

THE FIRING LINE

The Newsletter of the Nevada Firearms Coalition

May - June 2015

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Contents

NVFAC President's Report .	1
2015 Nevada Legislative Session Report	2
78Th Nevada Legislature's Hall Of Fame	5
78Th Nevada Legislature's Hall Of Shame	6
NVFAC President's Award .	6
Signing of SB 240	7
You're Invited To A Shredding Party!	8



Through the Spotting Scope



NVFAC President's Report

This edition of The Firing Line is focused on our efforts during the 78th Nevada legislative session. We helped produce some major wins for the gun owners of Nevada. We finally eliminated the oppressive Clark County Handgun Registration program, which has plagued Clark County gun owners since 1948. If you don't live in Clark County, we were able to get civil lawsuit protection for everyone in the state if you are forced to use deadly force to save your life or the life of your family. This alone is a significant achievement.

Even though we and our lobbyist worked hard in Carson City to get these gun bills passed and worked with the NRA-ILA on a daily basis, the real truth is that there is no "I" in "t-e-a-m". Every NVFAC member and gun rights supporter who received our Alerts and acted on them, donated to our PAC and contacted their legislators played a key part in this victory. We also included our "Hall of Fame" and "Hall of Shame"

legislators so you will know who our supporters are the next time you vote. For every story there is a "story within a story" that needs to be told—this issue of The Firing Line is a look behind the scenes of the story of gun rights victories and losses in 2015.

Just as in life, once one mountain is conquered, there is another one to cross. Our next fight is to "Say NO" to the background check ballot initiative that will appear on the 2016 ballot. We were required by state law to form the "Nevadans for State Gun Rights-PAC" to fight this ballot initiative, which is the precursor of national gun registration. Please visit our three web sites (www.nvfac.org, www.nvfacpac.com, www.nevadansforstategunrights.com) and our three Facebook pages to stay informed on all of these important issues. Until next time...

For Freedom
Don Turner, President

*Dedicated to the ownership and safe use of firearms
for self defense, competition, recreation and hunting.*

2015 Nevada Legislative Session Report

Following our successes at the 2013 legislature, which included successfully changing Nevada's Concealed Firearm Permit program to include "any handgun" and stopping the universal background check bill, NVFAC began planning for implementing its priorities for the 2015 legislative session. Prior to the session, we met with and provided information to key people to help advance pro-gun rights legislation when the session started. Since the NV legislature meets every other year and has only 120 days to get things accomplished, we began work to implement our strategies as soon as the 2013 session was over.

Legislative Priorities for 2015 Session

We started the legislative session with the following priorities:

- NVFAC supports legislation that will result in one gun law for all Nevada citizens applied equally throughout the state.
- NVFAC will support any legislation where analysis shows an enhancement of personal liberty and significant public benefits.
- NVFAC will actively work to repeal existing firearms codes and ordinances that only apply to local jurisdictions. *This includes the elimination of the Clark County Handgun Registration Ordinance and conflicting ordinances in Mesquite, North Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Henderson, Boulder City, and Clark County that are in violation of statewide pre-emption laws.*
- NVFAC will oppose any firearms legislation where analysis shows that the public safety benefits are an intrusion into personal liberty.

Strategy Heading Into the Session

In the 2013 Nevada legislative session, we were helped considerably by our success in generating grass-roots support for our legislative efforts. By some measures, we were generating as many as 1,500 contacts to state legislators when we issued legislative alerts to our members. This legislative contact success enabled us to "punch above our weight" as a new grass-roots membership organization. To build on that

success, the Coalition applied for and received a NRA grant from their Clubs & Associations Division to fund the licensing of Engage software that streamlined and enhanced our legislative grass-roots contact efforts in the 2015 legislative session.

In the 2015 Nevada legislative session, we monitored 29 bills. Of those, we favored 26 bills and opposed three. We had 17 wins (which includes bad bills failing), and 12 losses.

While the 2015 legislative session started with 26 pro-gun rights bills for consideration, 17 survived the law-making process and were enacted by the legislature and signed into law by Governor Brian Sandoval. Compared to previous legislatures, this is a huge success. We always wish for more, but this included a significant number of the bills that failed in the 2013 legislature.

Successful Gun Rights Bills

A number of bills passed that represent significant victories for gun rights in the Silver State.



AB 121 Introduced by Assemblyman Wheeler, it prevents school officials in K-8 grades from disciplining students for making gun gestures or wearing clothing that may have gun symbols on them.



AB 136 Introduced by Assemblyman Ellison, allows licensed archery hunters to carry a handgun for self-defense while hunting..



AB 167 Authorizes the storage and carrying of firearms and ammunition on the premises of a family foster home or by certain persons who reside in a family foster home under certain circumstances.



SB 175 Makes various changes relating to public safety

Biggest Win

Our biggest win of the session was SB 175 which became effective upon passage and approval. With this one bill introduced by Senator Roberson, Nevada gun owners got:

- One firearms law for all of Nevada

- Real teeth with which to enforce firearms preemption against municipalities and counties who might be reluctant to bring their laws in line with the statewide preemption law. Most of these occurred in Clark County and besides Clark County also included Boulder City, Henderson, Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, and Mesquite.
- Civil immunity from lawsuits for lawful self-defense
- Castle Doctrine extension to motor vehicles
- The immediate end of Clark County's handgun registration program, and the destruction of handgun registration records in Clark County one year after the law's passage
- Expansion of CCW reciprocity as it creates reciprocity for anyone who is 21 years old and has a CCW permit from another jurisdiction that requires a test, program, or class.

SB 176 Revises provisions governing certain dangerous or deadly weapons.

Senator Settelmeyer's bill allows for the possession of switchblade knives, authorizes belt buckle knives, and preempts counties or municipalities from passing knife laws. It becomes effective July 1, 2015.

SB 229 Establishes Second Amendment license plates with proceeds going to NVFAC education and training division.

SB 240 Requires rapid reporting of mental health status to State Central Repository.

Senator Roberson's bill sets time frames for submission of gun-rights disqualifying mental health information to the Nevada criminal history repository to be used in background checks. This will help ensure those that are not mentally well will not be allowed to purchase firearms. It will also waive the background check fee if a private seller or buyer chooses to contact the Nevada Department of Public Safety for a voluntary background check before privately selling a firearm. This bill was amended to include preemption and elimination of blue cards during the push to amend Campus Carry to SB 175. It becomes effective October 1, 2015.

SB 488 Cleans up language conflicts between SB 175 and SB 240

Unfortunately, We Lost Some Good Bills.

Several good gun rights bills were passed by the Assembly, only to die in the Senate's Judiciary Committee, chaired by Senator Greg Brower (R-Reno). Senator Brower exercised the chairman's prerogative and refused to bring our bills to a hearing, thus denying them any chance of passage this session. These good lost bills include:

AB 148 Campus Carry

This was our biggest loss. Assemblywoman Fiore's bill would have allowed concealed firearm permit holders to carry their pistols concealed on state colleges and universities. As originally introduced this session to include public buildings, the final version was limited to lawful concealed carry in public colleges and universities.

Sales Tax on FFL Gun Transfers

This was one of our behind-the-scenes efforts to right a wrong imposed on Nevada gun owners, especially gun dealers, by the Nevada Division of Taxation (NDT). In their search for new revenue streams for the state's coffers, the NDT decided to begin enforcing an out-of-date law to require the payment of sales tax on the value of firearms transferred through gun dealers to Nevada residents from out of state. The way NDT chooses to enforce this law puts an unfair burden on gun dealers, essentially making them the state's tax collector required to collect sales tax in a way that cannot be applied fairly across other industries. After our unsuccessful attempts to persuade NDT officials of the error of their proposed fiscal ways, we worked with several legislators to draft and introduce legislation that would prohibit the practice. That effort ran out of time as the legislative clock wound down. We will be looking at ways to challenge NDT's new and unusual interpretation of the outdated state law that disadvantages Nevada's gun dealers.

Other bills that died for a lack of hearing included:

- Parking lot campus carry
- NV Attorney General to sue for Second Amendment violations
- CCW reciprocity for all states
- Rights restoration for nonviolent felonies
- Early renewal of CCW permits
- Permitless (Constitutional) carry.

Campus Carry and SB 175 - A Matter of Strategy

Campus Carry (AB 148/AB 487) became one of the most emotional and controversial bills of the 2015 legislative session. NVFAC has been, and always will be, a strong supporter of Campus Carry, but we received some criticism when we opposed efforts to attach AB 148, Campus Carry, onto SB 175, Senator Roberson's mental health bill that included firearms preemption, Castle Doctrine extension, blue card elimination, and several other important gun rights improvements as discussed above. We opposed efforts to amend Campus Carry into SB 175 because we believed it would result in the death of both bills. As it happened, AB 148 was amended into SB 175 in the Assembly Judiciary Committee, only to be stripped out when it went to the full Assembly. The Senate made it clear they did not have the votes to pass the amended bill and would not move it forward. When it came down to the wire, the Assembly majority chose to oppose the Campus Carry amendment so they could pass a bill they knew would be signed by the governor. The stand-alone SB 175 without Campus Carry was then passed and signed into law by Governor Sandoval.

NVFAC's position was, and remains, that amending AB 148 into SB 175 would have killed both bills. When AB 148 could not muster sufficient support in the Senate to pass out and to the Governor's desk, hopes for Campus Carry in the 2015 session died. NVFAC holds Senator Greg Brower accountable for killing Campus Carry and several other pro-Second Amendment bills.

Nothing we have heard since from our sources in the legislature has caused us to question the wisdom of that strategic decision. While we greatly regret the failure of a Campus Carry bill in three consecutive Nevada legislative sessions, seeing Campus Carry become the law of the Silver State remains one of our priorities, and we will fight for its passage in future sessions.

Looking Ahead:

Bloomberg Universal Background Check Ballot Initiative

Nevadans must still deal with the Bloomberg Background Check Ballot Initiative (BCBI) which will appear on the general ballot in 2016. While touted as a background check initiative, it is really a universal firearms registration plan. NVFAC is marshalling resources to mount an effective campaign against the BCBI, and is counting on the support of all freedom-

loving Nevadans. Please answer the call when you get it, and urge all like-minded patriots to do the same. You will hear more in the upcoming months from our Nevadans for State Gun Rights political action committee.

Unfinished Business for the 2017 Nevada Legislative Session

1. Campus Carry
2. Relieving Nevada gun dealers from the illegal sales tax on firearms transfers
3. Allowing early renewal of concealed firearms permits so they can be processed and issued before expiration so there is no gap between expiring and renewed permits
4. Permitless carry (Constitutional Carry) for Nevada gun owners
5. Expanded concealed carry permit reciprocity

In Summary, NVFAC and NVFAC PAC were active in the 2013 and 2015 legislative sessions. With support from our great lobbyist, Megan Bedera from Amplify Relations, from the NRA-ILA, and from our members and other interested citizens who were active in spreading our alerts and contacting legislators, we have made significant progress in enhancing the gun rights of Nevada citizens. Finally, our gun rights in Clark County have been restored with the elimination of the Clark County handgun registration program, after Clark County citizens being "second class" gun-owning citizens since 1948. Thank you and join us in celebrating our victories in the 2015 legislature, and please thank those in the "Hall of Fame" who helped make this happen.



**ALL IN FAVOR OF "GUN CONTROL"
RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND**

NVFAC-PAC Presents The 78th Nevada Legislature's *Hall Of Fame And Hall Of Shame*

Following is our list of the performance of legislators from the Nevada 2015 78th legislative session. Please remember them when it comes to your votes and support.



The NVFAC-PAC "Gun Rights Champions" are those legislators who introduced or sponsored pro firearms bills and assisted NVFAC-PAC in the accomplishment of our goals. We salute the following members of the 78th Nevada Legislature for their consistent support of our firearms rights.

Derek Armstrong
Jill Dickman
John Ellison
Ira Hansen
Shelly Shelton

Jim Wheeler
Don Gustavson
Michael Roberson
James Settelmeyer

The following members of the 78th Nevada Legislature consistently **voted for positive firearms** legislation that would have restored and strengthened gun rights for our citizens:

Victoria Dooling
Michele Fiore
David Gardner
John Hambrick
Pat Hickey
Randy Kirner
John Moore
Erven Nelson

Philip "P.K." O'Neill
James Oscarson
Victoria Seaman
Stephen Silberkraus
Lynn Stewart
Robin Titus
Glenn Trowbridge
Melissa Woodbury

Patricia Farley
Pete Goicoechea
Scott Hammond
Joseph Hardy
Becky Harris
Ben Kieckhefer
Mark Lipparelli

Assemblyman James Ohrenschall stood yet again with Nevadans in support of Campus Carry legislation. We appreciate that he is willing to vote opposite of party politics to protect the 2nd Amendment Rights of those on a college campus.

COURAGE
— UNDER —
FIRE



Senator Greg Brower (R-Reno)

Senator Greg Brower was the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and in his role as chairman he set the agenda for his committee and determined which bills would have a hearing or die on the desk. In a year when Nevada gun owners had the ability to fix and pass quality gun laws, Senator Brower, who received an A rating for his support in the 2013 legislature, used his position to refuse to hold hearings on many good pieces of firearms legislation.

The following members of the legislature consistently **voted against** positive firearms legislation.

Elliot Anderson

Nelson Araujo

Teresa Benitez-Thompson

Irene Bustamante Adams

Maggie Carlton

Richard Carrillo

Olivia Diaz

Edgar Flores

Amber Joiner

Marilyn Kirkpatrick

Harvey Munford

Dina Neal

Ellen Spiegel

Michael Sprinkle

Heidi Swank

Tyrone Thompson

Aaron Ford

Joyce Woodhouse

Kelvin Atkinson

Moises Denis

Ruben Kihuen

Mark Manendo

David Parks

Tick Segerblom

Pat Spearman

Debbie Smith

NVFAC President's Award

On an annual basis, the President of NVFAC presents an award to a person or persons who have shown outstanding service in helping achieve the goals and objectives of the Coalition and in support of the firearms freedoms we enjoy in Nevada. For 2015, the NVFAC President's Award recipient is **Megan Bedera** of Amplify Relations for her service as a lobbyist, as manager of two of our PACs and for her efforts above and beyond in guiding our legislative agenda and successes in the 2013 and 2015 Nevada Legislatures. Congratulations Megan!! We sincerely appreciate all your efforts.





Signing of SB 240 (from left to right) Dan Reid NRA-ILA, Senator Scott Hammond, Assemblyman Jim Wheeler, Jodi Stephens-Senate Republican Caucus, Senator James Settelmeyer, Senator Ben Kieckhefer, Senator Michael Roberson, Senator Mark Lipparelli, Megan Beder, NVFAC, Governor Brian Sandoval.

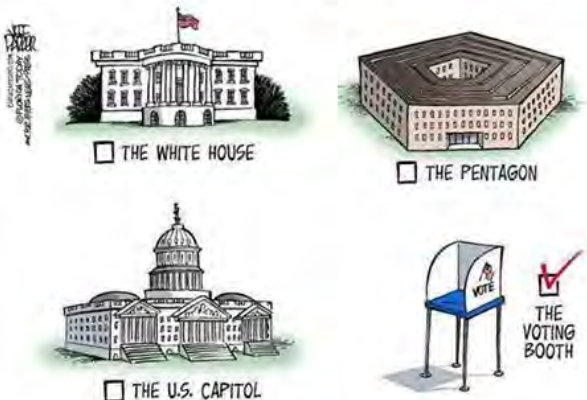


NEVADANS FOR STATE GUN RIGHTS

www.NevadansForStateGunRights.com



Which is the Most Powerful Place in America?



Attention all NVFAC members! The Firing Line needs your stories and photos. Please submit stories about your hunting and shooting experiences or any related topic to me at george@nvfac.org . Please don't worry about getting every word just right. That's my job.

Thank you!

By George

**ATTENTION ALL HANDGUN OWNERS
IN CLARK COUNTY, HENDERSON, LAS
VEGAS AND NORTH LAS VEGAS**

**YOU'RE INVITED TO A
SHREDDING PARTY!**



- ▶ Join us for fun, food, prizes, vendors and more!
- ▶ Come and shred your blue cards that are no longer required!
- ▶ Celebrate your freedoms!
- ▶ Refreshments will be available for purchase from John Mull's "Road Kill Grill" world's famous BBQ.

Hosted by:

- Nevada Firearms Coalition
- New Frontier Armory
- NRA-ILA

Date and Time:

July 18th from 10 am to 3 pm
150 E. Centennial Pkwy, Suite #110
N. Las Vegas, NV 89084

Bring your friends and bring your blue cards!!!

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