

The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report

THE INSIDERS GUIDE FOR GUN OWNERS

Issue 233

May, 2014

Dear Subscriber,

Anti-gun forces are ramping up on many fronts in this mid-term election year. Rep. ELIOT ENGEL (D-New York) and Rep. JOHN CONYERS (D-Mich.) spearheaded a letter from 82 House Democrats urging PRESIDENT OBAMA to use his executive power to renew enforcement of a ban on imported military-style guns like AK-47s."

The Dems said that **the ban would cut drug violence in Mexico, where AK-type guns imported to the U.S. are often smuggled, dubious because Mexican cartels smuggle full-automatic military rifles from elsewhere more than semi-automatic rifles of U.S. origin.**

Attorney General **ERIC HOLDER** testified on Capitol Hill that **America needs to spend \$2 million for "smart" gun technology, as part of a \$382 million expenditure on what the OBAMA administration calls "gun safety."**

HOLDER supported devices to rig a firearm so that it could not fire unless it received an electronic signal from an electronic bracelet worn by the firearm's lawful owner.

Former Alaska Governor SARAH PALIN harshly warned him that he better not even think about trying to implement the idea. **"ERIC, You don't want to go there, buddy,"** she declared.

"You can replace my identifying bracelets with your government marker when you pry them off my cold, dead wrists," PALIN then added.

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA's budget proposal also calls for \$1.1 billion to "protect Americans from gun violence" - including \$182 million to support the president's Now is the Time "gun safety" initiative.

In **OBAMA's** words, it says: **"Require background checks for all gun sales; Pass a new, stronger ban on assault weapons; Limit ammunition magazines to 10 rounds; Finish the job of getting armor-piercing bullets off the streets; Give law enforcement additional tools to prevent and prosecute gun crime..."**

"End the freeze on gun violence research; Make our schools safer with new resource officers and counselors, better emergency response plans, and more nurturing school climates; Ensure quality coverage of mental health treatment, particularly for young people." Without the sanitizing, that's total gun control."

Top Senate Democrats say they **still lack the votes for their gun control bill.** Senate Majority Leader **HARRY REID (D-Nev.)** told reporters, **"I would like to be able to bring it back up, but I need some more votes."**

Sen. **JOE MANCHIN (D-W.Va.)** who authored **last year's failed measure** said he's received "no firm commitments" for additional support, and **didn't expect to see the measure on the floor again** unless proponents had more votes in hand.

The U.S. State Department has made a policy decision to limit the export of 30 round and higher capacity magazines **solely to government, law enforcement and military end users.** The policy was posted to the **Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC)** website.

Sen. **RAND PAUL (R-Ky.)** said in an interview that **arming 100 percent of American pilots is the most cost-effective way of preventing terrorist attacks** similar to those that occurred on 9/11. **"I'm concerned about what is the most cost-effective way of preventing another 9/11: I want all pilots to be armed,"** **PAUL** said while discussing a bill to streamline pilots' carry permit process.

Also in this issue: ● **Anti-gun expert witness admits ignorance of guns** ● **Special Report: the 2014 Battle Front** ● **Many legislative victories in the states** ● **Guns save pizza delivery man, home owner and others in our Page 8 Parting Shot.**

**AT THE
FEDERAL
LEVEL**

JUDGE RULES THAT OUT-OF-STATE POT RAP CAN'T STOP GUN OWNERSHIP

U.S. District Court Judge Richard Stearns ruled that two Massachusetts men – previously convicted of marijuana possession in other states – could not be denied, based on their prior drug crimes, the right to have guns in their homes for self-defense purposes.

Judge Stearns ruled that Michael Wesson of Salisbury and Thomas Woods of Natick have a Second Amendment right to own firearms despite being convicted of possessing weed in the past.

Stearns said the portion of the Massachusetts Gun Control Act that disqualifies gun applicants who had previously been convicted of possessing a controlled substance was unconstitutional, as applied to the two men."

Judge Stearns is a Clinton appointee.

ATTORNEY WELCOMES APPEAL BY JERSEY CITY ON GUN RIGHTS CASE

Evan Nappen, the attorney who won a gun rights case against Jersey City said of Mayor Steve Fulop's vow to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, "We, both the client and our firm, welcome it." Nappen regularly represents clients in these kinds of lawsuits and added, "We'd love to see a Supreme Court decision on this."

Nappen's client, Jersey City resident Michael McGovern, filed in 2011 for a permit to buy two handguns, but the city denied his application, citing prior arrests in Florida and other objections.

But an appeals court ruled that Jersey City's gun permit application asks too many questions not permitted by state law. The city isn't allowed to ask permit seekers about their past employment or their license plate numbers, the ruling states.

Mayor Fulop, advocate for gun control measures, has been called a "rising star" in New Jersey politics. Legal commentators doubt that the Supreme Court would consent to hear such a case.

**IN THE
COURTS**

SAF LAWSUIT WINS IN NEW YORK WHILE ANTI-GUNNERS PLOT MORE GUN CONTROL

A Second Amendment Foundation lawsuit has resulted in New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and State Police Superintendent Joseph D'Amico agreeing, in a stipulated order, to not enforce a section of the state's controversial SAFE (Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement) Act while an appeal is underway in one of the legal challenges to that statute.

While the gun rights activists were being addressed by Donald Trump and Republican gubernatorial candidate Rob Astorino, gun control advocates inside the Capitol discussed even more gun control, according to the Albany Times Union. State Sen. Malcolm Smith from the Queens section of New York City, Albany Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy and Alex Dubroff, identified by the Associated Press as "the leader of the upstate chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America."

Dubroff revealed that her group is coming back for more including a safe storage law requiring that guns either be stored in a safe or fitted with a gun lock, a one-handgun-per-month mandate, and a ten-day waiting period for the delivery of a firearm to its buyer. "We are far from done," Dubroff stated.

ANTI-GUN EXPERT AGAINST PRO-GUN EXPERT ADMITS IGNORANCE OF GUNS AND RULES

Anti-gun professor Jeffrey Zax testified that Gary Kleck, pro-gun expert witness for gun rights plaintiffs in a Colorado gun-control trial, "deliberately ignored" some data and used only instances that would not "contradict his assertion." During cross-examination, an attorney for the plaintiff asked Zax about his expertise on firearms. Zax said he has no expertise on firearms nor has he read the rules and regulations that govern gun possession in Colorado. The federal bench trial was presided over by District Court Chief Judge, Marcia Krieger.

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2014: OUR MID-TERM ELECTION YEAR IS AS STORMY AS A PRESIDENTIAL YEAR

"Money is the mother's milk of politics," as every election shows, and the 2014 election year is stacking up as another proof. The focus is now on the success of gun control groups at raising more cash than gun rights groups, and on mistakes that can defeat the anti-gun bunch. This Special Report on The 2014 Battle Front gives our subscribers an inside view of the fray.

SPECIAL REPORT THE 2014 BATTLE FRONT

WHAT DOES THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION SHOW?

Dig into the massive FEC database for the 16 months since the Sandy Hook school shooting and you find that gun control advocates are building grassroots campaigns that bring in more money than gun rights advocates.

The data shows that gun-related political money raised so far in the 2014 election cycle is unevenly split, with gun rights contributions at \$16.3 million (43 percent of the total) while gun control groups raised \$21.2 million (57 percent).

Money raised from donors is not contributions to candidates, which are limited this early in the 2014 cycle, and that means gun rights advocates have time to beat the gun grabbers before the candidates start spending.

GABBY GIFFORDS' NEW POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE THRIVING

The super PAC created by former congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and her husband, retired astronaut and Navy Capt. Mark Kelly, raised more than \$2.5 million in the first three months of this year. Called "Americans for Responsible Solutions Political Action Committee" it had nearly \$7.7 million in cash at the end of March heading into the election season, said Pia Carusone, executive director of the group.

The organization was created two years after the Jan. 8, 2011, mass shooting in Tucson that killed six people and wounded Giffords and 12 others at a Congress on Your Corner event. Since its creation in January 2013, the super PAC has so far raised more than \$15 million for the 2014 political cycle compared with \$14.9 million by the National Rifle Association of America Political Victory Fund over the same time.

THE 800 POUND GORILLA OF GUN CONTROL

Billionaire Michael R. Bloomberg, the former mayor of New York City, plans to spend \$50 million this year building a nationwide grassroots network to motivate voters who feel strongly about curbing "gun violence" with an organization he hopes can eventually outmuscle the National Rifle Association.

The ex-mayor's millions will fund Everytown for Gun Safety, a revamped version of two groups the mayor now backs, Mayors Against Illegal Guns and Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. His Super Pac is called Independence USA.

Bloomberg said gun control advocates need to learn from the N.R.A. and punish those politicians who fail to support their agenda – even Democrats whose positions otherwise align with his own. That's the same threat billionaire environmentalist Tom Steyer made to Democrats who don't vote for his brand of extreme green – maybe there's something about big money that gives you big arrogance.

But money doesn't make brains. The advantages that gun rights advocates enjoy – in intensity, organization and political clout – will be tough to overcome. Bloomberg has already spent millions pushing members of Congress to support gun control laws with virtually nothing to show for it.

In 2013, Bloomberg infuriated Democrats by paying for television ads attacking Sen. Mark Pryor (D-Ark.), one of a handful of Senate Democrats who helped defeat legislation to expand background checks for gun purchases.

And Bloomberg says he is ready to take on anti-gun control Democrats again, a step party leaders warn could hurt their chances to keep control of the Senate.

Even so, anxious Senate Democrats quietly celebrated Bloomberg's \$50 million announcement. Republicans are likely to cut into the Democrats' 55-to-45 majority in the Senate this November, and so the Democrats are looking for all the help they can get.

"If he is successful, the people he will motivate to vote are extremely likely to vote for Democrats, period, end of story," said one senior Senate Democratic aide.

- continued on Page 4

TRAMPLING GUN RIGHTS ISN'T A TICKET TO HEAVEN, BLOOMBERG

Alan Gottlieb, Founder of the Second Amendment Foundation and Chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, has some spiritual advice for Mike Bloomberg, who gave this bizarre religious performance in the *New York Times*: "I am telling you if there is a God, when I get to heaven I'm not stopping to be interviewed. I am heading straight in. I have earned my place in heaven. It's not even close." That's weird even for Bloomberg.

Gottlieb gave Bloomie this tip: "I have a piece of bad news; a real estate market in Heaven for his kind of self-aggrandizing pomposity doesn't exist. One does not earn his way into Heaven by trampling on the civil rights of his fellow citizens."

In a widely-read column, Gottlieb noted that "his campaigns to destroy the Second Amendment prove just how arrogant and delusional he has become with his riches. Delusional elitism from Michael Bloomberg is nothing new. His hypocrisy and hubris has been well documented."

Listing examples, Gottlieb noted that while mayor, Bloomberg funded his private gun control projects and his Mayors Against Illegal Guns website with New York City taxpayer money and resources. He spent taxpayer money on armed policemen to follow him around New York and the entire country but opposed self defense for ordinary citizens. And much more.

Gottlieb concluded, "If he continues to throw his money around to deprive honest citizens of their God-given liberties and natural rights, he's far more likely to spend eternity pulling weeds behind a shack in a place where it is always hot and there isn't any shade."

REPUBLICAN TOM RIDGE RESIGNS FROM BLOOMBERG'S NEW GUN CONTROL GROUP

Former Republican Gov. Tom Ridge has stepped down from his position with Bloomberg's new Everytown for Gun Safety, saying "When I signed on as an advisor to Everytown, I looked forward to a thoughtful and provocative discussion about the toll gun violence takes on Americans. After consultation with Everytown, I have decided that I am uncomfortable with their expected electoral work. Therefore, we have decided that we will pursue this issue in our separate spheres."

THE EVERYTOWN PROJECT IS BLOWING UP IN BLOOMBERG'S FACE(BOOK)

The brilliant anti-gun billionaire forgot something in the process of setting up his anti-gun group disguised as a "grassroots" effort, Everytown for Gun Safety: Facebook.

Just hours after Bloomberg's appearance on NBC's *Today Show* touting his new group, gun rights activists rushed to register the name "Everytown for Gun Safety" (EGS) on Facebook, and launched a bushel of them over the next several hours as pro-gun sites. Now nearly every state has its own gun rights Facebook page called Everytown for Gun Safety.

They all promote *real* gun safety, including links to such things as the National Rifle Association's "Eddie Eagle" program with the three key gun safety golden rules: Always keep guns pointed in a safe direction, always keep guns unloaded until ready to use, and always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to fire.

The dozens of new gun rights Facebook pages have gone viral with no small amount of laughter from the gun rights community.

SENIOR EDITOR OF CLASSY MAGAZINE PSYCHOANALYZES GUN RIGHTS VICTORIES

Did you know that the gun rights movement "offers an outlet for the Right's cultural anxieties that is clothed in a populist message of empowerment"? David Frum knows. He's senior editor of *The Atlantic*, respected literary and cultural commentary magazine aimed at a target audience of "thought leaders." Frum's article, "Why Gun-Rights Backers Win While Other Conservative Causes Lose" answers that question with three diagnoses: 1) The gun issue allows conservatives to express ethnic and cultural anxieties in ways that are not overtly racial. 2) Gun advocates' policy prescriptions do not favor the wealthy. 3) Gun advocates offer their supporters not just ideological gratification, but actual personal empowerment.

That won't influence 2014 elections, but it's a different take on gun rights.

**SPECIAL REPORT
THE 2014
BATTLE FRONT**

ARIZONA GOVERNOR SIGNS BILL TO GUARD GUN RIGHTS ON PRIVATE LANDS

Republican Gov. Jan Brewer signed legislation to overrule any local laws that bar people from using firearms on private lands that are not open to the public. It has built-in protections, including a prohibition against shooting within a quarter mile of an occupied structure, without the building owner's permission. It was specifically written to deal with a Yavapai County regulation aimed at someone with 385 acres where the owner allows friends to shoot. Gun rights supporters feared that if unchallenged it would invite similar moves by other counties.

CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY DEMOCRATS GUN DOWN CIVIL RIGHTS

In a party line-vote, the California Assembly Public Safety Committee rejected AB 1563, Assemblyman Tim Donnelly's handgun carry license reform bill. The measure, sponsored by California Association of Federal Firearms Licensees (CAL-FFL), would have replaced the current unconstitutional system with an entirely new, "shall-issue" framework. This framework was designed to drastically speed up license processing and help all law-abiding people exercise their constitutional rights.

IN THE STATES

COLORADO BILL REPEALING GUN RESTRICTIONS HEADS TO GOVERNOR

Senate Bill 135 passed the Colorado House of Representatives by a 61-1 vote and now heads to Governor John Hickenlooper's (D) desk. Sponsored by state Senator Greg Brophy (R-1), it would repeal restrictions in state law relating to the purchase and sale of rifles and shotguns in non-contiguous states, and permit the purchase and sale of firearms in states not bordering Colorado by both residents and non-residents. This will align Colorado with forty other states that already allow their residents to purchase rifles and shotguns in non-contiguous states, provided it complies with state and federal law.

FLORIDA LAWMAKERS APPROVE 'WARNING SHOT' BILL

The Florida Senate approved the right to fire a warning shot, moving to revise the state's self-defense laws for the first time since the shooting death of Trayvon Martin. The bill, which was partly inspired by the case of a Jacksonville woman sentenced to 20 years in prison after firing a shot near her estranged husband during an altercation, passed the chamber 32-7. The woman, Marissa Alexander, is out on bail awaiting a new trial. The bill, which earlier received backing from the Republican-controlled House, now goes to the desk of Republican Gov. Rick Scott.

GEORGIA GOVERNOR SIGNS COMPREHENSIVE PRO-GUN BILL INTO LAW

Governor Nathan Deal (R) signed into law House Bill 60, the most comprehensive pro-gun legislation in state history, enacting thirteen separate measures, including: removes fingerprinting for renewal of Weapons Carry Licenses (WCL); prohibits the state from creating and maintaining a database of WCL holders; creates an absolute defense for the legal use of deadly force in the face of a violent attack, and requires reporting of persons who have been involuntarily hospitalized or adjudicated mentally deficient to the NICS system while also providing the ability for relief through an application process to the court system allowing for restoration of gun rights. HB 60 passed the state Senate by 37-18 and House by 112-58.

ILLINOIS HOUSE PASSES LEGISLATION TO PREVENT THE DESTRUCTION OF FIREARMS

The Illinois House of Representatives passed House Bill 4860, with House Amendment 1, by an 88 to 6 vote. Sponsored by state Representative Brad Halbrook (R-110), HB 4860, as amended, provides law enforcement agencies with the option to sell confiscated firearms at public auction rather than destroying or keeping them for agency use. HB 4860 now goes to the Senate where it will await a committee referral.

KANSAS COMPREHENSIVE PRO-GUN BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

Governor Sam Brownback (R) signed House Bill 2578 into law. It passed unanimously in the Kansas House of Representatives, language from Senate Bill 447 was incorporated into HB 2578 and passed in the state Senate by a 37-2 vote, and HB 2578 was concurred by the state House of Representatives by a 102-19 vote. The new law prohibits municipalities from implementing local ordinances relating to the transportation of firearms; bans the use of taxpayer funds for gun "buyback" programs, codified a "shall certify" requirement for gun transfers, and prohibited government employers from maintaining a database of employee permit holders.

MISSISSIPPI GOVERNOR SIGNS PRO-GUN BILLS INTO LAW

Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant (R) signed Senate Bill 2425 into law, legislation creating an annual sales tax-free weekend for individual purchase of firearms and supplies. Governor Bryant also signed House Bill 314, a comprehensive 4-point measure, into law: it expanded protections against government confiscation of legally-possessed firearms during a state of emergency; affirmed gun rights of law-abiding citizens in public housing; limited authority of counties to restrict gun carry; and prohibited firearm destruction of guns from "buyback" events.

MICHIGAN GOV. SNYDER SIGNS SHORT-BARRELED FIREARMS BILL

Following Gov. Snyder's signature, Michigan law now allows the possession and sale of short-barreled firearms, provided their owners comply with certain licensing processes. State Sen. Mike Green, R-Mayville, a sponsor of the legislation, said he supported the measure both because of an uptick in recreational use of firearms and for protection. Green said, "For someone to have a short-barreled gun in their house for defense would be a great thing. We called the attorney general, he supported it, and we introduced it last fall."

IN THE STATES

MISSOURI SENATE PASSES BILL NULLIFYING UNCONSTITUTIONAL FEDERAL GUN LAW

The Senate passed legislation that would declare "null and void" any past, present or future federal law deemed to be an infringement on gun rights for law-abiding citizens. Federal agents who knowingly enforce those laws could face civil penalties stemming from lawsuits filed by Missouri residents who think their gun rights were infringed. Those workers would also be banned from future careers in state or local enforcement. Opponents contend the measure is unconstitutional because courts have ruled that states can't nullify federal gun laws.

NEBRASKA: GOVERNOR SIGNS PRO-GUN BILL INTO LAW

Governor Dave Heineman (R) signed Legislative Bill 699 into law. It passed without opposition in the Nebraska Legislature, makes positive reforms to state firearm laws. Because there was an emergency clause associated with this legislation, following the Governor's signature, LB 699 took immediate effect. It repeals an outdated state firearms statute and brings state law into conformity with federal law by allowing Nebraska residents to purchase long guns in non-contiguous states. LB 699 repeals that antiquated restriction, allowing Nebraska residents the freedom to purchase long guns in states beyond their immediate borders.

NEW YORK OFFICIALS MUM ON SAFE ACT GUN CONTROL LAW COMPLIANCE

The most controversial portion of New York's SAFE Act (Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013), registering assault rifles, has taken effect, and state officials are saying nothing about how the rollout of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's strict new gun-control law is going. State police have estimated there are, at a minimum, hundreds of thousands of the assault rifles in New York, with others saying the total could be from 1.2 million to 2 million. "Hundreds of thousands of people have not complied with this as a minimum," said Jake Palmateer, of the Second Amendment rights group NY2A. Gun rights leaders have been careful to not counsel gun owners to disobey or skirt the law.

OKLAHOMA HOUSE OVERRIDES GOVERNOR'S VETO OF PRO-SECOND AMENDMENT BILL

The Oklahoma House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly to override the Governor's veto of House Bill 2461 by a bipartisan 86-3 vote. The bill would prevent an arbitrary personal bias from determining Oklahoma firearm policy. It was sent to Governor Fallin (R) for her signature following nearly unanimous passage. It originally passed by a 92 to 1 vote in the House and unanimously in the Senate. The Senate must also vote to override or the veto sticks.

TWO PRO-GUN BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW IN WISCONSIN

Assembly Bill 368 repeals the restriction on the sale and purchase of long guns in non-contiguous states. It allows residents of the Badger State the freedom to purchase and sell long guns in states beyond their immediate borders. Senate Bill 527 is a shooting range protection bill that exempts sport shooting ranges from state or local zoning related to noise. SB 527 also protects the range owner or operator from civil liability.

GUN NEWS TICKER - QUICK TAKES ON THE NEWS

● **Flint, Michigan:** Mark Farner of the 1960s rock group Grand Funk Railroad wrote "Don't Let 'Em Take Your Gun," which has become an anthem for some gun rights advocates. He told a reporter, "I think every one of us needs to be packing heat" to help prevent incidents like school shootings. There's no other way for me to protect my family except that gun," Farner said. "The world is a crazy place. Look what happened to poor John Lennon. There's too many looney-tunes out there."

● **Marietta, Georgia:** Six people were injured and the shooter, a FedEx package handler, was killed in a shooting at a FedEx facility in Marietta, Georgia. The scene was caught by CNN news cameras, which showed a sign indicating that the FedEx building is a gun free zone. It's just the latest example of a mass shooting in a gun free zone, where obedient victims have no way to defend themselves.

● **New York City:** NBC sportscaster Bob Costas says, "Here's what I would say to anybody who any time they hear the word guns automatically goes off, like, 'Oh, they're going to repeal the Second Amendment.'" He said, "Let's make a bet, you and me. Let's say over the next five years - we'll do a Google search, we'll have an independent party monitor it - you keep track of how many good and constructive things are associated with athletes having a gun, and I'll keep track of all the tragedies and criminality and folly. And let's see who comes out ahead or behind as the case may be. These things are directly connected." Guns save lives, Costas.

● **Oakland, California:** A packed house of enthusiastic admirers filled the Paramount Theater in downtown Oakland to greet former Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and her husband, astronaut Mark Kelly. For about 30 minutes, Giffords and Kelly talked about their current lives, which includes gun control advocacy. Together, they run a nonprofit called Americans For Responsible Solutions. "What can we do to keep guns out of the hands of the dangerously mentally ill?" asked Kelly. Gun owners, we will keep you informed on this growing group.

● **Washington, D.C.:** *The Daily Caller* ran a story about a new Rasmussen Reports national survey that finds only 40 percent of "likely U.S. voters" believe that the United States needs stricter gun control laws. The newspaper said, "This poll records a nine-point drop from last May. As the Rasmussen press release notes, "Fifty-three percent do not think the country needs tougher gun control laws, the highest level of opposition in over two years."

● **New York City:** Former conservative lobbyist Jack Abramoff is not behind Michael Bloomberg's \$50 million investment in a gun control organization posed to challenge gun rights advocates. He advises Bloomberg to "stop wasting your money. America is not going to go along with this," said the author of *Capitol Punishment*. "There is a very deep support for Second Amendment rights in this country, including among Democrats, once you get out of the East and West Coasts. You know, it's an issue of interest to him. It's his money. He's got plenty of money. If he wants to spend it, let him spend it, but I don't see it going anywhere."

● **Portland, Oregon:** *Portland Business Journal* reports that social-minded investors are starting to take aim, so to speak, at funds with gun-related holdings. A new social media campaign called "Unload Your 401(k)" is calling for retirement account managers to reconsider their portfolios if their holdings include weapons makers. The group's website reveals that such managers as Vanguard Group, Fidelity and JPMorgan - each of which manage many Portland-area companies' plans - invest in such companies. It's a tricky proposition in that companies such as Vanguard tend to invest in a vast array of holdings.

● **Springfield, Illinois:** After a state conservation officer ticketed Todd Vandermyde, National Rifle Association Illinois lobbyist, for carrying his loaded crossbow on his ATV while hunting, he dutifully paid his \$120 fine, then got state Rep. Josh Harms, R-Watseka, to introduce House Bill 4377, which repeals the law requiring crossbows to be in cases when carried by a vehicle. The measure passed the House 84-28 and now is in the Senate. That's how to beat another ticket.

Parting Shot

GUNS SAVE PIZZA DELIVERY MAN, HOME OWNER AND OTHERS

A man delivering a pizza late at night in Buffalo, New York looked like an easy target for 18-year-old DeJuan Coleman and his three gang members. After the deliveryman left his customer, DeJuan jumped out of the front hallway of the house and hit the pizza guy on the head with a hammer, according to police.

DeJuan also displayed what appeared to be a gun, but then the deliveryman pulled out his own handgun and shot DeJuan point blank. The rest of the gang scattered.

The pizza delivery man suffered wounds to the head and bruises on his left hand. DeJuan was put under police guard while he recovers from the gunshot wound. He will face charges of first-degree robbery.

Down in Huntsville, Alabama, an 83-year-old man was at home when he heard a knock at his back door "around 12:45 a.m." and found a man saying he needed help. He did not look like he needed help with anything but home invasion.

The homeowner "turned to call police when the burglar kicked in the glass door and entered the home." At that point the homeowner "grabbed a handgun and shot the burglar once in the chest," according to police.

The burglar then dove through a window and fled. He was not apprehended.

From the homeowner's description, police say the suspect was involved in "another incident" at another home just 15 minutes before he broke into the home of the 83-year-old man.

David Medawar, owner of Paul Medawar Fine Jewelry in Plainfield Township, Michigan, was at his store when he spotted a group of four men near the front door. Medawar ordered his employees to a back room when the armed robbers entered the store. Medawar and his father then armed themselves with handguns.

They warned the criminals, "We have a gun. We will shoot you. Leave." Undeterred, the robbers continued into the back room, prompting Medawar and his father to open fire.

After meeting the armed resistance all of the criminals fled.

In Columbus, Ohio, an armed robber forced Kenneth Owens to hand over his wallet, then forced Owens to accompany him by car to an ATM. As Owens was in the abductor's vehicle headed to the ATM, he drew a gun and shot his attacker, killing him.

All Americans should know that every day, on the average, guns save 2,191 lives and are used to thwart crimes.

Alan M. Gottlieb

Joseph D. Tartaro

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