

Gun Violence Prevention Working Group

Dear Legislators,

I am writing this letter to your working group to share my thoughts on the topic of more gun laws and restrictions. I am against any new laws or a more restrictive set of the so called "military features" to be placed on our semi-automatic firearms. These features have no affect on the function of these firearms. A weapon, not just a firearm, in the hands of some one set on committing unthinkable acts, has no respect for or care about the laws. This will only hurt the people in this state that follow those laws.

I am not fearful of an evil person who has made up their mind to break the law and try to harm others. I am trained. I practice with my firearm. I would do everything in my power to stop such a person. I carry my firearm, not because I'm afraid, but because I understand evil people do exist. And if evil comes my way I want every advantage I can get. Because, it might not be me protecting my wife and two small children. It could happen when I'm not around. Then it would be up to my wife. So, she needs every possible advantage. Without a firearm or limited magazine capacity, what chance would she have against just one attacker, let alone two, three..... Again, I'm not fearful of these types of people, I hope I'm never in a situation that I need to use my firearm.

Below I have attached some statistics. It shows we do not need more laws here in CT, we already have some of the toughest, most restrictive laws in the country. As a state we need to punish those using firearms illegally. Just catching the "bad guy" isn't enough. They need to be held accountable for their actions and be locked up. Just look at the data, out of 26,725 people roughly 18,975 were not prosecuted! That's only between 2001-2007. We have the laws, we can obviously catch the criminals, but we need to actually send them to prison for the crimes they commit. Not just drop the charges and let them walk away, only to repeat the process all over again.

And in the FBI uniform crime reports 2011. You can see in CT only one person was murdered by someone using a rifle. One person.

I believe it is absolutely clear, more laws and restrictions are not the answer.

Thank you

Jeff Pirro

Granby,CT

OLR report number 2007-R-0442

CARRYING PISTOL WITHOUT A PERMIT (CGS § 29-35(a))

58% of the people arrested were not prosecuted.

ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF ASSAULT WEAPON (CGS § 53-202c)

47% of the people arrested were not prosecuted.

USE FIREARM TO COMMIT A CLASS A, B, OR C FELONY (CGS § 53-202k)

72% of the people arrested were not prosecuted.

STEALING A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-212)

73% of the people arrested were not prosecuted.

POSSESS FIREARM OR DEADLY WEAPON ON SCHOOL GROUND (CGS § 53a-217b)

83% of the people arrested were not prosecuted.

CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF PISTOL OR REVOLVER (CGS § 53a-217c)

55% of the people arrested were not prosecuted.

In total 26,725 people were arrested for firearm violations between 2001 and 2007 – 71% were not prosecuted.

FBI Uniform Crime Reports 2011-CT

Total Murders

128

Total Firearms Handgun Rifle Shotgun Firearms Unknown Knives/Cutting Other weapons Hands/Feet

94 54 1 1 38 18 10 6

