

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Duty # 4 Submission
Date: Thursday, August 20, 2020 5:58:11 PM

Police can never be everywhere, all the time. Criminals strike anywhere at any time. The best defense against crime including “mass shootings” is law abiding citizens being armed. Armed citizens stop many criminal acts, including mass shootings. Doing away with “gun free” zones will only help. A problem never exists with a law abiding citizen being armed. And criminals ignore “gun free” zones, as proven every day. “Gun free” zones just give criminals easy targets. If “gun free” zones worked, all gun crime could be stopped by just posting “Gun free” signs everywhere. Yet everyone knows that doesn’t work.

Restricting or hampering law abiding citizens’ ability to acquire or carry firearms only helps criminals, as fewer citizens have the means to defend themselves. The hard fact is that places with the strictest gun control have the worst crime.

Unnecessarily expanding background checks won’t stop a criminal from getting a firearm. Only law abiding citizens will abide by the regulations.

Regarding so-called “red flag” laws, the constitutional rights of the Second Amendment cannot be yanked away from a person without a crime having been committed. No more than a person could be thrown in jail because someone thought they were likely to commit a crime. “Red flag” laws are often abused, as has been seen where some governmental entities have issued these laws. Too often, the criteria are far too arbitrary. Basically, this is “thought police.” Also, this could lead to a disproportionate impact on minorities.

Gun owners would have to defend themselves in court without any probable cause of a crime being committed. Courts could order confiscation without so much as probable cause. And the cost in time, money and life impact involved is high for the citizen defending themselves in court.

If a person is really mentally ill, existing laws should be used to have them committed to an appropriate hospital.

Also, research by College of William and Mary and Crime Prevention Research Center has shown that “red flag” laws have no measurable effect on murder, suicide, the number of people killed in mass public shootings, robbery, aggravated assault, or burglary.

Kenneth Boyles

[REDACTED]

Gladewater, TX [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]