

Date: 2/1/2013

To: Gun Violence Prevention Working Group

From: Terry and Cindy Finazzo, Canton, CT

RE: Gun Violence Prevention Opinion

Thanks for listening to us

We understand how concerned you all are regarding gun violence in Connecticut. My wife and I share this very real concern. These are very difficult issues to resolve and we appreciate all the efforts throughout the state to make us safer.

We believe the following are our best, reasonable steps to take. They balance the safety issues and our rights under the second amendment:

1. Increase the penalties for committing crimes with a firearm and then make sure they are enforced.
2. Enforce strictly the many existing gun control laws. Criminals fear this the most.
3. We must address the mental health issues across a broad scale. These need to include feeding the various background check databases. Otherwise the background checks are ineffective.
4. Regarding school safety, we would be willing to pay higher town taxes (Canton) for increased security, even though we are retired.
5. We don't believe punishing law abiding citizens with increased gun control laws will change anything other than reduce our rights for no added safety.
6. Increased sales taxes on ammo, gun registration, long gun permits, assault gun bans, and limitations on magazine capacities are all feel good measures, don't materially make us safer, and really do mean a loss of gun rights in this state.
7. Last, but most important: Please, please do not force bills through under emergency certification. We deserve a say in these bills as they have a real impact on us. Connecticut is not New York where their new gun control laws were done in a very antidemocratic way, disfranchising millions. Very sad for them!

Thanks for all your hard work!

Terry and Cindy Finazzo
Canton, CT