January 28, 2013

To: The Gun Violence Prevention Working Group

Regarding: Recently Proposed Restrictions Including Outright Bans On Firearms, Ammunition and Related Components Such As Magazines, Style and Cosmetic Appearances.

Position: I Oppose All Bans and Restrictions That Are Being Considered As Written.

I Support The Enforcement of Existing Laws, Severe Punishment For Criminals Who Break Them.

Dear,

Committee Members, Senators and Representatives, I am Christopher J. Misseri of Granby, Connecticut and I'm here today to testify on behalf of myself and other concerned citizens of Connecticut.

As a registered voting constituent of the 7th and 62nd Districts State of Connecticut I'm here to speak to you and offer my thoughts and suggestions. I am the face of an honest law-abiding citizen I have never been arrested or lost my rights I have chosen a path in life like millions of citizens to remain that way following the laws of the our country and state. Criminals do not follow this creed they don't have to this is what separates good from evil and criminals from the rest of society. But with a well-meaning ill-informed stroke of a pen this can all change and we the law-abiding citizens overnight will have joined the ranks of the criminals.

We must all work together for a common good but taking away my rights as a firearms owner and blaming good people for the sins of sick people and the criminals seems to be rule and not the exception today we must stop them, punish them hold them accountable not the people who follow the rules.

Today we are faced with violence at every turn examples Television, Hollywood's violent depiction in movies along with sick and violent video games have plagued our society and getting worse every day where is their accountability in all of this. Let's lay blame where it belongs the erosion of morals the breakup of the family structure the Godless world where as you can't mention Gods name at a public venue or a school yet everyone asks how God could of let a tragedy like the Sandy Hook shooting happen it happened because a criminal committed murder and proceeded with his carnage to murder more adults and children along the way.

'Children on drugs and alcohol, adults on drugs and alcohol uppers, downers and everything in between. Physicians handing prescriptions out like gum drops expecting to cure society's diseases with a pill only adds to the problem and what gets the blame an inanimate object such as a firearm and in my opinion you are totally misguided in your thinking and approach to solving the problem.

This person who committed this terrible crime and the others like it are sick criminal's not law-abiding responsible firearms owners who have permits and who have taken required courses, training and also passed background checks and were deemed by law to have the right to own a firearm of their choosing. Now federal and state governments are going to choose which firearms I or others can own and how many bullets it can hold in its magazine based on what it looks like cosmetically.

You must understand as lawmakers you can't legislate and pass laws that stop sick people from committing crimes like this if a firearm isn't available to these sick cowards they will most likely choose

another weapon perhaps an auto traveling at high speed like a missile towards a school playground or a sporting event or construct a bomb that they learned how to make on the internet.

Reacting to bad situations by passing more restrictive laws and bad ones at that are not the answer and quite a few times in the past proven very ineffective on curbing crimes tough penalties curb criminal activities let the police do their jobs and for God's sake keep them in prison where they belong stop letting the criminals run the place along with letting them out on early release.

The news media has demonized people both male and female young and old who have taken up the sport of hunting, target shooting or ownership of firearm for the protection of one's life, family or property yet they enjoy the spoils of the crimes bad news sells, controversy sells and get sponsorships on their stations they rake in millions of dollars. I don't see them doing their part by not running graphic adds advertising the latest Hollywood violent movies that sensationalize shooting and killing throughout its entire run or the movies on television that teach our children how to kill and get away with it.

Banning so called assault weapons, large capacity magazines and cosmetically dressed AR style rifles along with the long list of other firearm are not the end all answer, enforcing the more than twenty two thousand or more gun laws that are in existence and on the books now is a sensible approach to stopping crimes committed with guns.

A little known fact firearms are used over two million times a year in the United States to save a person's life or the life of another in the commission of a crime, protect property stop rapes and the list goes on. .Many times without a shot being fired. Where is the news media to report these kinds of stories they aren't interested in telling these kinds true-life stories. Firearms are a deterrent to serious crimes when used by law-abiding people exercising their 2nd Amendment rights.

A firearm no matter its looks or function semi auto, bolt action or single feed is not an assault weapon in till it is used to assault someone or destroy property a gun is not evil, people are evil that use them for that reason and this why we must preserve our rights now and for future generations to come.

States and cities with the most restrictive gun laws also have the highest crime rates and murders in the country and contrary to most people's belief's countries that have outlawed firearms share this same trait high crime, rapes, assaults home invasions are the norm. Gun free school zones don't protect children or adults they offer soft targets for criminal's period not safety like they are lead to believe. Children are murdered everyday across this country in inner cities by murdering lowlife cowards where was the outrage until now the Sandy Hook Tragedy they are all Tragedies that are carried out by sick demented , evil can never be stopped no matter what laws are enacted.

As a rule the police show up after the crime has been committed and long after the criminal has carried out their plans to rob or kill innocent people they are there to take names of witnesses, preserve the crime scene, take photos, count shell cases and so on. You are your own first line of defense and without the proper tools we lose our lives or the lives of loved ones.

A firearm when used as a tool for lawful hunting, target shooting or to defend one's life and property by a law-abiding citizen is just that a necessary tool good to have on hand when and if needed.

The fact of the matter is I don't want to be punished for the sins of others punish the criminals keep the guns out of their hands punish them according to the crimes committed by them. Keep a watch on mentally disturbed individuals educate don't legislate.

Banning and outlawing is not the answer it will hurt many companies big and small all across the state and country for that matter it will put them out of business the firearm and support companies employ millions of hard working American citizens they don't deserve to lose their jobs. And for that matter the State of Connecticut stands to lose a lot of revenue if these senseless laws are passed.

I am opposed to the posting and making public the firearm permit holders names and addresses along with any personal information regarding firearm ownership this is a bad idea and a downright danger to gun owners, permit holders and people who don't own firearms .What I envision is that the only people that will be interested in that kind of information will be the somewhat curious ones and a whole lot of criminals with the intentions of breaking into our homes and stealing our firearms how many more people will lose their lives and property in the commission of these kinds of crimes and then it's off to the neighbors' homes to rob or kill them because by following the list of have and have not's a criminals work of having this information has been handed to them by the State Of Connecticut. Don't follow New York down this same dangerous path the blood will be on their hands don't make it on yours also.

I am opposed to the outlawing of internet sales and transfer of legal firearms through an FFL dealer in our state and also opposed to the banning of ammunition purchases these are not the problem and hurts interstate commerce as I am opposed to all restrictive Bills that impose and cause hardships on lawful gun owners.

I want to thank you for your time and opportunity to express my concerns and hope you consider my suggestions and ideas.

Sincerely

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