

THE Gun Owners

33 YEARS OF NO COMPROMISE – 1975-2008

GOA Backing National Parks Bill

by Larry Pratt

The Bush administration, after more than seven years, has finally issued regulations permitting the carrying of firearms in national parks. Gun owners will soon be able to carry firearms according to the laws of the state in which the park is located.

While not perfect, the proposed regulations, which are likely to take effect at the end of June, represent a sharp contrast with the steadfast refusal to allow for self-defense in national parks.

The bureaucrats responded after a crescendo of congressional activity. Senator Tom Coburn has made efforts to put the matter before the Senate, and would have done so had Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid not broken his word to Coburn to allow him to have a vote on the measure. Also, 51 Senators signed a letter to the Department of the Interior urging that the ban be removed.

In the House, there are now three bills that would open national parks to carrying firearms as regulated by the state in which the park is located.

The most recent bill, and the most comprehensive, is that of GOA Life Member Paul Broun (R-GA), who was elected to Congress in

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GOA Executive Director Larry Pratt (right) with GOA Life Member, Rep. Paul Broun of Georgia. The grizzly on the far right was shot by Rep. Broun using a .375 H&H Magnum made by Brown Precision in California.

Veterans Disarmament Act Disarming Thousand of Vets

by John Velleco

(Washington, D.C.) — A recent RAND Corporation study concludes that some 300,000 U.S. military men and women suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or major depression, resulting from service in Iraq and Afghanistan

This could have a tremendous impact on the Second Amendment rights of returning troops, thanks to a massive new gun control law signed in January by President Bush.

The Veterans Disarmament Act, sponsored by Rep. Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY) and Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY), prohibits persons who have been adjudicated mentally defective from owning firearms.

No longer does “adjudicated mental

defective” mean that one is found not guilty in a court of law by reason of insanity, as was understood 40 years ago when the unconstitutional Gun Control Act of 1968 was passed.

The definition of “mental defective” has been stretched by government bureaucrats in the BATFE to include persons who are a danger to himself or others, even to the slightest degree, or who are simply are unable to manage financial affairs.

In an open letter to states’ attorneys general last year, BATFE acting director Michael Sullivan clarified how broadly the agency interprets *mental defective*:

“For purposes of Federal law, ‘danger’ means *any* danger, not simply ‘imminent’ or ‘substantial’ danger as is often required to sustain an involuntary

commitment under State law” [emphasis added].

The BATFE standard of ‘danger’ makes it unlikely that any psychiatrist or psychologist would give formal assent that a combat veteran is absolutely no threat to self or others. Indeed, it would be difficult to make that assertion about any person.

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GOA Backing National Park Bill

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July of last year. Rep. Broun has introduced HR 5646, the "Protecting the Second Amendment and Hunting Rights on Federal Lands Act of 2008."

This is not the time to slack off on our efforts. If congressional activity got the Park Service bureaucrats to finally move, we need to keep the heat on. Continued congressional pressure is the only way to make sure that we can use guns to defend ourselves in our parks.

Moreover, legislation is the best way to keep concealed carry "on the books." Regulations could be changed the first day an anti-gun president takes office.

Finally, Rep. Broun's legislation would go even further than the proposed National Parks regulations. As we mentioned above, they are not perfect. Among other things, it's not clear (in the proposed regs) whether or not an individual will be able to engage in open carry on national park lands for the purpose of self-defense. That would not even be questioned under the Broun bill.



Meredith Emerson was abducted, raped and killed by a man who was not thwarted by the National Parks weapons ban.

Adding co-sponsors to Broun's bill, HR 5646, is needed to help counter the opposition from retired Park rangers. They sound as if they were scripted by the folks at Sarah Brady's Brady Campaign. They claim that concealed carry of guns in parks is dangerous and unnecessary.

Why, the parks are among the safest places in America, they say. It seems we should just accept the 63 homicides, 240 rapes or attempted rapes, the 309

robberies, the 37 kidnappings and the 1,277 aggravated assaults that occurred in parks during 2002 to 2007.

Surely that is a significant price to pay for making an anti-gunner feel good!

One example of the raging crime problem in the nation's parks is the case of botanist Richard Felger, who had to abandon his research in the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument because he got tired of having pistols being held to his forehead. Another biologist, Karen Krebs, said she couldn't continue to dodge drug smugglers.

Near the Appalachian Trail in Georgia, Meredith Emerson was abducted, raped and killed by Gary Michael Hilton. Emerson, 24, used her martial arts training to disarm her attacker and to nearly overpower him. But in the end, the 120-pound female was no match for her opponent, who both killed and decapitated her in a vain effort to destroy any evidence linking the murder to him.

Hopefully Broun's bill will become law so that decent people can be safe in the parks they pay so much to maintain and enjoy. ■



Post Office ban on Mailing Replica or Inert Munitions

The Post Office is wading into the gun control debate. That's right, the U.S. Postal Service is trying to keep people from shipping replica or inert munitions through the mail.

They have no authority in the law, since Congress has kept for itself the power to decide what can and cannot be shipped. But the Post Office is trying to say that replica or inert munitions are hazardous!

Gun Owners of America's attorneys found out about this outrageous proposal in early April and submitted comments in opposition to the regulations.

If you are a re-enactor or collector of replica or inert munitions, you are in the Post Office crosshairs. If you are not directly involved in this, you should still be outraged that a bunch of bureaucrats are trying to further restrict Second Amendment activity.

By the way, there is one interesting dimension to all of this: Canada wants the US to help shut off shipment of these items into Canada. So it looks like our bureaucrats are eager to appease other governments by changing our laws to make them as bad as our neighbors'.

You can read the Postal Service proposed regulations here: http://uxoinfo.com/blogcfc/client/enclosures/Proposed-Ban_ShippingInert.pdf

You can read GOA's comments to the Postal Service here: <http://www.gunowners.org/fs0804.pdf> ■

GOA in the News



In April, GOA's Communications Director appeared both on Fox News and MSNBC to debate concealed carry laws at the work place and in the schools. Pratt mentioned how armed citizens were able to stop and apprehend school yard killers in Pearl, Mississippi in 1997 and at the Appalachian School of Law in 2002.

"Unfortunately, the laws in our country threaten to punish good people by telling them you can't have a gun on campus or you'll go to jail," Pratt said.

Pratt also mentioned Jeanne Assam, a concealed carry holder who saved hundreds of lives at the New Life Church in Colorado Springs last December. ■

Veterans Disarmament Act

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[In a related matter of interest to gun owners, Sen. David Vitter (R-LA) and at least two other senators have placed 'holds' on the confirmation of Sullivan, delaying action on making the nominee the permanent director of the BATFE.]

The prohibition on gun ownership due to not handling one's own financial matters is even more pernicious.

In fact, of the almost 150,000 veterans already included on the NICS list, it was actually the inability to manage financial affairs (which in itself is not a crime at all, much less a violent crime) that made them prohibited persons.

In a letter sent to the Department of Veterans Affairs in October 2007, Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) noted that the "determination and the forwarding of names to the [Department of Justice] has nothing to do with whether the veteran has been adjudicated to be a 'danger to him/herself or others.' The only determining factor is whether a veteran can manage his or her own financial affairs."

Senator Coburn, himself a medical doctor, also expressed concern that servicemen will be reluctant to seek mental health care if they know that, in addition to the stigma associated with seeking such care, their gun rights



Almost 150,000 military veterans have been placed into the FBI's background check system and turned into prohibited gun purchasers.

could be so easily jeopardized.

The stigma alone is a huge problem for the Defense Department. According to a recent survey by the American Psychiatric Association, 75% of military personnel felt that asking for assistance would reduce their chances for promotion.

Nonetheless, up to 25-35% of returning combat veterans seek some form of mental health care. Accordingly, Defense Secretary Robert Gates announced in early May that applicants for security clearance would not be required to disclose mental health counseling related to experiences in a combat zone, unless they were court-mandated or involved violence.

The change at the Pentagon effectively means that one must be adjudicated in court, not a psychiatrist's

office, to be deemed mentally defective for purposes of a security clearance.

Isn't that the way it should be? Why should our gun rights be relegated to a lesser standard?

The obvious lack of "due process" in the taking away of constitutional rights has led to a backlash by pro-gun members of Congress. Rep. Virgil Goode (R-VA) introduced a bill to require that no honorably discharged veteran can lose his or her rights unless adjudicated in a court of law. GOA is working with Rep. Goode to pass this in the House, and with several senate offices seeking the opportunity to offer this language as an amendment.

The Veterans Disarmament Act came in the wake of the tragic Virginia Tech shootings, as if yet another gun control law will make citizens safer. The reality is that gun control laws make people less safe and should be repealed, not expanded.

PTSD sufferers who seek treatment are less likely than the general population to commit violent acts. Thousands of vets from Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan have been counseled for mental health reasons and now work as doctors, lawyers, judges, and any manner of white and blue collar occupations. And many are, thankfully, responsible gun owners who may prevent the next Virginia Tech-type shooting from escalating. ■

Wal-Mart's Betrayal Underscores the Evils of the Instant Check

By Erich Pratt

Gun owners are up in arms, and they've got Wal-Mart in their crosshairs — figuratively speaking, of course.

Wal-Mart's leadership joined with anti-gun rights New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg in April and instituted additional gun control restrictions on its customers.

In order to appease Bloomberg and his misnamed group, Mayors Against Illegal Guns, Wal-Mart is prepared to deny firearms purchases to some of its customers, even though they've never been investigated or convicted of having committed a crime.

If a gun owner has one of his handguns stolen, and it's later used in a crime, Wal-Mart may refuse any future sales to that gun owner.

Or, if a gun owner — say, with the name of John Smith — tries to buy a firearm but the FBI discovers that there is a criminal with a similar name, then Wal-Mart has now announced it will probably not sell a firearm to the good John Smith.

Wal-Mart customers have fired up the internet blogs with indignation. One former customer says, "I will never again buy a gun from Wal-Mart. Ever."

Another one admits, "I don't have anything to hide, but no more guns for me from Wallyworld."

There's a lot of anger out there, and some of the comments aimed at Wal-Mart can't be printed in this column. But does Wal-Mart deserve *all* the blame?

The rotten fruit of compromise

Unilaterally giving a "photo op" to the ineffectual and embattled Bloomberg and his anti-gun cronies is truly outrageous, and Wal-Mart does deserve to be taken to task. But one must also understand that Wal-Mart's actions have not occurred in a vacuum.

Gun owners need to realize that today we are reaping the rotten fruit that has stemmed from actions that some of our allies took in 1993. That's when, supposedly in order to thwart legislation that would have imposed a waiting period on handgun purchases, a



When Wal-Mart betrayed gun owners in April, angry customers swore they'd never buy guns again from the store. But Wal-Mart's awful policies would never have been possible if naive gun owners hadn't pushed the Instant Check into law in 1993.

sizable contingent of gun owning compromisers pushed for an FBI background check on guns sold by dealers.

"Hey, it will just be an instant check," they argued. "What harm can possibly come from that?"

Well, 15 years later, we have more than enough documented examples.

The first abuses were reported by the General Accounting Office in 1996 when it found that decent Americans were being illegitimately denied the ability to purchase firearms because of outstanding traffic tickets or administrative errors.

Thousands of people are erroneously denied the right to buy firearms every year... there are as many as 20,000 people who could successfully reverse their denial, but they never even bother to begin an appeal.

And not too long after that, the Clinton administration found a way to effectively shut down gun shows — as the NICS computer system would "conveniently" crash or be shut down over several weekends, preventing many gun sales from occurring.

Of course, Clinton's crowning anti-gun achievement was to illegally deny gun purchases — again, using the instant background check — to military veterans suffering from things like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), a practice that has resulted in almost

150,000 veterans losing their gun rights.

That practice illegitimately continued for almost a decade until it was "legalized" earlier this year when President Bush signed the Veterans Disarmament Act, a bill that passed without a recorded vote in the House and the Senate — and with the support of many of the "pro gun" appeasers.

And, far from satisfying the gun-grabbers, the instant check system is now being used to call for legislation to permanently shut down gun shows, which are being characterized as instant check "loopholes."

Instant Check compromises gun rights

Keep in mind, none of the aforementioned infringements — the denials based on outstanding traffic tickets, computer crashes or PTSD — none of them could have happened without a background check system.

In the early 90's, compromisers promised us that our gun rights would not be inconvenienced by the so-called instant check.

Well, tell that to the panicked gentleman who contacted Gun Owners of America this spring. He had recently bought a shotgun without any problem at all, but when he returned to the same

store to buy a handgun a week later, the FBI denied the purchase.

It turns out that another man with the same exact name (and a similar birthday) was guilty of robbery, and because of that, the good guy is now in the unenviable position of having to prove his innocence before he can exercise his Second Amendment rights. While he has submitted an appeal, officials have informed him there is no time limit for the FBI to respond to his appeal.

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What Should I do when I'm Denied by the Brady Check?

That's a question that plagues many law-abiding gun owners. One day they might buy a firearm without any problems, but then a month later, they find the FBI is treating them like one of *America's Most Wanted*.

Getting a Brady denial while trying to legally purchase a gun comes as a shock to most people. You might imagine that only hardened criminals and ex-cons are turned down. But the unpleasant surprise of a Brady denial at the gun shop counter is only the beginning of troubles for many gun owners – troubles that may include ATF agents seizing your guns.

Since the implementation of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act of 1993, thousands of Americans have had their Second Amendment rights unfairly revoked because of “disqualifying events.” These disqualifiers can vary maddeningly from state to state and often involve incidents so minor or long ago that you may not even remember them. But if you've been denied, don't give up without a fight!

Attorney C.E. Hill has helped scores of people to get their gun rights restored. And she shares her knowledge and experience in her book, *Brady Denial? You CAN Get Your Guns Back!*

C.E. Hill takes you step-by-step through the nine federal disqualifiers, explaining your options for overturning each one. This invaluable guide is for people who aren't sure if they'll get denied, owners who have gotten denied and want to do something about it, and lawyers who want to get their clients' rights back.

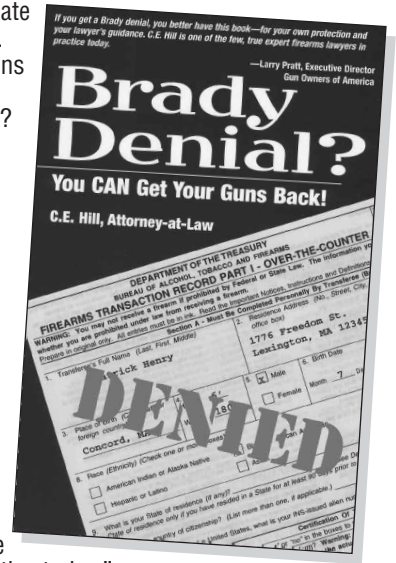
Filled with useful information, Hill gives gun owners the necessary

ammunition they need to navigate through the bureaucratic maze.

The book also answers questions such as these:

- Why was I denied a firearm?
- How can I clear my name?
- Do the guns I already own become illegal when I get denied?
- What about my wife's and kid's guns?
- What if the ATF comes for my guns?
- How do I get a pardon or expungement?

“If you get a Brady denial, you better have this book – for your own protection and your lawyer's guidance,” says GOA Executive Director Larry Pratt. “C.E. Hill is one of the few, true expert firearms lawyers in practice today.”



Brady Denial? You CAN Get Your Guns Back! is available through the GOA website for \$15 plus shipping and handling. You can go to <http://www.gunowners.com/bookst.htm> to place your order.

Can I Run a NICS Check on Myself?

by Erich Pratt

Many gun owners have asked if there is a phone number they can call to get a NICS check run on themselves before they try to buy a gun — thus, avoiding the legal ramifications that arise from being denied while standing in a gun store.

Well, you should know that while the FBI frowns strongly upon that, there is a better way. For a mere \$18, you may request your own FBI background check and determine if there are any errors in your record that could result in your being denied a firearm.

According to the Code of Federal Regulations (28 CFR 16.32), you may obtain a copy of your “identification record” by writing the agency at: FBI, Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division, ATTN: SCU, Mod. D-2, 1000 Custer Hollow Road, Clarksburg, WV 26306.

According to the regs, such request must be “accompanied by satisfactory proof of identity, which shall consist of name, date and place of birth and a set [of] rolled-inked fingerprint impressions placed upon fingerprint cards or forms commonly utilized for applicant

or law enforcement purposes by law enforcement agencies.”

One can usually go to his local sheriff to get a set of fingerprints taken. For example, GOA Life Member and firearms instructor Alec Dean has had about 130 fingerprint checks performed on himself over the past five years. He notes that, in his experience, no sheriff has ever kept his fingerprint card as a result of his requesting an FBI “identification record.”

Moreover, Dean says, the FBI always returns his fingerprint cards with the requested information. But he's quick to add that “one can't be absolutely sure” the FBI is not scanning and keeping the fingerprints.

Even then, Dean notes, “What would they put these fingerprints under? Criminals have their fingerprints recorded in a criminal file. But when you get an identification record check from the FBI, you're just requesting the check as an average citizen, not a gun owner.”

Dean agrees that the instant background check for gun owners is *far more dangerous* than the process involved in getting an identification

record check on oneself. The former creates the potential to register gun buyers as a *specific class of targeted people*, while the latter simply identifies people as being nothing more than U.S. citizens.

Finally, if (after getting the results of your FBI background check) you determine there are errors in your record, you can petition the FBI to make corrections by writing them at the same address. (See 28 CFR 16.34.)

Is this a panacea? Does this process guarantee that you will never be denied a gun when you're standing at the gun dealer's counter? Ultimately, no it doesn't. Hey, you are dealing with government bureaucrats, after all!

But Dean has found that when he was illegitimately denied the right to buy a gun, having a previous copy of the FBI self-check “greased the skids” and sped up the process for getting the denial overturned. ■

GOA Life Member Alec Dean contributed to this story. For more information, see www.internationalfirearmsafety.com.

Instant Check

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So much for having an “instant” check.

Instant Check falsely denying honest gun owners

Thousands of people are erroneously denied the right to buy firearms every year. And while many successfully appeal their denials, there are as many as 20,000 people who could successfully reverse their denial, but they never even bother to begin an appeal.

So says C.E. Hill, a defense attorney who specializes in defending gun owners who have been falsely denied under the instant check. She is the author of *Brady Denial? You CAN Get Your Guns Back!* — a very helpful book which can be purchased at the GOA website. (See a review of the book on page 5)

Hill says while it’s possible there’s something in a gun owner’s background that disqualifies him or her from purchasing a gun, the likelihood also exists that the gun owner just don’t know his rights under the law, or even worse, is scared to draw even further attention from federal or state authorities.

Some gun owners worry that the ATF will show up at their houses to confiscate the firearms they already own.

Instant Check as Gun Control



President Clinton first used the Instant Check as a means of illegitimately denying gun purchases to military veterans who were suffering from mental ailments like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. But it wasn't until this past January that President Bush legitimized the process by signing the Veterans Disarmament Act into law.

Instant Check fails to keep guns out of criminals’ hands

Brady supporters counter that the “inconveniences” gun owners experience in buying firearms are more than offset by the system’s ability to stop criminals from buying guns.

But that ignores the fact that background checks *do not* ultimately stop criminals and mental wackos from get-

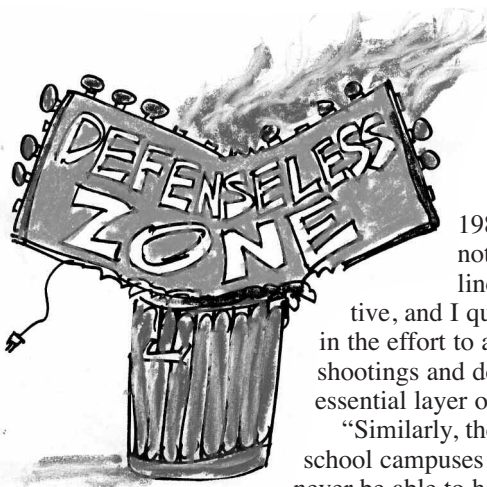
ting guns. People who are initially denied firearms at a gun store can still buy them illegally and commit murder, if they are so inclined.

A well-known example occurred almost a decade ago when Benjamin Smith left the gun store where he was denied a firearm, bought guns on the street, and then murdered two people less than a week later.

In fact, most criminals who try to buy guns from a dealer are rarely, if ever, arrested by the police and sentenced to jail. In the first five years that the Brady Law was in existence, there were reportedly only three illegal gun buyers who were sent to jail.

That is why in 1997, a training manual produced by Handgun Control, Inc., guided its activists in how to answer a question regarding the low number of convictions under the Brady Law. The manual basically says, when you are asked why so few people are being sent to jail under Brady, just ignore the question and go on the attack.

Yes, the Brady Bunch loves the instant check, as it has become the foundation for even greater gun control. If you’re mad at Wal-Mart for what it did recently, that’s fine. But just remember that members of our own community — with their support of the instant check — gave Wal-Mart the tools it needed to further restrict our Second Amendment rights. ■



Former Gun Control Supporter Argues for More Guns on Campus

“As an airline pilot, I knew pilots who carried guns in their flight bags prior to 1987, when the Federal Aviation Administration effectively disarmed all pilots. I did not own guns then, and I thoughtlessly bought into the conventional wisdom that airliners should really be ‘gun-free zones.’ The September 11 attacks jarred my perspective, and I quickly came to realize that I had been living in a fool’s paradise. I became a leader in the effort to arm airline pilots. Dire predictions of arguments turning into gunfights, accidental shootings and degradation of safety proved to be completely false. Instead, we have provided an essential layer of security as a deterrent to terrorists.

“Similarly, the Virginia Tech massacre must be a wake-up call for all of us. Our undefended school campuses are a tempting target for cowardly mass killers and terrorist groups alike. We’ll never be able to have a police officer in every school or every classroom, but we can take down the flashing ‘defenseless zone’ sign that attracts killers. We must insist that our state legislators resist the calls for more gun-control laws and instead pass legislation allowing law-abiding citizens with concealed carry permits to carry guns on school campuses.” ■

-- Captain Tracy Price, *The Washington Times*, April 30, 2007

GOA Working to Outlaw Gun Confiscation

by Erich Pratt

Believe it or not, it is “legal” to confiscate firearms in some states.

You read that right. Despite what the Second Amendment says, state officials have passed legislation in past years to legitimize the theft of firearms during a declared state of emergency.

Of course, we can argue till we’re blue in the face that it’s not really legal to confiscate people’s firearms, since the Second Amendment protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms.

It would be good argument and a great defense. But because of the laws in many states, we might be making our arguments from behind bars.

That’s why GOA’s efforts to pass Emergency Protection legislation in more than a dozen states — and at the federal level — are so important.

These bills make it illegal for a governor to confiscate guns and will prevent a repeat of what happened in New Orleans in September 2005, when police officials stole the firearms of law-abiding residents.

(You can view footage of this disgusting activity at www.gunowners.org/notb.htm on the GOA website.)

The fact is, Louisiana law permitted the confiscation of firearms in 2005 when Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf coast.

At that time it was “legal” to confis-



GOA’s Political Victory Fund worked very hard to help get Steve Scalise elected to Congress in May. As a state legislator, Rep. Scalise led the charge in Louisiana to outlaw gun confiscation in 2005.

The voters in Scalise’s district thanked him by first promoting him to the state senate, and now most recently, by electing him to the U.S. House of Representatives (where he has replaced Bobby Jindal who vacated his House seat to become governor).

Gun Owners of America-Political Victory Fund worked very hard to help get Scalise elected to Congress. Seeing Rep. Scalise on Capitol Hill should excite gun owners all over the nation, as he will represent your Second Amendment interests no matter where you live.

In 2006, GOA worked to pass an Emergency Powers Act at the federal level (since federal agents had also taken part in the gun grab in Louisiana the year before).

After the bill passed the Senate, U.S.

helping get the four most recent states to join the list: Kansas, Utah, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Utah’s law is, by far, the best of the lot — and may even be the best in the entire nation. The chief sponsor of the Utah bill was Republican Senator Mark Madsen, a man who has a print of the Lexington battle hanging in his office.

(Sen. Madsen ordered the print through the GOA website. It is available at <http://www.gunowners.org/merch9033.htm>.)

Madsen’s bill provides tremendous protections for gun owners. If someone were to have his gun confiscated — just like what happened in New Orleans three years ago — that person could not only sue for damages, but can hold the offending officer and his superior personally liable.

Now, that puts real teeth into a very good law!

As in other states, GOA provided Sen. Madsen with video highlights of what had happened in the Bayou State in 2005.

“GOA supplied me with video that documented the plight of decent gun owners in New Orleans who had their guns stolen by police after Hurricane



Gun Owners of America has worked in more than a dozen states -- and at the federal level -- to outlaw the confiscation of guns during a declared emergency. To see videos of guns being stolen in New Orleans, go to www.gunowners.org/notb.htm.

Katrina,” Sen. Madsen said. “The DVD was very helpful in educating other members of the Utah legislature, and my bill to protect Utah gun owners from gun confiscation, SB 157, passed by overwhelming margins.”

Gun Owners of America wants to thank all those members who have worked so hard to get Emergency Protection Acts enacted throughout the nation. ■

“I really appreciate the work [that] Gun Owners of America did to spread the word to your members so they could contact their legislators and help pass the Resolution [to outlaw gun confiscation].” -- Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA)

cate firearms in the Bayou State during a declared state of emergency, but no longer. GOA worked with then-Rep. Steve Scalise (R) to pass one of the first Emergency Protection Acts in the nation.

After the vote, Scalise thanked GOA for helping him pass his bill. “I really appreciate the work [that] Gun Owners of America did to spread the word to your members so they could contact their legislators and help pass the Resolution,” Scalise said.

Senator David Vitter (R-LA) acknowledged GOA’s efforts.

“GOA’s help in pushing my amendment to prohibit gun confiscation was a huge help, and it was very effective,” he said. “I look forward to working on many other issues with GOA.”

The bill became law in October of 2006.

Today, there are roughly a dozen and a half states that have passed Emergency Protection resolutions.

And this year, GOA was involved in



The International Noose Is Tightening

by Larry Pratt

A Panamanian attorney and gun owner rights activist recently told me that George Soros was pushing gun confiscation in Panama, and that every time he adds another country to the gun control list,

the position of the U.S. at the U.N. becomes more precarious.

In other words, thanks to George Soros in some considerable measure, the UN noose is tightening around the neck of gun owners in the U.S.

George Soros is a Hungarian-born socialist billionaire who now resides in the United States. Soros, who wants everybody (but himself) to be equally poor, was convicted in France of insider trading.

There is the story of the fellow who murdered his parents and then pled to the court for mercy because he was an orphan. Similarly, George Soros, having lost on appeal to France's highest court, then appealed to the European Court of Human Rights (which is still pending) on the grounds that the French process took too long.

What an irony that Mr. Insider Trading, aka George Soros, funnels a lot of his left-wing political financing through the Open Society Institute.

I have seen the footprints of George Soros' financing of gun-grabbing legislation throughout the world. When I was in South Africa a few years ago, the law that the communist African National Congress party had put on the books there had been promoted by George Soros.

Earlier this year when I addressed a conference of the Panamanian Association of Gun Owners (APPA), I heard a Panamanian speaker detail the bill that APPA is fighting in the Panamanian National Assembly. Not surprisingly, it has the same provisions as the South African law. Then a Costa Rican member of that country's National Assembly described the gun control bill in their legislature. Care to guess what is in the Costa Rican bill? The same provisions.

The Costa Rican added that the bill was being pushed by President Oscar Arias, aided by his Arias Foundation



GOA's Larry Pratt (right) addressed the Panamanian Association of Gun Owners in April.

which is funded by none other than George Soros.

The warning of the Panamanian attorney that the UN noose is tightening around the necks of American gun owners sounded all the more credible when the bigger picture of Soros-sponsored international gun control emerged.

But, as the salesman says, there is more.

Soros is not ignoring direct involvement in the U.S. He pumped big bucks into the anti-gun show referendum campaign of Americans for Gun Safety in 2000. Presidential candidate Sen. John McCain was the pitchman for this attack on the Second Amendment in the Colorado and Oregon referenda of that year.

With this kind of position on guns, it is not surprising that McCain's 2000 presidential bid fizzled. Because he planned to run again, McCain wanted to park his key campaign staff where they would be available the next time they heard his siren call. That place ended up being the Reform Institute which received major funding from George Soros.

McCain's Reform Institute was the tip of the spear in the campaign to gag political speech, aka, the McCain-Feingold campaign act of 2002. Among other things, McCain was insulating himself from pesky criticisms by gun owners of his anti-gun record which puts the lie to his claims of support for the Second Amendment.

How interesting. A trip to Panama helped me understand better than before how sinister George Soros is, and the threat he represents to freedom, not only in the U.S., but in many other countries as well. ■

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