the edition arrives by mail.