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*Published by the National Association
of Drug Court Professionals*

Highlights...

- **\$30 million available for Drug Courts**
- **3rd Annual training Conference set for May '97**
- **COPS, NADCP link for community courts**

President's PERSPECTIVE

FROM JEFFREY TAUBER

Community Policing/Courts

That the Department of Justice, Community Orienting Policing Services (COPS) office and NADCP have created a joint Community Policing/Community Courts project is exciting news for the Drug Court field. The Project will foster critical linkages, missing in most jurisdictions, between Community Policing programs and Drug Courts as well as other Community Courts across the nation (see story on page 3).

Community Courts such as Domestic Violence Courts, Drug Courts, DUI Courts, Unified Family Courts and Neighborhood Courts among others, depend on a system-wide approach to community problems; seeking community participation and support while partnering with both criminal

See President, page 10

\$30 Million for Drug Courts in 1997; Applications due by December 2

In September of 1996, the Congress voted to increase funding for Drug Courts to \$30 million as part of the 1997 Federal Budget Appropriations package. This doubled the amount of funding available to the Department of Justice, Drug Courts Program Office from 1996 levels. According to Judge Tauber, President of NADCP, "Today, Drug Courts enjoy broad bipartisan support. Drug Court practitioners deserve much of the credit for educating their Congressional members on the need for increased Drug Court funding. Equally important, this is the first year that neither the House nor the Senate's appropriations committee zeroed out Drug Court funding in their initial budget." Jeff Tauber stated today Congressional leaders such as: Joseph Biden Jr. (D-DE); Christopher (Kit)

Bond (R-MO); Mike DeWine (R-OH); Ernest Hollings (D-SC); Ben Night-house Cambell (R-CO); Patrick Leahy (D-VT); and Arlen Specter (R-PA), as well as congressmen: Jerry Lewis (R-CA); Alan Mollohan (D-WV); Davis Obey (D-WI); Charles Schumer (D-NY) and Barbara Vucanovich (R-NV) all of whom have been critical to this year's funding and to the survival of Drug Court funding over the past several years.

Marilyn Roberts, Director of the Drug Courts Program Office, has announced that a substantial part of the \$30 million from '97 funding along with \$5.7 million from '96 funding will be available through applications recently distributed with a deadline date of December 2.

See Funding News, page 4. ■

3rd Annual Training Conference to be Held at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles May 15th-17th

NADCP's Board of Directors selected the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, CA as the site of next year's National Training Conference. The 1997 conference will be held from Thursday May 15th through Saturday May 17th. The Biltmore has the capacity to accommodate up to 1200 participants in grand style.

NADCP's Third Annual National Training Conference will be co-sponsored by the California Association of Drug Court Professionals and the California Administrative Offices of the Court.

For further information, contact NADCP at 703/706-0576. ■

Drug Dealers Employ U.S. Mail as Carrier

Seizures Rise Sharply With Accelerated Federal Detection Efforts

By Pierre Thomas

Washington Post Staff Writer

On Feb. 8, 1992, a U.S. Postal Service worker delivered a 13-ounce Express Mail package from Los Angeles to 222 W. 18 St. in Pine Bluff, Ark., home of Alfred Leotis Rogers.

The package was indeed high priority. Inside its crisp red, white and blue exterior was a cellophane packet filled with cocaine mailed by a Los Angeles street gang attempting to expand its market into a small city of 57,000 straddling the Arkansas River. Rogers is now serving a life sentence for conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, some of it within 1,000 feet of a high school.

With a regularity that federal law enforcement officials say is unprecedented, drug dealers are attempting to make the venerable U.S. Postal Service an unwitting cog in the country's massive illicit drug distribution system.

In the last two years, postal inspectors have arrested 3,763 people for shipping drugs through the mail and have confiscated more than 18 tons of marijuana, better than 1,500 pounds of cocaine, thousands of doses of other narcotics and at least \$20 million in cash. While these numbers represent a fraction of the overall narcotics market, federal officials are convinced they are seizing only a small portion of what is actually being mailed. They are also confronting a distribution method they find

particularly worrisome, not only because it is difficult to identify suspicious packages in a system that handles millions of pieces of mail every day, but because the sheer boldness of dropping illegal drugs into a U.S. mail box is seen as indicative of how strong narcotics demand remains.

To fight back, law enforcement officials have formed special teams of Drug Enforcement Administration agents, postal inspectors and other policing units, and have devoted increased resources to detecting packages whose contents seem dubious. The more effort federal officials have made, the more drugs they have confiscated. For example, postal inspectors seized 964,000 grams of marijuana in 1992 but saw the amount rise to 8.3 million grams this year.

"We view this surge as a direct assault on the integrity of the mail system," said Dan Mihalko, a U.S. post-

al inspector.

"It [the mail] is a viable method of moving drugs," said DEA spokesman James McGivney.

The U.S. mail's appeal to drug dealers is apparently the same as for most Americans: It's relatively cheap, timely and safe. The dealers, McGivney said, consider themselves business people, and sending their wares through the mail simply makes economic sense.

Often, the dealers mail the drugs not directly to customers, but to intermediaries who in turn sell the product on the street and then ship the proceeds back to the home office. Express Mail or overnight delivery is the preferred method, primarily because the dealers are attempting to move their product

quickly, covertly and then get the proceeds back in the same fashion. Such trafficking also gives dealers greater flexibility in setting up new markets in areas where they may have a few acquaintances or associates who could receive a mail package, but not enough of a network to buy and sell narcotics under a more traditional drug-dealing system.

Among the cases that the stepped-up enforcement efforts have uncovered:

- A six-month investigation, which concluded this year, resulted in the arrest of six persons who allegedly mailed more than 160 parcels containing 1,200 pounds of marijuana from Los Angeles to locations in Detroit; Stamford, Conn.; Philadelphia; and Queens, Brooklyn, the Bronx and Binghamton, N.Y.

- In May, a Los Angeles man was sentenced for cocaine and heroin possession, stemming from drugs he received in Express Mail deliveries. The investigation eventually netted \$322,000 in currency.

- In January 1995, the leader of an Oregon drug ring pleaded guilty to using Express and Priority Mail over at least a two-year period to smuggle cocaine and methamphetamine, grossing tens of thousands of dollars per month.

- In 1994, a Birmingham family, including a husband and wife and two sons, were sentenced for using Express Mail to transport drugs and currency between California and Alabama. Authorities reported that one of the group's parcels contained 50 pounds of currency.

- In a recent local case, an Oxon Hill man and two Dominican nationals were charged after 42 pounds of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$2 million were mailed from Panama to Maryland.

At first blush, it may seem less than brilliant for criminals to put

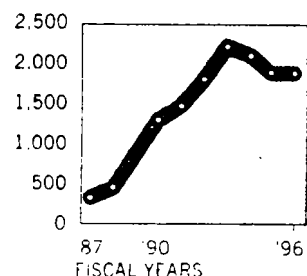
MAILING DRUGS

Postal Inspection Service narcotics investigations have resulted in 14,220 arrests since 1987. A handful of special operations in 1993 made arrests unusually high.

Seizures included:

IN KILOGRAMS		1992	1996
Marijuana	964	8,374	
Cocaine	156	386	
Methamphetamine	6	15	

Arrests



SOURCE: U.S. Postal Inspection Service

their illicit wares into the hands of the federal government, much less an agency whose reliability is constantly being maligned by the public. Yet drug dealers know the sheer volume of work handled by the Postal Service works against detection. There are nearly 30,000 post offices throughout the country handling roughly a billion parcels annually—

far more than can possibly be subjected to monitoring.

✓ "You are talking about a massive number of parcels to even consider examining," Mihalko said. He declined to say precisely how many people are detailed to intercept drugs, but acknowledged that there are about 2,200 postal inspectors in all, and only a portion of those are assigned to drug units. Some of the dealers are so confident they won't be detected that they use their real names and addresses on the packages rather than aliases.

The Postal Service relies on tips, drug-sniffing dogs and profiling methods aimed at identifying parcels with characteristics common to narcotics packages confiscated in the past.

No matter what technique is employed, federal authorities say they are racing against time. Before any package can be opened, inspectors and agents must obtain a court-approved search warrant. But authorities must rush to get this paperwork completed, because if the packages do not arrive at the expected time, suspected dealers or smugglers often will not accept the parcel, surmising that an investigation might be underway.

"The dealers are constantly adapting," Mihalko said.

Postal officials are also increasingly concerned about the safety of their unwitting mail carriers, who face the prospect of being robbed at gunpoint if associates of a drug dealer become aware that the postal carrier is delivering thousands of dollars in drugs to a house.

✱ Aware that their service was increasingly being used by drug dealers, postal inspectors four years ago quietly joined forces with a number of National Guard divisions to help screen for contraband. National Guardsmen now are working with postal inspec-

tors in 24 states to identify and interdict drugs and money trafficked in the mail. In addition, the Postal Service has established "parcel squads" with local police departments in several cities to more efficiently pursue the problem.

Through these efforts, the mail service has identified the chief cities and areas from which most of the drugs are shipped, including towns along the U.S. border with Mexico, as well as Puerto Rico, New York and Southern California, particularly Los Angeles. The destination hot spots include Richmond, Detroit, Atlanta, Boston, Chicago and New York.

After more careful monitoring of these emerging mail ports, several drug rings have been uncovered. But officials realize that what they are seeing is in fact evidence of just how large the drug market is, particularly for marijuana.

Several new studies show teenage

use of this drug climbing sharply. According to one study by the University of Michigan, the number of high school seniors who report smoking marijuana had grown from 27 percent in 1991 to 39 percent last year.

According to some criminologists, the drugs-by-mail phenomenon is also reason to ask whether it is time to reexamine enforcement strategies that emphasize supply and focus more intently on demand.

✓ —The majority of drugs are "consumed in private and the mail is considered very private," said Lawrence Sherman, chairman of the University of Maryland's Criminology Department. "Supply reduction is probably doomed to failure, because there are so many ways to distribute drugs. Many police chiefs are saying we've got to find ways to reduce demand."

COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH GUNSHOT WOUNDS IN CANADA IN 1991

Ted R. Miller, PhD

Abstract • Résumé

Objective: To estimate the costs (in 1993 dollars) associated with gunshot wounds in Canada in 1991.

Design: Cost analysis using separate estimates of gunshot incidence rates and costs per incident for victims who died, those who survived and were admitted to hospital and those who survived and were treated and released from emergency departments. Estimates were based on costs for medical care, mental health care, public services (i.e., police investigation), productivity losses, funeral expenses, and individual and family pain, suffering and lost quality of life.

Setting: Canada.

Outcome measures: Costs per case, costs by type of incident (e.g., assault, suicide or unintentional shooting) and costs per capita.

Results: The total estimated cost associated with gunshot wounds was \$6.6 billion. Of this, approximately \$63 million was spent on medical and mental health care and \$10 million on public services. Productivity losses exceeded \$1.5 billion. The remaining cost represented the value attributed to pain, suffering and lost quality of life. Suicides and attempted suicides accounted for the bulk of the costs (\$4.7 billion); homicides and assaults were the next most costly (\$1.1 billion). The cost per survivor admitted to hospital was approximately \$300 000; this amount included just over \$29 000 for medical and mental health care.

Conclusion: Costs associated with gunshot wounds were \$235 per capita in Canada in 1991, as compared with \$595 in the United States in 1992. The differences in these costs may be due to differences in gun availability in the two countries. This suggests that increased gun control may reduce Canada's costs, especially those related to suicide.

Objectif : Estimer les coûts (de 1993 en dollars) liés aux blessures par balle au Canada en 1991.

Conception : Analyse des coûts fondée sur des estimations séparées des taux d'incidence de blessures par balle et sur les coûts par incident dans le cas des victimes qui sont mortes, de celles qui ont survécu et ont été hospitalisées et de celles qui ont survécu, ont été traitées à l'urgence et libérées ensuite. Les estimations ont été fondées sur les coûts des soins médicaux, des soins de santé mentale et des services publics (c.-à-d. enquêtes policières), sur les pertes de productivité, sur les frais funéraires, la douleur, la souffrance et la perte de qualité de vie des personnes et des membres de leur famille.

Contexte : Canada.

Mesures des résultats : Coûts par cas, coûts par type d'incident (c.-à-d. agression, suicide ou atteinte non intentionnelle) et coûts par habitant.

Résultats : Le coût estimatif total lié aux blessures par balle s'est établi à 6,6 milliards de dollars. On a consacré environ 63 millions de dollars aux soins médicaux et aux soins de santé mentale et 10 millions de dollars aux services publics. Les pertes de productivité ont dépassé 1,5 milliard de dollars. Les autres coûts ont représenté la valeur attribuée à la douleur, à la souffrance et à la perte de qualité de vie. Les suicides et les tentatives de suicide ont représenté le gros des coûts (4,7 milliards de dollars), suivis des homicides et des agressions (1,1 milliard de dollars). Le coût par survivant hospitalisé a dépassé les 300 000 \$, dont presque 29 000 \$ en soins médicaux et soins de santé mentale.

Conclusion : Les coûts liés aux blessures par balle se sont établis à 235 \$ par habitant au Canada en 1991, contre 595 \$ aux États-Unis en 1992. Les différences dans ces coûts peuvent être attribuables à la disponibilité différente des armes à feu dans les deux pays. Le resserrement du contrôle des armes à feu pourrait réduire les coûts du Canada, surtout ceux qui sont liés au suicide.

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Injury is the second largest cause for medical spending and the third leading cause of death in both Canada and the United States.¹⁻³ Gunshot wounds were responsible for the deaths of 1450 Canadians⁴ and the admission to hospital of 1250 survivors in 1991 (Statistics Canada: hospital morbidity survey, 1990-91 [unpublished]). In view of the public debate about guns and gun control, the health care costs and overall costs associated with gunshot wounds are of particular interest. Although Canadian estimates are lacking, US data give some insight. Gunshot wounds there account for 9% of costs related to injury and more than 50% of costs related to intentional injury.^{5,6} They account for the third largest share of injury-related costs. In 1992 the cost associated with gunshot wounds in the United States was \$595 per resident and \$155 billion in total⁷ (adjusted to 1993 Canadian dollars). Two independent studies have estimated that the medical costs and lost future earnings alone totalled almost \$50 billion^{7,8} (with the present value of future earnings adjusted to a 2.5% discount rate for purposes of comparison).

This article estimates the costs associated with gunshot wounds in Canada in 1991. It builds on prior studies, notably analyses of costs related to gunshot wounds in the United States and to motor vehicle crashes on highways in British Columbia and Ontario.^{7,9,10}

METHODS

COLLECTION OF INCIDENCE DATA

Incidence data were needed to compute annual costs. The number of firearm-related deaths in 1991 was obtained from Statistics Canada data.⁴ The Quebec portion of the count was updated from 1991 coroner data.¹¹ 1991 was chosen as the study year because this was the most recent year for which incidence data were available.

The number of survivors of gunshot wounds who required hospital admission came from hospital morbidity data for 1990-91 from Statistics Canada (unpublished data). This source lacked data for Prince Edward Island, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon Territory. To determine the hospital discharge counts for those areas their fatality counts were multiplied by the ratio of survivors admitted to hospital to the number who died for the remainder of Canada. The number of survivors admitted to hospital is conservative: it includes only people who survived injuries and whose hospital records identified them as gunshot victims. Although most discharge records indicated the cause of injury (more than 90% in most provinces except New Brunswick¹² [Rachel Moore, Laboratory Centre for Disease Control (LCDC), Health Canada, Ottawa: personal communication, 1994]) some records failed to state a cause. The incidence data were

not adjusted upwards to account for underreporting. Also, except for the number of firearm-related deaths in Quebec, no adjustments were made when provincial statistics exceeded the numbers of gun-related deaths and hospital admissions by province from Statistics Canada.

To estimate the number of gunshot victims treated and released from emergency departments the number of survivors discharged from Canadian hospitals was multiplied by the ratio of released to admitted survivors of gunshot wounds by cause (assault, suicide attempt, unintentional) from US surveillance data.⁷ For example, an estimated 34 438 survivors of gunshot wounds in the United States were treated and released and 46 849 admitted to hospital in 1992.⁷ In 1991 an estimated 240 survivors were admitted to hospital in Canada. Therefore, in multiplying 240 by 34 438/46 849 the estimated number of victims who were treated and released was 176.

COST ANALYSIS

The following categories of costs associated with gunshot wounds were estimated. All costs were adjusted to 1993 Canadian dollars.

- Medical care costs: Costs of life support at the scene, treatment in the emergency department, use of hospital room, intensive care unit, surgical theater and outpatient department, and related supplies and services, fees of physicians and allied health care professionals for care in hospital and after discharge, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, nursing-home care and, for deaths, autopsy.
- Mental health care costs: Costs of therapy and related social services and victim services.
- Public services costs: Costs of police investigation, transportation to the emergency department and, for deaths, transportation to the coroner's office. Costs per victim were broken down by component.
- Productivity losses: Loss of paid and unpaid work. The injured person's losses may include lost wages, fringe benefits, schoolwork, housework and other household services. Family and friends may experience similar losses. Employers also may lose productivity. Supervisors may have to juggle schedules or recruit and train temporary or permanent replacements. Coworkers may be less productive because they are talking about the injury and may draw overtime pay while helping the employer meet its obligations. Finally, unique skills may be lost. Costs per victim were broken down into short-term productivity losses of victims and their families, long-term productivity losses of victims due to permanent disability or death, and employer costs.
- Funeral costs: Costs of burial minus the present value of burial costs if the victim had lived for the amount of time predicted by a Canadian life table.

- Costs of individual and family pain, suffering and lost quality of life: These costs are intangible or non-monetary. Economists have estimated the values people assign to intangible losses by looking at the money and time routinely spent to buy safety or by looking at jury awards for pain and suffering. This report did not take into account the benefits or harms that those who died would have brought about outside of their families and their jobs.

The costs were calculated as follows.

Medical care costs: First, an existing estimate of annual acute care costs for Canadian gunshot victims admitted to hospital in the early 1990s was obtained (Rachel Moore, LCDC, and Gilles Fortin and Lourdes Flor, Health Information Division, Health Canada, Ottawa: personal communication, 1994). Moore and her colleagues followed a methodology developed by LCDC in its well-known study on the economic burden of illness in Canada in 1986.¹ They found that in 1990 (the most recent year for which data were available) gunshot wounds accounted for 0.5% of all hospital days attributable to injuries, poisonings and violence (codes 800 to 999 from the *International Classification of Diseases*, 9th revision¹³). First, they multiplied this percentage by the prescription drug costs for injuries, poisonings and violence in Canada during 1993, obtained from the Bureau of Drug Policy and Coordination, to estimate that \$928 000 was spent on prescription drugs for gunshot wounds. Second, they multiplied the 0.5% by the total physician expenditure costs for injuries, poisonings and violence in 1993, obtained from Health Canada's National Health Expenditures Database, and by the percentage of physician claims in Manitoba during 1993-94 for injuries, poisonings and violence to estimate that physician care for gunshot wounds cost \$3.5 million. (Manitoba data were used because Manitoba is the only province that validates the diagnostic codes in the physician databases.^{14,15} Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia's distribution of physician care costs by diagnostic codes were compared with Manitoba's costs. The distribution of injuries, poisonings and violence was similar across the five provinces.) Finally, they multiplied the 0.5% by the total hospital costs for injuries, poisonings and violence in 1993 (obtained from the National Health Expenditures Database) after subtracting hospital drug costs to avoid double-counting; this gave an estimate of the total hospital care costs of \$11.7 million for gunshot wounds. (This estimate was based on the average cost of inpatient care and was not adjusted for outpatient care or care intensity.) The total acute care costs were \$16 185 000.

In the acute care cost study of Moore and colleagues it was assumed that the average cost per hospital day for gunshot wounds equalled the average cost per hospital day

for other injuries. However, according to US data^{7,16} the average daily cost for gunshot wounds is 1.35 times that for all injuries (\$2252/\$1664), and the long-term medical care costs for a survivor of a gunshot wound admitted to hospital are 1.74 times the acute care costs (1/0.575).

To calculate the total medical care cost per survivor admitted to hospital, the acute care cost estimate (average cost per hospital day) was multiplied by 1.35. Next, the costs for survivors were separated from the total. To do this, it was assumed, from Quebec hospital discharge data, that 5% of people who die of gunshot wounds are admitted to hospital; this estimate was considered to be nationally representative. On the basis of that assumption, the total acute medical care cost per hospital admission due to a gunshot wound was estimated to be \$16 597 ($\$16\,185\,000 \times 1.35 / [1244 \text{ survivors} + (1450 \text{ deaths} \times 0.05)]$). The lifetime medical care cost per survivor was estimated to be \$28 879 ($\$16\,597 \times 1.74$). The total acute care cost per admission is a bit above the estimate of \$14 800 from the Sunnybrook Health Science Centre.¹⁷

To estimate the cost per gunshot survivor treated in the emergency department and released, the cost per survivor admitted to hospital was multiplied by the ratio of lifetime medical costs for treated-and-released survivors to lifetime medical costs for survivors admitted to hospital in the United States.⁷ The cost was \$4933 ($\$28\,879 \times \$4271/\$25\,002$). Of this amount, the initial visit to the emergency department accounted for \$4287 ($\4933×0.869).

It was assumed that 40% of people who die from gunshot wounds are treated in the emergency department but die before they can be admitted and that the average cost of treatment is the same as that for people who are treated in the emergency department and released. Therefore, the medical care cost per person who died of a gunshot wound was estimated to be \$2545 ($[(0.05 \times \$16\,597) + (0.4 \times \$4287)]$). To this amount was added the estimated coroner's cost of \$516 (computed in the same manner as emergency department costs).

Mental health care costs: To determine these costs the US mental health care costs for the highest level of medical treatment and patient outcome from a survey of 168 mental health care providers⁷ were multiplied by the ratio of medical care costs for survivors in hospital in Canada to such costs for survivors in hospital in the United States. Because the United States has less adequate mental health care coverage than Canada and because a higher proportion of Canadian than US survivors shot themselves in a suicide attempt, the estimated mental health care costs are probably low. Also, they do not account for mental health care of people who are shot at but not hit.

Public services costs: To approximate the costs of police

investigation of gunshot wounds 1993 data were obtained from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) activity disposition database, which tracks officer time expenditures by type of occurrence. We assumed that gun-related homicides and deaths from shootings of unknown intent would require the average number of police hours spent per homicide and that gun-related suicides and deaths from unintentional shootings would require the average number of hours spent in the initial investigation (including assistant hours) per homicide. The OPP database indicated that police spend on average 504 hours per homicide, including 14 hours for the initial investigation. Investigations of cases involving people who survived and were admitted to hospital were assumed to require the same number of hours spent to investigate an aggravated assault or an intentional discharge of a firearm; suicide attempts again were assumed to require only the initial investigation time, and unintentional discharges of firearms were assumed not to generate a police response. It was assumed that half of the investigations were conducted by constables and half by sergeants. Police wages of \$49.96 per hour, including fringe benefits and overhead, came from the Ontario crash cost study (Keith Vodden, Abt Associates of Canada, Ottawa: personal communication, 1995).¹⁰

The estimated police investigation costs are conservative. The homicide estimate did not include any time spent on investigations by local police. Time spent by police investigating unlawful firearm discharges and robberies with firearms was also omitted. Legal costs and incarceration costs related to assaults and homicides involving firearms were also omitted.

The cost per ambulance run in Ontario, obtained from an Ontario study of costs of highway crashes,¹⁰ was multiplied by the probabilities of transportation for a gunshot victim and of interfacility transfer obtained from US data.⁷ This estimate may be low since transportation by helicopter was not considered.

Productivity losses: To calculate lifetime wage and household production losses a model developed for the Ontario Ministry of Transport was used.¹⁰ The older data in the original model were replaced by the most recent published data — 1990 earnings data and preliminary 1991 life-table data from Statistics Canada.^{18,19} Losses for people who died from gunshot wounds were calculated separately from those for survivors according to age and sex distributions taken from vital statistics and custom retrievals of cause-specific hospital discharge data respectively (Statistics Canada: hospital morbidity survey, 1990–91 [unpublished]). As in the US cost analysis⁷ a 2.5% discount rate was used in the model to compute the present value of future earnings. A sensitivity analysis was performed at an 8% discount rate.

The probabilities of permanent disability for survivors of gunshot wounds by highest level of medical treatment

from the US study⁷ were multiplied by lifetime productivity per survivor to calculate the long-term productivity loss. Finally, the ratio of short-term to long-term productivity loss from the US study⁷ was used to determine a rough estimate of the short-term productivity loss.

The estimates of earnings lost for people who died of gunshot wounds included earnings that the dead person would have consumed. In 1946 Dublin and Lotka²⁰ suggested that the earnings consumed be subtracted. Society, they argued, gained only the portion of the deceased's earnings that the deceased did not consume. Fein²¹ found a fallacy in this argument. He reasoned that society's purpose was to let people consume, and thus consumption by everyone, including the anonymous individual whose death was at issue, should be counted. The practice of including only the net earnings after adjusting for consumption in cost-of-illness studies largely stopped following publication of three studies^{22–24} that expanded on Fein's arguments.

Funeral costs: This modest expense was computed from a US survey of funeral expenses²⁵ and the average expected remaining lifespan of 38.8 years for Canadians who die of gunshot wounds (estimated from the 1990–91 preliminary life table¹⁸ and the 1990–91 age distribution of gunshot victims from the Statistics Canada 1990–91 hospital morbidity survey [unpublished]). The estimate was converted to Canadian dollars using the 1991 ratio of US to Canadian gross domestic products (GDPs) per capita adjusted to US dollars with purchasing power parities (the most recent available). The amount was then inflated to 1993 dollars with the use of the Canadian GDP implicit price index.

Costs of lost quality of life: The pain, suffering and lost quality of life that victims and their families experience as a result of gunshot wounds were valued in monetary terms with the use of a generally accepted method.^{10,26} This method looks at what people spend to effect small changes in their chance of being killed or injured (i.e., what they spend to buy safety). It uses that information to infer a value of saving a life. The value of saving a life consists of the productivity loss averted and the quality of life preserved.

Five Canadian studies have estimated the value of saving a life.^{10,27–30} The mean value of what I considered were the best estimates from these studies was \$3.7 million. In this cost analysis that value minus the productivity loss averted was used as the value of the quality of life preserved.

For valuing quality-of-life and productivity losses, it was assumed that people who died of gunshot wounds would have the same expected lifespan as other Canadians of comparable age and sex. It was also assumed that such people place the same value on a year of life as other Canadians. These unavoidable assumptions are weak for suicides induced by illness and infirmity. They

may cause an overestimate of fatality costs. For more impulsive types of suicide the average values of quality of life seemed reasonably appropriate.

The value of quality of life for survivors of gunshot wounds was determined on the basis of prior analyses of US jury verdicts for assaults, including those involving guns.^{7,31,32} In those studies information on the amount awarded to survivors in compensation for their pain and suffering was collected and then adjusted to describe the typical gunshot wound (as opposed to the gunshot wounds that prompted lawsuits). The average award for quality of life lost due to assault resulting in physical injury was 6% lower than the value calculated from physician estimates of the typical functional consequences of injury³³ and Canadian survey data on the values people place on losses of different functional capacities.³² The comparative analysis excluded people with knife and gunshot wounds because physician ratings of expected losses were unavailable.

RESULTS

Table 1 presents the costs associated with gunshot wounds in 1991 for people who died and for survivors by the highest level of medical treatment. The estimated costs were on average about \$4.1 million per person who died, \$300 000 per survivor admitted to hospital and

\$75 000 per survivor treated and released from the emergency department. These amounts do not include the costs for police investigation because the latter varied according to the circumstances or intent of the incident and the perpetrator. The costs for quality of life lost were the largest component, followed by the productivity losses.

Table 2 shows the distribution of incidents involving firearms in 1991 by severity. Most of the deaths were because of suicide. In contrast, most of the nonfatal incidents were unintentional. The rate of gun-related incidents per 100 000 Canadians was 2.0 overall, 0.25 for homicides and assaults, 0.5 for suicides and attempted suicides, and 1.25 for unintentional shootings.

Gunshot wounds in Canada resulted in total costs of approximately \$6.6 billion in 1991 (Table 3). This amounted to a per capita cost of \$235. The total amount included about \$63 million for medical and mental health care costs and \$10 million for other public services costs. Productivity and other out-of-pocket losses by victims and their employers exceeded \$1.5 billion. The remaining cost was attributed to the pain, suffering and lost quality of life.

In the analysis of costs by type of incident, suicides and attempted suicides accounted for most of the cost (\$4.7 billion) (Table 4). Homicides and assaults accounted for over \$1.1 billion. Unintentional shootings resulted in costs totalling about \$600 million. In the case

Category	Outcome; cost, \$*		
	Survived, treated in emergency department	Survived, admitted to hospital	Died
Medical care	4 933	28 879	3 061
Mental health care	126	157	5 171
Ambulance transportation	24	192	359
Loss in productivity	2 427	50 464	1 024 220
Short-term	384	2 819	2 689
Long-term	1 833	46 334	1 016 190
Costs to employer	210	1 311	5 341
Funeral	0	0	2 983
Lost quality of life	66 772	228 687	3 094 552
Total	74 282	308 379	4 130 346
Police investigation†			
Assault, shooting of unknown intent	1 458	2 530	25 178
Suicide	310	310	700
Unintentional shooting	0	0	700

*In 1993 Canadian dollars.

†Police costs are not included in total because costs varied by type of incident and perpetrator.

of shootings of unknown intent most of the \$125 million probably resulted from intentional injuries as well. This breakdown of costs is a rough approximation and does not take into account the differences in average age of victims between causes (and therefore the differences in average future earnings and quality of life).

DISCUSSION

This study presents conservative preliminary estimates of costs associated with gunshot wounds in Canada. The factors that accounted for the largest share of the costs were pain, suffering and lost quality of life.

Table 1: Number of people injured by gunshot wounds, 1993

Type of incident	Outcome; no. of people			
	Survived, treated in emergency department	Survived, admitted to hospital	Died	Total
Homicide or assault	153	208	250	611
Suicide or attempted suicide	30	268	1118	1416
Unintentional shooting	2480	591	57	3128
Shooting of unknown intent	354	158	12	524
Legal intervention	14	19	13	46
Total	3031	1244	1450	5725

*See the Methods section for details on sources of numbers.

Table 2: Estimated costs of gunshot wounds, 1993

Category	Outcome; cost, \$ million*			
	Survived, treated in emergency department	Survived, admitted to hospital	Died	Total
Medical care	15.0	35.9	4.4	55.3
Mental health care	0.4	0.2	7.5	8.1
Public services†	0.8	1.2	8.0	10.0
Loss in productivity	7.3	62.8	1485.1	1555.2
Funeral	0.0	0.0	4.3	4.3
Total monetary costs	23.5	100.1	1509.3	1632.9
Lost quality of life	202.4	284.5	4487.1	4974.0
Total	225.9	384.6	5996.4	6606.9

*Costs are in 1993 Canadian dollars. They were calculated from the data in Tables 1 and 2 and are rounded here.

†Includes police investigation costs by cause of injury.

Table 3: Estimated costs of gunshot wounds, 1993

Type of incident	Outcome; cost, \$ million*			
	Survived, treated in emergency department	Survived, admitted to hospital	Died	Total
Homicide or assault	11.7	64.6	1038.9	1115.2
Suicide or attempted suicide	2.2	82.7	4618.5	4703.4
Unintentional shooting	184.2	182.3	235.4	601.9
Shooting of unknown intent	26.8	49.1	49.9	125.8
Legal intervention	1.0	5.9	53.7	60.6
Total	225.9	384.6	5996.4	6606.9

*Costs are in 1993 Canadian dollars. They were calculated from the data in Tables 1 and 2 and are rounded here.

Because quality of life and productivity losses for people who died of gunshot wounds were valued simultaneously and then separated by subtracting the estimated loss in productivity, the total cost estimate is insensitive to the discount rate used in valuing productivity losses. In the total costs, the discount rate chosen affected only the losses resulting from long-term disability. Using an 8% discount rate rather than a 2.5% rate would have cut the productivity losses in half (and the estimated monetary losses almost in half) but would have resulted in a reduction of less than 1% in the total estimated costs.

In 1991, of every 100 000 Canadians an estimated 2 suffered a gunshot wound and 0.5 died. The rates of gunshot wounds per 100 000 were 0.25 for assaults, 0.5 for suicides and attempted suicides and 1.25 for unintentional shootings. The problem was far more severe in the United States, where 6.55 of every 100 000 residents were wounded and 1.4 died.⁷ The rates were higher there for every circumstance: 3.75 for assault, 1.0 for suicides and attempted suicides and 1.85 for unintentional shootings. In terms of case-fatality ratios, gun-related assaults were twice as likely to be fatal in Canada as in the United States, suicide attempts were equally likely to be fatal, and unintentional shootings were half as likely to be fatal.

The per capita cost of gunshot wounds in Canada in 1991 was \$235, as compared with \$595 in the United States (converted to 1993 Canadian dollars from a 1992 US estimate,⁷ which used similar methods and assumptions as those for the Canadian estimate). The per capita cost was 8 times higher in the United States than in Canada for gun-related assaults and 2.5 times higher for unintentional shootings. Suicide costs per capita were about 30% higher in the United States than in Canada (\$220 v. \$170).

Further studies such as expert ratings and surveys may help to fine tune these preliminary cost estimates for Canada. For ratings by body region wounded, a panel of expert physicians could be asked to estimate the typical losses in functional capacity of gunshot victims admitted to hospital and of gunshot victims who are treated and released from the emergency department. The physicians, using previously developed scales,¹⁶ could assess the typical effects on several dimensions of functioning (e.g., mobility, cognitive function, sensory function, pain and bending/grasping/lifting). The scales¹⁶ could then be used to calculate the total percentage of life's value lost. Finally, the losses could be weighted by Canadian hospital discharge data showing the distribution of gunshot survivors admitted to hospital by body region wounded.

The survey approach could involve asking Canadians to rate the relative importance of spending scarce police resources to prevent deaths from different types of injury (occupational incidents, motor vehicle crashes, homicides, suicides, unintentional shootings, unintentional

child injury and child abuse). For example, it would be useful to estimate that preventing 250 suicides is as important as preventing 100 homicides; that is, the value of preventing a suicide is 40% of the value of preventing a homicide. The survey approach would also assess the value of preventing 100 homicides or some larger number of nonfatal gunshot assaults necessitating hospital care. This type of survey approach was used in valuing injuries necessitating hospital care for people involved in highway crashes in New Zealand.¹⁴

The preliminary estimates from this Canadian cost analysis study are a first step toward understanding the economic burden of gunshot wounds on the already limited resources of Canada's health care system.

The differences between Canadian and US per capita incidence rates and costs may result from differences in gun availability in the two countries.^{35,36} Several studies³⁷⁻⁴⁰ have suggested that controlling the ready access to guns could reduce the number of suicides, which account for the largest share of costs for gunshot wounds.

I thank Rachel Moore and Louise McRae at Health Canada for their custom retrieval of hospital data and help in accessing Canadian statistical documents, Louise Rochette of the Direction de la Santé publique de Québec for custom retrieval of additional Quebec data and Dr. Antoine Chapdelaine, a Quebec member of the National Crime Prevention Council, for his assistance, encouragement and comments on earlier drafts.

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GAO

United States General Accounting Office

Report to the Chairman, Subcommittee
on Treasury, Postal Service, and General
Government, Committee on
Appropriations, House of
Representatives

March 1996

FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEES

Various Factors Have Contributed to the Decline in the Number of Dealers



GAO/GGD-96-78

General Government Division

B-262133

March 29, 1996

The Honorable Jim Lightfoot
Chairman, Subcommittee on Treasury,
Postal Service, and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Your August 2, 1995, letter requested that we review various aspects of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). This report responds to your request that we review ATF's policies and procedures for licensing and inspecting firearms dealers. Since 1993, the number of federally licensed firearms dealers has declined significantly. You requested this report because concerns had been raised by some organizations about the effects of the decline and factors contributing to it, including ATF's role, if any, in causing the decline. We agreed to (1) determine the extent and nature of recent declines in the number of firearms dealers; (2) determine what factors may have affected recent declines in the number of firearms dealers, including whether ATF had a policy to reduce the number of dealers; and (3) obtain the views of pertinent organizations on the advantages and disadvantages of reducing the number of federal firearms dealers.

While ATF issues various categories of federal firearms licenses, including those for manufacturers and importers of firearms, this report deals primarily with federal firearms dealer licenses. Firearms dealer licenses are granted to dealers and pawnbrokers who sell firearms at wholesale or retail and gunsmiths who repair firearms. Federal firearms dealer licenses account for about 90 percent of all federal firearms licenses.

Results in Brief

Since reaching a high point in April 1993, the number of licensed firearms dealers sharply declined by about 35 percent, from about 260,700 to about 168,400 dealers, as of September 30, 1995. This decline occurred nationwide, ranging from a 23-percent decline in Montana to a 45-percent decline in Hawaii. A decline occurred both in applications for new licenses and renewals of existing licenses. During this period, the number of

applications abandoned and withdrawn by former and prospective dealers was much higher than the number of licenses denied and revoked by ATF.¹

Our analysis of ATF data showed that several factors collectively contributed to this decline. Principal among these factors were that:

- Since January 1993, ATF has implemented efforts to increase enforcement of existing laws by closely scrutinizing firearms dealer applicants and licensees through increased inspections.
- In response to an August 1993 presidential memorandum, ATF, in late 1993, revised the application requirements to obtain more information about applicants.
- Federal legislation passed in November 1993 increased licensing fees, and legislation passed in September 1994 added more licensing requirements, including requiring applicants for firearms dealer licenses to certify compliance with state and local laws as a condition for federal licensing.

In addition, state and local agencies' enforcement of their laws may have resulted in reductions in the number of firearms dealers.

On the basis of our review of ATF and other documents and interviews with numerous agency officials, we found no evidence that ATF had a policy, or sought, to reduce the number of licensed dealers by some targeted number. However, ATF recognized that its efforts, beginning in 1993, to strictly enforce the Gun Control Act of 1968, as amended, (GCA) by closely scrutinizing applicants and licensees, as well as the above-mentioned legislative actions, would likely result in a reduction in the number of licensed dealers.

Officials from seven organizations representing the firearms industry, firearms consumers, law enforcement, and gun control interests confirmed the results of our analysis regarding factors contributing to the decline in licensed firearms dealers. The organizations also provided us with a variety of views on the advantages and disadvantages of reducing the number of firearms dealers. Their views ranged from those who believed that by reducing the number of dealers there could be less crime and better monitoring of dealers to those who feared that dealer decreases would curb competition, raise prices, and limit the lawful availability of firearms.

¹An application is "abandoned" when an applicant submits an incomplete or improperly executed application and does not respond to ATF's notification to correct the application within 30 days of the notification. An application is "withdrawn" when an applicant submits an incomplete application and, when notified by ATF, voluntarily withdraws the application.

MEMORANDUM FOR RAHM EMANUEL

FROM: SARAH BRADY
PETER HART
JANN WENNER
ANNE WEXLER

DATE: DECEMBER 31, 1996

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL GUN CONTROL STRATEGY FOR THE
SECOND TERM

This memo is in response to your request for gun control strategy for President Clinton's second term.

Separately we have been working on the gun control issue for many years, yet this is the first time we have come together as a group. We each bring different resources to this issue -- lobbying, legislation, media/public education, and strategy.

This past election proved that the National Rifle Association is *significantly weakened and has alienated a majority of the voters*.

- The NRA spent more than \$5 million this cycle supporting 38 challengers to House incumbents, and lost every race.
- The NRA's worst enemies, the "Ten Who Gotta Go" -- all gun control proponents -- held on to their seats.
- HCI focused their efforts on 12 NRA-backed candidates, "The Dangerous Dozen," and won 10 of those races -- *an unprecedented victory*.

The American people know that gun control is a winning issue, they support the President on it, and they will support increased and tougher gun control measures during this next Administration.

The NRA has frightened Americans -- many of whom are women -- into believing that more guns will make them safer. Of course, we know the opposite of this is true:

- Guns are the second leading cause of death to children aged 10-19;
- A gun in the home is 43 times more likely to kill a family member than an intruder;
- And, if current trends continue, guns will be the leading cause of death to children by the year 2000.

We recommend taking the NRA on even more directly: families, children, and guns. Through the extensive strategic research of Peter Hart, we have determined that women are the moveable constituency on this issue -- as women have the chief responsibility for their children, families, and neighborhoods.

We propose a program of coordinated legislation, lobbying, and public education, in coordination with the White House.

- We are concerned about the possibility that the U.S. Supreme Court might render the Brady Law unconstitutional sometime next year. We must work to see that, at a minimum, the required background checks be reinstated.
- The Brady Law's Waiting Period and Interim Provisions will sunset in 1998, and we must renew this legislation. We should also seek limitations on multiple handgun sales in an effort to reduce gun trafficking.
- The work of the Cease Fire Education campaign will receive the active endorsement of the President, as it continues on a national scale, with television, radio and print PSAs, as well as educational materials for parents, on the issue of guns in the home.

First step: Given the importance of reauthorizing Brady, we would like to bring together a small group of key players early next year at the White House to plan strategy. We can bring to this meeting key supporters and activists on this issue, to include representatives from law enforcement, education, and medical associations to create a strategy, timetable and a coalition.

Our long-term experience with this issue is that in order to bring together and keep together key players, it is important that this meeting is convened by the White House.

The following package includes a summary of proposed gun control legislation, public opinion findings on this issue, and an overview of the work of the Cease Fire Education campaign.

We look forward to working with you.

LEGISLATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

As the 105th Congress prepares to convene in January, there are three broad areas which need to be addressed:

- Preservation of the Brady Law
- Gun Trafficking
- Children and Guns

Of these, preservation of the Brady Law is the most important. In a very real way, the Brady Law is -- and must remain -- the cornerstone of any sensible gun policy. If we cannot stop felons and other prohibited persons from purchasing handguns at a gun store, other efforts aimed at curbing interstate gun trafficking and keeping guns out of the hands of children are doomed to failure.

If the Supreme Court rules the Brady law unconstitutional, every effort must be made to reinstate the required background check. But it would be a mistake, in waiting for the Supreme Court's ruling, to delay action on other important gun initiatives. Inaction, at this stage, would squander valuable momentum and put us in a weaker position, not stronger, should the Supreme Court ultimately rule against Brady.

Thus, while preparing for a possible adverse Court decision, we should simultaneously pursue new steps aimed at disrupting illegal gun trafficking and keeping guns out of the hands of juveniles. To that end, we strongly urge the Administration's support of the following two new initiatives.

Limit Handgun Purchases (and Private Sales) to One Per Month

This measure would drastically slow the flow of guns into the black market by preventing gun runners (and their straw purchasers) from making multiple purchases. Four years ago, the State of Virginia was a major supplier of guns to cities up and down the East Coast. Seeking to change its reputation as the top gun-running state in the country, Virginia passed a law limiting retail handgun purchases to one per month. A study by the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence found that the law, after two years, had drastically reduced the number of guns being traced back to Virginia from crime scenes in the Northeast. Responding to law enforcement concerns about multiple purchases, Maryland earlier this year passed a similar law. Both laws have worked with a minimum of inconvenience to gun owners -- buyers wishing, for whatever reasons, to make multiple handgun purchases may seek permission from the State Police.

While limiting handgun purchases to one-per-month, we should also require that anyone selling more than one handgun-per-month (to someone other than a licensed dealer) obtain a federal firearms permit. The Brady Law effectively regulates sales by licensed dealers. But while Federal law requires anyone who is in the business of selling guns to obtain a Federal license, many dealers circumvent the Brady sale requirements by selling guns from their "private collection." In some states, Florida most notably, gun show sales by unlicensed gun dealers are a major source of handguns for criminals and professional gun traffickers. A law limiting private handgun sales to one handgun-per-month would effectively limit this illicit trade without unduly burdening legitimate collectors.

National Child Safety Legislation

While many juveniles buy their firearms on the illegal market, many obtain their firearms from home. Despite the very real dangers posed by a gun in the home, surveys indicate that most gun-owning households do not unload their guns and lock them up. There are several different kinds of devices intended to prevent unauthorized users -- especially juveniles -- from being able to fire a handgun.

The most common is a simple, inexpensive "trigger lock," a padlock which is specifically designed to secure a gun. There are, however, a number of new technologies -- some being developed under government contract at Sandia Labs in New Mexico -- which "personalize" a gun, rendering it unusable by an unauthorized user. Federal law should be changed to require that a licensed Federal dealer may not sell a firearm without a trigger-lock or other device, approved by the manufacturer, which can be used to protect against the unauthorized use of the gun.

To reduce the risk of juvenile gun deaths, legislation is needed to require that every sale of a handgun by a licensed dealer be accompanied by: 1) a manufacturer-approved device designed to prevent unauthorized users from firing the weapon; and 2) a notice informing the purchaser that a gun in the home poses a special risk to children and, that improper storage of the handgun could, depending on local law, lead to civil and/or criminal liability.

In addition to legislation, the work of the Cease Fire public education campaign will continue, warning Americans that too many children have ready access to a family gun and that every American has a responsibility to keep handguns out of the hands of children.

Taken together, these two initiatives -- legislation and public education -- would:

Promote Safer Storage Practices -- A public debate on the issue of trigger lock legislation would: 1) alert many gun-owning Americans to the very real danger posed by a gun in the home; and 2) encourage them to either rethink their decision to own a handgun or be more vigilant in assuring that children do not gain access to the firearm.

Give Greater Attention to CAP Law Requirements -- While an increasing number of states now have Child Access Prevention (CAP) Laws imposing criminal liability on gun owners who fail to keep a loaded firearm out of the reach of children, many gun owners are still not aware of their legal responsibility and potential liability. A national debate on gun storage, together with a notice requirement of the sale of new handguns, would focus renewed attention on CAP laws and help to educate millions of gun owners.

THE CEASE FIRE EDUCATION PROJECT

Cease Fire, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization, was started just over two years ago to bring together new leadership from the fields of media and entertainment, politics, and legal, medical and social organizations to create a long-term, national public awareness campaign on the issue of handguns in the home.

Our 40-person Advisory Panel includes:

Reg Brack, Chairman, Time, Inc.

Doug Carlston, Chairman and CEO, Broderbund Software, Inc.

Walter Cronkite

Barry Diller

Millard Drexler, CEO, Gap, Inc.

Michael Eisner

Tom Freston, President, MTV Networks

Gilbert Gallegos, President, the National Fraternal Order of Police

Keith Geiger, Immediate-Past President, National Education Association

Alan Hassenfeld, Chairman, President and CEO, Hasbro, Inc.

John Kennedy, Jr.

Paul Newman

Michael Ovitz

Ron Perelman

Roberta Cooper Ramo, President, ABA

James Todd, former Executive Vice President, AMA

Lois Jean White, President-Elect, National PTA

The strategy is relatively simple: the extensive research of Peter Hart has shown that women carry the chief responsibility of taking care of their children and families -- they can talk to their husbands about the dangers of keeping handguns in the home. Over time, handguns will be stigmatized as the unsafe and dangerous products they are, and not appropriate to have in *any* home.

Our materials include broadcast and print PSAs, as well as educational materials for parents on the issue of handguns in the home. A detailed description of our placement follows.

Similar to the efforts of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Cease Fire has established a long-term, professional media campaign to raise public awareness and mobilize a broad cross-section of American leadership. Just as Americans now think twice about the health effects of smoking cigarettes, or of not using seatbelts when driving a car, they need to understand the severe health implications of bringing a handgun into the home -- particularly in homes where there are children.

Cease Fire has been endorsed by the Ad Council as a campaign that is "regarded and recognized as an expert" in the field. Cease Fire was nominated in 1996 by the Magazine Publishers of America as one of the best ad campaigns of the year.

The Cease Fire Education Campaign, Round One -- 1996

Working with the most award-winning ad agency in recent years, Fallon McElligott, a full-scale public awareness campaign was developed. We produced seven PSAs, directed by Jonathan Demme and featuring Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward, Walter Cronkite and Oprah Winfrey. Five black-and-white ads were also produced, all depicting true-life tragedies of children and handguns.

Our PSAs ran nationally on cable networks and systems, network affiliates, in movie theaters, and in national magazines. Our first quarter tally totaled more than 375 million impressions to people 12 years of age and older, with a total media value of over \$2 million.

In addition to the excellent national placement of our PSAs, Cease Fire established a strong network of supporters at the grassroots level -- parents, teachers, judges, clergy, children -- that will help us in our work during this next year.

Highlights of placement include the following:

CABLE NETWORKS

TOTAL 1,162 times
(A&E, CNBC, Comedy Central, Discovery, The Learning Channel, Lifetime, MTV, Mind Extension University, Nick At Night, USA, VH-1, E! Entertainment, History, Superstation TBS)

CABLE SYSTEMS

TOTAL 82,338 times
(Bresnan Communications, Cablevision Systems, Comcast, Continental Cablevision, Marcus Cable, Multivision, Time Warner, Time Warner - New York City)

NETWORK AFFILIATES AND INDEPENDENT STATIONS

TOTAL4,052 times
(Including stations in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Boston, Dallas, Seattle, Cleveland, Phoenix and St. Louis)

MOVIE THEATERS

TOTAL6,272 screens
(Carmike Theaters, Cineplex Odeon, General Cinema Theaters, Hoyts Cinemas, National Amusements Theaters, Regal Theaters, Sony Theaters, Syufy/Century Theaters, United Artists)

MAGAZINES

TOTAL26 national insertions
(The Atlantic Monthly, Chatter, Elle, Family Fun, Glamour, Men's Journal, The National Enquirer, Newsweek, The Oxford American, People, Rolling Stone, The Star, Time, Today's Black Woman, US, Vanity Fair, Woman's Day)

The Cease Fire Education Campaign, Round Two -- 1997

The second phase of the Cease Fire campaign will be launched in March 1997. Working with the award-winning ad agency BBDO, we are creating an entirely new set of ads for both broadcast (television and radio) and print. We will seek an expanded commitment base for our PSAs in the second round, focusing on major television networks and affiliates, as well as increased placement commitments on cable networks and systems, as well as magazines.

During this second round, we will be developing educational materials for parents -- to be distributed through national partnerships with several major medical and education associations. Parents will then receive these messages exactly where they are most needed: their doctor's office, their child's school, their local emergency room. These materials will highlight to parents the dire consequences of keeping a handgun in the home, and include a general "safety tips" component. We will be drafting these materials with the assistance of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research.

Our partnership commitments include:

- The American Medical Association
- The National Association of Children's Hospitals
- The American College of Emergency Physicians
- The National Association of Secondary School Principals
- The National PTA
- The National Association of City and County Health Officials.

During our second round, Cease Fire will also set up an automated 1-800 number and a homepage on the Internet for the distribution of collateral materials and continued identification of grassroots activists and supporters.

PUBLIC OPINION POLLING DATA

Public opinion polling data continue to show strong and broad support among Americans for the kinds of common sense gun control measures we are proposing, and survey research consistently demonstrates a positive environment for leaders who are willing to stand up to the excesses of the National Rifle Association.

Moreover, the polls—as well as recent real world experience on Election Day—underscore the power and saliency of the gun control issue in the political decision making of American voters. This is especially true among women, college-educated voters, and voters who live in the suburbs—all groups who played a key swing role in the 1996 elections.

A survey by NBC News and *The Wall Street Journal*, for example, showed that fully 74% of all Americans believe “the Brady law is good, **but more gun control laws will be needed to reduce crime.**” In that survey, another 9% said “the Brady law is good, and will be enough to make a difference in reducing crime,” and only 12% said “the Brady law goes too far in restricting Americans’ freedom to own handguns.”

Even after the passage of the Brady Law and the assault weapons ban, Americans said by a margin of 58% to 35% that they were **more concerned that government will not do enough to regulate access to firearms** than that government will go too far in restricting the rights of citizens to own firearms. (NBC News/ *The Wall Street Journal*)

Furthermore, a significant majority of 58% say that the National Rifle Association has too much political influence today, while just 12% say the NRA has too little political influence. (NBC News/ *The Wall Street Journal*)

The proposal to limit handgun purchases to one per month was extremely popular among voters in Virginia when Governor Wilder introduced it—both in public opinion polls and in terms of grass roots political response. When a more stringent version of this proposal—limiting handgun purchases to *two a year*—was tested more recently in a survey among voters in Maryland, the verdict was overwhelmingly favorable, with 75% expressing support, including 63% who *strongly* favored this initiative.

As to the proposal for national child safety legislation for firearms, an in-depth national survey commissioned by Cease Fire shows that the number one concern of Americans by far about having guns in homes is “that they can be fired accidentally by children.” In the Cease Fire poll, fully 90% of all respondents said they would favor a new federal regulation requiring that guns have safety triggers that would prevent a small child from firing them.

**HANDGUN CONTROL, INC.
1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005**

**For Immediate Release:
July 9, 1996**

**Contact: Holly Richardson
or Bob Walker (202-898-0792)**

**BOB DOLE TO CALL FOR NATIONAL INSTANT CHECK SYSTEM OF GUN SALES
His Position is Hypocritical Charges Sarah Brady
Brady Law, which he voted against, already mandates instant check by end of 1998**

(Washington, DC) Bob Dole is expected to make a speech today (2:30pm EDT) in Richmond, Virginia calling for adoption of a national "instant check" system to approve gun sales more readily.

"When Bob Dole calls for a national instant check system he is speaking for the National Rifle Association, not for the American people," stated Sarah Brady, Chair of Handgun Control, Inc. "Most Americans, including most gun owners, favor a background check and a waiting period. A waiting period not only serves as a cooling off period, it also gives law enforcement the time that is needed to conduct a thorough background check to make sure guns don't end up in the hands of criminals."

The Brady Law currently provides for a five-day waiting period and requires local law enforcement to conduct background checks on handgun purchasers. The Brady Law already requires the creation of a national instant check system by December 1998 and authorized \$200 million for the improvement of State criminal history files.

Dole voted against the Brady Law in November 1993.

According to Mrs. Brady, the national instant check system, as envisioned and proposed by Bob Dole, would "destroy the Brady Law, not improve it." In order to institute an effective national instant check system, she said, "you need fully computerized criminal history files. We are not there yet."

In 1992, the Justice Department reported that only 18.2 percent of all criminal history records were complete, computerized and computer accessible by the federal government.

"Under Bob Dole's system, the criminal will walk out of the gun store with a gun four out of five times because there's no record of his criminal conviction," noted Mrs. Brady. "Some states, like Virginia, have pretty good criminal records, but in other states, like Maine and West Virginia, we have a long way to go. If we are to meet the goal of establishing a national instant check system we need to spend more dollars on improving the computerization of all the records."

Since the Brady Law was implemented in February of 1994, more than 60,000 felons and other prohibited purchasers have been stopped from buying handguns over the counter.

Former Presidential Press Secretary Jim Brady, for whom the Brady Law is named, said, "I have some advice for Bob Dole: Don't mess with success."

BACKGROUND INFO ON THE BRADY LAW IS AVAILABLE FROM HANDGUN CONTROL, INC.

Handgun Control, Inc. is the nation's largest citizens' gun control lobbying organization. Based in Washington, DC, HCI works to enact stronger federal, state and local gun control laws, but does not seek to ban handguns. Founded in 1974, HCI has more than 400,000 members nationwide.

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NATIONAL REBUILDING INITIATIVE

Status Report

October 23, 1996

I. INTRODUCTION

In response to the recent rash of church burnings across the country, the federal government, religious groups, non-profits, and businesses have acted swiftly. President Clinton signed into law the Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996 and formed the National Church Arson Task Force which offers a full range of federal government resources. The task force is comprised of three separate but coordinated initiatives: Prevention, Enforcement and Rebuilding.

Under the auspices of the Church Arson Task Force, a wide range of federal agencies have been mobilized to implement these initiatives. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) chairs the National Arson Prevention Initiative. The Department of Justice and the Department of Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) have taken the lead on enforcement. HUD is the lead agency in the rebuilding efforts, which include a \$10 million loan guarantee program as well as a series of technical assistance workshops which serve as informational forums for pastors and others seeking rebuilding assistance.

Although just three months have passed since the signing of the Church Arson Prevention Act, the Clinton Administration has successfully stepped up its enforcement efforts, while working with law enforcement, fire officials, communities and congregations to develop a long term arson prevention plan. In addition, over 85 churches have already or will receive rebuilding assistance through the National Rebuilding Initiative.

II. NATIONAL REBUILDING INITIATIVE TASK FORCE: A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Led by HUD Assistant Secretary Andrew Cuomo, the National Rebuilding Initiative represents a public-private partnership between HUD, the National Council of Churches and the Congress of National Black Churches. Also represented on the National Rebuilding Initiative Task Force are numerous non-profits, foundations, private organizations and financial institutions, such as Habitat for Humanity, AFL-CIO, the American Institute of Architects, the Enterprise Foundation, the Anti-Defamation League and the National Banker's Association.

Members of the Task Force are coordinating their efforts and combining their resources to assess the needs of churches and non-profits, and to ensure that those needing assistance receive rebuilding support as quickly and efficiently as possible. Churches that need assistance and meet the assistance criteria, will receive resource packages, representing a blending of grant dollars, loan dollars and other resources. Packages will be awarded in increments "up to" a certain dollar amount to allow churches to draw down funds as needed.

*Let me know
signed
Enrollment &
Prevention*

*FEMA
Richard
Poland
646-3011*

> HUD

→

A. Elements of Resource Packages

The following resources are available through the National Rebuilding Initiative Task Force:

Grants**Low Interest Loans**

Local financial institutions

Other Banks

Pension Funds

HUD federal guarantee

Materials/In-Kind

Lumber/Wood Products

Temporary Structures/Modules

Security Systems/Motion Detectors

Piping for Sprinkler Systems

AFL-CIO Building Materials/Skilled Labor

Pews/Sanctuary Furniture

Robes/Hymnals (Denominationally specific)

Bibles/Books

Organs/Pianos

Volunteers

Skilled volunteers

Unskilled volunteers

VISTA/Americorps

Pro Bono Professional Services

Legal Services

Architectural Services

Landscape Design

Technical Assistance

Financial Services

Insurance Services

Prevention

Hate Crimes Counseling

Arson Prevention

B. National Rebuilding Initiative: Progress Report

Based on preliminary contacts and assessment interviews, the National Rebuilding Initiative estimates that approximately 85 churches will qualify for rebuilding assistance through the National Rebuilding Initiative. **Of these 85, the following 24 have already received direct grant assistance.** An asterisk indicates that additional HUD loan assistance is currently under consideration.

ALABAMA

Mt. Zoar Baptist, Boligee, AL

Mt. Zion Baptist, Boligee, AL

New Liberty Baptist, Tyler, AL

Rising Star Baptist, Greensboro, AL

ARKANSAS

New Hope Missionary Baptist, Moro, AK

GEORGIA

Gay's Hill Baptist, Millen, GA

MISSISSIPPI

St. Paul's Primitive Baptist, Lauderdale, MS

Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist, Kossuth, MS

Central Grove Missionary Baptist, Kossuth, MS

*True Light Missionary Baptist, Ruleville, MS

NORTH CAROLINA

Matthews-Murkland Presbyterian, Charlotte

New Outreach Christian Center, Charlotte

OKLAHOMA

*First Missionary Baptist, Enid, OK

SOUTH CAROLINA

*Mt. Zion AME, Greeleyville, SC

Butler Chapel AME, Orangeburg, SC

Rosemary Baptist, Varnville, SC

First Thankful Baptist, Estill, SC

TENNESSEE

Friendship Missionary Baptist, Columbia, TN

*Macedonia Baptist, Fruitvale, TN

Canaan AME, Columbia, TN

Salem Baptist, Fruitland, TN

Mt. Calvary Baptist, Bolivar, TN

Johnson Grove Baptist, Denmark, TN

WASHINGTON

*New Hope Baptist, Seattle, WA

COPS YOUTH FIREARM INITIATIVE

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	4693
CONNECTION TEL	
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Birmingham, AL (\$744,896)

From June 1996

The Birmingham Youth Firearms Violence grant became operational in January with the deployment of 18 School Resource Officers into 9 high schools and 16 middle schools. To date, 12 firearms have been removed from the schools. These firearms have been removed directly from students, including those trespassing at a different school. One firearm was removed from an adult involved in a domestic dispute which occurred on the school grounds. Six arrest have been made, one juvenile petition issued, and one warrant issued.

In addition to firearms incidences, the School Resource Officers are able to stop and prevent fights between local gang members and to use road blocks near the schools to catch students without driver's licenses. The School Resource Officers are enforcing a new curfew law which requires students to be in school until 3:30 p.m. and at home after 10:00 p.m. From March to July, 1996, 293 children had been picked up in violation of the new curfew law. Birmingham school resource officers and school teachers are participating in problem solving and drug education training.

1996

From June 1996 progress report

1. a. In March, two additional officers were added to the units that had come together in January to form the Youth Services Division. Seventeen of the eighteen School Resource Officers had been working in that capacity in the precincts. One of the ACT (Anti-Crime Task Force) officers served as an SRO until spring break in March. Two PAT (Police Athletic Team) officers shared the full time middle school. Two new officers were selected after a department-wide job announcement. Applicants were required to have a minimum of two years patrol experience, excellent verbal skills, a positive self image as evidenced through good grooming, dedication and professional demeanor, a strong desire to work with teenagers and recommendations from their supervisors. The three sergeants of the Division reviewed resumes and letters and conducted thirty-minute interviews with all applicants.

There have been no changes to the officers involved in DARE, PAT (Police Athletic Team), PING (Partners in Neighborhood Growth) or ACT (Anti-Crime Task Force).

b. The School Resource Officers serve as staff members in the schools and are responsible for being the security specialists. They act as role models, problem solvers and responsible adults. The SROs attend PTA meetings, dances and ball games to demonstrate their involvement in the schools. January through March, the SROs received no overtime pay for these after hours events, but volunteered their time for the development of better relationship.

c. The computer system has not been set up.

Internal training was accomplished by three days of training at Birmingham Police Academy in December. The philosophy of the Division was explained, and many members of the local and federal criminal justice system and service agencies spoke to the officers. Public speaking, basic classroom management, juvenile law, and drug and alcohol abuse were topics.

External training was limited during this period. Three officers attended GREAT training in Glynco, Georgia for two weeks in February. All SROs and several other officers in the Division, attended two days of COMP (Classroom Organization and Management Program) training furnished by the board of education during spring break, the last week of March. This program is usually taught as a refresher course to teachers. It was very useful for the SROs to learn before they received the STAR (Straight Talk About Risks) training in April and May and for use by the SROs, GREAT and DARE officers in their regular duties of teaching classes. The SROs also received Tactical Communication Training for one day during spring break.

Training for first six months:

Crime analysts	0 hours
Officers	1288 hours
City officials	0 hours
Supervisors	104 hours
Local evaluator	0 hours

d. As former "street" police officers, the School Resource Officers provide security and are the first-line problem solvers in the schools. Two of the SROs had been trained as GREAT (Gang Resistance Education and Training) Officers and they taught 317 GREAT classes at seven middle schools. ~~The SROs recovered 12 guns from students, arrested 21 students for possession of drugs or narcotics and 24 students for assault during January, February and March 1996.~~ *

We have studied the limited statistics available on calls for service to the school for the spring semesters of 1995 and 1996, but are unable to draw conclusions. Some increase in reporting is simply due to the officers being on site or so familiar with the school community that more complaints are made. Our antiquated database does not provide adequate information to determine if the SROs are making more arrests in trespassing, fighting, and weapon and drug possession. We believe that more guns were recovered, but we are unable to measure this. The suspected increase in arrests and recovered contraband does not mean that the schools have become more violent, but merely that the officers are there to stop some children before their conduct grows more beyond the bounds of acceptable behavior.

The City Council approved a day and night curfew that went into affect on March 4, 1996. Children under the age of 17 are not allowed to be in public, unaccompanied by a responsible adult during school hours or between 10pm (midnight on Friday and Saturday) and 6am. The daytime provision is, of course, not in affect during the summer and the nighttime hours include Sunday as part of the weekend. ~~Two hundred ninety-three children have been picked up for violations of the Curfew Law (175 day and 118 night).~~ * We expect this to have an impact on youth as victims and perpetrators of violence.

The new database that is being implemented as a result of this grant will allow us to track and understand these trends.

e. The eighteen School Resource Officers were assigned full-time in nine high schools and one middle school beginning in January 1996. Although the SROs had served several schools in their precincts they were not prepared for the transition from "visiting" the school to becoming a true part of the school community. The school system fired the superintendent in December and appointed an interim superintendent, in part to improve the image of the school system so that a bond referendum

for capital improvements would pass in the Spring of 1997. We believed in the mission of the new superintendent and became recognized as his allies. The rumors of downsizing brought more unease into the schools. We did not plan to become involved in school politics, but we naively followed a roadway of good intentions. We tried to be all things and could not. The SROs wanted to correct myriad problems ranging from faulty door locks and poor security practices to violations of the federal lunchroom programs (operating vending machines and selling food products). Some principals welcomed the aggressive officers, but most did not.

We worked toward resolving these problems through communication. We opened all of our records and reports to the school administrators and responded promptly to their calls. We had monthly meetings with the high school principals. We met less often with the middle school principals because they expressed gratitude for the part-time presence of the SROs and contacted their SROs or supervisors whenever the need arose. Whether due to the younger ages of the students or the aggressive management styles of the middle school principals, the middle schools seemed places of respite and calm for the officers. All of the principals were encouraged to call any of the supervisors in the Division for any assistance we could provide. Most of them took advantage of this offer. We responded as we expected the SROs to respond - quickly and in a positive manner. The sergeant, lieutenant and captain met with the principals and mediated solutions to any conflict. One SRO was transferred from a high school and returned to another unit in the Division and the first SRO assigned to the full-time middle school was re-assigned to a high school at the request of the principal after the SRO made disparaging remarks about the management of the school to a newspaper reporter. This SRO's remarks were very negative and, although there was arguably some basis of fact, the program's credibility was badly damaged within the school system. His remarks became a rallying cry for the principals when we opposed them on other issues. Books have been written about the "blue code," but police officers have nothing on principals in this regard.

We will meet with the principals before the start of 1996-97 school year and work out the details of the SROs' duties and responsibilities. We have learned much and will be better prepared.

The "turn in a kid with a gun" program has not progressed. We asked our metropolitan Crime Stopper Program for assistance and their board has approved a teen-oriented program with the pilot to be set up in West End High School in the Fall of 1997. Our Crime Stopper Program is very good. We feel this modification and continuation of an established program will give the same results as the one proposed in the Grant without the set-up and maintenance costs.

REPORT FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

For Period of 6/1/96 thru 10/15/96

Positive Influences:

*Classes Given	86
*Students Counseled	281
*Students/Parents Counseled	303
*Great Classes Given	209
*Number of Students	4,361

Reports Written:

*Arrest	60
*Incident	78
*Supplemental	2
	=====
Total Reports	140

Responses Involving Drugs:

*Marijuana	10
*Crack Cocaine	2
*Other Drugs	1
	=====
Total Drugs	13

Responses Involving Weapons:

*Gun Resp	4
*Knives Resp	
*Guns Found	
*Guns Recovered	1
*Other Resp	2
	=====
Total Weapons	6

Arrests Made:

*Adult	16
*Juvenile	48
	=====
Total Arrests	64
*Taken into Custody	32
*Released	3
*Trespassers	1
*Drug Arrests	3
*Weapons Arrests	

Investigations Involving Gangs:	39
Arrests with Vehicle Searches	4
Arrests with Locker Searches	4

Warnings Given:	19
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Minor Violations:	34
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Rec -
This is the committee language
from Schenck's office.
Jesse

Original language from Rep. Pat Schenck
regarding Smart Gun concept.

Safe gun technology

The committee believes that technology may exist to help prevent unauthorized discharge of handguns and other deadly weapons. This technology, if developed, would have major impact in controlling accidents and criminal incidents. The committee directs the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Director, Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA), to explore the technical feasibility of practical use-control systems for handguns of the future, based on safeguards-and-security technology in the Federal laboratory complex and industry. A one-year, pre-competitive development program with the appropriate federal laboratory and U.S. handgun manufacturers would develop requirements, inventory existing technologies, and develop a prototype. Demonstration and testing would be expected in the second year. ARPA would be required to consult with the National Institute of Justice within the Department of Justice and other appropriate agencies. The committee recommends \$1.5 million in PE 602702E for this purpose.

"(8) who is subject to a court order that—

"(A) was issued after a hearing of which such person received actual notice, and at which such person had an opportunity to participate;

"(B) restrains such person from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner of such person or child of such intimate partner or person, or engaging in other conduct that would place an intimate partner in reasonable fear of bodily injury to the partner or child; and

"(C)(i) includes a finding that such person represents a credible threat to the physical safety of such intimate partner or child; or

"(ii) by its terms explicitly prohibits the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against such intimate partner or child that would reasonably be expected to cause bodily injury."

(d) STORAGE OF FIREARMS.—Section 926(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (1);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (2) and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

"(3) regulations providing for effective receipt and secure storage of firearms relinquished by or seized from persons described in subsection (d)(8) or (g)(8) of section 922."

(e) RETURN OF FIREARMS.—Section 924(d)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking "the seized" and inserting "or lapse of or court termination of the restraining order to which he is subject, the seized or relinquished".

Subtitle E—Gun Crime Penalties

SEC. 110501. ENHANCED PENALTY FOR USE OF A SEMIAUTOMATIC FIREARM DURING A CRIME OF VIOLENCE OR A DRUG TRAFFICKING CRIME. 28 USC 994 note.

(a) AMENDMENT TO SENTENCING GUIDELINES.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall amend its sentencing guidelines to provide an appropriate enhancement of the punishment for a crime of violence (as defined in section 924(c)(3) of title 18, United States Code) or a drug trafficking crime (as defined in section 924(c)(2) of title 18, United States Code) if a semiautomatic firearm is involved.

(b) SEMIAUTOMATIC FIREARM.—In subsection (a), "semiautomatic firearm" means any repeating firearm that utilizes a portion of the energy of a firing cartridge to extract the fired cartridge case and chamber the next round and that requires a separate pull of the trigger to fire each cartridge.

SEC. 110502. ENHANCED PENALTY FOR SECOND OFFENSE OF USING AN EXPLOSIVE TO COMMIT A FELONY. 28 USC 994 note.

Pursuant to its authority under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall promulgate amendments to the sentencing guidelines to appropriately enhance penalties in a case in which a defendant convicted

CASE REVIEW SUMMARY
Firearm Injury Surveillance System-Southeastern Wisconsin
1994 and 1995
(Milwaukee, Kenosha, Racine, Sheboygan, Washington & Waukesha Counties)

Total Number of Cases 45

<u>ages 14-19</u>	<u>number of cases</u>
14 yo	2
15	4
16	1
17	4
18	3
19	<u>3</u>
	17
<u>ages 20-24</u>	
20 yo	4
21	4
22	3
23	5
24	<u>12</u>
	28

Premises Information

N =45

The location of injury was abstracted from the medical examiner/coroner or law enforcement file. The injury occurred within the deceased's residence in twenty-nine (64%) cases and within the residence of a friend in three (7%). Outdoor areas (park, rural roadway, wooded area, golf course) were reported in seven (16%) cases and in a motor vehicle in five (11%) cases.

Occupation

N=45

Information about occupation and occupational status at the time of death was abstracted from the medical examiner/coroner file. If this information was not found within the file the deceased's usual occupation is taken directly from the death certificate.

There were 34 cases ranging from 18 to 24 years of age. Eleven (32%) were in service, labor, machine trade or benchwork occupations, six (18%) were students and one case was coded as professional. Eight (24%) cases were unemployed. Of these:

- ◆ Two (25%) were recently fired.
- ◆ One case reported 'never worked' and one reported 'SSI'.

Alcohol

N=40

Results of BAC testing are found in the medical examiner/coroner file. BAC findings were available for 40 cases. Three cases were not tested or results were unavailable.

Seventeen cases (43%) were positive for alcohol.

- ◆ Ten (59%) were below the state legal limit of .10. Six (35%) of these seventeen cases were under the legal drinking age of 21.
- ◆ Seven (41%) cases tested above the legal limit. Two (29%) of these seven cases were also under the legal drinking age of 21.
- ◆ Eight (47%) of cases with positive BAC were not of legal drinking age.

Toxicology

N=39

Toxicology findings were available for thirty-nine cases. Four cases were not tested or results were unavailable.

- ◆ Marijuana and/or marijuana metabolite was found in seven (18 %) cases. Cocaine and/or cocaine metabolite was found in just one (3%) case.
- ◆ Prescribed medication for psychiatric treatment was detected in 3 (8%) cases .

Psychological History

N=17

This information was abstracted from medical examiner/coroner and law enforcement reports. The information found in these files ran the gamut. From lengthy, detailed written or verbal statements from family or witnesses to brief handwritten notes by the investigating officers about what they observed at the scene. Mention of psychological history (family reported counseling, diagnosis, treatments or significant behavioral issues) was found in fourteen (31%) of the cases reviewed.

Alcohol/Drug History

N=12

This information is abstracted from the medical examiner/coroner or law enforcement file. Mention of alcohol and/or drug use (and/or history) was noted in twelve (27%) of the reviewed cases. Seven (58%) of these cases, in which there was mention of alcohol and drug use and/or history, tested positive for alcohol and/or drugs.

Medical History

N=4

This information is abstracted from the medical examiner/coroner or law enforcement file. Four cases (9%) mentioned medical conditions and syndromes that, while not life threatening, would place some mental or physical limitations on the individual and tend to require long term management or treatment.

Firearm Ownership/Possession

N=24

This information is abstracted from the medical examiner/coroner and/or law enforcement file. Some mention of gun access/ownership was found in twenty-four (53%) of the case narratives (not an ATF check) files reviewed. Of these 24 cases:

- ◆ Thirteen (54%) were owned by the victim's family, ten specifically mentioned 'father'.
- ◆ Nine (37%) were owned by the victim, three were purchased within three weeks of the victim's suicide
- ◆ In one case the gun was owned by a friend of the deceased and access/ownership was unknown in another.

There was no information available about access/or ownership in twenty-one (47%) cases.

Precipitating Event

N=45

This information is abstracted from the medical examiner/coroner and/or law enforcement files. The following precipitating circumstance(s) and/or event(s) were mentioned:

- ◆ Relationship breakup or problem was reported in sixteen (36%) cases.
- ◆ Legal predicament (ie. DWI, suspect in felony, assault charges, facing possible incarceration, police standoff) was indicated in 12 (27%) cases.
- ◆ Family/friend tragedy or conflict (ie. death, divorce, custody battle, parent/child argument) was evident in six (13%) cases.
- ◆ Employment difficulty (ie. dissatisfaction, recently fired) was described in six (13%) cases.
- ◆ Financial difficulty was portrayed in three (7%) cases.

Report dated 11/12/96
Traci Tymus, MS
Stephen Hargarten, MD, MPH
Department of Emergency Medicine
FMLH-East
Milwaukee, WI 53226
(414) 257-6694

SENT BY:

12- 6-96 : 18:14 :
from the Office of the
Voice (202) 226-2831
Fax (202) 226-2844

IACP-

202 456 6628:# 1/ 1

~~John Doe~~
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Page 2 of 2

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DAN FINE SAN →

UNCLASSIFIED

NEWS FROM U.S. REPRESENTATIVE BOB BARR

(FBI)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1988

CONTACT: CARTER CORNICK
202-226-2831

BARR CALLS FOR CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON NEW DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
LAW

REJECTS NEW ADMINISTRATION EFFORT TO APPLY LAW RETROACTIVELY

U.S. Representative Bob Barr (GA-7) is urging Congress to reexamine the newly passed law (originally passed by the Senate as the Lautenberg Amendment) which seeks to curb domestic violence by denying gun ownership to persons convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence crimes. Reaffirming his general support for the legislation, Barr has written letters to House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde and Crime Subcommittee Chairman Bill McCollum stating, "Numerous provisions in the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1987 were rushed through the Congress in the waning hours of the session that received no Judiciary Committee review, including one impacting police officers and military personnel that potentially has immediate impact on public safety."

"Just this week the Administration has issued written notification of its intent to contravene the Constitution of the United States and ignore the desire of Congress by applying retroactively provisions of the Lautenberg Amendment," stated Barr. His comments were prompted by papers issued by the Department of the Treasury through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which clearly state the domestic violence prohibitions on gun ownership apply "even if the conviction occurred prior to the new law's effective date, September 30, 1988."

In his letter to the Judiciary chairman Barr said, "I am adamantly opposed to retroactive application of the statute and consider the White House to be operating outside the boundary of the law in this area. In this regard, I have serious concerns as well the Administration is on the road to misapplying the exemption provisions which state that the denial of Second Amendment rights will apply to officers and the military."

"How this new law is applied is critical," continued Barr. "It may well be the case that legitimate public safety and other mitigating factors for the law's application to law enforcement and military personnel have not been properly accounted for because Congress was prevented from considering the domestic violence legislation in the appropriate and proper deliberative fashion. For these reasons, I respectfully request that you schedule hearings to deal with these issues as early as possible in the 103rd Congress."

-- 30 --



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

DRAFT
USE FOR Content

The Honorable Robert Dole
810 First Street, N.E.
Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Senator Dole:

Thank you for your letter, also signed by Speaker Gingrich, regarding the implementation of the Brady Law. I believe it is important to address several of the matters raised in your letter.

First, as a result of the Brady Law, prohibited persons have found obtaining firearms from federally licensed dealers much more difficult, and many of them are being deterred from attempting to do so. According to figures compiled by the Department of Treasury, since being enacted in December 1993 the Brady Law has functioned as intended and anticipated by preventing approximately 60,000 prohibited persons--including convicted felons, fugitives from justice, and those subject to certain domestic violence restraining orders--from purchasing handguns. The fact that this number of prohibited persons were thwarted in their attempts to purchase handguns from federally licensed firearms dealers demonstrates the vital need for Brady background checks.

In addition, this Administration has aggressively pursued gun traffickers and others who commit armed and violent crimes. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms has expanded the number of investigations aimed at illegal gun traffickers--including dealers, gun runners, and straw purchasers--who supply violent criminals and juveniles. Since I have been Attorney General there has been no higher priority of the Department of Justice than the prosecution of violent crimes committed with firearms. The Department of Justice, through the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, is working with BATF and State and local law enforcement to aggressively prosecute these cases.

The Honorable Robert Dole
Page 2

Second, your claim that the Administration has been inadequate in its Brady prosecutions is unfounded. As you know, the Brady Law did not create any new substantive Federal criminal offenses for purchasers. Accordingly, while the Department of Justice compiles statistics for statutory offenses, such as making false statements, prosecution figures for false statements on Brady check forms, as distinct from other firearms forms, are not available.

Moreover, the primary function of the Brady Law was to prevent prohibited persons from obtaining handguns from federally licensed firearms dealers. Nonetheless, there has been no reluctance on the part of the U.S. Attorneys to prosecute defendants who have made false statements on firearm purchase forms, including Brady check forms, where appropriate. Moreover, there have been many cases where fugitives attempting to purchase firearms have been identified and apprehended as a result of the check required under the Brady Law. Because these cases generally are prosecuted at the State and local level, no national statistics are available.

Finally, the Administration, along with our law enforcement partners at the State and local level, has been working diligently to create the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). Contrary to the assertion in your letter we have met or exceeded all relevant implementation deadlines for tasks set forth in the statute.

For example, within the first 6 months after enactment we completed the statutorily required survey of criminal history records systems in every State, and developed timelines agreed upon by each State for provision of complete and accurate information to the NICS. In addition, the Federal Bureau of Investigation convened its Brady Act Task Force in April 1994 to help design the NICS infrastructure. In March, the FBI completed a draft Concept of Operations which their computer engineers are using to begin constructing the system. Having been approved by the FBI's Advisory Policy Board on June 12, the Concept of Operations now awaits final approval by the Department of Justice. These efforts establishing the framework for the operation of the NICS are well underway.

The FBI also is collecting the necessary information for the NICS data files (e.g. Federal and State criminal history records, citizenship renunciations, illegal aliens, etc). The vast majority of the information relating to the prohibiting categories originates not at the Federal level but at the State and local levels. Although the Brady Act did not require States to provide such information to the NICS, most States will

The Honorable Robert Dole
Page 3

participate voluntarily. The FBI will have completed the NICS infrastructure before all the States are able to provide complete and accurate information to the NICS, as indicated by the published timelines for State participation.

In anticipation of these problems at the State level, the Brady Act authorized \$200 million for National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) grants to help States upgrade their records systems. Every State already has received an NCHIP award on an expedited basis and technical assistance is being provided to States at no cost to them. Although the failure to pass a permanent FY 1996 appropriation for the Department delayed the next round of NCHIP grants, since that impasse was resolved, the Department's program announcement allowing the States to obtain their second round of \$25 million in NCHIP grants was published last month. States will need more of the funding authorized by the Brady Law to help upgrade their records systems. Accordingly, the Administration has requested an additional \$50 million in its FY 1997 budget to help meet this need.

I hope you find this responsive to the issues raised in your letter. If I may be of further assistance on this or any other matter concerning the Department of Justice, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Janet Reno

Administration's drug strategy likely to show McCaffrey's influence.

With state initiatives bringing national attention to the issue of medical marijuana, the Clinton Administration's drug policy office is likely to release its annual strategy report next week. The office, led by "drug czar" Gen. Barry McCaffrey, presented in December its plan for attempting to counter the voter initiatives in Arizona and California, which seek to make marijuana available for medical uses. Approximately 22 states are expected to consider similar measures in their state legislatures this year.

A source with McCaffrey's office said next week's report will "certainly" involve medical marijuana concerns. The source also said the report is likely to "take a long view" on anti-drug policy, adding: "This is really going to be the first time around that General McCaffrey is going to be putting forth his very own plan, and his view is that you should have a strategy...along the lines of the amount of time it probably will take to make a substantial reduction in drug abuse." The source predicted McCaffrey will put "a budget twist" on the report. "You're probably going to see him asking that anti-drug money be programmed on a five-year budget scale, something along the lines of what they do at the Pentagon," the source said, but declined to mention a specific funding target.

The American Firearms Association

National Gunowners Survey

The American Firearms Association of the United States, Inc., a non-profit sportsmans organization opposed to the policies and agenda of the National Rifle Association (NRA), is seeking to raise \$40,000. to conduct a nationwide survey of households with firearms. The objectives of this survey shall be:

1. To establish a database of households with at least one firearm in the home;
2. Establish categories of types of firearms most frequently found in the home;
3. Determine the usage patterns (i.e. recreational, self-defence, etc.) and frequency of use of most gunowners;
4. Ascertain the formal level of firearms training of gunowners;
5. Determine the true frequency of the use of guns in self-defence;
6. Ascertain the methods of firearms storage most frequently used;
7. Establish a viable list of gunowners sympathetic to the AFA agenda;
8. Conduct membership solicitation in order to enlarge the AFA's size and influence;
9. Create a viable Legislative Response phone tree able to quickly and overwhelmingly respond by phone and fax to Legislators in favor of responsible firearms legislation.

Enclosed in this package is a proposal from Specialized Association Services (SAS) concerning the National Gunowners Survey, and promotional materials regarding the AFA. SAS is a non-profit Association management firm with offices in Washington, Dallas and Minneapolis with the expertise and resources to conduct the National Gunowners Survey on behalf of the AFA. By entering into a contractual relationship with SAS, the AFA will accrue the following benefits:

1. The relocation of AFA headquarters from Northern Virginia to Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, near the White House;
2. Access to the extensive SAS database & regional offices;
3. The accrual of a full-time staff of experienced non-profit management professionals;
4. The establishment of a Telemarketing capability;
5. Enhancement of the AFA's Internet Web Site;
6. The establishment of an attractive benefits package for AFA members;
7. The conduct of the National Gunowners Survey, with an initial test run of 10 packages of 5,000 pieces of mail (50,000 initially), each targeted towards a specific demographic group (Sportsmen, Women, Conservasionists, inner-city households, suburban households, rural households, Outdoor magazine subscribers, target shooters, ex-NRA members, and Law Enforcement professionals), followed by additional periodic packages of 50,000 pieces to those demographic groups with the highest response rate.

Following the initial test package, the AFA will publish a study detailing the results of the National Gunowners Survey, and conduct a Press Conference to announce the same.

Persons, Foundations and Organizations potentially interested in assisting the AFA in conducting the National Gunowners Survey should contact either:

Ernest Lissabet, President
P.O. Box 519
Fairfax, VA 22030-0519

(703) 352-0768

J. Coury Macdonald, Esq.
4020 Univeristy Drive, Ste. 207
Fairfax, VA 22030

(703) 691-2010

AFA & SAS references and endorsements available upon request.

The American Firearms Association:

Working to Reconcile the Second Amendment with Common Sense



THE BOLT ACTION PHILOSOPHY OF THE AMERICAN FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

1. We believe it is the Constitutional right of every law-abiding American to obtain and own firearms, and we commit ourselves to upholding that right against any and all who would try and do away with the American right to keep and bear arms.
2. We urge Americans to distinguish by means of common sense and legislation between weapons of war, and the right to own self-defense and sporting firearms; and to limit the former and preserve the latter.
3. We affirm that the right of the people to bear weapons of war must be protected, within the context of a well regulated state or federal Militia, as provided for in the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.
4. We believe it is desirable and necessary to restrict and qualify individual access to handguns and military weaponry.
5. We promote the acquisition and use of sporting rifles, shotguns and airguns among Americans, particularly, but not limited to, manual-loading firearms, bolt-action rifles and pump action shotguns.
6. We urge gun manufacturers to focus on the production and sale of sporting rifles, shotguns and airguns, and to reduce and restrict the domestic sale of handguns and military weaponry to individuals.
7. We support and endorse the establishment of shooting and gun safety instruction facilities which adhere to the Bolt Action Philosophy.
8. We seek to unite in common organization all Americans with a sustained interest in responsible gun ownership.



PROPOSAL

for

AMERICAN FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

Survey package.

Carrier: 6 x 9, browncraft, 2-color.

Teaser: The NRA and other gunowners' groups claim to speak for all sportsmen. Do they speak for you?

Letter: 8 1/2 x 11, 4 - 6 pages.

Signer: Celebrity signer. Who?

Survey/Reply: 7 x 10, 2-color, 2-sided.

Reply envelope: #7 3/4, 1-color. BRE.

Insert: 7 x 10, coated, 2-color, 1-sided.

Premium: Cap?

Benefits: Magazines, insurance, travel services, etc.

Copy:

Dear Sportsman,

Sure, you're a sportsman.

You hunt. Or maybe you shoot targets. Either way, you support the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms.

But when the NRA and other gun groups stretch the Second Amendment to include the right to own military-style assault weapons and "cop killer" bullets, do they speak for you?

Well, they sure don't speak for me.

And I don't think they speak for a majority of sportsmen.

That's why I'm so glad the American Firearms Association is sponsoring the 1996 National Gunowners' Survey.

Finally, a survey that won't be slanted and used to promote a narrow, extremist political agenda.

And, finally, a gunowners organization that fights for your right to use guns recreationally, but supports common sense anti-crime bills like the Brady Bill and the ban on assault weapons.

Program Overview

	DM	TM	Internet	Total per month
Existing Mbrs.				850
Month 1	750	300	25	1,075
Month 2	0	0	50	50
Month 3	1,250	375	75	1,700
Month 5	1,750	450	200	2,400
Month 7	17,500	4,500	300	22,300
Month 9	35,000	4,500	300	39,800
Total after 9 months				68,175

Expenses to AFA to service the membership will include:

1. \$1.15 a month per member management fee
2. All printing of membership materials, to be determined by AFA
3. Legislative Advocacy, to be determined by AFA
4. Membership mailings, to be determined by AFA
5. Other proportions as determined by AFA
6. Full-time staff, as determined by AFA

Hypothetical Direct Mail Marketing Model

Start-Up Account \$50,000.00

Month #1

Mailing #1 to 50,000 mailed peices (10 calls of 5,000 each)

DM Development and distribution	(\$28,500.00)
Response Rate	1.50%
Total number of New members	750
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$22,500.00

Account Balance (50,000-28,500+22,500)	\$44,000.00
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Month #3

Mailing #2 to 50,000 (25,000 of two best cells)

DM Development and distribution	\$28,500.00
Response Rate	2.50%
Total number of new members	1,250
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$37,500.00

Account Balance (44,000-28,500+ 37,500)	\$53,000.00
---	-------------

Month #5

Mailing #3 to 50,000 of the best cell

DM Development and Distribution	\$28,500.00
Response Ratio	3.50%
Total number of New Members	1,750
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$52,500.00

Account Balance (53,000-28,500+52,500)	\$77,000.00
--	-------------

Month #7

Mailing #4: 500,000 of best cell

DM Development and Distribution	\$285,000.00
Response Ratio	3.50%
Total number of New Members	17,500
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$525,000.00

Account Balance (77,000- 285,000+525,000)	\$317,000.00
--	--------------

Hypothetical Direct Mail Marketing Model

Month #9

Mailing #5: 1,000,000 of best cell

DM Development and Distribution	\$570,000.00
Response Ratio	3.50%
Total number of New Members	35,000
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$1,050,000.00
Account Balance (317,000 - 570,000 + 1,050,000)	\$797,000.00

Hypothetical Telemarketing Model

Initial Start Up Account	\$15,000.00
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Month 1

Connects	3000
Response Rate	10%
Contact Expense (5 min. solicitation at \$5.00/call)	\$15,000.00
Total number of New members	300
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$9,000.00
Account Balance (15,000-15,000+9,000)	\$9,000.00

Month 3

Connects	3000
Contact Expense (5 min. solicitation at \$4.50/call)	\$13,500.00
Response Ratio	12.50%
Total number of New members	375
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$11,250.00
Account Balance (9,000-13,500+11,250)	\$6,750.00

Month 5

Connects	3,000
Contact Expense (5 min. solicitation at \$4.50/call)	\$13,500.00
Response Ratio	15.00%
Total number of New members	450
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$13,500.00
Account Balance (6,750-13,500+13,500)	\$6,750.00

Month 7

Connects	30,000
Contact Expense (5 min. solicitation at \$4.50/call)	\$135,000.00
Response Ratio	15.00%
Total number of New members	4500
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$135,000.00
Account Balance (6,750-135,000+135,000)	\$6,750.00

Hypothetical Telemarketing Model

Month 9

Connects	30,000
Contact Expense (5 min. solicitation at \$4.60/call)	\$135,000.00
Response Ratio	15.00%
Total number of New members	4500
Revenue (New Members * \$30)	\$135,000.00
Account Balance (8,750- 135,000+135,000)	\$6,750.00

Hypothetical Internet Marketing Model

Initial Account	\$10,000.00
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Month 1

First month site development and promotion	\$7,000.00
New Members	25
Response Ratio	N/A
Revenue	\$750.00
Account Balance (10,000-7000+750)	\$3,750.00

Month 2

Site Promotion	\$1,000.00
New Members	50
Revenue	\$1,500.00
Account Balance (3,750-1,000+1,500)	\$4,250.00

Month 3

Site Promotion	\$1,000.00
New Members	75
Revenue	\$2,250.00
Account Balance (4,250-1,000+4,250)	\$5,500.00

Month 6

Site Promotion	\$1,000.00
New Members	200
Revenue	\$6,000.00
Account Balance (5,500-1,000+6,000)	\$10,500.00

Month 7

Site Promotion	\$1,000.00
New Members	300
Revenue	\$9,000.00
Account Balance (10,500-1,000+9,000)	\$18,500.00

Hypothetical Internet Marketing Model

Month 9

Site Promotion		\$1,000.00
New Members		300
Revenue		\$9,000.00
Account Balance	(18,500-1,000+9,000)	\$26,500.00

The Directors and Officers of the

AMERICAN FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

Ernest Lissabet - Chairman, President & Founder. Nine years of experience in the private security industry and three years as Senior Park Ranger in Northern Virginia. Six years of service in the Army National Guard; First Lieutenant, Honorable Discharge. B.A., History, George Mason University. Cuban-American. Age 34. Resides in Northern Virginia.

Otto Busher - Co-Chariman. Eight years of experience as a Contracting Engineer and Systems Administrator for the Berlin Steel Construction Company; Two years as Systems Administrator for the East Coast Steel Construction Company. Nine years of service in the Army Reserve; Captain. B.S., Engineering, University of Connecticut. Age 36. Resides in New Hampshire. Currently in Bosnia, USAR.

Domingo Chang - Eleven years of service in the United States Army; Gulf War veteran, Captain, Honorable Discharge. Systems Analyst, Delphin Systems Inc., Reston Virginia. B.A., History, Florida International University. Chinese-American. Age 35. Resides in Northern Virginia. Currently planning move to Colorado.

Fredrick Jenkins - Ten years of experience in the private security industry. President & Owner, Sports Heros, Inc. Four years of service in the United States Army; Captain, Honorable Discharge. B.S., Criminal Justice, New Mexico Military Institute. African-American. Age 36. Resides in Northern Virginia.

Philip King - Nine years of service in the U.S. Navy. Anti-Submarine Warfare helicopter pilot; former helicopter flight instructor, NAS Pensacola, Florida. B.A., Marymount University; Divinity Student, Princeton University. Application for Naval Chaplain's Corps pending. Age 34. Resides in New Jersey.

Nelson Lissabet - Twenty years of service in the City of Miami Fire and Rescue Department; Lieutenant. Three years of service in the United States Marine Corps; Vietnam veteran, Bronze Star, Purple Heart; Corporal, Honorable Discharge. B.A., University of Miami; M.A., Psychology, University of Colorado. Cuban-American. Age 47. Resides in South Florida.

Coury Macdonald - Secretary-Treasurer. Attorney at Law, Macdonald and Associates law firm, Washington D.C. and Fairfax, Virginia. B.S., International Political Economics, University of South Florida. Juris Doctor, Nova University Law School. Master of Laws, International Trade & Banking, American University. Age 30. Resides in Northern Virginia.

Jeffrey Pasternack - Three years of experience as a Business Consultant with Preferred Physicians Management Services, Inc., Boca Raton, Florida. B.A., Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies, University of Maryland at College Park. Age 28. Resides in South Florida.

Rolando Romeu - Thirteen years of service with the City of Hialeah Police Department. Currently assigned to the Multi-Agency Gang Task Force. Member of the Fraternal Order of Police. Cuban-American. Age 32. Resides in South Florida.

Kevin Tynan - Nine years of experience as the Assistant Staff Counsel, Florida Bar Association. B.A., Political Science and History, Barry University. Juris Doctor, cum laude, Nova University Law School. Age 37. Resides in South Florida. Active in local Republican Party affairs.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 13, 1994

Mr. Ernest Liesabet
Chairman, President and Founder
American Firearms Association
10705 Ashby Place
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Dear Ernest:

I want to personally thank you for your support for and assistance with the House passage of the assault weapons ban.

As you know, while this proposal bans 19 dangerous assault weapons, it protects more than 650 hunting and recreational rifles. You played a crucial role in voicing the important message that this ban protects the rights of law-abiding citizens, and I applaud your contribution to bringing us one step closer to a safer, saner America. Your help truly made a difference.

Again, many thanks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bill Clinton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

AMERICAN FIREARMS ASSOCIATION of the United States, Inc.

The American Firearms Association ("AFA") is a non-profit nationwide gun-owners and sportsmens organization dedicated to safeguarding and promoting the shooting sports while seeking to reconcile the Second Amendment and gun owners rights with fair and reasonable gun control legislation. We dispute the notion that gun owners rights must be in opposition to the majority of public opinion with regards to gun control. We believe that the Second Amendment guarantees Americans an individual right to own guns, but that it does not preclude fair gun control measures which seek to safeguard society. We believe that it is unwise and shortsighted for gun owners to continually stonewall public opinion on gun control issues, as this allows anti-gun organizations to portray us in a negative light. It is our conviction that it is wiser to implement a compromise strategy which seeks to enact legislative guarantees for gun owners within future legislation. We have endorsed both the Brady Bill and the Assault Weapons Freeze; we are especially pleased that the Assault Weapons bill excludes an extensive list of sporting firearms. We reject the "Armed Populace" doctrine of the NRA as misguided and unrealistic. We believe that Americans have the right to obtain firearms for self-defence against criminal behavior. We promote the acquisition and use of sporting firearms for sporting purposes.

- The AFA was incorporated in June of 1993 in the Commonwealth of Virginia as a tax-exempt organization described in the Internal Revenue Code under section 501(C)(4).
- The AFA was founded by ex-NRA members, Police officers, and former military officers, including Vietnam and Gulf War veterans.
- The AFA held it's inaugural press conference on August 16, 1993 at the Federal Bar Association building in Washington, D.C.
- The AFA has received Press coverage in several prominent Newspapaers, including The Washington Times, Boston Globe, Newark Star Ledger, USA Today, Law Enforcement News, Miami Herald, Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, and Womens Day Magazine.
- The AFA has received television coverage on FOX News in Washington, D.C., Broadcast News Network in New England, and NBC affiliates throughout the nation, and has participated in radio talk shows in Washington, D.C., New England, and the Mid-West.
- The AFA currently has members in 37 states throughout the nation and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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Bolt-Action

The Official Newsletter of the American Firearms Association

April 1996

Vol. 4, No. 3

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN. . .

Recently there have appeared in *The Washington Post*, several articles which I believe will be of great interest to the members of the American Firearms Association. You judge for yourselves. On Monday, March 4, The Post carried an article about Specialist Michael New, the U.S. Army soldier who is currently being court-martialed for refusing to wear a United Nations beret while assigned to the peacekeeping mission in Macedonia. What, you ask, does this have to do with gun ownership? A good question; but in this article, NRA executive Wayne LaPierre was quoted from his NBC radio show, as expressing sympathy for Specialist New. For those of who you still don't see the connection, it is instructive to remember that the NRA's radicalized membership is extremely paranoid about the so-called "New World Order," in which an allegedly predatory United Nations is somehow going to occupy America and turn our military into an international police force another reason, in their view, why they need military weapons, in order to resist the diabolical U.N. Indeed, one NRA supporter has declared on the Internet, "Army Specialist Michael New needs our help," adding that New has resisted "the gradual conversion of the U.S. military into a mercenary force for the U.N." Another Internet user has written, "We the people should stand behind this guy and every one of our boys that refuse to carry a foreign flag or insignia." It would be interesting to speculate on the possibility that these writers are members of some "Militia" group, given their obvious paranoia and the fact that the NRA has established a dialogue with such groups in the past; but of course no such evidence exists. Regardless of one's feelings about the U.N., the fact of the matter is that it is a

nearly bankrupt organization that is barely able to mount any peace-keeping operations, much less occupy the United States. What I find really interesting is the fact that many hard-core NRA members (including,

The Bolt-Action Philosophy of the American Firearms Association:

- 1. We believe it is the Constitutional right of every law-abiding American to obtain and own firearms, and we commit ourselves to upholding that right against any and all who would try and do away with the American right to keep and bear arms.*
- 2. We urge Americans to distinguish by means of common-sense and legislation between weapons of war, and the right to own self-defense and sporting firearms; and to limit the former and preserve the latter.*
- 3. We affirm that the right of the people to bear weapons of war must be protected, within the context of a well-regulated state or federal Militia, as provided for in the Second Amendment of the US Constitution.*
- 4. We believe it is desirable and necessary to restrict and qualify individual access to handguns and military weaponry.*
- 5. We promote the acquisition and use of sporting rifles, shotguns, and airguns among Americans, particularly, but not limited to, manual-loading firearms, bolt-action rifles, and pump action shotguns.*
- 6. We urge gun manufacturers to focus on the production and sale of sporting rifles, shotguns, and airguns, and to reduce and restrict domestic sale of handguns and military weaponry to individuals.*
- 7. We support and endorse the establishment of shooting and gun safety instruction facilities which adhere to the Bolt Action Philosophy.*
- 8. We seek to unite in common organization all Americans with a sustained interest in responsible gun ownership.*

presumably, Mr. LaPierre) see no contradiction between their rhetoric in support of Michael New, and the composition of the NRA's Board of Directors. I am refer-

continued on page 3

SMART GUNS

Over the last several years, there has been a growing interest among many gun owners in obtaining child-proof safety devices on handguns. The periodic frequency with which children injure themselves or a playmate in their homes with a loaded handgun is disturbing, especially as it is indicative of a careless attitude towards gun safety among the adults in the home. Likewise, there has been an increasing number of children killed in handgun accidents who have deliberately sought out and loaded a handgun in the home, even when the weapon was responsibly stored. These tragic stories are creating a market among many gun owners for child-proof safety devices.

The technology for such devices currently exists. Relatively simple devices, such as the "squeeze grip" device that requires the shooter to depress the safety latch on the pistol grip, while also squeezing the trigger, are usually too large for small hands to operate, and are thus an effective child-proof device. Another low-technology system is the "Kelly Lock" restraining key system, which prevents the bolt in a firearm from riding forward, when the key is inserted in the side-mounted lock and turned. The "Kelly Lock" is an inexpensive and effective child-safety device which can be mounted on most firearms, but unfortunately many gun owners dislike the aesthetic appearance of a lock on the side of their guns, and in any event gun manufacturers are not at this time regularly manufacturing handguns with an emphasis on child safety. As a result of this oversight, many gun-control advocates have been promoting the

continued on page 2

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American Firearms Association

Bolt Action Magazine

C/o Macdonald & Associates
4020 University Dr., Ste. 320
Fairfax, VA 22030



Memberships
P.O. Box 519
Fairfax, VA 22030-0519

ANTI-FEDERALISM AND THE SECOND AMENDMENT

by Ernest Lissabet

In the wake of the American Revolution there occurred in Massachusetts an event that exercised considerable influence upon the framing of the Constitution. When the Revolution ended, the soldiers of the Continental Army returned home to find that they had been impoverished by the worthless currency with which they had been paid. Years of absence in the service of the Revolution had resulted in the neglect of their personal affairs, creating a large number of debtors holding worthless currency. These men, who had fought and won the Revolution, were outraged, and they demanded relief from the bankers, courts and lawyers.

Among them was Captain Daniel Shays, an Irish veteran whose poverty forced him to sell a sword given to him by the Marquis de Lafayette. By the summer of 1786, the courts of Massachusetts began to hand down strict judgements against the debtors, which sparked a full scale rebellion. Armed mobs, led by Shays and others, descended upon the courts at Northampton, Worcester, Great Barrington, and Concord. Within a very short time there was a state of anarchy throughout much of the state. Governor Bowdoin ordered about 800 state militiamen to suppress the rebellion, but they were unable to prevent the rebels from breaking up the state Supreme Court. In the absence of any Regular Army units to render assistance, the Governor desperately levied more militia while the news of the rebellion spread like fire throughout the nation. On January 25, 1787, the last and largest battle of the rebellion occurred when Captain Shays and over 2,000 rebels tried to seize the Springfield Arsenal. They were routed by 1,200 militiamen, and the rebellion collapsed. Daniel Shays was captured and sentenced to death for treason and sedition, but was later pardoned by President Washington.

In February, the Confederation Congress in Philadelphia passed a resolution, calling for a Constitutional Convention "for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation... and provisions therein as shall... render the Federal Constitution adequate to the exigencies of government, and the preservation of the Union."

A famous man once observed that the only consistent way of motivating people was either by means of fear or self-interest. Although I feel that this is an overly cynical view of human nature, as a gun owner and American I have come to appreciate how public discourse on the gun control issue is motivated by these two sentiments, especially fear. Both the National Rifle Association (NRA) and Handgun Control Inc. (HCI) have played the fear card to their audience,

The Boston Globe

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1993

11

Ex-NRA member starts gun group of 'common sense'

By Joel P. Engardio
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

WASHINGTON — In what was described as a rebellion against the National Rifle Association, former NRA member Ernest Lissabet yesterday announced the founding of a group called the American Firearms Association.

He said his small group, made up mostly of NRA dropouts, will cater to gun owners who favor "common sense" gun control and support such legislative limits as the Brady bill, which calls for a five-day waiting period for purchasing handguns.

Lissabet said his actions coincided with Attorney General Janet Reno's lament last week that if there ever is to be gun control, Americans need to "rise up" and tell gun lobbies like the NRA to "get lost."

"This is a rebellion. The NRA is not the organization I joined a long time ago. It used to stand for good citizenship and sporting values," said Lissabet, who dropped his membership in 1988. "Now the NRA stands for Street Sweepers, 357 Magnums, AK47s and for heaping ridicule on anybody who happens to oppose them."

Twenty people have joined Lissabet's new group, a tiny number next to the estimated 3 million members the NRA says it has among the estimated 65 million gun owners in America. Lissabet said he wants to reach out to the non-NRA members as an alternative voice.

"We're not talking about wild-eye liberals here. We're talking about a fairly conservative constituency who feel like a little bit of common sense

**'It is possible to
reconcile the
Second
Amendment with a
little common
sense gun control.'**

ERNEST LISSABET
*Founder of American Firearms
Association.*

is needed in the current proliferation in dangerous weapons, and who do not agree with the NRA," Lissabet said. "It is possible to reconcile the Second Amendment with a little common sense gun control."

Richard Gardiner, legislative counsel to the NRA, said he was not surprised at the formation of Lissabet's group, since there are people who favor gun control and need a voice.

"We certainly have a difference in philosophy, there's no question about that," Gardiner said. "We believe people have the right to own the firearm of their choice, as long as you use it lawfully, whether it be for sporting purposes or self-defense."

Lissabet said his group wants to draw distinctions between sporting firearms and dangerous weapons, not treating all guns the same. "You can take an AK47 and go hunting with it, and you can take a Skeet shotgun and go shoot somebody, but not too many people do that," he said. "That's why I believe there is a legitimate way to separate the two."

Law Enforcement News

Vol. XIX, No. 386

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

September 30, 1993

Happy medium

A former National Rifle Association member who says he and other gun owners are fed up with the NRA's intractable stance against gun control legislation last month formed a new gun rights group that will lobby for "common sense" measures to stem the proliferation of firearms.

Ernest Lissabet, who is a park ranger foreman in Arlington County, Va., announced the formation of the American Firearms Association at a news conference in Washington on Aug. 16. Lissabet, who quit the NRA in 1988 after being a member for eight years, said that since the announcement the group has signed up over 35 members, which he concedes is minuscule compared to the NRA's estimated 3.2 million members.

Among those who have expressed interest are police officers who Lissabet said "are really turned on by the idea of being able to reconcile common-sense gun-control legislation with the Second Amendment" — one of the group's main goals. "We are a gun advocacy organization," Lissabet told LEN. "We promote the acquisition and use of sporting firearms."

Among the group's current members are several former NRA members, who, like Lissabet became disaffected by what he terms the NRA's "slippery slope theory," which he summarized

as, "If you give the gun-control lobby an inch, they're going to take a mile, and then confiscate our guns."

"We're all men and women who can think for ourselves and we just reached the point where that just didn't make any damned sense to us anymore," he said. "We see a need to try to gain control over the proliferation of dangerous weaponry, specifically these assault rifles that are out there. It doesn't do any damned good to have law enforcement officers who are being out-gunned. By the same token, we support some reasonable restrictions and qualifications on handguns as well."

Among the measures the AFA supports is the Brady bill, which calls for a national five-day waiting period on the purchase of handguns to allow police to conduct a background check of the buyer. Lissabet said that a resolution in support of the measure will be approved at an upcoming meeting of the AFA's board of directors. In addition, the board will likely approve a resolution in support of a Senate bill that would freeze the sale of assault weapons.

The seeds for the organization were planted about three years ago when Lissabet and others began asking themselves why there were no gun rights groups willing to publicly support some gun control measures. "There are some good gun organizations out there," he said. "But when they open their mouths, out come the words of the NRA. That's not what we were after. . . . Our hope is to establish a permanent rival to the National Rifle Association. They've let gun owners down."

Another factor were the surveys published this year that purported to show strong support among some of the nation's 65 million gun owners for some gun control measures. [See LEN, June 15, 1993.] "They're not listening to what gun owners are saying," Lissabet said of the NRA. "When 35 million gun owners are saying that it's time for some common-sense gun control legislation, and the NRA continues to oppose every piece of legislation that comes along, then clearly they're out of step with the people they claim to represent."

Lissabet recently took part in a televised debate in Washington with Richard Gardiner, the NRA's legislative counsel. Contacted by LEN, Gardiner said the AFA poses no threat to the NRA's position of primacy among pro-gun groups. If anything, he said, the upstart AFA might cut into the membership of Handgun Control Inc., one of the leading gun-control groups.

"The platform that they're supporting is more restrictive than Handgun Control's, so obviously they're just another gun control group, despite what they call themselves. I'm sure they won't have any impact on us," Gardiner said.

Susan Whitmore, a spokeswoman for Handgun Control, said the organization welcomed the formation of the AFA. "They're going to be an interesting and important voice in the debate. They will fill a void when you consider that poll after poll has shown the NRA is not speaking for gun owners."

Los Angeles Times

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1994

A5

National Perspective

Some Gun Owners Take 2nd Look at Fingers on Other Triggers

by DAVID LAMB
L.A. TIMES STAFF WRITER

WINCHESTER, Va.—Ever since the 1700s, when Winchester was on the frontier of the Far West, the Shenandoah Valley has been a place where people lived with guns. They were part of manhood and citizenry, and even today, you'll hardly find a home that doesn't have a shotgun oiled and ready for the house season—and perhaps an heirloom or two in a closet, forgotten behind the vacuum cleaner and winter coats.

Here, respect for guns runs deep. Dan Blye, who sells guns and jewelry from his shop on Winchester's Loudoun Street, collects military weapons, from which he has learned about history and craftsmanship and adventure. Twice a week all through the winter you'll find Dan Blye, shotgun in hand, on some mountainside in pursuit of grouse. Bird hunting, he knows, is one of the rewards not saved for man.

Across the border in West Virginia, insurance agent Bill Miller has 20 guns at home, secured in a locked steel case. His passion is target shooting at a nearby range.

It is to these people that President Clinton appealed in his State of the Union address when he called for a ban on assault weapons. He said he understood their culture, one that he grew up with himself. "I say to you, I know you didn't create this [crime] problem, but we need your help to solve it."

But to many Americans, gun ownership is a big part of the problem. One of three Americans identifies crime as the major problem facing the United States. According to a recent Times Mirror Poll, 57% of Americans now believe that controlling guns is more important than protecting the right to own them. As deaths from firearms and violent crime rates rise, gun owners increasingly are feeling a sting of public disapproval and to the scorn that drove smokers out of bars and curbed sales of fur coats.

Blye, Warren and Miller are three of the 65 million Americans who own the 210 million guns in the nation. Like most rural Americans, they treat their weapons with reverence and are perplexed by the epidemic of crime and the reaction it is spawning. They sense that their way of life is threatened, by mayhem in the streets of Washington, D.C., just a two-hour drive down Route 50, and by the growing calls for firearms restrictions.

They are the voices calling for responsible gun ownership and public understanding of what that means.

Among such gun fanciers, the fact that more and more guns are in the wrong hands is alarming.

"I'm sensitive to the fact that the majority of people who have handguns today shouldn't, and with the way things are going in our cities, I'm not sure that confiscating all handguns isn't a good idea," said Jim Wilder, a computer program analyst who keeps a 9-millimeter Taurus semiautomatic pistol on the top closet shelf of his Alexandria, Va., apartment. "The only gun I wouldn't want to see confiscated, though, is mine."

Wilder finds the romance between man and his gun in our society "mystifying and a little spooky." Many historians believe that it stems from our Colonial heritage as a militia society and from our frontier days when citizens armed themselves in situations of social conflict to enforce vigilante justice that preceded the arrival of a resident sheriff.

"Certainly, America has some very special attitudes toward gun use," said historian Richard Slotkin, author of "Gunfighter Nation." "The key one, I think, is that we have come to the view that you are allowed to use a gun for private purposes, for self-defense or whatever, as opposed to the notion in militia societies like Israel and Switzerland where you are entrusted with that gun by society for social purposes."

The growing controversy over whether the freedom to own guns has limits has led to a substantial growth in the National Rifle Assn., which now claims 3.3 million members. But the NRA's strict ideological interpretation of the Second Amendment and its belief that guns have no more relevance to the soaring crime rate than watermelons has nudged the organization, in the eyes of many gun owners, into the fringes of extremism. Only about one in 20 gun owners and one in six hunters are NRA members.

"I think the NRA has fallen out of step with society," said former member Dick Murphy, a retired Army officer and two-tour Vietnam veteran. Once each autumn, he drives from his North Carolina home to a primitive lakeside cabin in Maine, where he hunts for two weeks. "Personally, the idea of having to register my guns wouldn't bother me a bit. I have to register my car, don't I?"

Last fall a group of gun owners, many of them former military officers, split from the NRA and founded the American Firearms Assn. as a moderate voice for the gun lobby. Ernest Lissabet, president of the Virginia-based organization, said the AFA supports the constitutional right of law-abiding Americans to own firearms but also believes that "common-sense legislation" is needed to limit the "weapons of war" on the streets.

"Arming the entire populace may have made sense in 1776, but I'm not sure it's entirely a good idea today," said Lissabet, a park ranger and skeet shooter.

Lissabet noted: "The NRA says, 'It's the criminals, stupid,' and I say, 'Yes it is, but it's also the guns they have.' They say, 'Well, they get them from illegal sources,' and I say, 'True, but when we have some common-sense legislation, over the long run, not the short run, it will begin to put the squeeze on that source.' Let's not forget that, as gun owners, we're still a minority in this country."



SPORTS AFIELD



Almanac

EDITED BY FRANK S. GOLAD

A NEW GUN CONTROL DIALOGUE?

The American Firearms Association, a fledgling organization that was founded in 1993 by ex-NRA members, police officers, and former military officers is making efforts to reach a compromise with entrenched gun control advocates. The organization, now 300 strong, is skeptical of the NRA's don't-give-an-inch agenda, and in fact supports a freeze on the continuing sale of semiautomatic assault weapons and unsporting ammunition (such as Teflon-coated bullets), as well as laws prohibiting gun ownership by anyone convicted of a felony or violent misdemeanor. The AFA does not support gun registration or a seven-day waiting period. Founder Ernest Lissabet said, "We are prepared to incur the NRA's wrath, but we are certain that a change in strategy is a must for gun owners and sportsmen." For information, call 703/352-0768.



Today's hunter must decide where to stand on gun control.

Does the U.S. have a rabies problem?



LEONARD LEE RUC '91

A RABIES VACCINE

FOR WILD ANIMALS

A molecularly engineered vaccine called VRG (vaccinia rabies glycoprotein) may be the answer to a growing rabies problem in the U.S. It has been used widely in Europe to combat the disease in red foxes, and recent reports are so promising that the European Commission expects to be rid of red fox rabies within four years. By dropping millions of vaccine-laced pellets from helicopters, several European countries have drastically reduced the spread of the disease.

But the U.S. has been slow to approve the vaccine because of high cost and environmental concerns, and thus far only limited field trials have been allowed. A single dose wrapped in a food pellet costs over a dollar, and millions of doses must be dropped in order to be effective.

Experts believe the scourge has spread through raccoon populations northward from the middle Atlantic states at a rate of 40 miles a year. That has alarmed public health officials, even though the number of rabies-related fatalities is relatively low (19 since 1980). In 1989 there were about 100 people treated for rabid animal bites in New York State. That number increased to 3000 in 1993. With inoculations costing about \$1000, treatment costs could give wild-animal immunization a new priority.

OCTOBER

GUIDE TO BEST FISHING DAYS

1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 am
2 am	3 am	4 pm	5 pm	6 pm	7 pm	8 pm
9 pm	10 pm	11 am	12 am	13 am	14 am	15 am
16 am	17 am	18 am	19 pm	20 pm	21 pm	22 pm
23 pm	24 pm	25 pm	26 pm	27 am	28 am	29 am
30 am	31 am					



THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Fighting gun control is moot for sportsmen, Rich Landers says, if it means voting for politicians who ignore wildlife causes.

Tuesday, November 1, 1994

The Spokesman-Review
Spokane, Wash./Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

NRA is losing touch with those it once served

The Spokesman-Review

For 30 years, the National Rifle Association has been maligned by the liberal-infested media. I can no longer find a reason to break tradition.

Of the 65 million gun owners in the United States, only 3 million belong to the NRA. The reason becomes more clear with every election.

This isn't to say all NRA members are wackos. I know the NRA. Its members include the most honest, dedicated and generous souls who ever lost touch with their society.

They include the unsung volunteers who teach firearms safety to 21,000 students in Idaho and Washington each year.

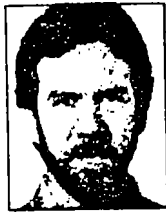
Unfortunately, they also include the heartless political activists who dismiss the Fairchild massacre as a consequence of living in a free country.

Beyond the goal of producing responsible gun owners, the conscientious hunter finds little common ground with hard-liners who rule the NRA.

For example, the NRA has turned thumbs down in this election on Congressman Tom Foley and state Rep. George Orr.

Foley once enjoyed NRA support for his stand on gun owners' rights. But after Dean Mellberg shot 26 people at Fairchild, Foley announced his support for some restrictions on the sale of assault-style weapons.

For that, the NRA says he's out of touch with his



Rich
Landers

constituency.

One needs no more proof. It's the NRA that's out of touch.

Similarly, the NRA has endorsed Larry Crouse in the 4th Legislative District race against Orr.

"Larry has vowed to vote against any firearms legislation," said local NRA organizer Bruce Moriarty.

Give the NRA credit for getting Crouse to take a firm stand on *something*, even though it might be ridiculously rigid.

Sportsmen once looked at the NRA to protect their rights to own sporting arms. Now they must demand a more sensible approach. The effectiveness of the don't-give-an-inch strategy crumbles a little more with every assault-rifle incident.

The NRA still touts itself as a sportsmen's organization. Yet it has campaigned against Orr, one of the few Washington legislators who can be trusted to pursue the best interests of wildlife.

Orr has introduced bills to fight poachers and lock up criminals who use firearms. He has promoted sport fishing and wildlife habitat restoration.

Meanwhile, the NRA has endorsed state Sen. Jim West and Rep. Todd Mielke. At the Inland Northwest Wildlife Council's candidates' forum, neither man could list one thing he has done in his political career to benefit wildlife. Nothing. Zip.

But they'll uphold your right to buy an AK-47.

They didn't even seem embarrassed enough to lie about such a pitiful record.

Area sports

NRA mission changes with times, oft dramatically

Some part ways when hard-liners assail any type of gun-control

By Rich Landers
Outdoors editor

The National Rifle Association was founded in 1871 primarily to train the citizenry in marksmanship in case men should be called to war.

In the late 1940s, war-weary members changed the orientation of the NRA from military to recreation. The group sponsored the Olympic shooting team and formed

close ties with hunting groups and law enforcement.

The assassination of President John Kennedy precipitated the federal gun control act of 1968, which banned mail-order sales of firearms. Lee Harvey Oswald purchased the gun used in the assassination from an ad in the NRA's American Rifleman magazine.

Passage of the act galvanized a group within the NRA into hard-line opposition to any further gun control.

Led by Harlon Carter and Neal Knox, the NRA founded its Institute for Legislative

Action in 1975.

"The ILA soon became the tail that wags the dog," said Ernest Lissabet, who joined other ex-NRA members in founding the American Firearms Association last year.

At the NRA's 1977 convention, hard-liners wrested control from the old guard. Recreation and hunting became secondary to the NRA's political agenda.

"Through the 1980s, the gun control lobby was disorganized," said Lissabet from his office in Fairfax, Va. The NRA won almost every battle with its no-compromise, take-no-prisoners strategy.

"The whole reason for AFA is that a little compromise is not an evil thing," Lissabet said.

AFA members find no fault with a five-day waiting period on gun purchases or restrictions on assault-type weapons.

"We share the conviction with the NRA that the Second Amendment assures people the right to own firearms," Lissabet said. "But there have to be some limits on the type of weapon."

■ Info: American Firearms Assoc., P.O. Box 519, Fairfax Va. 22030-0519, telephone (703) 352-0768.

BY THE WAY...

THIS MONTH: *the unpleasant truth about waterfowl transgressions*

GETTING ORGANIZED

AMERICAN FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

WHAT DO THREE LAWYERS, A LIEUTENANT, a private security specialist, a computer systems analyst, a contracting engineer, and a park ranger have in common? All are on the board of directors of the American Firearms Association (AFA), a gun-ownership advocacy group that aims to provide a voice for the 62 million Americans who own guns, but are not National Rifle Association (NRA) members.

Describing itself as a "moderate alternative to the divisive, anti-federalist rhetoric of the NRA," and dedicated to "the promotion of recreational firearms for recreational purposes and the conservation of America's dwindling wilderness areas and natural resources," the AFA's motto is: "Working to Reconcile the Second Amendment With Common Sense."

Don't feel too bad if you've never heard of the AFA. The group was founded in 1993 by seven recreational shooters on the East Coast, and still has just over 500 members scattered across forty-one states. The group's modest treasury prohibits aggressive membership promotion, and word of mouth hasn't come easy.

"Generally speaking," says Ernest Lissabet, the AFA's president and co-founder and a park ranger in northern Virginia, "we have been ignored by the sporting press. Furthermore, he says, "Whenever our organization is brought up at membership or board meetings [of rod and gun clubs], inevitably a very vocal minority tries to squelch any discussion toward moderation and compromise. Essentially, what we are finding is there are a lot of people who are just terrified of pissing off the NRA."

Instead of knuckling under, the AFA has decided to play David to the NRA's Goliath. Last May 10—coincidentally, the very day that former President Bush announced his protest resignation from the NRA—the AFA called a press conference in the basement of the Capitol Building to announce the organization's support of the Brady Law and the ban on assault weapons—federal laws the NRA and the new Congressional leadership had vowed to repeal. "The time has come for our society to take a bit of a reality check with regard to the kinds of firearms that are out there," Lissabet said. "We must distinguish between recreational firearms and weaponry."

Standing shoulder to shoulder with Lissabet under an AFA banner sporting the thirteen-star colonial flag and crossed rifles were Rep. Charles E. Schumer (D-NY), lead sponsor of most of the gun-control and crime-prevention bills in the House of Representatives, and Richard Aborn, president of Handgun Control, Inc. Aborn stated that "reasonable gun owners" are the key to resolving the rancorous debate over gun ownership, and confessed that at summer camp, he had won marksman and sharpshooter badges from the NRA.

Lissabet explained his group's decision to take such an eye-raising step: "It's very clear that Handgun Control, Inc. will continue to promote gun-control legislation, and that's why we need to talk with them." Without such dialogue, Lissabet says, ideas that are "not necessarily in the best interests of gun owners" may be advanced by gun-control advocates.

Not that Handgun Control, Inc. and AFA agree on everything. "We would not be in favor of any scheme that would require the

registration of recreational firearms," Lissabet says with some fervor. He also cites AFA's opposition to limits on the purchase of ammunition, a one-gun-per-month limit on gun buys, and certain other measures advocated by some gun-control groups.

To find out more, contact the American Firearms Association, Dept. FS, P.O. Box 519, Fairfax, VA 22030-0519, telephone (703) 691-2010, fax (703) 691-0744.

—GARY SOUCE

MAKING SCENTS

ODOR ELIMINATOR

YOU CAN MAKE A HOME-COOKED odor eliminator with natural chlorophyll and baking soda. I get the chlorophyll from ferns growing in shaded woods. I cut off the tops of two dozen plants in early August while they're still very green and pack them into a 15-quart kettle, add 2 quarts of water, and simmer for an hour or two. Do not boil! Doing so can destroy the chlorophyll. When the ferns are removed, you'll have a greenish mixture that contains chlorophyll and stinks like simmered ferns. While still hot, mix in and dissolve 1 cup of baking soda. To strengthen the covering properties, I sometimes add a bit of quality ammonia. (Ammonia is one of the things that results when urine breaks down.) Place the mixture in quart or pint jars and refrigerate until needed. —WILLIAM OLSEN

HAPPY TRAILS

STRIP TIP

A STRIP OF PORK RIND TRAILING BEHIND a spoon or spinner makes a deadly combination for bass and other gamefish. Equally effective is a rabbit strip or a maribou feather. Simply bind the material onto the hook with nylon thread and give it a dab of waterproof glue or head cement. Rabbit strips and maribou undulate and wiggle as enticingly as a piece of cut pork, and they're more durable. —WILLIAM G. TAPPLY



MAKE YOUR MARK

MEASURING UP

BECAUSE FISHING REGULATIONS ARE complex and length limits often vary from river to river, I spin thread markers onto my rod in front of the grip at 4-inch intervals. That way, I can estimate the length of a fish by simply holding it against the rod with its tail at the butt, and release it if I want without ever having lifted it from the water.

—KEITH MCCAFFERTY



Gunowners can pick from three groups to lobby for them

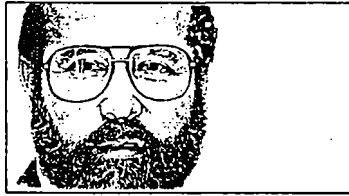
Gun organizations were politically active during congressional debates on the anti-terrorism bill and assault weapon ban repeal.

GOA opposed both; the NRA wanted assault weapon repeal but accepted the amended anti-terrorism bill; the AFA supported anti-terrorism and favors restrictions on assault weapons.

NRA, GOA and AFA are very different gun organizations.

The National Rifle Association has 3 million members and is 125 years old.

Originally, it was considered an ally of the National Guard, with its emphasis on gun safety and marksmanship. The NRA still promotes that theme; it sponsors targets and teaching materials for organizations like the Boy Scouts of America.



By David R. Kotok

The NRA is a political force and views itself as a defender of the U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment.

It lobbies congressmen on gun issues. The NRA distributed nearly \$6 million to over 200 members of Congress during the last congressional election cycle.

The NRA received public criticism after using inciteful fund-raising materials written by Wayne LaPierre, its executive director.

An infamous quote characterizing law enforcement officers as "jack-booted thugs" made the national media. NRA members as notable as former President George Bush and retired Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf publicly resigned from the NRA. It lost 20 percent of its members and has since tempered its fund-raising letters.

A more extreme organization, the Gun Owners of America, is run by Larry Pratt, who gained notoriety as an advisor to Republican presidential candidate Pat Buchanan.

The Buchanan campaign defended Pratt after publicity about Pratt's alleged involvement as speaker at organizational meetings of the Aryan Nations, other skinhead groups, Ku Klux Klan meetings, etc. Pratt resigned any official relationship to Buchanan.

The 120,000-member GOA is more extreme than NRA. It fights any restrictions on Second Amendment gun rights. Pratt opposes presidential candidate, Senator Bob Dole.

"Dole has hardly been a friend to gun owners," said Pratt. "Consider Senator Dole's record. He helped broker the unanimous consent agreement on the Brady Bill in 1993."

NRA and GOA. Extreme in their positions, one more than the other.

My regular hunting companion, Kim Fonseca, is an NRA member. He doesn't like their rhetoric or most of their political positions. He refuses to contribute to their political mechanism.

"Who's going to look out for the rights of hunters?" Kim asks. "I belong to the NRA because there's nobody else."

But my friend may be wrong. A new organization provides an alternative to the NRA or GOA.

"The American Firearms Association" was created in the summer of 1993 by seven ex-NRA members, former military officers, and law enforcement professionals who have grown skeptical of the NRA's no compromise agenda and rhetoric," says Ernest Lissabet, AFA president. "Twenty years ago, the vast majority of the NRA's fund-raising supported educational programs and recreational shooting. No more. The NRA has become primarily a political lobby."

AFA was created because its founders realized the NRA would not reform from within.

"We feel that the time has come to establish responsible gun ownership in the 21st century," says the AFA.

"Gun owners must judge any given gun control initiative based upon its particular merits or lack thereof rather than upon an inflexible political agenda," said Lissabet.

Information about AFA may be obtained by writing P.O. Box 519, Fairfax, Va., 22030-0519. The annual membership is \$25 and has grown to include 41 states.

Two personal postscripts. This writer owns two guns, hunts, shoots sporting clays and trap, and believes that any American citizen has this right. He also spent three years in a green uniform. During that training, he fired machine guns and other high-capacity weapons. They have no place in America's civil society.

Second P.S.: We've penned several gun columns during the last two years. We have received mail, pro and con, supportive telephone calls and threatening messages.

Millville reader Nicholas Kierniesky eloquently quoted George Washington in a letter defending the Second Amendment; he offered to make matching contributions to the NRA to "help enrich it."

OK, with his money; not mine. I am sending my tax-deductible contribution to the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, 1225 I Street, NW, Room 1100, Washington, D.C. 20005. Chaired by Sarah Brady, they are committed to making our society a safer place to live. They offer research about gun violence and are able to provide thoughtful legal analysis about the Second Amendment.

Kotok is the managing director of Cumberland Consulting, a Vineland-based financial advisor.

If you have an opinion about this column or have a suggestion for future columns, you can write to: David Kotok, c/o The Daily Journal, 891 East Oak Road, Vineland, N.J. 08360. The fax number is 691-2031.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor's Note:

We appreciate and encourage readers sending us their comments and opinions about topics and issues — not individuals or organizations — appearing in Outdoor America. With this in mind, we will not publish additional letters sent to us regarding the American Firearms Association, the National Rifle Association, or differences of these two organizations.

More On AFA and NRA

In response to Tanya Metaksa's letter (Spring 1996), several important points need to be made. First, Metaksa's implication that the American Firearms Association (AFA) "rarely has been heard from except in support of restrictive gun legislation" is untrue. As an even cursory review of our Web site at <http://www.firearms.org/afa> or AFA promotional materials reveals, the AFA by no means supports the complete agenda of the gun control lobby.

The AFA has made it abundantly clear that we endorse and support National Rifle Association (NRA) programs such as basic firearms training and the Eddie Eagle program. We also support competitive and Olympic shooting.

The AFA is comprised of gun owners and sports enthusiasts who question if the unrestricted availability of all firearms is good for the country and good for the public image of gun owners. Accordingly, the AFA endorsed the assault weapons law, which numerous opinion surveys have demonstrated enjoys widespread support among many sports enthusiasts.

Metaksa pointed out that the AFA has not yet developed programs to benefit hunters, sports enthusiasts or competitive shooters. The AFA has been in existence for three years and is in the process of accruing resources and developing such programs. As our organization grows, so will our involvement with issues of concern to conservationists.

—Ernest F. Lissabet
American Firearms Association
president

Record Speaks For Itself

In the last two issues of Outdoor America, there has been discussion concerning the positions espoused by the American Firearms Association (AFA), National Rifle Association (NRA) and Handgun Control Inc. (HCI) over firearms and their place in our society.

A review of the positions supported by these groups shows the Izaak Walton League and NRA supporting private ownership of handguns and AFA and HCI opposed. The League and NRA are opposed to federal regulation of law-abiding gun owners; firearms registration; mandatory licensing of gun owners; regulation of ammunition; gun show sales; and individual permits for gun ownership. AFA and HCI support these measures.

Each of the groups, however, supports regulation of firearm sales or possession by felons, minors and the mentally ill.

In addition, the governor of Maryland, with the support of HCI, proposed sweeping gun control laws called "some of the toughest in the nation" by HCI.

The IWLA Maryland Division opposed the governor's bill, as did the NRA. AFA appeared and spoke in full support of the worst and most oppressive version of the bill put forward. A slightly weaker but just as objectionable version passed and takes effect in October.

—William Warneke
IWLA and
NRA member and
NRA-certified gun safety instructor

Photo Corrections

In the Summer 1996 issue of Outdoor America, a great blue heron shown on page 12 was incorrectly identified. Also, the photographer credit line for the photo should have read Bill Marchel.

On page 16 of the same issue, the photographer credit for the river barge picture (top of the page) should have read Larsh K. Bristol.

We apologize to the photographers and to our readers and regret any confusion these mistakes may have caused.



Bill Marchel

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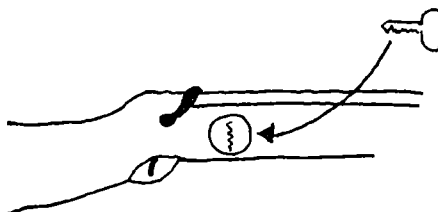
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THE KELLY LOCK
A firearms safety device

Mr. Kelly Johnson, of Soldotna, Alaska, has invented the following device. To date, most all of the major firearms manufacturers have failed to show any interest in the device. The NRA has also failed to show any interest; according to Mr. Johnson, they told him that "the NRA doe's not endorse any mechanical devices" (!). Ironically, the two major air-gun companies (Daisy and Crossman), have both exhibited some interest in the device, due to the large number of children who use air-guns. According to Mr. Johnson, both of these firms currently have his device under consideration. Although Mr. Johnson is clear on the improbability of the arms companies adopting his device, he is still hopefull that they may be persuaded at some point in the future to offer it as an accessory, which seems to me quite reasonable. However, as Coury Macdonald has pointed out, such an offering would have to be accompanied by a written disclaimer signed by the purchaser, to protect the manufacturer from litigation in the event of device failure. Because of this, it seems unlikely that the arms companies will offer the Kelly Lock anytime soon, unless compelled to do so by legislation or, preferably, by market demand.

The difficulties notwithstanding, I think this is a damn good idea, better than trigger locks and much less expensive than gun safes. Mr. Johnson found out about us by calling HCI out of desperation; he frankly regards them as the "enemy," but felt that his rejection by the arms companies and the NRA left him no choice. He seemed genuinely pleased to talk to a sympathetic and firearms-knowledgeable voice (Ernest). I believe he will join the AFA.

1. Lock is permanently attached to the outside of the firearm. It extends from the side of the firearm about the width of a finger. It can be attached on either side of the gun.
2. Key is inserted into lock and rotated; tumblers rotate and extend restraining rod into bolt, preventing bolt from loading a cartridge.
3. Remove key; firearm is rendered inoperable. Each lock/firearm has a seperate key.
4. This is incredibly simple and effective. 1 key, 1 gun. Why hasn't anyone thought of this before? Mr. Johnson invented this device because he has a large collection of guns and children in the same house. He says all of his guns have been fitted with the device.



the amount of time it probably will take to make a substantial reduction in drug abuse." The source predicted McCaffrey will put "a budget twist" on the report. "You're probably going to see him asking that anti-drug money be programmed on a five-year budget scale, something along the lines of what they do at the Pentagon," the source said, but declined to mention a specific funding target.

A Senate GOP leadership source said congressional Republicans are likely to cooperate with the Administration's efforts to counter the Arizona and California initiatives. "It's very clear that this Administration, while dropping many of its campaign promises, is not going to abandon its commitment to heightened anti-drug efforts," the source said. However, the source also said Republicans are likely to push for some changes in the Clinton Administration's strategy. "While their commitment is welcome, it is clear their fundamentals remain open to question," the source said, adding: "The massive reduction in interdiction efforts, the massive cutbacks in prosecuting drug cases, the massive cutbacks in funding assistance to states in this area -- all of these things have been very disturbing to our members and accounted for the fact that one of our top ten bills centers on crime and drugs." Added the source: "This is not to criticize what General McCaffrey is trying to do, but let's face it, there are still a bunch of counter-culture

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freakniks scattered throughout the Administration and it's tough."

Meanwhile, the National Institutes of Health is preparing for possible renewed study in the area of medicinal marijuana. As debate turns to the issue of medical viability, a spokesperson for NIH said it becomes increasingly likely that the agency may receive applications for study in that area. "With its annual appropriation, NIH funds medical research of all kinds that is proposed to us by scientists around the country, usually at universities or medical schools," the source said, adding:

"Scientists may recognize that there may be a renewed interest based on recent events. They may send applications to us for review. This field of research has not been particularly active for the past 12 years or so." Looking toward that possibility, the spokesperson said NIH is planning an "open meeting" Feb. 19 and 20 for several scientists to design guidelines for studying medical uses of marijuana. "We want to see what role NIH might play in trying to inform, scientifically, this recent public debate that has arisen surrounding the medical use of marijuana," the spokesperson said.

In addition, the nonpartisan National Academy of Sciences has been granted \$1 million by the Federal Government, according to an Administration source, who said NAS will conduct a study "to determine what actually exists in the way of research on medical

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- o Clinton to reclaim communications frequencies for law enforcement. Saying that in many urban areas, communications frequencies are becoming so congested that law enforcement agencies are becoming hampered as a result, Attorney General Janet Reno announced today that President Clinton plans to order certain frequencies set aside strictly for law enforcement. Reno told reporters this morning: "Today, as part of his 1998 budget, President Clinton will announce a proposal to help America's police and other public safety workers face these critical challenges. The President will seek to reclaim

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U.S. Department of Justice
Public Liaison and Intergovernmental Affairs

Office of the Director

Washington, D.C. 20530

June 17, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR:

John Emerson
Deputy Assistant to the President
and Deputy Director of
Intergovernmental Affairs

Dennis Burke
Senior Policy Advisor
Domestic Policy Council

FROM:

Nicholas M. Gess
Director
Department of Justice

SUBJECT:

Firearms control documents from the California
Police Chiefs Association

The Attorney General was recently provided with the attached materials by the California Police Chiefs Association. Because these proposals may be of interest to the Administration, she has asked both the Criminal Division and the Office of Legislative Affairs at DoJ to look at the proposals to determine whether any action is appropriate. The materials are being provided to Claudia Flynn in the Criminal Division and Bob Brink in the Office of Legislative Affairs.

In addition, Chief Todd, who originally provided the materials, asked that copies be provided to the White House. Because this has both California and crime implications, I am providing each of you with a full set.

Please call me on 514-3465 if you have any questions.

Enclosure



California **POLICE CHIEFS** Association Inc.

1455 Response Rd., Suite 190 Sacramento, California 95815 Telephone (916) 923-2375 (916) 923-1825 FAX (916) 263-6090

CALIFORNIA POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

POSITION PAPER

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rodney K. Pierini

95-1
Number

FEBRUARY 1995

Date

**SUBJECT: CONFRONTING THE AMERICAN TRAGEDY
THE NEED TO BETTER REGULATE FIREARMS**

INTRODUCTION

On February 2, 1995, the California Police Chiefs Association adopted a position paper concerning the need to address firearm violence, death, and injury.

As Chiefs of Police, we are responsible for public safety. That responsibility requires leadership. It is for these reasons that we are stepping forward.

We are under no illusion that our position will be universally accepted by others, nor do we expect that it will be literally translated into legislation. Nevertheless, our position paper represents our collective vision of the steps that should be taken to make all of our citizens safer.

The California Police Chiefs Association is not advocating a ban on the private ownership of firearms. By contrast, we believe our position paper fosters responsible firearm ownership.

BACKGROUND

The American historical legacy bears witness to the fact that the widespread personal possession and ownership of firearms is an ingrained part of our national heritage. The frontier ethic and the desire to remain free of undue governmental interference have in some form or another been intertwined with the ability of our citizenry to bear arms. Many Americans believe that the strength of our democracy is ensured only by the underlying strength of an armed civilian population.

Just as the widespread possession of firearms is an American fact today, so too is the widespread tragedy that has accompanied the misuse of firearms. No longer are disputes settled by civilized means; rather, it is the gun that too often becomes the arbiter of first and lasting choice. We as a society have for far too long treated the tragic consequences that result from an armed America as but a footnote to the long, but falsely held, notion that a highly armed populous is necessary for the preservation of our freedoms.

Just a brief look at the statistics of gun violence should convince the most dispassionate observer that the misuse and ready availability of firearms are taking control of our communities. For

example, in 1993 alone close to 40,000 Americans were killed by the use of firearms of which more than 5,000 were Californians. In addition, the National Center for Disease Control estimates that for each firearm death, another ten people are shot yet survive.

Furthermore, while people are needlessly being shot, the sales of firearms soar to record levels. During 1993 Californians purchased approximately 650,000 firearms, and in 1994 even more may be sold. These numbers reflect the real fear and hopelessness many citizens feel as heinous acts of violence increasingly take a toll on society. We must address this environment of fear if we are to rein in what appears to be a ceaseless appetite for more and more guns. The premise that more guns in the hands of the civilian population makes for a safer environment certainly appears not to be the case.

Most of the current debate about firearms violence focuses on criminal misconduct. We believe that present statutes prohibiting the use of firearms in the commission of any crime must be enforced strongly and swiftly. To do otherwise is unconscionable. However, we cannot escape the fact that many of the firearms-related deaths and injuries occur not as a result of intentional criminal misconduct but because of accident, mistake and misfortune. Far too often gun violence occurs between family, friends, unintended victims and children; people whose lives are forever changed because a firearm was too readily available.

After long and thoughtful deliberation, the California Police Chiefs Association has concluded that the widespread and still largely unregulated individual ownership of firearms in our society must be re-evaluated. It is abundantly clear that the communities in which we are privileged to serve are under attack by a type and extent of violence not previously experienced. The weapons of that violence increasingly are firearms; firearms in the hands of drug dealers, robbers, mental incompetents, and in many cases, otherwise law-abiding citizens who are untrained or emotionally ill-equipped to safely use a gun. As a result, the widespread and ready availability of firearms threatens to undermine the foundation of our social order.

The California Police Chiefs Association recognizes its responsibility to provide decisive and common-sense leadership necessary to help address this critically important and emotionally charged issue. The lack of regulation over, and the misuse of, firearms is one of the most daunting issues we must face if we are ever to address the tragedy that threatens the viability of our society. For far too long, the law enforcement community has stood silent permitting other voices to speak for us. As a consequence, the misuse of firearms has been focused upon solely as a crime problem rather than as a social crisis that threatens us all.

This Association states as an unequivocal goal the saving of human lives through the substantive reduction in the misuse of firearms. We recognize the reality that large numbers of firearms will be a part of our lives for many years to come. We, therefore, believe that it is incumbent upon our association to articulate and support a specific legislative agenda that will reduce the opportunity for firearms to kill and injure innocent people.

As an initial step in what will undoubtedly be a long journey to reduce firearms violence, the

California Police Chiefs Association adopts the following position with respect to firearms:

1. **REGISTRATION**

Firearms are used in hundreds of thousands of criminal incidents every year. A significant number of those crimes are committed with firearms that were stolen or inappropriately obtained. Absent a mandatory system whereby firearms are registered with a law enforcement authority, it is very difficult to trace gun ownership and resolve many firearms-related crimes. A mandatory registration system will assist law enforcement criminal apprehension efforts and results in no significant burden upon lawful firearm owners. Accordingly, we propose that all firearms be registered with an identified law enforcement authority by no later than three years after such legislation is adopted. Every time the firearm is subsequently sold or ownership transferred would require re-registration.

2. **OWNERSHIP AND POSSESSION**

Ownership and/or possession of firearms and ammunition should be limited to only those individuals at the age of 18 years or older who have been licensed by the state. License standards should include a background free from any significant criminal history, mental illness or emotional instability, and successful completion of a state approved training course. The cost of processing the license application should be paid by the applicant. Persons under the age of 18 may possess a firearm if they are under the immediate supervision of a parent, guardian, or other adult licensed to possess a firearm.

3. **MAGAZINE CAPACITY**

The existence of high-capacity magazines only serves the purpose of enhancing the killing and injuring potential of a firearm. Recent history is replete with the horrors of persons using weapons with high-capacity magazines to kill and maim numbers of innocent victims. There is no articulable reason why such capacity exists for sporting reasons. Federal law for example, limits the number of shotgun shells to three that may be carried in a shotgun while hunting waterfowl. Recognizing that a justifiable reason may exist for limited magazine capacity, we propose that no firearm magazine be lawfully possessed if it has a capacity of more than six bullets. Exceptions should be considered for military or law enforcement use only.

4. **STORAGE**

Firearms not adequately secured are easily subject to theft or misuse. In California, over 100,000 firearms are reported stolen annually. Many of these firearms are currently in circulation. Guns left lying about the home unsecured kill or injure thousands of people a year. Responsible gun ownership demands that no firearm ever be left unattended and in such condition that it can be readily used or stolen. We propose that legislation

mandate that all firearms not under the immediate control of a responsible adult be required to be locked, stored, and unloaded. Also, all firearms at the time of sale must be sold with a separate locking device that would render a firearm incapable of immediate use.

5. SAFETY STANDARDS

Firearms come in many sizes, shapes, and capabilities. A gun is a product not unlike a car, chain saw, or lawn mower in that it is capable of being designed and manufactured in such manner as to render it less likely to be misused or cause unintended injury to the operator. We propose that all firearms manufactured domestically or imported be subject to consumer product safety standards that will be designed to maximize a weapon's safety. Firearms manufactured prior to adoption and implementation of consumer product safety standards may only be sold to other family members for a period of ten years after adoption of said standards if the firearm does not meet those standards. Weapons defined as antiques should be exempted.

6. CONCEALED WEAPONS

The issuance and possession of a permit to carry a concealed weapon is and should continue to be a privilege that is granted to few persons and under circumstances where protection with a lethal weapon is justifiably necessary. We propose that the authority to issue a concealed weapon permit stay at the local level where there is a greater likelihood that accountability for permit use and abuse will be had. We do, however, strongly believe that uniform articulative standards and qualifications for permit application and issuance should be adopted. The qualifications should require an applicant be free of any significant criminal history, mental illness, incident(s) of violent behavior, and substance abuse. The process standards should include a definition of good cause to issue, a defined background procedure, a psychological and medical examination, a training requirement, and liability insurance coverage, should it be available.

7. ASSAULT WEAPONS

Military-style assault weapons serve no valid sporting purpose nor are they necessary for the protection of the home. These weapons have proven incredibly destructive in the hands of the criminal and mentally ill person. We propose that these weapons be clearly defined and identified as serving no recognized civilian purpose and, accordingly, be prohibited from ownership, possession, or sale.

8. UNLAWFUL POSSESSION

There is currently a wide array of legislative mandates governing the control of firearms in our society. As an attempt to speak to the seriousness with which we view the damage occasioned by firearms abuse, we propose legislation that would make the unlawful purchase, sale, possession, or use of a firearm, chargeable as a felony and accompanied by a lifetime prohibition of firearms possession after conviction.

9. MANDATORY DESTRUCTION

Until there are sufficient safeguards to reduce the easy availability and misuse of firearms, we propose that any firearms which come into the possession of a law enforcement agency, which are unregistered, found or unclaimed property, used in the commission of any crime, surrendered voluntarily by any citizen, purchased for use by that agency, or by any other means, shall, once they have served any evidentiary purpose, be destroyed in such a fashion as to render them permanently unusable as firearms. All other such weapons shall not be sold, traded, nor redistributed, other than for some legitimate law enforcement use where the agency maintains ownership and control, or donated to museums for historical purpose.



VIEWS ON HANDGUN POLICY OPTIONS: LOS ANGELES & ORANGE COUNTIES

The Campaign to Prevent Handgun Violence Against Kids
454 Las Gallinas Avenue, Suite 177 • San Rafael, CA 94903 • (415) 331.3337

HANDGUN POLICY OPTIONS	LOS ANGELES COUNTY VOTERS	LOS ANGELES COUNTY GUN OWNERS	ORANGE COUNTY VOTERS	ORANGE COUNTY GUN OWNERS
<i>Support</i> Ban on Home Gun Dealers	60%	48%	55%	53%
<i>Oppose</i> Liberalizing Concealed Weapons Permits Law	73%	58%	73%	60%
<i>Support</i> Ban on Manufacture of "Saturday Night Specials"	71%	63%	71%	65%
<i>Support</i> City Ban on "Saturday Night Specials"	88%	81%	87%	83%
<i>Support</i> Federal Regulation to Include Safety Standards	85%	79%	90%	86%

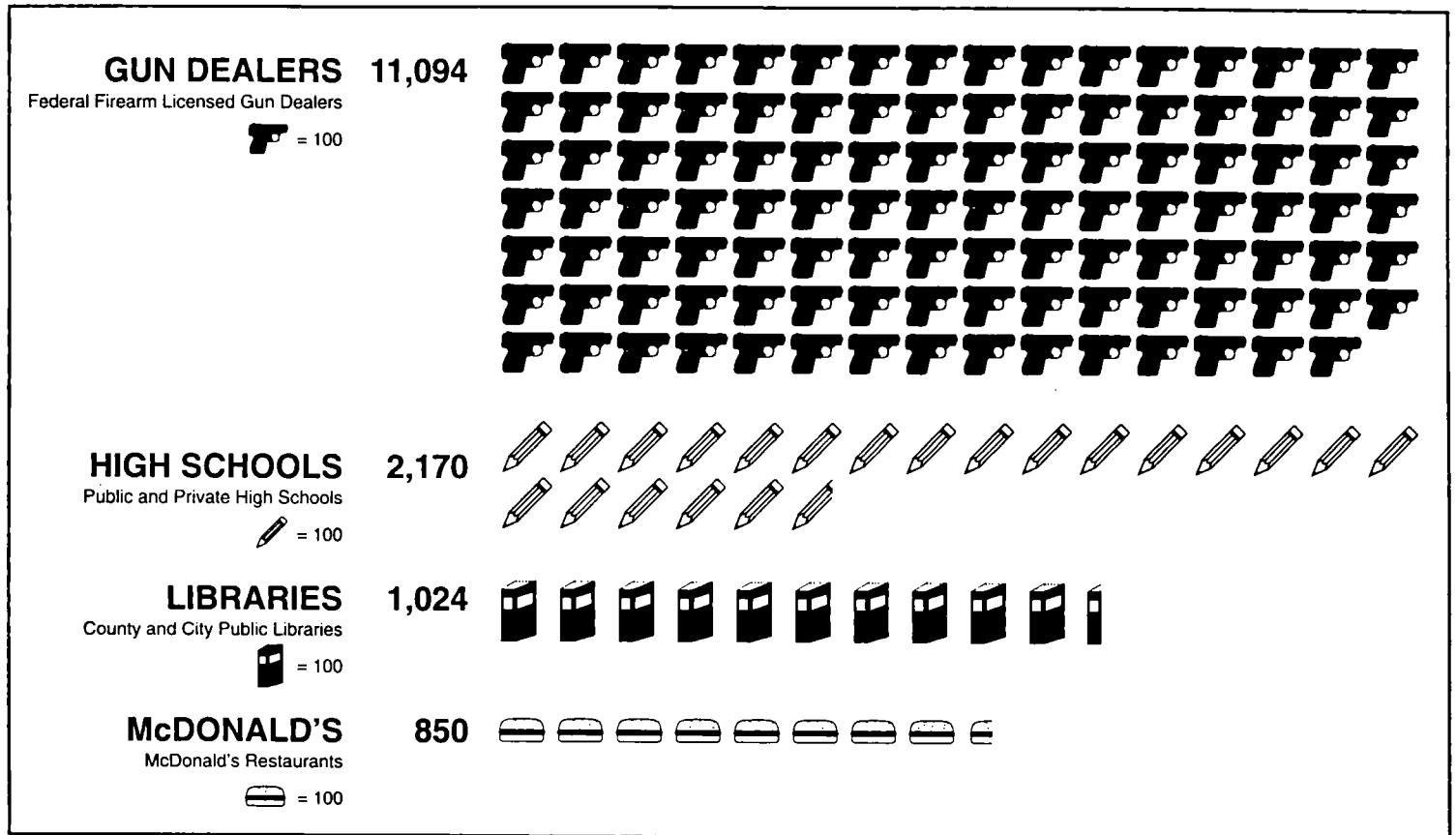
See Reverse for Results from Sacramento County

Resource: *Passion and Policy: As Facts Replace Feelings in the Handgun Debate, More Voters Support Efforts to Reduce Access to Handguns*. Poll Summaries: Los Angeles County (April 1996) and Orange County (April 1996). EDK Associates, Inc.

The Campaign to Prevent Handgun Violence Against Kids

454 Las Gallinas Avenue, Suite 177 • San Rafael, CA 94903-3618

State of California Gun Dealer Comparisons

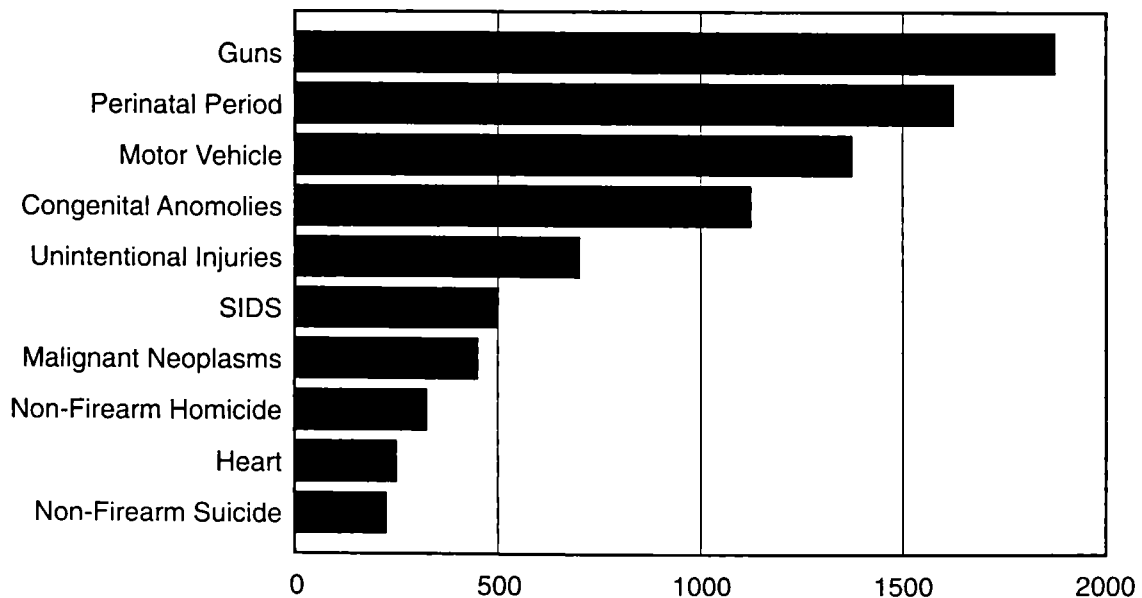


All statistics are for the State of California.

Sources:

Gun Dealers – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, 1/22/96; High Schools – Department of Education, Educational Demographics Unit, 1994; Libraries – California State Library, Library Services Bureau, 1994; McDonald's – McDonald's Corporate Headquarters, 1996.

Leading Causes of Death to Youth Age 0-24, California



Source: Department of Health Services Vital Statistics, Unpublished Data

Opinion Editorial

Chief Larry J. Todd, Immediate Past President
California Police Chiefs Association

Chief Salvatore V. Rosano, Chair
Firearms Regulation Committee

On February 2, 1995, the California Police Chiefs Association adopted a position paper concerning the need to address firearm violence, death, and injury. This document, titled "Confronting The American Tragedy - The Need To Better Regulate Firearms," was the culmination of a year long study by Chiefs of Police from throughout the state - from rural communities to urban cities, from large and small agencies, and from very high crime jurisdictions to low crime areas. The one thing they all had in common was citizens with an ever increasing fear of crime, especially violent crime involving firearms.

As Chiefs of Police, we are responsible for public safety. That responsibility requires leadership. It is for these reasons we have chosen to step forward into what will undoubtedly be perceived by some to be a political hornet's nest. But maybe that's been the problem. For far too long, the political winds have been reacting to a strong gun lobby instead of the overwhelming number of honest, law-abiding citizens who want laws that make sense rather than laws that favor special interest groups.

Just as the widespread possession of firearms is an American fact, so too is the widespread tragedy that has accompanied the misuse of firearms. A brief look at the

statistics of gun violence should convince even the most dispassionate observer that firearms are taking an unacceptable toll in our communities.

Let's look at a few of the chilling facts:

- How do we compare to other countries? In 1992, handguns were used in the murders of 33 people in Britain, 36 in Sweden, 87 in Switzerland, 128 in Canada, 13 in Australia, 60 in Japan, and 13,220 in the United States.
- In 1993, 40,230 Americans were killed by firearms in homicides, suicides, and accidents.
- For the first time since the gangster days of the 1930's, more people were killed in 1994 with firearms than in automobile accidents.
- It is conservatively estimated that for every person killed by a firearm at least ten more are shot yet survive. That equates to over 400,000 shooting victims each year.
- The economic impact of this (medical, insurance, and lost work) is enormous. It is estimated that the medical costs alone average over \$8,000 per victim. According to the Center For Disease Control, the medical costs combined with the time lost from work cost Americans 14.4 billion dollars in 1994.

- In the four year period 1990-1993, there were more murders in the U.S. (59,086) than total deaths (46,163) in the entire nine years of the Vietnam War (1965-1973). Where are all the protesters and Washington D.C. marchers on these undeclared "crime war" deaths?

- It's a felony to possess certain knives, brass knuckles, a billy club, or a throwing star. Yet we have historically treated the possession of an unlawfully concealed firearm as a citable misdemeanor. As a result, gang members and other serious felons face far less legal sanctions if caught with a 9mm automatic in the waistband than if caught with a dagger in a pocket.

- In California alone, over 100,000 firearms are stolen each year. The vast majority are not registered. Well intentioned citizens who fail to properly secure their firearms are contributing to the problem. As a result, when law enforcement personnel come across these weapons, we are unable to determine if they are stolen and unable to return them to the legitimate owners. Criminals in possession of these stolen firearms go unprosecuted and victims rarely see their property returned. If the average value of these stolen firearms is \$200, law-abiding citizens suffer an annual loss of over \$20,000,000. In the same way that automobiles require registration, firearm registration would result in no significant burden upon lawful owners.

- There are product safety standards for virtually everything from toasters to baby rattles. Yet none for the one device that is designed to kill - firearms! We design cars with keys,

elaborate combination locking systems and alarms with sirens, honking horns and flashing lights to alert us if someone even comes close to our cars. It makes more sense to require the same level of product safety for firearms as we require of a baby rattle, and storage and locking efforts, as we place on protecting our cars.

- Just as we limit the age of driving and drinking of alcohol, it makes sense to limit the age for firearm ownership. In 1991, as an example, nationwide there were 3,247 children and teenagers under the age of 18 murdered with firearms, 1,436 committed suicide with firearms, and 551 died in unintentional shootings.

Furthermore, while people are needlessly being shot, the sales of firearms soar to record levels. During 1993, Californians purchased approximately 650,000 firearms, and in 1994, almost as many have been sold. These numbers reflect the real fear and hopelessness many citizens feel as heinous acts of violence increasingly take a toll on society. We must address this environment of fear if we are to rein in what appears to be a ceaseless appetite for more and more guns. The premise that more guns in the hands of the civilian population makes for a safer environment certainly appears not to be the case.

Most of the current debate about firearms violence focuses on criminal misconduct. We believe that present statutes prohibiting the use of firearms in the commission of any crime must be enforced strongly and swiftly. To do otherwise is unconscionable. However, we cannot escape the fact that many of the firearms-related deaths and injuries occur not as

a result of intentional criminal misconduct but because of accident, mistake, and misfortune. Far too often firearm violence occurs between family, friends, unintended victims, and children; people whose lives are forever changed because a firearm was too readily available.

After long and thoughtful deliberation, the California Police Chiefs Association has concluded that the widespread and still largely unregulated individual ownership of firearms in our society must be re-evaluated. It is abundantly clear that the communities in which we are privileged to serve are under attack by a type and extent of violence not previously experienced. The weapons of that violence increasingly are firearms; firearms in the hands of drug dealers, robbers, mental incompetents, and in many cases, otherwise law-abiding citizens who are untrained or emotionally ill-equipped to safely use a firearm. As a result, the widespread and ready availability of firearms threatens to undermine the foundation of our social order.

The California Police Chiefs Association recognizes its responsibility to provide decisive and common-sense leadership necessary to help address this critically important and emotionally charged issue. The lack of regulation over, and the misuse of, firearms is one of the most daunting issues we must face if we are ever to address the tragedy that threatens the viability of our society. For far too long, the law enforcement community has stood silent permitting other voices to speak for us. As a consequence, the misuse of firearms has been focused upon solely as a crime problem rather than as a social crisis

that threatens us all.

The California Police Chiefs Association states as an unequivocal goal the saving of human lives through the substantive reduction in the misuse of firearms. We recognize the reality that large numbers of firearms will be a part of our lives for many years to come. We therefore believe that it is incumbent upon our association to articulate and support an agenda for action that will reduce the opportunity for firearms to kill and injure innocent people.

The National Rifle Association and other groups will argue that "guns don't kill, people do." And, they will state that we are trying to confiscate firearms from law abiding citizens. Nothing is further from the truth. Aside from our long standing position on banning assault weapons from our society, nothing we have proposed would take firearms away from responsible citizens. Our proposal simply attempts to deal with firearms in the same rational way we do with other products and behaviors. If we are concerned enough to license drivers, register automobiles, regulate drinking and driving, and create product safety standards for toasters and baby rattles, then we ought to at least be willing to do the same to the one product designed to kill - firearms!



PASSION & POLICY:

*As Facts Replace Feelings in the Handgun Debate, More
Voters Support Efforts to Reduce Access to Handguns*

**SACRAMENTO
MAY 1996**

Prepared by:
EDK ASSOCIATES, INC

PASSION AND POLICY:

AS FACTS REPLACE FEELINGS IN THE HANDGUN DEBATE, MORE VOTERS SUPPORT EFFORTS TO REDUCE ACCESS TO HANDGUNS

The debate over handgun policy elicits strong feelings on both sides. But the more factual information people have about existing handgun laws and handgun-related crimes, the more likely they are to support change -- and to vote for politicians who feel the same way.

While few Sacramento residents are undecided about handgun issues, most have more feelings than facts upon which to base their attitudes. A majority of the public is unaware of basic handgun laws -- such as the right to sell handguns directly from the home in the majority of communities in California -- and basic gun violence statistics -- such as the leading role played by handguns in California's adolescent mortality. But when people find out about these facts, they are immediately inclined to move toward a more aggressive personal determination to change handgun laws which will reduce their accessibility, and to encourage lawmakers and elected officials to do the same.

These are the basic findings of a telephone survey of 300 registered voters in Sacramento, conducted by EDK Associates, a New York City based research firm. The poll was sponsored by The Campaign to Prevent Handgun Violence Against Kids, a public education campaign of The California Wellness Foundation. The interviews were conducted between April 30 - May 1, 1996. The margin of error for the poll is 5.6%. All percentage differences discussed in this report are statistically significant at the 95% confidence interval.

These different messages are salient to almost every group. Sacramento voters are motivated to contact an elected official because of the danger posed to kids, the cost factor, and the impact of gun dealers on communities and neighborhoods.

There are no significant differences in priorities based on age, however, there are differences based on education and partisanship. The cost to taxpayers is less of an issue for those who are more educated (43%) than to those who are less educated (61%). Sacramento Republicans are less likely to take action than Democrats when they learn that handguns are the leading killers of kids (39% to 54% Democrats), gun dealers are more accessible than McDonald's (36% to 57%), firearms injuries are costly to taxpayers (39% to 66%) and that zoning laws work to reduce the number of gun dealers (46% to 63%).

Most people (about 60%) who do not own guns are motivated to get involved when they learn these facts. Surprisingly, more than a third of people who live in gun-owning households in Sacramento also want to contact their elected official in response to this information. Even three in ten NRA members are concerned enough to contact an elected official when they learn more kids are killed by guns (29%), the number of gun dealers (29%), the cost of firearm injuries to taxpayers (29%), and four in ten are motivated by the effectiveness of zoning laws (39%).

Women are impassioned about handgun policies. Women are more likely than men to say they will contact an elected official when they learn that handguns are the leading killers of kids (60% to 33% Men), there are 18 times more gun dealers than McDonald's (62% to 31%), that firearm injuries cost taxpayers \$177 million (65% to 38%) and that zoning laws reduce the number of gun dealers (65% to 42%).

households (15% to 25%), but even most gun owners thought this practice was illegal.

Women are as likely as men to know that handguns are the leading killers of California kids (20% to 14%) while men are more likely to know that you can sell guns from homes (24% to 15%). Overall, however, neither men (2%) nor women (2%) know both of these basic facts about handguns.

Republican voters are most knowledgeable about handguns. Only 13% of Democrats and 14% of Independents were aware it is legal to sell guns out of homes compared to 26% of Republicans.

PUBLIC READY TO EMBRACE POLICY OPTIONS

There is a strong foundation among the Sacramento electorate for a range of basic changes in handgun laws and policies, particularly when people become aware of certain handgun activities -- such as the sale of guns from private homes in residential neighborhoods -- explicitly permitted under current law. [See Table 3]

Public Favors Banning Home Gun Dealers and "Saturday Night Specials"

Though a majority of people in Sacramento are not aware that California law allows people to sell guns out of their homes, they want it stopped when they find out it is legal. Half (50%) favor outlawing the practice once they learn about it. More than a quarter of these residents (29%) are strongly in favor of banning this practice.

Sacramento wants to get Saturday Night Specials off the streets. A 65% majority supports a law banning the sale of these poorly made, cheap to buy,

Sacramento Residents Oppose Concealed Weapons Law

The California Assembly recently passed a bill that would allow nearly any person 21 years or older to obtain a permit to carry a concealed weapon. Almost two-thirds (63%) of Sacramento voters oppose this bill-- 32% are strongly opposed. A candidate's position opposing easy access to concealed weapons permits makes no difference to four in ten (41%) Sacramento voters. Voters divide fairly evenly in selecting a candidate based on his or her position on concealed weapons-- (24%) for and (29%) against.

Overall Public Support for Handgun Legislation

Sacramento residents want to explore alternative handgun legislation. Adding across their opinions on banning home gun dealers, banning the sale of Saturday Night Specials, banning the manufacture of Saturday Night Specials, regulating handgun safety and opposing concealed weapons laws reveals that almost no one (5%) in this county is opposed to all of these efforts while nearly half (47%) would be in favor of at least four of these five proposals. Two in ten (22%) support all five. [See Table 4]

Gun Owners Surprisingly Open to Legislation to Reduce Access to Handguns

Thirty-seven percent of gun owning households -- and one out of five of past and present NRA members (19%) -- see the need for at least four of five handgun policy options, including regulating safety standards (77%), banning the sale (62%) and, to a slightly less extent, the manufacture (56%) of Saturday Night Specials. Gun owners would also be in favor of Sacramento passing a local ban on the sale of Saturday Night Specials (74%).

carry a concealed weapon (52% to 75%). Six out of ten (61%) Democrats are supportive of at least four of the five policy alternatives. Their support is more than that of Republicans (39%) and Independents (42%).

Women support these handgun policy items more than men. Over half (56%) of women, compared to under half of men (38%), favor at least four of the five policy options considered in this study. The policy options with the biggest gender differences are concealed weapons (79% of women oppose, compared to 46% of men); regulating safety standards (93% to 74%); and banning the manufacture of Saturday Night Specials (75% to 54%).

CONCLUSION

As more information about the realities of current handgun laws and their effect on handgun-related violence reaches the public, more people will move toward active as well as philosophical support for policy changes that reduce access to handguns. As more information reaches Sacramento residents about the effect of particular policy changes on handgun-related violence, more voters will support efforts to bring those policies to their own community.

Communities are learning that citizens can make a difference. Public officials need to learn that the public is looking for candidates and parties who embrace change and promote new policies which reduce access to handguns based on facts.

Gun Owning Household

Yes	35	32	38	41
No	58	60	64	66
<i>p</i> =	.00	.00	.00	.00

NRA Member

Yes	29	29	29	39
No	51	52	58	58
<i>p</i> =	.00	.00	.00	.01

Gun Owning Household

Yes	16	25
No	17	15
$p=$	<i>NS</i>	.02

Victim of Violence

Yes	14	13
No	17	22
$p=$	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>

Victim of Gun Violence

Yes	14	16
No	17	20
$p=$	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>

Gun Owning Household

Yes	48	48	62	56	74	77
No	52	76	68	73	91	91
<i>p</i> =	<i>NS</i>	.00	<i>NS</i>	.00	.00	.00

Type of gun

Long gun	40	53	57	61	75	91
Handgun	62	53	67	63	77	82
Both	42	45	66	49	75	65
<i>p</i> =	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>	.01

NRA Member

Yes	31	28	48	37	66	64
No	53	70	68	71	86	88
<i>p</i> =	.01	.00	.01	.00	.00	.00

Victim of Gun Violence

Yes	38	68	56	69	84	90
No	53	61	67	64	82	82
<i>p</i> =	.05	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>	<i>NS</i>

Gun Owning Household

Yes	42	21	25	12
No	25	18	26	32
$p=$	.00			

NRA Member

Yes	62	19	15	4
No	28	19	28	26
$p=$	.00			

Do We Have to Draw a Picture for Them?



Handguns Are Killing California's Kids



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 1293 SAN RAFAEL, CA

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

PREVENT HANDGUN VIOLENCE AGAINST KIDS
454 LAS GALLINAS AVENUE SUITE 177
SAN RAFAEL CA 94903-3618

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED IN
UNITED STATES



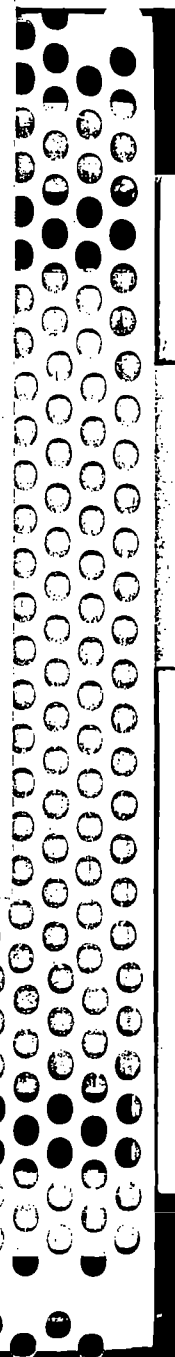
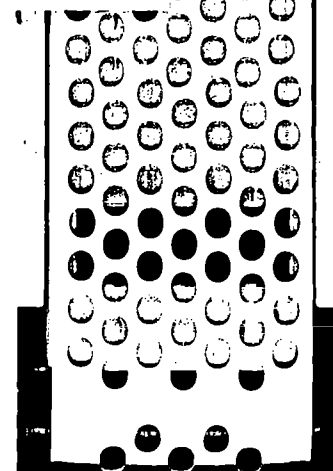
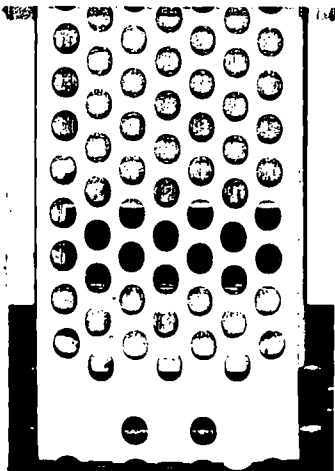


THE CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT HANDGUN VIOLENCE AGAINST KIDS

YOUTH WANT YOU TO KNOW:

A SPECIAL ELECTION YEAR PROJECT FOR CALIFORNIA YOUTH

A public education campaign funded by a grant from The California Wellness Foundation.





PREVENT HANDGUN VIOLENCE AGAINST KIDS

YOUTH WANT YOU TO KNOW
TIPS FOR TEACHERS & IDEAS FOR YOUTH GROUPS
SUGGESTIONS & IDEAS ON HOW TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT

Be sure to inform the Campaign of your interest so that we can send you the list of General Election candidates and their addresses.

TIPS FOR TEACHERS!

- Make the Youth Want You to Know project part of your Government/Social Studies or English lesson plan.
- Ask all of your students to write letters to the same candidate. Collect the letters and display them on a banner or scroll of construction paper. Send the banner of youth letters to the candidate's campaign headquarters.
- Explain to students that because this is an election year, candidates running for office will be discussing their positions on juvenile justice and handgun violence. Emphasize to your students why it is important for youth voices to be heard at this time.
- Explain the different ways of getting involved in this project (i.e. Write a Letter to a Candidate, Write a Letter to the Editor, Circulate a Student Petition). Make sure that students follow the instructions in the "Do We Have to Draw a Picture for Them?" booklet.

IDEAS FOR YOUTH GROUPS!

- Organize a Youth Round-Table discussion about handgun violence. Invite other youth organizations to attend. Post fliers on your organization's current events board and set a time and date for the meeting. After your meeting, pass out the Youth Want You to Know booklets and encourage youth to get involved!
- Ask your youth group to all write letters to the same candidate. Collect the letters and display them on a banner or scroll of construction paper. Send the banner of youth letters to the candidate's campaign headquarters.
- Coordinate a Youth Letter to the Editor Writing Party! Check out the Opinion section of your local newspaper to get ideas on how letters to the editor are written. Collect a list of the local newspapers in your area and write to them.

Be Creative! These are only suggestions. Please let us know if you have any other creative ideas on how to involve youth in this project so that we can pass them on to others. We are open to your suggestions and would love to hear from you!

454 Las Gallinas Avenue, Suite 177 • San Rafael, CA 94903-3618 • (415) 331-3337

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Youth Want You to Know

Tell Them Like It Is:

Here's How



Three simple ways you can let your candidate know that handguns are killing California's kids:

1

Write a Letter to the Editor.

2

Write a Letter to a Candidate.

3

Circulate the Student Petitions Inside.

...And Earn a Free T-Shirt

1 Write a Letter to the Editor

Writing a letter to the editor is a good way to express your views on current events. Politicians and community leaders regularly read letters to the editor to check out public opinions.

Write a letter to the editor of your local daily, school or community newspaper and tell them how important preventing handgun violence is to you. When writing a letter to the editor, keep the following points in mind:

- **The Basics.** Start your letter with "Dear Editor."

Include your name, address, date and phone number, an editor may call you to verify your information.

- **Tell why you are writing,** preferably in the first sentence. If you are responding directly to an article you read in a newspaper, state the article's headline and publication date.

- **Limit the content to one or two key points.** Focus on the one strong message that you want readers to get from your letter.

- **Keep your letter brief.** Your letter should be three to four paragraphs at the maximum. The more direct and simple your letter is, the more likely it will be published.

- **Take a strong position.** Editors look for fresh facts, honest statements of opinion, and creative points of view. Use the facts that show the urgency or importance of your issue.

- **Send The Campaign to Prevent Handgun Violence Against Kids a copy of your letter to the editor.**

Editor
The Sunday Times Newspaper
100 Main Street
Mytown, CA 92222

Dear Editor:

I am a senior at Valley High School. I am writing this letter because I have noticed many stories on the TV news and in the newspapers that blame young people for the problem of handgun violence in our community.

This bothers me, because my friends and I feel strongly that most young people can be part of a solution to gun violence.

Students in my classroom have written to local candidates who are running for office this year because we want them to know the facts about handgun violence against kids. For instance, more kids are killed by handguns in California than by car crashes, diseases or drugs.

I hope your newspaper will publicize what all Californians should know - that handguns are the #1 killer of kids in California and that something must be done!

Sincerely,

Sandy Jones
122 Maple Street
Mytown, CA 92222
(415) 555-1234

Today's Date

2 Write a Letter to a Candidate

Candidates running for office and elected officials pay close attention to the mail from their constituents regarding important issues. To let your local candidates know you're concerned about the effect of handgun violence against kids, write them a letter. They will certainly read it – and remember it.

Here's How:

- Look over the sample letter below for ideas.
- Fill in the name and address of the candidate or elected official you are writing.
- Be sure to make the letter personal. Explain to your candidate or elected official why preventing handgun violence is important to you.
- Send The Campaign to Prevent Handgun Violence Against Kids a copy of your letter to the candidate or elected official, as well as any response you receive.

Name of Candidate
200 Main Street
Anycity, CA 92222

Today's Date

Dear Mr./Ms. Candidate:

My name is Joe Smith and I am a senior at Valley High School. I am deeply concerned about the fact that handguns are the #1 killer of kids in California. Did you know that more kids are killed by handguns than by diseases or car crashes? Did you know that 10 kids are killed every day by handguns?

(insert personal message here)

If you are elected as _____, what will you do to protect young people from handgun violence? What will you do to make sure that our neighborhoods and schools are safer?

Please let me know your views on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Joe Smith
122 Maple Street
Mytown, CA 92220
(818) 555-1234

3 Circulate This Student Petition

When candidates are presented a petition signed by the people who live in their district, they pay attention.

- Pass around this petition at your school or youth group, and send a message to your candidate that young people are committed to do something about handgun violence.
- When you have completed the petitions, copy them and send the originals to your candidate with a letter asking him or her what they are going to do to prevent handgun violence.
- Send a copy of the signed petition to The Campaign to Prevent Handgun Violence Against Kids.



STUDENT PETITION

YOUTH WANT YOU TO KNOW

To: _____
name of candidate

We, the undersigned students of _____ are concerned about handgun violence in our community.
(fill in the name of your school or youth group)

If elected in _____, you will have the power to do something about handgun violence against
(fill in your city)
California kids. We ask that you make preventing handgun violence an important part of your campaign and legislative agenda.

	NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP
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THE CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT HANDGUN VIOLENCE AGAINST KIDS

454 Las Gallinas Avenue, Suite 177
San Rafael, CA 94903-3618
(415) 331-3337 Fax (415) 331-2969

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NAME**ADDRESS****ZIP****11****12****13****14****15****16****17****18****19****20****21****22****23****24****25****26****27**



STUDENT PETITION

YOUTH WANT YOU TO KNOW

To: _____
name of candidate

We, the undersigned students of _____ are concerned about handgun violence in our community.
(fill in the name of your school or youth group)

If elected in _____, you will have the power to do something about handgun violence against
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	NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP
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NAME**ADDRESS****ZIP**

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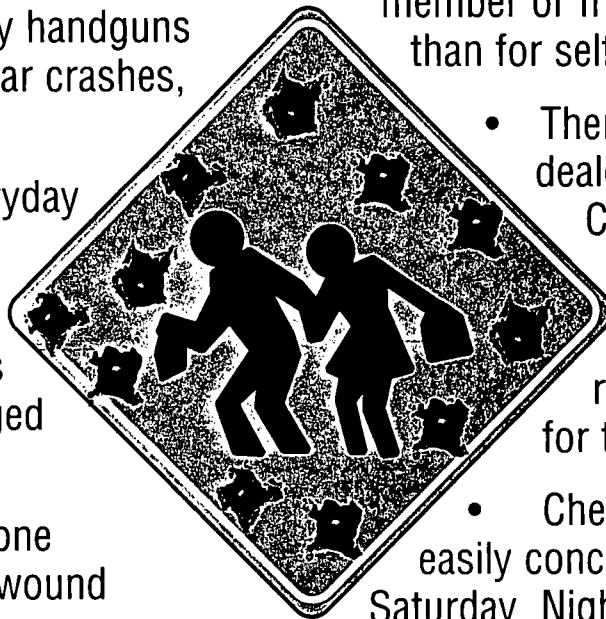
27

The Facts

About HANDGUN VIOLENCE and Kids

Use these facts in your letters to the editor and letters to the candidates.

- A handgun is produced every 20 seconds in America.¹
- More kids are killed by handguns in California than by car crashes, diseases or drugs.²
- 10 kids are killed everyday by handguns.³
- In 1992, 37% of all firearm-related deaths were young people aged 10-25.⁴
- The average cost for one hospitalized gunshot wound patient is \$33,000.⁵
- The direct costs to California taxpayers in 1991 for firearm injuries was estimated at \$176.8 million.⁶
- A gun in the home is 43 times more likely to be used to kill a family member or friend or to commit suicide than for self defense.⁷
- There are 18 times more gun dealers than McDonald's in California.⁸
- There are fewer federal safety regulations for guns than for teddy bears.⁹
- Cheap, poorly made and easily concealable handguns called Saturday Night Specials, are disproportionately represented in homicides and other crimes. In 1993, 8 out of 10 guns most frequently confiscated by police in California were Saturday Night Specials.¹⁰



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1. Pacific Center for Violence Prevention Analysis, May 1994, based on U.S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Ready Reference, 1992. 2. Pacific Center for Violence Prevention Analysis, May 1994, based on California Department of Health Services, Death Records, 1991; Five Leading Causes of Death by Sex and Age, California, 1991; and Annual Report of Fatal Injury Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents, California Highway Patrol, 1991. 3. Pacific Center for Violence Prevention Analysis, May 1994, based on data from Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics, WONDER System, Compressed Mortality, 1991. 4. California Department of Health Services, Death Records 1991. 5. Rice DP, MacKenzie EJ, and Associates. Cost of injury in the United States: A Report to Congress. San Francisco, CA: Institute for the Aging, University of California and Injury Prevention Center, The Johns Hopkins University, 1989. 6. Pacific Center for Violence Prevention, Preventing Youth Violence, p.10 based on data sources: Martin, MJ, et al. The cost of hospitalization of firearm injury. JAMA. 1988; 260 (20): 3048-3050 and Klein SP, et al. The socioeconomic impact of assault injuries on an urban trauma center. American Surgeon, 1991; 57: 793-797. 7. Kellerman, AL and Reay, DT. Protection or Peril? An analysis of firearms-related deaths in the home. New England Journal of Medicine (1986) 314: 1657-60. 8. BATF for FFL Dealers as of December 31, 1994 and McDonald's Regional Corporate Headquarters for stores as of October 1994. 9. Petersen, Julie and Sabar, Ariel. The Right to Bears & Arms. Mother Jones, January/February 1994, pp. 40-1. 10. Wintemute GJ. Ring of Fire. The Handgun Makers in Southern California. Sacramento, CA: Violence Prevention Research Program; 1994.

TEAR OUT



**These Facts About Handguns
and Post Them on the Bulletin Board
at Your School or Community Center**



To receive your free T-shirt, please fill
out the back of this card and return it to:



The Campaign to Prevent
Handgun Violence Against Kids

454 Las Gallinas Avenue, Suite 177
San Rafael, CA 94903-3618

The Campaign to Prevent Handgun Violence Against Kids

wants to know

what you have done to educate candidates about handgun violence. If you participated in this project, please return this postcard, and you will receive a free "Youth Want You to Know" T-Shirt. Be sure to send us copies of your letters and petitions.



I've Done My Part to Prevent Handgun Violence

- ☐ I wrote a personal letter to my candidate (send us copies of your letters and responses you've received)
- ☐ I wrote a Letter to the Editor and sent it to my newspaper(s) (please send copies)
- ☐ I gathered _____ student signatures on the Student Petition (please send copies)

Your name _____

Name of School _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

T-Shirt Size

S

M

L

XL

circle one





**The Campaign to Prevent Handgun
Violence Against Kids**

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San Rafael, CA 94903-3618
(415) 331-3337 Fax (415) 331-2969

It's as Easy as 1 - 2 - 3

**Three simple ways you can let your candidate know
that handguns are killing California's kids.**

- 1. Write a Letter to the Editor**
- 2. Write a Letter to a Candidate**
- 3. Circulate a Student Petition**

See inside for details and earn a free T-shirt.

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