

#### Comment by Royce A. Engler on Duty #4

After reading all of the comments submitted by the Designated Parties, I am in agreement with them that more and better mental health resources are needed for the public at large, however, there were recommendations made by two of the DP's which suggested that implementation of gun control would be a benefit.

I disagree strongly with those positions, because the Right of Self Defense is a God given right, and the denial of the means of defending oneself is a direct infringement on that right. While I believe there are certainly cases where a person's rights may be restricted on the basis of medical or legal actions, restriction of any fundamental right may only be done through a legal process in which the defendant has the opportunity to defend those rights. To allow the infringement of a right through any other means is a direct violation of the rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Texas.

There are misrepresentations in the comments by Mssrs Barden and Temple regarding the legal transfer of firearms via internet transactions. They insinuate that there are no restrictions on the sale of firearms via internet transactions. Legal firearm transactions via the internet follow the same procedures as legal firearm transactions in a "brick and mortar" store. Moreover, imposing additional restrictions on law abiding citizens will do nothing to prevent criminals from breaking the law, but they will infringe the right of law abiding citizens to protect themselves. While it is true that illegal transactions do occur, there is no difference between an illegal transaction in a "back alley" and an illegal transaction via the internet. They are both illegal, and no law will stop a criminal from breaking the law. That's what criminals do. The recommendations by Mssrs Barden and Temple amount to nothing more than yet another thinly veiled attempt to impose gun control by cloaking it in the response to a situation that requires a medical solution.