

THE Gun Owners

40 YEARS OF NO COMPROMISE – 1975-2015

GOA Blasts Obama's Secret Gun Ban — *Plan will disarm Americans one Social Security check at a time*

by Christopher Stone

"I didn't know the VA could take away your guns," the young Marine said.

The harsh truth is that the Veterans Administration can do that — and they have been for years — to veterans who have committed no crimes whatsoever.

But it's not just veterans who are on the chopping block. Obama's latest gun-grabbing scheme could be his cruelest and most dangerous to Americans.

The *Los Angeles Times* reports that the Obama administration is pushing to "ban Social Security beneficiaries from owning guns" if they lack the mental capacity to "manage their own affairs" — a move that could affect millions of senior citizens.

Perhaps the most alarming (but sadly, not surprising) piece of information in the *Times* report is that the Obama administration has been developing this gun-grabbing scheme in total secrecy.

Which begs the question, if this law is so good, why would

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Media Recognizes GOA's Strength!



Larry Pratt, Executive Director of GOA, was listed as the second most powerful Gun Rights Activist. Proof that one can stand on principle and still be effective.

NewsMax published a report in July placing GOA's Larry Pratt at Number Two out of 100 in a list of the top Gun Rights activists in the country. This is a testimony to the million-plus members and activists that GOA represents, as they are truly the Voice of Gun Owners of America!

GOA Takes the Lead in Protecting Servicemen — *Plus, GOP Governors and sheriffs push back against Obama gun control*

by Erich Pratt

One thing became very clear after three high profile shootings this summer in South Carolina, Tennessee and Louisiana.

It's so obvious, even anti-gunners like Chuck Todd of MSNBC have reluctantly admitted it: Gun control has failed ... and failed miserably.

While interviewing gun control advocate, and presidential contender, Bernie Sanders in July, Todd said that, "If you look at what appears to be the situation in Louisiana, the situation in Charleston, there were background checks made and they didn't work.

They didn't catch what was necessary. Instant background checks lead to more speed and more mistakes."

Of course, Chuck Todd is so far to the left, he thinks additional gun control with longer waiting periods will work, where previous attempts have failed. This fits Albert Einstein's definition of insanity where one does the same thing over again, while expecting different results.

Thankfully, the American public is not buying the Todd analysis. Nor are Republican legislators on Capitol Hill

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GOA Blasts Obama Secret Gun Ban

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you write it behind closed doors? Clearly, because President Obama knows most Americans like their guns.

Public opinion polls have consistently affirmed that a majority of Americans want their firearms freedoms protected, rather than being subjected to more gun control.

But President Obama has been defeated by the pro-gun community so many times, that the only way for him to get his agenda enacted is by secrecy and lies.

Thankfully, Members of Congress have taken notice of this horrible policy change, and Rep. Ralph Abraham (R-LA) has introduced legislation to bar the Social Security Administration from adding names to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

GOA is proud to support H.R. 3126, and is working with Rep. Abraham to shed light on this new gun grab. To his credit, the Congressman has minced no words in condemning Obama's actions:

"President Obama will stop at nothing to take guns away from anyone he can," Rep. Abraham said. "My bill [would] prevent bureaucrats in Washington from deciding who can and cannot exercise their fundamental right to keep and bear arms. In this nation, everyone is entitled to due process, and that includes those on Social Security."

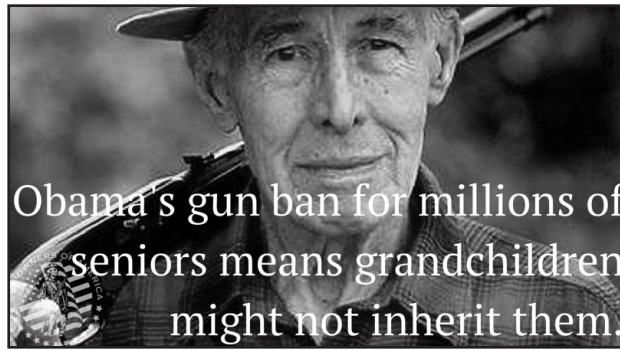
Unprecedented gun control would strip guns from millions of law-abiding citizens

Liberal gun-grabbers frequently tell gun owners "we are not trying to take your guns away!" But there's no denying that is exactly what could happen if Obama gets his way.

Obama has made numerous attempts to eviscerate the Second Amendment using ATF regulations, import bans or legislation. Virtually all of these attempts have failed.

So now, Obama is shamelessly attacking the elderly by using the Social Security Administration to determine if they're able to own a gun.

In the guise of protecting us from ourselves — presumably, from an



"octogenarian crime wave" — the Obama administration is paving the way for unprecedented gun control.

This new policy will strip away the Second Amendment rights from millions of seniors and vulnerable Americans who pose no threat, all without due process of law. Even if some of these seniors no longer shoot, his policy would jeopardize the ability of kids and grandchildren to inherit firearms from their parents and relatives.

Grandfather's gun collection could be at stake

For non-gun owners, this may not seem like a "big deal." But, beyond the fact that owning a firearm is your God-given right protected by the Constitution, firearms hold a deep sentimental (and monetary) value for children inheriting estates from their parents and grandparents.

Many elderly gun-owning Americans

Maybe it's the handgun brought back from Europe during WWII, or the .22 rifle Mom and Dad used to teach their child to shoot. Why should the federal government maintain control over those firearms just because an older sister has been appointed the financial fiduciary for Mom and Dad in their old age?

Would the American public be okay with the government seizing grandpa's classic Corvette, or towing away his old farm truck you grew up learning to drive, just because he's no longer able to drive them? Hardly. And owning a car isn't even a constitutional right!

Yet the federal government bureaucrats (once again) thinks it knows best, and its best solution is to violate your rights.

Gun ban could amount to disarming seniors for having "bad memories"

Even the liberal *Times* is concerned, warning that Obama's new policy denies guns to "numerous people who may just have a bad memory or difficulty balancing a checkbook." How far have we slipped as a country when forgetfulness and trouble paying one's bills on time means one must forfeit

Perhaps the most alarming (but sadly, not surprising) piece of information in the Times report is that the Obama administration has been developing this gun-grabbing scheme in total secrecy.

have extensive firearms collections worth significant amounts of money. From collectible guns to antique firearms, it's not uncommon for the value of these personally owned weapons to reach into the tens of thousands of dollars.

But it's not just the money. Firearms are often heirlooms passed down from generation to generation — a piece of history containing the memories and heritage of Americans who have helped make this nation great.

their constitutional rights?

"Someone can be incapable of managing their funds but not be dangerous, violent or unsafe," said Dr. Marc Rosen, a Yale psychiatrist who has studied how veterans with mental health problems manage their money. "They are very different determinations."

Now, Obama wants to take a horrendous idea and apply it to senior citizens. Obama is literally snatching guns from our most vulnerable citizens, without

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GOA ON THE FRONT LINES



Repealing Obama gun control. In June, the House of Representatives adopted a GOA-backed amendment — offered by Republican Rep. Ken Buck of Colorado (left) — which would allow persons stripped of their Second Amendment rights for minor offenses to petition for a restoration of their rights. GOA's Tim Macy (right) is pictured here with Rep. Buck.

Saturating the Media. In the two weeks following the tragic shooting in South Carolina, GOA Executive Director Larry Pratt — along with several other GOA representatives — appeared in almost 1,000 different media outlets to defend 2nd Amendment rights. At some points, GOA spokesmen were literally communicating with the American people around the clock.



Exposing the failure of gun control. GOA Director of Communications Erich Pratt went “mano a mano” with a British TV anchor over the subject of self-defense and gun rights, rejecting calls for gun control and demonstrating how law-abiding citizens can (and have) stopped mass shootings.



Replacing Obama. GOA representatives have met with several pro-gun presidential candidates, including Texas Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX).

Maine Governor signs GOA-backed Permitless Carry law

“This is an important day for the Pine Tree State,” said GOA’s Erich Pratt. “Law-abiding citizens shouldn’t have to ask permission to exercise a constitutionally-protected right. We don’t require permission for preachers or journalists, and we shouldn’t do it for gun owners either.”

— *Portland Press Herald*, July 8, 2015





FLAWED SYSTEM

The entire background check system is flawed

by Erich Pratt appearing in USA Today (July 28, 2015)

FBI Director James Comey recently said a flaw in the gun background check system allowed Dylann Roof to purchase the gun he allegedly used to kill nine people in a church in Charleston, S.C.

But the fact is, the entire background check system is flawed. Not only is it unconstitutional — and disarming many law-abiding citizens — it's failing to keep guns out of criminals' hands and is not keeping people safe.

Consider Juan Francisco Lopez-Sanchez, who used a gun stolen from a federal agent to kill Kathryn Steinle in San Francisco.

The same is true for Adam Lanza at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut and Jacob Tyler Roberts at the Clackamas Mall in Oregon. Background checks failed to stop these killers from stealing their guns and committing atrocities.

If Roof had been denied a gun by a background check, couldn't he have stolen his weapon, just as Lanza and Roberts did? Couldn't he have used a fake ID to illegally purchase one?

Who really thinks that a top-down approach to controlling weapons will be any more effective than Prohibition was in the early 20th century or the war on drugs has been today?

No wonder we've seen such a long list of mass murderers who've passed background checks — including the recent

shooters at a theater in Lafayette, La., and military facilities in Chattanooga, Tenn., as well as the killers at Fort Hood (2009 and 2014), the Aurora, Colo., theater (2012), the Washington Navy Yard (2013) and many more.

So what does prevent mass shootings? Well, how about:

The Florida pastor who last December prevented a potential mass shooting — and saved the lives of several men, women and children — when he used his concealed firearm to incapacitate a shooter.

The law-abiding citizens who halted mass shootings this year — in a Philadelphia barber shop in March; on a crowded Chicago street corner in April; or in a Youngstown, Ohio, bar in June.

These are just a few of the many self-defense cases where armed citizens have stopped massacres and enabled others to stay, and feel, safe. ■

Erich Pratt is director of communications for Gun Owners of America. This oped appeared in paper version of USA Today on July 28, 2015, and the online version the day prior.



How to Place GOA



*in
Your Will*

GOA has received numerous inquiries from members asking how they can place Gun Owners of America in their will or estate plans.

Here are some sample instructions to share with your advisor or attorney:

I give, devise and bequeath to Gun Owners of America (tax ID # 52-1256643), a non-profit, corporation in Springfield, Virginia:

- A. The sum of \$_____; or
- B. _____ percent of my estate; or
- C. Residue. I give my Residue to Gun Owners of America, 8001 Forbes Place, Suite 102, Springfield, Virginia 22151.



Survivor who used to be against firearms, says "Guns saved my life"

It was nearly 20 years ago this August that the lives of the Gonzalez family were forever changed after a violent home invasion.

Susan Gonzalez was anti-gun at the time. But her views on guns for self-defense have changed since then — and it's a good thing they did.

When their home was broken into this summer by two masked gunmen, her husband was shot during a struggle with one of the attackers. Susan then grabbed her husband's pistol and opened fire into one of the aggressors. He stumbled into the front yard and died, while the other got away.

"A lot of people are against guns because they say guns kill," Susan says. "Guns saved my life and I was against guns. I now carry."

They never thought such an occurrence would happen to them. But it did, and Susan hopes that those who are skeptical of owning guns "will take a look and realize there's a reason to have guns for safety. Anyone that is a victim never expects to be a victim. You should be prepared."

Guns used to halt mass killings in Maryland and Ohio

There were several mass shootings that grabbed nationwide headlines this summer — all of them occurring in gun free zones. But at least two attempted massacres were prevented with little media fanfare.

The first incident occurred in June when a customer — who had been kicked out of a Youngstown, Ohio bar — returned with a shotgun and began firing inside the establishment. Thankfully, one of the bar employees used his legal concealed handgun to shoot and kill the aggressor.

The second episode took place in Upper Marlboro, Maryland in July, when a man was threatening to "kill everybody inside" the home of his ex-girlfriend. Thankfully, the woman shot and killed the disgruntled lover while he was breaking through the window of her home around 3 am, saving not only her life, but the lives of her children as well.



No Longer Gun Free Zones

A "Pistol-Packing Preachers" class will make places of worship a much more dangerous place ... for criminals and terrorists in Louisiana!

Pastors arming themselves to protect their congregations

She's never done this before. But Pastor Brenda Stevenson of Charlotte, North Carolina, has invited two guests to stay with her in the pulpit every time she preaches.

"Like I tell everybody," declared Pastor Stevenson, "just welcome two new members, Smith and Wesson."

She never thought about doing this until the Charleston shooting occurred in June. "I talked with my husband and I said, 'Honey, we need to get a gun.'"

Meanwhile, a "Pistol-packing Preachers" class is helping pastors and priests all over the state of Louisiana to complete the requirements for getting their concealed carry permits.

"I'll probably have some that won't like it," admitted Pastor Raymond Garcia, noting that some may feel uncomfortable with him having a gun. But when it comes to a situation like Charleston, "I feel like they would be more than happy that [the gun] would be there if we need it."

Concealed carrier saves clerk's life

A Vietnam Veteran is being hailed as a hero for saving the life of a gas station clerk in July. The veteran, Don Rogers, fired two shots into the side of the 18-year old robber, who was holding up the gas station clerk with a firearm.

The thief scampered out the door into a getaway car, but had to stop shortly thereafter and call 911 due to the severity of his wounds.

"I just did what I had to do," said Rogers, who also went on to say that every legal gun owner should carry their firearm with them at all times.

"I was hoping nothing like this would ever happen," Rogers said, "but I was glad I had my weapon with me."

Business owner shot, but returns fire and kills two robbers

Two California thugs defied California's ban on carrying firearms without permits and attacked a business owner on the streets of Montebello in July. The business owner was shot in the stomach, but then returned fire, hitting both attackers.

According to Montebello police Lieutenant Andy Vuncanon, officers were able to determine that the business owner had acted "to defend himself."

While both attackers subsequently died, Lt. Vuncanon divulged that the business owner's wounds were "non-life threatening."

All these stories and more can be read on GOA's Self-Defense Corner at <http://www.gunowners.org/self-defense-corner>

GOA Takes the Lead in Protecting Servicemen

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with whom Gun Owners of America is working.

Republicans introduce bills to repeal Clinton gun ban

Military bases are, by regulation, gun-free zones. But even after the attack by a Muslim terrorist in July, the Obama Pentagon has reiterated that this policy will not be changed.

So GOA is working with several Republican legislators to repeal these gun bans.

In the House, Republican Congressmen Scott DesJarlais (TN), Jody Hice (GA) and Duncan Hunter, Jr. (CA) have introduced bills repealing the deadly Clinton military gun ban and allowing service members to carry the weapons they're trained to use.

And in the Senate, Republican Senators Rand Paul (KY), Jerry Moran (KS) and Steve Daines (MT) have introduced their own bills repealing the ban.

Senator Daines immediately published a press release announcing his bill had the backing of the GOA.

"It's a reality of the post 9-11 world that terrorists and radicals will look to strike soft targets and we shouldn't pretend that incidents similar to what happened in Tennessee couldn't happen elsewhere," said Daines.

Armed citizens protecting military recruitment centers

The attack on two military installations in Chattanooga, Tennessee, by a Muslim terrorist in July has dramatically highlighted the failure of gun-free zones.

Never mind that simply posting a sign in front of a building is hardly a winning approach to keeping bad guys from bringing guns into "forbidden areas."

So armed citizens and militiamen in several states banded together to help guard servicemen from future terrorist attacks.

In Virginia, a citizen armed with an AR-15 stood guard outside several recruitment centers. He said everyone inside was glad to see him.

Repealing Gun Free Zones



GOA's Tim Macy (left) meets with Rep. Duncan Hunter, Jr. (R-CA), who has introduced legislation to arm servicemen (H.R. 3139).

"I went into each office," he said, "and I was received with handshakes and thank yous. [The] wives came by in tears thanking me for just being out here. They baked cookies for me and brought lunch by."

Obama administration: "Treat armed citizens as security threat"

Amazingly, the Obama administration responded by putting these citizens on notice that they can be reported to local law-enforcement.

In a July 22 story in *Stars and Stripes*, readers were astonished to see this headline: "Army to Recruiters: Treat Armed Citizens as Security Threat."



Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker (R) and Sheriff Joe Arpaio of Maricopa County, Arizona, have both taken steps to protect servicemen in their respective jurisdictions.

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command has instructed recruiters to avoid contact with armed citizens who are protecting them and, if questioned by these citizens, to "terminate the conversation immediately and report the incident to local law enforcement."

Despite threats, armed citizens continue to stand guard.

"We will continue, until we feel perhaps the threat is gone," said Jerry Pleasant, commander of the 423rd Texas Light Foot Militia. "They're always brothers in arms. Once you take that oath to the Constitution to protect it against all enemies foreign and domestic. That never goes away. That does not expire until you expire."

Scott Walker leads team of GOP Governors in overturning gun control

Elected state officials are also doing their part to keep servicemen safe from terrorists.

After four Marines and a sailor were murdered at the Naval Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Republican Governors in more than half-a-dozen states have taken steps to arm their respective guard units, allowing them to carry guns while on duty.

"Safety must be our top priority," said Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin, who issued an Executive Order to arm the National Guard in his state in July. "Allowing our National Guard members to carry weapons while on duty gives them the tools they need to serve and protect our citizens, as well as themselves."

In Arizona, Sheriff Joe Arpaio has mobilized his "posse," armed volunteers who receive training, and placed them at recruitment centers in his county.

This is not the first time that Sheriff Joe has mobilized the Second Amendment militia after a high-profile shooting. He's protected schools after Sandy Hook ...

black churches after Charleston ... and now recruitment centers in the wake of Chattanooga.

Please stay tuned, as Gun Owners of America will keep updating you on efforts to repeal gun free zones wherever they exist. ■

Would a “better” NICS check have stopped recent killers?

by Michael Hammond

Anti-gun liberals are claiming that the FBI, if it had a lot more money for gun control, could have found something to stop Dylann Roof from getting a gun, prior to killing nine people at the Charleston, South Carolina church.

The problem is that there was nothing to be found.

Roof had a misdemeanor conviction, but, barring domestic violence, that wasn't enough. Roof had been arrested on a felony drug charge, but apparently, he hadn't been indicted.

So, the argument goes, if the FBI had more money, it would have discovered that Roof was “an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance...” [18 U.S.C. 922(d)(3)].

This archaic and little-used provision has largely gone into the trashcan for a reason: absent the conviction of a crime in a court of law, how is the government to know if one is using a controlled substance unlawfully?

The power to enforce such a vague law would necessitate an immense increase in the police power of the state.

Right now, users of marijuana for medical purposes — by those holding a prescription from a doctor — are deemed ineligible by the BATFE to own a firearm.

If this federal ban were vigorously enforced, under the so-called NICS Improvement Act, the FBI would have to

demand that every lawful medical marijuana user in the country be put on the FBI list.

And, once the FBI is forced to officially take notice that millions of Americans are openly violating federal law, the status of those lawbreakers becomes — shall we say — dicey.

Already, the NICS background check is being used to keep thousands of honest gun owners from purchasing firearms.

Researcher John Lott has found that roughly 95% of initial denials are “false positives” -- where innocent gun owners (many of them with similar names to criminals) are erroneously denied.

Thus, the government background check becomes the “kiss of death” for a constitutionally-protected gun sale. Many Americans who are legally entitled to purchase a firearm are denied that right because of the similarity of their name to someone else's — coupled with the FBI's antipathy toward guns (in anyone's hands but their own).

Once again, we see both the ineffectiveness and the insatiability of gun control. To the extent that anyone is allowed to own a gun, that becomes the next “loophole” for the gun-haters to attack. ■

Michael Hammond is the Legislative Counsel for Gun Owners of America.

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due process of law.

Congress has a duty to stop this, and they need to hear from you right away.

Will the Republican leadership rein in a rogue Obama administration?

John Boehner, Mitch McConnell and the rest of the Republican leadership have the ability, authority, and votes to pass legislation outlawing this heinous policy.

Last Congress, Rep. Steve Stockman, who is no longer in office, drafted legislation to protect veterans facing the similar situation many senior citizens

owners to let their Representatives and Senators know just how they feel.

GOA will be fighting this disastrous policy, and we need the grassroots to step up and speak their mind to Washington, D.C.

Contact your member of Congress and tell them to stand with Rep. Ralph Abraham by co-sponsoring H.R. 3126



Rep. Ralph Abraham (R-LA) has introduced introduced H.R. 3126, a bill to bar the Social Security Administration from adding names to the NICS background check system.

This new Obama policy will strip away the Second Amendment rights from millions of seniors and vulnerable Americans who pose no threat, all without due process of law.

will now have to deal with.

Yet the Republican leadership never even considered putting the bill on the House floor for a vote.

Will the same leadership abandon the elderly the same way they have largely ignored our veterans who have been denied the right to keep and bear arms?

It is crucial for all law-abiding gun

— a bill that will protect America's senior citizens and prevent their names from erroneously being submitted to NICS.

Not one more word of gun control. Not for our veterans, not for our senior citizens, and not for the law-abiding citizens who make this country what it is: the land of liberty. ■



Pope Francis Libels Gun Owners

by Larry Pratt

The Pope has been taking aim at the Second Amendment for some time. Last year, he referred to arms makers as “merchants of death.” But now, in the wake of the Charleston church shooting,

the Pope has questioned the Christianity of manufacturers and owners of guns.

“It makes me think [of] people, managers, businessmen who call themselves Christian, and they manufacture weapons. That leads to a bit of distrust, doesn’t it?” the Pope said. “Duplicity is the currency of today... they say one thing and do another.”

Is the Pope prepared to have the Swiss Guard that protects the Vatican send back their guns to the manufacturers? Are the manufacturers who supplied the arms to liberate Europe from the Nazis also not Christians?

Was the gun that Nick Meli used at the Clackamas, Oregon mall a “weapon of death”? In 2012, Meli pointed his gun at an active shooter — an action that was followed by the shooter’s suicide.

Should we condemn the manufacturer of the gun used

by a wounded Dr. Lee Silverman last year at the Darby Hospital in Pennsylvania to shoot and stop a gunman who had already killed a colleague?

Gun Owners of America has made available — at www.gunowners.org/fs9902.htm — an article entitled: What Does the Bible Say about Gun Control?

We hope the Pope will consider the mountain of Scripture referenced to show the Bible’s teaching that it is justifiable to use lethal force in self-defense.

The Pope’s thinking ends with good guys standing by — unless they have a badge — while dirt bags rape, murder and steal.

It is instructive that the gun control capital of America — a.k.a., Chicago — has the highest murder rate in the country. By comparison, a very urban Fairfax County, Virginia has widespread gun ownership and readily available concealed carry permits. The murder rate in Fairfax County is on a par with that in other countries where they enjoy lower homicide rates. ■

Fast Fact:

More Guns, Less Crime.

The number of concealed carry permit holders in the country has nearly tripled since 2007, while the murder rate has fallen 25 percent.

The Washington Times,
July 14, 2015

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Also consider the easy payment plan with an initial deposit of \$50 (*with the remainder to be billed to you*) or as a quarterly debit to your credit card for \$50 until your GOA Life Membership is fully paid.



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When you contact us by phone, email or mail, please provide us with your name, address, city, state, zip and member number to begin enjoying your Life Member privileges with Gun Owners of America.

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