Dear Subscriber,

The gun rights movement should be riveted on Washington Stateís November election, where a contest between a gun control ballot initiative and a gun rights initiative has developed into a billionaireís Club war against freedom, buying our liberties one right at a time — and the gun rights defenders are being outspent by a ratio of $7 million for gun control versus $1.1 million against.

“It’s looking like ëEvery Billionaire for Gun Controlí wants to buy this election,” said ALAN GOTTLIEB, Chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, which leads the grassroots Initiative 591, the pro-gun rights effort to defeat the gun control Initiative 594.

I-594 is an 18-page gun control scheme backed by a pack of billionaires, most of them wealthy Seattle-area elitists. The measure regulates far more than the proposed “universal background checks:" it requires data collection on all handgun transfers, even by concealed pistol licensees already checked, and — outrageously — police officers and sheriffs’ deputies. Only immediate family members get a narrow exception.

Countering that, pro-gun rights I-591 supports the existing uniform national background check standard. The effort is led by CCRKBA and the Washington Arms Collectors under the umbrella Protect Our Gun Rights, which has raised $1.1 million.

The National Rifle Association has spoken out against I-594, but taken no position on I-591, and is not working with Protect Our Gun Rights. NRA has raised only $25,000 against I-594, and has spent a mere $17,000 of that.

The roster of billionaires includes former New York City Mayor MICHAEL BLOOMBERG and his “Everytown for Gun Safety” lobbying organization, which recently donated another million dollars to top the bulging $7 million I-594 campaign war chest.

Seattle area I-594 donors include billionaire former Microsoft Corp. executives — BILL GATES, STEVE BALLMER, and JON SHIRLEY. State records show GATES donated $50,000, BALLMER gave $580,000, and SHIRLEY gave $50,000.

Other Seattle area I-594 gun control donors: Costco chairman JEFFREY BROTMAN, $10,000; Internet radio mogul BRIAN MCANDREWS, $10,000; nonprofit CEO HADI PARTOVI, $12,500; Zillow co-founder LLOYD FRINK, $15,000; and venture capitalist, TOM ALBERG, $5,000; entrepreneur NICOLAS HANAUER gave $385,000.

The parish of St. Markís Cathedral gave I-594 an endorsement but no money. Local newspapers tout I-594’s support by ibig name law enforcement,i which is actually only the prosecutors of two high-vote counties, King and Snohomish.

However, the gun control measure is opposed by the Washington Council of Police and Sheriffs, and Washington State Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors Association, representing some 7,500 law enforcement professionals, along with the retired Washington State Parks chief of law enforcement and the president of the Washington State Retired Deputy Sheriffs & Police Officers Association.

An Elway Research poll in July found 70 percent of likely voters supporting the I-594 gun-control initiative and 46 percent supporting the gun rights measure. Gun rights defenders say public debate can change that.

“We’re going to be outspent. We recognize that,” said GOTTLIEB, who publicly challenged Bill Gates to debate the measure, but that money won’t talk. Also in this issue: ● Gun Offender Registryí in New York? ● Blooming Idiot Report ● The District of Columbia’s gun ban ending at last? ● Sizing up gun lawsí in our Page 8 Parting Shot.
IN THE STATES

CALIFORNIA LAWMAKERS REJECT BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR AMMO BUYERS

The State Assembly failed by six votes to approve SB 53, aimed at ammunition sales in California. Sen. Kevin de Leon (D-Los Angeles) originally proposed that bullet buyers get a state permit and background check, but Gov. Jerry Brown opposed that scheme. The revised bill that failed would have required ammo sellers to provide purchaser information to the state Department of Justice, including name, address, date of birth, date of the sale, brand type and amount. If the buyer was discovered later to be disqualified from owning guns because of a criminal history or severe mental illness, authorities could then have obtained a warrant to confiscate the ammunition and any weapons found.

MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR SIGNS GUN CONTROL BILL INTO LAW

Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick (D) has signed into law gun-control bills that mock the Second Amendment. The new law mandates Massachusetts to transmit information about substance abuse or mental health commitments to the National Instant Background Check System; creates penalties for transporting firearms into the state for criminal activity or unlawful distribution; establishes penalties for gun dealers who fail to report a lost or stolen weapon and mandates that an individual whose carry license has been revoked, must surrender all guns in their possession. Lawmakers omitted Patrick’s proposal to limit purchases to one gun per month.

LANDSLIDE VICTORY FOR SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS IN MISSOURI

Missouri voters have approved Amendment 5, by a 61 to 39 percent vote, promoting nullification of federal gun laws and affirming that "the right to keep and bear arms... shall not be questioned." Voters were asked, "Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to include a declaration that the right to keep and bear arms is a unalienable right and that the state government is obligated to uphold that right?" Now, "The state of Missouri shall be obligated to uphold these rights and under no circumstance decline to protect against their infringement." Thus, if the federal government attempts to violate the right to keep and bear arms, the state of Missouri is now required to step in and defend its own constitution.

NEW YORK GUN OFFENDER REGISTRY COULD BE MADE PUBLIC AND SEARCHABLE

New York City Councilman Costa Constantinides, a Democrat representing Queens, submitted a bill that would make New York's gun database public and model it on the Sex Offender Registry, which provides information to the public about anyone convicted of a relevant crime, including where they live. Mayor Bill de Blasio wants to move quickly on the proposition, citing comments from unnamed City Council members. The bill calls for the creation of a system that would allow the public to search the gun-crime database by ZIP code. It would also allow users to sign up for email alerts notifying them when gun offenders move into their area. The bill also allows registered gun offenders to be taken off the registry if they maintain a clean arrest record for four years.

SECOND AMENDMENT FOUNDATION PUSHES UTAH CITIES TO FOLLOW STATE GUN LAWS

The Second Amendment Foundation has written to 49 local Utah governments demanding they repeal various ordinances that violate a state law reserving almost all gun-regulation power to the state Legislature, said executive vice president Alan Gottlieb. Cities still can outlaw discharging or brandishing weapons, but not possessing or carrying them. We’re going state by state, one state at time," said Gottlieb, "going through every single ordinance of every city and county in every state finding where the cities and counties have ordinances enacted that are in conflict with state law ... and then contacting each of them to remove the ordinances." Draper, West Point and Sandy have complied so far.
MONEY-BOMBS, DEFEATS, BRIBERY AND A POLITE “MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS”

Former New York Mayor Michael “Blooming Idiot” Bloomberg's money war against guns is having mixed results, losing ground in both the electoral and public opinion arenas, but seeming to be winning a few, too.

AN EXPENSIVE EMBARRASSMENT

One of The Idiot’s most embarrassing defeats was reported in “The Volokh Conspiracy,” the blog of law professor Eugene Volokh, a hero to gun rights defenders who is also known for posting good articles by other gun rights defenders such as law professor David Kopel, who filed a story headlined, “Pro-gun Milwaukee Sheriff defeats challenge from Bloomberg.”

It told how Wisconsin’s Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke won the Democratic primary, 52-48% after Bloomberg’s political action committee, Independence USA, had purchased $150,833 in television ads to try to defeat him.

When reporters asked what Clarke thought about that, he simply said: “I trust the voters. The voters can’t be bought.” That super-impressed the Journal-Sentinel’s editors, who urged readers to ignore the “outside groups” and “Vote your conscience.”

The Idiot clearly made no friends in Milwaukee with his $150 grand.

A BLOOMBERG BUDDY ARRESTED FOR TAKING BRIBES

Then there’s Gordon Jenkins, Democratic Mayor of Monticello, New York, who is a member of Michael Bloomberg’s “Mayors Against Illegal Guns” – and was arrested on bribery charges, which is only the latest in a long string of legal and ethical violations by Jenkins.

Mayors Against Illegal Guns is one of several Bloomberg-backed entities dedicated to destroying gun rights. Bloomberg has pledged to spend $50 million this year to build a “grassroots” network of activists supporting his cause, according to the New York Times.

But there’s something about The Idiot’s MAIG: It tends to attract crooks and scumbags, and Jenkins is just one of many members of Mayors Against Illegal Guns involved in illegal activity.

Jenkins and Monticello Building Inspector James Snowden were arrested, according to the Daily Freeman, on charges including “bribe receiving” and “endangering the public health;” Mayor Jenkins “was also charged with intimidating a witness, a felony, in connection with an incident in Fallsburg.” CBS New York reported in 2013 that he had been arrested for driving while intoxicated. That’s a Bloomberg Buddy.

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, MR. BLOOMBERG, WE SELL FOOD

One of The Idiot’s gun-control groups, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, tried to pressure Kroger, the nation's largest supermarket operator, to ban customers from openly carrying weapons in its stores, following successful campaigns with other national retailers, including Target and Starbucks.

The Moms Demand Action playbook begins with a social-media swarm and then demonstrations outside local stores, often circulating photographs of gun-rights advocates carrying large rifles through and outside retail properties.

Kroger responded to threats calmly, saying they would continue to follow state and local gun laws, just as they do at the 2,640 properties it operates in 34 states. Kroger spokesman Keith Dailey said, "We know that our customers are passionate on both sides of this issue and we trust them to be responsible in our stores."

In short, if guns are that big of a problem to liberal activists, they should see the city council, state legislature, or federal lawmakers. Not their local purveyor of milk and produce.

THE IDIOT BANKROLLS GUN CONTROL INITIATIVES

Michael Bloomberg's Everytown for Gun Safety is "bankrolling" a gun control initiative in Nevada that seeks to expand background checks for private firearm transfers, guns sold at gun shows, "or among friends and family," much like the Washington State Initiative 594 (see Page 1 story).

As Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms chief Alan Gottlieb said, “Voters should be very concerned when wealthy elitists like Bloomberg believe that their civil rights are for sale.”
SAF WINS SILVESTER CASE ON CALIFORNIA WAITING PERIODS

The Second Amendment Foundation won a significant court victory in which U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California Judge Anthony W. Ishii ruled that the state’s 10-day waiting period violates the Second Amendment “as applied to those individuals who successfully pass” the state’s background check prior to the ten days, and who possess a valid CCW license. First-time gun buyers would still be subject to the waiting period, which Ishii emphasized in his ruling.

“This ruling clearly addressed the issue we put before the court,” said SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan Gottlieb. Jeff Silvester, for whom the case is named, concurred: “We are naturally delighted with the outcome. This is a great win for Second Amendment civil rights and common sense.”

COURTROOM DRAMA IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Second Amendment Foundation’s July victory in Palmer v. District of Columbia is “one more important step toward firearms freedom,” said SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan M. Gottlieb. U.S. District Senior Judge Frederick Scullin Jr., in his 19-page ruling wrote, “In light of Heller, McDonald and their progeny, there is no longer any basis on which this Court can conclude that the District of Columbia’s total ban on the public carrying of ready-to-use handguns outside the home is constitutional under any level of scrutiny.”

Scullin stayed his order for 90 days—until Oct. 22—“to provide the city council with an opportunity to enact appropriate legislation consistent with the court’s ruling.” Attorneys for the District predictably asked Scullin to reconsider his ruling, then thought about an appeal, then conceded that the city’s long-standing ban on carrying guns in public must be scrapped and replaced with a new law.

District lawyers are researching restrictive state laws that have passed constitutional muster, looking to model the city’s law on New York or Maryland – both known as “may issue” states, where officials have discretion over permits. Most other states are “shall issue” states without such discretion.

Alan Gura, the gun-rights attorney who represents the Palmer plaintiffs, said if the District models its new law on Maryland’s, “That would guarantee further litigation.” Gura said he will closely examine any effort to ban gun possession within specified "security interest" areas that the District seeks.

LOUISIANA CITY’S ORDINANCE BANNING GUNS IN BARS VIOLATES SECOND AMENDMENT

Chief U.S. District Judge Brian Jackson struck down a Baton Rouge ordinance banning the possession of guns at bars or any other place that sells alcohol as unconstitutional. The ordinance also applied to parking lots of places that sell alcohol, including restaurants and grocery stores. The plaintiff, Ernest Taylor, said he was pulled over for a traffic stop after exiting Romeo's Lounge parking lot with two rifles and permits in his car and forcibly restrained on the hood a car before arresting him. The judge ordered the city to return Taylor's firearms and to pay monetary damages. Jackson permanently barred the ordinance.

FEDERAL JUDGE UPHOLDS CRITICAL PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND GUN CONTROL LAW

Judge Catherine Blake of the US District Court for the District of Maryland upheld two key provisions of the Maryland Firearms Safety Act of 2013 that ban certain types of "assault weapons" and limit gun magazines to 10 rounds, finding that the state's law served the government's legitimate interest in ensuring public safety while not burdening the central Second Amendment right as articulated by the Supreme Court.

22 STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL JOIN PRO-SECOND AMENDMENT BRIEF IN NEW YORK CASE

Plaintiffs have appealed New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, Inc. v. Cuomo to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, challenging the ruling of Judge William Skretny upholding New York’s Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement (“SAFE”) Act and its bans on large-capacity magazines and “assault weapons,” the requirement that magazines contain no more than seven rounds, and new rules on ammunition sales, as unconstitutional. Attorneys General for 22 states have filed an amicus brief in support of the plaintiffs.
CONNECTICUT BAR ASSOCIATION WILL NOT HELP DEFEND THE STATE'S GUN CONTROL LAW

The Connecticut lawyers’ organization conducted a referendum for its members—a rarity that no one recalls happening before—to determine whether the bar association would join in the defense of the law, which bans high-capacity magazines as well as a broad range of “assault-style weapons.” The vote was a near dead heat, with 734 votes in favor of joining the defense compared to 729 against. As a result, bar association president Mark Dubois announced that the organization would not sign the brief prepared by the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence in support of the appellee in the matter of *Shew v. Malloy,* defending the law, which was passed several months after the Dec. 14, 2012, mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut.

JUDGE THROWS OUT LAWSUIT AGAINST MULTNOMAH COUNTY ORDINANCE

Multnomah County, Oregon, Circuit Court Judge Kathleen Dailey upheld the county’s gun control ordinance by dodging its constitutionality and ruling the plaintiffs have no standing to sue. The ordinance makes it illegal to possess a loaded gun in public anywhere in the county, among other severe restrictions, and, unlike past county ordinances, applies within the limits of Multnomah County’s cities, regardless of whether or not the cities’ elected leaders consent to the county’s gun rule. Five residents who sued claimed that’s an overreach of the county’s authority. They argued county laws should only apply in unincorporated areas, unless city officials approve the laws within their jurisdictional boundaries. Daily claimed they were not in any danger of arrest under the ordinance.

GUN RIGHTS GROUP FIGHTS OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY SUIT DISMISSAL

Judge Daniel Hogan is giving a gun rights group more time to argue why its lawsuit challenging Ohio State University over its weapons ban shouldn’t be dismissed. The Students for Concealed Carry Foundation says the ban restricts constitutionally protected rights, including the right to self-defense by Ohio State students living in university housing. The lawsuit in Franklin County court says the ban restricts the rights of both lawful gun owners who want to carry weapons openly and holders of concealed-carry permits. Ohio State asked Judge Hogan to throw out the lawsuit, arguing the group hasn’t shown how its individual members are harmed by the ban— even though each could show that his or her right to self-defense with a firearm on campus is harmed by the university’s ban. Hogan agreed to give the group more time to respond to Ohio State’s request.

JUDGE WON’T TEMPORARILY ALLOW GUNS AT GEORGIA’S LAKE ALLATOONA

U.S. District Court Judge Harold Murphy has denied a request by gun rights group Georgia Carry to temporarily allow weapons on property controlled by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, including the popular Lake Allatoona recreation area in northwest Georgia. Murphy’s decision does not stop a lawsuit brought by Georgia Carry in June to permanently strike the Corps’ gun ban on its Georgia properties. The group filed the suit to temporarily allow firearms in conjunction with Paulding County resident David James. James is a Georgia Carry member who wants to bring a gun with him on his frequent camping and boating trips to Lake Allatoona. The Corps prohibits weapons with some exceptions, including hunting and written permission from a district commander. Violating those terms could bring a fine of up to $5,000 and six months in prison.

CALIFORNIANS CONVICTED OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CAN DRAW PERMANENT GUN BAN

Anyone in California convicted of domestic violence will be permanently barred from possessing a gun even if no physical injury was inflicted, the Fifth District Court of Appeal in Fresno has ruled. The decision is the first in California since the U.S. Supreme Court in May clarified a 1996 law that extended the federal ban on firearms possession to those convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence. The federal law previous to 1996 had limited the ban to felonies, but many spousal battery cases are prosecuted as misdemeanors. Rejecting arguments that the ban should apply only to those who injure their spouses, the high court said the federal law must be applied state-by-state, depending on each state’s definition of the misdemeanor crime.
GUNS SAVE LIVES

ALBUQUERQUE DAIRY QUEEN ROBBER SHOT AND KILLED BY ARMED EMPLOYEE

In Albuquerque, New Mexico Sheriff's spokesman said a would-be robber "went to the Dairy Queen window with a gun and demanded money." A store employee who was armed stepped up shot the suspect. A deputy handling a nearby traffic stop heard shots "around 6 pm" and "found a man outside the Dairy Queen with gunshot wounds." The suspect "died after being transported to the University of New Mexico hospital."

89-YEAR-OLD WORLD WAR II VETERAN SHOOTS ARMED ROBBER

Arthur M. Lewis, 89-year-old decorated World War II veteran, foiled Lennard Patrick Jervis, a Miramar resident, in an armed robbery attempt at his Lake Park, Florida jewelry business that left the 44-year-old suspect with six gunshot wounds, but no loot. Jervis was taken to Delray Medical Center and is expected to survive. Jervis will be arrested and taken to the Palm Beach County Jail once he recovers and is expected to face numerous felony charges.

73-YEAR-OLD OMAHAN SHOOTS MAN COMING THROUGH WINDOW OF HIS HOME

James Jackson, 73-year-old Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, heard the picture window breaking in his Omaha, Nebraska, home, grabbed his registered 380 Taurus semiautomatic handgun and spotted a man entering. Jackson fired one round that grazed the torso of the man. Jackson told him, "You better leave." The bleeding man stepped back outside and waited for police to arrive.

MACON, GEORGIA MAN FIRES SHOTS AFTER ROBBERY

Tim Jackson was in the game store of a shopping center to buy a $6 Star Wars video game for his son. Javon Britton walked in and said, "Get on the ground or I'm going to start shooting." He robbed Jackson of $40 and walked out of the store and Jackson went after him with his own gun. Britton saw him and went for his gun, but Jackson shot at him.

SOUTH CAROLINA HOMEOWNER SHOOTS, KILLS BURGLARY SUSPECT

Marquis Benjamin and Brandon Lunn broke into a Mechanicsville, South Carolina home and physically assaulted two women and struck an 11-year-old boy in the head with a gun. The homeowner woke up to all the commotion, came out and fired several shots at the intruders, and they fled the scene. Officers found Benjamin dead in a field and captured Lunn.

BOTCHED ROBBERY LEAVES ROBBER DEAD

A robber entered the Oasis Smoke Shop in northeast Albuquerque, New Mexico, and demanded money. The employees followed all his directions and the robber left with the cash, said the owner - but the robber came back, unexplainably angry. "The store has no gun," said the owner. "But one of our employees had one in his backpack. He got the gun in time to protect us all." The employee shot and killed the robber. Police said that employee was questioned and released.

HOMEOWNER SHOOTS AT INTRUDER, THWARTING ROBBERY

A homeowner in Diamond Bar, California scared off a would-be robber who broke into a home he thought was empty. The homeowner, who was in his bedroom, heard noises, grabbed his gun and fired a shot at the intruder, said Los Angeles County Sheriff's Lt. Frank Rivera. No one was injured. The burglar didn't get away with anything. The burglar fled in a burgundy Toyota Camry with tinted windows, his accomplice behind the wheel.

STORE EMPLOYEE SHOOTS AND KILLS ARMED ROBBER

Joshua Drake, carrying a gun, entered Innovative Optique in Bayside, Wisconsin and attempted to rob the store. An employee responded by using his own gun and firing at the criminal, striking and killing him. An investigation revealed that Drake was convicted of a 2010 armed robbery in which he targeted two people travelling in a car. Innovative Optique experienced another attempted robbery in 2009.

WOMAN DEFENDS HERSELF FROM BURGLAR

Paige Ham was inside her home in Goldsboro, North Carolina when she noticed that the lock had been taken off a storage shed in her back yard. Ham got her handgun and went to investigate. While she was investigating, a man came out of the shed and moved towards her. Ham responded by shooting the burglar. According to news reports, the thief’s condition is not life-threatening. Additionally, Wayne County Sheriff’s officials have made clear that Ham will not be charged.
Chicago, Illinois: Since Illinois started granting concealed carry permits this year, the number of robberies that have led to arrests in Chicago has declined 20 percent from last year, according to police department statistics. Reports of burglary and motor vehicle theft are down 20 percent and 26 percent, respectively. In the first quarter, the city’s homicide rate was at a 56-year low. As of July 29 the state had 83,183 applications for concealed carry and had issued 68,549 licenses. By the end of the year, 100,000 Illinois citizens will be packing.

Summerville, North Carolina: Summerville High School student 16-year-old Alex Stone says he was arrested and suspended after he and his classmates were told in class to write a few sentences about themselves, and a "status" as if it was a Facebook page. Stone said in his "status" he wrote "I killed my neighbor's pet dinosaur, and, then, in the next status I said I bought the gun to take care of the business." His attorney, David Aylor, said his client's arrest over a creative writing assignment was "completely absurd," and is seeking to appeal the suspension and the legal issues of the arrest.

St. Louis, Missouri: Owners of St. Louis Ink Tattoo Studio and adjoining County Guns in a St. Louis area strip mall – near Ferguson’s violence over the police shooting of an unarmed black teenager – decided to take matters into their own hands in defending what’s rightfully theirs. Gun store owner Adam Weinstein arrived to find a gang of thieves ransacking a Dollar General in the same strip mall that houses his business and the tattoo studio. The looters attempted moving toward their shops, but were scared off by store owners with guns. "We didn't want them coming in here and then running around with a bunch of our guns," said Weinstein, wearing an assault rifle, pistol and tactical vest. Then the police arrived, the Riverfront Times reported.

New Brunswick, New Jersey: New Jerseyans are worried about gun violence but a plurality agree with Gov. Chris Christie’s veto of a bill to reduce the legal size ammunition magazines, a Rutgers-Eagleton poll has found. Ninety-two percent of the state’s adults say they are concerned about gun violence – with 68 percent saying they are “very concerned” – and nearly two-thirds believe controlling gun ownership is more important than protecting the right to own guns.

Hartford, Connecticut: The gun control package Connecticut Governor Dan P. Malloy (D) signed into law in April 2013 is playing a "big role" in that state's gubernatorial race/rematch between Malloy and Tom Foley (R) in November 2014. Malloy narrowly beat Foley by 6,404 votes in 2000. Foley said he believes the focus on guns is misplaced in general – that the problems that lead to heinous acts like Sandy Hook are cultural and mental in their roots. Malloy has not only defended the new gun control laws but is making them a centerpiece for his campaign. The most recent Real Clear Politics overview of the gubernatorial race has Foley leading 45.5 to 42.

Brisbane, Australia: More Queenslanders are applying for firearms licences, according to documents released under Right to Information laws showing a steady increase in gun permit applications with more than 170,124 individual licence holders currently in possession of 566,427 firearms across the state. The figures also show there are 49 people – excluding police, military and dealers – with more than 100 firearms each, up from 32 people in 2013. Last year the number of gun licence applications increased by 30 per cent with 45,870 permits issued.

Hanover, New Hampshire: A 20-year-old Dartmouth student says she may have to give up her Ivy League dream and drop out of school because the prestigious college won't allow her to carry a gun -- to protect herself against a predator charged with felony stalking. Taylor Woolrich, a junior, says several Dartmouth administrators told her they won't let her carry a gun on campus, even though she lives in fear of a man who has been stalking her since she was a high school student in San Diego. “There’s no option. There’s no one to go to. They don’t want to hear my case,” she said.
SIZING UP GUN LAWS

Which U.S. gun laws actually interfere with self defense, but might be overturned in court? Eugene Volokh, University of California Los Angeles Law School professor – and one of the most trusted Second Amendment scholars – has asked that question in his Washington Post blog, “The Volokh Conspiracy.”

Volokh answered with a thought-provoking list of the 10 most practically significant yet potentially legally vulnerable restrictions now on the books:

1. Restrictions on gun carrying in public places, which affect outside-the-home self-defense by over 50 million people.
2. Restrictions on handgun ownership by 18-to-20-year-olds in many states, which affect self-defense by likely about 5 million or more people.
3. Restrictions on handgun carrying by 18-to-20-year-olds in many states, which even more seriously affect outside-the-home self-defense.
4. The federal restriction on gun possession by legal nonresident aliens, which affects likely about 1 million people, including many who are here for years to study or to work.
5. Restrictions on handgun carrying or (in a few states) possession by legal aliens, resident or otherwise.
6. Restrictions on gun possession in people’s apartments within some government-owned housing, whether public university dorms or public housing.
7. Restrictions on gun possession by felons whose convictions are minor enough, or long enough ago, but which are in jurisdictions where restoration of civil rights is hard or impossible.
8. Restrictions on gun possession by those with old records of mental illness, but who have been credibly pronounced to no longer be mentally ill, but who live in jurisdictions where restoration of gun rights in such situations is hard or impossible.
9. License fees for gun possession or handgun possession in those jurisdictions that impose hefty fees, at least to those people for whom those fees are big money.
10. Similar license fees for concealed carry licenses, again as to those people for whom those fees are big money.

Volokh thought it was a good starter list. We agree. These are all areas for gun rights defenders to focus on.

If we can find cases to fix the problems, one lawsuit at a time, gun rights will win.

Alan W. Gottlieb
Joseph A. Tartaro