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D.S.S.A. NEWS

DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION
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New Year Resolutions

By John C. Sigler
NRA Past President

OK, New Year's Eve is behind us and I am sure that everyone made their New Year Resolutions – or did you? If you didn't maybe you should. And if you did perhaps you need to make at least one more. Here are some suggestions:

1. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to personally do **everything** in my power to preserve, protect and defend my God-given fundamental Right to Keep and Bear Arms.
2. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to call, write, email, or fax both my State Representative and my State Senator and politely but firmly ask them to vote against all new gun laws proposed by the Governor and his gun-grabbing cohorts.
3. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to write at least one letter to the editor of my local newspaper in support of the rights of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms for lawful purposes.
4. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to attend at least one rally or event at Legislative Hall in support of the Right to Keep and Bear Arms.
5. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to firmly stand with and support the NRA and DSSA as they fight for our rights at Legislative Hall.
6. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to make one or more financial contributions to DSSA, NRA-ILA, the NRA Civil Rights Defense Fund or the Delaware Foundation for Legislative Action.
7. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to take at least one person to the range to introduce them to the safe and responsible enjoyment of the shooting sports.
8. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to take a young person hunting.
9. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to help educate my friends, colleagues, co-workers and family members as to the truth about our God-given constitutional Right to Keep and Bear Arms.
10. I solemnly **RESOLVE** to vote Freedom First in every election, every year and to educate others to do so as well.

Oh, and here's one more – I gladly **RESOLVE** to attend the **DSSA's Second Amendment Freedom Banquet on January 31st, 2019 at the Modern Maturity Center in Dover.**

Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club had their Annual Scrooge Shoot on Saturday, December 29th, 2018.

By Roger Boyce

Back in the early 1990's two DRPC members were reminiscing about when they were kids at Christmas time and would get a BB gun for Christmas. There was a tremendous temptation to shoot the balls off the Christmas tree but they knew if they did, their mom will give them an ass whipping.

As child-like adults and the fact that they were members of a private gun club, they got the idea to bring a Christmas tree into the range and shoot the balls off the tree. This extemporaneous event evolved into the DRPC Annual Scrooge Shoot.



Scrooge Shoot has been held on the last Saturday after Christmas for the last 25 years. The event is open to all members and the public. For \$8.00 you can shoot the crap out of a Christmas tree using any 22 rimfire pistol or rifle. Kids under 12 get to shoot the first tree free. Typically a participant will go through 100-150 rounds in 12 minutes.

Each year the event is well attended. Years past had typically seen an average of 60 trees but since the new facility renovation, the numbers have grown to 89 trees shot this year (2018). It's been so successful, leadership is discussing extending the event to two days next year.



Left: Two friends compete one's brother to see who is the best shot

Right: Sorry Connor, the girls won. The girls always win so get used to it.

The trees are made from cardboard cut-outs painted green and decorated with a minimum of 40 glass ornaments, garland, candy canes, hard candy peppermints and other decorating items. Only glass ornaments will work because they break apart when shot. Plastic ornaments will take a lot of hits which defeats the fun of watching something blow apart when you shoot it. Each tree is also adorned with a candy cane log which is spectacular when shot. It literally explodes. The small candy canes and hard mints explode but not with the same visual effect as the large log.

Ann Elves and other volunteers spent the year looking and purchasing glass Christmas ornaments for the following year. In early November the Shooting Events Director develops volunteer teams to build the trees and prepare replenishment ornaments bags for the vent. Plastic film lines the range floor and walls and six trees are hung at the target line. Six participants shoot at a time with a relay every 20-30 minutes. After each relay, spent trees are changed out for new ones and the spent trees are re-decorated. At the end of the event, all of the broken items are rolled up in the plastic and disposed.

A few years ago a father and mother brought their young daughter to the event. The little girl was scared and crying and did not want to shoot the rifle. After some discussion with one of the instructors, the little girl decided to try it. Within 10 shots, the little girl had a smile on her face Ajax couldn't take off. She ended up shooting two trees. She still shoots the event to this day.

What is really gratifying for club leadership is to see the diversity of participants. Many members bring family and guests. From age 6 to 90, all enjoy the fun. Participants also include handicap and disabled persons who are provided with a qualified instructor to help them with gun control, reloading and other support as necessary. It's rewarding to see Parkinson's patients and others enjoy an event that they didn't think was possible.

DRPC will be running this event for many years to come so put it on your bucket list for next year and bring the grandkids. We have plenty of rifles to lend if needed. It is sure to be a hit! (pun intended).



Candy Cane Log is typically the crescendo when shot. A good shooter can start at one end and get 3 or 4 hits before its completely gone.

DELAWARE LAW ENFORCEMENT MARKSMANSHIP ASSOCIATION
WINTER SCHEDULE 2018/2019

Saturday Dec 8th	Seaford, DE	0900 hrs
Saturday Jan 12th	Seaford, DE	0900 hrs.
Saturday Feb 9th	Seaford, DE	0900 hrs.
Saturday Mar 9th	Seaford, DE	0900 hrs
Saturday Apr 13th	Seaford, DE	0900 hrs.

(Nanticoke Sportsman Association)

COURSE OF FIRE- 48 rounds

Stage 1: 3 yards, double action - 6 shots one hand standing without support, eight (8) seconds.

Stage 2: 7 yards, double action - 12 shots, one or two hands standing without support position, twenty (20) seconds, includes reloading for second 6 shot string. CHANGE TARGET

Stage 3: 15 yards, double action - 12 shots, one or two hands standing without support, twenty (20) seconds, includes reloading for second 6 shot string.

Stage 4: 25 yards, double action - 18 shots, one or two hands; 6 shots kneeling, from behind the barricade for cover and support; 6 shots standing left hand from behind the barricade; and 6 shots standing right hand from behind the barricade. Ninety (90) seconds, includes reloading for subsequent 6 shot strings.

Membership Fee- N/A Course Fee- \$8.00 per relay,
 Contact Mark Hester: mhester35905@hotmail.com or 302-270-0412

*** New shooter orientation begins at 0900 hrs. prior to the first relay. New shooters can have an experienced DLEMA member accompany them as "one on one" during their relay to gain familiarization with positions and time management.***

So why do you need to carry a gun?

Submitted by Vickie Prickett

KATY, Texas (KTRK) –

An attempted robbery turned into a shootout between a pair of suspects and a husband protecting his wife, according to The Harris County Sheriff's Office. The attempted armed robbery happened around 2:30 p.m. in a busy parking lot of a Randall's store on Fry Road.

Detectives believe the suspects were "joggers," who followed the couple from a bank across the street. The couple went grocery shopping and were about to load the groceries in their SUV when a black Cadillac SUV pulled into a parking space in front of them. An investigator said one man pulled out a gun and demanded the woman's purse. Her husband was on the other side of the car, and pulled out his weapon. Moments later, shots were exchanged.

The husband fired four rounds, hitting both men, according to deputies. The suspects got into the getaway car and pulled onto Fry Road, where the vehicle crashed out, leaving two men to run off on foot. The driver, who was hit in the shoulder ran to a nearby fire station for help, and collapsed. He was transported to the hospital and treated. His partner remains at large.

Good thing the husband had a gun.

What we now know about 'gun-control'- This recent report on 'gun-control' was issued by a number of academics, including the researcher funded by the state of California in their Violence Prevention Research Program. This is hardly a right wing policy piece purchased by gun manufacturers. The report compared data from California with data from other states that did not enact 'gun-control' laws. Rates of homicide with a gun and suicide did not decrease in California compared to those other states used as a control group. There was no significant difference despite the 'gun-control' laws being in place for more than a quarter century. Mandated background checks for all firearms purchases didn't reduce crime or suicide. Prohibiting people with misdemeanor offenses from buying guns didn't reduce crime or suicide in California.

California also has mandatory firearms safety training, 10 day waiting periods, magazine capacity restrictions, and one-gun-a-month purchase restrictions. Most people can't get a concealed carry license in California. There are obvious reasons these 'gun-control' laws don't work despite the political promises made in press releases.

What we thought would happen and why 'gun-control' failed- California politicians said that criminals wouldn't use guns if we regulated law abiding citizens. In most cases, the criminals simply got their guns illegally. If guns were in short supply, then criminals shared guns rather than each criminal having a gun of his own. For the few criminals that were inconvenienced by these 'gun-control' laws, the criminal simply used another tool of intimidation rather than using a firearm.

That analysis only looks at part of the balance between criminals and crime victims. It has to be true that some criminal somewhere was inconvenienced by California's 'gun-control' laws. Unfortunately, all of the law abiding California gun owners were also inconvenienced by these laws. Many honest citizens were disarmed. The effect of disarming a few criminals was overwhelmed by disarming so many of the intended victims of crime. Rather than make crime harder, California's 'gun-control' laws made crime easier. Guns save lives when they are in the hands of law abiding citizens as well as take lives when they are in the hands of criminals.

This study shows that criminals ignore gun laws and the burden falls on honest gun owners. That is true for every 'gun-control' law. Unfortunately, California politicians and judges don't care. There is a reason why.

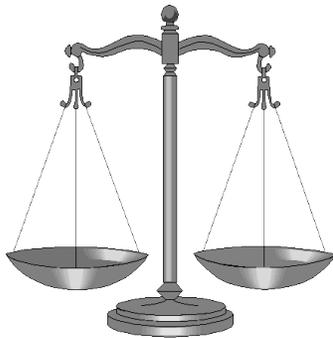
We are the only ones who care if 'gun-control' fails- California's 'gun-control' laws clearly infringe on our natural right of self-defense. These laws also disproportionately disarm the poor and minority segments of our society. 'Gun-control' leaves the most vulnerable segments of society at greater risk. Shouldn't lawmakers and judges care about that? California's 'gun-control' laws don't apply to California politicians. They can buy the guns they want and carry them at times and places where you can't. California judges get concealed carry permits in counties where ordinary citizens are denied a permit. In addition, California politicians can

'Gun-Control' Fails in California ... and We Lose

Reprint from JPFO

By Rob Morse

Submitted by Tom Shellenberger



Sociologists and criminologists rendered their verdict. 'Gun-control' in California doesn't work. In hindsight, that should have been obvious. Unfortunately, these failed laws will probably not be rescinded by lawmakers nor be overturned by judges. Since Californians won't change things at the ballot box, they are going to have to vote with their feet to restore their rights.

continue to rake in campaign contributions in support of 'gun-control' even though the 'gun-control' laws don't work. In short, 'gun-control' works for California's elites. Politicians and judges won't change a system that works for them. What is shocking to me is that federal court judges agree with the California politicians and with lower court judges. That means we can't look to politicians or judges for help. Changing things is up to us.

Collectors Corner

By John C. Sigler
NRA Past President

America's history is sometimes best told through the evolution of its martial arms. As a history buff and a self-admitted "gun nut", I am especially intrigued by American martial (military) arms of our country's first century.

Although the Model 1812 musket was among the first assortment of arms issued by our government to its troops, the later Springfield Model 1816 Flintlock Musket is generally recognized as the first military arm generally issued to all U.S. Troops of the era.



The Springfield Model 1816 flintlock musket was a smooth bore weapon with a 42 inch round barrel in .69 caliber and an overall length of 57 inches. (Note: the original Springfield Armory was not the sole producer of the arms bearing its name).

Although many Model 1816's have survived and are anything but truly rare, most of the survivors were converted to percussion prior to the Civil War and this is especially true of those that were "militia-marked" as the result of having been produced pursuant to contracts let from various state governments for use by their state militias. As one might expect, many of the original Model 1816 militia- marked flintlocks that were converted to percussion for use in the Civil War by various state militias were later reconverted to their original flintlock configuration and re-sold to unsuspecting buyers. Close examination of the area around the lock will provide evidence of the re-conversion.

Below is a photograph of a Model 1816 flintlock musket whose stock is militia-marked "State of Delaware".



This particular piece is marked "US" over the letters "LS" over a heavily stamped "P" within a circle and the date "1831" on the top-rear of the barrel (receiver).

The side plate is marked as follows:

*Middle
Conn
1831.*

and bears the manufacturer's logo of a star (), and are known as "stars", of course. These markings indicate a product of Nathan Starr & Son.*



Nathan Starr entered the arms business in 1776 and was joined by his son (also Nathan) in 1812 who carried on his father's business in Middletown, Connecticut after his father's death in 1821, until 1845.

According to the Chief Curator and his staff at NRA's National Firearms Museum in Fairfax, Virginia, the musket shown in these photographs is not only in its original condition having never been converted or re-converted, it is in "virgin condition", meaning that it has never been fired and that the bands and screws had never been removed until their examination of the piece several years ago.

Although the exact history of this piece remains mostly unknown, these experts from the National Firearms Museum believe that this piece was never delivered to the State of

Delaware and was probably removed from stock and entered private ownership upon the demise of the business known as Nathan Starr & Son in 1845. In keeping with this belief, this piece came to Delaware by way of a collector/broker also from Connecticut who, himself, obtained the piece from another Connecticut resident.

Severe Bleeding – Can you handle it at your Range?

by Roger Boyce
VP, DSSA

Until recently, the Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club had the standard first aid kit which is similar to the one many of you have in your car or workshop. Band Aids, scissors, tape, small gauze pads, etc. We also had an AED to react to a heart attack at the Club. But what we did not have was the ability to handle a serious wound or trauma, the kind of which can be anticipated around a gun range. As a result, the DRPC Board of Directors commissioned the development of a Trauma Pac and an instructional class on how to use the DRPC Trauma Pac to be offered to Club members and their



New First Aid and Trauma Pack in DRPC's Ready Room

Jim Evans, former NCC paramedic and Roger Boyce, Director of Education and Safety at DRPC and former SF US Army Medic, built a simple Trauma Pac and developed a class around a PowerPoint and several YouTube segments. The Class was only structured around the DRPC Trauma Pac and its contents to treat severe bleeding type injuries. Each participant was instructed in the use of the equipment which included hands-on application and use of:

- Compression bandages for direct pressure
- Packing gauze for wound packing
- Israeli Compression Bandages
- CAT Tourniquet (Combat Application Tourniquet)
- Occlusion Bandages (for sucking chest wounds)



Basic components of the DRPC Trauma Pac

The class was limited to 1.5 hours with a maximum of 8 participants per class. This constraint allowed individual instruction and hands-on application without taking an excessive amount of time out of the participant's daily schedule. We were able to train approximately 22% of the Club membership. That's a significant number that voluntarily participated and are now trained to handle a serious bleeding event. Instruction included discussion on getting 911/paramedic support and interfacing with the first responders and the police.



Left: Some wounds may be large enough (like an exit wound) to require packing. The participant is packing this leg wound with a roll of gauze and then applying a compression bandage to finish it off before paramedics arrive.

Right: The Occlusion Bandage is basically a very sticky piece of plastic film that is applied directly over the wound of a sucking chest wound. Most occlusion bandages come in pairs because of the possibility of an entrance and exit wound.



Participant applying a CAT tourniquet. The trick to a tourniquet is to get it tight enough to work properly, cutting off the blood supply to the wound. It is very painful but necessary in many severe bleeds.

The good news to the participants is that qualified medical support from first responders typically arrives 5-8 minutes after calling 911 so paramedics will be there quickly to take the problem off your hands. The bad news is that you can bleed out in two or three minutes so immediate response by a club member is essential.

Along with the training, the participants were instructed and encouraged to develop their own Trauma Pacs for their home, car and range kit. Each class included a list of specific components that could be obtained from Amazon.com to build your own kit. We cautioned that there are many ready-made kits on the market, most of which do not provide a simple yet complete solution.

Jim and Roger are willing to provide the powerpoint and basic instruction to any Club or organization that would like to do a similar program for their membership.

If you want to make your own personal Trauma Pac, our recommendation is as follows:

Recommended Personal Trauma Pack Components – Minimum
All items can be found on Amazon.com

- 2) 4" elastic ACE bandages \$14.00
- 2) 4" Israeli Compression Bandages \$16.00
- 1) CAT Tourniquet \$30.00

- 2) Occlusion Bandages \$16.68
- 2) 4" Packing Gauze \$0.80
- 1) Scissors \$12.00
- 1) Roll of tape \$5.00
- 1) Pair of gloves (box) \$8.00
- 1) Orca Tactical MOLLE EMT Medical First Aid IFKA Utility Pouch \$14.99

Total – Around \$100.00 to \$125.00 on Amazon.com



Personal Trauma Pac carabiner-clipped to range bag. This one is a little larger and more personal than the typical one recommended. Carabiner lets you switch from range bag to car or home.



Left: DRPC Trauma Pac Personal trauma pac recommended at DRPC.

Right: Take the pac and make it your own by adding or changing components based upon your needs and skill level. Contents of Personal Trauma Pac are based upon the recommend list. Yes, it will all fit nice and tight. With a carabiner clip, you can add the pac to your car, shop or range bag. Based upon other activities you do, you may want a special trauma pac suited for your activity.

Questions or interest please email:
Roger Boyce
Email: roger.boyce@dssa.us

DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION'S

2ND AMENDMENT FREEDOM BANQUET

Modern Maturity Center, Dover, Delaware

January 31, 2019

Doors open @ 5:30pm – Dinner @ 7 pm

FEATURING



Chris W. Cox
Executive Director
NRA's Institute for Legislative Action

Silent Auction Door Prize (Pistol) Limited Live Auction

\$50 per person

Tickets: Call Carolyn Thompson
302-697-6769

Defending the Rights of Delaware's Hunters & Gun Owners
SINCE 1968

Venezuelans regret gun ban, 'a declaration of war against an unarmed population'

By Hollie McKay | Fox News

Edited for length

Submitted by John Sigler



Photo - In this April 13, 2010 file photo, members of the National Revolutionary Militia hold up their weapons and a painting of Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez at an event marking the 9th anniversary of Chavez's return to power after a failed 2002 coup, in Caracas, Venezuela. (AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos, File)

CUCUTA, Venezuela/Colombia border – As Venezuela continues to crumble under the socialist dictatorship of President Nicolas Maduro, some are expressing words of warning – and resentment – against a six-year-old gun control bill that stripped citizens of their weapons.

“Guns would have served as a vital pillar to remaining a free people, or at least able to put up a fight,” Javier Vanegas, 28, a Venezuelan teacher of English now exiled in Ecuador, told Fox News. “The government security forces, at the beginning of this debacle, knew they had no real opposition to their force. Once things were this bad, it was a clear declaration of war against an unarmed population.”

Under the direction of then-President Hugo Chavez, the Venezuelan National Assembly in 2012 enacted the “Control of Arms, Munitions and Disarmament Law,” with the explicit aim to “disarm all citizens.” The law took effect in 2013, with only minimal pushback from some pro-democracy opposition figures, banned the legal commercial sale of guns and munitions to all - except government entities.

Chavez initially ran a months-long amnesty program encouraging Venezuelans to trade their arms for electrical goods. That year, there were only 37 recorded voluntary gun surrenders, while the majority of seizures - more than 12,500 – were by force.

In 2014, with Nicolás Maduro at the helm following Chavez’s death but carrying through his socialist “Chavista” policies, the government invested more than \$47 million enforcing the gun ban – which has since included grandiose displays of public weapons demolitions in the town square.

A former gun store owner inside Venezuela – who told Fox News he has now been relegated to only selling fishing supplies since the ban – said he can’t sell any type of weaponry - even a slingshot - and underscored that even BB ammunition and airsoft guns are only issued to police and military officers. The punishment for illicit carrying or selling a weapon now is 20 years behind bars.

Prior to the 2012 reform, there were only around eight gun stores in the entire country. And the process of obtaining a legal permit to own and carry was plagued by long wait lines, high costs and bribery “to make the process swifter” at the one department allowed to issue licenses, which operated under the umbrella of the Ministry of Defense.

“Venezuelans didn’t care enough about it. The idea of having the means to protect your home was seen as only needed out in the fields. People never would have believed they needed to defend themselves against the government,” Vanegas explained. “Venezuelans evolved to always hope that our government would be non-tyrannical, non-violator of human rights, and would always have a good enough control of criminality.”

He said it didn’t take long for such a wide-eyed public perception to fall apart. “If guns had been a stronger part of our culture, if there had been a sense of duty for one to protect their individual rights, and as a show of force against a government power – and had legal carry been a common thing – it would have made a huge difference,” he lamented.

Since April 2017, almost 200 pro-democracy protesters in Venezuela – armed mostly with stones – were shot dead by government forces in brutal retaliation to their call to end the oppressive socialist regime. The once oil-wealthy nation has continued its downward spiral into financial ruin, extreme violence, and mass human rights violations. An estimated three million Venezuelans have been forced to flee since 2015.

“Venezuela shows the deadly peril when citizens are deprived of the means of resisting the depredations of a criminal government,” said David Kopel, a policy analyst, and research director at the Independence Institute and adjunct professor of Advanced Constitutional Law at Denver University. “The Venezuelan rulers – like their Cuban masters – apparently viewed citizen possession of arms as a potential danger to a permanent communist monopoly of power.”



More than three million Venezuelans have fled into neighboring Colombia since the crisis of 2015.

Although the bill was sold to the population as a hardline effort to improve security, and sharply reduce crime, many now point to Venezuela as a case study for how gun prohibition can actually produce the opposite effect.

IN VENEZUELAN CRISIS, FAMILIES CAN'T EVEN AFFORD TO PROPERLY BURY THE DEAD
ECUADORIANS SAY ASSANGE'S TIME IN LONDON EMBASSY MAY BE NEARING END

The violent crime rate, already high, soared. Almost 28,000 people were murdered in 2015 – with the [homicide rate](#) becoming the world's highest. Compare that, according to [GunPolicy.org](#) – an international firearms prevention and policy research initiative – to just under 10,000 in 2012, and 6,500 thousand in 2001, the year before Chavez came to power.

The total number of gun deaths in 2013 was estimated to 14,622, having steadily risen from 10,913 in 2002. While comprehensive data now goes unrecorded by the government, in September this year, Amnesty International declared Venezuela had a murder rate “worse than some war zones” – 89 people per 100,000 people - and three times that of its volatile neighbor Brazil.

Much of the crime has been attributed by analysts to government-backed gangs – referred to in Spanish as “collectivos” – who were deliberately put in place by the government.

“They were set up by the government to act as proxies and exert community control. They're the guys on the motorcycles in the poor neighborhoods, who killed any protesters,” said Vanessa Neumann, the Venezuelan-American president and founder of Asymmetrica, a Washington, D.C.-based political risk research and consulting firm. “The gun reform policy of the government was about social control. As the citizenry got more desperate and hungry and angry with the political situation, they did not want them to be able to defend themselves. It was not about security; it was about a monopoly on violence and social control.”

So while Venezuelan citizens were stripped of their legal recourse to bear arms, the “collectivos” – established by Chavez when came to power – were legally locked and loaded. Deemed crucial to the survival of the socialist dictatorship, the “collectivos” function to brutally subjugate opposition groups, while saving some face as they aren't officially government forces, critics contend.

Eduardo Espinel, 35, who serves as a representative for the rapidly growing Venezuelan population in the Colombian border town of Cucuta – having fled his ailing nation two years ago under the threat of being kidnapped by local gangsters – said the law had proliferated the violence by allowing the collectivos to freely and legally shoot and kill.

“Everyone else but the common citizen. This law asks for the disarming of the common people, but everyone else can carry,” Espinel said. “The kind of law might make sense in a normal country, but in Venezuela, it makes no sense. People are faced with crime and have no easy means to defend themselves.”



Eduardo Espinel, 35, who serves as a representative for the rapidly growing Venezuelan population in the Colombian border town of Cucuta, said a gun ban law had actually proliferated the violence in Venezuela. (Fox News/Hollie McKay)

And Maribel Arias, 35, who was once a law and political science student at the University of Los Andes in her home state of Mérida but fled to the Colombian border with her family two years ago – living mostly on the streets as she and her husband take turns finding odd jobs such as selling water and attending bathrooms and while sharing the parenting duties of tending to their four children – bemoaned that they simply cannot rely on the nation's law enforcement.

“The people of Venezuela should have rights for gun carrying because there is just too much crime and people should have the right to defend themselves because the justice system is not working,” Arias asserted. “If you call the police, the police come only if they want. If they capture the criminal maybe they will take away whatever they stole, but they normally go free again. It's a vicious cycle.”



Maribel Arias, 35, who fled to the Colombian border with her family two years ago – living mostly on the streets as she and her husband take turns finding odd jobs while sharing the parenting duties for their four children – said Venezuelans cannot rely on the nation's law enforcement.

Many contend the gun ban has in some ways hurt police and law enforcement, who have themselves become a more fervent target of street gangs. There was a 14 percent increase in police murders in 2016. And more than 80 percent of assailants subsequently stole the officer's gun, according to Insight Crime.

Some experts contend many of the weapons and ammunition used by gangsters were once in the hands of government forces, and obtained either through theft or purchase from corrupt individuals. And adding to the complication, the ranks of the police force are beleaguered by crime and corruption. "Crimes are committed by police, a lot of the criminals are police themselves," said Saul Moros, 59, from the Venezuelan city of Valencia.

Luis Farias, 48, from Margarita, said that gun violence was indeed bad when guns were freely available for purchase. But it became much worse after the gun ban was passed. "Now the criminal mother is unleashed," Farias said. "Trying to ban guns didn't take guns off the streets. Nobody cares about the law; the criminals don't care about the law."



"Crimes are committed by police, a lot of the criminals are police themselves," Saul Moros, 59, from the Venezuelan city of Valencia. (left) Luis Farias, 48, said gun violence was bad when guns were freely available – but became much worse after the so-called prohibition. (Fox News/Hollie McKay)

A black market in weapons is also thriving. There are an estimated six million unregistered firearms circulating in Venezuela, but they remain far from reach for the average, non-criminal Venezuelan.

"The black market of weapons is very active, mostly used by violent criminals," said Johan Obdola, a former counter-narcotics chief in Venezuela and now president of Latin America-focused, Canada-based global intelligence and security firm IOSI. "Venezuelans simply looking to protect themselves from the regime are totally vulnerable."

Prices vary daily. But an AR-15 rifle goes for around \$500, sources said, while handguns sell for about \$250. Those prices are far beyond the reach of the average Venezuelan.

"Most guns can be bought illegally in a sort of pyramid structure. A big irregular group or criminal organization has the best access to weapons directly from the government, and they sometimes even get access to basically new unused weaponry," explained Vanegas. "The longer down the pyramid you are, you must get your weapon from the nearest big irregular group that overpowers you within your territory. This is not an option for any moral person, due to the fact that you need to deal with criminals in order to get an illegal gun. And for many obvious reasons, people will not even consider this." The Venezuelan government denies it is in a deeply deteriorating crisis, caused by its own policies. Rather, it

blames the United States and opposition leaders for waging an "economic war."



Feb. 22, 2014: A group of masked men run for cover after riot police launched tear gas in Caracas, Venezuela. (AP)

According to Omar Adolfo Zares Sanchez, 48, a lawyer, politician, and former mayor of Campo Elías municipality in the Venezuelan state of Mérida, it is now all but too late to make guns legally accessible to the average person.

"Without a doubt, if there had been a balance of armed defense we could have stood up and stopped the oppression at the beginning," he contended. "But there is too much anarchy on the streets now. Making guns easier for anybody to buy now would start a civil war."

Other Venezuelans argue that while violence has indeed rapidly increased in the years since the gun ban, it might have been that much worse as the economy collapsed, and the country deteriorated. "The problem from the country deteriorated. "The problem from the beginning and still now is that there are too many people in Venezuela who are lawless. Crime is a way of living," said Emberly Quiroz, 25, mother of three. "Access to weapons won't solve the problem."

Study: U.S. Ranks 64th on List of Countries with Mass Shootings

Breitbart – AWR Hawkins
Submitted by Hank Maier



A study from the Crime Prevention Research Center (CPRC) shows that the United States ranks 64th in the per capita frequency on the list of countries that witnessed mass shootings from 1998 to 2015.

The study also found that while the U.S. constitutes 4.6 percent of the world's population, "it makes up less than 1.15 percent of the mass public shooters" and less than 1.5 percent of their murders.

CPRC used the study's summary to explain: "Over the 18 years from 1998 to 2015, our list contains 2,354 attacks and at least 4,880 shooters outside the United States and 53 attacks and 57 shooters within our country. ... Attacks in the US are not only less frequent than other countries, they are also much less deadly on average."

It added, "Out of the 97 countries where we have identified mass public shootings occurring, the United States ranks 64th in the per capita frequency of these attacks and 65th in the murder rate."

CPRC also notes that attacks in the U.S. are on the decline, that "there has been a much bigger increase over time in the number and severity of mass shootings in the rest of the world compared to the US."

The CPRC's findings on the number of mass shootings in America run completely counter to the mantra of the establishment media, Hollywood elites, and various gun control activists, but they are in line with academic research that seeks to present an unpoliticized view of the world.

For example, in June, the *New York Times* claimed "at least 700 mass shootings" over a two-year time frame, and in 2015, actress Rose McGowan claimed 355 in 2015 alone. But a University of Alabama researcher found a much lower figure—a total of 90 mass shootings in America from 1966-2012.

With emotionalism out and academic rigor in, CPRC shows 53 mass attacks in the U.S. during the last 18 years and declining U.S. share in the number of attacks worldwide.

PRESIDENTS' CORNER

Well the 150th General Assembly has convened this year. On Tuesday, January 8th, the duly elected Representatives and Senators were sworn in. It was a day of pomp and circumstance where everyone congratulated each other and introduced the family members that had joined them in the chamber.

Needless to say, we, the defenders of your right to keep and bear arms, were not celebrating. The election in November last year saw us losing one supporter of our rights in each chamber. That leaves the numbers as 25 Democrats and 16 Republicans in the House and 12 Democrats and 9 Republicans in the Senate. If a bill that is not of our liking is voted strictly on party lines we lose.

We know that most of the bills that were introduced in the last session will most likely return. The numbers make our job much more difficult.

The most egregious bill that we were able to derail last year was the semi-auto ban. We believe that will be coming

back. Rest assured that we will fight it with everything we have.

One of the most important aspects of our fight in the coming months is the support and participation is you, the member of DSSA. Your participation in this process is vitally important. Your voice has to be heard in Dover.

When you receive that email asking you to contact your Senator and Representative take the time and give them a call, as well as send them an email. Remember, whether you voted for them or not, they were elected to represent your district. When you disagree with a piece of legislation that has been introduced it is your civic obligation to contact them and voice your opinion. You cannot assume that your neighbor or one of your friends will take care of it. We all have the duty to participate in the democratic process. The alternative is not acceptable.

We know that Michael Bloomberg has funded Everytown for Gun Safety chapters all over the country. We also know the Delaware Coalition against Gun Violence will be back. Both groups have retained lobbyists here in Delaware. If Bloomberg can spend over \$150 million dollars on campaigns throughout the United States during the last election, you can bet he will not hesitate to spend money here in Delaware.

The election here in Delaware saw the state move more to the left in an unprecedented fashion. With that move comes legislation that attempts to move the state in a more progressive direction. We have all heard of Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and her extreme progressive views of the what life should be in the United States. Well the election last November saw some legislators elected that believe in the same extreme progressive views. It should be no surprise that they were elected in New Castle County.

There is no doubt that we have some tough battles coming up this legislative session.

Everyone of us needs to become engaged and help stem the attempts that will be made to deprive us of our right to keep and bear arms.

Jeff Hague

Page Nine by Alan Korwin

Background Check Clamor Obscures Real Problem
The lamestream media told you:

Universal background checks are the real solution to gun deaths, or what we call gun violence, or what we call mass shootings, or what we call terrorism, or what we call mental-health problems.

Please forget that we used to call it five-day waiting periods, when it was known as the Brady bill. Back when it funded the FBI's sprawling campus that houses the NICS computers, allowing it to check out any American from a single location, for the background checks, that are now the golden fleece, and all waiting-period talk has been abandoned, because that was a worthless smokescreen, served its purpose

with useful idiots, never amounted to anything or stopped anyone anyway. Selling guns to gang members and the rest, five days later, solved nothing. It was the computer, that's what mattered, and the statutory authority to use it.

The Uninvited Ombudsman notes however that:

Background check real issues, short form:

- No mass murderers have been stopped, that's just the evidence. This is among the gun lobby's main points.
- If the goal is to stop mass murders (the left says it is), this doesn't do that.
- Related, 6,000 inner-city murders, the main criminal statistic, is unaffected after 20 years. The total lack of murder trials for that is also unaffected. So -- what's the point of background checks if the crimes are ignored.
- The big issue: When hardened criminals are finally found, turned down trying to buy guns at retail, they are just sent away with their money. Is that what you support? (That's rarely even mentioned, no one supports that when they find out).
- The background check ignores the problem of sociopathic children who want to mass murder their classmates -- the main reason people are clamoring for checks these days.
- Most of the people stopped and denied their rights are guilty of nothing, the studies have found, they just lose their rights though bureaucracy.
- The people turned down can't be convicted of anything.
- The numbers of convictions (we're told the system weeds out criminals trying to buy guns -- very serious crime) is in two digits out of tens of thousands of denials and millions of checks. What is the system actually doing?
- There is no reasonable way to get off the list.
- There is not even a practical way to find out if you are on the list.
- Muslim jihadis aren't perturbed in their quest by background checks.
- Every gang member, mental case, would-be murderer and 100 million decent Americans who are already armed are, like, already armed, making the background check system superfluous for them to control crime.
- The left-leaning response to that side of the problem (existing guns already owned) is, we'll get those guns too.
- But think about that -- all this fuss is about new psychos who need their first gun. Didn't the media and the antis think this through?
- The cost of the system, in billions (real numbers are not available for reasons unclear at press time) could be desperately applied to real crime-fighting needs, but is blocked by democrats who want the NICS system up.
- The system collects the names of 12 million innocent Americans annually who buy guns, the real reason the system was built -- according to knowledgeable insiders on both sides of the aisle.
- In point of fact, background checks have been a huge success
- measured from the perspective of collecting gun owners' names.

-- A background check can be conducted without gathering everyone's name, but politicians and bureaucrats refuse to do that, because it's really the names they want -- they know the check doesn't accomplish much else.

<http://www.gunlaws.com/BIDSvNICS.htm>

-- The studies of armed criminals show the checks don't stop them -- they simply use straw buyers who have no criminal record. Or get some of the 350 million guns already in private hands. Or some of the countless guns smuggled in with the same ease as fentanyl, coke, pot, heroin, sex slaves and everything else.

How much more do I have to put on this list before you, too, realize the background check is about collecting the names of the innocent, ignoring gangland murders, psychotic children, sociopaths or the jihad and misdirecting attention?

Remember, the FBI could easily circulate the names of the bad guys, like wanted posters, and gun dealers could check the list to stop retail sales to villains. Instead they require business people to send the names of all their customers to the FBI. Ask yourself why it is never explained like that (known as, "clearly").

Instead, it's the usual suspects: hoplophobes, leftist/socialist/statists, useful idiots, uninformed media, misinformed schoolkids, apparatchiks and more who want the government surveillance checks expanded. Will this help if they read it?

Call for Articles

Would you like to be published in the DSSA News Letter? Publicize your Club's activities or special events. Found a great article that you want to share with Delaware Sportsmen?

Please send your article or special event to:

Roger T. Boyce

Vice President

DSSA

Roger.boyce@dssa.us

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The 2019 Annual Meeting of Members will be held on Sunday, January 27, 2019, at the FOP Lodge on Kitts Hummock Road south of Dover ADFB in Dover.

MEMBERS ONLY.

Doors will open at noon. The business meeting will begin at 1 pm.

Please come and join us.