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Exercising The Right

Retired Cop Proves He Still Has Moxie!

CBS reported on an incident in Coatesville, Pennsylvania, on May 30 that showed that even though a police officer may be retired for a few years, that's no reason to think that he no longer retains the skills he used on the job.

The Chester County District Attorney's Office is still reviewing what happened, but it says a retired police officer halted an armed robbery at a gas station. Investigators believe that the retired officer was waiting to pick up a friend at the gas station when the 33-year-old suspect, Lawrence Galloway, ran into the store and pulled a gun on the employees inside. The retired officer immediately noticed the armed suspect point the gun at the employees and start taking money out of the cash register. The officer pulled out his own gun, which he carries on his person, and entered the store to engage Galloway.

After ordering the suspect to stop, the retired officer opened fire on the suspect, hitting him numerous times in the lower body. Police were immediately called to the scene, and Galloway was taken to a nearby medical facility for surgery. He is expected to survive. Galloway has been charged with armed robbery, among other charges, and is still undergoing medical treatment. Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan had good words to say about the retired officer, whom he credited with preventing a dangerous situation from turning out even worse. "We got lucky. If not for this retired officer being in the right place at the right time, we certainly would have had a robbery, and might have seen a double murder. Instead, this defendant now will face justice," District Attorney Hogan told CBS.

Police are still piecing everything together, but they believe Galloway used a firearm that was reported stolen back in 2016. Coatesville Police Chief John Laufer likewise credited the fast actions of the retired officer. "The defendant had a stolen gun and was a person disqualified from possessing guns. The retired officer had a permit to carry and acted quickly. We are all grateful that no innocent victim was killed."

Big Tech Threatens the Second Amendment

Patriotic Americans who regularly use social media are mostly aware of the threat posed by "Big Tech," which is the euphemism used to describe the giant technology corporations that have monopoly-like control over the Internet. Companies such as Google, Facebook, and Twitter, Silicon Valley-based firms with an oversized market presence, have been unilaterally banning the accounts of conservatives in an ongoing war on free speech. The term used to describe these purges is "deplatforming," and it refers to not only shutting down the accounts of targeted users, but also making it next to impossible for them to even function on the Internet at all. Just this past month, Facebook banned multiple popular accounts that were influential in helping President Trump win his upset victory in 2016.

But it appears that the threat of deplatforming is not limited to just targeting individuals on social media who opine on politics. The new front in the deplatforming war now is expanding to target the Second Amendment and, specifically, the manufacturers of firearms. The company known as Salesforce appears to be just the latest Big Tech firm to use its market power to try to turn the tide against gun rights. Salesforce is a cloud-based software company that provides a service for the administration of sales transactions and has a net income of over \$1,000,000,000 annually. It appears that Salesforce now



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feels that it's big and powerful enough to take on the Second Amendment. The *Washington Post* reported on May 30 that "behind the scenes in recent weeks, the Silicon Valley tech giant has delivered a different message to gun-selling retailers such as Camping World: Stop selling military-style rifles, or stop using our software. The pressure Salesforce is exerting on those retailers — barring them from using its technology to market products, manage customer service operations, and fulfill orders — puts them in a difficult position. Camping World, for example, spends more than \$1 million a year on Salesforce's e-commerce software, according to one analyst estimate. Switching to another provider now could cost the company double that to migrate data, reconfigure systems and retrain employees."

Salesforce simply changed its "acceptable use" policy, which is the list of the terms and conditions that govern how a user of the cloud-based services can utilize the platform. Cloud computing companies regularly update their acceptable use policies, and users are left with no options but to comply or get off the platform, and, as the *Washington Post* reported, switching to another platform might be prohibitively costly or not even feasible for some retailers. The *Washington Post* reported that "Salesforce's new policy bars customers that sell a range of firearms — including automatic and semi-automatic — from using its e-commerce technology. The policy also precludes customers from selling some firearm parts, such as 'magazines capable of accepting more than 10 rounds' and 'multi-burst trigger devices.'"

It's not a mystery where this anti-gun bias is coming from, as Salesforce's co-CEO Marc Benioff, is very public in his disdain for the Second Amendment. Benioff last year tweeted, "The AR-15 is the most popular rifle in America. Ban it," and then subsequently donated \$1,000,000 to anti-gun groups. This is not the only area where Benioff has mixed his left-wing politics with his business. In 2015, he threatened that Salesforce would reduce its workforce in Indiana unless the state repealed its religious freedom law, which Benioff argued would permit discrimination against homosexuals.

And he is not the only rich CEO who is using his position of power and his company to further a left-wing agenda. The *Washington Post* also reported that another provider of e-commerce software, Shopify, is likewise amending its acceptable use policy to prohibit the sale of certain firearms on its platform. Supporters of the Second Amendment need to be extremely concerned that our enemies are intent on taking away our guns by any means necessary, and that includes variations of the "free market" variety.

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