

# GOA's Top Ten in 2020



**See what your Support and Activism accomplished!**



**1.**

## Pro-Gunners defy polls, make significant gains in Congressional elections

Gun Owners of America made meaningful gains in the House of Representatives. Joining the 117th Congress will be pro-gunners like Lauren Boebert of Colorado (pictured here with GOA's Erich Pratt), Chip Roy of Texas, Yvette Herrell of New Mexico, and Matt Rosendale of Montana, among many others. In each of these races, GOA championed these candidates ... we distributed our Congressional Ratings throughout the state ... and we spent over \$1 million mobilizing voters at the polls. In all, GOA was able to help dozens of pro-gun challengers and endangered incumbents get elected. ■



**2.**

## A third pro-gun Justice added to SCOTUS

When President Trump nominated a third pro-gun Supreme Court Justice in Amy Coney Barrett, some Republican Senators initially wavered. But GOA members and activists lit up Senate inboxes and phone lines, prompting Senators to "see the light" and vote for Barrett. Now that there's a 5-4 pro-gun majority, gun owners are optimistic that the Supreme Court will hear several gun cases and restore a proper understanding of the Second Amendment. ■

## GOA ACTIVISTS HELP STALL GUN CONTROL IN CONGRESS

*"Over one million emails were generated through [GOA's website] -- where you can go in and just fill out your name and information -- and they send off an email in your name. Over one million were sent out. And according to GOA, it's working."*

-- JARED OF

**GUNS & GADGETS**

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**3.**

## Killing gun control during COVID

*The Washington Times* reported on March 28 that the Trump administration agreed to declare gun stores and ranges as "essential businesses" after Gun Owners of America petitioned the White House. That resulted in several states and jurisdictions reopening gun stores. Later, when House Democrats made a push to sneak red flag gun confiscation orders into a COVID-19 relief bill in April, GOA sprang into action. GOA members generated massive grassroots pressure — totaling over one million emails — thus helping to stall all gun control in the Senate. ■

**4.**

## Over 1,100 localities buck gun control

*The Washington Examiner* labeled GOA "a leader in the sanctuary movement" this year. Indeed, 2020 saw many localities becoming Second Amendment sanctuaries. And GOA staffers and activists were working with local officials to draft and pass these ordinances in many states. To date, over 1,100 municipalities in 34 states have passed such measures. If you'd like to make your community a Second Amendment sanctuary, please visit [gunownersaction.org/SASO](http://gunownersaction.org/SASO). Pictured here is GOA's Dr. Val Finnell (right) and Judge-Executive Kevin Neal of Marshall County, Kentucky at a sanctuary hearing. ■



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5.

## Pro-gun wave hits State Houses around the country

GOA pushed pro-gun candidates in state races across the country. In Texas, gun owners successfully defended every GOA-backed incumbent, while adding five brand new pro-gun candidates. This was done despite anti-gun billionaire Michael Bloomberg pouring millions of dollars into the state. In the North Carolina Lieutenant Governor's race, Bloomberg spent \$2.5 million in an unsuccessful attempt to defeat Mark Robinson, who was backed by Gun Owners of America and who is pictured here with Director of Communications Jordan Stein (left). Around the nation, many states either retained or expanded their pro-gun majorities. ■



6.

## GOA helps rally troops to defeat ban on AR-15s

GOA's Erich Pratt and Antonia Okafor Cover spoke to tens of thousands of gun owners and Second Amendment supporters who assembled in Richmond for VCDL's annual lobby day this past January. GOA also mobilized grassroots activists to lobby against a ban on scores of commonly-

owned firearms (AR-15s included). We leafleted gun stores in the state ... deluged legislators' offices with tens of thousands of emails, letters and phone calls from activists who were in opposition to gun control ... and personally challenged legislators to oppose Gov. Northam's draconian gun ban. While some gun control did pass, Fox News reported Governor Northam was greatly "disappointed" when his ban on firearms in common use was defeated, and Virginia Senator Chap Peterson (D) admitted that grassroots opposition made a huge "difference" in defeating the ban. ■

7.

## GOA wins several pro-gun legal victories in multiple states

GOA's legal team fought battles in Maryland, Massachusetts, North Carolina and Virginia after state and local officials used the 2020 pandemic as an excuse to close down gun stores and ranges. In every case, GOA won a reversal of the shutdowns, prompting one anti-gun official to lament that our pro-gun victory was just "awful." Also, a judge in Virginia ruled on a GOA-sponsored case and issued a statewide injunction preventing Universal Background Checks from being applied to 18-20-year-olds purchasing handguns. This was a historic triumph, as no Virginia state court had ever before issued a temporary injunction to block an act of the General Assembly before its effective date. ■



8.

## Concealed Carry expanded on public lands in 43 states

At GOA's urging, and after receiving thousands upon thousands of requests from grassroots gun owners, President Trump reversed an Obama gun control policy that prohibited carrying on lands managed by the Army Corps of Engineers. Because of this pro-gun move by President Trump, gun owners will be able to defend themselves with firearms on over 11 million acres of public land. ■



9.

## GOA fighting gun control from coast to coast

In New Hampshire, GOA activists successfully lobbied Governor Chris Sununu to veto every anti-gun bill that crossed his desk — including Universal Background Checks and Red Flag gun confiscation. In Texas, GOA activists showed up in droves to anti-gun hearings across the state. We dominated the testimony periods with the clear message that we're safer when we have more freedom to carry our guns, and put the legislature on notice that Constitutional Carry and ending "gun-free" zones are our priorities for next year. While Oklahoma enacted a GOA-backed law to prohibit funds for "Red Flag" gun confiscation orders, GOA helped push four pro-gun bills into law in Louisiana, including a ban on future gun bans. GOA's legal team also launched a challenge in Washington state to strike down I-1639, a draconian gun control law that passed via referendum in violation of the requirements for referenda. Pictured here is GOA Texas Director Rachel Malone (middle) with GOA's Felisha Bull (left), Sen. Bob Hall, and GOA activists after giving testimony in favor of Constitutional Carry. ■

10.

## GOA members push officials to resume issuing concealed carry permits

In 2020, much of Pennsylvania stopped issuing concealed carry permits during the COVID pandemic. In response, GOA urged its members to deluge their sheriffs with mail, which resulted in concealed carry permits being issued once again. One sheriff — surprised by the outpouring from GOA activists — even admitted: "Wow, we got a lot of blowback." Next, GOA sued the City of Philadelphia, since officials were telling residents they would have to wait over a year to get their permits. The GOA lawsuit forced the city to immediately reverse course, as officials responded by putting on a second shift of detectives who began taking applications five days a week in order to speed up the permitting process. Pictured here is GOA's Dr. Val Finnell with Sheriff Brad Cramer of Somerset County. ■

