



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment PATRIOTS OF NORTH CAROLINA



January 2022

Most of us are blessed with the company of family and friends during the Christmas Holidays. Having lived in New England, I'm reminded of the horrific event that took place nine years ago at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown Connecticut. This unspeakably tragedy still haunts many of us who lived only hours away, It's still heartbreaking to know the pain the families of the victims must have to endure during the holidays.

I am also reminded of the predictable anti-gun campaigns launched moments following the incident by all the usual suspects. The truth is not only did Gun-control laws not prevent the massacre, these anti-gun laws were indirectly responsible because they enabled the killer.

Perhaps this is too somber a topic for the Holidays, but we owe it to those who have suffered so much to defeat these deadly gun-control policies that continue to cause so much pain and suffering.

The following is an article submitted 9 months after Sandy Hook to the Newport Daily News in Rhode Island:



## **The Issue is Not Gun-safety - It is Public Safety**

Eight months have passed since the horrific events at Sandy Hook, and the Constitutional protection of firearm ownership in America has weathered yet another political firestorm. Where the chips fell however, are surprising and less predictable than the exploitation of this tragedy by those who wish to disarm Americans. Even as it was playing out that fateful day last December 14th, as expected, the usual suspects rushed to "not let this crisis go to waste." Before facts were known, they tripped over one another to demand gun-bans and the abolishing of the 2nd Amendment. Reason and the rule of law went out the window as calls for gun bans echoed across the nation from the White House to our State House. Gun-control zealots and their media partners cued-up to attack gun rights, once again putting legal firearm ownership on trial in the court of public opinion.

Despite being dealt a devastating defeat in Congress and in the Rhode Island General Assembly, the anti-gun establishment remains intransigent and continues to plot in the shadows to subvert your gun-rights. Even now a battle ensues to recall four rogue councilors in the Town of Exeter. These officials plotted to cancel the rights of Exeter citizens to apply for a conceal and carry permit denying due process under Rhode Island law and the US Constitution. Motivated by personal bias and ignoring public protest, they acted in ways that can only be characterized as tyranny. The recall effort is a direct response to both their defiance during the public hearings and their secret activities behind closed doors.

Attacks on our 2nd Amendment is nothing new but despite a full court press in the wake of Sandy Hook, the attackers may not have expected the resulting unintended consequences. Firearms and ammunition sales are off the charts as firearms and ammunition manufacturers continue to rack up record sales. While no one knows precisely how many new gun owners have joined the ranks of the armed citizenry, an educated guess puts that number at greater than one hundred million lawfully armed Americans today.

The fight to defend the 2nd Amendment is far from over. Anti-freedom political forces were successful in undermining gun rights in a handful of states including Colorado, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware and Maryland. With their partners in the media, they continually distort the truth and corrupt our public discourse to advance their anti-gun agenda. Even as gun-control zealots exploited the broken hearts and tragedy following the Sandy Hook massacre, none of what they proposed would have saved a single child in that crisis. Sandy Hook, as with all schools in America, was under the "presumed" protection of a federal gun-ban statute which makes it a felony to possess a firearm within one thousand feet of a school. This is the Gun Free School Zone Act of 1994 - the crowning jewel of the anti-gun establishment lead by the Brady Campaign. Further, Connecticut had its own "assault-weapons" ban since 1993. Clearly, neither stopped Adam Lanza from his murderous rampage.

Criminal atrocities committed with firearms are always highlighted by the media and distorted by those with an anti-gun bias. Yet positive gun related stories are frequently under reported or simply ignored. For example, did you know that every year in America, there are on average two and a half million cases where firearms in the hands of lawful citizens save lives and foil crimes? By contrast the Center for Disease Control, the FBI and the U.S. Department of Justice routinely report the firearm-homicides in recent years to total approximately eleven thousand annually. This represents a steep decline dating back to 1976. In fact, from 1993 to 2010, the government reported a dramatic decline of violence surrounding the use of firearms of 73% with adults over 18 while teen violence with firearms dropped by 80%.

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Still at eleven thousand a year there remains much work to do in enforcement, but it is important to note that the overwhelming majority of these occur in crowded inner cities, called "Hot-Spots" by the FBI, due to gang violence and a criminal recidivism rate that is out of control.

These occur in cities like Chicago, Detroit, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, New York City, New Orleans, etc. In fact, with these urban killings, the United States ranks in the top 10 of the most violent countries in the world, but but eradicating the urban killings, however, would place the United States dead last on that same list making us the safest nation instead. Considering that one third of the three hundred million Americans who legally own firearms are not the problem, imagine if America could solve the real problems in the "Hot-Spots."

Politicians and public officials must focus on the real challenges we face in the inner-cities where much of the violence and criminal behavior originate. The problems are multi-faceted and for anyone to focus only on lawful firearm ownership is reprehensible and terribly irresponsible. Gun-control has never worked historically and much of the draconian policies are unlawful as most anti-gun initiatives seek to render our Second Amendment irrelevant rendering responsible citizens defenseless. Contrary to the propaganda, gun-control put innocent Americans at greater risk and serves only to protect criminals.

Earlier this year Mayor Tavares of Providence announced a gun buyback initiative, I joined other 2nd Amendment defenders to attend the mayor's "Gun-Control Summit." I had occasion to speak to him and suggested that he take a holistic approach to "Public-Safety" instead of focusing only on the firearm. I suggested that his gun buyback program would accomplish little and that our public resources could be better utilized on other elements that breed criminal violence. I offered an eight-point proposal:

1. Reform the mental health system, e.g. reform laws that handcuff mental health professionals.
2. Revitalize the state's economy to include inner-city communities.
3. Providence should set an example to protect children in schools with armed security to control violence and keep the children safe.
4. Target street gangs and the illegal drug trade. Eradicate the violence in the inner city or "Hot-Spots."
5. Take action to address the runaway criminal recidivism problems in Rhode Island. Close loopholes in the judicial system.
6. Enlist educators and parents to mentor children towards good social behavior away from those that lead to drugs and criminal violence.
7. Defend the rights of law-abiding citizens, preserve the Rhode Island Constitution and enforce the laws of the United States.
8. Defend the economic vitality of the firearm & sportsmen's industries that fund conservation and environmental protection programs for Rhode Island DEM.

The mayor shook my hand but not surprisingly my suggestions fell on deaf ears. It was later revealed that he joined the Mayors Against Illegal Guns, an anti-gun campaign by Mayor Bloomberg. A five million Dollar donation from Bloomberg was later reported as an unrelated event.

Credit needs to be given to the citizens of Rhode Island for this past year. Not only did the citizenry speak out against the attacks on our rights. Mr. Tavares's efforts to co-opt fellow mayors and town administrators to join in the anti-gun organization resulted in only four mayors out of the 39 cities and towns signing up. Perhaps despite the attempts to exploit the Sandy Hook crisis, most honest folks see through the transparent nature of the anti-gun agenda. They know that our problem is not a lack of gun laws but rather the lack of proper enforcement of our current laws.

Despite the reprehensible attempts by anti-gun propagandists, we should all be proud that honest Rhode Islanders stood for the truth and held the line against the flagrant abuse of our legislative process. They recognize that anti-freedom politicians have no compunctions of exploiting the heart break of a tragic event like the Sandy Hook massacre to undermine the Constitutional rights of one third of the population of the United States. Sadly, these political operatives will be back to attack the Constitution again. As Rhode Islanders, we must therefore continue to stand together and demand that public officials abide by their oath of office and address real concerns which put our public safety at risk. We must unite in this endeavor to defeat corrupt politicians who usurp their power to advance their anti-gun agenda and redirect critical resources we need to create sound public safety policies that protect all citizens for a prosperous and revitalized Rhode Island.



Our next 2nd Amendment Patriots meetings are scheduled for  
**Tues. 1/11 & 1/25 at 2 PM**  
**Pamlico County Law Enforcement Association (PCLEA) Gun Range**  
on Mill Lane in Bayboro  
Please join us!  
(If you wish to have some range time, please bring eye and ear protection.)

Letters To The Editor - We want to hear from you.

Contact us: [2ndamendmentpatriotsofnc@gmail.com](mailto:2ndamendmentpatriotsofnc@gmail.com)

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