

Written by Patrick Krey on October 11, 2022





# **Exercising The Right**

# "I'm from Chicago, Bro!"

Fox News reported on September 26 about a story in Escambia County, Florida, that illustrated the embarrassing stupidity of criminals. Thirty-two-year-old Rakim Stephen Tate was captured on surveillance video walking into a Florida convenience store with a shotgun at his side. Seconds before Tate entered, the clerk working behind the counter saw the armed suspect walking toward the store with a long gun and retreated to a back room, where he quickly armed himself. Tate stood in front of the counter with his shotgun at his side, waiting for the clerk, but was stunned when the clerk emerged from the back room with a pistol drawn and pointing right at him. Tate immediately began trying to explain why he was standing there holding a shotgun and tried to imply that he was simply confused because he was from out of town. "I don't mean no harm, I'm just not from around here.... I got a big [expletive] gun, but I'm not from around here is what I'm saying. I'm from Chicago, bro," Tate said in a clearly bewildered manner as he started backing up toward the exit before he turned and ran away.

The Escambia County Sheriff's Office issued a press release that mocked Tate and stated that he "fumbles for words, resorting to meaningless babble about being from Chicago.... Words seem to fail you when your felony attempt is thwarted by lawful and righteous force."

Fox News reported that Tate was arrested a few days later and charged with "openly carrying a prohibited weapon and attempted robbery with a firearm."

The Escambia County Sheriff's Office referenced Tate's ridiculous words from the night of his crime and wrote, "You're not in Chicago anymore; you're under arrest."

## **Credit-card Companies Target the Second Amendment**

If you weren't aware that most giant corporations and large financial institutions are joined at the hip with Democrats, then you haven't been paying attention. An editorial entitled "Credit Card Companies Join Democrats' Gun Control Scheme" published by *Newsweek* on September 13, written by longtime Second Amendment proponent John Lott and Representative Thomas Massie (R-Ky.), explained this collusion and the danger it poses to the Second Amendment. Lott and Massie warned that in "a major victory for gun control advocates, American Express, Mastercard, and Visa agreed to help the government track firearm sales." Lott and Massie were referencing how the three largest credit-card companies recently announced they were voluntarily adopting a new policy wherein they will identify gun purchases with a special code after a request by multiple Democratic state attorneys general. This categorization will allow financial companies to track the gun purchases and create searchable records, something that is illegal for the government to do.

"Federal law explicitly prohibits the creation of a federal firearm registry, and it requires that the National Instant Criminal Background Check System erase background check information within 24 hours of completion and that it not keep a database." Despite these laws, the large credit-card companies are hoping to do an end-run around the Second Amendment and create the type of database that gun-grabbers have long desired. Lott and Massie explained that countries "such as Canada, the U.K., and Australia use registration to ban and confiscate guns — and they aren't alone. California, Chicago, and Washington, D.C., have also used registration to learn who legally owned different types



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Published in the October 31, 2022 issue of the New American magazine. Vol. 38, No. 20

of guns before banning them." Lott and Massie also explained that these registries don't do anything to prevent actual crime. As they wrote, "Despite what people see on TV crime shows like Law & Order, gun registration doesn't help law enforcement solve crimes. Police in jurisdictions from Hawaii to New York that have had registration for decades can't point to any crimes that they have been able to solve. Even entire countries such as Canada haven't had success. If guns are left at a crime scene and are registered to the person who committed the crime, it is possible to trace the gun back to the criminal. But guns are virtually never left at crime scenes, and in the few times they are, they aren't registered to the person who committed the crime. So why do Democrats keep calling for a costly policy that does nothing to reduce crime? Why do they insist on knowing who owns which guns?" Readers of Lott and Massie's editorial can draw their own conclusions, but it seems pretty obvious that Democrats are hoping to use these records to lay the groundwork for future gun confiscation.

Thankfully, Republicans aren't taking this lying down. The Daily Wire reported on September 20 that 23 Republican attorneys general warned the credit-card companies of the consequences if they go down this path. The Republican attorneys general drafted a letter stating, "Categorizing the constitutionally protected right to purchase firearms unfairly singles out law-abiding merchants and consumers alike.... We will marshal the full scope of our lawful authority to protect our citizens and consumers from unlawful attempts to undermine their constitutional rights."

### 17-year-old Stops Home Invasion

KHOU.com reported on September 10 about a home invasion in the Houston suburb of Channelview that was stopped by a brave 17-year-old with a shotgun. Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez explained what happened in a Twitter thread, where he wrote that three armed men wearing masks burst into a home around 10:40 p.m. A woman was in the house, along with a 12-year-old boy and two 17-year-old teens. One of the 17-year-olds quickly grabbed a loaded shotgun and fired it repeatedly at the intruders, mortally wounding two of them. The third suspect fled in a getaway vehicle. Law enforcement soon arrived on the scene and found the bodies of the two deceased suspects. Police are still investigating, but it's obvious from what occurred that the home invaders were not expecting to be met with lethal force.



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