

The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report

THE INSIDERS GUIDE FOR GUN OWNERS

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Dear Subscriber,

Chicago Mayor **RAHM EMANUEL** famously said while he was **President OBAMA's White House Chief of Staff**, **Never let a good crisis go to waste.** To **OBAMA**, that applies to tragedies too - **never fail to exploit a tragedy to push an agenda.** And that's what he did on a recent slow news day: **OBAMA** released a statement about **AARON ALEXIS**, who shot and killed 12 people at the Navy Sea Systems Command inside the Navy Yard in Washington D.C. and used it to call for more gun control.

OBAMA's statement said, "As we remember men and women taken from us so senselessly, **we keep close to their family and friends, stand with the survivors** who continue to heal and pay tribute to the first responders who acted with skill and bravery."

**AT THE
FEDERAL
LEVEL**

OBAMA did not mention that **the ALEXIS shooting spurred many questions about military base security and the effectiveness of gun free zones.** Even though **ALEXIS** passed a background check, bought his gun legally, and chose a shotgun over a semi-automatic so-called "assault rifle," **anti-gun activists used the shooting to call for expanded background checks and an assault weapons ban - none of which had the least relationship to the shooting.**

OBAMA only held one photo-op after the shooting with some of the victims' families. There's no indication he still even keeps in touch, much less really "keeps them close as he stands with them."

Other news from the Capital focused on **the District of Columbia's budget.**

House Republicans have passed a continuing resolution that would keep the government of the District of Columbia functioning through Dec. 11. **But**, the spending bill left out a pro-gun amendment from Kentucky Republican Rep. **THOMAS MASSIE** that he attached on the House floor.

MASSIE's amendment echoed the July 26 ruling in *Palmer v. District of Columbia*, in which Judge **FREDERICK SCULLIN** Jr. wrote that he was stopping enforcement of D.C.'s ban on carrying handguns in public unless and until the city adopted a constitutionally valid licensing mechanism.

Local leaders have since been granted a stay to fix their blunder. However, the amendment was removed when it threatened to kill the entire resolution and shut down the D.C. government.

Americans for Responsible Solutions (ARS), former Arizona Democrat Rep. **GABRIELLE GIFFORDS'** gun control group, is pouncing on the National Football League's string of domestic violence scandals to push for stronger federal firearms regulations - even though guns played no role in two of the NFL cases.

ARS says it's seeking to exploit the public attention on domestic violence by focusing on women victims and laws that let accused male offenders possess guns without a conviction, but the group's actual goal appears to be Senate legislation that would prohibit accused abusers named in restraining orders, but not convicted, from possessing guns.

However, that could lose women their gun rights too: the Mayo Clinic warns, "Domestic violence against men can take many forms, including emotional, sexual and physical abuse and threats of abuse. Understand the signs of domestic violence against men, and know how to get help."

More than 830,000 men fall victim to domestic violence every year. Also in this issue: ● Concealed carry victories ● Blooming Idiot Report ● State preemption laws hitting non-compliant cities ● Gutsy gun-carrying Philly Mom has friends in our Page 8 Parting Shot.

SURPRISE! CALIFORNIA LEFTISTS WANT GUN CONTROL BILL VETOED

It's unexpected, but welcome. The Liberal Gun Owners Association - kind of leftist version of the NRA - has asked California's Democratic Governor Jerry Brown to veto a gun control bill. It's not as crazy as it sounds. The legislation, Assembly Bill 1014, would allow family members, law enforcement officials or medical professionals to seek a restraining order against an individual perceived to be a danger, preventing them from legally obtaining a firearm for 21 days.

Association President Eric Wooten told the governor the bill was "unproven, unconstitutional, unaffordable, and unworkable. I firmly believe if you consider the larger ramifications of AB 1014 you will veto this dangerous bill," and called the bill a "giant step backward for both civil liberties and mental-health policy."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ADOPTS IN NAME ONLY CONCEALED CARRY LAW

The District of Columbia City Council passed a "may issue" concealed carry ordinance after being ordered by the court to adopt a constitutionally valid licensing mechanism. Alan Gura, attorney for the Second Amendment Foundation, whose case forced the city's decision, said the ordinance "plainly fails to comply with the court's ruling." The new ordinance, with anti-gun Mayor Vincent Gray's reluctant signature, requires applicants to show a specific need to obtain a carry permit. The police chief will have the authority to deny permits. An appeal of the ruling in SAF's Palmer case might go to the Supreme Court, which might strike down restrictive carry laws.

IN THE STATES

MISSOURI APPROVES CONCEALED GUNS AT SCHOOLS AND OPEN CARRY IN PUBLIC

By overriding Gov. Jay Nixon's veto, Missouri lawmakers approved concealed guns at schools, dropped the required age to obtain permits from 21 to 19, and allows anyone with a concealed weapons permit to carry guns openly, even in cities or towns with bans against the open carrying of firearms. The new law will allow specially trained school employees to carry concealed guns on campuses. The vote makes Missouri the 10th state to pass legislation allowing armed school employees. The legislation was enacted by a two-thirds majority.

ANTI-CRIME GUN BILL PASSES NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLY 79-0

Legislation increasing penalties for defacing a firearm - useful only to a criminal - passed the New Jersey Assembly and is now headed to the Senate. Under the bill (A-823), the penalty is upgraded to a second degree crime punishable by five to 10 years in prison. "This bill does nothing to infringe the rights of law abiding gun owners," said sponsor Democrat Raj Mukherji. "It sends a clear message to criminals - who are the only people with any use for a defaced or stolen firearm - that they should be ready to do hard time if they use such a firearm." Alexander Roubian, Vice President of New Jersey Second Amendment Society, said his group is "always in favor of legislation that clearly distinguishes between law-abiding gun owners and criminals. Only after the efforts of our members did the Law and Public Safety Committee unanimously amend A823 to make that difference absolutely clear."

PENNSYLVANIA BILL WOULD ALLOW SAF TO SUE TOWNS OVER GUN LAWS

Pennsylvania State Rep. Mark Keller, has introduced a bill allowing the Second Amendment Foundation or other gun-rights groups to sue municipalities over their stricter gun laws. If they lost, municipalities would be responsible for the legal fees and costs of the gun rights groups. A person would not need to be charged under any harsher gun laws in order to bring a lawsuit. The state does have laws that pre-empt local gun restrictions and more restrictive laws are illegal. "This legislation would deter local jurisdictions from imposing illegal ordinances," said Keller. The bill has 38 co-sponsors, including four Democrats (all from Western Pennsylvania).

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MAYOR IS UNHAPPY ABOUT HIS NAME ON A BLOOMBERG ANTI-GUN LETTER

Mayors Against Illegal Guns submitted a letter on behalf of 69 California mayors in support of AB 1014, the "Gun Violence Restraining Order" legislation recently signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown. But Ridgecrest Mayor Dan Clark said he did not support the MAIG letter, much less sign it. The MAIG letter does, in fact, list Mayor Dan Clark's name as a signatory. MAIG used his name "illegally," said Clark. He was part of the group at one point, but said he "resigned from the organization months ago."

BLOOMBERG CAN'T FIND ENOUGH ANTI-GUN CANDIDATES TO SUPPORT

Former New York Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's gun control group Everytown for Gun Safety seems to have given up on his plan to pour \$50 million into gun control efforts: it's having trouble finding high-profile candidates who could stand to benefit from Bloomberg's help.

Everytown for Gun Safety has released its first endorsement list, which named candidates from 28 states: 17 U.S. Senate candidates, 61 candidates for the U.S. House and 32 candidates for state offices.

So, instead of buying election races, the Blooming Idiot is spending on a seemingly unfocused grab-bag of anti-gun causes.

BLOOMING IDIOT REPORT

For example, Everytown for Gun Safety launched a six-figure ad campaign protesting supermarket chain Kroger's policies permitting open carry of loaded firearms while prohibiting items such as skateboards.

It also ran television ads in the District of Columbia, Arizona, Nevada and New Hampshire over the summer in an effort to raise awareness about domestic violence and guns. It's a trend.

NO FOCUS ON GUNS IN ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

"It is not an issue Democrats are using in any general way," said Floyd Ciruli, a Denver-based pollster, told a *Washington Times* reporter. "There are obviously some exceptions, but not many."

Spokesman Stu Loeser also said the former mayor is preparing more direct expenditures and additional contributions. He pointed to \$2.5 million Mr. Bloomberg already has given this cycle to Senate Majority PAC and \$2 million to a committee affiliated with the pro-choice abortion group Emily's List.

THE IDIOT'S MONEY OUTGUNS GUN RIGHTS INITIATIVE

In Washington state, where voters soon will decide on Initiative 594, one of the most restrictive background check laws in the country, gun rights defenders are up against some of the deepest pockets in the world: they're getting outspent more than 7-1.

"This is a terrible ballot initiative that was dreamed up by people who don't even live in Washington," NRA spokeswoman Catherine Mortensen said, "and it's being financed by Michael Bloomberg of New York and his billionaire pals."

Bloomberg is one of several wealthy backers: Seattle venture capitalist Nick Hanauer has given the most to Initiative 594 - \$1.5 million; Bloomberg, \$1 million; Bill and Melinda Gates, \$1 million; former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer, \$825,000; and Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, \$500,000.

The Second Amendment Foundation is backing a competing ballot initiative that would prevent any background checks which are stricter than federal law.

"The billionaires coming in with all this money, they're making it a class battle," said Alan Gottlieb of the Second Amendment Foundation.

"Most gun owners exist on a living wage, so to speak, and these billionaires are coming in and throwing all this money around."

Gottlieb and other gun rights groups have raised \$1.2 million, still a far cry from the pro I-594's \$7.5 million.

The latest polling shows both measures with majority support. I-594 has a lead of 70 percent to 22 percent; I-591, is ahead 46-42 percent. If both were to pass, the courts or the legislature would have to sort out the differences.

If the gun control groups win in Washington state, they're promising to take the fight to several other western states next.

RULING OPENS DOOR TO GUN RIGHTS RESTORATION FOR CERTAIN MISDEMEANORS

The Second Amendment Foundation has quietly won a significant federal court victory in a Pennsylvania case in which the judge has ruled that a man convicted of a serious misdemeanor crime several years ago, but who has demonstrated that he "would present no more threat to the community" than an average law-abiding citizen, may not lose his Second Amendment rights.

The ruling, by Judge James Knoll Gardner for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, could provide a building block upon which similar cases might be challenged," said SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan Gottlieb. "Existing federal law has convicted many of state-level misdemeanors and took away their Second Amendment rights because they've been lumped together with convicted felons," Gottlieb said.

KANSAS DEFENDS ITS NEW GUN RIGHTS LAW

Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt has filed the state's motion in U.S. District Court seeking dismissal of the suit filed by the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence asking a federal court to declare a Kansas gun rights law unconstitutional.



The 2013 Kansas statute, known as the "Second Amendment Protection Act," says firearms made and kept in Kansas are exempt from federal gun laws. In his filing to dismiss the Brady suit, Schmidt argued that the Brady group did not have standing, and that "The Second Amendment Protection Act does not seek to nullify existing federal gun control laws, nor does it criminalize any conduct that is not properly punishable as a crime," Schmidt said.

"The law seeks instead to enforce the Second Amendment and the Tenth Amendment, by codifying existing Commerce Clause precedents and punishing violations of the established rights of the people of the state of Kansas," Schmidt said.

FEDERAL JUDGE OVERTURNS HAWAII GUN RESTRICTIONS ON LEGAL IMMIGRANTS

Steve Fotoudis applied for a firearm permit at the Honolulu Police Department and was rejected because a state law restricts Hawaiian counties to provide gun permits only to U.S. Citizens. Fotoudis is an Australian citizen who is a permanent resident living in Honolulu and was a well-trained competitive shooter in his home country.

Judge J. Michael Seabright ruled in favor of Fotoudis, ruling that law unconstitutional. Second Amendment Foundation founder Alan Gottlieb said rulings such as this strengthen the rights of both permanent residents and American citizens.

GEORGIA CARRY LITIGATING THREE IMPORTANT CASES AT ONCE

Georgia Carry, a vigorous gun rights defender, has three significant lawsuits under way: the group is taking a county sheriff to court over a 10-day waiting period on sales of used guns they contend is in violation of state laws; has filed suit on behalf of a man who wants to bring his handgun to the Wings Over North Georgia Airshow; and filed a second lawsuit against the U.S. Corps of Engineers' policy that prohibits guns on federally-owned Allatoona Lake lands after a federal judge denied a request for an injunction. An appeal of the judge's decision is planned in the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

OPPONENTS SUE TO OVERTURN NEW MISSOURI GUN RIGHTS AMENDMENT

Opponents of Constitutional Amendment 5 recently approved by Missouri voters filed a legal challenge asking the state Supreme Court to overturn the election on the grounds the summary was misleading and insufficient, implying a new constitutional right when Missourians already had the right to keep and bear arms. It contends that the summary also should have informed voters that the amendment subjects gun-control laws to strict legal scrutiny and repeals a constitutional provision allowing restrictions on concealed guns.

BRADY CENTER FILES LAWSUIT CLAIMING RETAILERS CAUSED SHOOTER TO MURDER

The Brady Campaign is suing four online retailers of ammunition and firearm accessories for "unlawful acts" that "caused" the murder of 12, and injuries to scores of others, in the Aurora, Colorado theater massacre in 2012. The defendants Lucky Gunner, Sportsman's Guide, BulletProofBodyArmorHQ.com, did nothing unlawful or caused the shootings. The Brady suit is considered nuisance litigation.

GUN RIGHTS ADVOCATES APPEAL MARYLAND'S "ASSAULT" WEAPON BAN

Gun-rights advocates are appealing a federal judge's decision upholding a Maryland state law banning certain assault-style weapons and ammunition magazines. The Maryland Licensed Firearms Dealers Association Inc. and other plaintiffs will take their challenge to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The plaintiffs are challenging on Second Amendment grounds U.S. District Judge Catherine C. Blake's Aug. 12 decision that the ban passes constitutional muster because it is "reasonably adapted to [the] substantial government interest" in ensuring public safety.

IDAHO GUN RIGHTS GROUP THREATENS TO SUE OVER FIREARM BAN

The Idaho Second Amendment Alliance says it will sue the city of Coeur d'Alene for refusing to change its ordinance prohibiting firearms at public assemblies, which does not comply with Idaho's 2008 pre-emption law, which gives the state control of gun regulation. The group has persuaded an Idaho county to repeal a firearm ordinance banning guns in county parks. However, Coeur d'Alene city council members denied the group's request. The Alliance is working with attorneys to file a lawsuit.

IN THE COURTS

PENNSYLVANIA JUDGE PROTECTS NAMES OF CCW PERMIT HOLDERS

The attorney representing Perry County, Pennsylvania's sheriff said he was confident all along that his client was doing the right thing by not revealing to the county's auditors the names of applicants for permits to carry concealed firearms. Huntington County Judge George N. Zanic backed Sheriff Carl Nace, finding state law does not give auditors the authority and access they sought, and wrote, "The auditors' lawsuit seems to be nothing more than a fishing expedition for information unrelated to the auditors' statutory duty to audit."

WEST VIRGINIA JUDGE TO RULE ON STATE PREEMPTION CONFLICT IN CHARLESTON

The city of Charleston wants a circuit judge to dismiss the West Virginia Citizens Defense League's lawsuit targeting a city gun ordinance prohibiting handguns in certain public facilities. The League is asking Kanawha Circuit Judge James Stucky to prevent the enforcement of the ordinance, which remains on the books despite a new state law that invalidates it. Shawn Romano, representing the Citizens Defense League, argued there is a potential for irreparable harm because the city's law remains on the books, meaning an officer could enforce it. The city's attorney, Sean McGinley, said Charleston doesn't dispute that state law is superior, but that doesn't mean the city must formally repeal the ordinance.

BOSTON POLICE SUED FOR REJECTING US PASSPORT AS PROOF OF US CITIZENSHIP

Commonwealth Second Amendment and individual plaintiff Mr. Ngo filed suit in federal district court against Boston Police Commissioner William Evans seeking a temporary restraining order against his refusal to recognize US passports as proof of US Citizenship. Boston Police rejected Ngo's application for a license to carry because he has no birth certificate or certificate of naturalization. He became a US citizen as a minor child with his father. The complaint alleges that the Boston Police have trampled upon Ngo's Second Amendment rights and other constitutional protections.

WISCONSIN GUN RIGHTS GROUP SUES GREEN BAY FOR OPEN CARRY POLICY RECORDS

Wisconsin Carry Inc. is suing the city of Green Bay for records of city policy on carrying guns openly. A Brown County judge has been asked to order city officials to relinquish public records. Wisconsin Carry president Nik Clark says it asked for the policies after a member complained that police wouldn't allow open carry in a downtown farmers market. Assistant City Attorney Jim Mueller says the information requested is protected by attorney-client privilege and exempt from open records law. City officials haven't responded to the suit filed in August.

NEW HAVEN ATTORNEY SUES CITY AFTER ARREST FOR LEGALLY CARRYING A CONCEALED WEAPON

Sung-Ho Hwang, a highly respected immigration attorney being considered for a judgeship, was arrested two years ago by New Haven Police who entered a movie theater and asked if he had a gun, which he produced along with his carry permit, but arrested him at the police chief's command. Charges were dropped, but Hwang sued the city and its police chief, claiming his reputation was destroyed and his constitutional rights were violated. The city is so embarrassed it is rumored to be seeking a settlement.

GUN NEWS TICKER - QUICK TAKES ON THE NEWS

● **Boston, Massachusetts:** Gun control zealot Warren Tolman ran for the Democratic nomination for Massachusetts Attorney General with so-called "smart gun" rules the cornerstone of his campaign. His opponent, Maura Healey, won, 62 percent to 38 percent - good and bad, Tolman's gone but Healey is no supporter of the Second Amendment, yet she does not believe she has the authority to force "smart gun" technology on the industry by regulation. Many unaffiliated gun owners switched over and voted in the Democratic primary simply to defeat Tolman.

● **Salt Lake City, Utah:** Utah Shooting Sports Council congratulates and thanks Second Amendment Foundation Chairman Alan Gottlieb and his legal team for their good work, and welcomes them to Utah working on the same goals as USSC. The Second Amendment Foundation is the most important group fighting for gun rights in the courts, winning groundbreaking cases including *Heller vs. District of Columbia* (twice!), and *McDonald vs. City of Chicago*, plus numerous other follow-up cases. They are steadily rolling back the infringements on gun rights which have accumulated over several decades, often working with the NRA which tends to concentrate more on legislative and training issues.

● **Boise, Idaho:** Chastened by the negative attention it drew by making a student group pay for security at a gun-rights event, Boise State University is promising to work with civil-liberties groups to revise its speech policies. University General Counsel Kevin Satterlee told the ACLU of Idaho and Idaho Freedom Foundation said the school would temporarily stop enforcing "certain sections of our policies and procedures" (anti-gun policies) until further review can be undertaken. He described a meeting with the groups as "collaborative and productive."

● **Tucson, Arizona:** Gabby Giffords, irreproachable figure of sympathy, whose recovery from a gunshot wound to the head captivated the country, has turned mean, launching some of the nastiest ads of the campaign season, going after GOP candidates in Arizona and New Hampshire with attacks even some longtime supporters say go too far. *The Arizona Republic's* editorial page, which had previously endorsed Giffords, called an ad that hammered Republican Martha McSally, "base and vile." The commercial, the newspaper said, put a gun-related murder "at McSally's feet, as if she were responsible. A murder indictment implied. But, of course, McSally had nothing to do with" the death. Sympathy has its limits.

● **Washington, D.C.:** A fundraising email sent out by the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence and signed by the organization's President Dan Gross attempted to fundraise by claiming credit for sporting goods giant Cabela's expanded participation in a gun safety program actually started by the National Shooting Sports Foundation and the ATF more than a dozen years ago. NSSF President Larry Keane blasted the Brady Campaign's flagrant dishonesty in a scathing public letter.

● **Patterson, New Jersey:** Rejecting calls for more federal gun laws by the Rabbinical Council of America and the Orthodox Union, a dozen rabbis have issued a joint statement rebuking the position of those groups, Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership announced in a member alert and press release: "We affirm the importance of armed self-defense by Jews and all Americans," the release explained. "The RCA and OU should promote legislation that offers law-abiding citizens full protection of their right to self-defense, both inside and outside the home, especially in the most restrictive states, with large Jewish population centers."

● **Washington, D.C.:** The National Shooting Sports Foundation formally opened its new Washington, D.C., office in the Hall of the States Building on Capitol Hill with a ribbon cutting and reception. "The challenges we face as well as the positive opportunities that lie ahead require an enhanced and sustained presence in our nation's capital," said Larry Keane, NSSF Senior Vice President and General Counsel. "We are adding professional staff to our Washington-based Government Relations office in order to better serve our members in our mission to promote, protect and preserve hunting and the shooting sports."

GUN NEWS TICKER - QUICK TAKES ON THE NEWS

● **San Francisco, California:** The Smart Tech Challenges Foundation announced it is funding a young innovator from Colorado who is integrating a biometric sensor into a firearm that requires an authorized user's fingerprint to discharge – and they claim the sensor is 99.99% accurate with fingerprint recognition – even with partial prints. Kai Kloepfer, a high school student from Boulder, Colorado, is the first benefactor of the \$1 million Smart Tech for Firearms Challenge, which will award grants to a total of 15 innovators "who are working to improve firearm safety by developing personalization features in firearms, locking devices, and ammunition systems," the foundation said in a release.

● **New York City:** West Side Rifle and Pistol Range, Manhattan's only commercial gun range and one of the few places where people can practice using firearms legally in the New York City area. Hundreds of clients shoot there, many of them police officers. Despite the limitations within New York City, owner Darren Leung says fear of the government and the possibility of more gun restrictions is what really helps drive his business. "We've often said that our government is our best gun seller," he says. "Every time they say something people go crazy and they start running out and buying a lot." The range first opened in 1965 in the basement of an otherwise standard Manhattan office building. Leung has since taken the reins and says he has a lot of fun running the business. But he says it's also about furthering education.

● **Cambridge, Massachusetts:** Harvard just landed a record \$350 million pledge – partially for studies supporting gun control – from a wealthy Hong Kong family. The pledge from the Morningside Foundation will help support Harvard's School of Public Health, the university said. It will be the largest donation that Harvard has ever received. The funds will be used to study "the harmful effects of air and water pollution, gun violence and tobacco, as well as programs to address humanitarian crises and substandard health systems around the world," said Dean Julio Frenk. "The Chan family's transformational gift will help us empower current and new generations of talented and diverse students and faculty to address the complex health threats challenging the US and the world," said Frenk. Guns are treated as a health threat in this huge grant.

● **Cleveland, Ohio:** A Cleveland police gun buy back event offered gift certificates and tickets to folks in exchange for their guns, even sawed-off shotguns and guns with serial numbers filed off, no questions asked. Police got 270 guns. Ohio Carry, a pro-gun group which set up shop just ahead of police and was looking for collectible or valuable weapons, got 100. "The police ran out of gift certificates at about 11:30, so all the people who realized they would be getting nothing came over to a parking lot near us and we bought the guns for cash," Brett Pucillo, president of Ohio Carry, said. "Overall we saved about 100 guns. Anything worth saving was saved. I would say less than 10 guns of actual value made it through us to get turned in to police. If the guns weren't worth anything, we directed them over to the police to at least get something for them. And we did encounter a couple with scratched off serial numbers that we immediately directed to the police," Pucillio said. The gun rights buys included several collectable firearms and antiques. The cache included a Colt 1911 and M1 Garand of World War II vintage, a Ruger Blackhawk and a Dan Wesson .357 Magnum that went into the hands of gun lovers rather than into the furnace door of a smelter.

● **West Palm Beach, Florida:** Conservative political commentator and former Florida Congressman Allen West has made his gun rights stance permanent with a new tattoo. Aces High Tattoo shop posted the evidence on Instagram, with Mr. West showing off a tattoo on his right forearm saying "Molon Labe", a Greek phrase used by the 300 Spartans when told by invading Persian King Xerxes at the battle of Thermopylae to surrender and put their weapons down, meaning "Come and Take Them!" The Greek phrase is popular among Second Amendment supporters for its expression of defiance.

Parting Shot

GUTSY GUN-CARRYING PHILLY MOM HAS FRIENDS

Shaneen Allen is a Philadelphia mother who faced weapons charges after she voluntarily told police she had a legally owned gun in her vehicle and presented her concealed carry permit for Pennsylvania during a minor traffic stop in Atlantic County, New Jersey.

But her Pennsylvania gun license has no bearing in New Jersey and instead of receiving a ticket, Allen was arrested. Authorities charged the single mother of two with unlawful possession of a weapon and jailed her for 46 days awaiting trial. If convicted, she could face up to 10 years in prison.

Superior Court Judge Michael Donio and Atlantic County Prosecutor Jim McClain initially denied Allen entry into Atlantic County's Pretrial Intervention program, which would keep her from serving jail time and expunge her record of any charges.

The New Jersey Second Amendment Society, the Second Amendment Foundation and Gun Talk Radio were outraged, and raised approximately \$4,000 to purchase four massive signs located on Route 322 and Route 40 in Atlantic County after some of the members from the gun rights advocacy organizations learned of Shaneen Allen's story.

The billboards say: "Free Shaneen from unfair prosecution. Info at NJ2AS.com. Sponsors - SAF.org & Guntalk.com."

The harsh Atlantic County decision came under fire after former NFL player Ray Rice was allowed into the program after he knocked his fiancée unconscious in a Revel Casino elevator in February.

"When you compare the crimes, he punches his girlfriend out," a gun rights advocate said, "she crossed the border from Pennsylvania into New Jersey."

New Jersey Attorney General John Hoffman, feeling the pressure of national publicity, ruled that PTI would be appropriate in similar cases.

Allen appeared briefly before Superior Court Judge Michael Donio, who formally put on record that she had been entered into PTI, and that all motions have been withdrawn and all pending court dates - including an October 20 trial - suspended.

Allen is now rebuilding her life. That includes finding work after losing her three jobs as a result of a felony charge hanging over her head.

Now, she wants to head to nursing school - a plan detoured after she was arrested. And she wants to be an advocate for other victims of New Jersey's draconian laws. We wish her well.

Alan M. Gottlieb

Joseph D. Tartaro

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