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Date: January 24, 2013 3:24:09 PM EST
To: asaferconnecticut@cga.ct.gov
Subject: pending gun laws

I am a retired school administrator. I advocated and eventually convinced the board of education to place an armed police officer at the middle school level. This was over thirteen years ago! I have broken up fights in which students were slashing each other with box cutters. I have restrained students who became violent under the influence of drugs and alcohol. I have had students who have murdered. I have confronted and barred parents and other adults who attempted to enter school under the influence, were mentally unstable, or had restraining orders not to contact students. One of these parents eventually killed his wife and is in a mental institution.

When I became an elementary principal I was the first line of protection as the board did not assign police to the elementary schools. There were many days I wish I was armed. Both , Joe Liberman and Rosa DeLauro have visited my school. They both complimented me on the school environment, where the students were quiet,well mannered, and showed respect for authority. The students were friendly and eager to learn. I believe this was because they felt safe and secure.

I also drive a pickup truck. I wear camouflage to the grocery store. I have a pistol permit. I hunt. I belong to a gun club. I shoot 225 rounds of ammunition per week and reload my own shotgun shells.

I was responsible enough to teach and protect students for 38 years but now can not be trusted to own guns,buy ammunition or components, or have the ability to fire more than one shot according to Mr. Meyers.

I have a son who is on active duty as a Lt. Commander in the Coast Guard. He is trusted to board ships armed to protect this nation , but not at home? ARE WE REALLY THE PEOPLE YOU WANT TO LEGISLATE AGAINST?

I would like to use the term, "with all due respect" when asking " what are you thinking" But I have no respect for what some of you are doing!!!

Bill Kotowski