



Written by [Patrick Krey](#) on December 6, 2021

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Exercising the Right

The Great Sorting Out

Bloomberg News reported on November 18 about how registered Republicans in Florida now outnumber Democrats. As recently as 2008, Democrats had an enrollment advantage of roughly 700,000, but as of the end of October 2021, Republicans took the lead by around 4,000. Florida has always been a popular destination for retiring Baby Boomers who trend Republican, but it has also attracted younger, working-age people seeking to escape onerous COVID restrictions in Democrat-controlled states. Political observers are still waiting to see how these changes impact future presidential elections as Florida transitions from a blue-leaning swing state to potentially a solid red state.

These changes in political affiliation are not limited to Florida, as other parts of the country have seen sizable migratory shifts in their population in the post-COVID era. These changes also involve gun manufacturers. The Daily Wire reported on October 2 that Smith & Wesson will move its corporate headquarters from Massachusetts to Tennessee. The company has been based in Springfield, Massachusetts, since 1852, but will now relocate its company leadership and significant amounts of its operations to Maryville, Tennessee. “After an exhaustive and thorough analysis, for the continued health and strength of our iconic company, we feel that we have been left with no other alternative,” Smith & Wesson CEO Mark Smith explained in a press release. Smith cited Tennessee’s “unwavering support of the Second Amendment” as part of their rationale for the move.

The Smith & Wesson CEO mentioned an expanded “assault-weapons” ban currently being proposed in the Massachusetts State Legislature, as well as other potential anti-gun laws, as to why his company was left with no choice but to relocate. “These bills would prevent Smith & Wesson from manufacturing firearms that are legal in almost every state in America and that are safely used by tens of millions of law-abiding citizens every day exercising their Constitutional 2nd Amendment rights, protecting themselves and their families, and enjoying the shooting sports,” the CEO wrote in his press release. Smith also criticized the proposed legislation as “arbitrary and capricious,” and wrote that, if enacted, such laws would ban products that accounted for over 60 percent of the company’s revenue in 2020.

This major move comes after the National Rifle Association announced earlier this year that it would be leaving similarly anti-gun New York and relocating to Texas. Likewise, as The Blaze reported on September 30, another “firearms company, Troy Industries, cited the ‘changing climate’ for the gun industry in Massachusetts when it announced a move in May from West Springfield, Massachusetts, to Clarksville, Tennessee.”

There was a report by the Associated Press on November 8 that Remington Firearms is moving from Ilion, New York, to Georgia, southwest of Atlanta. Remington is the country’s oldest gun maker, dating back to 1816. “We are very excited to come to Georgia, a state that not only welcomes business but enthusiastically supports and welcomes companies in the firearms industry,” Remington CEO Ken D’Arcy wrote in a press release.

These high-profile moves are just a sampling of major changes taking place in the firearms industry, as the United States seems to be experiencing a “sorting out” that will likely have political implications for years to come.



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Never Leave Your Car Running and Unlocked

[Breaking911.com](#) reported on October 28 about an attempted robbery in Nashville, Tennessee, that didn't go according to plan because the intended victim was armed. A man drove his car up to a convenience store and left it running outside while he ran inside to buy something. Leaving a running car unlocked is never wise, because criminals might get the idea that they can quickly slip into your vehicle and steal it, and that's exactly what almost happened. While the car owner was in the store, a 20-year-old man climbed into the driver's seat of the running vehicle and tried driving away. The car owner exited the store, saw the suspect stealing his car, and confronted the car thief. The car owner clung onto the driver's side door as the suspect began driving away, but the thief accidentally crashed the car into another vehicle in the parking lot. The car owner was armed and pulled out his handgun, pointed it at the suspect, and detained him for police. The suspect's accomplice, who had driven him there, physically attacked the car owner, but then fled on foot when the car owner fired at him. Law enforcement soon arrived and took the suspect into custody, where he was jailed on criminal charges including auto theft, aggravated assault, possession of burglary tools, evading arrest, and resisting arrest, with his bond set at \$40,000. Police are still searching for the accomplice.

Died After a Week

[WTOL.com](#) reported on August 20 about a male intruder who was mortally wounded shortly after breaking in to a residence in south Toledo, Ohio. Police are still investigating, but they believe the suspect forced his way into a woman's house around 1:00 a.m. in an attempt to burglarize the home. The female resident opened fire on the suspect shortly after he broke in and seriously wounded him. The injured man turned and retreated from the house, but collapsed outside on the front lawn. The woman called 911, and responding EMTs discovered the wounded suspect injured on the scene and transported him to a nearby medical facility. The intruder received medical treatment for a week before he finally succumbed to his injuries, and the Lucas County Coroner's Office's autopsy concluded the suspect died "from multiple gunshot wounds." Investigators believe the man was trying to burglarize the house, but the woman's fast action and her gun saved the day.



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