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D.S.S.A. NEWS

DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION
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Legislative Alert: Senate Bill 83

Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing at Noon on June 3, 2015.

The Delaware Senate Judiciary Committee has scheduled a special meeting to consider Senate Bill 83 to begin at 12:00 noon, on Wednesday June 3rd. The Chair has allotted 2 ½ hours for this hearing.

As you know, SB 83 has been presented to the Senate as a measure allegedly designed to address domestic violence and to "reform" Delaware's "Protection From Abuse (PFA) Law." Nothing could be further from the truth.

If SB 83 were truly designed to meet these lofty goals, DSSA would be all for it. But the truth of the matter is that SB 83 is nothing more than another Bloomberg-inspired and financed anti-gun bill, pure and simple – so DSSA and NRA are adamantly opposed to this bill.

Similar legislation has been introduced in at least 6 other states, all on behalf of Bloomberg backed anti-gun groups. With the exception of one state all these bills have been defeated, seen for the anti-gun measures they are.

SB 83 is an anti-gun bill, pure and simple – nothing more and nothing less. The truth of the matter is that once the emotion is stripped away, there is no empirical date to justify further restrictions on guns as a part of Delaware's PFA law - none.

The current law is not broken! There is no evidence that the current law has problems. The PFA process is not in need of fixing. Even the Family Law Commission does not consider the process problematic.

Certainly, we can all agree that Domestic Violence in all of its forms is morally wrong, socially reprehensible and must never be condoned. And we can certainly agree that the Family Court should have the power to step in and take appropriate measures to protect Delaware's families from the domestic abuser.

Unfortunately, SB 83 does nothing to protect families from abuse:

- It does nothing to address the myriad of substantive and procedural due process, equity and fundamental fairness issues inherent in the current, deeply flawed PFA law;
- It does nothing to address the constitutional "burden of proof" and "due process" issues raised by the Supreme Court's decision in Doe v. WHA wherein the Court held that the right to keep and bear arms for defense of self, family home and State, and for hunting and recreation are "fundamental rights";
- It does nothing to address the issue of ethically-challenged divorce lawyers using the current PFA law as a means by which to gain an advantage in litigation and to punish, harass and abuse the spouse on the other side;
- It does nothing to require the Court to ensure that the rights of the accused are protected (including the right to counsel) and that he/she be fully informed of all of the various ramifications of the accusations and possible "remedies" to be imposed;
- It does nothing to address the cavalier manner in which the Family Courts automatically use the law to infringe upon the rights of law-abiding gun owners without just cause by making firearms prohibitions standard, "boiler-plate" language in nearly every PFA Order.

What SB 83 does do quite well is treat otherwise law-abiding gun owners as second class citizens, unfairly and erroneously stereotyping gun owners as being inherently violent and untrustworthy, and stripping them of their due process rights and property rights under both the United States Constitution and the Delaware Constitution –as well as the rights to "keep and bear arms for defense of self, family home and State and for hunting and recreation" protected by both Article I Section 20 of the Delaware Constitution and the Second Amendment.

If you are searching for the one word that most closely describes SB 83, that word would be "Draconian".

If you are looking for the two words that most closely describe the real purpose and effect of this bill, those words would be "Confiscation" and "Prohibition". (You can throw "registration" in there too, if you want)

So what, exactly, would SB 83 do if it were to become law? Good question – here's the answer:

1. Ammunition would now become subject to seizure and confiscation
2. Sheriffs and constables would be stripped of their authority to accept the firearms and ammunition relinquished by the gun owner pursuant to a PFA Order.
3. Police officers and police agencies would be required to accept, take custody of, and store all firearms and

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ammunition turned to them pursuant to a PFA. One wonders just how much safe and secure storage space these police agencies have – especially the smaller agencies?

4. The firearms prohibition and confiscation portions of a Protection From Abuse Order (PFA) will become effective immediately upon signing by the Judge/Commissioner, even if the hearing and the Order were ex parte.
5. Upon request or direction, the police will be required to go to a gun owner's home and demand immediate relinquishment of all firearms and ammunition.
6. If the police do not appear at the home, as above, the gun owner must go to a police station and turn in all arms and ammunition within 24 hours of notice of the PFA Order.
7. Within 48 hours of receipt of service of the Order, the gun owner must go to Family Court and file documents listing all guns and ammunition owned, proof that they have been turned over to the police, and proof that she/he has no access to other firearms or ammunition – all under penalty of criminal prosecution for filing a false statement.
8. The Court would be required to give to the accuser every document filed by the gun owner. (See #12, below) – There is no reciprocal requirement contained in SB 83 that specifically requires that the gun owner also receive a copy of all documents filed by the accuser although SB 83 allows the accuser to file a list of guns and ammunition he/she believes to be in the possession of the accused.
9. Police will be required to make a detailed record (registration) of all firearms and ammunition relinquished or seized, including a complete description of the firearm, including serial numbers. There is no requirement for destruction of such records upon completion of the case. There are no privacy protections provided in this Bill.
10. The gun owner will be required to pay the police to store his/her guns and ammunition. The amount to be charged by the police for this "service" must be "reasonable" – whatever that might mean.
11. The police "shall dispose of the firearms and ammunition" or return them to the owner at the end of the case. Due to a lack of clarity, it appears that this is totally at the discretion of the police. One might reasonably argue that this provision requires and/or authorizes governmental conversion, sale or destruction of private property without just compensation.
12. SB 83 mandates that police do their best to get search warrants to search for firearms whenever they have "probably cause" to believe that the gun owner has access to them or failed to relinquish all arms or lied on the forms – remember that the accuser gets copies of all forms filed by the gun owner…. Setting the stage for all types of mischief….
13. Ex Parte Orders would now become effective immediately, meaning that the gun owner would become a prohibited person and a felon and not even know about it.
14. Persons subject to the PFA Order would be prohibited from purchasing firearms and/or ammunition 24 hours after being served with a PFA Order.
15. A long list of misdemeanor crimes, including "Offensive Touching" will be listed as "Crimes of Domestic Violence", thus making the person a ""Prohibited Person" for life under the federal "Lautenberg Amendment".
16. SB 83 contains no protections for the gun owner's property while in police custody and no requirement that the police return the firearms and/or ammunition at all, much less in the same condition as when "seized" or "confiscated" by the government.
17. SB 83 also expands the definition of those who constitute "family" for PFA purposes to those who have cohabitated with the alleged victim for up to five years and to those "with whom the victim had a substantive dating relationship" within the past five years.

We can only guess at all of the practical effects SB 83 will have upon the law-abiding gun owners of Delaware when applied in a real life setting. What we do know is that SB 83 will undoubtedly result in even further abuses of Delaware's PFA statute by unscrupulous and less-than-ethical divorce attorneys and their sometimes-spiteful clients seeking revenge or an unfair advantage in a divorce, child custody or property division case.

We also know that SB 83 will have its truly-intended effect in that it will result in the confiscation of guns and ammunition, the establishment of public records (i.e. registration) of guns and ammunition with the police, the creation of many more "prohibited persons", and a reduction of the number of law-abiding gun owners in the State of Delaware – welcome to New York, New Jersey & California.

We also know that SB 83 will unnecessarily and unfairly place Delaware's law enforcement community squarely between the spiteful spouse and his/her gun-owning partner in an emotional setting in which there can be no "good guys". No police officer wants to be involved in what they call "A Domestic" but, by its very terms, SB 83 will place them there, this time proactively rather than reactively.

How much money will SB 83 cost the taxpaying public in terms of additional Court time and additional police involvement?

How much money will the taxpayer have to pay when the law suits start flying for alleged civil rights violations and lost, stolen, and damaged firearms and ammunition?

And how much damage will SB 83 cause to the already tarnished reputation of the Family Court and the everyday relationships between the police and the communities they are sworn to serve?

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None, we hope… but given the draconian terms, constitutionally suspect and outlandish mandates contained in SB 83, no good can possibly come from this patently anti-gun attempt at social engineering.

Your DSSA and the NRA are actively opposing this draconian measure in the Delaware General Assembly. We have a game plan, we have a strategy and we have allies within the Senate and the House – but we need your help.

Please call your Senator and your Representative and politely ask them to, oppose SB 83. Please politely ask both of your legislators to work with NRA and DSSA on this Bill. And, please politely ask them to support your fundamental right to keep and bear arms.

And, if you have the time, please come to Legislative Hall at noon on June 3rd to politely and respectfully show your opposition to SB 83.

DELAWARE LEGISLATIVE UP-DATE

As of this writing, there are but thirteen legislative days left in the 1st Session of the 148th Delaware General Assembly. While there has been very little public activity on issues of interest to Delaware's gun owners, hunters, trappers, sportsmen and Second Amendment activists, your NRA and DSSA representatives have been working diligently behind the scenes to ensure that our rights are being protected.

You may remember that we began 2015 with a "bang" by successfully challenging attempts by DNREC's Division of Fish and Wildlife to circumvent the legislative process by unilaterally raising hunting license fees through constitutionally questionable means. Their attempt to generate revenue for the Division was a harbinger of things to come, across the board, during this legislative session.

Taxes, fees and revenues have dominated most of the activity in Legislative Hall and held the attention of every Legislator and every member of the Governor's staff and Cabinet. As this article is being written, the General Assembly is on a two week break as legislators huddle to write the various "money bills". Passage of those bills is expected to take a large amount of time and attention during the remaining days of the legislative session. That does not mean, however, that our rights are safe and that Delaware's gun owners can relax – far from it.

There are a number of bills and potential bills that are drawing our attention and our efforts on your behalf. The following is a brief listing and description of pending legislation we are watching and/or working:

1. SB 83 – Please see a separate article detailing this notoriously anti-gun measure elsewhere in this newsletter.
2. HB 23 – This bill is an attempt to clarify and update the calibers that may be used by hunters when using handguns to hunt deer. This measure is on the House Ready List and is being supported by DSSA.
3. HB 25 – This bill allows for the harvesting and hunting of gray fox in Delaware. This bill passed the House and is currently bottled up in the Senate Natural Resources Committee. DSSA supports this bill as a pro-hunting pro-conservation bill that also protects farmers, their livestock and potential damage to farm equipment due to "dens" being dug in their fields.
4. HB 26 – This bill deals with hunting license exemptions for companions assisting persons with disabilities. This bill is currently in the House Natural Resources Committee where technical issues are being addressed. DSSA takes no position on this bill at this time.
5. HB 97 – This bill would allow the use of handguns for hunting on farms where DNREC has issued deer deprivation permits. This bill is on the House Ready List and is supported by DSSA.
6. SB 12 – This bill would cast back to include juvenile convictions for adult sentencing purposes. This bill failed when considered in the Senate Judiciary Committee. DSSA takes no position on this bill at this time.
7. SB 19 – This bill pertains to undercover police officers using so-called "gun-buy-back monies" to buy guns other than "crime guns". This bill was tabled in the Senate Judiciary Committee. DSSA is opposed to this bill.
8. SB 45 – This bill amends the current LEOSA (HR 218) provisions within Delaware law pertaining to law enforcement officers carrying concealed arms pursuant federal law. This bill is on the Senate Ready List. DSSA takes no position on this bill.
9. SB 68 – Although drafted to protect children from inappropriate internet solicitations, this bill contains several anti-gun provisions. This bill is currently assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee. DSSA opposes this bill in its current form.

There are number of issues that are being discussed by various legislators and there are several new bills that are expected to be introduced prior to the end of this Session. Among those that we believe might be introduced and may even be voted upon before the Session ends are the following:

1. An increase in fees – perhaps even hunting license fees – designed to make DNREC and State Government, generally, solvent using our hard-earned money. Without knowing the contents, wording, costs and potential impact of such measure(s), DSSA must wait to announce its position. DSSA will, however, as a matter of policy, continue to do its best to represent the rights and interests of Delaware's hunters, trappers, gun owners and sportsmen. Support or opposition to any measure

dealing with fees and costs will be based upon that doctrine and that promise. DSSA will continue to oppose the fee increases initially presented by DNREC in December of last year.

2. A bill that would amend or repeal Delaware's law pertaining unlawfully permitting a minor to gain access to a firearm, replacing same with a so-called "safe storage bill". DSSA will actively oppose any bill that infringes upon the rights of law-abiding individuals to "keep" arms for defense of self, family and home and which does not effectively address crime and public safety.
3. A bill to permit Sunday hunting on a limited basis. DSSA supports efforts to increase hunting and to allow Sunday hunting.
4. A bill to allow the hunting of deer with pistol caliber rifles using straight-walled pistol ammunition, similar to the Ohio provision. DSSA supports this concept.
5. A bill to clarify the rights of Concealed Carry Licensees to carry self-defense firearms concealed while hunting. DSSA supports this concept.
6. A bill to amend the Municipal Preemption Law. DSSA opposes any effort to allow municipalities to pass their own gun laws to infringe upon the rights of law-abiding gun owners to keep and bear arms for lawful purposes.
7. A bill to repeal DNREC's rules banning firearms in State Parks – please see the separate article on this issue discussing the possibility of litigation to remedy this matter.

Once the Delaware General Assembly reconvenes, you can expect things to move very quickly – even fast and furious. When that happens, we will need your help.

Please be on the lookout for emails from DSSA's "ACTION ALERT NETWORK" informing you of pending events and asking for your support and actions.

If you receive an "Action Alert" or a "Call to Action", please act swiftly and responsibly to accomplish whatever the "alert" asks you to do.

And whatever you do, please be polite and pleasant whenever talking with a legislator or a member of the legislative staff.

TEAM REMINGTON TO TEACH COPS TO READ THE WIND

As "Officer Smith" lay prone behind his scope watching the mirage, the grass, leaves, small puffs of dust and the range flags, a small smile spread across his face. " I saw it – I saw the shift!"

That small drama is sure to play out time and again when Team Remington comes to the Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club on May 22, 2015 to present a class on "wind reading" to approximately 20 of Delaware's top notch law enforcement rifle marksmen – those assigned as "counter-snipers" and "tactical precision riflemen" – you would probably call them "SWAT Officers."

Team Remington is coming to Bridgeville at the request of the Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club's Long Range Rifle Team and the DSSA Law Enforcement Assistance Committee to conduct a very unique training course designed to take Delaware's law enforcement community's "special operators" to the next level in tactical long range rifle proficiency.

Remington, DSSA and the Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club Long Range Rifle are presenting this very unique law enforcement training opportunity to Delaware's Law Enforcement Special Operations Community free of charge as a public service in recognition of the many sacrifices made by our police officers as they strive to keep us safe.

Most police riflemen deploy at ranges well within 200 yards where the ability to read the wind is generally not a critical factor in precision shot placement. But now, with the increased threat of terrorism, law enforcement's special operators could very well be called upon to engage a terrorist threat far beyond that standard 200 yard threshold. In fact, it is not at all unreasonable to envision a scenario where a law enforcement counter-sniper might be called upon to execute a precision shot at ranges of 400, 500, or 600 yards, or beyond.

NRA classified Mid-Range and Long Range rifle competitors have long understood the effects wind can have on precision shot placement. Competitive shooters spend many hours and loads of blood, sweat and tears learning to read the wind, to identify "the shift", and to estimate direction and velocity. Until now, most police marksmen have not been required to obtain and hone such skills, but times are changing and Remington, Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club and the DSSA are doing what we can to help Delaware's law enforcement community cope with these changing times.

May 22nd was chosen as the date for this event in the hope that perhaps one or two (hopefully more) of the officers participating in this event will want to try their hands at applying their new-found skills by participating in the Delaware Mid-Range State Championships to be held on the Bridgeville Range during the next two days, May 23rd and May 24th.

"Let's Go To The Park" – NOT!

Now that summer is upon us it's time to start thinking about things to do and places to go.

Delaware has a really great State Park system. Lots of camp grounds in which to spend the night, beaches where you can surf fish, lakes to fish in, hiking trails to visit, picnic grounds to enjoy – but wait! What about 7 **DE Admin. Code** 9201.24.3? What's that, you ask? Well, Section 9201.24.3 reads as follows:

> "It shall be unlawful to display, possess or discharge firearms of any description, air rifles, B.B. guns, sling shots or archery equipment upon lands or waters

administered by the Division (of Parks & Recreation), except by those persons lawfully hunting in those areas specifically designated by the Division, or those with prior approval of the Director".

Yep, that's right – guns are banned from Delaware's State Parks…..So, to paraphrase that old Country & Western song…….. "Don't take your guns to the Park, son - leave your guns at home, Bill - don't take your guns to Cape Henlopen … or any other state park."

According to DNREC, it's against the law (or at least their regulations) to take your concealed carry piece to any State Park.

On February 4, 2015, the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association made formal application to Secretary David Small of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, challenging the constitutionality and overall legality of 7 **DE Admin. Code** 9201.24.3. In our letter we asked DNREC to reconsider this regulation and to rescind this regulation in its entirety. We also challenged the Department's authority to deny persons with Delaware Concealed Carry Licenses, including those who carry pursuant to LEOSA (HR 218), of their right to carry for their own protection in State Parks.

By letter dated April 27, 2015, Secretary Small summarily rejected our request and denied the relief we had demanded. Thus, as of this moment, 7 **DE Admin. Code** 9201.24.3 remains on the books. However, this issue is far from dead.

The Delaware State Sportsmen's Association has referred this matter to legal counsel for further analysis. As of this writing we are awaiting word from our lawyers as to whether, when and how to challenge this regulation in the courts. The NRA has also been notified and briefed on this issue.

The Board of Directors has acted to sequester funds in our DSSA Civil Rights Defense Fund for potential use in any future court challenge to this facially unconstitutional, and perhaps illegally adopted regulation.

Members who wish to support DSSA's potential court challenge to this regulation may do so by going to the DSSA web site and donating on-line to the DSSA Civil Rights Defense Fund. However, like all other donations to DSSA, donations of this kind are NOT tax deductible.

New DSSA Web Site Launched

As we pointed out in previous newsletters, the DSSA web site – www.dssa.us – fell victim to a malicious hacking attack in February. The hack inserted a virus that not only affected site availability, but it also affected the way our web site data displayed in search engines (e.g. Google, Bing, etc.). What's more, several pages of the site were overtaken by advertisements for pharmaceuticals and other things that simply did not belong.

After working with our web host to quarantine the virus and restore the site from backed-up data, we decided to build an entirely new site and move it to a new hosting company. The new site launched on May 1, and rest assured, we are still dedicated to providing you timely updates about all issues affecting Delaware gun owners, shooters, hunters, trappers, anglers, and others who stand with our interests.

Just a reminder: DSSA.US is used for communications purposes, and no personal information or credit card information is stored anywhere on our web site's server. The hacking attempts directed at DSSA.us were geared toward "hijacking" our pages so the perpetrators could spread their devious links and ads. DSSA accepts payments on www.DSSA.us, but the payment checkout technology is securely hosted by PayPal. Therefore, payment information is entered and stored directly with PayPal.

Please visit DSSA.us often, and be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter (@DelawareDSSA) for breaking news and updates. We value your feedback, so be sure to interact with us on social media.

LAND RETIRES – FRAZIER ELECTED NEW NRA SECRETARY

April 13, 2015 will long be remembered as a bitter-sweet day in the history of the NRA. On that date, NRA's iconic Secretary, Edward J. Land, Jr, retired from his post as NRA Secretary.

Many of you know "Jim" Land from the days when he was the NRA's Field Representative in Delaware. Others will know him from his days as a member and former OIC of the Marine Corps Rifle and Pistol Teams. Still others will remember Major Land from the book Marine Sniper as the Marine sniper who commanded Gunnery Sergeant Carlos Hathcock and served as Hathcocks's partner and spotter when he took out the NVA sniper and sapper known as "The Apache". Finally, all of you Marines will undoubtedly know Major Land as the "father" of the Marine Corps' modern-day Scout-Sniper School at Quantico, Virginia.

Jim Land served as NRA's Secretary from 1992 until his retirement at the close of the 2015 Annual Meetings in Nashville, Tennessee. Prior to that, Jim served on NRA's Board of Directors and as a member of the NRA staff.

Jim Land is a special friend of the DSSA and a frequent visitor to Delaware. Look for Jim in the coming months on the

line at Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club doing what he does best – shooting as a competitor in NRA sanctioned High Power Rifle matches.

NRA's new Secretary is also a friend to Delaware. His name is John Frazier, and John frequents Delaware in the summer with his family, enjoying our beaches and eating Delmarva's great seafood. But perhaps more importantly, John is a very good Second Amendment lawyer and historian who played a very significant role as an editor, writer and researcher during the litigation we now know as Doe v. Wilmington Housing Authority.

John is reminded of Delaware every day when he goes to work. Sitting in John's office on the 6th floor of the NRA Headquarters in Fairfax, VA is the C.B. Lister Trophy. C.B. Lister was once the NRA Secretary. Lister was a native Delawarean, a former employee of the DuPont Company and one of the early NRA leaders who understood and acted upon the need to protect our individual right to keep and bear arms from the depredations of the then-newly developing anti-gun movement. Lister was also a strong advocate for expanding NRA's appeal to civilian shooters and hunters before, during and after World War II.

John Frazier, has adopted Delaware's former native son and former NRA Secretary, C.B. Lister as one of his guiding lights as he settles in as NRA's new Secretary.

Frazer was born and raised in New York City, where he saw the ineffectiveness of strict firearms controls first-hand. He received his bachelor's degree in government and history from Bowdoin College (Brunswick, Maine) and a master's degree from the University of Virginia (Charlottesville, Va.), where he was also a teaching assistant in American government and political theory.

Frazer joined the NRA Institute for Legislative Action's Research and Information Division in 1993. In 1994, he became the executive assistant to NRA-ILA's Executive Director, and in 1997 moved to NRA-ILA's Federal Affairs division, where for seven years he was a lobbyist responsible for relations between the NRA and House and Senate delegations from several states. In 2005 he returned to the Research and Information staff as deputy director, and became director in 2007. In that capacity, he was responsible for developing and reviewing materials for the NRA's work in advocating for the Second Amendment rights of Americans, ranging from magazine and online articles, to fact sheets and policy papers for use by NRA lobbyists, to legal briefs.

Frazer attended the George Mason University School of Law (Arlington, Va.) at night while working for NRA-ILA. In 2008, he received his law degree and was admitted to the Virginia bar. In 2013, he left the NRA to start his own law practice in Fairfax, Va., where he continued to advise and represent the NRA as well as a private clientele of gun owners, dealers, manufacturers, and importers. He has taught at many continuing legal education seminars on firearms law. He is also admitted to practice in the District of Columbia and in various federal district courts and courts of appeals.

In January 2015, Frazer returned to the NRA as general counsel, and in April 2015, the NRA Board of Directors elected him Secretary. In that role, he is responsible for administering and overseeing operations related to the NRA's board elections, board meetings, and the Annual Meeting of Members, among other duties.

Frazer is an NRA Benefactor Member and has shot competitively with pistols, rifles, and shotguns. He is also a hunter, handloader, and amateur gunsmith.

Use Honey, Not Vinegar
"That's no way to treat a lady!

We know that NRA members and DSSA members are not to blame, but some folks opposed to Senate Bill 83 have apparently forgotten what their mothers and grandmothers told them about the effectiveness of honey versus vinegar when attempting to attract folks to your way of thinking.

It has been reported to DSSA leadership that someone – perhaps more than one person – apparently attempted to influence certain Delaware State Senators by being "nasty" to them – shame on you, whoever you might be!

In every "Action Alert" sent out on this issue, DSSA Leadership as asked – and, yes, even instructed - our members to be polite when communicating with their legislators.

NRA members and DSSA members understand that it is, indeed, counterproductive to be disrespectful to a legislator. For that reason, if for no other, we are confident that whoever these less-than-respectful people might have been, they were certainly not our members.

Please remind your friends and neighbors that when they are communicating with a legislator, they must respect the fact that the legislator was elected by his or her constituents to represent the people of that district. Please give all of our duly elected legislators all due respect – even if you disagree with their position on a bill – and especially if you want them to change their minds and support your position.

From the reports we have received, at least two very nice ladies who were duly elected by their constituents to represent tax-paying Delawareans in the Delaware State Senate were rudely insulted by caller(s) while voicing their opposition to Senate Bill 83 – that type of conduct is totally unacceptable and inexcusable.

Make no mistake: Senate Bill 83 is a very bad piece of anti-gun legislation. Everyone knows that. Likewise, everyone also knows that no Senator or Representative deserves to be treated with disrespect. More importantly, everyone should

also know that your grandmother was correct – you are far more likely to attract more votes with "honey" than you will with "vinegar".

On behalf of all of the members of the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association and on behalf of the thousands upon thousands of law-abiding gun owners and NRA members in the State of Delaware, the Board of Directors of the Delaware

State Sportsmen's Association hereby offers its most sincere apologies to those Senators who were offended by whomever was responsible for those "nasty calls" - and we offer our most sincere apologies to the entire Delaware General Assembly, both House and Senate.

If you know who is responsible for such vile, reprehensible and inappropriate conduct, tell them to stop – tell them to apologize to the Senator(s) whom they offended and tell them that their conduct is far outside the pale of legitimate political discourse.

Ladies and gentlemen of the Delaware General Assembly, you have our very sincere and heartfelt apologies.

NRA Board Elects New Leaders

On April 13, 2015 NRA's President, James W. Porter II, successfully completed his second term as our 62nd President as the Board of Directors chose his successor.

NRA's 63rd President is Allan D. Cors, a long-term member of the NRA Board from Virginia. Allan served two years as NRA's 1st Vice President, two years as NRA's 2nd Vice President and is a former President of the NRA Foundation.

President Cors is an active competitive shooter, hunter and an avid gun collector. Allan is a member of the American Society of Arms Collectors and has served for many years on NRA's Gun Collectors Committee. He is also the Founder and Chairman of the National Museum of Americans in Wartime. President Cors Is a Distinguished Rifleman with President's 100 awards, and has served for many years as a firing member of the Virginia State Rifle Team.

A lawyer by training, Allan Cors is by profession a public affairs consultant and federal lobbyist in Washington, D.C., and an active participant in legislative efforts to protect and defend our Second Amendment Rights. Allan is the current Chairman of NRA's Legislative Policy Committee and Vice Chair of NRA's Finance Committee. Allan was a principal advocate for the establishment of NRA's Political Action Committee.

Upon Allan Cors' election as our 63rd President, Pete Brownell, who had already served two terms as NRA's 2nd Vice President was elected to the office of 1st Vice-President. A Benefactor Member, Pete Brownell is the CEO of Brownell's, the world's largest supplier of gun parts, tools, shooting supplies and ammunition.

Pete is well known in his home state of Iowa as a highly respected Second Amendment activist. Pete is an avid hunter and currently serves as Chairman of the Membership Committee and Vice Chairman of the Sport Shooting Committee. He is also a Trustee of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff Foundation.

NRA's new 2nd Vice President is none other than NASCAR legend, team owner and President of Richard Childress Racing, Mr. Richard Childress from North Carolina. An avid hunter, sportsman, and member of Safari Club International, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Orvis Grand Slam Club.

Richard currently serves as Chairman of NRA's Hunting & Wildlife Conservation Committee. Richard also serves on the Board of Directors of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation.

The Delaware State Sportsmen's Association congratulates all three of these gentlemen, wishes them success in their new positions and pledges it support to each of them as they lead NRA in the months and years to come – Congratulations and good luck to all!

(Please see a related article elsewhere in this Newsletter concerning the retirement of NRA's long-time Secretary, Edward J. "Jim" Land, Jr., and the election of John Frazier as NRA's new Secretary.)

MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DONATIONS, PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

Our Organization exists and is sustained by the membership fees and donations we receive annually. Please note that we appreciate and need your support more than ever. Our membership has virtually doubled in the past few months and with this infusion of support DSSA can and plans to move forward in areas and ways we have not been able to do before. We ask that when making donations to DSSA or DFLA that you use a separate check for each organization. This will ensure that the monies will be used as you the member/donator would have us use it. To help in this area, DSSA has set out to allow online payments and registration for membership. As you read this, provisions are being made to facilitate credit card usage in a secure manner to make payments and to donate. THANK YOU

DSSA NEWS

The DSSA NEWS is a bi-monthly publication of the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association. It is distributed to each member as a benefit of membership. Additional copies are provided to elected officials and other NRA state associations. If you would like to contribute to the DSSA NEWS please submit your material to jeff.hague@dssa.us. Questions or concerns may be sent to the same address.

Mail Delivery Option

If you have paid dues at the full rate of $25.00 per year you may elect to receive your newsletter through the USPS. To make a change please contact DSSA Membership Secretary, William D. Bell at:

dabll@comcast.net or 302- 245-4822.

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