

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF RAMSEY

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
CASE TYPE: OTHER CIVIL

Reverend Tim Christopher, Sarah Cade
Hauptman, and the Minnesota Gun Owners
Caucus,

Court File No. 62-CV-21-4223

Plaintiffs,

**DECLARATION OF
JOSEPH OLSON**

v.

Ramsey County, Bob Fletcher, in his official
capacity as Ramsey County Sheriff, and the
State Agricultural Society,

Defendant.

I, Joseph Olson, declare as follows:

1. I am the President of Gun Owners Civil Rights Alliance.
2. From the mid-1980s through 2015, I was the sole resident registered lobbyist for Minnesota Responsible Gun Owners through the Gun Owners Civil Right Alliance and its division “Concealed Carry, Now!” I worked on passing the preemption law in 1985 and I wrote most of the 2003/2005 carry permit reform law on a yellow pad at my desk and was its chief proponent at the Capitol.
3. During the many 2003-2005 hearings on the Minnesota Citizens Personal Protection Act it was repeatedly made clear that no subordinate jurisdiction had the power to “freelance” (the very term that I used during my testimony at every hearing) because the Act had been under negotiation for years and every line represented a compromise by both sides and, when enacted, would be the policy and law statewide for Minnesota.

4. In fact, Rep. Linda Boudreau, the House chief author, was determined that no governmental agency below the Legislature would be able to regulate/bar permit holders from locations or events. The “posting” subdivisions, 17 and 18, and the exclusivity subdivision, 23, were to inserted make that lack of power crystal clear and in support of the general preemption law in section 471.633. Section 624.714, subdivision 23, anticipated the coverage problem in section 471.633 and casts a wider net over actions by governmental actors by its comprehensive language.

5. My article, *The Minnesota Citizens’ Personal Protection Act of 2003: History and Commentary*, 25 HAMLINE JOURNAL OF PUBLIC LAW AND POLICY 21, 51-52 (2003) discusses the strength of subdivision 23 in more detail. A true and correct copy is attached as Exhibit A.

6. Because the State Agricultural Society acts under “color of law or governmental authority” pursuant to section 624.714, subdivision 23, that subdivision denies to the society the power to “limit the exercise of a permit to carry”.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 13th day of August, 2021,
In Ramsey County, MN

/s/ Joseph Olson

Joseph Olson