



Exercising The Right

Anti-gunners Want to Sue Gunmakers Out of Business

This column has previously reported on many of the ways that anti-gunners seek to undermine the Second Amendment. One unconventional method is to make gun manufacturers liable for civil suits from the families of victims murdered by someone using a gun. Now some Democrats are trying to change existing federal law to permit these types of lawsuits. The *Denver Post* reported on June 11 that Congressman Jason Crow joined with several other Democrats to introduce the “Equal Access to Justice for Victims of Gun Violence Act,” which would repeal and replace a 2005 law that currently shields gun manufacturers, distributors, and dealers from civil liability if their products are used in criminal acts. This is only the latest attempt, as the measure was first introduced in 2013 by Representative Adam Schiff (D-Calif.). Political observers say it is not likely the bill has enough votes to pass in the House, and they definitely don’t see it getting out of the Senate. But this might not always be the case as gun-control proponents are relentless and continually keep trying to erode our Second Amendment rights.

Pain in the Neck

NOLA.com reported that a would-be robber got shot by an armed convenience store worker in New Orleans. The crime occurred on June 13, when the suspect ran into a convenience store with a gun in his hand, pointed the weapon directly at the clerk behind the counter, and demanded all the money from the cash register. Fortunately there was an armed employee in the store, who fired at the suspect and hit him in the neck. The wounded suspect tried to flee the store, but collapsed nearby. The employees called 911, and emergency responders transported the injured suspect to a nearby medical facility, where he is expected to survive his injuries. The investigation is ongoing, but it appears that this shooting was a case of justified self-defense.

Rallying Behind Democrat

Spectrum News reported on June 12 that a city councilman in Buffalo, New York, found himself in hot water after inadvertently bringing a gun into a public school the prior month. Guns are prohibited on the grounds of educational institutions under state law, except for narrow circumstances — which councilman Ulysees Wingo did not meet. Wingo is a licensed concealed- carry permit holder and later explained that he simply forgot to take his gun off before entering the school. When Wingo realized what he had done, he told the principal at the school, who took the gun from Wingo and stored it in his office safe. There was a media firestorm that ensued after the ordeal owing to the fact that it was in violation of state law, and both the media and voters in the area are very hostile to guns. The Democrat District Attorney declined to prosecute Wingo, even though he admitted Wingo broke the law, but the Buffalo Public School was not as forgiving. It decided to ban him from any school property for 18 months. Wingo was contrite for his oversight and pleaded for leniency, as this ban meant he could not attend his son’s graduation from high school. That is where local Second Amendment advocates sprang into action. Steve Felano of 2AWNY offered to Councilman Wingo free legal help from his network of gun-rights advocates.

“What I’m looking for out of this, and I think what most Second Amendment advocates are looking for, is for this school board to stop this childish behavior of unduly punishing Mr. Wingo and the school



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principal,” Felano told Spectrum News.

It was actually the president of the Buffalo Teachers Federation, Phil Rumore, who argued that the school district’s actions were fair and that any other type of treatment other than a ban would be “special treatment.” “If a student came into a school with a loaded weapon, they’d be suspended for a year on home instruction. You know, you can feel sympathy, but on the other hand, what’s the message that goes out to the kids and the rest of the community?” Rumore told Spectrum News.

Felano did admit to Spectrum News that 2AWNY would not file suit without Wingo’s cooperation, since they lack standing without his involvement, and it seems unlikely that a Democrat who already received lenient treatment from the DA’s office would want to engage in a public fight on the issue and align himself with pro-Second Amendment activists. The Buffalo Public School Board voted to support Wingo’s ban on June 19, so he will miss his son’s graduation this year, and his daughter’s next year. The principal also resigned in the wake of the controversy, which shows that even Democrats can get caught up in the hysteria put out by the anti-gun Left.

“You Have the Right to Defend Yourself”

11Alive.com reported out of Clayton County, Georgia, on June 18 that an attempted home break-in ended when the suspect was shot by the homeowner. The Clayton County Police Department told the news that they responded to a 911 call around 3 a.m., where they found 18-year-old Jayven Jackson suffering from a gunshot wound. He was lying on the ground near the steps of a residence and was transported by emergency responders, but died in transit to the hospital.

The investigation revealed that Jackson allegedly broke in to a house before getting shot. The homeowner told police that he was awakened by the sound of glass breaking and discovered a stranger entering his house. The homeowner grabbed his rifle and fired multiple shots at the suspect, who fell to the floor and crawled outside. Major Anthony Thuman of the Clayton County Police Department told 11Alive.com, “People have the right to defend themselves.... That’s the point we want to drive home, you have the right to defend yourself.” Police did say the deceased suspect had a long record of infractions.

Neighbor Devontay Pace told 11Alive.com that the shooting got him rethinking his own security situation: “That’s crazy, nothing like that has ever happened here in a million years. We’ve been having little problems with people breaking into stuff, not into houses, but stuff like that.”

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