

THE FIRING LINE

November-December 2017

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Through the Spotting Scope



President's Report

*Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and a
Joyous Holiday Season to all!!!*

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Although this is the final issue for 2017, we have a lot to celebrate for 2017. It was a tough legislative year, but thanks to our amazing consultants and all of you staying engaged and being active with your legislators, we were able to minimize the legislative attacks on our gun rights and even had a couple of positive laws passed.

As we move forward into 2018, I'd like to share with you our three-pronged approach to ensuring that our fight to protect and enjoy our rights remains strong and successful.

The Nevada Firearms Coalition (NVFAC) was established in 2011 to replace the Nevada State Rifle and Pistol Association, which went defunct in 2005. Once established, we became the Official State Association for the National Rifle Association and have worked diligently and successfully with the NRA, the NRA-ILA and other gun groups on many programs. The NVFAC is the core of our activities and is the organization that is tasked

with the administrative operations of our programs including our Area Directors and our Membership, Communications, Development and Range & Retail Divisions. NVFAC maintains a web page, a Facebook page and a twitter account. If you are an active gun owner and utilize social media, you should visit our Facebook page often.

The Nevada Firearms Coalition Political Action Committee (NVFAC PAC) was established before the 2013 legislative session. It is managed by our VP of Legislative Affairs. Presently we employ the services of two consultant companies to manage our PAC paperwork, messaging and engaging the legislature. The PAC has been extremely successful in moving forward positive legislation and blocking or modifying negative legislation. The PAC maintains a web page, a Facebook page and a twitter account. If you are active in gun rights and interested in our activities, please visit our PAC

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

page often.

The Nevada Firearms Coalition Foundation (NVFAC FOUNDATION) was formed in February 2017, and is a 501(c)3 organization. Donations to the Foundation are tax deductible. The Conservation Division, the Education and Training Division and the Competitions Division compromise the Foundation's activities. We have had a lot of success since its inception. Our signature NVFAC Annie Oakley Women's Shooting Program has trained over 1,280 women in firearms safety since its first class on April 25, 2017. Our Training and Education Division offers frequent NRA training programs for members and our Competition Division has held several range days and is gearing up for monthly IDPA events. Foundation events are posted on the NVFAC Facebook page. The Annie Oakley program has its own Facebook page, and women interested in firearms activities are invited to join the page.

Our challenges for 2018 include the following: We need active volunteers...each division needs help to carry out its programs. We need funding...in order to maintain services and grow more programs, money is an essential requirement. We will be offering many opportunities for fund raising. Again, these will be posted on our social media pages. Membership....we are only as strong as our members. So please encourage your friends and family to join and be active.

Bottom Line: 2018 will be only as successful as the members want it to be...so please get involved and stay involved!

Thank you again for all your help and support. Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and a Joyous Holiday Season to you, your families and your loved ones!

For Freedom
Don Turner, President
Nevada Firearms Coalition

Membership Division Membership Division Membersh

Are you prepared? Really?

So you've decided to take the next step, becoming a firearm carrier because you never know when you're going to need to protect yourself or your family. It is always best to be prepared just in case, right?

You've done your research and joined the Nevada Firearms Coalition to do your part and get the necessary training and support as a responsible gun owner to protect your right to keep and bear arms. You've shopped around, talked to your buddies and decided on the perfect firearm to carry along with a high-quality holster and all the ammo you might need for both training and self-defense. You're ready to strap-up fully confident in your ability to own, carry and use a firearm responsibly. In your mind, you know just what to do and how to defend yourself in a split-second life or death situation. After all the training you've had, you know that if the occasion should ever present itself, you'll be prepared to handle it according to your training and the law no matter what.

Really? Think again. While you may have the best training, the best equipment and all the best intentions, have you considered the consequences of actually shooting someone?

Let's say you used your gun to defend yourself, and you've come out of it unscathed. Thank God. But now curious gawkers are stopping to see what happened. They're staring at you with a gun in your hand while the bad guy lies dead on the ground. Approaching sirens break the silence as people whisper and point at you. Now what? Your thoughts are racing; you're reliving the incident over and over in your mind a million times a second. Did I do the right thing? How am I going to explain myself? Why are these people looking at me? It was self-defense, I'm not the bad guy here!

In your mind, you may conclude that it was indeed a lawful shooting and the police may even find that you likely acted in self-defense, but what if there are witnesses who claim it was you who was at fault? What if the cops don't buy your side of the story? In the "fog of war," people's perceptions change. Witnesses become confused, and it could take a substantial amount of time for investigators to read the scene and decipher the evidence. When the police arrive and start stringing up crime tape and investigators are breathing in your face, what are you going to say to avoid (Continued on Page 3 - Prepared)

(Prepared - Continued from Page 2)

incriminating yourself? Who are you going to call? Who can you call to save you from the chaos and confusion?

If you should ever find yourself in this horrifying situation where you're forced to use a gun in self-defense, regardless the circumstances, at the very least, you can count on being cuffed, stuffed and transported to the police station for hour upon hour of questioning, waiting and interrogation. In addition the police will most certainly confiscate your firearm as evidence. Even if you're entirely innocent, it will take many hours, overnight, or a long weekend depending on the nature of the evidence and personnel available to handle your case. It will undoubtedly be a stressful situation. Of course, regardless what you endure post-shooting, nothing is more important than protecting your own life from a potentially fatal attack, but are you ready for the fallout?

Would you be prepared to hire an attorney to represent you at the cost of hundreds of dollars per hour? Would you be ready to post bail so you can at least go home to your family while you wait to see the judge instead of sitting in the slammer for who knows how long?

Most of us would be ill-prepared for such a stressful scenario. But unfortunately, it's all too common for those who use lethal force to defend themselves or their families. Most of us would be terrified of the potential outcome, not to mention throwing our hard earned cash down a legal black hole for having protected one's own life.

Even after being declared not guilty of a gun crime, you could still face civil penalties that could run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. Yes, you might have defended yourself from a severe assault, but once the smoke clears, you're only halfway there. Now the battle begins as lawyers, victim's family members, gun grabbers and media come out of the woodwork to crucify you for using a firearm. Most of our lives would be changed dramatically after an experience like that compounded with all of those legal costs

and expenses, not to mention lost time from your family, your business or your job.

That's where firearm insurance comes into play. That's right there is insurance available for those of us who choose to exercise our God-given constitutional right to self-defense. Depending on your circumstances, it could be a lifesaver. And it's readily available whether you carry a firearm for protection or keep guns in your home, car, place of business or wherever. You could call it gun insurance, liability insurance or whatever you like, but the important thing is that you have it before you encounter the cold hard reality of actually needing it.

The legal system can be a rocky road to navigate without the proper tools and support to make it out with your life intact. But, it need not be so stressful. The United States Concealed Carry Association (USCCA) provides gun owners with several different options for legal protection after they've already protected themselves. Through their various membership plans, USCCA has helped thousands of lawful gun owners who through no fault of their own have had to defend themselves using deadly force.

Thankfully, USCCA was there to protect them from becoming victims after the fact. From coaching you in what to say and what not to say to the police, to handling your legal representation, bail and more. They will give you the support and the defense you need when you need it most. As a member in good standing, you just call the number on the back of your USCCA membership card, and you can rest easy...You're covered!

Nevada Firearms Coalition is a proud affiliate of United States Concealed Carry Association. Check them out today. Click here to join:

<http://affiliates.deltamediallc.com/signup/8571>.

Now you're truly prepared to do your part as a responsible gun owner!

**Brian Shoemake, Director
NVFAC Membership Division**

Please check out and share our web and social media sites and stay informed.

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www.nvfac.org

Web page: NVFAC-PAC

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New Range and Retail Division Director

Greetings, I'm the new Range and Retail Division Director whose primary activities will be focused on partnering with shooting ranges and shooting-related retail operations to further the goals of the Coalition. This will be a huge undertaking to accomplish effectively and I'll need your help to do so. First, I'm going to need volunteers with a variety of skills to help achieve our objectives; if you want to help out contact me at the email below. I learned a lot about gun owners during the Question 1 fight; we have significant numbers of them in NV but few are willing to stand up and do the heavy lifting. I used to be one of them...I watched Q1 come on-stage and figured that the NRA would handle it. When it became evident that it was going to take more than mailers and ads to get the facts to the masses, I joined the small, organized cadre to personally contact Nevadans and inform them about Q1 and its consequences; we almost pulled it off. I didn't want to be "that guy" who made calls or knocked on doors and interrupted folks during the course of their day. However, in my mind, saving our 2nd Amendment rights is more important than any discomfort I may encounter while spreading the word. What would have happened if in 1775, the Founders and a small group of others hadn't stepped up and risked everything to create this great country?

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

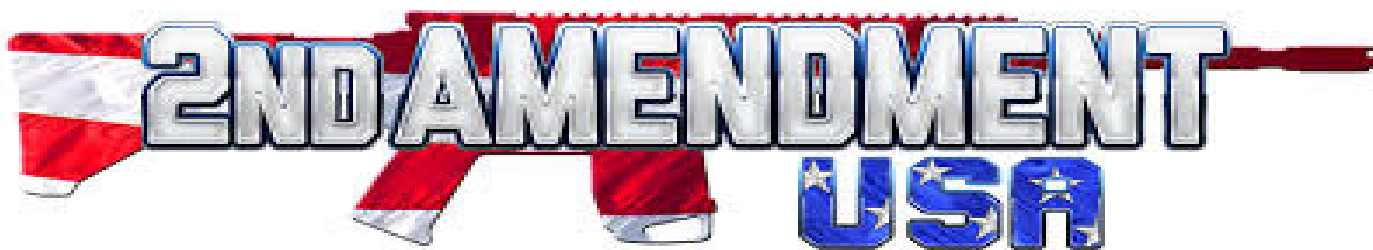
Gone are the days of "getting our way" by voting, or putting a bumper sticker on a car and voting, or adding a yard sign and donating money and voting. From here on out, we're going to need ENGAGEMENT and ACTION or we'll



be watching our 2nd Amendment rights taken away incrementally (remember story about the frog in the pot of water?). At NVFAC we're formulating a strategy to partner with shooting-related businesses and ranges to leverage access to their customer base in order to provide informative and educational materials in an effort to increase awareness of 2nd Amendment issues at the federal, state and local levels. We feel this will be one way to encourage a call to action to protect these rights.

If you're on the fence about volunteering, give me a shout at dpainter@nvfac.org and let's talk about it. It's not as difficult as you'd think and you'll meet some great people in the process!

Dan Painter, Director
NVFAC Range & Retail Division



Southern Division Report Southern Division Report So

New Southern Division Director

I was born in Bay City, Michigan and spent all of my youth trekking through the fields and streams trapping, hunting and otherwise being a lover of outdoors. I took a detour through Indiana and Texas before arriving with a full family of three children in Syracuse, NY. During my time there, I not only reacquainted myself with the great outdoors, but also went from merely shooting guns to building them. My interest was less about a particular caliber or intent and more with learning the science/art of firearms. However, if forced to admit a favorite, it would be "long range" platforms of either hunting or paper punching. It was but a short

distance to move from building guns to reloading ammunition for them. Once I moved to Nevada, I dove into handguns, and now I'm back to shotguns. At this point, with the opportunity now presented to me through this position, I hope to take that passion and experience and help educate the citizens of Nevada on the responsibility and advantages of safe gun ownership ... not only for pleasure that brings, but to understand the intent our Forefathers preserved in the Second Amendment.

Dave Talaga, Director
NVFAC Southern Division

Northwest Division Report Northwest Division Report

I am pleased to announce a new volunteer for the Northwest. Jesse Tomburello is our NW Coordinator. He will help me in recruitment and management of gun show events. I really look forward to working with Jesse and ask the membership to give him your support.

On November 4th we had our first all ladies shoot dubbed "Firearms 101 for Women" at the Carson range. Over 40 ladies in two different classes participated in their very first shoot. I think all had a very enjoyable time. Thanks to Randi Thompson for promoting the event, including time, on Channel 2 in Reno. It was so successful that we were not able to accommodate all who



wanted to join the shoot. Special thanks to our volunteer instructors, Deb and Bob Priscaro. They did a great job. In the spring we intend to have more lady's shoots, like the "Annie Oakley Shoot" in the South, details to come.

If you would like to get involved and help NVFAC in the Northwest contact me at john@nvfac.org. Come by our table and say "hi" at the Rocky Mountain Gun Show in January, the Crossroads Gun Show in February and the Big Reno Show in March.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah and have great New Year!

John Jorgensen, Director
NVFAC Northwest Division



Nevada Firearms Coalition Foundation

Education & Training Division Education & Training Div

Fourteen volunteer NRA Instructors/Range Safety Officers helped provide 13 NRA courses to 52 Coalition members and 5 shooting events to 44 participants thus far this year. The final scheduled course/event for 2017 was held on December 16-17. It is a

heartfelt, "Thank You", that goes out to all the volunteers that made the courses and events of this year happen. The 2018 schedule is still being finalized, but should be out soon. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Russ Martin, Director

NVFAC Education and Training Division

Competition Division Competition Division Competitio

The Shipping Container Fundraiser has been a great success. Our overall goal was to hit \$4,000 by end of December to allow us to acquire a shipping container to place at the Education Center at Clark County Shooting Complex (CCSC). To read more about the fundraiser, please go online and visit: www.nvfac.org/nvfac-foundation.

Our intermediate goal was to achieve \$3,000 by end of November, which we missed by only one day. On December 1st we hit \$3,180. A few days later, Mr. Benjamin Bunker, NVFAC member and supporter, contacted us. He is a partner with Deus Ex Machina, Ltd. (www.gunsmithlasvegas.com). They offered to donate a 10-foot shipping container to the Foundation.

With this donation we were able to trade in the 10-foot container on the purchase a 40-foot container and have it painted. We are arranging it to be delivered to CCSC as soon as possible. Then on December 11th, we reached our original

goal of \$4,000 cash.

The objective of the NVFAC Foundation is to promote the shooting sports, conservation and firearm safety and shooting education in Nevada. With the ability to indefinitely store equipment at CCSC we will be able to plan for future programs, such as regular shooting matches; a youth conservation summer camp, continue the widely successful Annie Oakley Women's Shooting program; and beyond.

The NVFAC Foundation can only grow from here, but it needs the continued help of donors and volunteers to be successful.

Although we reached our goal and way beyond, please consider donating at www.nvfac.org/nvfac-foundation; all funds will be used to start new programs.

Johnnie Engberg, Director

NVFAC Competition Division

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Legislative Affairs Division

The Devil is in the Details

That's what Michael Bloomberg found out after his universal background check initiative was passed in Nevada. He just could not understand why Nevada's Attorney General Adam Laxalt issued a legal opinion finding it unenforceable, after the FBI told Nevada that they would not do the background checks the initiative required. Mayor Bloomberg then proceeded to blame Adam Laxalt and Brian Sandoval for failing to enforce the law, when the real problem was the text of the ballot initiative. All Mr. Laxalt did was read the law and make a legal determination that it is unenforceable. He called the FBI, which runs the National Instant Check System (NICS) system for the federal government, and asked if they would begin to do the background checks required by Question 1. They refused, saying they had no legal authority to do that because Nevada chose decades ago to be a Point of Contact (POC) state for those checks, meaning that the Silver State uses its own set of criminal history records to check the backgrounds of gun buyers. If you're going to write a law about guns, it helps to know something about guns. Mr. Bloomberg likely never even read the text of the law that his hired minions wrote.

While Bloomberg's groups wanted to see the background checks done, the real goal of the universal background checks was to get transferred guns on the records of FFLs doing the background checks, which they would later try to leverage for a national gun registry. In terms of enforcement, even if the background check initiative were in effect now, criminals could safely ignore it because it is still unenforceable for another reason: proof of violation. How can the government prove a case of transferring a firearm without a background check? If Jones decides to sell Smith a pistol, how are they to be caught for not doing the background check? Well, if a police officer happens to witness the transaction, the state can make a case for failure to comply. Short of that, it would take Jones or Smith incriminating themselves, or

investigators going one by one to every FFL in Nevada to check their records for the required background check. That's a big haystack to search for one needle! While technically possible, how many cops do you think are really going to do that? For that matter, how will violations come to the attention of law enforcement in the first place? Since the government has the burden of proof to get a conviction, and since we still have Fifth Amendment protections, convictions for transferring a firearm without doing the background check will be difficult, to say the least. I don't need to prove that I had the background check done; the government needs to prove I didn't get it done. Good luck with that! The only way to enforce universal background checks is with a universal firearms registry. Good luck with that, too! Canada went down that road in the early 00s, only to finally give it up as undoable, and after pouring billions of dollars into the effort.

There are more details bedeviling Bloomberg's background check initiative. The people who crafted the Question 1 background check initiative apparently did not think through the full consequences of the initiative's provisions, such as what happens if Nevada switches to using NICS for background checks. One consequence is the Nevada Department of Public Safety losing about \$3 million per year – which is used to pay for the very systems and people who do Nevada's background checks now. While they knew about the loss of revenue if NICS replaced the POC for the universal background checks, they still chose to require the checks be done by NICS anyway, because they didn't want the \$25 fee if they stuck with the current POC system to be seen as a tax, and possibly endanger chances of passage for the background check initiative. However, they forgot, if they ever knew, about what it means to be a NICS state and a POC



(Continued on Page 8 - Affairs)

(Affairs - Continued from Page 7)

state. NICS checks are not as thorough or complete as Nevada's POC checks. That's because Nevada's records are more inclusive than those the federal government use when they check a criminal background through NICS - in other words, Nevada's records system has more bad guys in it than does NICS. That means if Nevada does its checks by NICS, more bad guys will be able to buy guns, like the Sutherland Springs, Texas church shooter did. His disqualifying crimes had simply not been submitted by the Air Force to the federal database of prohibited possessors.

There is another interesting detail of this political Rubik's Cube. One might think that as much as the chief prosecutor for Nevada's largest county wants to see universal background checks for all gun transfers in place, he would also want to prosecute those who help prohibited possessors - you know, felons, killers and drug dealers - get guns. Apparently, not so much.

As NVFAC found out when we sent a Freedom of Information request to Clark County District Attorney Steve Wolfson's office some time back, for the years 2013-2015, the DA's office prosecuted 1,405 people for being in illegal

possession of a firearm. However, there was no one prosecuted for transferring a firearm to a prohibited person. That is also a felony and is also an important part of the Question 1 background check initiative - stopping the transfer of firearms to those forbidden by law to have them. Vigorously done, such prosecution would likely discourage the transfer of guns to those who should not have them. Apparently, Clark County does not make it a priority to prosecute people helping those forbidden by law to have guns to get their hands on guns.

Ironically, and perhaps the most devilish detail, DA Wolfson wants to make it easier for rapists, murderers, domestic abusers and other felons to get guns - because that's what will happen if Nevada switches to using NICS for gun buyer background checks, as the Clark County DA is demanding.

Even if background check initiatives were properly written, they are still a bad idea because they are expensive, extremely difficult to enforce and because they fall only on the law-abiding while leaving criminals, who by definition do not bother to obey laws, untouched.

Yours In Liberty

Duncan Rand Mackie, Vice-President

NVFAC-PAC Legislative Affairs Division

