



Written by [Patrick Krey](#) on January 7, 2022

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Exercising the Right

Is Biden Compiling a Registry of Gun Sales?

The Washington Free Beacon reported on November 6 that the “Biden administration in just the past year alone stockpiled the records of more than 54 million U.S. gun owners and is poised to drastically alter gun regulations to ensure that information on Americans who own firearms ultimately ends up in the federal government’s hands, according to internal Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) documents obtained by the Washington Free Beacon.” The Free Beacon reported that the ATF processed almost 55 million “out-of-business records,” which are private records of gun transactions that are transferred to the ATF when a gun store goes out of business. According to the Free Beacon, this information “allows the federal government to stockpile scores of gun records.”

An ATF spokesman denied that this record collection constituted “an initiation or continuation of any federal gun registry.” These records, stored since the federal Gun Control Act of 1968, are scanned into an electronic database, and the original paper records are destroyed. Anyone familiar with modern technology knows that optical character recognition allows images to be converted into a readable format, which then can be searched by keywords. Gun-control proponents are supportive of the ATF registry and have been hoping for years to make it electronic and searchable.

Advocacy groups such as Gun Owners of America (GOA) are sounding the alarm bells about this because they claim it might lead to the creation of a national database of gun owners. This collection of records by the ATF comes at a time when the Biden administration is attempting to alter laws about record-retention for gun stores, which is more cause for concern. Aidan Johnston, GOA’s director of federal affairs, was interviewed by the Free Beacon and explained, “Instead of maintaining the right of [licensed firearms dealers] to destroy Firearm Transaction Records after 20 years, buried within Biden’s proposed regulations is a provision that would mean every single Firearm Transaction Record going forward would eventually be sent to ATF’s registry in West Virginia.” The Biden administration announced that it is looking into implementing several new gun restrictions, which, Second Amendment proponents worry, could be tied into this new ATF record-keeping protocol.

Domestic Violence Turns Deadly

Breaking911 reported on November 28 about an estranged husband whose violent attack on his wife turned deadly for him. The incident occurred in Bedford County, Virginia, when the husband forced his way into his wife’s home and tried to attack her with a knife. Fortunately for the woman, another man, who was in the home, was armed and shot the estranged husband multiple times. She called 911, and deputies from the Bedford County Sheriff’s Office soon arrived and discovered the man suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. Fortunately the woman was not injured during the struggle.

Anti-gun Beto O’Rourke Told to “Get the Hell Out”

The Blaze reported on November 23 about “failed Democratic presidential candidate Beto O’Rourke” getting a bit of a comeuppance in his home state of Texas. Beto unsuccessfully ran against Republican Ted Cruz for the U.S. Senate in 2018 and for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2020. He made some well-publicized anti-gun statements during both campaigns. His most infamous statement might



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have been, “Hell yes, we’re going to take your AR-15, your AK-47!”

Beto recently announced he is running for Texas governor against incumbent Greg Abbott, and has been making the rounds in the state. He encountered some vocal resistance in Houston after unwittingly shaking hands with a pro-gun Houston resident. The man told Beto on video, “Beto, I’m Robert. I’m native Houstonian. On behalf of the ranchers, the oil and gas, the farmers: Like Maxine Waters, I’m in your grill, telling you ‘Don’t come back. We don’t want you here. Get the hell out! Adios!’” Robert ended his message with, “Hey, Beto! Come and take it! It ain’t going to happen. You lost twice. You lost twice. No means no.”

Robert Francis “Beto” O’Rourke has a track record of being publicly confronted on his anti-gun stance. While at a 2019 campaign stop in Aurora, Colorado, he was told by restaurant owner Lauren Boebert that if he was there to take citizens’ guns, “I am here to say: Hell, no, you’re not!” The publicity from the incident launched Boebert into the public spotlight, and eventually landed her in Congress in 2021.

“I Have the Right to Protect Myself”

Fox 13 reported on December 9 about a home break-in that occurred in Spanaway, Washington, in which a family renting a house was terrorized by would-be burglars. The resident was in the house with his sister at the time of the break-in, when, police investigators say, two men tried kicking in the back door. The resident quickly armed himself and confronted the men, firing at them. He seriously injured one of the men before they both tried fleeing from the house. They ran around to the front of the house, where the wounded suspect collapsed and was later pronounced dead.

The Pierce County Sheriff’s Department identified the 31-year-old resident as Jerahme Smith. Smith defended his actions to Fox 13: “When everything first started, the first thing I had to do was take a few breaths and calm myself down because I knew it could have gone one of two ways.... That way I knew I was calm enough to make a proper judgment decision.... It kind of goes back to your rights. I have the right to carry and I have the right to protect myself and I have the right to protect my property.... Protect yourself. That doesn’t mean go looking for it, that means just be ready.”



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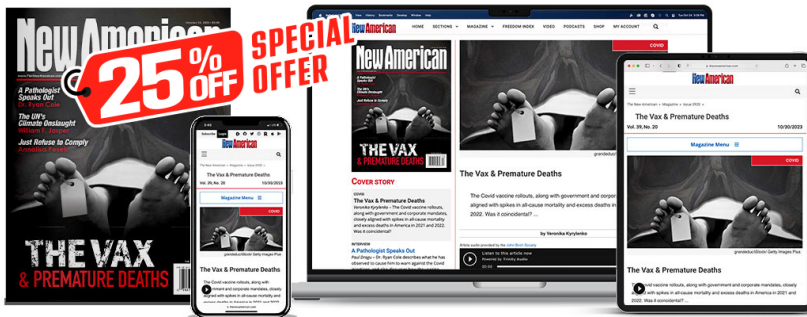
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