



### In their own words

*“Let me say this, we need to do more to protect all of our citizens...I have long advocated, this is not what today is about, but there are too many guns on the street. We lose 93 million Americans a day to gun violence...”* VA Gov. Terry McAuliffe in a press conference after the Alexandria, VA shooting of GOP personnel at a baseball practice

*“With terrorist attacks on the rise and threats from ISIS more present than ever, the question everyone should be asking is why isn’t the national media making failed gun control laws a centerpiece of this debate. While the heroism of the London police to eventually kill these terrorists should be commended we shouldn’t ignore the reality that London and Paris are soft targets because citizens aren’t allowed to protect themselves. These attacks should spark a serious debate on guns and the importance of allowing Americans to defend themselves and those around them.”* Tim Schmidt, President & Founder of the U.S. Concealed Carry Association

### Does The Second Amendment Codify Natural Law or is the RKBA A Man-Made Construct?

Against the backdrop of every major Second Amendment case rests a fundamental and profound philosophical question. The question is this: *does the right of the people to keep and bear arms exist as a quality, feature, attribute, aspect, condition, or characteristic intrinsic to the individual, existing, then, within the individual, or is the right to be perceived as an endowment, bestowed on the individual by others, something, then, extrinsic to the individual—existing, if*

*at all, outside the individual?*

If *the right of the people to keep and bear arms* is extrinsic to the individual, this means the right is a human invention. It is a construct, convention, or contrivance. It is a thing created by and then granted to, licensed to, or bestowed upon the individual by another entity, say the State, through Government. But, if it is a thing bestowed upon the individual by the State, then the right *does not belong* to the individual. The right *belongs* to the State. The State may, then, at its discretion, at its whim lawfully withdraw or rescind the right so bestowed upon the people. *That means the right of the people to keep and bear arms is less a right than a privilege of the people to keep and bear arms*—a privilege which the State may grant, or cede, or license to an individual, for a time, and, thereafter, at the State’s pleasure, rescind or withdraw. The individual has no legal recourse to contest the privilege rescinded or withdrawn except to the extent that law set forth in statute—also a creation of the State, through the State’s government, yet another man-made construct—allows.

If, however, *the right of the people to keep and bear arms* is an inherent quintessential quality, feature, attribute, characteristic, condition or aspect of each person, existing within an person qua an autonomous individual, this means, by logical implication, *the right exists outside of and independently of the State*. If so, *the right of the people to keep and bear arms* operates as an extraordinary constraint on the State’s power, through Government to regulate and control the exercise of the right. For *the right is infeasible, immutable,*

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*archetypal, preexistent in the soul of man, and therefore resting beyond space and time.*

The framers of our Constitution accepted, as *axiomatic*, that a critical component part of that *Constitution—the normative rights and liberties*, of the *Bill of Rights*—are, in a critical manner, wholly unlike the main body of the Constitution. For, although the structure of Government is man-made, the rights and liberties codified in the Bill of Rights, are not man-made. The rights and liberties, set forth in the Bill of Rights are not social or political constructs, conventions, contrivances, or mechanisms. The framers knew that any Governmental form they created could, even with the best checks and balances in place, can still devolve into tyranny. The framers understood that the greatest threat to the sanctity and inviolability of each person, each American citizen—is the threat that the Federal Government might one day devolve into autocracy, into totalitarianism, into tyranny. To guard against this possibility, to offset the insinuation of tyranny, lurking behind the corner of every government formed by man, the founders of our Nation and framers of our Constitution, established, as a critical component of our Nation's Constitution, an indelible Bill of Rights.

The Bill of Rights comprises a set of primary, primordial, fundamental, natural laws that Government must adhere to lest Government devolve into tyranny. These natural laws rest well beyond the power of the Federal Government, lawfully, to destroy. Preeminent among the natural laws that constrain the possibility of a despotic Government is the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The framers understood that an armed citizenry protects the entirety of the Bill of Rights and that an armed citizenry is the single best guardian against and check on a Federal Government run amok and that an armed citizenry is the ultimate bastion against tyranny.

Read more: [www.ammoland.com/2017/05/second-amendment-codify-natural-law-rkba-man-made-construct/#ixzz4k6PR203E](http://www.ammoland.com/2017/05/second-amendment-codify-natural-law-rkba-man-made-construct/#ixzz4k6PR203E)

## **Things CCW Folks Should Never, Ever Do!**

February 5, 2016 | by Michael Jenkins

There's a lot that goes into carrying a concealed weapon as part of your lifestyle. Finding the right equipment, and training with it are the first step. Learning your state's laws and going through the process of getting the permit generally come next. These are relatively easy portions of the road; they're documented and understood and generally straightforward. As with everything, though, there's a vast gulf between theory and practice. So here are some of the common mistakes, pitfalls, errors, and oversights that CCW—both newbies and old hands—occasionally blunder into.

### **1. USE A CHEAP HOLSTER.**

Your carry system counts—a failure could be anywhere between embarrassing and catastrophic—so spend the time and money on quality. Check out our article [11 Things to Consider When Choosing a Concealed Carry Holster](#) for more info.

### **2. USING IMPROPER CARRY AND STORAGE METHODS IS A BIG NO-NO.**

Shoving a gun in your belt or the back of your pants is never the preferred way of doing things. Ditto leaving it under the car seat while you duck in to work. There are better, safer ways to do this, and responsible gun owners find them.

### **3. LIKEWISE, DISOBEYING THE RELEVANT LAWS IS OUT OF THE QUESTION.**

As responsible members of the CCW community, it's our collective responsibility to stay apprised of all the relevant laws and obey them. This is the agreement we make for the legal protections that come with the permit.

### **4. DON'T GET LAZY WITH IT.**

It's very easy to become complacent when you carry an object every day—even if that object is a weapon. Follow the rules of gun safety to the letter.

### **5. CONCEALED MEANS CONCEALED, AS I'VE SAID BEFORE AND WILL SAY AGAIN.**

Keep your weapon out of sight. While there's a role for open carry where it's legal, not all folks react well to the sight of a weapon. At the very least, printing or letting your weapon peek at the light of day can get you hassled.

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**6. ON A RELATED NOTE TO #5, STAY DISCREET.**

The “grey man” approach to life keeps you situational aware, inconspicuous, and out of trouble. With or without a gun, it’s to be recommended.

**7. DON’T GET RUSTY.**

Shooting is a perishable skill, as are the various tactics involved in effective personal protection. Training, even just a little every day or week, makes a huge difference with the balloon goes up. Practice the skills you’ll need to keep yourself safe. (Read Also: 5 Ways To Be Constantly Improving Your Firearm Accuracy)

**8. FINALLY, DON’T LOSE PERSPECTIVE.**

Your concealed carry piece is a tool in your toolbox, not a magical talisman that will keep you safe via its mystical powers. Use common sense, avoid areas where problems are likely to happen, deescalate if possible, and don’t neglect retreat as an option. Your judgment is your most powerful weapon

and most useful asset.

[www.usacarry.com/things-ccw-folks-should-never-ever-do/](http://www.usacarry.com/things-ccw-folks-should-never-ever-do/)

**9. LOVEJOY’S RULES**

“Lovejoy’s Rules” is the name adopted by authors Alan Korwin and Mark Moritz for the much-needed, often humorized, serious principles that apply to self-defense gun handling that are much overlooked in mainstream gun safety books, classes and instructor mindsets.

*Lovejoy’s Rules For Gunfighting Safety:*

1. You must have a gun.
2. Your gun should always be loaded and ready to fire.
3. The first hit counts more than the first shot.
4. Keep a gun you carry out of sight or holstered until ready to use.

For more information, visit [www.al2a.org/useful/lovejoy](http://www.al2a.org/useful/lovejoy)

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**THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS**

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