

The Gottlieb - Tartaro Report

THE INSIDERS GUIDE FOR GUN OWNERS

Issue 254

February, 2016

Dear Subscriber,

Four anti-gun Democrats have announced legislation aimed at removing protections for firearms manufacturers and dealers from junk lawsuits, claiming that the 2005 *Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act* (PLCAA) made gun companies immune from lawsuits.

Backing the measure are Maryland REP. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, Connecticut SENATORS RICHARD BLUMENTHAL and CHRIS MURPHY, and California REP. ADAM SCHIFF.

The Democrat press release asserted, "The bill will ensure that victims of gun violence are allowed to have their day in court, and that the gun industry ñ manufacturers, sellers and interest groups ñ is not shielded from liability when it acts with negligence and disregard for public safety."

**AT THE
FEDERAL
LEVEL**

But thatís not true, says STEVE SANETTI, president of the National Shooting Sports Foundation. He told the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade (SHOT) Show, that no such immunity exists for negligence or knowingly selling guns to prohibited persons.

"Some falsely claim that our industry is *totally immune from liability, unlike any other*," SANETTI said.

The anti-gun bill has little chance in Congress but it has put gun rights front and center in the political spotlight, which is where Second Amendment advocates believe it always should be.

Congressman DAVID SCHWEIKERT (R - Ariz.) seeks to end the confusion over the nation's patchwork quilt of gun-rights laws, and introduced the D.C. Personal Protection Reciprocity Act, a bill to force the federal government - and, by implication, even states like New York and California - to recognize other states' concealed-carry permits.

If passed, the bill will require Washington D.C., an area that functions as a ward of the federal government, to recognize and honor concealed carry permits from all 50 states.

The D.C. Personal Protection Reciprocity Act will do three main things: 1) require D.C. to recognize out of state concealed carry permits; 2) require D.C. to approve concealed carry applications of recently relocated individuals who lawfully hold concealed carry permits in the states where they moved from; 3) require the D.C. chief of Police, currently Chief CATHY LANIER, to enter into reciprocity agreements with all states.

"We have the data that concealed carry holders are not a risk to society," SCHWEIKERT told *Townhall*. "We can demonstrate that proper law enforcement and right to carry has made many of our states safer."

U.S. Representative SCOTT PERRY (PA-4) has introduced a bill that would prohibit the President from enacting executive action on gun control. Specifically, the Second Amendment Defense Act disallows the Executive branch from unilaterally taking action to create more restrictive regulations on law-abiding gun owners.

"PRESIDENT OBAMA blames Congress' 'inaction' on gun legislation as his reason for once again using Executive fiat to achieve his goals. The U.S. Government already has 240 pages of gun regulations passed by Congress. PRESIDENT OBAMAís failure to enforce existing law should be the focus of attention here," said PERRY.

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Also in this issue: ● First lawsuit against Obamaís gun orders ● SAF files Oklahoma civil rights suit for foster parents owning guns ● Campaigns: Hillary Watch and Gun Polls ● Concealed Carry Saves Lives in our Page 8 Parting Shot.

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Gun rights advocates are concerned that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has issued a final rule modifying the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy Rule.

Critics noted that medical ethics may be in danger. The OCR's move came in reaction to the OBAMA Administration's executive gun control actions. The Rule previously prevented states from making information available to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

Now certain HIPAA covered entities are expressly permitted to disclose to the NICS the identities of individuals who are subject to a mental health prohibitor, which includes (1) are or have been involuntarily committed to a mental institution for reasons such as mental illness or drug use; (2) are found to be incompetent to stand trial or not guilty by reason of insanity; or (3) are otherwise determined by a court or other lawful authority to pose a danger to themselves or others or unable to manage their own affairs, as a result of marked subnormal intelligence or mental illness, incompetency, condition or disease.

Any one of those disqualifies accused individuals from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm.

However, the final rule does not apply to most health care providers, but it allows "only" limited demographic and certain other information needed for the purposes of reporting to the NICS.

At least it specifically prohibits the disclosure of diagnostic or clinical information from medical records or other sources. This rule needs to be watched.

Alabama Senator RICHARD SHELBY, subcommittee chairman in charge of Justice Department funding, grilled U.S. Attorney General LORETTA LYNCH to explain PRESIDENT OBAMA's gun control plans. Those plans called for "clarifying" the law to require background checks by people who occasionally sell guns but don't make a living from it. SHELBY reminded OBAMA, "the Second Amendment is not a suggestion."

He said that vigilance is necessary to prevent OBAMA from going even further on gun restrictions. Attorney General LYNCH defended President OBAMA's executive actions before Congress, telling lawmakers that OBAMA's moves were "well-reasoned measures, well within existing legal authorities."

OBAMA's proposal to boost the number of FBI personnel who process background checks so the system can operate 24 hours daily instead of its current 17 hours got support from Sen. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO (R-W.Va.), in whose state the background check system is based, said some of OBAMA's proposals were "political messaging" but supported buttressing the "overstressed" system.

SEN. SHELBY was not impressed. The gulf between LYNCH and SHELBY underscored that the issue will be part of the presidential and congressional campaigns.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) has published the final rule regarding the making and transfer of firearms under the National Firearms Act (NFA) in the Federal Register.

Gun rights advocates had opposed a part of the initial 2013 proposed rulemaking, which sought to expand the Chief Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) certification requirement to all responsible parties to a trust or corporation and instead proposed CLEO notification.

Notification won out over certification in the final rule. Rather than vesting a CLEO with the ability to block an individual from exercising their Second Amendment rights, CLEO notification allows the CLEO an opportunity to make any inquiries required under state law and provide ATF input on the lawfulness of the responsible person's acquisition or possession of a firearm. This is an important victory.

The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report® (ISSN 1079-6169) is published monthly by the Second Amendment Foundation, Liberty Park, 12500 N.E. 10th Place, Bellevue, WA 98005. Phone (425)454-7012. FAX (425)451-3959. Please call or write if you have a question regarding your subscription.

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Published by:

Design: Northwoods Studio

Second Amendment Foundation

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POSTMASTER: send address changes to The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report, 12500 N.E. 10th Place, Bellevue, WA 98005.

Printed in the USA.

OBAMA'S GUN ORDERS HIT WITH FIRST LAWSUIT

President Obama is facing the first court challenge over his executive action on guns. The conservative advocacy group Freedom Watch has announced it is filing a lawsuit against Obama's controversial gun orders. Freedom Watch accuses Obama of circumventing Congress to "invent" new gun laws. "The president states that he is doing so purely because he does not like the legislative decisions of the Congress," wrote Larry Klayman, founder of Freedom Watch. Klayman added that "These actions are unconstitutional abuses of the president's and executive branch's role in our nation's constitutional architecture and exceed the powers of the president as set forth in the U.S. Constitution." While this is believed to be the only lawsuit against the executive orders, it is likely to be the first in what is expected to become a series of legal challenges over Obama's actions. But many legal experts predict the executive action will prevail.

IN THE COURTS

SAF SUES OKLAHOMA DHS OVER FIREARMS PROHIBITION

The Second Amendment Foundation has filed a federal lawsuit against the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) on behalf of two state residents whose civil rights have been deprived because agency rules prohibit them from acting as foster parents while legally possessing functional firearms for personal protection. At issue are the rights of Stephen and Krista Pursley, who have fostered 34 children with a stable environment. "This mandate for foster parents is not just restrictive, it's ridiculous," said SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan M. Gottlieb. "Why should a foster parent be stripped of his or her right to self-defense, or their ability to defend their foster child, simply to appease some bureaucrat's anti-gun philosophy?" The rule is asserted to be unconstitutional.

HIGH COURT RULES PARING KNIVES NOT PROTECTED BY SECOND AMENDMENT

A divided Washington Supreme Court ruled that a Seattle law prohibiting people from carrying fixed-blade knives such as kitchen utensils for self-defense does not conflict with the U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment. In a majority opinion written by Justice Charles Wiggins the court ruled that small paring knives are not an arm entitled to constitutional protection. He calls the knife a utility tool, not a weapon and says that any common object may be used as a weapon but won't trigger the constitutional protections afforded to "arms." The 5-4 ruling includes a strongly worded dissent, saying the Seattle law is too broad and is likely unconstitutional.

LAWSUIT CHALLENGES GUN BAN IN DELAWARE STATE PARKS

Wilmington attorney Thomas Shellenberger said he can legally carry his handgun on his morning walks on some public lands in Delaware but if he decides to stroll in a state park or forest, that gun isn't allowed. State park regulations and rules in state forests bar firearms unless they are being used for hunting. Now, two sport shooting groups along with some individuals claim those regulations violate the state Constitution and have challenged the gun ban in a lawsuit filed in Chancery Court. Shellenberger, a spokesman for the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association, one of the plaintiffs in the complaint, said the restriction amounts to a "blanket prohibition. That's a problem," he said. The Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club is part of the lawsuit, filed by attorney Francis G.X. Pileggi.

ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT STRIKES GUN LAW

The Illinois Supreme Court struck down a law that effectively bans carrying "ready-to-use" guns outside the home. Edward Burns, a felon, was convicted of aggravated unlawful use of a weapon (AUUW) after police found him with an unholstered, loaded handgun in a parked car. In reversing the appellate court ruling and vacating the conviction and sentence, Justice Anne Burke wrote for the court: "The offense, as enacted by the Legislature, does not include as an element of the offense the fact that the offender has a prior felony conviction. An unconstitutional statute does not 'become constitutional' simply because it is applied to a particular category of persons who could have been regulated, had the Legislature seen fit to do so." The Legislature may not pass broad laws and leave it to the courts to decide to whom the statute may constitutionally apply, Burke said.

ARIZONA BILL MAY ALLOW CONCEALED CARRY ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

House Republicans concerned about active shooter situations has introduced a measure allowing concealed weapons permit holders to carry firearms on college campuses. Bill sponsor Rep. Sonny Borrelli of Lake Havasu City said that recent school shootings highlight the Legislature's need to examine the issue. House Bill 2072 bars universities from adopting any rule that stops a faculty member or student from carrying a firearm on campus. This bill says that they can carry as long as they have a concealed carry permit and abide by guidelines established by either colleges and universities or a similar governing body.

KEY MEASURES BEFORE CALIFORNIA LAWMAKERS

California state lawmakers are pushing their gun control agenda with several gun-related bills. SB 877 would require the state to keep track of gun violence data, much like car accident records. Two separate bills, one in the Senate, SB 880, and another in the Assembly, AB 1674, seek to close what has become known as the "bullet button" loophole. Both bills seek to add semi-automatic rifles with "button detachable" magazines to the list of "assault weapons" banned in California. "The shooter in San Bernardino used this kind of mechanism to reload quickly," said State Senator Steve Glazer, author of the Senate's version of the bill.

IN THE STATES

FLORIDA PROPOSES TO CHANGE MANDATORY SENTENCING

The Florida Senate removed the crime of aggravated assault from the list of gun-related crimes requiring a mandatory 20-year prison sentence under a law known as 10-20-Life, which has trapped "warning shot" shooters. The Senate also approved a "stand your ground" shift in the burden of proof from defendants to prosecutors, requiring state attorneys to prove "by clear and convincing evidence" why a defendant could not claim "stand your ground" in self-defense cases. However, the House version is stalled in committee, making prospects for the change becoming law uncertain.

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN IN GEORGIA HOUSE BILL

Democrats in Georgia's state house introduced a bill that bans "assault weapons" and opens the door for the "seizure" of such weapons, along with accessories like "high capacity" magazines. The text of HB 731 focuses on prohibiting the "possession, sale, transport, distribution, or use of certain assault weapons and large capacity magazines." It also designates certain weaponry and ammunition as contraband and requires seizure of such by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

INDIANA CONSIDERS GUNS IN THE STATEHOUSE

The Indiana Senate has voted to let employees of the General Assembly carry handguns in the Statehouse. The measure now moves to the House. Senate Bill 259 would allow employees of the Senate, House and Legislative Services Agency to carry firearms in the Statehouse as long as they have a handgun license. It also would codify a long-standing administrative policy allowing lawmakers to carry weapons in the Statehouse. Sen. Jim Tomes, Wadesville Republican bill sponsor, said employees should be allowed to carry weapons to protect themselves.

IOWA BILL WOULD PROTECT GUN OWNERS RIGHTS IN EMERGENCIES

Iowa State officials would lose their legal authority to restrict gun owners' lawful use of weapons during emergencies under a measure an Iowa House panel advanced in subcommittee, one of several proposals being considered this session seeking to expand gun rights. During a brief meeting, a divided three-member panel from the House Judiciary Committee signed off on the bill, which now heads to the full committee. It needs approval there before it could be available to the full House for a floor vote.

MASSACHUSETTS CITY REQUIRES ESSAY WRITING TO GET GUN PERMIT

Critics are blasting Lowell, Massachusetts' new city law that requires residents applying for a license to carry handguns to write "an essay" and pay upwards of \$1,100 for training. Pushed by Police Superintendent William Taylor and passed by the City Council. Taylor has sole discretion for approving or denying the applications. Jim Wallace, executive director of Gun Owners Action League of Massachusetts, said, "It is absurd that people should have to write an essay to the town to explain why they should be able to exercise their constitutional rights."

UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECK MAY BE ON MAINE BALLOT

Mainers could be voting in November on a ballot initiative that requires criminal background checks on all gun sales in the state. Maine Moms Demand Action delivered the necessary signatures to the Secretary of State's office. The group collected more than 85,400 signatures. Under current Maine law, background checks are only required by licensed dealers. People can buy guns from unlicensed sellers, at gun shows or through classified ads. The measure kills that liberty.

NEW JERSEY REJECTS SMART GUN BILL

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R) has effectively vetoed a measure that would have mandated a law that gun rights advocates oppose. The bill by Senate Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg (D), would have required dealers to carry at least one smart gun. Smart gun proponents say the technology can prevent children using their parents' firearms but gun rights advocates note the technology is so clumsy and unreliable it prevents self defense.

IN THE STATES

NEVADA BACKGROUND CHECK CAMPAIGN IS RICH

Advocates of gun control raked in \$3.6 million over the last two years to place an initiative to tighten background checks for gun purchases and transfers in Nevada on the November ballot and ensure it passes. In total, 18 states have enacted background check laws that go beyond what federal law requires. Currently, Nevada requires mental health and criminal background checks for anyone purchasing guns from a licensed dealer. Unlicensed dealers at gun shows and others making private gun sales don't have to run those checks.

TENNESSEE MAY ALLOW GUNS IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Private K-12 schools and higher education institutions in Tennessee would have the ability to create policy that would permit qualified people to carry handguns in all buildings and on all campuses owned and operated by the private school, according to a newly filed bill by Sen. Mike Bell, R-Riceville. According to the legislation, qualified persons include anyone not prohibited from possessing a handgun and who also has a valid Tennessee handgun carry permit.

TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL SAYS GUNS OKAY IN COURT BUILDINGS

State Attorney General Ken Paxton recently handed Texas gun rights advocates another victory by issuing a legal opinion that could limit local governments from prohibiting guns in buildings that contain courtrooms and court offices. But to avoid a lawsuit, counties and cities may bar the licensed carrying of handguns only from courtrooms and offices themselves. Legislation in 2003 sought to expand the "gun-free zone" to the whole building, but this clarifies that law.

VIRGINIA RECIPROCITY RESTORED WITH COMPROMISE

A move to undo reciprocity agreements with more than two dozen states less strict than Virginia's infuriated many gun-rights advocates. In return for reinstating the agreements, Democratic Gov. Terry McAuliffe said the leaders of the Republican dominated legislature agreed to a requirement to make state police available for voluntary background checks for private sales at all gun shows. The bipartisan compromise would also prohibit individuals with permanent protective orders from possessing a firearm.

WASHINGTON LEGISLATURE PACKED WITH GUN BILLS

Washington State's House Judiciary Committee held hearings on a list of six gun control measures. Groups funded by rich out-of-state anti-gunners attended with victim stories. A safe-storage bill got most of the hearing time. It would ensure that an unsafe gun-owner could be prosecuted and guns confiscated. But Phil Shave, executive director of Washington Arms Collectors, said the bill would allow law enforcement to take property from someone who has not committed a crime.

WISCONSIN CONSIDERING GUNS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS IN LIMITED SITUATIONS

Those with concealed weapons permits could carry guns on school grounds, and in some cases in school buildings, under a bill a Republican leader hopes to get through the Legislature in the next two months. Senate President Mary Lazich (R-New Berlin) said the measure is intended to make sure weapons permit holders aren't inadvertently committing crimes when they drop their kids off at school. "I don't want to see that happen to well-intentioned law-abiding people," she said.

ANTI-GUNNERS ENDORSE HILLARY CLINTON FOR PRESIDENT

Democrat Hillary Clinton received endorsements from the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, Americans for Responsible Solutions, and former Attorney General Eric Holder. All are in lock step with the gun control agenda President Obama has pursued during his second term of office, and the plan Clinton has laid out in her gun control campaign platform. The Brady Campaign said Clinton "will finish the job" begun by Obama, to impose mandatory background checks on non-dealer sales, trades, and gifts of firearms.

HILLARY: IÍM ÆSO PROUDÍ OF OBAMA ON GUN CONTROL

Democratic presidential front-runner Hillary Clinton said on The Ellen DeGeneres Show that she admires President Obama's executive action on gun control. "I've spent a lot of time around families that have lost kids or loved ones to gun violence and there are just no words," she said. "I was so proud of the president when he said, "Hey, we have to do something to stop all of this gun violence. You send your first grader to school and you don't expect a mass murder". And then Obama issued an executive order.

**HILLARY
WATCH**

JUSTICE OBAMA? ÆPRESIDENTÍ HILLARY WOULD CONSIDER IT

After eight years of Barack Obama in the White House, American voters might have the chance to see him appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court for life, because Hillary Clinton told a crowd in Iowa that, if elected, she would "certainly take that under advisement." That may raise eyebrows in the Second Amendment community. Even just the thought of a possible Obama presence on the high court may cause American gun owners to turn out en masse this November at the polls, as they did in 1994 when they flipped Congress to Republican control.

HILLARYÍŠ ÆHIGH STAKES HYPOCRISYÍ CLEAR IN REMARK ABOUT RIGHTS

Hillary was in Manchester, New Hampshire to pick up the endorsement of Planned Parenthood when she told the organization bluntly, "Any right that requires you to take extraordinary measures to access it is no right at all." The Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms answered her hypocrisy. "Clinton may have been talking about reproductive rights," said CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb, "but her comment can apply equally to the right to keep and bear arms. Rather than afford the same protections to honest gun owners that she would give her political supporters, she would bury those good citizens in mountains of red tape."

GALLUP: ONLY 2% SAY 'GUNS/GUN CONTROL' AMONG NATION'S MOST IMPORTANT

A Gallup Poll shows that "guns/gun control" ranked near the bottom of Americans' most pressing concerns. In fact, guns/gun control ranked 19th out of 23 top problems facing the country last year. According to Gallup, only one percent of respondents mentioned guns/gun control as a concern for most of the months in 2015, although mentions spiked to 7 percent in October and December following mass shootings in those months that dominated the news. (The overall average for the year was 2 percent.) Americans were most likely to mention some aspect of the federal government in 2015 when asked to name the country's top problem. Sixteen percent of those responding listed Government/Congress/Politicians, and 13 percent chose the "Economy in general." Eight percent said unemployment is the nation's top problem, and for the first time since 2007, immigration was among the top four most frequently cited problems, mentioned by 8 percent of respondents. Rounding out the top 10 were various problems each averaging 5%, including ethical/moral decline, race relations/racism, terrorism, the federal budget deficit/debt and education. Gun control was in the basement.

**GUN
POLLS**

MOST VOTERS OPPOSE OBAMA ACTING ALONE ON GUN CONTROL

Voters don't approve of President Obama's decision to go it alone with several gun control initiatives and don't believe his actions will reduce the number of mass killings the country has experienced recently. Fifty-eight percent (58%) of Likely U.S. Voters say the government should only do what the president and Congress agree on when it comes to gun control. The latest Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey finds that Fifty-nine percent (59%) say the additional oversight will not reduce the number of any shootings.

GUN NEWS TICKER - QUICK TAKES ON THE NEWS

● **Chicago, Illinois:** The Chicago Tribune reported that the number of shooting victims in gun-controlled Chicago for 2015 was 2,986, with 470 of them homicides. How can that be? Chicago has a "violence tax" that raises the price of every gun and bullet sold at retail, an "assault weapons" ban, limits on the number of gun stores and the locations of those stores, and what the New York Times describes as handgun restrictions that let city leaders "get as close as they could get legally to a ban without a ban." It is the worst year Chicago has seen since 2012, "when 500 people were killed."

● **Detroit, Michigan:** Prosecutors and defense attorneys in the case of state Sen. Virgil Smith Jr., 35, have a possible plea deal in his criminal assault case involving his ex-wife. The lawmaker is scheduled for trial in March on charges he beat his ex-wife and shot at her with an assault rifle last year. Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Lisa Lindsey said the time was running out for a plea deal, but Godfrey Dillard, the defense attorney for Smith said, "We have presented a written proposal to the prosecutor."

● **Cincinnati, Ohio:** Kroger grocery retailer CEO Michael Schlotman says gun-toting Texans, whether they opt for concealed or open carry, are welcome to exercise their constitutional right to self-defense in his company's stores. While its major competitors in the state have all posted gun-free zone notices, Schlotman said, "If the local gun laws are to allow open carry, we'll certainly allow customers to do that based on what the local laws are. We don't believe it's up to us to legislate what the local gun control laws should be. We ask our customers to be respectful to the other people they are shopping with."

● **Anderson, California:** Even though Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill barring concealed weapons on K-12 school grounds, The Anderson Union High School District in Shasta County, Northern California, is reaffirming its policy to allow the practice, and the local police chief agrees. It will continue to allow licensed employees to carry concealed weapons on school campuses, with officials saying it will keep students and faculty safe. "It is definitely a pro to have people armed, responsible people armed who have been vetted and can actually provide another layer of protection for the kids," Anderson Police Chief Mike Johnson said.

● **Little Rock, Arkansas:** Gov. Asa Hutchinson became the first governor from the Natural State to visit the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade Show (SHOT Show) in Las Vegas, Nevada. Besides hailing from a pro-Second Amendment state, the governor wants to make Arkansas the "premier location for investment and expansion for the firearms industry." Sig Sauer and Remington are both planning to expand in Arkansas where they are appreciated.

● **Vienna, Austria:** The number of self-defense weapons sales in Austria has skyrocketed in recent months – and firearms dealers say they know why. "It's clear that people's general sense of unease has increased," Chamber of Commerce arms trade spokesman Robert Siegert said. Austrians have become paranoid over the huge numbers of refugees crowding into their country and bringing violence with them. The upward trend in weapons permits and purchases closely follows the November terror attacks in Paris, reported New Year's Eve sexual assaults in Cologne, Germany, and an increasing number of sexual assault cases in Vienna.

● **Washington, D.C.:** President Barack Obama's visual stunt of leaving an empty chair in the Guest Box at his final State of the Union speech in the Capitol Building to signify victims of gun violence has kicked up some backlash. The Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms challenged Obama to instead fill the chair with a genuine hero who used a gun to save lives. "The use of an empty chair is an empty gesture by a president many people consider an 'empty suit'," said CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb. "It's essentially cheap theatrics aimed at stirring the emotions of his far left base, and like so many of his other efforts, won't accomplish a thing. There are plenty of armed citizens and police officers who could easily fill that empty seat, providing examples of empowerment."

Parting Shot

CONCEALED CARRY SAVED THIS DAY

It was shortly before 7 p.m Saturday at Next Up Barbershop and Beauty Salon in Columbia, South Carolina, when two men barged in wearing masks and waving guns in the faces of employees and customers.

One of the robbers demanded money, whacked Next Up's manager Chauncey Harris in the back of the head with a handgun and ordered him to the ground. Harris thought he was going to be shot as an example.

Both thugs then ordered the rest of the shop's occupants, including several children, to put their hands behind their heads while the men went through their pockets.

The robbers didn't know it and neither did the others in the shop, but two of the intended victims standing with them had valid Concealed Weapons Permits and were carrying at the time.

They cooperated with the robbers as if they were scared.

When the robbers demanded their money, one of the permit holders pointed to a chair and said his money was over there.

When the robber walked to the chair the permit holder silently drew, followed instantly by the second concealed carrier.

They fired together on the robbers multiple times and were sure they hit both of the robbers.

One stumbled outside and died while the other fled the scene.

The fatally shot man was later identified as Adeyemi Herschelle Hannibal, 37, of New Jersey.

The other man is still at-large but is presumably injured.

The Columbia Police Department investigated and found that at least one of the weapons used by the robbers was stolen.

It was reported stolen from a southern Columbia home in 2012.

Customers rallied to the shop within 24 hours, with young and old waiting in line for haircuts to show their support.

So, this incident is emblematic of today's gun rights battle with anti-gun zealots.

Two men used their Second Amendment freedoms to prevent a robbery and save lives.

Gun rights make all the difference.

Alan M. Gottlieb

Joseph D. Vukobratovic

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