

THE Gun Owners

48 YEARS OF NO COMPROMISE – 1976-2024

GOA Leading the Fight Against Biden's Registration of Gun Owners

by Aidan Johnston

GOA is suing the ATF ... Again!

The tyrants at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) issued a draconian rule to ban and suppress your right to buy and sell firearms as a private citizen.

Even more, the new rule will register virtually every private sale of a firearm in the country.

This ATF rule stems from the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), which GOA opposed when Congress passed it in the summer of 2022.

Republican Senator John Cornyn of Texas led 14 of his RINO colleagues to vote for this law — the biggest gun control bill in decades — which President Biden happily signed.

Senator Cornyn's BSCA unnecessarily tweaked the definition of what it means to be a gun dealer — a change which set the bureaucratic wheels in motion for this massive ATF rule change.

In implementing Cornyn's revision, Joe Biden signed Executive Order 14092 — a mandate which tyrannically orders the ATF to change the "[statutory] definition of who is engaged in the business of dealing in firearms."

Of course, the Biden administration is not really interested in



GOA spokesmen blanketed the airwaves in April to protest Biden's Universal Registration Check. Above, Senior Vice President Erich Pratt announces GOA's legal challenge to the rule.

creating more gun dealers, given that hundreds of them are being driven out of business through Biden's Zero Tolerance policy.

Continued on page 2

GOA Activists Play Major Role in Repealing Gun Control

by Erich Pratt

The Fourth of July came early for gun owners this year.

Earlier this year, GOA forced President Biden to *defund* the ATF by \$122 million and to STOP enforcement of the veterans gun ban!

Yes, you read that right. This is a *huge* win for gun rights even though there is a Democrat in the White House and a Democratic majority in the Senate.

Backed by a barrage of emails and phone calls from active Second Amendment supporters, GOA's team of federal lobbyists forced the House and Senate to pass language protecting veterans last year, and it was inserted into the govern-

ment funding bill which just became law in March.

For over 20 years, Veterans Affairs has been sending veterans' names to the NICS system, simply for having an advisor appointed to manage their finances. But the GOA-backed language prevents this from happening.

Anti-gunners are *furious* this ban has been defunded, and they're calling the veterans gun ban repeal a "poison pill." But they're just upset that GOA beat them in Congress.

On March 15, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs sent a letter to Rep. Mike Bost confirming that the VA will no

Continued on page 3

Inside:

- **GOA Bringing Cases to the Supreme Court (page 4)**
- **GOA on the Frontlines (page 5)**
- **Pro-gun Activists Achieve Huge Victory (page 6)**
- **Why 'No Compromise' Is the Only Way to Beat Gun Control (page 7)**
- **Velleco: GOA Advises Supreme Court About ATF Atrocities (page 8)**

GOA Leading the Fight Against Biden's Registration of Gun Owners

Continued from page 1

No, in an official press release, Biden revealed that the true goal of the rule is to “mov[e] the U.S. as close to universal background checks as possible without additional legislation.”

Biden imposing registration on a massive scale

ATF's new rule amounts to “Backdoor Registration Checks,” since it restricts people's ability to buy and sell firearms without running background checks and filling out gun registration paperwork, like Form 4473s and Multiple Sales Reports.

Now, before a gun owner can simply sell one firearm to even a family member, ATF wants virtually every gun owner to:

- ✘ register with the federal government;
- ✘ submit a photo;
- ✘ submit your fingerprints;
- ✘ notify your local police chief;
- ✘ comply with local zoning laws (which may be impossible);
- ✘ get approved for your may-issue license;
- ✘ maintain regular business hours;
- ✘ submit to warrantless ATF inspections, without notice;
- ✘ pay \$90-\$3,000 in licensing fees every three years;
- ✘ fill out a Firearm Transaction Record (Form 4473) for each transfer of a firearm;
- ✘ call the FBI or the state police before transferring a firearm;
- ✘ keep a registry of every gun in your inventory; and
- ✘ ultimately, turn over the registry you are forced to create to ATF's billion-record database.

Even after you get the government's permission to exercise your Second Amendment right to buy and sell firearms, you'll be subject to extreme and continuing scrutiny by federal agents.

If you forget to dot one “i” or cross a single “t” then the Biden Administration will “Zero Tolerance” you with their newly minted “zero tolerance” license revocation policy!

Background checks never disarm criminals

Any sane person knows these new infringements won't do anything to reduce crime or restrain the actual black market.

In fact, a new ATF report on firearms trafficking revealed that the agency only targets major firearms traffickers, like criminals who illegally sell over 250+ firearms, about 1% of the time!

So, while those major firearm traffickers and straw purchasers go free, ATF is planning to target average Americans for offering to sell a firearm to a family member.

Actually, gun owners will need to read and comprehend a 450+ page rule from ATF to know whether they need to get a federal license to sell a couple of guns to a friend or a brother-in-law.

But that isn't even the most dangerous part of ATF's new rule change. What's unbelievably scary is how serious ATF is in the enforcement of this new gun control.

ATF executes man who sold firearms privately

Recently, a white-collar airport executive in Arkansas named Brian Malinowski was killed in an ATF raid over this exact same law.

Brian only collected firearms as a hobby, but ATF said he was “engaged in the business” of dealing in firearms without a license.

They had “probable cause” and raided his house for evidence with a warrant. But rather than arrest him on his way to work, they kicked in his door at 6 A.M. before the sun had even risen.

In the process, he was executed. ATF was willing to use deadly force to enforce federal firearms licensing requirements on Brian, and they are willing to use it against you too!

This is one reason GOA is fighting back. Because of the generous donations of GOA members, the organization is prepared to take this case all the way to the Supreme Court.

Not only that, GOA is calling on Congress to uti-

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If you have new email information, please fill out the form found at “GunOwners.org/update”

lize its authority under the *Congressional Review Act* to issue a Joint Resolution of Disapproval and strike down the rule.

One of the biggest pro-gun leaders in the House of Representatives is Congressman Andrew Clyde of Georgia.

He has already introduced legislation to override this rule — H.R. 6734, which is the *Stopping Unconstitutional Background Checks Act*.

Putting foxes in charge of the henhouse?

Outrageously, Senator John Cornyn and Majority Leader Mitch McConnell have decided to lead the effort in the Senate — which to be clear doesn't absolve them from their “original sin” of voting for this tyrannical gun control in the first place.

If Congress were to overturn this rule, then ATF would be legally prohibited from ever issuing a substantially similar rule again.

GOA will never give up the fight for your Second Amendment rights.

And GOA leaders are thankful to all those who support the mission to protect, restore, and defend the Second Amendment against tyrannical gun control — like Biden's new ATF rule.

GOA will keep readers posted on efforts to block these Backdoor Registration Checks, so stay tuned! ■

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GOA Activists Play Major Role in Repealing Gun Control

Continued from page 1

longer be disarming veterans for having a surrogate handle their financial affairs.

Ben Sanderson, who hosts GOA's Minute Man Moment on YouTube, stated that:

Our victory is causing quite a stir in Congress. 143 House Democrats sent a letter calling for the VA to ignore the law! And 143 isn't a small number either. That's two-thirds of Democrats in the House of Representatives.



GOA-BACKED REPEAL OF VETERAN GUN BAN BECOMES LAW!

GOA GUN OWNERS OF AMERICA

GOA published multiple grassroots alerts to generate support on Capitol Hill for repealing the veterans gun ban.

Thanks goes to Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA) who sponsored the amendment and fought to make sure the protection for veterans remained intact.

The other victory — the cut to ATF's budget — is also a significant victory. In fact, it's historic, as it represents the largest cut in history for the bureau.

Regarding this second monumental victory, GOA's Sanderson said:

Breaking down the 122 million dollar cut, 75 million was taken away from construction, and the remaining 47 million was directly from the ATF's operations. That means less gun grabbing agents out looking for that 15.9 inch barrel or shoe string machine guns.

What's even better is that this is the complete opposite of what Joe Biden

wanted! In 2023, the Presidential budget proposal had a 13% increase in their budget. Before this cut, ATF's budget had ballooned almost 36 percent larger under Biden and over 50 percent larger since the Obama Administration.

GOA is grateful that our grassroots activists took action on our email alerts

— especially at a time when the gun ban repeal language was getting watered down.

Their loud voice, coupled with GOA's lobbying team on Capitol Hill, forced legislators to maintain the original repeal language that passed — again showing that grassroots activism truly makes a difference. ■

Register Now for GOA's Inaugural Convention!

Exciting news! Registration is officially open for GOA's Inaugural Convention, GOALS 2024!

The Gun Owners' Advocacy and Leadership Summit is coming to the Knoxville Convention Center in Knoxville, TN on August 17th-18th.

This is your exclusive invitation to join us for an unforgettable experience designed to elevate your skills, network with other advocates, and explore an exhibition hall with your favorite firearm and accessories manufacturers.

GOALS is FREE for all GOA members!

At GOALS 2024, we're bringing together industry leaders, visionaries, and innovators from across the country to one place to celebrate the Second Amendment.

Here's what you can expect: Inspiring keynote speakers, engaging workshops, networking opportunities, showcase of innovation, and exclusive surprises.

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to be part of history as we kick off GOA's first annual convention.

You can register to attend by scanning the QR code in the graphic or visiting the GOA website at: goals.gunowners.org

See you in Knoxville!





GOA Bringing Cases to the U.S. Supreme Court

GOA challenges NY's carry restrictions ▶

GOA recently petitioned the Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari in our challenge to New York's mistakenly named "Concealed Carry Improvement Act."

This sweeping law was passed after the Supreme Court rebuked the state's may-issue concealed carry permitting scheme. But frustratingly, this new statute is more onerous and restrictive than the one overturned in the *Bruen* decision.

After its passage, GOA immediately challenged this new law in federal court, where Judge Glenn Suddaby repeatedly sided with GOA by blocking several of its major provisions.

Unsurprisingly, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals was eager to intervene on behalf of anti-gunners, keeping much of the challenged law in place. This has led to GOA's recent filing with the Supreme Court in *Antonyuk v. James*. Pictured is lead plaintiff, Ivan Antonyuk (left), with GOA's Erich Pratt.



◀ GOA defending semi-autos

In March, Gun Owners of America (GOA) filed a petition for certiorari with the U.S. Supreme Court, to challenge the Illinois ban on standard capacity magazines and so-called "assault weapons." Gun Owners Foundation (GOF) is also a party to this case.

When the gun ban took effect in January 2023, GOA and GOF quickly filed suit and secured an injunction from Judge Stephen McGlynn.

As Judge McGlynn put it, the Illinois law in question "seems to be written in spite of the clear directives in *Bruen* and *Heller*, not in conformity with them."

Frustratingly, the anti-gun Seventh Federal Circuit quickly blocked Judge McGlynn's ruling, leaving Illinois gun owners with no choice but to request relief from the nation's high court.

Sam Paredes, on behalf of the board for GOF, stated that: "We are optimistic the Justices will choose to make clear once and for all that 'assault weapons' bans on tens of millions of commonly owned rifles are wholly out of line with the Second Amendment."



Sam Paredes is a board member of Gun Owners Foundation.

SCOTUS hears bump stock case ▶

Earlier this year, GOA filed an amicus brief with the Supreme Court in *Garland v. Cargill*, a case challenging the ATF's ban on bump stocks.

GOA's brief was so compelling, it forced Biden's Solicitor General to specifically address their arguments in an attempt to salvage the administration's case.

GOA's amicus reminded the Justices that the language of the Second Amendment protects both firearms and accessories, "even those [items] that were not in existence at the time of the founding."

So fearing a full-blown, 2A challenge by GOA, the government is trying quickly and quietly to convince the court that there is no Second Amendment issue.

The High Court held oral arguments in February and is expected to render a decision this summer.

GOA Discusses Bump Stock Ban on OAN





GOA on the Frontlines

GOA-Back Constitutional Carry passes ►

Two states enacted permitless carry legislation this year, bringing the total number of permitless carry states to 29.

Louisiana's was the strongest, as it restores the ability of law-abiding gun owners, 18 years and older, to carry a concealed handgun in Louisiana without having to first ask the Louisiana government for permission.

GOA would like to thank Louisiana bill sponsor Senator Blake Miguez (R) and Gov. Jeff Landry for teaming up to enact one of the best Constitutional Carry laws in the nation.

Finally, GOA is grateful to all of its members and supporters who have donated their time and resources to help make this victory possible.

South Carolina also enacted a similar law, although it amounts to only a partial victory, as the bill raises penalties for non-licensed individuals who carry in various Gun Free Zones around the state.

GOA Louisiana Director Joshua Barnhill (left) with Constitutional Carry sponsor Sen. Blake Miguez.



Director of Women's Outreach, Antonia Cover (far left), takes a group picture with fellow leaders and influencers in the gun industry.

◀ GOA gives firearms training to hundreds of women

The first National Women's Range Day in Grapevine, Texas, was a spectacular hit!

Over 300 women from all walks of life came together in March to celebrate the rise of female gun ownership and true female empowerment through the Second Amendment.

Grammy Award-winning recording artist and special guest Kaya Jones sang the national anthem. Shortly after, the participants received basic handgun and rifle safety training and practiced with real firearms on the multiple reserved 25-ft and 50-ft range lanes.

Some of the event's highlights were the concealed carry fashion show and the confrontational politics seminar during lunch.

Stay tuned for details about next year's Day of Women's Empowerment — the 2A way!

Youngkin Vetoes Democrat Gun Control ►

Before the General Assembly convened for their regular 2024 legislative session, one thing was abundantly clear: Democrats would make passing gun control their #1 priority.

With slim control of the State House and Senate, Virginia Democrats introduced over 30 gun control bills — all targeted at dismantling the God-given gun rights of law-abiding Virginians.

And with laser focus, anti-gun Democrats tried to ban standard capacity magazines, expand "gun free" zones, restrict open and concealed carry, and perhaps most heinous of all — ban the sale and transfer of semi-automatic rifles.

Thankfully, GOA and VCDL members sprang into action and aggressively lobbied pro-gun legislators to hold fast, specifically asking Gov. Glenn Youngkin to veto the anti-gun bills heading for his desk.

Youngkin vetoed the worst of the worst bills — thanks in no small part to pro-gun activists reminding him to uphold his constitutional oath of office.



Three of the speakers at the VCDL rally in Richmond, Virginia this January. GOA's Erich Pratt urged gun owners to remain active during the upcoming legislative session. Pictured on either side of him is Jared Yanis of Guns & Gadgets (left) and Dan Was of GOF's Bullet Points (right).

Pro-gun Activists Achieve Huge Victory But RINO Governor Shows His True Colors

by Mark Jones

The term RINO stands for a politician who is a “Republican In Name Only.”

It’s an apt moniker for a politician who, like the animal they’re named after, also tends to dwell in swampy environments.

While RINOs infest the Congress and many of the state legislatures, Wyoming is certainly no exception.

In March, the legislature passed GOA-backed legislation removing most of the state’s remaining gun free zones and placing Wyoming among the nation’s best states for respecting Second Amendment rights and making citizens safer.

But that’s when the chief RINO in the state, Governor Mark Gordon, obliterated the hard work of gun owners throughout the state.

The legislation would never have been possible without the efforts of GOA members and supporters who helped defeat dozens of RINO attempts to weaken the bill in the House.

GOA Wyoming Director Mark Jones also worked with pro-gun legislators to resurrect the bill from a “Kill Committee” in the Senate and pull the legislation directly onto the Senate Floor.

Sadly, the Wyoming Governor — a true RINO — vetoed this historic legislation after the legislature adjourned. He vetoed the legislation even though he had made a campaign promise to sign a

repeal of gun free zones if one ever made it to his desk!

This veto also violated a major plank of the Republican Party Platform, further cementing Gordon’s place among the nation’s top “Republicans in Name Only.”

Gordon’s veto forced efforts to override his veto by calling a Special Session of the Wyoming legislature. The Wyoming Senate voted for the Special Session, but unfortunately, they fell short of the necessary votes in the Wyoming House.

The bad news is that Wyoming’s historic repeal of gun free zones failed to become law, but the good news is that Wyoming citizens are galvanized in support of returning our Second Amendment Rights.

Plus, GOA activists have proven they can get this bill through the Legislature by a wide margin.

It is safe to say this bill will again find its way to the Governor’s desk, the next time after the 2024 Wyoming elections.

And Second Amendment supporters in Wyoming are committed to work



GOA's Mark Jones (left) and Bill Sponsor Representative Jeremy Haroldson (R-Wheatland) outside the Wyoming House after the Bill passed.

hard to do everything they can to ensure there will be a veto-proof majority next time. ■

GOA Advises Supreme Court About ATF Atrocities

Continued from page 8

It would seem obvious that when agencies seek to criminalize possession of a previously legal product, they should be entitled to no deference at all — the judiciary should overturn such usurpations of legislative power.

Frustratingly, however, Chevron Deference has allowed this regulation to stand, hanging gun owners out to dry, just like the courts have done for so many Americans affect by regulations passed without congressional approval.

Chevron empowers agencies to serve as judge, jury and executioner — inasmuch as it allows them to make, interpret and enforce regulations with the force of law. This ignores James Madison’s clear warning in Federalist No. 47, where he argued:

The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many, and whether hereditary, self-appointed, or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.

This is the reason the Supreme Court must reverse Chevron. The justices have a constitutional duty to halt the accumu-

lation of power in the executive branch.

Congressional inaction and the empowerment of agencies to do the dirty work of restricting liberty is unaccountable to the people and contrary to our republican form of governance. The Supreme Court must rebalance how power is wielded. ■

This article originally appeared in The Washington Times earlier this year. Update: After Gun Owners of America submitted its amicus brief in Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo to the U.S. Supreme Court, oral arguments were heard by the High Court in January. A decision is expected by this summer.

Why ‘No-Compromise’ Is the Only Way to Beat Gun Control

by *Tiffany Coutris*

If your Second Amendment rights are taken, it won't be in a sweeping act of Congress. It'll be through COMPROMISE.

Endless compromise with anti-gunners has continuously led to an erosion of the right to bear arms.

In 2022, Congress passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), also known as the Cornyn-Murphy compromise.

Named for Senators John Cornyn of Texas, a Republican, and Chris Murphy, a Democrat, the two senators sold their gun control bill as being “fair to both sides.”

In reality, that hasn't been the case at all. The Biden administration has weaponized every aspect of the law they could get away with and has done nothing to implement the “pro-gun” side of the law, if you could even call it that!

Just take the change to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act that was wrapped in the BSCA. The change prohibited funds “for the provision to any person of a dangerous weapon or training of the use in a dangerous weapon.”

This change likely overlooked by lawmakers hastily trying to score points with the anti-gun lobby ended up giving the Biden administration the power to withhold key funding from schools with archery or hunting classes.

This change affected thousands of schools, and several Republicans were up in arms about it, including John Cornyn, who authored the bill itself! Weird that the author of the bill had no idea how the law would be interpreted!

GOA's Director of Federal Affairs Aidan Johnston has pointed out the multiple scandals that have followed ever since the BSCA became law. For example, says Johnston:

GOA worked with Congress to restore funding for archery classes, shooting sports teams and hunters' education, after Biden used the BSCA to cut off these funds.

And when the “enhanced background check” in the BSCA turned into a de facto wait period for young adults, GOA filed a legal challenge against this new policy in a case which is now before the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Moving towards a ban on private sales and Red Flag laws “thanks” to Cornyn

These are not the only problems that require fixing. Just one small change in statutory language, thanks to the BSCA, has allowed the Biden administration and the ATF to implement universal background checks via administrative rulemaking, therefore bypassing Congress entirely.

The BSCA made one key change to the definition of “engaged in the business,” by removing the word “livelihood.”

Because of this one-word change, the Biden Department of Justice published their 450-plus page rule mandating that anyone who sells a firearm without a license is participating in unlicensed activity and will be prosecuted as such.

What else has the Biden administration done since the passage of the BSCA? Well, they've pushed the adoption of red-flag laws in states because they know a national red flag law would never pass constitutional muster.



Sen. John Cornyn (left) betrayed gun owners by helping secure the needed Republican votes to pass draconian gun control in 2022. While he has tried to argue this law does not violate gun owners' rights, the implementation of gun control over the ensuing months indicates how badly he was hoodwinked by the bill's sponsor — anti-gun Sen. Chris Murphy (right).

The Biden administration is also busy with staffing their newly created Office of Gun Violence Prevention, a direct link for anti-gun activists to implement their policies directly from the White House.

But what about those so-called “pro-gun” provisions in the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act? Well, seems that the Department of Justice has been selectively enforcing the parts of the law that the Biden administration likes and has been slow rolling the parts that they don't.

So-called pro-gun provisions get ignored

Just take the provision in the BSCA that allowed licensed gun dealers to use the NICS background check system to screen their prospective employees. This would allow FFLs to check if the person they're hiring is a prohibited person. There's currently no movement from the Biden Department of Justice on this at all.

The battle over gun control is not a new one, but pro-gun activists would do well to realize that the billionaire funded gun control lobby is not your friend. Their goal is the complete abolishment of the Second Amendment by whatever means necessary.

They are aware this is a long battle, lasting decades, and their goal is to make small changes over time until the 2nd Amendment is about as useful as the right to bear arms in Mexico.

This is why the “No Compromise” mindset is so important for any pro-gun activist. With the other side only concerned with chipping away at our rights, it's no wonder that “No Compromise” has become a breath of fresh air for gun owners who care about their right to a firearm.

No Compromise means just that. GOA will never compromise on the Second Amendment, ever. Any infringement will not be tolerated, and Gun Owners of America will not stop working until all gun control is completely abolished. ■

Tiffany Coutris is the host of GOA's YouTube show, One in the Chamber.



GOA Advises Supreme Court About ATF Atrocities

by John Velleco

Americans treasure their liberty and independence.

But for over a century, congressionally authorized alphabet-soup agencies have been using

extralegal “authority” to issue bold, broad and unconstitutional regulatory actions that choke liberty and leave citizens with no effective recourse to reverse such actions.

The Supreme Court aided and abetted this practice in a 1984 ruling, *Chevron v. Natural Resources Defense Council*. And now, the justices finally have a chance to right the wrong.

While Article 1 of the Constitution specifically vests “all legislative powers” in Congress, America’s lawmakers have overwhelmingly passed the buck on their single largest duty — lawmaking — to agencies.

Some argue the decision-making should be left to the “experts.” Others point out that lawmakers prefer to avoid tough decisions that could adversely affect their future electoral prospects. Still others call them lazy.

Regardless of how one may view this practice of endowing agencies with the power to issue regulations carrying the force of law, there is growing agreement across the ideological spectrum that this representative government of, by and for the people has wandered too far down the road of policy-making via bureaucracy.

Today, the number of regulations issued annually far outpaces the number of newly passed statutes, and the nation’s highest court has played a direct role in the expansion of this practice.

A 1984 precedent known as *Chevron Deference* requires courts, except in the most egregious circumstances, to defer to agency interpretation of vague congressional statutes when a rule faces legal challenges.

Today, over 90% of regulations that are challenged in the courts survive, and freedom-loving Americans suffer under agencies’ unaccountable reign.

Whether this bureaucratic tyranny comes in the form of interference with gun owners trying to exercise their God-given and constitutionally guaranteed right to self-defense or by making it financially impossible for commercial fishermen to make a living, the people are the ones to suffer. The court must reverse this tide, as their precedent has only emboldened agencies and the executive branch.

Under the *Chevron* precedent, the courts are abdicating their constitutional responsibility to interpret and apply the law to cases, ceding that responsibility to executive branch agencies.

Thus, *Chevron* undermines the proper separation of legislative, executive and judicial powers as the Framers designed it. It allows unaccountable agencies to wield all three types of powers, undermining the liberties of Americans.

Gun Owners of America has filed a brief before the Supreme Court exposing ATF’s war against supporters of the Second Amendment.

Gun Owners of America has filed an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in the *Loper Bright Enterprises* case that highlights how the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives has turned its authority against gun owners, gun dealers and other supporters of the Second Amendment.

For example, just a few years ago, the ATF arbitrarily reclassified bump stocks (devices that enable semi-automatic firearms to discharge at a faster rate) as machine guns, making them illegal to own. This is something Congress never intended, and many readers are likely unaware that something as simple as a belt loop can be used in place of a bump stock and yield the same rate of fire.

Continued on page 6

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