

Saturday January 26, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is David DeBlasi and I strongly do not support any restrictions on any types of firearms or of magazine capacity.

A little bit of background on myself is that I have been a Connecticut licensed Realtor for over three years. I have also been an avid pistol shooter since the age of 17. In the Past two years I have been shooting competitively in U.S.P.S.A and Steel Challenge along with Steel Plate matches across New England and down the entire east coast, both with my pistol and rifle (an AR-15 style rifle). Although I mostly shoot pistol, the rifle is also an important part of the sport.

A magazine capacity ban would completely kill the sport I am in. Not only are some of the ten round magazines un-reliable because they are modified from their original design, but also in action pistol competition, capacity is key. This is also very important in a self-defense situation. In Connecticut we have a large drug problem. It is a common fact that an attacker who is high on today's drugs will sometimes not even know they have been shot! This could make a very scary situation if someone has intent to do harm towards you and you cannot stop your attacker. Let alone trying to defend yourself under a "stress fire" event. It will be hard for anyone to make proper hits when blood pressure rises and fight or flight kicks in.

An AR-15 style rifle has been around since the early 1960s, therefore we've had it around for over 50 years.

I can tell you it isn't the guns fault, its safe storage and mental heath issues. It is common practice in US history that military rifles are used by civilians for hunting and sporting use as well as self-protection. For example the Mauser 98 bolt-action rifle evolved into all of the bolt-action rifles seen today, the semi auto M1/M1A as well. In fact, the only gun coined the term "the poor mans deer rifle" is the semi auto Russian SKS is 7.62x39. This is the firearm that the AK-47 replaced. It is inexpensive and has a round that you can hunt a deer with. Even though I do not hunt I know many deer hunters in CT who use such rifle. I believe we should better enforce the laws on the books we have now and get the illegal guns off of the streets. I believe that the storage laws should be changed and people should invest in gun safes to store their guns in. I keep my guns locked up and everyone else should too. If Nancy Lanza's guns had been kept in a safe where Adam did not have access to them, Sandy Hook would not have happened, or he would of used something else to carry out his evil act of violence. I also believe we should close the background check loophole for private sales of rifles in Connecticut. Every person buying a gun should have to go through a background check, it is common sense.

Thank you for your time



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