

ODEQ Enforcement Agents Above the Law?

By Curt Chancler
Investigative Reporter

Jackson County, OR - Your elected officials are not championing your constitutional rights; the true champions of your constitutional rights are men like Larry Stockman, owner of Northwest Shot Manufacturing in Phoenix, Oregon. Mr. Stockman's case is one of the most shocking examples of Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality's (ODEQ) unwarranted, unconstitutional and criminal attacks on an individual and his business that I have ever seen.



Larry Stockman

In our March 2010 issue of the US~Observer we published a letter that Larry Stockman had written to his elected representatives, voicing his frustration and presenting them with a copy of a constitutional challenge that he had already filed in ODEQ's administrative court. We printed the constitutional challenge in its entirety, because it plainly showed why all administrative agencies are unconstitutional.

Larry Stockman could not believe that ODEQ enforcement agents could come to his home and business property, perform an unrequested inspection, then lie and make false statements on an official document and use that fraudulent document as an accusatory instrument to attempt to extort money from him. Then through fines and unauthorized services they claim to have performed, lien his property for thousands of dollars if he did not comply with their criminal demands.



Lisa Freeman and Susan Shewczyk

Larry Stockman is a very bright guy, he has a lot of common sense and he has a working knowledge of his rights. He knew from the beginning of his ordeal with ODEQ, that ODEQ agent Susan Shewczyk's alleged lying and making false statements on an official document was a crime.

Over the next several months, through several phone calls, letters and in person meetings, at least eight of ODEQ representatives at all levels were told of Ms. Shewczyk's alleged criminal actions and not one of them would address the issue. In the mist of all of this going on, ODEQ's administrative law specialist and attorney Ms. Regina Cutler, was still attempting to charge and fine Mr. Stockman, with violating a series of unconstitutional Oregon environmental rules. Ms Cutler was reportedly using the alleged lies and fraudulent statements made by Ms. Shewczyk in an official document, as the charging instrument to force Mr. Stockman into their unconstitutional administrative court system.

His next attempt to hold Ms. Shewczyk accountable for her alleged crimes was through the District Attorney. He had spoken by phone to Jackson County District Attorney Mark Huddleston, and written three letters to him concerning Ms. Shewczyk's alleged crimes. Mr. Huddleston told Larry he would not charge Ms. Shewczyk with a crime without a police report. Mr. Huddleston reportedly told Larry, "you can ask the Sheriff's Department to investigate, but ODEQ is an administrative agency and money for this sort of thing is in

short supply; I doubt if they will investigate it."

His next step was an attempt to bring these crimes to the attention of the Jackson County Sheriff, but after several phone calls and three certified letters, there was no response from the Sheriff or his office. At a recent meeting with Sheriff Mike Winters, we were informed that he did turn the issue over to an investigator and that he would look into the matter.

Larry believed at this point ODEQ's only defense for Ms. Shewczyk's alleged criminal actions would be for ODEQ to change the official record. Sure enough, ODEQ's next step was to petition the administrative court to change the official record.

It is important for our readership to understand that in the unconstitutional administrative court, ODEQ is not bound by the administrative law judge's (ALJ) rulings. If the Judge makes a final ruling in your favor, ODEQ, by Oregon law and administrative law, possesses the power to instruct the administrative law judge to reopen the official record and allow ODEQ to change the court record by removing and changing evidence. ODEQ can now instruct the judge to make a new ruling on the case using the new evidence supplied by ODEQ.

A copy of the challenge that Mr. Stockman filed on court is available by viewing our online version of this article at www.usobserver.com.

~UPDATE~

ODEQ was allowed to reopen the case and change the evidence and Judge Gutman stepped down and Administrative Law Judge Joe Allen, was appointed to hear the case. Eventually after a long expensive legal battle, Judge Allen ruled in favor of Larry Stockman, however the alleged crimes committed against Larry Stockman, and his business NWSM, by ODEQ Representatives Susan Shewczyk, Lisa Freeman, Regna Cutler and a host of others have never been addressed. Larry Stockman is still working to remove thousands of dollars of leans that O D E Q h a s unconstitutionally placed on his property. Larry has demanded in three registered letters that ODEQ's representative Dawn Ismerio tell him in writing what she believes gives her in her official capacity for ODEQ the constitutional authority to demand money and payment for unclear, unauthorized and unproven services that were alleged to be provided to him. At this point ODEQ has ignored all of Larry's demands. Mr. Stockman still believes that justice and accountability for the crimes committed against him by ODEQ enforcement agents are just around corner - I hope he is right. ***



National Grange Resolutions for a Stronger America

U.S. Congressional H.R. 698 "Citizenship Reform Act"



The National Grange is the nation's oldest national agricultural organization, with grassroots units established in 3,600 local communities in 37 states. Its 300,000 members provide service to agriculture and rural areas on a wide variety of issues, including economic development, education, family endeavors, and legislation designed to assure a strong and viable Rural America. It was formed in the years following the American

Civil War to unite private citizens in improving the economic and social position of the nation's farm population. Over the past 137 years, it has evolved to include non-farm rural families and communities.

The Grange is also a fraternal order known as the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, hence the "P of H" on the organization's logo. Founding members determined that a fraternal organization would be best able to combine loyalty and democratic ideals to provide service to others. The National Grange was one of the first formal groups to admit women to

membership on the basis of equality with men. It remains so today.

The 11-story landmark National Grange headquarters building in Washington, D.C. was dedicated by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on June 29, 1960, and is the only private edifice in a federal block across from the White House. It serves as a non-governmental headquarters for agricultural and rural leaders.

Each year, a listing of more than 1,400 issues of concern is published and distributed by the National Grange.

Each edition we feature another Grange resolution so you can see the issues that the Grange has taken up in order to defend America's liberties.

Resolution:

Whereas: H.R. 698 would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to deny citizenship at birth to children born in the United States of parents who are not citizens or permanent resident aliens.

Whereas: The passage of this law would insure that parents who want their children to receive citizenship at birth must obey the United States immigration laws in order to receive this special privilege.

Whereas: The affect of this law would improve our immigration and nationality laws as well as save the United States tax payers millions of dollars.

Therefore be it resolved: That the Oregon State Grange supports the passage of Citizenship Reform Act of 2005, H.R. 698, and requests that the United States Congress do the same.

This resolution was adopted by the Deer Creek Grange #371 at its regular meeting held on May 8, 2006.

William D. Waggoner

William D. Waggoner, Master
1920 Thompson Creek Rd.
Selma, OR 97538

Delaine Sherman

Delaine Sherman, Secretary
P.O. Box 871
Selma, OR 97538



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You then rush to an attorney, pay him a retainer to cover the usual \$150.00 per hour (if not higher), which he/she charges, to supposedly defend your innocence. The attorney usually files some motions, writes some worthless letters and makes many unproductive (unless they pertain to you accepting a plea bargain) phone calls until you are broke. Generally you haven’t even started your trial and 99% of the time the attorney hasn’t completed any investigation.

All of a sudden your attorney is telling you that you can’t win your case and

you should accept the benevolent plea bargain that the almighty district attorney has offered you. “Do you want to take the chance on spending 30-40 years in prison when you can plea bargain for 18 months,” your attorney tells you. What happened to: “I think we can win this case, it’s a good case.” Remember? Isn’t that pretty close to what your attorney told you as he/she was relieving you of your money?

You then accept a plea bargain and go to jail or you have a jury trial, you’re found guilty (because your attorney hasn’t produced enough evidence-if any and because the judge directs the jury to find you guilty) and then you go to jail. When you finally wake up you realize that on top of now being a criminal, you are flat broke and incarcerated. You find that the very person (your attorney) you frantically rushed to retain, became your worst enemy.

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In The Nation

You Now Have to Ask to Remain Silent?

Supreme Court Alters Miranda



By David G. Savage
Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court backed off Tuesday from strict enforcement of the famous Miranda decision and its right to remain silent, ruling that a crime suspect's words can be used against him if he fails to clearly to tell police he does not want to talk.

In the past, the court had said the "burden rests on the government" to show that a crime suspect has "knowingly and intelligently waived" his rights. Some police departments tell officers not to begin questioning until a suspect has waived his rights, usually by signing a waiver form.

But in Tuesday's 5-4 decision, the court shifted the balance in favor of police and against the suspect. It said the suspect has a duty to speak up and say he does not want to talk. Moreover, police are "not required to

obtain a waiver" of the suspect's "right to remain silent before interrogating him," wrote Justice Anthony Kennedy.

In her first strongly written dissent, Justice Sonia Sotomayor said the ruling "turns Miranda upside down" and "marks a substantial retreat from the protection against compelled self-incrimination."

Some experts on police questioning said the court's subtle shift will be felt in police stations across the country.

"This is the most important Miranda decision in a decade. And it will have a substantial impact on police practices," said Charles Weisselberg, a law professor at the University of California at Berkeley. "This decision approves of the practice of giving the warnings and then asking questions of the suspect, without asking first whether he wants to waive his rights."

Monday's decision followed two in February that also narrowed and clarified the scope of the Miranda decision. One allowed police to vary the wording of the warning; the other allowed a second round of questioning of suspects who had invoked their rights, provided that two weeks had passed since their release from custody.

In the case decided Tuesday, Van Thompson was arrested as a suspect in the shooting a year earlier of two men outside a mall in Southfield, Mich. One of them died. A police detective read Thompson his rights, including the right to remain silent and the right to have a lawyer. Thompson said he understood but did not sign a form.

After two hours and 45 minutes of questioning, Thompson said yes in response to each of three questions: "Do you believe in God?" "Do you pray to God?" And, crucially, "Do you pray to God to forgive you for shooting that boy down?"

His affirmative response to the last question was used against him at trial, and he was convicted of first-degree murder. The federal appeals court in Cincinnati ruled in 2008 that

his statement should have been excluded because prosecutors could not prove that Thompson had knowingly and voluntarily waived his right to remain silent.

The Supreme Court reversed that ruling and reinstated the conviction. A suspect who wants to invoke his right to remain silent must "do so unambiguously," Kennedy said. "Thompson did not say that he wanted to remain silent or that he did not want to talk with the police. Had he made either of these simple, unambiguous statements, he would have invoked his right to cut off questioning." Joining him to the form the majority were Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito.

Kennedy has played a key role in the last decade in preserving the core Miranda rule, while also narrowing its practical effect. For example, he joined with the liberal bloc for a 5-4 ruling in 2004 rejecting the police tactic of questioning first and then warning a suspect of his rights only after he made an incriminating comment. The same day, he joined a 5-4 ruling by the conservative side that said physical evidence, such as a gun or cash, can be used against a suspect, even if he revealed it during questioning without Miranda warnings.

In Tuesday's decision, Kennedy stressed that the suspect had been warned of his rights and eventually chose to speak.

The California-based Criminal Justice Legal Foundation praised the justices for paring back the "artificial rule" set in the Miranda decision. The court "recognized the practical realities that the police face in dealing with suspects," said Kent Scheidegger, the group's legal director. But Steven Shapiro, legal director for the American Civil Liberties Union, said the case "demonstrates the power of custodial interrogation to wear down the defendant's

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willpower, which is what Miranda was designed to prevent."

In her dissent, Sotomayor faulted the majority for announcing a "new general principle of law" that will be confusing in practice. "Criminal suspects must now unambiguously invoke their right to remain silent — which, counter intuitively, requires them to speak," she said. Joining her were Justices John Paul Stevens, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer.

The majority ruling is in line with the position taken by the Obama administration and U.S. Solicitor General Elena Kagan, now a Supreme Court nominee. In December, she filed a brief on the side of Michigan prosecutors and argued that "the government need not prove that a suspect expressly waived his rights."

The New York Times contributed to this report.

★★★

BP’s Battered Brand Draws Consumer Opposition

By Deborah Zabarenko and
Dan Whitcomb

(Reuters) – U.S. consumers are venting frustration over the BP oil spill, demonstrating at gas stations and corporate offices, drumming up support on Facebook and waging a mock public relations campaign on Twitter.

But their opposition to BP's handling of the crisis has yet to achieve critical mass, and any attempt to dissuade customers from fueling their cars with BP is likely to hurt the small business owners who run the stations with little or no effect on the British oil giant's revenues.

Most Americans -- seven out of 10 -- say BP has done a poor or only fair job in handling the April 20 well blowout and spill in the Gulf of Mexico, according to the Pew Research Center, which tracks public opinion. The Obama administration got slightly better marks, with 57 percent rating the government's response poor or only fair.

In light of this public displeasure, BP may have trouble charging a premium price at the pump for its products, said Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at the independent New Jersey-based Oil Price Information Service.

"We are starting to see some impact so far, and a percent of decline or two can have a dramatic impact," Kloza said by phone. "Unfortunately, it has an impact on what you might say are the victims: the marketers and the dealers that made commitments to fly the BP flag."

BP's petroleum products can be sold at other outlets under other brand names, making a consumer boycott tough to achieve. In any case, he said, price is the biggest factor determining where customers buy automotive fuel.

Several U.S. groups, including the consumer watchdog Public Citizen and Vermont-based Democracy for America, have called for a BP boycott, but historically, energy boycotts have had minimal impact on the parent companies' revenues. Efforts to boycott Exxon after the 1989 Valdez spill off Alaska and a boycott of Citgo, which is owned by Venezuelan interests linked to President Hugo Chavez, had little effect, Kloza said.

Seize BP, a campaign aimed at getting the U.S. government to seize BP's assets and redistribute them

MOTHER TERESA BRAND

Customers would probably patronize gas stations with lower prices than pay more for gas from a "Mother Teresa" brand.

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to those damaged by the spill, plans a week of demonstrations in all 50 states at gas stations and BP offices.

"As this continues and BP continues to spend money on a clean-up effort which is failing, we think they will declare bankruptcy and ... then nobody will be compensated," said Ian Thompson, a Los Angeles organizer for the campaign. "Which is why we're calling for a seizure of their assets to be put into a trust administered by the people affected in the region."

The movement to seize BP's assets is gaining ground on Facebook, where at least five groups with a total of over 8,000 members were pushing this cause as of Thursday.

ANGER AND FRUSTRATION

There is also a spoof Twitter feed, BPGlobalPR, that purports to be the oil company's online persona. The author of the often hilarious tweets identifies himself as Leroy Stick and said in an online post on Wednesday: "I started BPGlobalPR because the oil spill had been going on for almost a month and all BP had to offer were bullshit PR statements."

The satirical feed has more than 114,000 followers, compared to the official BP America feed, which had less than 10,000 on Thursday.

The fake feed has donated \$10,000 to the Gulf Restoration Network from the sale of T-shirts emblazoned with an oil-smudged BP logo

and the words "bp cares."

A survey of recent tweets involving the term "oil spill" comes up with mostly news stories, along with comments on recent developments, including chatter about the involvement of filmmaker James Cameron in the well-plugging effort.

Karen North, director of the Annenberg Online Communities program at the University of Southern California, said she saw small online efforts but little sign of a major movement.

"People are posting their anger and frustration on their own personal newsfeeds, but in terms of people coming together as part of a collective effort, if it's there I haven't seen that much of it, and that might be because people aren't sure what the right bandwagon is to join," North said in an interview.

Kloza, the oil analyst, said: "If people are serious about demonstrating or showing their indignant, they can divest themselves of investments, and maybe think about using a little bit less fuel, because there's really no downside in that."

(Editing by Paul Simao)

★★★



Mom, Son Reunited A 2-Year CPS Nightmare

By Robert Franklin

The case that's dropped jaws all across the U.S. and Canada is finally coming to an end. Judge Kip Leonard is finally allowing Noah Kirkman to return to his native Calgary after two years in foster care in Oregon.

I and countless others have written outraged pieces about the case. Noah Kirkman is now 12 years old. When he was taken into foster care by Oregon authorities two years ago, he had not been abused; he had not been neglected. No one has ever claimed that his mother Lisa Kirkman (pictured) or his stepfather John Kirkman has ever been anything but a good parent to him. That's reflected in his grades which are straight A's despite Noah's severe ADHD.

No, in their zeal to substitute foster care for parental care, Oregon child welfare authorities decided that Lisa Kirkman had abandoned her son. How did they figure that? Well, he was living with his stepfather in Oregon, that's how. Make sense to you? After all, John has been the boy's steadfast and true dad for 10 of his 12 years on this earth. How Oregon child welfare workers and Judge Leonard concluded that a boy, who's never been abused or neglected in any way and who's living with his stepfather, had been abandoned is one for the record books. In all the annals of state intervention into families, has there ever been a case more arbitrary or capricious?

Recently, Lisa Kirkman asked what Oregon child welfare authorities do with kids who go to summer camp. She had a point. If a stepfather has no parental authority, does a camp counselor? Can we look forward, in the upcoming weeks, to child welfare sweeps of Oregon summer camps for kids?

In the meantime, we can also enquire as to what's changed to make the judge allow Noah to return to Canada. Is he in some way less "abandoned" now than he was two years ago? Have Lisa and John miraculously become better parents? I doubt it. I think the extreme level of public and media-based outrage at the highhandedness of the judge and the Oregon DHS forced them to do the obvious - the thing that any non-zealot would have done from the very first day - send Noah home to his dad and move on to real cases of children who suffer from parental abuse or neglect. In other words, Oregon DHS should have done its job.

Amazingly enough though, Judge Leonard didn't return Noah to John and Lisa; he returned him to his grandparents in Calgary. How that makes sense is anyone's guess, but it looks suspiciously like a judge trying to make himself look like a little less of a fool than most people probably think. He actually maintains the fiction that the Kirkman's household may not be the best thing for Noah, although he doesn't mention why it wouldn't be.

Whatever the case, I have a couple of pieces of advice for the Kirkmans. First, once your son is beyond the jurisdiction of the Oregon court, bring him home to your house. He can see his grandparents any time and he'll be beyond the reach of Judge Leonard's draconian grasp.

Second, talk to an Oregon attorney about suing the state's DHS under Oregon's tort claims act. My antennae tell me that there was a lot of negligence involved in the decision to take your son. And you can count on a sympathetic jury. Almost every one on it will sit in court listening to the evidence while the sentence "there but for the grace of God go I" runs through his/her head.

Thanks to Charles and Lawrence for the heads-up. ★★★





By Hank Hayes
TimesNews.net

BRISTOL, Tenn. - Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli outlined a two-front legal battle against the federal government to about 20 business leaders at the Bristol Chamber of Commerce.

Cuccinelli, a Republican concluding his first 100 days in elected office, talked about Virginia's court challenges against federal health care reform and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

He told the group that he is attempting to uphold Virginia's recently passed Health Care Freedom Act, which protects Virginia citizens from being mandated to buy health insurance.

"I believe that (health care reform) bill is one of the greatest erosions of liberty in my adult lifetime," Cuccinelli said. "It was done, as we argued, beyond the scope of the authority the federal government has on the Constitution."

Members of at least 39 state legislatures have proposed legislation to limit, alter or oppose provisions of health care reform, including single-payer provisions and mandates that would require purchase of insurance, according to the National Conference of State

Virginia attorney general details fight against health care reform, EPA

Legislatures (NCSL).

NCSL said most of the legislative measures seek to make or keep health insurance optional.

Tennessee lawmakers are considering their own version of Health Care Freedom legislation, but appointed state Attorney General Robert Cooper indicated in an April opinion that it would be pre-empted by federal law.

"If he thinks it's Constitutional he shouldn't challenge it. We'll see who's right," Cuccinelli said when asked about Cooper's opinion.

Cooper's opinion suggested any new Tennessee law to limit federal health care reform would be trumped by the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution, which provides that U.S. laws are the supreme law of the land.

"Our position is the federal law is unconstitutional and it must fall entirely," said Cuccinelli.

Tennessee's Health Care Freedom legislation passed in the Senate, but has been placed behind the proposed budget in the House because of its cost. Cooper has also indicated he could not represent the state as its legal counsel in a health care reform court challenge.

Tennessee's Fiscal Review Office estimated a court challenge would cost up to \$50,000.

"We paid \$350 for a filing fee," Cuccinelli said of Virginia's cost for its court challenge.

Tennessee GOP Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey of Blountville, meanwhile, has been pushing for legislation that would allow Democrat Gov. Phil Bredesen to hire outside counsel to file suit on behalf of the state.

Cuccinelli said the commonwealth's case will center on the Commerce Clause of the Constitution and Congress' power to regulate business.

But the burden of proof, he pointed out, is on the states to show health care reform is unconstitutional.

If the case continues through the court system, Cuccinelli predicted the U.S. Supreme Court could make a final ruling by the summer of 2012.

"(The federal government is) ordering you to purchase a product from insurance companies. ... That has never, ever been done before under the guise of regulating commerce," he noted.

Cuccinelli added: What if federal lawmakers made you buy Chevys instead of health care?

"The United States is going to have to answer our question: Judge, does the United States think that ordering every American to buy a Chevrolet every three years would help the economy, provide jobs and is Constitutional?" Cuccinelli asked the chamber gathering. "If the feds can order you to buy a product, there is no limit to their police power."

President Barack Obama's administration, Cuccinelli stressed, interprets the Constitution



any way it wants.

"It was power politics ... (the Democrat-controlled Congress) rammed (health care reform) through. ... The states always lose," he maintained.

Cuccinelli also discussed the existing lawsuit Virginia has against the EPA over its finding that carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere is a danger to public health and welfare.

He said the finding is larger than the federal debate over cap-and-trade legislation.

Last February, Cuccinelli filed a motion with the EPA and asked the agency to reopen hearings to consider new climate change data.

EPA does not want a trial on the finding, which poses a threat to Virginia's economy, Cuccinelli suggested.

"When their science is on trial, they will be embarrassed. ... They don't want a jury asking if they got the science right," he said of the EPA. ★★★

Lack of sleep linked to early death: study



LONDON (AFP) – People who get less than six hours sleep per night have an increased risk of dying prematurely, researchers said on

Wednesday.

Those who slumbered for less than that amount of time were 12 percent more likely to die early, though researchers also found a link between sleeping more than nine hours and premature death.

"If you sleep little, you can develop diabetes, obesity, hypertension and high cholesterol," Francesco Cappuccio, who led research on the subject at Britain's University of Warwick, told AFP.

The study, conducted with the Federico II University in Naples, Italy, aggregated decade-long studies from around the world involving more than 1.3 million people and found "unequivocal evidence of the

direct link" between lack of sleep and premature death.

"We think that the relation between little sleep and illness is due to a series of hormonal and metabolic mechanisms," Cappuccio said.

The findings of the study were published in the Sleep journal.

Cappuccio believes the duration of sleep is a public health issue and should be considered as a behavioural risk factor by doctors.

"Society pushes us to sleep less and less," Cappuccio said, adding that about 20 percent of the population in the United States and Britain sleeps less than five hours.

Sleeping less than six hours is "more common amongst full-time workers,

suggesting that it may be due to societal pressures for longer working hours and more shift work"

The study also found a link between sleeping more than nine hours per night and premature death, but Cappuccio said oversleeping is more likely to be an effect of illness, rather than a cause.

"Doctors never ask how much one sleeps, but that could be an indicator that something is wrong," said Cappuccio, who heads the Sleep, Health and Society Programme at the University of Warwick.

Research showed no adverse effects for those sleeping between six and eight hours per day. ★★★



HEALTHDAY HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some of the latest health and medical news developments, compiled by the editors of HealthDay:

Hundreds of Texas Doctors Leave Medicare

Problems with Medicare reimbursement may have led hundreds of Texas doctors to opt out of the federal health care program for the elderly.

In the first three months of 2010, 50 Texas doctors left the program, bringing to more than 300 the number who have dropped out in the past two years, according to a survey by the Texas Medical Association, CBS/AP reported.

Primary care doctors, already in short supply around the country, have left in greatest numbers, an article in the Houston Chronicle Tuesday noted.

"This new data shows the Medicare system is beginning to implode," Dr. Susan Bailey, president of the Texas Medical Association, told the Chronicle. Doctors will continue to drop out if Medicare isn't fixed soon, and the congressional promise to provide medical care to seniors "will be broken," she said.

Years of declining Medicare reimbursement preceded a 21 percent cut this year, the paper said. –



Hot Dogs, Bacon Tied to Heart Disease, Diabetes



They may taste good, but bacon, sausage, hot dogs and deli meats can increase the risk of heart disease and diabetes, a study found.

The study in the journal Circulation linked consumption of processed meats to a 42 percent greater risk of heart disease and a 19 percent increased risk of type 2 diabetes, Agence France-Presse reported.

"Based on our findings, eating one serving per week or less would be associated with relatively small risk," said lead author Renata Micha, a research fellow in the department of epidemiology at the Harvard School of Public Health.

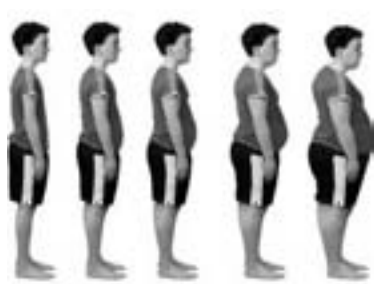
But there was good news too: No higher risk of heart disease or diabetes was noted among those who ate unprocessed red meat, such as lamb, beef or pork.

The team studied 1,600 reports involving about 1.2 million people. On average, the researchers said each 1.8 ounce daily serving of processed meat -- the equivalent of one hot dog or one to two slices of deli meats -- was linked to the greater heart disease and diabetes risk, AFP said.



rather than fats, might explain the higher risk of heart disease and diabetes seen with processed meats, but not with unprocessed red meats," she said. –

Food Industry Group to Cut Calories



Michelle Obama has scored a big success in her fight against childhood obesity with the announcement Monday that a major food manufacturing group will bring out healthier products, reduce calories in some products and trim portion sizes.

The Healthy Weight Commitment Foundation, whose members make about 25 percent of food consumed in the United States, has pledged to cut 1 trillion calories by the end of 2012 and 1.5 trillion calories by the end of 2015. Its 16 members include General Mills, Kellogg, Campbell Soup, Coca-Cola, Kraft Foods and PepsiCo.

"This is precisely the kind of real private-sector commitment that we need. And I hope that more will follow the example that they've set," Obama said at a news conference in Washington, D.C., the Washington Post reported.

The move comes less than a week after the White House's Childhood Obesity Task Force reported its findings.

Kelly Brownell, director of the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity at Yale University, said he hopes other companies will feel compelled to make changes. "Any step in the right direction is welcome, even if it's a tiny one," he told the Post. --



Nobel Prize Winner to Head U.S. Cancer Institute



Dr. Harold E. Varmus, president of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City and a Nobel Prize-winning biologist, will be appointed director of the U.S. National Cancer Institute, the White House said Monday.

Varmus, 70, is likely to shake up the often-criticized federal cancer program, which has a budget of \$5.1 billion this year, The New York Times reported.

Formerly director of the U.S. National Institutes of Health under President Bill Clinton, Varmus was selected by President Barack Obama. Senate confirmation is not required.

"There are tremendous new opportunities in cancer research, with knowledge about the human genome and how cells are wired," Varmus told The Times. "Everyone feels a sense of accelerating success. There are amazing prospects."

Although some advocacy groups have reportedly had conflicts with Varmus, Dr. Otis W. Brawley, chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society, told The Times he was "thrilled and delighted" with the president's choice. –

Urinary Tract Infections Becoming 'Resistant'



Overuse of antibiotics by the farming industry is making it harder to treat common urinary tract infections, experts warn.

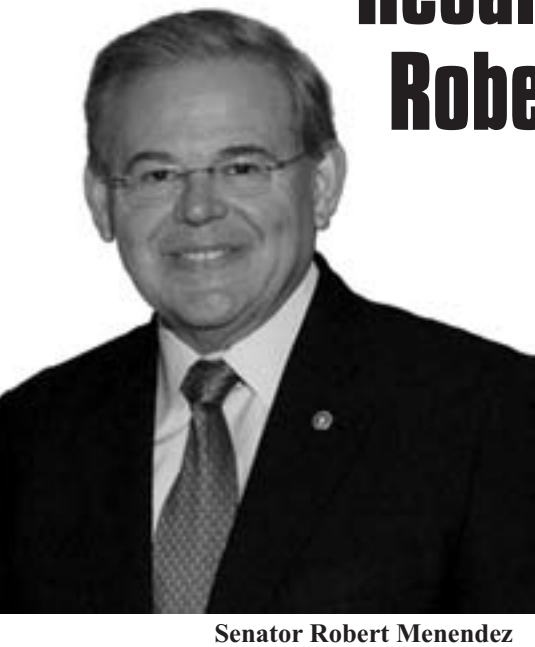
"Resistance" genes are being passed from animals to humans in the food chain, said University of Hong Kong researchers, who looked at samples from humans and animals and found an identical gene for antibiotic resistance, BBC News reported.

Their results were published in the Journal of Medical Microbiology.

The study involved Escherichia coli bacteria, which are responsible for most human urinary tract infections.

The gene, known as aacC2, provides resistance to the often-prescribed antibiotic gentamicin. It was seen in about 80 percent of 249 human and animal samples examined, BBC said. ★★★

Recall of US Senator Robert Menendez?



By Devvy Kidd

The Outlaw Congress in Washington, DC continues to break the law everyday as if there is no U.S. Constitution. Both parties are guilty of driving this republic into financial ruin while talking out of both sides of their mouths. They will say anything for a vote as we've seen recently regarding Connecticut's Attorney General's race for the U.S. Senate.

Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, looking to replace outgoing Sen. Christopher Dodd, lied about his military record. He didn't misspeak; he's a liar, plain and simple. Not a problem for the morally and ethically bankrupt Democratic Party: "Sen. Bob Menendez, chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, told reporters today that he and his committee are sticking by Richard Blumenthal, in the wake of the New York Times' report that the Democrat running for Connecticut Senate has exaggerated his military record."

RECALL

Eighteen states of the Union allow recall at the state level. It's unfortunate more citizens in those states haven't taken advantage of removing corrupt officials, but in the larger states, it can require hundreds of thousands of signatures; in some cases a million or more. But, I always say if you want something bad enough, you'll go after it.

This November only 1/3rd of the illegal U.S. Senate is up for reelection. A group of fed up citizens in New Jersey have had it with Sen. Robert Menendez and want him gone. They also don't want to wait until 2012 to oust him - if even possible. A recall effort began with the petition process. A three judge panel (state appeals court) ruled March 16, 2010, that the petition process could move forward, but also stated: "But noting the absence of case law and precedent, it left the ultimate question of the constitutionality of the state's recall law and amendment to a higher court."

This didn't sit well with Menendez, calling the effort a publicity stunt and issuing this rant: "This is an organization trying to undemocratically and unconstitutionally overturn an election in which more than 2 million New Jerseyans voted," said Menendez, whose term expires in 2012. "My focus continues to be on job creation legislation and delivering a successful extension of my local property tax relief bill."

The court also said this: "The court found existing New Jersey law and the state's constitution both allow U.S. senators to be recalled. For that reason, the appeals court said, the removal effort can proceed. "There are a host of genuine arguments and counterarguments that can be articulated and debated about whether or not the Federal Constitution would permit a United States Senator to be recalled by the voters under state law," the appellate judges said.

Which brings us to the meat of the issue. Long ago and far away, and like many others, I wrote that the effort to enact term limits on members of Congress would be shot down by the courts. It was in U.S. Term Limits, Inc. v Thornton [5] - U.S. Supreme Court - Decided May 22, 1995.

The **U.S. Constitution** makes specific reference to the length of time representatives and senators would serve between elections:

Art. 1, Section 2: The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several states, and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

Art. 1, Section 3: The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each state, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one

vote.

It doesn't specifically state a restriction as to how many terms a representative or senator can serve. Of course, back then, the framers could hardly imagine professional political prostitutes would stay in Congress 15, 20, 30 or more years. Rep. Charlie Rangel [D-NY] going into year 40. Sen. Robert Byrd [D-WVA]: 51 years. Nutty Nancy Pelosi [D-CA]: 23 years. The utterly incompetent, Rep. Wally the Waffle Herger [R-CA]: 23 years. Bumbling Sen. Carl Levin [D-MI]: 31 years. Crook, Sen. Diane Feinstein: 18 years. Kill American jobs Congressman John Boehner [R-OH]: 19 years.



Strom Thermond [SC] States Rights Democratic (1948–1954); Democratic (1923–1948, 1954–1964); Republican (1964–2003) stayed 47 years until he died. How absurd.

The non-ratified Seventeenth Amendment destroyed state sovereignty by removing the right of the state to representation in Congress and turning it over to voters to elect a U.S. Senator.

I raised this question in my presentation on the Seventeenth Amendment: "The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose, Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate...."

"Since several states were out of session at the time of the vote, have they been deprived of equal Suffrage in the U.S. Senate because they did not participate in the ratification of this amendment? Is fraud (non ratification) enough to allow a state to declare it null and void in their state? No action taken on the ratification: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware. No record for Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Washington State."

The framers of the Constitution wanted we the people to have representation in Congress; the U.S. House of Representatives became that body. They desired that the states would receive equal representation; that became the U.S. Senate. Otherwise, why have two bodies in Congress? If they were all to be elected, why not just one - the U.S. House of Representatives? The few and limited legislative areas for the Senate could have easily been rolled into one body if they were all to be elected. But, they weren't.

Senators appointed by the state legislatures is no small matter since the Senate ratified treaties (i.e., NAFTA, CAFTA, GATT, WTO, UN) which directly affect the states. Confirmation of cabinet members like the Department of Defense, which directly affects all states of the Union. Confirmation of federal judges and U.S. Supreme Court Justices, whose decisions have a direct impact on the states. That is why the Seventeenth Amendment is so egregious to the suffrage rights of the states of the Union. The state legislatures no longer had the right to appoint their representatives to go to Congress and recall a senator who voted against the interests of their state. Now it would be left to voters -- too many who have zero understanding of the cancers eating away at this country; they vote



for a name they've seen on a sign or who their party tells them to vote for. Special interest voters who have no regard for the U.S. Constitution and illegals voting have contributed to the mess in which we find ourselves.

As we can see, there is also no specific mention of recall in those two sections of the Constitution. While I wished it otherwise, I believe a member of Congress cannot be recalled. It would require a constitutional amendment. There have been numerous attempts over the years, which I have covered in past columns; none successful. If memory serves me correctly, it has been due to lack of money to obtain the required number of signatures.

The term of service for representatives and senators was specific in the Constitution, but no cap was put on how many times they could serve or recall. As I understand the issue, the framers wanted uniformity: A set term between elections for all members of the House - two years. The Senate to serve six years. I believe this was done so there wouldn't be a hodge-podge from dozens of states.

But! There is a fly in the ointment so to speak. Recall what the court said in its decision to allow the petition process to proceed: "The court found existing New Jersey law and the state's constitution both allow U.S. senators to be recalled." This I did not know until I read about this particular recall, so I went and looked at the **New Jersey State Constitution**. I might add a very **politically incorrect** Constitution (1947): "*We, the people of the State of New Jersey, grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and transmit the same unimpaired to succeeding generations, do ordain and establish this Constitution.*"

Art. 1, Section 2(b) reads:

b. "*The people reserve unto themselves the power to recall, after at least one year of service, any elected official in this State or representing this State in the United States Congress. The Legislature shall enact laws to provide for such recall elections. Any such laws shall include a provision that a recall election shall be held upon petition of at least 25% of the registered voters in the electoral district of the official sought to be recalled. If legislation to implement this constitutional amendment is not enacted within one year of the adoption of the amendment, the Secretary of State shall, by regulation, implement the constitutional amendment, except that regulations adopted by the Secretary of State shall be superseded by any subsequent legislation consistent with this constitutional amendment governing recall elections. The sufficiency of any statement of reasons or grounds procedurally required shall be a political rather than a judicial question.*"

Now, we have a different dog fight. I am on the side of recall, but I don't believe using the Tenth Amendment is going to win the day for this argument, but I could be wrong. I've also been trying since 1993 to get one state to challenge the non ratification of the Seventeenth Amendment. A lot of time and misery could have gone away. In any event, the New Jersey Supreme Court will take arguments on May 25, 2010.

Just one update: "The state of New Jersey has apparently decided it will not join the appeal to stop the Tea Party effort to recall Menendez: "While the State's position on federal

constitutionality remains the same ... it is mindful that the Appellate Division correctly pointed out that a condition precedent to any recall election--obtaining the signatures of approximately 1.3 million registered voters within 320 days--may never come to pass. Repeatedly invoking principles of judicial restraint, the Appellate Division stated that "[t]here is, and there will be, no necessity for our courts to resolve this difficult constitutional issue if the (plaintiff) Committee's petition drive fails to collect the necessary, approximately 1,300,000 signatures. The State will not seek to overturn this exercise of judicial prudence and restraint."

The outcome of this case will have a profound impact. While I would like to see all 100 current U.S. Senators tossed out of office, I still believe the original intent of the framers was to see that both the people and the states were represented in Congress. That is why there is a House (for we the people) and Senate (for the states). However, since few care that the Seventeenth Amendment wasn't ratified by enough states, and not a single state seems to care about their right to representation in Congress, right now it is up to the courts.

It is likely to go to the U.S. Supreme Court, which in my humble opinion, would be a tragedy considering one of the justices, Sonia Sotomayer, should have been indicted for being a willing participant in a cover-up in concealing assets as part of a judicially run and tolerated bankruptcy fraud scheme. She also lied on the required documentation submitted to the Senate Judiciary Committee. She later corrected her lies. That judicially unqualified justice (qualified because of her ethnicity and female plumbing) should have been indicted long ago. The Democrats are determined to get another miserably unqualified (except for being a liberal, activist female) candidate, Elena Kagan, confirmed and on the bench. The Republicans will do their usual and cave as they did with Sotomayer.

Which brings to mind: "*At the establishment of our Constitutions, the judiciary bodies were supposed to be the most helpless and harmless members of the government. Experience, however, soon showed in what way they were to become the most dangerous; that the insufficiency of the means provided for their removal gave them a freehold and irresponsibility in office; that their decisions, seeming to concern individual suitors only, pass silent and unheeded by the public at large; that these decisions nevertheless become law by precedent, sapping by little and little the foundations of the Constitution and working its change by construction before any one has perceived that that invisible and helpless worm has been busily employed in consuming its substance. In truth, man is not made to be trusted for life if secured against all liability to account.*" --**Thomas Jefferson to A. Coray, 1823. ME 15:486**

★★★

Devvy Kidd authored the booklets, *Why A Bankrupt America* and *Blind Loyalty*; 2 million copies distributed. Devvy appears on radio shows all over the country. She left the Republican Party in 1996 and has been an independent voter ever since. Devvy is a constitutionalist who believes in the supreme law of the land, not some political party. Visit Devvy's website at: <http://www.devvy.com>. You can also sign up for her free email alerts. Devvy's radio show broadcasts Mon-Friday; for details go to Devvy's site <http://www.renseradio.com/listenlive.htm>

★★★



Career Politicians - All together these “representatives” have been in power for 205 years!



By Lou Ann Anderson
estateofdenial.com

Probate court isn't viewed as a common locale for the fight of a lifetime, but the conservatorship (also known as guardianship) imposed on Nashville musician Danny Tate by Davidson County Probate Judge Randy Kennedy is becoming a prominent example of the power wielded by these often quiet and seemingly unobtrusive legal venues.

In October 2007, David Tate went before Judge Kennedy claiming his brother Danny's crack addiction had reached a life-threatening point. Danny Tate's history of dependence also included an 18-year run of sobriety. Signing a power of attorney so his brother could pay bills while Tate was in rehab was a step intended to help return the musician to that more productive life course. Never did he dream that this power, along with his financial resources, would be used to institute a conservatorship effectively removing his civil and property rights.

Nashville Scene published Court-Ordered Hell - how an errant judge and a controlling sibling stripped Nashville rocker Danny Tate of his money, his livelihood and his legal right that described the hijacking of Danny Tate's life as follows:

"How this hearing actually came about, though, is a mystery. There was no motion to set a hearing, according to court records. No process served to Tate. No police reports demanding urgent action. No one seemed to know anything about it except for Tate's brother and his attorney, Paul Housch.

And yet Judge Kennedy — with no evidence before him but David Tate's say-so, and with no notice or due process given to Tate himself so that he might contest the petition — allowed David to freeze Tate's assets in an ex parte "emergency" hearing, filings indicate. In the rap of a gavel, the ruling

effectively removed every citizen's right Tate previously enjoyed.

Tate had no idea that the power of attorney he'd signed that summer to give David the ability to pay his bills while he was in rehab had already been used against him. Only days before the hearing, David used it to pay Housch a \$25,000 retainer, which the attorney would earn stripping Tate's rights.

A few weeks later, with only 12 days' notice of the follow-up hearing and no ability to write a check to hire his own attorney, Tate showed up to court with a neighbor who had no experience in this area of law simply to plead for a continuance pro bono. Neither Tate nor his neighbor was provided with any of the

evidence upon which his disability was to be determined that day. They weren't even given a report submitted a few days before the hearing by the chief witness — a child psychiatrist without any certification in addiction medicine, who nevertheless labeled Tate disabled. Only after the hearing, once his fate was set in stone and the conservatorship was in place, was an attorney of Kennedy's choosing appointed to counsel Tate.

The Probate Court walked through a gaping hole in Tennessee conservatorship law that shreds constitutionally guaranteed due process rights. Under these circumstances, Tate's attorney Michael Hoskins figures that just about any local musician with assets and a drug problem could conceivably be stripped of his autonomy based on nothing more than hearsay."

While musicians may be appealing targets, this case exemplifies a power that resides in probate courts throughout this country. A power that when misapplied with minimal standards of evidence and accountability puts at risk anyone in America. Conservatorships aren't on people's radar, but when they are, this

legal status is often associated with minors, the elderly or the disabled. Not understood by the general public is the dangerous fuzziness that comes into play when judges employ broad latitude to define "incapacitation" of anyone at any age. Not

only can it open lucrative conservatorship doors, but it can set the scene for a life-altering cancellation of personal freedom and an Involuntary Redistribution of Assets (IRA).

Danny Tate's future is still to be determined. More than two years of Tennessee court-sanctioned personnel acting in Tate's "best interest" has reduced his original assets of \$600,000+ to a still-diminishing \$175,000. Other real estate is also at risk. One significant expenditure of Danny Tate's estate has been attorney Paul T. Housch's compensation for representing David Tate as his brother's Temporary Conservator. Housch has advocated continuing the conservatorship while Danny Tate has fought for release. Only in recent days did Judge Randy Kennedy grant a motion for Danny Tate's chosen lawyer, Michael Hoskins, to additionally be paid out of the musician's own funds.

Probate actions often occur quietly and with little fanfare, but not so these days with Danny Tate's case. A Free Danny Tate web site along with a Friends for Danny Tate's Defense Facebook group is bringing specific attention to Tate's case and general awareness to the power of probate courts. The Facebook group is only weeks old, but has a membership of nearly 3,000 and is growing daily. Danny's friend Kevin Montgomery started the group and posted this after the recent hearing:

"I just got off the phone with Danny. I'm so fired up I can hardly put it into words. We had a little victory in court today. Danny's attorney was finally awarded his fees! Word is that it was a different Judge Kennedy, and a different Paul Housch in the courtroom today! 10 people showed up with "Free Danny Tate" t-shirts (with less than 24 hours notice), and everyone in the courtroom was very aware of their presence. Unfortunately, he wasn't let out of the conservatorship, but this is a minor battle that we won with the brilliance of his attorney, Danny's courage in walking into that court, and the 10 people that showed up to scrutinize the court in a public fashion."

An Awareness Concert is scheduled in upcoming weeks as also is another hearing.

In a letter, Paul Housch wrote "Mr. David Tate saved his brother John Daniel Tate's life at the time of the filing of the Conservatorship approximately two years ago. I am happy to report that Mr. John Daniel Tate is still alive due to his brother's efforts in saving his life at a critical time in Mr. John Daniel Tate's life."

Opinions will differ as to the nature and degree of "salvation" perpetrated, but Danny Tate won't likely dispute the permanent, enduring influence that his brother along with attorney Paul Housch and Judge Randy Kennedy have had on his life. Neither will a growing number of people who, as they learn more about this case, increasingly call out to Free Danny Tate!!!

★★★

Continued from page 1 • Hart v Hart

beginning to take shape. According to Anna Hart's legal counsel, he is currently in the process of filing a motion to remove Tommy Hart Jr. as Trustee for the Hart Trust. This is something that Thomas Hart Sr. had already done before his untimely death in June of 2009, however like most of his last wishes this has been ignored or better yet, skirted.

Thomas Hart Sr. left clear instructions that his Trust was to pay off his and Anna's home and related bills upon his death and that she was to receive the sum of \$400,000.00. Anna has been making her own monthly house payments and other related bills and she hasn't received the money due her from the Hart Trust. Her attorney is preparing motions on these issues.

Mrs. Hart's attorney Foster Glass has also stated that he intends to have the Elder Abuse lawsuit filed by Thomas Hart Sr. prior to his death, against Tommy Hart Jr. and others filed.

The issue of a Contempt of Court order against Mrs. Hart will be addressed at a hearing scheduled for June 25, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at the Josephine County Courthouse, wherein she was ordered to give an accounting for some stock that she sold that was in her name at the time of Hart Sr.'s death. Glass stated to the reporter, "As a matter of law, this was Anna's money, not belonging to the Trust." This hearing should be a real eye opener for those planning to attend.

At an earlier hearing Anna's former attorney Ed Talmadge, agreed to hand over her stock to the Trust so they could pay her bills with it, telling her that she had no choice. Anna, who was in no condition to make any agreements at the time, reportedly told Talmadge after the court hearing, not to sign any agreement

forcing her to turn over stock that was hers. Anna has since used this stock money to support herself and to pay the bills that the Trust had been instructed to pay. It appears that Anna was given bad advice by Talmadge, however this is the issue to be dealt with on June 25th.

Look for the "much more in-depth information" regarding the continuing Hart Estate Case in our next edition, as the "wheels of justice" are turning very, very slowly right now...

Correction

In our last edition we published, "Ashland Attorney Gary Turner curiously withdrew the elder abuse suit." This is the elder abuse lawsuit that Thomas Hart Sr. filed against his children. We should clarify that it was reported to us that Turner dismissed the suit that he filed against Tommy Hart Jr. and others and that report made sense, because we couldn't imagine any other scenario. Attorney Gary Turner has informed us that he did not dismiss the elder abuse suit that he filed for Thomas Hart Sr. We have checked the record and find that he didn't dismiss the suit, he reportedly turned the case over to the attorneys representing the very person that he had sued for elder abuse – Tommy Hart Jr. Tommy Hart Jr. subsequently dismissed the suit that had been filed against himself by his own father. Does this make any sense at all? Only if you understand how our broken legal system operates.

Attorney Gary Turner also asked us to correct the statement that he had failed to return our phone call to his office. We made the phone call, a female answered the phone and she informed us that she would give the message to Attorney Gary Turner... ★★★

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KEEPING THE PUBLIC INFORMED

FTC to “Reinvent” Journalism

By Ed Morrissey

The nation needs a strong, independent press, the FTC argues, and so they want to find ways for government to “reinvent” journalism. If that sounds vaguely Orwellian to you, the actual language in the Federal Trade Commission’s discussion-points memo should have hairs standing on the backs of necks across the nation. It shows a wildly laughable rationale for government intervention that would prop up the failing newspaper model in a manner that would put the entire industry at the mercy of the federal bureaucracy it’s supposed to keep in check.

The paper notes “experimentation” of media outlets on the Internet, a rather strange term considering that most media outlets have used the Internet for years. Major newspapers have been on line for well over a decade. After framing that as “experimentation,” the FTC then argues that it won’t work. Not only that, it then offers a very strange definition of “subsidy” in order to provide cover for a government intervention:

There are reasons for concern that experimentation may not produce a robust and sustainable business model for commercial journalism. History in the United States shows that readers of the news have never paid anywhere close to the full cost of providing the news. Rather, journalism always has been subsidized to a large extent by, for example, the federal government, political parties, or advertising.

Huh? Advertising isn’t a subsidy for newspapers, any more than it is a subsidy for television or radio stations, magazines of all kinds, and so on. It’s an exchange of services for mutual benefit. Advertisers promote their products and services by presenting them to the readership of a newspaper / website / broadcast station, paying the owners of that medium for the freight. It’s akin to calling shipping costs a subsidy to FedEx or UPS for the vital interest of having trucks on highways. It’s the kind of faulty anthropology an alien might make if they didn’t understand the purposes of various human activities.

Andrew Malcolm can’t believe his eyes:
True, there have been government subsidies over the decades in the form of below-cost postal rates and printing contracts. But this FTC study is rated R for anyone who thinks the federal government, the object of copious news coverage itself, has no business deciding which sectors of the private media business survive and thrive through its support, subsidies and encouragement with things like tax incentives.

Yet that’s what this Obama administration paper is suggesting as another of the ex-community organizer’s galactic reform plans.

Cut-rate postal services and federal printing contracts hardly amount to subsidizing the newspaper industry to a “large extent” or any extent. Most newspapers don’t get mailed, first and foremost; they get delivered by employees. Federal printing contracts should be competitively assigned anyway, and newspapers usually have an economy of scale that makes the award of those contract sensible. Just as with advertising, that’s a rational business decision, not some kind of subsidy or gift. Both sides get goods and/or services in a fair exchange, whereas with subsidies, one side gets compensation while the other does not.

The next two paragraphs are just as Orwellian:

Economics provides insight into why this has been the case. The news is a “public good” in economic terms. That is, it is non-rivalrous (one person’s consumption of the news does not preclude another person’s consumption of the same news) and non-excludable (once the news producer supplies anyone, it cannot



exclude anyone). Because free riding is usually easy in these circumstances, it is often difficult to ensure that producers of public goods are appropriately compensated.

In addition, the news can produce benefits that spread much beyond their readers. For example, investigative reporting that results in a staff shakeup in a local hospital can produce better health care for patients in the future, but the news organization that produced that story will

receive, at best, limited compensation (perhaps through increased readership) related to having spurred those benefits.

Declaring news a “public good” is nothing more than a rhetorical cover for demanding government oversight of it. “Free riding” is apparently defined as linking to and quoting news from a media source. This is an absurd issue for federal intervention, as a remedy for those media outlets is readily available: membership-only access. It also discounts the fact that the eeeeeeeevil aggregators, including yours truly, direct traffic to those sites through links, arguably boosting the bottom lines of the media outlets, especially since readers are usually inclined to double-check the assumptions made by the aggregators. There is a reason that newspapers send out tip e-mails on a daily basis to bloggers, and it’s not because they are unhappy about bloggers “free-riding” their output.

Beyond that, the FTC apparently also wants to set a standard of what is “appropriate” compensation. Who’s to say what is appropriate? Shouldn’t the market determine the compensation? Does the government fix prices on computers, televisions, and radios, by which consumers access other news media? This looks like an ... attempt to turn back the clock to 1993 in terms of the voice that news consumers have in news delivery.

Mark Tapscott warns that a government reinvention of journalism will mean a journalism much less likely to be independent:

[W]hat they cannot deny is what is clearly written in the FTC document and what it reveals about the intention behind the initiative, which is to transform the news industry from an information product collected by private individuals and entrepreneurs as a service to private buyers, to a government-regulated public utility providing a “public good,” as defined and regulated by government.

The authors hide this dangerous intention behind carefully worded expressions of concern for preserving “quality journalism” and “addressing emerging gaps in reporting,” and they rationalize their proposed approach of massive government intervention in the news process as simply an extension of what government has always done via postal subsidies, tax breaks, and so forth. ...

Better to explain yet again that the original intention of the Founders with respect to the media – “Congress shall make no law respecting ... the freedom of the press” – is the key to saving independent journalism.

Then we must remind them that the adversarial relationship that is supposed to exist between journalists and public officials must apply no matter who those public officials might be or what political party or ideological school of thought they represent.

Elected officials’ first thought is always about re-election, while career government workers’ is job security. A journalist’s first thought is supposed to be getting the facts.

To that end, we’re supposed to be adversaries, not co-conspirators, partners, favored “stakeholders,” or beneficiaries. That’s why the Constitution made us independent.

This is not a document meant to salvage an independent press. It’s a road map for government control over the news. ★★★

Obama Would’ve Prosecuted Chicago Man Who Defended Himself With Handgun

BELLEVUE, WA – An 80-year-old Chicago man who defended himself and his family from a neighborhood thug this week could be criminally prosecuted, if Barack Obama had prevailed in a 2004 Illinois State Legislature vote on a measure to protect citizens who use handguns in self-defense even when their communities ban handguns.

“As an Illinois State Senator, Barack Obama voted not once, but twice in opposition to Senate Bill 2165,” recalled Alan Gottlieb,



Chicago Mayor Daley and Barack Obama

chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms.

The so-called “Hale DeMar Act” – named for a Wilmette, IL resident who shot a burglar with a handgun, a violation of Wilmette’s handgun ban – was passed in March 2004 on a 38-20 vote. Obama was one of the senators voting against the measure. After disgraced former Gov. Rod Blagojevich vetoed the bill, the Senate voted to override the veto on Nov. 9 by a vote of 40-18. Again, Obama was one of the opponents.

“That measure is now law,” Gottlieb noted,

“and it should protect a courageous Chicago resident from being victimized twice, once by the man who tried to kill him and then by the Daley administration, that wants to keep him and other law-abiding citizens disarmed. If Obama had had his way in 2004, Wednesday morning’s hero would be today’s criminal.

“The elderly gentleman used his handgun only after Anthony ‘Big Ant’ Nelson fired at him and his wife through their bedroom window,” he continued. “Being a convicted felon, Mr. Nelson had no business carrying a handgun, especially in the commission of an attempted home invasion. But of course, the Chicago handgun ban didn’t stop him. An armed citizen did that.

“President Obama may claim to support the Second Amendment, but his actions tell a different tale,” Gottlieb stated. “In March 2008, he told a Pittsburgh newspaper

that he opposes concealed carry. In addition to his anti-gun-rights voting record, as a state senate candidate, he supported banning handguns. These are not the actions of someone who believes in the right to keep and bear arms.

“A Chicago resident is alive today,” he concluded, “not because of Obama’s 2004 vote, but in spite of it. His story is a text book example for striking down Chicago’s ban and restoring to its residents the ability to fight back.”

★★★

Continued from page 1 • Deschutes DA Michael Dugan Voted-Out

The US~Observer has publicly exposed Dugan for his false, stacked charges and his opponent Patrick Flaherty held him accountable in the only open debate between the two candidates prior to the May 18 election. Flaherty stated that Dugan has brought politics into the DA’s office, was more concerned with prosecuting than serving justice and many other nail-on-the-head accusations. Dugan supported his wife in her race for public office as well as ballot measures 66 and 67 which passed earlier this year, all things that fellow democrat and opponent Flaherty stated; “there is no place for in the DA’s office.”

Dugan’s baggage doesn’t just stop there. Dugan had a problem with sexual harassment within his office in which a reported \$125,000.00 in tax-payers’ money was awarded to one female prosecutor. The records, which were released by the Department of Justice after a public records request, included the resignation letter from former deputy district attorney Mary Jo Mongan, the employee who reportedly received the six-figure settlement. Upon talking to Mary Jo, she had little comment, but made it clear that she had received a settlement. Deputy DA Jody Vaughan who has been aiding Dugan with false prosecutions for years, was the head of the misdemeanor team at the DA’s office where Mongan worked. It is reported that Jody Vaughan is no longer the head of the misdemeanor team. It is also reported that at least four other female prosecutors who were part of the misdemeanor team at that time resigned as well. This unusual mass exodus from the prosecutor’s office is common knowledge among the legal community in central Oregon, but it was seemingly a mute topic for the media even in the midst of the recent political campaign.

One prime example of Dugan falsely prosecuting an innocent man is in a letter

written to District Attorney Michael Dugan during the recent Kevin Driscoll trial, our paper asked Dugan to explain how his office could prosecute Driscoll when so much evidence existed that proved his innocence. Dugan clearly deceived and blatantly lied to the US~Observer in his response letter, wherein he stated “he was unaware of the evidence in the case his office was prosecuting” and had asked us to provide our discovery so that he could address the issue. During a conversation with a reliable source, we were told that Dugan’s assistant Jody Vaughan had stated that Michael Dugan was well informed of the evidence his office had, and wanted to know what we had to help his office prepare for the upcoming trial. The trial has since ended and Kevin Driscoll is a free man, but his reputation has been permanently damaged. It is now up to Flaherty to do what’s right when deciding to prosecute from here on out.

Being a district attorney comes with great reward and great skepticism. Patrick Flaherty has already proven himself numerous times. He has not only called out Dugan on his abuse and wrongful use of his position, he has also taken a tough stance on leaving politics out of the DA’s office and investigating cases more thoroughly before deciding to press charges. The US~Observer and the people of Deschutes County are optimistic that this change in office is not only for the good of the taxpayer, but for the overall good of Deschutes County residents. Only time can tell if Flaherty holds true to his word.

Editor’s Note: An excellent bit of advice for Mr. Flaherty would be; get rid of prosecutor Jody Vaughan. In the US~Observer’s highly qualified opinion, Jody Vaughan is an evil and dangerous human being. She factually attempts to falsely prosecute innocent citizens and she is a danger to all who reside in Deschutes County. ★★★

Continued from page 1 • State Sanctioned Elder Abuse?

these medical conditions? That is what Governor Jim Doyle and his staff have failed to answer.

Pass the Buck Politics

Since my initial investigation which began in November of 2009, I have learned that Governor Doyle himself has ignored these serious allegations, making him just as responsible as the people directly involved. I have contacted the Ombudsman of Wisconsin and was put into contact with Amy and Heather who could only state that there was a complaint filed and nothing was found to warrant any further investigation.

Next was contacting the facility directly and with no returned phone calls, one would have to assume that Trempealeau County HCC has something to hide. Next, I contacted the Governor’s office directly and was put in contact with Communications Director for the Department of Health Services, Mr. Seth Bofelli. I addressed the issue that Shigeko needed to have an independent medical exam by a doctor other than one on the states payroll, which would make sense given the allegations

and Seth agreed, but didn’t know what that procedure is, and had to get back to me. When Seth called back the following week, he stated that there was already an investigation regarding this issue in 2007 and he had filed another complaint and this would be looked into again. Even though this wasn’t getting a second medical exam, I had no choice but to think we were headed in the right direction. During our next phone conversation, which was weeks later, Seth stated that the facility was investigated and there was nothing found to warrant any further investigation. I asked Seth what the investigation consisted of and his response was “staff was interviewed and records were reviewed”. I then asked him about the second medical exam and he stated that Shigeko’s legal guardian could request one. I informed him that would be a conflict of interest because Shigeko’s guardian was court appointed and is also reportedly one who aided in the efforts to get her locked up. On April 6, 2010 I was told by Seth that he would find out what needs to happen for Shigeko to receive a second medical exam. As of June 1, 2010, Seth has failed to call.

Without help from Seth Bofelli, which is a

blatant neglect of his obligations and a poor reflection upon Governor Doyle whom he represents, I was forced to call the Secretary for the Department of Health Services, Karen Timberlake. I left a message for her secretary Stephanie Smiley and had a returned phone call that same day. Upon explaining the situation, Stephanie stated she would like to have an answer for me by the following Monday. The following Wednesday, the 26th of June, I received an email from Stephanie. Attached was a Chapter 55 application for “Adults-At-Risk Related Services”. Upon reading the application, I found that the sole responsibility for getting another medical exam was the duty of the court appointed legal guardian.

Over 6 months and no direct answers, this was just more of the same run around from Governor Doyle’s staff. There was also an option for a Guardian Ad Litem to conduct an investigation into these allegations, but that would be a conflict of interest as well because the ad litem guardian has to come from staff of an agency that is part of the APS (Adult Protective Services) or contracted with the APS system or, get this; from a person of the

placement facility. When talking to Stephanie, she was unable to give me an answer and said that what I was requesting was out of the realm of her department and that I needed to contact the courts for further direction.

Governor Doyle’s Neglect

After talking to many people, without anything accomplished other than realizing that there is a pass the buck policy within Doyle’s office, we decided to contact Governor Doyle himself. A phone message was left with his secretary and he hasn’t returned our call to date. Is this the type of staff or Governor that Wisconsin voted for? Whether Shigeko is a prisoner of the system or not, these people have all aided in keeping her locked up. One thing is certain; there is no known system or state employee in Wisconsin willing to help Shigeko get an independent medical exam, which is a direct example of Governor Jim Doyle supporting elder abuse.

If you have any information regarding Jim Doyle, Trempealeau County HCC or anyone involved, please contact the US Observer at 541-474-7885. ★★★

From Safe Republic to Unsafe Empire

By Bruce Fein

It is the best of times for the American Empire. The United States bestrides the planet as an unrivalled colossus.

Its annual military budget exceeds \$650 billion. That staggering sum is greater than the annual military expenditures of the next 25 countries combined. The defense spending of Russia, the superpower opponent of the United States during the Cold War, is now one-twelfth of the Pentagon's. Russia's military is struggling against Islamic forces in Chechnya, Dagestan, and Ingushetia. Its assertiveness in South Ossetia and Abkhazia are unthreatening to the national security of the United States. Sen. John McCain's patently absurd exhortation that "we are all Georgians now" during the 2008 presidential campaign, joined in lower octaves by competing politicians, reflected an Empire philosophy in full blossom -- inflate danger to frighten the people to justify a global military footprint, control for the sake of control, and ubiquitous encroachments on civil liberties. James Madison, an icon of the American Republic, had warned, "The means of defense against foreign danger historically have become the instruments of tyranny at home."

The American Empire sports a military presence in 135 countries, which host more than 400,000 U.S. troops. Tens of thousands of U.S. military personnel are abroad to defend the people and interests of South Korea, Japan, Western Europe, Saudi Arabia, et cetera. They are risking that "last full measure of devotion" not to "secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity," but to protect foreigners against attack, foreigners who pay no American taxes and have no allegiance to America.

Nothing is too insignificant to attract U.S. military attention and concern: puny conflicts between Russia and Ukraine over gas prices or Sevastopol; the Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda; mass killings in Darfur; the fate of Kosovar Albanians in Serbia or the Karen in Myanmar; a handful of juvenile al-Qaeda followers in Mali or Mauretania; Maoist terrorism in Nepal; or a refugee crisis in Bangladesh that could be occasioned by global warming -- a newly designated national-security threat.

The Empire seeks to control events everywhere on the planet. The idea of neutrality or disinterestedness -- the leitmotif of President George Washington's Farewell Address -- has been retired from public discourse. Washington issued a neutrality proclamation in 1794 when Great Britain and France were at war. The United States remained scrupulously neutral when Central and South America were in upheaval against Spain and Portugal for two decades from 1809 to 1829.

In contrast, presidents of the contemporary American Empire concoct national-security interests from trifles as light as air to justify U.S. intervention. The United States transfers arms to the r a m s h a c k l e a n d monumentally corrupt government of Somalia fighting for survival against bandits and Islamic extremists. It frets over a border dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia. It worries over the national-security implications of global warming and AIDS. The vast majority of American citizens-- whether Democratic, Republican, or Independent -- instinctively assume that the United States should project itself into every nook and cranny of the globe because of its moral superiority and putative aptitude for plucking democracy from despotism.

The American Empire is committed to defend from military attack all 28 members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Albania, and Croatia. If Russia, today, were to invade Hungary as in 1956, or the Czech and Slovak republics as in 1968, the United States would be at war to fight and die for Hungarians, Czechs, and Slovaks. The United States has corresponding defense obligations to South Korea and Japan. It is the policeman of the world.

The Empire is at perpetual war with international terrorism. The entire globe (including the United States) is a battlefield where military force may be employed and military law may be imposed against any al-Qaeda suspect, including American citizens. Military commissions that combine judge, jury, and prosecutor and that take shortcuts through due process are authorized to try detainees accused of novel war crimes, for example, conspiring to train in a terrorist camp or serving as Osama bin Laden's driver.

Enemy combatants, i.e., persons "associated" in any way with al-Qaeda, may be detained indefinitely without accusation or trial. When required to defend its enemy-combatant designations in federal courts, the

president loses in the overwhelming number of the cases. The Congress of the United States prohibits Guantánamo Bay inmates from being transferred to U.S. soil on the assumption that all are guilty of terrorism even if they have been exonerated. (A temporary provision has been made for transfers for criminal prosecution.)

The detentions of noncitizens who have been



illegally detained for long years are regularly continued because the United States refuses to grant them asylum even if they -- like China's persecuted Uighurs -- have well-founded fears of persecution, torture, or death if returned to their native countries. The United States no longer welcomes the tired, poor, huddled masses yearning to be free as immigrants. The Statue of Liberty's spirit is honored more in the breach than in the observance.

Detainees may be held completely outside the legal system at Bagram prison in Afghanistan -- a first cousin of the Soviet Union's Gulag Archipeligo limned by Alexander Solzhenitzen.

SECRECY

The state-secrets privilege is invoked by the president to protect executive-branch officials from liability for flagrant violations of constitutional rights, for example, torture, kidnapping, and illegal surveillance. Justice has capitulated to a national-security psychosis.

Secret government is the rule and transparency the exception. The people do not know what the executive branch is doing or why in national-security affairs. They knew nothing of U.S. torture of al-Qaeda suspects or Abu Ghraib interrogation abuses until there were leaks to the media. Ditto for the illegal Terrorist Surveillance Program that flouted the criminal prohibitions of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. President Barack Obama is withholding from the public the photographs of U.S. interrogation abuses of detainees sought in a Freedom of Information Act suit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The president worries that revealing the wrongdoing might awaken anger against the U.S. military abroad and compel prosecutions of the criminal abusers, as in the My Lai massacre. "Trust me" is the creed of the president and his subordinates.

Even in domestic affairs, the multitrillion dollar financial transactions of the Federal Reserve Board are secret; and the United States does not require transparency in the private use of multi-billion dollar bail-out monies to private businesses under the Troubled Asset Relief Program. The American Empire's massive secrecy shields public officials from political or legal accountability to its citizen-subjects.

The few members of Congress who are skeletally informed about national-security secrets meekly accept executive-branch edicts to remain silent. By cowardly inactivity or passivity, members become complicit in crimes such as torture or illegal interceptions and retentions of phone conversations or emails that have been shared with them by the National Security Agency or Central Intelligence Agency.

The president asserts executive privilege to prevent his advisors from appearing under subpoena to testify before Congress without provoking congressional retaliation. When former White House counsel John Dean recited chapter and verse of conversations with Richard Nixon in the Oval Office to the Senate Watergate Committee, his testimony was pivotal in uncovering Watergate crimes and repudiating the idea that if the president does it, it is legal.

The president approves bills passed by Congress, but appends signing statements stating his intent to ignore provisions that would confine his discretion in national-security or foreign-policy matters -- for instance, placing U.S. troops under UN command or meeting with nations designated as state sponsors of terrorism. The signing statements are tantamount to absolute line-item vetoes, which the Supreme Court held were unconstitutional in Clinton v. New York. They arrogate power over the legislative process to the executive branch by preventing Congress from bundling into one bill provisions the president likes and provisions he dislikes and confronting him with the Hobson's choice of either taking the good with

the bad or taking nothing. In addition, Congress cannot override a signing statement by two-thirds majorities in the House and Senate.

THE COSTS OF WAR

The president enjoys counter-constitutional power to initiate preemptive wars unilaterally to abort pre-embryonic foreign dangers to the United States or its allies. Congress, manifestly intended by the Constitution's makers to decide on war or peace, routinely funds and endorses by inaction whatever the president ordains. Even presidential lies to obtain congressional authorization for war are accepted with equanimity or droopy resignation by senators and representatives. A bill -- the Executive Accountability Act of 2009, which would criminalize intentional presidential lies to Congress or the American people to obtain authorization for war -- is greeted

largely with congressional yawns and popular indifference.

The United States is at war in Iraq and Afghanistan, deploying hundreds of thousands of troops in utopian quests to transform primitive political despotisms into thriving democracies at supersonic speeds. Thousands of American soldiers have been killed and tens of thousands have been wounded while making the United States less safe by killing innocent civilians and squandering vast resources through military spending.

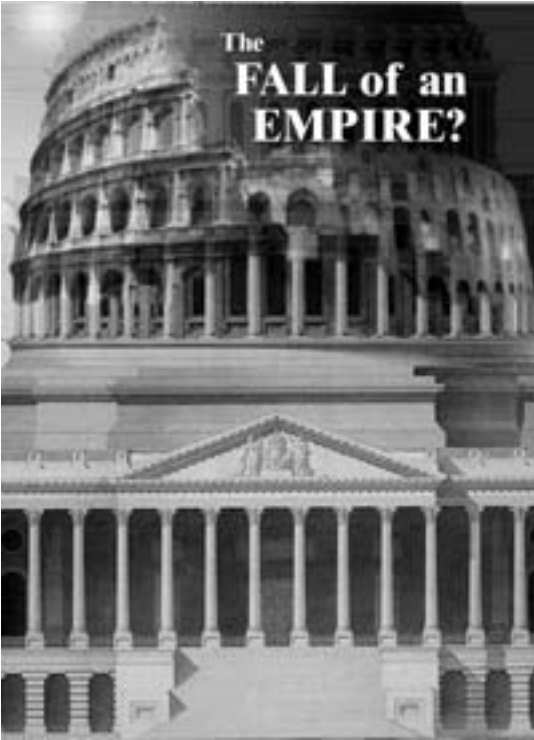
The war in Iraq was initiated by George Bush through an unconstitutional delegation of authority from Congress. George Washington, who presided over the Constitutional Convention of 1787, lectured, "The constitution vests the power of declaring war in Congress; therefore no offensive expedition of importance can be undertaken until after they shall have deliberated upon the subject and authorized such a measure." He was echoed by the father of the Constitution, James Madison, who, as president, asked Congress for a declaration of war against Great Britain in 1812. But the Constitution's text and original intent are impotent against the prevailing orthodoxies of the American Empire, in which overwhelming authority is concentrated in the president because constant war for the sake of control is the Empire's chief mission.

The Founding Fathers correctly feared that the president would gratuitously initiate war, because military conflict confers on the commander in chief patriotic or jingoistic public support, secrecy, money, appointments, and the tempting opportunity to transform the world.

As in Iraq, in Afghanistan the United States is supporting a hopelessly corrupt, inept, and unpopular regime. The administration of

Hamid Karzai has recently stolen an election with a cast of thugs, thieves, and murderous tribal chiefs opposed to the destruction of opium poppies but in favor of a law reducing wives to chattels, including a requirement of spousal permission to leave the house. In neither country is the president able to define military success or progress beyond Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart's definition of hard-core pornography: "I know it when I see it." To paraphrase philosopher George Santayana, a fanatical nation redoubles its efforts when it has forgotten its aim. Thus, Obama escalates the U.S. military presence in Afghanistan and corresponding funding of civilian programs as his special envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan, Richard Holbrooke, confesses he is clueless about whether either initiative could plausibly be successful. As with the Vietnam debacle, U.S. failures in Afghanistan engender more of the same flawed strategy, the identical folly pursued by the British and Soviet Empires in that barren and desolate land.

Hundreds of billions of dollars are readily appropriated by Congress and approved by the American people for the Iraq and Afghan wars. Nothing is too expensive when national security is mentioned. U.S. killings of Afghan and Iraqi civilians and interrogation crimes, including torture, at Abu Ghraib, Guantánamo Bay, Bagram prison, and secret dungeons in Central and Eastern Europe, have created an indeterminate number of new enemies. The hundreds of billions of dollars spent in Iraq and Afghanistan hunting for al-Qaeda in remote caves and mountains have largely been wasted. But a prime earmark of Empire is to brand as unpatriotic any criticism of actions taken in the name of national security. When the Empire began its baby steps from a republic in the Mexican-American War, President James K. Polk branded as traitors all who questioned his counterfactual claim that Mexico initiated the conflict by killing



American soldiers on American soil.

The American Empire is assumed without debate by Congress and the American people to be the right course for the United States. It is no more subject to mainstream dispute than the heliocentric theory of the universe. Congressmen Ron Paul (R-Tex.) and Walter

Jones (R-N.C.) are the rare members of Congress who recognize and protest the Empire's profanation of the nation's charter documents and signature creed. Thomas Jefferson's first inaugural address is emblematic: "peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with

none."

THE LOSS OF THE REPUBLIC

It is the worst of times for the American Republic. The American Republic celebrated the idea that the purpose of government was to secure unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That idea has succumbed to the belief that the mission of the United States is to control and dominate the world through military and economic might at the expense of individual rights, checks and balances, limited government, and transparency at home.

The lion's share of power was once entrusted to Congress -- the branch closest to the people, most readily accountable to constituents, and least inclined towards war. The power of the purse, strict oversight of the executive branch, and the exclusive power to initiate war made Congress the most powerful branch. During the Nixon administration, Congress wielded the power of the purse to end the bombing of Cambodia and to prohibit U.S. ground troops in Thailand. That legislation was followed by the so-called Church Committee hearings, which disclosed massive civil-liberties abuses during 40 years of unchecked spying by the FBI, CIA, and NSA.

But Congress has now been reduced to a political cipher. It appropriates whatever money the president seeks for war or for economic "stimulus." It holds no serious oversight hearings on the conduct of war by the president; interrogation abuses; criminal violations of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act; or the distribution of enormous bailout sums to financially reckless or irresponsible banks

or other businesses, or the efficacy of it.

The Republic understood that the informing function of Congress was its most important. Freedom and ignorance are incompatible. Voters must be informed of what the government is doing to inform their political loyalties and activities. As the historian Henry Steele Commager put it in 1972, "The generation that made the nation thought secrecy in government one of the instruments of Old World tyranny and committed itself to the principle that a democracy cannot function unless the people are permitted to know what their government is up to."

There is only one thing that will restore the safe Republic from the unsafe clutches of the American Empire: an unequivocal repudiation by the American people of a risk-free existence and a quest to dominate foreign lands not through example but by military force or threats.

Bruce Fein is the author of Constitutional Peril: The Life and Death Struggle for Our Constitution and Democracy. He served on the American Bar Association's Task Force on Presidential Signing Statements. He founded the American Freedom Agenda, an organization of conservatives to restore checks and balances and safeguards against government abuses. He served as Ronald Reagan's associate deputy attorney general and general counsel of the Federal Communications Commission; and was appointed counsel to Republicans on the Joint Congressional Committee on Covert Arms Sales to Iran. ★★



COMMENTARY

Your Right to Speak Out

Can We Save the Economic Climate?



By Eric Coltrane

For the last eight months instead of writing articles every month about something that has not been dealt with effectively by any national sovereign, I have been searching for the answers to my own personal inquiries on the world economic situation. Questions that I'm sure many of us would like to know the answers to. Most of the time I could only venture an educated guess. But, interestingly enough, I also found some answers that were truly inspirational.

At first I wanted to know how to solve this mess we are in. It is incredible how many remedies there are out there. We can raise taxes, or we can lower taxes. We can borrow till our ears turn purple, or we can cut spending until we have only a Constable, Mayor, and a councilor or two. We could print money and expand the money supply. We could contract the money supply. We should raise interest rates, on the other hand we should lower them. Congress can regulate Wallstreet, or Congress can just let the Banksters do as they please. We can elect this Uber-politician from the “Right” or this Savior from the “Left”. What I found and what I believe now to be true is that we

have gone too far. There is no “saving” the present system as we know it.

The real problem that I see is that we have squandered our wealth. It's not really our fault and at the same time it is our fault. We allowed ourselves to be conned into thinking we could have it all right now. This didn't happen overnight. It came about very slowly and furtively. Many believe it was instigated by some elite group of powerful people. They are probably correct, but I don't think it was a premeditated act to take over the world. I think they just wanted to maintain the power they had and perhaps still have. Only now it may have occurred to them that they desire to take over the world. Who really knows, it is too late anyway. Existing resources are finite and dwindling fast. All Cultural orders are making a power grab for them to preserve their way of life. In my humble opinion, this will progress into a very dangerous state of affairs.

Now my question is how long this system will last? What kind of nightmares will we be subjected to? Many may ask now why I think it will be dreadful? Well ask yourself this question. What will it be like when you can't find groceries on the super market shelves? What will it be like when you wait hours in line for 10 gallons of gasoline when you desperately needed 50 gallons, or 25 gallons? What if 10 gallons also cost \$150.00? We will



see these things happen. I think we will see them happen much sooner than countless “experts” disclose. We are seeing a precursor of what I am talking about in the Gulf of Mexico as I write this. The cheap easy Oil is a thing of the past. As we are witnessing in the Gulf, the cost of drilling a well in deep water can be very expensive in more ways than one. Some say there are over a trillion barrels of oil left and more to be discovered and I agree, but at what price? Again ask yourself why we are drilling for oil there? Why aren't we drilling in the Bakken Formation? Do some research. That oil is not cheap or easy. We have grown exponentially using a cheap source of energy. Now it is running out and we cannot sustain that exponential growth.

So, what about renewable sources of energy? Like I said, we have squandered our wealth. Maybe if we started right now, and used every barrel of oil only for the sake of constructing an infrastructure for renewable energy, and rationed it out for personal use, maybe, just maybe we'd succeed. How many of us do you think will make that kind of sacrifice? Then you have to consider the resources it takes to construct an infrastructure of that nature. Not many people get a sense of what it requires to build that. I would say not many care, or if they do care the system is not conducive to change of that nature. Now I'm just preparing for the worst and hoping for the best. If you have any sense of what I'm telling you, you'll do the same. Then again, I could be totally wrong. ★

The Folly of Blindly Trusting the Government



By James Bovard

Democracy breeds gullibility. Lord Bryce observed in 1921, "State action became less distrusted the more the State itself was seen to be passing under popular control." The rise of democracy made it much easier for politicians to convince people that government posed no threat, because they automatically controlled its actions. The result is that the brakes on government power become weakest at the exact time that politicians are most dangerous.

Blind trust becomes a substitute for informed consent. But mass trust in government compounds the political damage brought about by pervasive ignorance.

The bias in favor of trusting government brings out democracy's worst tendencies. The normal defenses that people would have against alien authority are undermined by a chorus of politicians and government officials continually reminding people that government is themselves, and they cannot distrust the government without distrusting themselves.

How should people think about their rulers? This is a question that is rarely asked. Instead, it is preemptively squelched by myths pummeled into people's heads from a very early age.

Since it has not been possible to neuter political power, citizens' thinking on government has been neutered instead. Fear of government is portrayed as a relic of less civilized, unrefined times. There is a concerted effort to make distrusting the government intellectually unacceptable, a sign of bad taste or perhaps ill breeding, if not downright ignoble.

The central mystery of modern political life is: Why are people obliged to presume that politicians and government are more trustworthy than they seem? The question is not, Why do people distrust government? The question is, Why do people follow and applaud politicians who they recognize are lying to them? The mystery is not that politicians lie, but that citizens believe. It is not a question of giving rulers one benefit of the doubt -- but of giving such benefits day after day, year after year, ruler after ruler.

America is perhaps the first nation founded on distrust of government. Checks and balances were included in the Constitution because of the danger of vesting too much power in any one man or one branch of government. The Bill of Rights was erected as a permanent leash on the political class. As Rexford Tugwell, one of Franklin Roosevelt's Brain Trusters and an open admirer of Stalin's Soviet system, groused, "The Constitution was a negative document, meant mostly to protect citizens from their government."

The Founding Fathers issued warning after warning of the inherent danger of government power. John Adams wrote in 1772, "There is danger from all men. The only maxim of a free government ought to be to trust no man living with power to endanger the public liberty." Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1799, "Free government is founded in jealousy, not confidence.... In questions of power, let no more be heard of confidence in men, but bind

him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution." The term "politician" was in disrepute from 1776 onward (thanks to the antics of Congress during the Revolutionary War and the conniving of some of the state legislators after 1783).

Many of the initial curbs on federal power were maintained for most of the first century of this nation's history in part because Americans often had a derisive attitude toward government -- especially the federal government.

Wariness toward government was one of the most important bulwarks of American freedom. Representative government worked fairly well at times partly because people were skeptical of congressmen, presidents, and government officials across the board. However, beginning in the early 1900s and accelerating in the New Deal, government was placed on a pedestal.

TRUST AFTER FAILURE

Trust in government is sometimes demanded most vociferously after some horrendous government blunder or abuse. Such was the case in the aftermath of a deadly no-knock raid by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and an FBI tank-and-toxic-gas assault on the home of the Branch Davidians in Waco, Texas, in 1993, which ended with 80 dead men, women, and children. The Washington establishment almost instantly closed ranks around the federal government, canonizing Attorney General Janet Reno -- the person who had approved an FBI plan to destroy the Davidians' home to bring the siege to an end -- as a hero.

The precedents established by one political party are routinely exploited for totally different ends by their opponents. During the 1990s, liberals were in the vanguard, preaching the need to trust government. After 9/11, it was George W. Bush who exploited boundless trust to expand government power in ways that mortified many liberals. The Bush administration could exploit 9/11 because Americans were predisposed to see credulity and obedience as paramount virtues.

The number of Americans who trusted the federal government to do the right thing more than doubled in the weeks after the attack. By the end of September 2001, almost two-thirds of Americans said they "trust the government in Washington to do what is right" either "just about always" or "most of the time."

The foreign-policy response to 9/11 would have been far more targeted if scores of millions of Americans had not written George Bush a blank check in the form of automatic trust. The adulation and deference that he received in the immediate aftermath of 9/11 encouraged federal officials to believe that they could do practically whatever they pleased. Top administration officials were laying plans to attack Iraq within days after the Twin Towers collapsed, though there was no evidence linking Iraq to the attacks. Less than two weeks after 9/11, senior

Bush administration officials were already claiming that the attacks gave the U.S. government carte blanche to attack anywhere in the world. Deputy Assistant Attorney General John Yoo sent White House Counsel Alberto Gonzales a memo on September 25, 2001, suggesting that "an American attack in South America or Southeast Asia might be a surprise to the terrorists," since they were expecting the United States to target Afghanistan.

THE MOST COSTLY ENTITLEMENT

Blind trust in government is often portrayed as a harmless error -- as if it were of no more account than saying prayers to a pagan deity. However, the notion that rulers are entitled to trust is the most expensive entitlement program of them all. "Follow the leader" has often been a recipe for national suicide. Throughout history, people have tended to trust most governments more than rulers deserved.

Blind trust in government has resulted in far more carnage than distrust of government. The more trust, the less resistance. It was people who believed and who followed orders who carried out the Nazi Holocaust, the Ukrainian terror-famine, the Khmer Rouge blood bath, and the war crimes that characterize conflicts around the globe. It is not just a question of acquiescence but of breeding a docile attitude toward political events and government actions.

Docility is a far greater danger than blind fanaticism, at least in Western societies. It is mass docility that permits fanatics to seize power and wreak havoc. The more people there are who unconditionally trust the government, the more atrocities there are that the government can commit. All that the government needs to do afterward is to label and blame the victim.

Excessive trust in government breeds attention deficits. People assume they do not need to keep an eye on government and politicians because government is no threat to them -- because their government tells them so. Ignorance combined with blind trust produces citizens pliable for practically any purpose the ruler decrees.

When people blindly assume that their leaders are trustworthy, the biggest liars win. To believe their lies almost guarantees submission. To accept a false statement from

one's rulers is to submit to a lie -- to intellectually submit. And submission is habit-forming. Politicians do not need to promulgate a duty to submit because as long as people believe, most will submit to almost anything. After people lower their mental defenses, political perfidy is halfway home. If people are trained not to doubt -- politicians need only to continue lying and denying until all barricades that guard individual rights have been smashed, one by one.

Any politician who violates his oath to uphold the Constitution has proven himself unworthy of trust. What is the case for trusting someone who has proven himself untrustworthy? Should people be proud to trust politicians in a way that they would consider foolish regarding any other profession?

Much of the American public appears to separate the issues of trust and power -- as if a person's character is irrelevant to how much additional power he should be permitted to capture. For instance, regardless of the number of people who believed that Bill Clinton was a liar, his proposals to expand federal power to protect people or to give them specific new benefits generally had high levels of popular approval (excepting his 1993-94 health-care plan). Public support for vesting more power in an untrustworthy ruler is a sign of how few Americans still understand the nature of government.

In the same way that power corrupts, blind trust corrupts. To say that people should not blindly trust the government is not to call for anarchy or for violence in the streets or the torching of city halls across the land. It is not a choice between trusting the government and refusing to drive on the right side of the road. Instead, it is a call for people to cease deluding themselves about those who seek to control them.

Trust in a dishonest government is true escapism -- an evasion of responsibility for one's own life and liberties. Deference to lying rulers is self-betrayal.

James Bovard is the author of Attention Deficit Democracy (Palgrave, 2006), The Bush Betrayal (Palgrave, 2004), Terrorism and Tyranny (Palgrave, 2003), Freedom in Chains (St. Martin's 1999), Lost Rights (St. Martin's 1994), and other books. His website is at JimBovard.com

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"Congress has not unlimited powers to provide for the general welfare but only those specifically enumerated.
... A wise and frugal government...shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned."
--Thomas Jefferson

COMMENTARY

The Government As Identity Thieves



By Dr. Ron Paul

The spotlight remains on the Greek sovereign debt crisis as the riots continue. The terms of the Greek bailout from the IMF and Eurozone countries remain contentious with citizens on all sides. Europeans hate having their governments throw public money away as much as Americans do. The Greeks are not happy about having their taxes raised while their pensions and salaries are cut. Meanwhile, it is rumored by the Financial Times, AFP and others that Greece may spend more than it saves from austerity measures on arms deals with Germany, France and the US as a potential condition of receiving bailout funds. If true, it is certainly not unprecedented for the global military industrial complex to benefit from deals made by their friends in the central banking community. After all, war is the health of the state. The last thing big government proponents want is for peace to break out in the world.

This free flow of fiat money from around the globe to Greece will not really save Greece as

much as it will grant a temporary reprieve to central bankers from the consequences of their mistakes. Sadly, this will come at the expense of the Greek people and taxpayers in Europe and America. Taxpayers are of no consequence to either European or American central bankers. Even the mere desire for complete



Greek Riots

information on what they are up to in our name is rebuffed, as we saw last week in the Senate with the failure of Senator Vitter's amendment containing my language to fully audit the fed. The hubris of powerful and secretive central bankers seems to know no bounds.

If someone incurred debts against you as an individual, without your knowledge or consent, you would call it identity theft. You would call your bank for a full accounting of

the debts incurred in your name, and after some verification, those debts would be declared invalid and you would not be held responsible for them. Furthermore, if the culprit was found, they would be prosecuted and sent to jail.

Not so with governments and central banks. Governments that are supposed to be of the people and for the people routinely incur debts against the people. Some governments even borrow money to oppress their citizens, and then expect them to pay for their own oppression with interest. With a fiat monetary system, the sky is the limit for how much debt a government can place on the backs of the people.

We have reached the point in the United States where the debt our government has

accumulated against us is mathematically impossible to pay off. Harder times, likely due to a wave of hyperinflation, will eventually find its way to our streets and I am fearful of how Americans will react. My hope is that we will come together peacefully and help each other, and that enough of us will be aware that the blame rests securely on the shoulders of the Federal Reserve and the special interests. They should not be looked to for salvation. They should not be given more power. Rather, they should be stripped of the powers that allowed them to create this mess in the first place.

Resistance to public transparency regarding public debts should be denounced in the strongest of terms, and the central bankers that incurred them should be seen as no better than common identity thieves. ★★★



The Consent of the Governed

By Steve Palmer
Pennsylvania Tenth Amendment Center



William Penn

"It is certain that the most natural and human government is that of consent, for that binds freely, ... when men hold their liberty by true obedience to rules of their own making."
--William Penn

KING CONSTITUTION

It seems a paradox that people who claim to revere the rule of law, are sometimes the same people who would advocate disobeying the law. How can someone advocate for the rule of law at the same time as advocating for civil disobedience, nullification or jury nullification? Wouldn't these activities undermine the rule of law and lead inevitably to chaos and anarchy?

The beginning of the answer to this paradox comes to us from Thomas Paine. In Common Sense, a document which "challenged the authority of the British government and the royal monarchy", Paine wrote,"so far as we approve of monarchy, that in America the law is king. For as in absolute governments the king is law, so in free countries the law ought to be king; and there ought to be no other."

So the law, the king, is the Constitution. Everyone, even our federal legislators, judges and executive officers, is a subject of the Constitution. When our legislators write laws that violate the Constitution, it is our duty as citizens to defend the king... . To resist. It is our duty as jurors to find accused violators of Unconstitutional laws to be not guilty and it is the duty of the state official to nullify Unconstitutional federal legislation. The citizens and the States are empowered, and duty bound, to ensure that federal officials remain loyal to King Constitution.

The next piece of the puzzle comes to us in the often discussed Kentucky Resolutions of 1798, where Thomas Jefferson wrote, "whensoever the general government assumes undelegated powers, its acts are unauthoritative, void, and of no force".

Upon reflection, we may realize that disobeying a void law is like dividing by zero. It can't be done. In order to be disobeyed, a law must first be legal. Civil disobedience, nullification and jury nullification are ways for us to formalize the recognition that a law is void.

So the paradox is answered when we recognize that the lawless behavior comes from attempting to enforce an unconstitutional law, not from resisting it.

KING DEMOCRACY

There was a time when most Americans understood these duties of ours. Here in Pennsylvania, many of our citizens were involved in the underground railroad. They risked their own freedom and prosperity in order to help escaped slaves find freedom in the North. Northern juries often refused to find these people guilty and Pennsylvania's legislators passed Personal Freedom Acts to resist the Federal Fugitive Slave Acts of 1793 and 1850.

More recently, some of us became complacent and took our Liberty, and the prosperity which accompanies Liberty, for granted. Many of us forgot these important duties of ours. Many of us even forgot about King Constitution. We are taught in grade school that we live in a democracy and democracy means "majority rules". Whatever the majority decides must be obeyed. In this view, the Constitution was just a set of rules for finding the will of the majority.

This idea is antithetical to our founding. The Declaration of Independence, our foundational document says,

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed"

The majority cannot vote to take away your Rights without your consent!



Thomas Jefferson

force... tyranny. Just like King George III, King Democracy is a tyrant.

MONOPOLY OR COMPETITION?

Another common belief in America today is that the supreme court has the last word in deciding whether a law is constitutional. In Supreme Injustice, Andy Quesnelle addressed this misconception. He wrote about the conflict of interest that occurs when the federal government is the sole arbiter. Andy wrote,

"In a conflict between A and B, we, as a society, do not permit A to be the sole judge of who wins. Nor do we allow B to do so. The reason is simple. If A can decide the merits of his own conflict with B, B loses, Conversely, if B can decide the merits of her own conflict with A, B wins. Its simple human nature. No person can be trusted to be the judge in their own case."

That is one reason that it would make no sense for the federal government to be the sole arbiter. Another reason is that competition will improve the quality of the supreme court's decisions. Without competition, the supreme court can look at these words,

"To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes,"and decide that they





give the congress the authority to determine how much wheat a Pennsylvania farmer may grow on his own farm to feed to his own hens.

It is part of the American experience that monopoly power reduces quality and competition increases quality. Why should this be any different for interpreting the Constitution? The federal government has declared a monopoly for itself which doesn't exist. Rather than blindly submit to the monopoly, the States may — the States must — decide for themselves whether a law

is Constitutional. In addition to providing a check against bad decisions, this oversight also promotes good decisions from the federal government.

Like the People, the States have the power and the responsibility to refuse to consent to Unconstitutional laws. We must all make sure that our own State officials are aware of this responsibility. ★★★



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U.N. to Pass “The Small Arms Treaty” Obama - Hillary Destroy 2nd Amendment

**By Alan Gottlieb
Chairman -
Citizens Committee for the
Right to Keep and Bear Arms**


(CCRKBA ALERT) - Hillary Clinton and her anti-constitution cronies are partnering up with the anti-Second Amendment collaborators of the United Nations to pass "The Small Arms Treaty." If this treaty is passed YOUR firearms rights will be compromised and the Second Amendment will be obliterated. "The Small Arms Treaty" is being touted by liberal gun-grabbers as a treaty that will help fight against "terrorism," "insurgency" and "international crime rings." The treaty is merely a facade to seize control of ALL FIREARMS owned by law abiding American citizens.

TELL THE ANTI-SECOND AMENDMENT GANG WE ARE NOT GIVING UP OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS WITHOUT A FIGHT

The treaty calls for tougher licensing requirements. That means everyday, law-abiding Americans will be subjected to even more bogus bureaucracy to obtain a firearm. It is unfathomable that regular citizens would be treated just like the criminals the treaty claims to

protect us from. "The Small Arms Treaty" will hijack and destroy all weapons that are classified "unauthorized." What exactly classifies a firearm as "unauthorized" is up to the liberal gun-haters. The treaty will ban the trade, sale, and private ownership of all semi-automatic weapons. Clinton, Obama and their anti-liberty commission are also calling for an

INTERNATIONAL GUN REGISTRY that would pave the way to eventually disarming every American citizen.



GOVERNMENT GUN GRABBING

Now is the time to take action. We can't afford to lose this battle. This treaty has to be ratified in the Senate. It ONLY takes 67 members of the Senate to ratify and pass this unconstitutional treaty. NOW it is time to speak out against "The Small Arms Treaty."

MAKE WASHINGTON LISTEN LOUD AND CLEAR: VOTE NO TO RATIFY THE "SMALL ARMS TREATY"

Keep calling your Senators today, toll free numbers include 1-877-851-6437 and 1-866-220-0044, or call toll 1-202-225-3121 AND REGISTER YOU'RE OUTRAGE at ongoing efforts to take guns away!

CALL PRESIDENT Obama, 202-456-1111 and 202-456-1414 expressing your disdain and ABSOLUTE REJECTION of all GUN BANS.

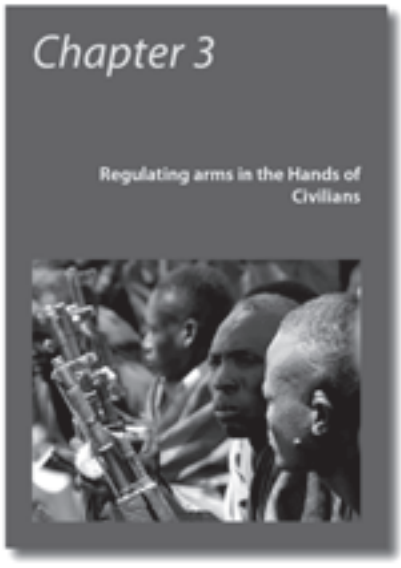

DO NOT BE SILENCED - MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

NOTE: We need TENS OF THOUSANDS of PHONE CALLS delivered to ALL Senators right away!

Together, we can preserve the Constitutional rights our Founding Fathers intended our people to have forever.

For more information about C C R K B A g o t o <http://www.ccrkba.org/>

★★★



25th annual Gun Rights Policy Conference

Dear Fellow Gun Rights Activist,

I would like to personally invite you to our **25th annual Gun Rights Policy Conference** (GRPC), which will be taking place **September 24, 25, and 26, 2010 in San Francisco, California** at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport hotel.

With the new battles over individual rights in the age of terrorism, attacks on our gun rights from the UN as well as a number of Second Amendment cases in the courts, including the U.S Supreme Court McDonald decision. The theme of Saving Freedom is most

important as we set the pro-gun rights agenda for the year to come.

This year GRPC will be action-packed. With over 50 speakers hand-picked from the leadership of the Gun Rights Movement, the topics to be presented promise to have an impact that will help direct the path of our cause for years to come. Invited speakers this year include: myself, Joe Tartaro, Wayne LaPierre, Alan Gura, Otis McDonald, Gene Hoffman, John Lott, Massad Ayoob, David Kopel, John Snyder, as well as staff from the Second Amendment Foundation, Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, National Rifle Association, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Gun Owners of America, and KeepAndBearArms.com. A number of elected political leaders have been invited as well.

As in the past, the Second Amendment Foundation will not only pick up the tab for lunch and snacks, but will also provide more than \$125 worth of vital pro-gun rights materials to each attendee.

In addition to the luncheon and free materials, you will have the opportunity to chat with the

speakers at the two evening NSSF and NRA planned receptions.

This event is so important to our cause, that the SAF Board of Trustees has elected to help underwrite the entire cost of the event. Your cost to attend this event is absolutely free!

Because of the number of people who travel every year to attend this event, I have negotiated a special discount room rate for GRPC attendees. Reservations for the special discounted room rate of \$109 per night can be made by calling 1-800-233-1234, and telling them you are planning on attending the Gun Rights Policy Conference (GRPC) sponsored by the Second Amendment Foundation.

If you have any questions, please call the SAF office at (425) 454-7012 to register. You can also register online at our GRPC Registration & Information Page, or send an e-mail to grpc2010@saf.org, or fax us at 425-451-3959.

Sincerely yours,

**Alan M. Gottlieb
Founder, Second Amendment Foundation ★★★**

BATFE Revises Policies on Firearms “Transfers”



NRA-ILA GRASSROOTS ALERT

In a recent ruling regarding the “transfer” of firearms, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATFE) has reversed policies that have been in place for more than 40 years.

In the ruling, BATFE declared that a temporary shipment of a firearm by a federal firearms licensee to a non-employee for business reasons (such as a manufacturer's shipment to a gun writer or engineering consultant for a technical evaluation), will now be considered a "transfer" and require completion of a Form 4473 and background check.

This reverses a ruling issued in 1969, right after the passage of the Gun Control Act, although BATFE provided no explanation of the need for the change. According to the National Shooting Sports Foundation, BATFE hasn't been able to name a single case in which a gun temporarily shipped under the old rule has been used in crime. ★★★



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"A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."
--Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

www.saf.org

Articles and Opinions

To the Editor letters for publication are encouraged – they must be typed, a maximum of 1,000 words or less in length. Please submit photographs or artwork. Contact Editor for permission to submit in-depth articles up to 1,750 words, plus graphics. Opposition opinions are welcome.

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The goal of *US~Observer* is to ensure “due process” and “equal protection under the law.”

Citizens who have founded and support it believe in the Bill of Rights and Article 1, Section 1, of the Oregon Constitution which states:

“We declare that all men, when they form a social compact are equal in right; that all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness and they have at all times a right to alter, reform, or abolish the government in such a manner they think proper. This enumeration of rights and privileges shall not be construed to impair or deny others retained by the people.”

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Letters to the Editor



Cap-and-Tax

Editor;

Apparently, President Obama and liberals in Congress are about to make Cap and Trade proposals a reality by ramming the economy-crushing, job-killing Bill HR 2454 through the Senate. And, to make matters worse, it is already apparent that Pelosi (in the House) and Reid (in the Senate) are about to employ the same underhanded, behind-the-scenes deal-making and legislative sleight-of-hand (reconciliation) that they used to shove ObamaCare down the throats of the American people.

This is absolute madness! Since the house passed their version of "Cap and Trade" it has been revealed that much of the scientific data regarding "Manmade" Global warming is faulty and was purposefully manipulated by UN scientists who are more interested in their One World Agenda than saving us from a phony impending disaster. I can't believe that anyone in Congress would even consider enacting such over reaching and draconian legislation, when what we really need is a full fledged investigation of the people involved in this charade.

Well over 31,000 scientists, (many of whom participated in the original UN studies and have since recanted their original endorsement of the erroneous data and have) declared that there is "No Such Thing as Manmade Global Warming". Cyclical warming and cooling have been going on since time immemorial. Have all of our elected representatives lost their minds?

The pending Cap and Trade bill is also purported to be designed to reduce our dependence on foreign oil. Once again this is utter madness. It has been proven by recent USGS surveys that there are sufficient oil and natural gas deposits right here in America and off our shores that will provide for our needs for more than 4,000 years. What we really need is a long overdue reform of the out dated EPA rules and regulations that make it nearly impossible to extract and process our own God given natural resources. It is long past time to “Drill Baby Drill”.

“Let me be perfectly clear”. The so-called Cap-and-Tax legislation has little to do with helping the environment or our dependence on foreign oil. Instead it is a means to deprive hard-working Americans of income, control people's behavior, repress our liberties and grant pay-offs for votes, and favors to special interests.

Most Americans see the Cap-and-Tax scheme for what it really is. Americans do not want higher utility bills, higher prices at the pump, higher prices in the grocery store, diminished freedoms and a lower standard of living to help petty politicians achieve greater political power. Such schemes will destroy our economy and send much-needed jobs overseas, while doing nothing to reduce global carbon emissions!

Americans have worked far too hard for generations and have earned the right to our continued way of “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”, to see it destroyed by a hand full of arrogant elite elected officials and bureaucrats in Washington DC. Enough is Enough!

Let yourselves be heard. Write and call your elected representatives and demand a NO VOTE on Cap and Trade.

Donna L. Hollenstain
Salinas, CA

Down with the Statue of Liberty?

Dear Editor:

So many letter writers have based their arguments on how this land is made up of immigrants. Ernie Lujan for one, suggests we should tear down the Statue of Liberty because the people now in question aren't being treated the same as those who passed through Ellis Island and other ports of entry.

Maybe we should turn to our history books and point out to people like Mr. Lujan why today's American is not willing to accept this new kind of immigrant any longer. Back in 1900 when there was a rush from all areas of Europe to come to the United States, people had to get off a ship and stand in a long line in New York and be documented. Some would even get down on their hands and knees and kiss the ground. They made a pledge to uphold the laws and support their new country in good and bad times. They made learning English a primary rule in their new American households and some even changed their names to blend in with their new home.

They had waved good bye to their birth place to give their children a new life and did everything in their power to help their children assimilate into one culture. Nothing was handed to them. No free lunches, no welfare, no labor laws to protect them. All they had were the skills and craftsmanship they had brought with them

to trade for a future of prosperity.

Most of their children came of age when World War II broke out. My father fought along side men whose parents had come straight over from Germany, Italy, France and Japan . None of these 1st generation Americans ever gave any thought about what country their parents had come from. They were Americans fighting Hitler, Mussolini and the Emperor of Japan. They were defending the United States of America as one people.

When we liberated France , no one in those villages were looking for the French-American or the German American or the Irish American. The people of France saw only Americans. And we carried one flag that represented one country. Not one of those immigrant sons would have thought about picking up another country's flag and waving it to represent who they were. It would have been a disgrace to their parents who had sacrificed so much to be here. These immigrants truly knew what it meant to be an American. They stirred the melting pot into one red, white and blue bowl.

And here we are with a new kind of immigrant who wants the same rights and privileges. Only they want to achieve it by playing with a different set of rules, one that includes the entitlement card and a guarantee of being faithful to their mother country. I'm sorry, that's not what being an American is all about. I believe that the immigrants who landed on Ellis Island in the early 1900's deserve better than that for all the toil, hard work and sacrifice in raising future generations to create a land that has become a beacon for those legally searching for a better life. I think they would be appalled that they are being used as an example by those waving foreign country flags.

And for that suggestion about taking down the Statue of Liberty, it happens to mean a lot to the citizens who are voting on the immigration bill. I wouldn't start talking about dismantling the United States just yet.

Rosemary LaBonte

Assassination of the Nation

Dear editor,

Great nations don't just die. They are assassinated by the unthinking actions and the uncontrolled excesses of their own governments.

It is not nations that die. Great nations cease to exist because their governments, through their own actions, self-destruct.

Has the time come for The United States Congress, all members, both houses, to take a short field trip over to Arlington and begin the process of selecting the most appropriate burial site for Uncle Sam?

I have my opinion. I am curious to know yours. Sincerely and with regards,

Tom Kiser
Marietta, GA

Chicago shooting shows why Mayor Daley doesn't ‘get it’

Editor;

Chicago Mayor Richard Daley doesn’t get it about firearms and personal safety, and after the highly-publicized self-defense shooting in the Humboldt Park neighborhood on the city’s West Side on Wednesday May 26, he should fold his tent, shut his mouth and go away.

The U.S. Supreme Court appears poised to nullify the city’s Draconian handgun ban, and nothing clarifies Daley’s dilemma with guns more dramatically than the slaying of would-be home invader Anthony “Big Ant” Nelson, a 29-year-old career thug who has, according to the Chicago Tribune, a “13-page rap sheet that includes a number of drug and weapons convictions dating to 1998, according to police and court records.” This neighborhood predator made what nationally-recognized self-defense expert Massad Ayoob calls “a fatal error in the victim selection process.”

Nelson reportedly fired a shot from a handgun – you know, they’re banned in Chicago, and convicted felons like “Big Ant” aren’t supposed to have them anyway; yet another failure of gun control – through the bedroom window of an 80-year-old Army veteran who served in the Korean War. Most likely to Nelson’s great, and terminal, surprise, the older man fired back, with his own handgun that almost certainly was not registered in the city. Had he followed the law, this gentleman, his wife, and possibly their 12-year-old grandson who was in the next room might all be dead right now.

Fortunately, thanks to the Illinois legislature’s override of Rod Blagojevich’s veto of SB 2165

in November 2004, the older gentleman will not face prosecution. That was the “Hale DeMar” act, which protects homeowners who shoot in self-defense even if there is a local ordinance against handgun possession. DeMar shot a burglar in his Wilmette home and was initially charged for violating that community’s handgun ban, but public outrage forced the Cook County prosecutor to drop the charge.

The question remains in this case whether the old gentleman will get his gun back from the police when the investigation is completed.

Mayor Daley wants his citizens, including elderly people, to remain disarmed while only someone living in monumental denial would believe that creeps like Nelson might be deterred from packing guns illegally. He has practiced anti-gun demagoguery for years, but that may soon come to a screeching halt, not only because of an affirmative high court ruling in the case of McDonald v. City of Chicago – the Second Amendment Foundation’s case currently being mulled by the Supreme Court – but also because public reaction to the Nelson shooting is decidedly in support of the man who shot him.

Chicago residents have grown weary of living in dangerous neighborhoods where, because of Daley’s anti-gun policies that defend the city’s ban, they have been stripped of the tools to fight back. It is their plight against armed criminals like Nelson that compelled SAF to join with the Illinois State Rifle Association and four Chicago residents to sue the city. Reaction among Chicago residents to Wednesday’s fatal shooting clearly demonstrates that the public supports this lawsuit.

While Daley appears at a press event and suggests he might like to poke a gun barrel into the rump of a reporter and fire a round, neighbors of the Army veteran who killed Nelson in self-defense, along with a columnist for the Chicago Sun Times are telling the mayor that he needs to “come up with a better solution (to crime) than just saying ‘turn in your guns’ .”

Daley’s stubborn defense of his city’s handgun ban shows him to be so out of touch with the public, and with the reality of his city’s crime problem, that he may not even be jolted to good sense by a Supreme Court loss.

Well, here is the reality: Richard Daley’s policies are directly responsible for people like Nelson, because the Chicago gun ban has emboldened Windy City thugs to prey on good people they know will be disarmed. Tough luck for Nelson that one courageous older man – a man who had been robbed at gunpoint last year in his own home for \$150 – had the fortitude and good sense to arm himself in spite of Daley’s ban, and now his neighborhood is “one short” of the kind of scum that the Chicago ban has essentially protected for more than a quarter-century.

Alan Gottlieb
Executive Vice President
Second Amendment Foundation

Disillusioned

Editor;

I hope and pray, I send positive thoughts to all beings. I wish no one ill. Yet everything is falling apart. I can have trust in no one, nor anything. Even those who say they are on your side. Everyone lies; there is only deception and dishonesty. There is no justice in the “justice” system, it’s all about how many notches you can get on your belt; job security.

Josephine County District Attorney Stephen Campbell and his minions don't care if the defendant is guilty or innocent, all they care about is getting another conviction, so deputies don't get fired and he can run for another term and win by showing how many “bad guys” he has put away. It doesn't matter that half of them are innocent. Even the judges ride along on the DA's skirts so they to can be re-elected.

I thought the Statue of Liberty stands blind-folded in order to not be prejudiced against anyone, but it would seem that the only equality is in what works well for those in office. It needs to have its ears covered as well for it seems not to hear the truth.

I have been so naïve to think that just because this is America, things are done with integrity. But unless we have experienced it personally we have no idea how corrupt it is.

Now that I am more aware of what is going on, I will remain silent no more. I will speak my truth, some will listen, others will not, but that is how it is. I can change no one. I can only change myself and if by doing that it influences anyone else then I will feel fortunate.

Marilyn K.S. Wilbur

Editor's Note: Marilyn Wilbur is one of many Americans waking up to the fact that our “justice” system is nothing more or less than a sham, an actual mockery of true justice.

★★★

Continued from page 12 • BLM Abuse Exposed

were riding dirt bikes, so he couldn’t imagine them hand cuffing him and taking him away cuffed on the back of a dirt bike. Dennis stated, “BLM Ranger Finch was a wild card I had not counted on; I had no idea that BLM had a lunatic on the payroll.”

Something else that we did not put in the first article was that two of the eye witnesses there that day were Lana Walker and her sister Jennifer Mobbs. They had previously endured an experience with two men, one of which was impersonating a Medford Police Department Officer (MPD). They were stopped in 2002, at about 9 p.m. in Medford, Oregon, when what they thought was a police car with red and blue flashing lights pulled them over and asked for Jennifer’s drivers license. The impersonator who came to the window was wearing an MPD uniform. He took Jennifer’s paper work back to his car and after a little while he came back and told the girls he had stopped them for speeding. That’s when things went south for the bad guys, because the Mobbs’ sisters knew they were not speeding. When they started debating the supposed cop his answers did not jive. The impersonating cop became very nervous and when the girls asked, “Are you really a cop” he bolted back to his car and sped away. The girls followed, and the cop impersonator turned into the apartment complex where Jennifer lived. The girls knew there was only one way in and one way out so they blocked the driveway, called the real MPD cops and after a short foot chase, the real cops arrested the not so real cops. They were subsequently found guilty and taken to jail.

CORRECTION

I want to bring our readership up to date on this story and correct a statement I made in the article concerning Sheriff Winters. My last article stated, “I spoke to Jackson County Sheriff Mike Winters about the incident last week and he said he would look into it and get back to me, at press time I had not heard back from him.” Now, that being said, I had told Sheriff Winters that I would get him a witness list and a list of people that have had a bad experience with Ranger Finch. I forgot that he was waiting for me to deliver the list needed for him to do his investigation, however I am working to rectify the forgotten list.

THE MEAT OF THIS STORY

The people that have had a bad experience with BLM Ranger Finch are not only growing at an incredible rate, their statements are painting a very ugly picture of the enforcement arm of BLM. It is clear from the numerous interviews we have conducted that Ranger Finch’s superiors had been told of Finch’s dangerous and unacceptable interactions with the public in the form of complaints that were made by Finch’s victims.

BLM DIRECTOR DON ROBINSON SUPPORTS FINCH’S ABUSE

My first interview was with the plant manager of a respected local business that works with BLM on a regular basis. He said in 2008, he had a bad experience with Ranger Finch, but had never reported it. Then someone he knew told him of their experience with Finch and he told them you need to file a complaint with BLM. But the man said no, that he had to be in the woods and was concerned that Finch would retaliate against

him if he complained. So the manager decided to call BLM and tell them of his concerns about Ranger Finch’s dangerous escapades. The manager stated, “I told Don Robinson the director of the enforcement arm of BLM that Ranger Finch was a rude, unprofessional bully, that had no respect for the people he served and if BLM did not do something to get Finch under control, he was going to hurt or kill someone. To my surprise, right off the bat, he was just like Finch, he said, ‘well some people just need their ass’s kicked’. I told him you are BLM not CIA, you do not need to be kicking anybody’s ass; that is not your job. Besides, the people you’re trying to kick their asses are the people that pay your wages. I believe you need to start respecting the people you serve instead of trying to kick their asses. I noticed that Finch is always touching his gun and strutting around. It seems like he always wants to make sure you know he has a gun and he is in charge and you are not. One of these days their Ranger Finch is going to confront the wrong people and his bully boy tactics and putting his hand on that gun could get someone killed or injured.”

This manager’s accounting is truly amazing and shows that we are not only dealing with Finch’s abuse, but that of his superior Don Robinson as well. Everyone we have spoken to about Ranger William Finch has had nothing positive to say about him. We have hours of taped interviews of people telling the Observer of their experiences with Ranger Finch.

SOME EXAMPLES OF STATEMENTS REGARDING FINCH’S ABUSE

First Witness: “Finch will give you a citation for something you did not do because he knows you will probably just pay the citation rather than fight it; in fact BLM counts on it. Finch acts the way he does because he knows the powers that be at BLM appear to condone his behavior.”

Second Witness: “Ranger Finch and Jackson County Deputies have walked right into my camp with no probable cause, at 9 or 10 p.m., shining their flashlight around while my girlfriend and son were asleep in the tent and asked, what are you doing up here and who is in the tent? I told him my girlfriend and my son, and then Finch told me he needed to see my ID and check our bikes for Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) stickers.” This witness had ridden his bikes all over Oregon and has had contact with other BLM Rangers around the state and has never encountered anything like Ranger Finch. “Another thing that bothers me is Finch likes to get right in your face and twice I know I have smelled alcohol on his breath.” When asked how he would describe Ranger Finch to someone, he thought for a moment and said, “The only way I can describe him is to say he is a dick.”

Third Witness: He felt that BLM Ranger Finch was a predator with a badge and was going to wind up hurting more people. He forces them into being aggressive and then wants to arrest them for being aggressive.

Fourth Witness: Ranger Finch did not come down by the river and check the men, but instead he hung around the trail where the women and kids go to the bath room, asking women and kids for their ID and fishing license. He said he and some of the men did not like Ranger Finch sneaking around with binoculars in an area where women and kids were going to the bathroom. “We caught him laying on the ground looking through his binoculars in the area where everybody goes to pee.” He continued, “we asked Finch, what the hell is wrong with you man. I believe when Ranger Finch is alone he won’t confront a man, but he will confront women and kids.” He said he believes “Finch is just not right.” This witness spoke to his uncle about Ranger Finch and some of

his antics, because his uncle was in law enforcement in another county. He said his uncle already knew about Finch and told him to make a formal complaint against Ranger Finch, because BLM did not like negative publicity. “So we called BLM and spoke to Ranger Jock Hanson and he proceeded to tell us that when people call in to complain about a Ranger, they are usually part of the problem. Ranger Hanson was obviously working to protect his buddy Finch, but I filed a formal complaint anyway.”

Fifth Witness: He was 63 years old and states, “I had been fishing Hay’s Falls for over twenty years and in that time I have seen a lot people from law enforcement come and go, but Ranger William Finch is in a class all by himself. Finch is just a jerk and has no respect for the public. Or, maybe when he puts on the gun and badge he feels he can do what he wants. I was standing just off the pee trail relieving myself when Ranger Finch with his binoculars walked right up on top of me; Finch spun around and went the other way. I followed Finch and told him I did not think what he was doing was his job and I resented it. Finch stepped forward until he was right in my face and said why, do I make you nervous? I thought he knows I am annoyed with his earlier behavior and now he is trying to intimidate me and provoke me. So I told him, you know I was taught to be respectful to law enforcement, but in some cases it is not warranted. I stepped back, looked at his name and told him, I am going to call your superior because I think you are way out of line. I called his superior Jock Hanson and told him about the incident. About a week later Hanson called me back and told me he spoke to Finch and Finch told him that he might have been a little short with me. Hanson told me he had reprimanded Finch and told him he could not take that kind of an approach with the public. I told Hanson I thought law enforcement’s job was to protect and serve, but thanks to Ranger Finch I did not feel protected or served. In fact I felt annoyed and agitated.”

Sixth Witness: “I cut firewood up near John’s peak. I find standing fir snags and get permits through BLM to fall them on the road and take them. I fell one back in January and somehow Finch found out about it and the harassment began. He started leaving threatening letters on my doorstep, stating that if I did not get a hold of him he was going to arrest me. He dug up my entire life on the internet. He went to the site where I cut the tree down and took over 50 pictures of everything from tire tracks to sawdust and one of the pictures was my load permit from BLM. I told him that all he had to do was take the number on the permit back to BLM and he would have known that I was legal. Finch said, I could have but I didn’t. I thought what an asshole. He chooses to waste the tax payer’s money – wasted, countless hours of time. He chooses instead to harass and threaten me for no good reason. About a month later I was near the same place to fall a tree that my cousin had a permit for. Soon after it hit the ground I heard a dirt bike coming and I jokingly told my cousin, dad, uncle and buddy that is probably Finch coming to give all of us tickets. Sure as hell, it was him with some kids, he was in plain riding gear and riding what I would guess was his own dirt bike. He immediately went for my cousin screaming, I am Ranger Finch and waving his badge and I want to see your permit for this tree. My cousin already had heard about Finch and he knew what Finch had done to me. My cousin told Finch, there is someone here that does not like you very much. By that time I was covering a lot of ground fast to get there. This time I got in his face and I asked him if he remembered me and told him I did not appreciate him threatening and harassing me for no reason. My dad told him he was a pine cone cap and he needed to move on because we had work to do. Someone told him he needed to move on or risk an ass kicking.”

We have been informed that Ranger Jock Hanson has been transferred since the publication of my last article and our calls to Director Don Robinson have not been returned – He’s probably working over-time, trying to manufacture evidence to help cover-up for Finch and himself. Again, I would prompt our readership to go to the US~Observer website (www.usobserver.com) and read my first article titled, “BLM Ranger Uses Excessive Force.”

We have plenty more to report, however I believe this gives our readership enough factual information to fully realize that Finch is dangerous, unprofessional and should not be wearing any badge. **Please call BLM’s state Director Ed Shepard at 503-808-6026 and let him know that we will not tolerate Finch’s abusive actions any longer.** Also tell them that Director Don Robinson needs to go in the same direction as Ranger William Finch – OUT! Let’s hold these dangerous and worthless public employees ACCOUNTABLE...

Chumash Casino



REWARD

If you have information about the death of Manuel Jones,

Please contact:

US~Observer
editor@usobserver.com



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Our Vision:

To assist each youth to be transformed as an individual; to grow and mature into a productive asset to this community.

To equip each youth with life skills that will build character in life; giving hope and direction with realized results.

To impact others with support and inspiration, so that they too, may begin this process.

These three things span a lifetime: not a singular moment in time, but an ongoing process in which we live, in order to find that place of useful existence, to promote what is good and right in this community.

The Big Picture: To purchase a property with a facility large enough to house this vision.

Phase 1:

To set up a 24/7 facility with cardio and strength training equipment. We are targeting ages 6 years old up to senior adults of any age. We want to impact our entire community with this vision, helping all ages to see and feel the positive results of good health and fitness. This phase has been in place for over four years.

Phase 2:

Expanding our options for health and fitness for all ages. In

addition to cardio and strength training, we have incorporated Cross Fit training, Boxing, under the U.S.A. Boxing association which allows kids, boys and girls, to train for the Olympics if they so choose, Wrestling, ground control, grappling, and Brazilian Jujitsu. We are also adding a "just woman's" self defense class as an option. We have certified trainers that are currently active in this gym.


Phase 3:

This phase incorporates in-house class atmosphere training for kids ages 6 to adult. To provide specific class training for specific and appropriate age groups. Classes include training from right thinking, attitudes, respect, self esteem, integrity, excellence and honor, to personal hygiene, proper dress code and communication skills for job acquisition, resume' preparation and accurate and proper information for business applications. We will provide hands-on classes and O.J.T. (on the job training) in area's like auto mechanics, landscaping, horticulture, agriculture, fitness training, cooking, ranching and river guide rafting, just to mention a few. Much more to come as our out-reach program develops.

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Rod McMasters, Youth Pastor at New Song Fellowship
Business Owner/Pro Time Fitness
Contact Number: (541) 479-6300
rodmcmasters@juno.com

gratified. They want it now. And furthermore, they want it their way. The same is true with immigration. Many who have illegally crossed into our border want the benefits of living in this country without having to go through the process, perhaps because they have more immediate needs. They need to make more money than they do where they are. They need to feel more secure than they do. The solution in many cases shouldn't be running to a new country, but changing the one you have to better meet your expectations as a citizen. The answer should never be to take from someone else's country, but that is exactly what is happening.

When someone crosses the border without permission and going through that process, they are a criminal, period. They have broken the law. That is not a matter of being racist, it is a matter of logic. I, for one, abhor the use of the word "racism". Its mere utterance creates itself. By using it you become racist because you adopt the philosophy that there are separate races, when in fact there is only one race and that is human.

Here we are with anywhere from 11 million to 20 million (depending on whose data you use) ILLEGAL aliens residing within the United States. That is an INVASION! It is reprehensible that it has ever gotten that bad

For those who say that legal immigration is too difficult, there are nearly 1 million legal immigrants per year who have gone through the process and it has been that way for some years now. In 2008 alone, there were 1,107,126 legal immigrants. We welcome you. We want you. We thank you for being a part of this great experiment.

For the almost equal number of "immigrants" who crossed our borders illegally in 2008, go home to whatever country you came from. Come back when you want to be a part of our society; when you will let go of trying to make our country a replica of the one from which you came; when you realize that we are not here to give you anything, you have to work for it, and that even means having to work through the process of legally immigrating. Once you do that, we don't care the color of your skin, the country of your origin or the belief you may practice, you will be one of us, an American.

We recently sent out the following e-mail alert in support of Arizona - whose new law is already unenforced Federal law. The response was overwhelming!

US~Observer News Alert ★ Standing with Arizona ★

Recently, we at the US~Observer were in preliminary development of a conference on the Constitution, Rights and You (CRY). The focus of this conference was the continual decline by which the Federal government chooses to uphold the Constitution and how this lack of constitutionality affects the very basic elements of our country and justice system. We had scheduled many high-profile speakers to attend and host intimate discussions with the conference attendees. Our selected host city, Sacramento, California was going to be the perfect location, however, due to California's stance on the Arizona illegal alien law and their war-like boycott of Arizona, we can not in good conscience sanction an event in California and have since put the conference development on hold.

Furthermore, having actually read the Arizona law, we would like to state that we stand behind Arizona, and any other state who adopts a similar stance, 100 percent!!!

Immigration has never been the issue. Immigration is fundamental to our society and we welcome all people who want to legally be a part of our wonderful Republic.

An illegal alien is not an immigrant; they are law-breaking invaders. Being such, it is our Federal Government's constitutionally-mandated duty to protect us. Should the Federal Government not uphold this, it falls to the State and the People, respectively.

Read the law. Read the Constitution. That is our advice to all those who sit in any public office.

Arizona Illegal Immigrant E-Mail Alert Reader Reactions (verbatim):

I have no problem with legal immigration.
I want to know why the government is undermining the American people? They promote the out sourcing of our manufacturing base, the destruction of our standard of living and the debasing of religion.
It seems they are supporting socialism, other world religions and greed at every corner. The war on drugs is a farce. It doesn't take much to see there officials getting rich over this. We don't seem to be a republic any more.
Why is the government not working for the people?
Everything I am witnessing from the upper level of government, shows me our rights are slipping away. The constitution is being raped and this is being done by both parties.
--Anonymous

I fully support the new AZ law regarding illegal aliens.
--Jim Wiggins

I commend you for cancelling your meeting in Calif. I wish more companies would do it. Thanks you for reading the law and standing

behind us in AZ. Why don't you have that meeting here? We'd welcome you. And it would be good for you to notify the local media that you are doing it because of HR1070. Thank You.
--Charlene Tipton,
Living Water Ranch Rescue
Tonopah, AZ

This president, his cabinet and the Democrats are not supporting the legal citizens of this country. They have sworn to uphold the Constitution yet they consider it an obstacle to their goals. Hopefully, November will stop their agenda.
--QB Bagenski

I strongly support the recent legislation enacted by the Arizona State Legislature and signed by Governor Jan Brewer. Arizona, perhaps more than any state in the union per capita has been flooded with foreign invaders, many who come into our state with violent criminal intentions. The law addresses many of the problems that have been generated by these criminals. The governor and legislators who enacted this legislation are to be applauded and supported for their courage and commitment to uphold our safety and security.
--K.L. Adams, Mesa, Arizona

This was written by a Mexican who is now a naturalized US Citizen, and I think it's a great explanation of the illegal immigration issue:
"If you had tickets to a sports event, concert, Disneyland, or for an airline flight, and when you got to your assigned seat you found someone else was in that seat, what would you do? You would call for a person in charge of ticket checking and have the person in your seat removed. You would properly be asked to show your ticket, and you would gladly and proudly do so, for you have bought and paid for that seat. The person in your seat would also be asked for a ticket, which they would not be able to produce. They would be called "gate crashers" and they would properly be removed.

Now in this huge stadium called the USA we have had millions of gate crashers. We have been asking security to check for tickets and remove the gate crashers. We have been asking security to have better controls in checking at the door. We have asked security to lock the back doors. Security has failed us. They are still looking the other way. They are afraid to ask to see the tickets. Many people say there is unlimited seating, and whether there is or not, no one should be allowed in for free while the rest of us pay full price!
In "section AZ", of "Stadium USA", we have had enough of the failures of Security. We have decided to do our own ticket checking, and properly remove those who do not have tickets. Now it seems very strange to me that so many people in the other 49 "sections", and even many in our own "section" do not want tickets checked, or even to be asked to show their ticket! Even the head of Security is chastising us, while not doing his own job which he has sworn to do.

My own ticket has been bought and paid for, so I am proudly going to show it when asked to do so. I have a right to my seat, and I want the gate crashers to be asked to show their tickets too. The only reason that I can imagine anyone objecting to being asked for their ticket is that they are in favor of gate crashing, and all of the illegal activities that go with it, such as drug smuggling, gang wars, murder, human smuggling for profit, and many more illegal and inhumane acts that we are trying to prevent with our new legislation. Is that what I am hearing from all of the protestors such as Phoenix Mayor Gordon, US Rep. Grijalva, even President Obama? If you are not in favor of showing tickets, (proof of citizenship, passport, green card, or other legal document) when asked, as I would do proudly, then you must be condoning those illegal activities."
--Written by a US Citizen, Globe, Arizona

I'm with you 100%! It is outrageous that our government is totally ignoring it's citizens!!!! What can we do??? They have our money, control our armies and are almost demanding to take our guns away. This is not the America I grew up in and loved and would have given my life for!!!!
--Maureen O'Leary, SC

In reality Arizona should never have to pass such a law. The protection of our borders lies within the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. This present administration is doing everything in it's power to undermine our Constitution. Open and undefended borders that allow illegal persons to enter a country undermines a nation's sovereignty. Of course, this administration is well aware of the above facts. Isn't it sad that all states have not passed a similar bill as Arizona. If the other 49 states passed similar measures, it would send a message to Washington.
Thanks from a concerned citizen,
--Jim Moan

DENY THEM EMPLOYMENT!!!!!!! If a US citizen is caught employing an illegal there should be mandatory fine and maybe jail time for repeat offenders. The reason the Mexicans come is for the money. Cut off the money/welfare/free education/health care and I guarantee that they will go home.
Quite simple in my view.

I'm well aware that when traveling abroad, it is necessary to keep ID readily available. However, if I were an American (I'm Canadian married to an American) I would be incensed at having to show identity at checkpoints and to any cop that decided to make my identification his personal affairs. This bill doesn't apply just if a person is stopped for a unrelated offense. A cop can stop anyone at any time and demand government issued ID. Did you catch that? ANYONE. You could be standing in line at McDonalds, or at the park with your kids. The guy I was referring to on Youtube was a truck driver. He had his drivers licence on him but the Police demanded his Birth Certificate and locked him up until his wife was able to bring it to him. This bill also grants the Police immunity from any civil action arising from their misuse of this legislation. Why? If they are such upstanding pillars of virtue this would be unnecessary....I know that you know, based on the articles I've read in your fine publication, that there are too many police officers willing and able to do things that are not honorable. This bill just gives them another excuse to continue their boorish behavior.

Trading liberty for safety is ludicrous in EVERY situation. The government has proven time and time again, that once it takes a piece of liberty, it never returns it. It slowly takes a piece here and a piece there until one day you will wake up and it will all be gone.

Sincerely
--Jon
P.S. Just because you have had a statute on the books for years doesn't make that law any more legitimate. The length of time on the books has no bearing on its lawfulness. It just proves that a good lawyer hasn't gotten it in front of a good, constitution loving, judge.
I am with you. I support Arizona's new law. I am working to put a similar bill on the ballot in Washington State.
--Janet Newcomer

You are completely correct. An Illegal Alien Invader is not an immigrant. PERIOD. By the media and those "legal Minded" people who love to manipulate through the use of WORDS OF ART (or rather what Yahweh Almighty would state are just LIES), the brain dead, illiterate masses are buying into the lie happily and propagating it as far as their stupid private conversations amongst each other will go. My personal comment to all of the Criminal Trespassers is - get out before one of us shoots you for Trespassing!
--Laura Wilson

A state who is finally going to enforce our immigration laws! What a concept! Good for Arizona and the states who will follow them.
This after the past 4 Presidents and their administrations who simply refused to enforce our immigration laws. Even after 9/11 they still did nothing to secure our borders and the illegals still kept pouring over. By the grace of God, we caught a few potential terrorists but unknown numbers managed to sneak into our nation, most likely awaiting orders to do damage when given orders to do so.

Our elected officials from Obama on down the line took an oath to support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States. A shame so many of them have sold their soul and their country for money, power and votes!
What is even worse is the fact they are STILL in office!
Sincerely,
--Mrs. Nancy Ayers, Cheyenne, WY

I have just recently ordered 100 copies of the US Constitution, and carry a copy with me at all time. Never know when it will come in handy. As for Arizona, I am in complete agreement with them on the new legislation on illegals. When the federal government fails to fulfill their obligations, the states need to step up to bat and do what is needed to take care of the situation. I applaud the strong people in the Arizona legislature and the Governor of that great state for taking the ball and running with it. We all need to give them our support, and hope that some of the mealy mouthed governors along the border get the message and acct accordingly. It is needed.
--Gus Metz, Point, TX

I think Ariz. is absolutely right. I'm astounded they're getting so much flack...but I shouldn't be. Damn the Leftists. Yay for Ariz.
Sincerely,
--Lawrence Noder

I have been a Welder for about 30 years. the last job that I had, I was fired so that they could replace me with an illegal Mexican to do the same job that I was doing, but at a lower rate.
Because of that, I have lost my house, and am struggling to pay my bills. I cannot tell you how long I have waited for something like this.
I WILL NOT BE A SECOND CLASS CITIZEN IN MY OWN COUNTRY.
This has gone on way too long.
--Mark Mattern

Well I think that is no good reason to not come to California. A few politicians are going to scare you off?
Figures,
--Micki

Bravo! It's nice to see someone trying to support AZ doing the right thing.
Why not hold your conference somewhere in AZ?
Keep up the good work.
--Susan Henriques, Pennsylvania

I wholeheartedly agree with Arizona and their enforcement of federal immigration laws.
These laws should have been enforced decades ago.
Illegal immigrant is a doublespeak term. The correct term is illegal aliens; they are lawbreakers and should be treated as such.
The federal government has been and still is committing blatant treason against the states and their citizens.
Sincerely,
--Madeline K. Carter, Watauga County, North Carolina

I think Arizona has gone a little too far. If it was such a problem why didn't Sen. McCain bring this up before congress and propose some form of legislation. Where was Senator McCain all these years---Oh yes, as far as I can remember he condoned the status quo.
--Honeybea53@aol.com

I stand with Arizona.
Our federal government ignores even the most fundamental responsibilities except our gun rights and dream up new insults to us on a daily/hourly basis.
Facebook is a good source for information to witness this due to the diversity of people taking such an interest.
I am glad to hear that your paper is standing with Arizona and hope you will stay the course.
--Rob P
P.S. I live in California and I missed the part where you took a stance on not holding the conference in Sacramento. California is wrong to attack Arizona!!! Plain and simple, you made the right choice.

I think you should hold your conference in Arizona!!!!!!
I support Arizona 100%. They have no support from our so called government. It just backs up the Federal law.
I wish my state of Georgia would join in also.
I will personally not buy, participate or anything else from any state that doesn't stand behind them. That would be an American in my opinion.
The very idea that Mexico has more stringent laws than we do is sickening. The liberals, etc. have become cowards. If things don't change soon, it will be too late to recover. Our poor children are the ones who are going to suffer for the actions of our Congress. We MUST vote the ones out that are determined to destroy us from within.
I wish I was able to help out, but my husband has been diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver and things don't look good. But I send emails, etc every chance I get.
Thank You,
--Patsy Pinholster

I am so happy to see someone claiming states rights. I support Arizona... I hope to see the usurper Obama impeached soon, and the traitors in congress indicted.
--Carli

It is my opinion that ALL citizens should stand with Arizona and join in with their brave, yet necessary immigration law regarding all illegal trespassors in our country.
I have read the PDF file on Arizonas` immigration laws and find them more than "fair" with the fees charged to the invaders.
Because our government is dragging their feet in protecting citizens, Arizona must protect their citizens more than ever as they are living in a very hot spot of the united states.
Sincerely,
--Georgia

Might I suggest that you make arrangements to take your conference to AZ. Would help protect them from further economic damage by the various boycotts taking place.
--Donna

Sirs, me and the wife, and about, well hell, everybody I know, is cheering AZ's decision to start enforcing the law when its in order to do so. Few pols have the guts to stand up and do it. I am a yellow dog dem, but Obama baby, you are wrong, wrong, wrong on this issue. Even the most ignorant person can see the fairly simple wording of the definition of what constitutes being illegal in the USA. Its unarguable and no way is it being racist. Just get stopped in Mexico by the local gendarmes and see the hell you go thru! And then the honorable el presidente from the crime capital of the world has the nerve to come here and be wined and dined at my expense and talk about racial profiling. What the hell does he think we owe him for? Bush and company took good care of him and i guess Obama is going to continue the favor. I really do resent them all for totally ignoring the constitution tho. Its reprehensible and treason in my eyes! There is absolutely no logical reason that they can try to reverse Arizona's laws,



since its federal laws they are trying to enforce. Thank you for the chance to vent a little. I know you aren't the one that needs convincing. You can use this for any reason you see fit to.
--Gary Roberts

It is time for some republican to offer up a bill which is the exact bill as the mexicans have on immigration and see what the dems do with that.
--Stanley Kon

The Obama administration is way off the target!!! We must support the Governor of Arizona!
--William Harris

Let's make phoenix the convention center of the United States of America!
--JG

Thanks for the e-mail and your reasoned decision to stand up and be counted. Also your decision to cancel your conference in Califorina is honorable. I am sure this has been suggested, have your conference in Arizona. I have been vacationing in Mexico, mazatlan for the past few years and married a latina lady, and Maria goes to my country the legal way and goes back when she is suppose too. Many follow the law, and I try to explain the difference to my mexican friends, there are illegals and legal who come to USA, which one are you? Keep up the good fight, I am going to make it a point to fly in and out of Arizona more, and buy more there. Standing firm for what is right.
Thanks for your time,
--Mike Dickenson

It is our right and our duty to do what our Federal government will not do, according to Our CONSTITUTION. Every congressman took an oath to protect what is written in Our CONSTITUTION, The ones that do not uphold their Oath of Office, should be charged with dereliction of duty and fired, or recalled.
Thank you Governor of AZ, for making the stand.
We are with you.
Sincerely,
--Steven Bebich

Despite the outcry from liberals and other misguided go-gooders, Arizona has every right to protect it's citizens from the invasion of illegal aliens and drug runners pouring across our southern border, and in my opinion the state should make the new law harsher by imposing a complete ban on any medical, financial, driver license, or housing aid for All those who cannot show proof of citizenship checked with both state and federal computer data bases.
The state should also pass or use current legislation to impose HUGE and punitive fines on all employers that hire illegal aliens. If there was a complete ban on the hiring of illegal aliens, and on providing them any form of social services, the incentive for them to come north would be destroyed, and all this can be done under existing laws. Protests by Latinos crying that this is racial profiling and intolerance should be invited to return to their countries of origin, and forfeit any acquired citizenship.

As to the cartel smuggling and the violence these cartel members bring into the state, and in fact all states, Arizona should redeploy its National Guard to bar the crossing of the border by any unauthorized persons, and if the federal government continues to refuse its constitutional duty to secure the borders, the state and other states facing the same illegal immigration issues have the right to secede from the union. The feds cannot have it all their way.
--Francis Crawford

What else is new?? Washington (and the courts) have been chipping away our CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, piece by piece, for a long time.
It seems, whoever is in power, interprets the Constitution their own way - and it has nothing to do with the letters stored in the Archives.
The Immigration matter is a very serious invasion of our country. Where else can illegal immigrants survive???? If they want to be American Citizens, there is a way to legalize their status - otherwise, remove them from our soil.
--Erna Boldt, Oregon

As one citizen of Texas, I wholeheartedly support Arizona in passing this law. I hope Texas follows suit. I will push for it. I understand one of our legislators plans to introduce it when the legislature meets. We may have to pressure Governor Perry if he is still governor. He has been for open borders in the past.
--Elsie Stevenson, Houston, Texas

I come from Tucson and I watched that lovely city torn apart throughout the 90's and 2000's by violent Mexican gangs. They engage in such entertainments as driving through middle-class neighborhoods and shooting at random into homes, wounding and sometimes killing people.
Theft became rampant and I had Tucson police tell me on more than one occasion, when I or friends were victims of crime, that virtually all crime in Tucson was committed by illegal aliens.
These illegals are not the same as previous generations of legal immigrants who moved north from Mexico and points further south. These are often violent, uneducated, mainly indigenous people who are the descendants of the Aztecs.
I would also like to add that the Mexican government is actively trying to push these landless peasants into the US by the millions because, otherwise, they would have a rebellion on their hands due to the inequities of their feudal-type system. About every hundred years Mexico undergoes a revolution, the last one began about a hundred years ago. The elites know that if they cannot push out millions of poor then they will become the victims of another such revolution.
Thank you for your good work,
--Laurence Adair
(formerly of Arizona, now living in a safer place further north)

I agree. If the feds will not uphold one of the few laws they are regulated to let the State enforce it.





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from page 15 • Immigrants vs. Illegals

I live in a Sanctuary city and have watched our taxes go up and are bills for infrastructure increase.

If they do not like where they live South of the border let them make changes there.

--Johny A Belgarde

If my ancestors who were Chinese did what the Mexicans did, they would be booted out of the States and headed right back to China.

--Holly Rose Thornbutt

Hurray!! Arizona!! Every state should do the same!

--John Schardien

The feds are committing treason every time they attack any part of the constitution the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 10th or ANY part of the US Constitution.

I fully agree with the governor of Arizona and the people have every RIGHT to protect them selves ANY way they need to.

If our so call feds don't like it then get out of office or leave the US and let the GOD fearing and Constitutionalist Republic people clean this mess up.

I am damn sick and tired of seeing our US going down the tube. We The People will correct this problem with GOD's help. In GOD we trust.

--Ken Barker, Washington State Patriot

Due to Obama's continued lawlessness with impunity I have signed Arizona's petition showing support for their right to defend themselves. Great job Jan Brewer!!!

ANY state who returns to The Constitution "for" the united states of America and it supporting documents as the Supreme Law of the land get's my vote.

I'm tired of the DC corruption, Obama and the push for Islam superiority and socialism/Marxism. As a matter of personal opinion, Obama will likely be recorded as the idiot who started Civil War 2.

If I ever move, Arizona will be my new Home State!

--John Nutter

I agree and my entire extended family agrees with you. California, where I live, is a joke and I don't blame you for not hosting an event here. CA can't handle her own messes but is going to tell another state how to handle theirs....what a joke. Illegal's are NOT immigrants. It is a slap in the face to legal immigrants, who came here the honest way, to treat illegal's with the same respect and rights. Any boycotts against Arizona should be handled with all the legal firepower Arizona can muster. GOD bless Arizona and their stand for what's right.

--Robert Morrison

A triple thank you for having the courage and wisdom to correct the problem of the borders. You have started a fire that needed to be started. This nation is behind you--except for the "mental disorder liberals" == keep up the pressure you are winning.

--Arnie

I'm 110% in favor if the decision by Arizona to enforce the existing law. Being from Texas I.m frustrated by the comments made by our "toll-road" governor Perry to criticize it.

--Walter Tilleman

You deserve atta-boys till the cows come home, GOOD FOR YOU!!!!

I do disagree with you on one point. You write below "An illegal alien is not an immigrant; they are law-breaking invaders." I believe even simpler they are "CRIMINALS".

Once again you have many accolades from me.....

--Darell Hott

You asked for opinions on Arizona Illegal Immigrant law, so here goes. On its intent, I agree with it. However in its practice it is a disaster for freedom loving people. Think about this for a minute. A police officer can demand ID from ANYONE. He may or may not suspect illegal status. He may just have a

grudge or a bad day. He cannot be sued for any misconduct under this legislation. He can detain anyone including Americans unless they prove via Govt issued ID that they are in America legally. Sounds like Nazi Germany to me.

A much better way to handle this would be, to forbid Americans from hiring illegals. Impose fines and jail time if necessary. If they couldn't get a job they (the illegals) would go home, or go through the proper avenues to become legal.

Harrassing & detaining citizens is the wrong approach....There are already documented examples posted on youtube of this happening.

--Jonathan

I fully back Arizona's new law. I just hope more states do the same thing. King Obama's people are never going to follow the constitution or the rule of law. The sooner BHO is out of the White House the better.

--Anonymous

I live in AZ.

We need to build a fence on all 4 borders. Hold your conference here.

--Donald Lammie

I and many people here in Michigan that i know feel that Arizona's law is right on and that all other States should follow their example. If the Federal Government doesn't want to do it's job about this issue, then i believe that States have the right under the 9th and 10th amendments. The Feds haven't done anything about this issue for at least the last 25 years or so.

A Fellow Patriot,

--David Gould, Michigan

It should never have developed to the point it has this moment. But sooner is always better than later and I support AZ fully. I'm in Minnesota and I would move to AZ in a heartbeat should I have the opportunity. I admire the governor standing up and doing something that has gone undone because it was too hard...I am a patriot and I love America. I am also a tea party patriot and am active however I am needed.

--Mavis Goebel

I find it incredible that we even have to defend Arizona to enforce Federal law. It is absolutely ridiculous that we have to listen to Mexico's so-called President berate the United States-- and our own President agreeing with him! I only hope we can survive this guy for the next 2 1/2 years of what will hopefully be his only term! Shame on those who voted for him in the first place, and particularly shame on those who continue to defend his socialist (at the least) attitude. As a proud former U.S. Army Captain, and decorated veteran of the war in Viet Nam, I am thoroughly disgusted with those who forget about those who keep them safe, yet vigorously defend illegal aliens who break our Nation's laws. A few Predators patrolling our southern border would substantially reduce this unwanted invasion.

--Daryl E. Capurro

When/if a Government Agency such as ICE tells a U.S. State, it will not assist in the State/FED immigration "Rule of Law", Why would we seriously want to keep paying that agency? Delete!

When other States join AZ in this discussion of Securing our Borders, and Protecting the American People, will they also be told the same thing?

Personally I am in favor of busing all illegals to Amnesty States. You keep the illegals, we'll keep our laws.

Barack Hussein Obama is not Governing this Country as a President, he is running this Government as a dictator. It's time for Impeachment. I am tired of the lies, deceit, and treason.

--Marie, Arizona

AZ is perfectly legal and constitutionally sound on this law. Pray for the protection of her governor.

Blessings,

--Melanie

In re: your special message on Arizona's new immigration law, I firmly agree with your stand on taking your constitutional rights conference away from California, along with any money that would have been spent in California by your attendees. I also, as a resident of a northern border state, completely agree with the state of Arizona, and its governor and legislators who passed this law.

--D. Schnyer, Vermont

I am in absolute agreement with Arizona... just wonder what took them so long... We live in an area where many of the illegals have moved into... you should see their houses.. they brick and stone them, add a few rooms onto them, get into their new pickup, go to the grocery store and buy five hundred dollars worth of meat at one time. guess how they pay for it ??? FOOD STAMPS... There's something wrong with that picture. And, the seniors don't get a COL raise until the third year from now... We are raising grandkids. The third set of kids for us to raise with the same school for two sets... Now there are 98 percent Mexican kids who cant stand our kids because they don't speak Spanish, have light skin, and if you ain't Mexican you ain't nothing is the way they put it to our kids who are one quarter Mexican. The twelve year old we have we just pulled out of public school to home school him. The



little one we will leave in until things become a problem for him.

My husband's dad was from Mexico... did it all the legal way. Ask this family how they feel about the illegals. Why did you come here if you just want to turn this country into what you left behind? I could write a book. Most of the people my husband talks to who are illegal, when asked if they knew they were breaking the law they say, yes, they knew and that they don't care. They come with the idea of working the system and that is exactly what they do.

Way to go Arizona..... and lots of others I hope..

--Elinore H.

At last! Someone has raised the point ignored by most; the issue here is not immigration. We are a nation of immigrants. No, the issue here is illegal, uncontrolled entry into our country by foreigners, which is against federal law. This administration refuses to acknowledge this, or to even use the word "illegal". They refuse to protect our borders, and continually speak of "immigrants" to cloud the issue, and insinuate that arizona is trampling on the rights of legal immigrants. Arizona did the proper thing and took action because the federal government refuses to do their job. I am betting that Calderone's trip here and his prepared speech to chastise Arizona and Americans for persecution of "immigrants" were all arranged by Obama and his staff. Most of us know it is all a part of vote-pandering to the hispanic population. I fully support the Arizona governor's actions. She is acting in self-defense for the good of her state, when the federal government will not enforce their own laws. Most Arizonans support her also.

--Carl Mckenzie, Honolulu

Frankly, I am stunned that Arizona had the guts to not only pass this recent legislation

but the backbone they show in supporting it. I am 110% behind them and will support them all that I can. The next thing they need to do is get rid of McCain. I cannot believe these two situations exist in the same state.

--Chuck Kimberl, Skylight, KY

This is one of the first "Laws" passed by any state that does not violate the United States Constitution.

--Ed Winegart

Yes, I agree with what Arizona is doing to protect their borders from illegal immigrants. Since the federal govt. is doing NOTHING to protect the people of Arizona from foreign invaders, I agree that it falls on the State to do something about the problem. If California wants to boycott them, I say Pull The Plug!!

--Mike X

Every state should follow suit. The Federal gov't could care less about us, we need to start caring about ourselves. Bravo Arizona!!!!

--Richard Joseph

You see not the errors of your thoughts.... I see your point on illegal immigrants but the method is madness.

Think about it...put your self in the shoes of someone who has lived in the US for generations, maybe even gone to war for

your nation...but because he looks Hispanic, this gives any one the right to question their citizenship, and to carry papers at all times? Reminds me from a scene in a WWII movie, German or Russian officers grilling regualr people for their papers. So much for land of the free!

This is only the precedence, as next government may want to make you prove who you are, are you willing to be prepared to be harassed any time any where based on your looks.

The US is long since been a great nation...not since the early founding years, even then there have always been those who seek to control and rule, steal and manipulated.

They are doing it to you today with this new groundbreaking law and it will only grow to a point they may demand it from you, and if you don't happen to have all your "documents in order", then what?

Wake up to reality.

--Cantransam@aol.com

At age 69 I have seen our laws, our politicians, our Judiciary, as well as other branches of Government stray from our Constitution and Bill of Rights to the point that they may as well have been written on Charmin. To me those two documents are the very foundation of our Nation as well as our society . Without them we are floundering in stormy seas. When we remove the two documents from our society in order to fight our enemies we have in essence allowed them to win their fight against us. This is not a new direction since we have seen a decline in the direction of our nations direction since we have declared a Global Doctrine that is little less than One World Governance. That being where we as a nation lose our sovereignty to rule ourselves. I cry for not only the losses we have endured and adjusted to but for those apparent losses the heirs to our nation will

see in their lifetimes. We have failed in keeping the Republic safe from the very people we have elected for the last 30 years. Those that should have honored their vows to our nation. Our Politicians once asked God for direction but these days they ask the lobby or PAC groups who are nothing more than hired destroyers of our nation.

--Bill O'Neil

Our nation was permanently changed by the invasion from abroad, primarily Mexico, but also China, Europe, and the rest of Asia. The change is not a good change. It is a move away from Rugged Individualism, the American Free Enterprise system, decentralized government, small government, christian morality, and freedom for the Individual. It is a move toward centralized government, slavery for the Individual, a planned economy, circumstantial morality, and a giant government.

How can illegal immigration cause all this? Simple. They vote! Liberals in this country help them vote. One example of many is B-1 Bob Dornan's loss a number of years ago in California's Orange County to Linda Chavez. It was proven that his loss by less than two thousand votes was caused by multiple thousands of illegal aliens voting, and the liberals in congress knew the truth and yet did nothing. She is still in Congress today! Whom do you think she favors?

--John Frise

Why dont we have anyone with enough guts to deport 12 million like Eisenhower, 2 million like Truman and all in the country by president Hoover? I wish you could help us in Montana! We have been trying to find a judge that has the guts to call a grand jury to indite, so we can recall! I am told by long time resident that they do have the proof of laws broken against the people of MT. Let me know ASAP. We will rally and get the votes.

--John Harbour

Arizona had no choice but to protect herself. They are just doing the job that the Federal Government is supposed to do. I think that we should support Arizona by visiting the state all year!!!!!! Others are going to boycott so we should visit and spend \$ there!

--Carol Peters, Bend, Oregon

I was born and raised in California but I am embarrassed by the fools who supposedly represent us in this state, and I will look for any opportunity to jettison them from office. This used to be such a great state in the 50's and the 60's but we have given it away to the Illegals and the Marxist politicians. I, for one, will look for any opportunity to support Arizona by visiting and spending money there---or anything else that I can do which lets them know that America is applauding their efforts.

-- Ronald Dean Moyers, Lake Elsinore, Ca.

I agree with this law. 100%. When did it become ok to dis respect my flag? when did it become ok to deny me help even though i have worked my whole life and deposited into america? Why is it ok that i have to continue working to pay for people that are illegal, they wouldn't pay for me. when did we become so concerned about arguing about everything other than what made us "one nation under God" people complain about Christians and wish they would go away, well one day we will all be gone and i feel sadness for those left behind. yes i do read my bible. one last why is it ok for every other belief to be able to stand up and declare they be noticed but that the one belief that made America strong not be able to do the same thing?

Oh I guess a president that doesn't back his own country makes it easier for others to have a go at us. Why? Not nobody is going to do anything about it, well, if they do they are called Rednecks, prejudice and the such. I think I like the speech made by Australia's leader "you don't like our way then leave"

I'm sad for us.

--Nadine Parker

I support Arizon's law 100%. It merely legalizes their law enforcement officials to enforce FEDERAL law.

Personally I feel that it is way past time for the individual States to secede from the nanny-state fedgov and reestablish their INDEPENDENCE as sovereign states in a union. Arizona with it's immigration law and other States with their 2d Ammendment related laws have started this, but it needs to become a common theme in ALL the States. Unlike the War of Northern Aggression the fedgov can't occupy all 50 States. First the military is too small and a great portion of the active military would not support it. I suspect that almost all the National Guard units would not.

Of course this would require the States and their Citizens to give up the federal subsidies they receive each year and live on their own means something I find unlikely. Too many americans (small "a" intended) have come to depend on federal handouts and programs to survive.

--Anonymous

Glad to hear that and let others know why. You have the forum to do it. Once again, that will be a grand show of support for AZ and all who want our elected leaders to follow the laws that are already in place.

Good job!

--Adam Pope

Good for you! I also stand behind Arizona.....100%. Many people in this nation don't understand freedom, or how our Nation was born. We've lost so much in the passing of many elder Americans.

I applaud you for not holding your meeting in California.....at least until the majority of californians get their head into some "fresh air". If the illegal aliens could all be "transported" to an island in the

Atlantic, we'd see California's financial problems come about face! Regards,

--Bill Miller

We two are in agreement with it, and hope as many other States that would, follow suit!!!! I believe Idaho is among those already working towards this.

--Tom and Julie Igo, Republican Precinct Committeeman and Wife, Idaho County

Arizona's law is a well written law that is protective of civil rights. That is why the left is so upset about it. The unfortunate fact is that Arizona may get a measure of control over its own borders but contingent states will still have a problem. The federal government must enforce its own immigration law with increased manpower at the border.

--Sam Spalla, Spring Grove, PA

I think what Arizona is doing is great and wish more States would follow their lead. I live in Texas and would love to see it happen here but wonder if our leaders here have the guts or fortitude to begin such actions?

--Darla Jones

The CRY convention would be a great, good effort. I would not be personally able financially or health-wise to attend. The support of Arizona (vs. CA) would be one of the most important factors which draws my attention at this moment!! Two thumbs up for the idea!

--Jack Kessler, Beaverton, OR

I support your decision 150% This is a awesome move on the Observers part. Way to go!!!

--Lou

I'm all for the Arizona law. Why not hold your conference in the Phoenix area?

--Nicholas Landholt

When Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer signed the nation's toughest immigration law into affect on Friday, April 23rd 2010, one could safely assume that the wheels of immigration reform were set into motion not only in Arizona, but also in the Southwest and perhaps even within the entire United States of America. In addition, one could arguably say that with Gov. Brewer's signature upon the legislative document, that a "shot heard 'round the world" was essentially fired that in retrospect could be considered akin to the historically famous "shot" fired in Lexington Green Massachusetts in 1775 that touched off our struggle for independence and sovereignty.

With the 18th Century event being most obvious in magnitude and importance, both actions will undoubtedly be seen as history changing events upon this continent, albeit they were 4 days shy of 235 years apart in occurrence. The fall-out from each action was both swift and far-reaching, and each has made a bold statement that eventually reached the eyes and ears of individuals across the globe.

In the month's time that has now passed since the Brewer signing, there have numerous demonstrations and counter-demonstrations held to either support or decry the far-reaching ramifications of both the real and perceived effects that the immigration bill will bring to bear. Proponents of the law yell "it's about time we enforce the immigration laws of this country, thank you Gov. Brewer" while conversely, the opponents yell "you're going to bring discrimination and civil rights violations upon all Mexican's living in the U.S., damn you Gov. Brewer" and both sides present their arguments with unbridled zeal and passion for their cause.

With the new law scheduled to go into effect this Summer, posturing will continue and legal judgments will be made in Federal courts of law with the Constitutionality of the bill being brought into question. Subsequently, the bleeding that begins in 2010 is likely to last much longer than any wound caused by a musket-ball in 1775, and it's polarizing affect will be equally profound. The actions of Colonial's in revolt had once served to bring about the American Revolutionary "War", and one has to now wonder if the action's of Arizona's Gov. Brewer will serve to bring about Revolutionary "change" to the present-day United States of America.

In my humble opinion, every LEGAL U.S. citizen (no matter what their race) will one day be better off without the financial drain, drug peddling and vicious gang member activity that has been thrust upon our country by criminal minded individuals whom have endeavored to circumvent our long-standing immigration law by illegally invading the Southern border States. I would also desire to see any involved Law Enforcement personnel carry out their duties with dignity and honesty, keeping in mind always that they're sworn to uphold and defend the U.S. Constitution for EVERY American citizen that it encounters as it enforces our country's immigration law. I do whole-heartily believe that doing so will be crucial in determining the success or failure of what Arizona and Gov. Brewer have set-out to accomplish, and will ultimately provide the content for the next written chapter in our nation's history.

--Jeffrey Ullsperger

For those of us that live in states and cities that have publicly condemned the Arizona immigration law as racist, and have organized boycotts of Arizona goods and services, may I suggest that you forward this article to the mayors and politicians that are vociferous in their opposition to Arizona's law, and to the media in these states and cities to manifest how hypocritical they are. This is prevalent not only in California, but also in Seattle, and other liberal establishments.

--Francisco

★★★