

In Their Own Words

“...the administration believes “universal” background checks “won’t work without requiring national gun registration.” Department of Justice memo

“There is simply no reason someone would need to bring their gun with them in order to purchase milk, bread, or other necessities at a grocery store.” Statement by U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, Chris Murphy and U.S. Representative Elizabeth Esty in response to the Connecticut open carry ban in the state’s retail stores.

“It is true that the next president may get from one to three Supreme Court appointments. I think the Supreme Court has really, unfortunately, been headed in the wrong direction.” Hillary Clinton in a New Hampshire town hall on gun control.

“The Supreme Court is wrong on the Second Amendment.” Hillary Clinton in a private, closed-door fundraiser.

“I think it would be worth considering doing it on a national level if that could be arranged.” Hillary Clinton commenting on the forced confiscation and destruction program in Australia.

Denying Second Amendment Rights

Imagine going into a gun store to purchase a weapon of your choice. The store, as the law requires, runs your information through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). You are flagged by the system and thus denied the purchase of the weapon. You scratch your head and wonder what in the world is going on. You are not a criminal, you are not a terrorist, you are not crazy, and you have not been subject to any domestic violence judgement. You don’t think you are any “No Fly List” or the “Terror Watch List.” What do you do?

What has happened is that by the fact that you have been flagged by NICS, your Second Amendment rights have been nullified and every weapon you currently own are now illegal, and a felony. You are now on a secret list, placed on for secret reasons, by secret government bureaucrats using a secret process. You have now lost your Second, Fifth and Sixth Amendment protections.

Pish-posh you say, this could never happen. This is exactly what would happen if Senator Diane Feinstein, D-Calif, has her way. Her Orwellian scheme is outlined in Senate Bill S.551 and House Bill H.R. 1076. This bill amends the Gun Control Act of 1968. It creates a “prohibited person” category, adding to the list already enumerated in the statute. It leaves the definition of who is covered up to the U.S. Attorney General.

We already know that if someone’s name appears on the “No Fly List” or the “Terror Watch List,” it is a year’s long and expensive process to get your name off those lists. But that bureaucratic process pales in comparison to this proposed law.

Obviously by denying your ability to purchase a weapon,

that is a violation for the Second Amendment. The Fifth Amendment guarantees “No person shall ... be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law.” Since there are secret reasons to put a citizen on the list, secret evidence, secret bureaucrats, and a secret process there is NO DUE PROCESS.

The Sixth Amendment guarantees “In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury ... and “be informed of the nature and the cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; ...” The law makes everything secret and since there is no process for adjudication, all proceedings would occur as the U.S. Attorney General deems appropriate.

This proposed law would grant the U.S. Attorney General total discretion to deny a firearm by simply declaring the citizen a “dangerous terrorist.” The determination is based on vague criteria where the individual “is known (or appropriately suspected) to be or have been engaged ...related to terrorism, or providing material support or resources for terrorism ...” Further “... any information which the attorney general relied on for this determination may be withheld from the applicant if the attorney general determines the disclosure of the information would likely compromise national security.” If that is not bad enough, the proposed law also allows the attorney general to determine what evidence a court can consider and what is off limits. (NRA “America’s 1st Freedom, February 2016)

This is insanity by any definition and is just the latest of Senator Feinstein’s actions to trample the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

The 911 Limited Immunity Act

Let’s imagine once again – you are in an act of self -defense, whether defending yourself, your family, or some innocent and you have to fire your weapon. After the threat is neutralized your natural tendency is to call 911 and report the incident. You are a survivor of a deadly threat, your heart is pounding, you are frantic, your pulse is off the charts, you are screaming, and you just want help.

You know that calls to 911 are recorded but did you know that 911 calls can and are used as evidence in courts of law? Did you know that simply making the call you give up your right to remain silent and to have counsel present when you do speak?

What percentage of innocent people in self-defense cases is convicted based on 911 police recordings? One prominent self-defense attorney, Mitch Vilois, author of Self-Defense Laws of all 50 States, claims it is 50 percent. Whatever the percentage the system lacks sufficient fairness. Instead of encouragement to call 911 to seek assistance, you have a disincentive to call because you will give up your right to remain silent and you will

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also give up your 5th Amendment right against self-incrimination.

The 911 Limited Immunity Act aims to fix this mess. The law would protect people who call 99 for all the right reasons and removes the unconstitutional threats to you and your freedom after you shoot. Contact your state legislator and encourage them to pass this law in Tennessee. (USCCA Carry Magazine, April 2016)

Hillary Clinton's and Self-Defense

Clinton has interpreted the Second Amendment so narrowly that it imposes no practical limits on gun control laws, and that interpretation is sure to guide her Supreme Court nominations if she is elected president.

Clinton's policy advisers told Bloomberg Politics the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee disagrees with District of Columbia v. Heller, the 2008 decision in which the Supreme Court overturned the District's handgun ban. The adviser, Maya Harris, said, "Clinton believes Heller was wrongly decided in that cities and states should have the power to craft common sense laws to keep their residents safe."

Clinton confirms her hostility to gun rights by glossing over the details of the D.C. law that the Supreme Court overturned. That law, which was the strictest of its kind in the country, not only banned handguns, the most popular type of weapon for

self-defense, but required that long guns be disassembled and unloaded or disabled by a trigger lock.

As the Court recognized, the latter rule made it impossible for D.C. residents to use even shotguns or rifles "for the core lawful purpose of self-defense." But to Clinton, the D.C. ban was an eminently reasonable "safe storage law," a paradigmatic example of "commonsense" gun control. She does not think the Second Amendment has anything to do with self-defense as it is conspicuously absent from Clinton's list of legitimate things people do with guns.

Government policy that has to be "tailored" so that it does not breach the Constitution. Restrictions on speech, for instance, must be "narrowly tailored" to serve a compelling government interest. Rather than trim her policy agenda to fit the Constitution, Clinton wants to trim the Constitution to fit her policy agenda. (Townhall.com, Jacob Sullum May 26, 2016)
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NEWS FROM SKEET AND TRAP

- Tuesday and Thursday night leagues are continuing at 6:30 pm.
- We held a two-day Junior Skeet Clinic with fifteen shooters. One of which shot his first 100 straight during the clinic. We had four NSSA instructors from out of town as well as two NSSA instructors from ORSA. There were 5,600 targets shot during the clinic.
- A group of shooters from Patricia Neal Rehabilitation facility came out and shot skeet and trap with us this month. They are a great bunch of people who have a good time at whatever they do. They had almost as much fun as the people showing them how to shoot.
- We held our second annual spring ATA Trap shoot this month. We had 26 shooters from several different clubs. They shot 6,800 targets. We had a great lunch with fried chicken and all the trimmings and, of course, world-famous Ed Allen banana pudding. If you missed this one, try to make our fall shoot on October 1st.
- On June 10th & 11th, we hosted the Region 4 SCTP skeet tournament. There were 101 shooters from seven different clubs in east Tennessee. High score was 97 shot by three high school shooters and one middle school shooter.
- Anyone who would like to be added to the skeet and trap email list please send me your contact information to ataorsa@gmail.com.

Larry McNamee – President S&T

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.

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