

Dear Sir or Madam:

Firstly, like all of us in CT, I had tears in my eyes on December 14th and prayed for the victims and families of Sandy Hook.

I'm writing to you to say that emotional knee-jerk reactions to a tragedy do NOT rectify the behavior that leads to future violence and that restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves is not the answer, as it's obvious criminals are not law-abiding.

It's been reported in the news that decisions from the Legislature are forthcoming without the usual public comment period and before the Sandy Hook investigation is complete. This only supports the knee-jerk, emotional approach I mention versus a logical, appropriate one. It also only guarantees that the constitutionality will be later challenged only causing the final outcome to be delayed that much more or possibly eliminated.

I agree with requiring CT citizens wishing to be gun owners to be permitted only after being properly trained and having a background check accomplished. I agree that this right can be suspended or lost if a person engages in felonious criminal activity or their mental stability changes to a point that they are potentially unsafe toward themselves or others inasmuch as possessing a firearm is concerned. I agree that permitted gun owners should lock their weapons when not under their direct control. (If this last item had been followed then it's likely Adam Lanza would have not been able to KILL his Mother and STEAL her weapons in order to commit 26 senseless MURDERS.

So I ask that as the Legislature addresses the current onslaught of gun control bills, that they think LOGICALLY versus EMOTIONALLY, that they follow appropriate DUE PROCESS and not an INAPPROPRIATE USE OF EMERGENCY POWERS, and that they not PUNISH LAW ABIDING CITIZENS WITH LAWS THAT THE CRIMINALS WILL NEVER FOLLOW. To limit the public's right to protect themselves from said criminals would only be AN INJUSTICE TO THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES AT SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

I thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas J. Pesce
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Middletown, CT