



Arizona Citizens Defense League

Protecting Your Freedom

Volume 2014, Issue I

AzCDL's Membership Newsletter

February 2014

Board of Directors

Dave Kopp—President
John Wenting—Vice President
Fred Dahnke—Secty/Treasurer
"Duke" Schechter—Director
Tom Woodrow—Director

Available on the web
(www.AzCDL.org)

- AzCDL Goals & Successes
- Legislative Updates
- Court Cases
- Membership
- Newsletters
- Online Store
- Important Links

(and much more)

Need help accessing the web site? Contact AzCDL at webmaster@azcdl.org

Contacting AzCDL



P.O. Box 10325
Glendale, AZ 85318



Info@AzCDL.org



(623) 242-9086

Inside this issue:

Expanding NICS	1
The Mental Health Ruse	1
2014 Legislation	2 & 3
Activism Contest	3
Join us at Front Sight	4
Pistol Raffle	4

No Guns For You!

With attempts to eliminate private firearm ownership stalled at the federal level, attempts to strip you of your right to bear arms have shifted to the states. Support from the Administration and money from Soros and Bloomberg backed "AstroTurf" organizations have intensified these efforts.

Their plan is simple. Expand the state defined categories of Prohibited Possessors, used by the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background System (NICS), to limit those who can legally possess a firearm. Their ultimate goal is Universal Denial via universal background checks.



The Mental Health Ruse

The primary thrust of creating new prohibited possessors is requiring screening for mental illness and/or competency for firearms possession. The typical assumption is that anyone who has, or ever had, mental health issues is not treatable, a danger to themselves and others, and should be forever banned from possessing a firearm. Start with the most obvious, like the guy wearing a hockey mask and creating havoc with a chainsaw. Expand it to include Veterans with PTSD, kids on Ritalin, people on anti-depressants, someone experiencing mood swings from hormonal changes, people holding unpopular beliefs, etc. Eventually arrive at anyone wanting to possess a firearm must be mentally ill.

By framing this as a tool for law enforcement, the anti-rights zealots have even succeeded in getting normally pro-rights legislators to carry their water for them. So far in the current Arizona legislative session, three bills have been filed to restrict firearms ownership under the guise of mental health.

The most far-reaching of these is HB 2322. In addition to adding court rulings on mental competency to data fed to NICS, this bill would also include anyone simply charged, but not convicted, of certain firearms or domestic violence offenses as prohibited possessors. "Innocent until proven" guilty would no longer apply to firearms ownership in Arizona under HB 2322. The bill's primary sponsor, Rep. Justin Pierce, in reaction to feedback from AzCDL members, has promised the bill won't progress without protecting Arizona's law-abiding gun owners.

The remaining mental health bills are HB 2352 and 2356. HB 2352 would add those that *voluntarily* submitted themselves for mental evaluation to the list of prohibited possessors. HB 2356 would permit a law enforcement officer to determine your mental stability, request a court

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

ordered evaluation and confiscate your firearms.

Needless to say, AzCDL is working to defeat these and other bad bills and to get some very good bills passed this session. You can find all the bills that AzCDL is monitoring at our website:

http://www.azcdl.org/html/bill_tracking.html

More Bad Bills

In addition to the mental health bills we listed, the following are bills filed this session to further strip you of your right to bear arms and/or make you a criminal.

HB 2207—Discharging a firearm while intoxicated (.08 BAC) would become a Class 6 Felony. Thwart a home invasion while sitting at home having a beer and become a felon.

HB 2251—Would establish a committee to study Arizona's Stand Your Ground laws. The unstated goal is to repeal Stand Your Ground. The committee is just a cover.

HB 2345—Calls for the elimination of Constitutional Carry and the reestablishment of the older and more restrictive requirements to have a CCW permit. Ironically they want to take us back to the same laws that they opposed 20 years ago.

HB 2346 & SB 1456—Would require universal background checks for all firearm transfers, private as well as commercial. Universal Background Checks is a code phrase for Universal Registration. The ultimate goal is Universal Denial of firearms ownership.

HB 2518 & SB 1437—Would negate the justification of the use of deadly force if you leave a "place of safety" (undefined) to pursue someone engaged in a "lawful activity" (undefined) or if a law enforce-

2014 Legislation

ment officer requests that you retreat to a place of safety.

Under HB 2518 & SB 1437, if you spot a suspicious looking stranger standing on the sidewalk in front of your home (a lawful activity), watching your young children in the front yard, and you approach him (leave a place of safety) and he attacks you, you may not be justified in defending yourself.

HB 2542—Would require you to keep your firearms unloaded and locked away if someone under 18 might be able to gain access to them. This bill would also make you a felon if some young thug stole your firearm and injured himself or another.

HB 2631—Would remove the law prohibiting local municipalities from destroying firearms that have been seized or surrendered. Local demagogues want to reinstate punishing guns instead of criminals.

HB 2632—Would add to the list of prohibited possessors any person subject to a restraining order "that prohibits the person from possessing a firearm." This bill would criminalize, without due process, the subject of a *civil petition* requested by another party.

Above The Law?

In the "What were they thinking?" category is SB 1266 which would exempt Judicial Officers (e.g. judges) from laws related to many weapons misconduct statutes. These include possessing prohibited weapons, transferring a weapon to a prohibited possessor, possessing firearms with defaced serial numbers, and carrying weapons into Public (state and local government) buildings or events, schools, polling places and power generating facilities.

Judges work in buildings where firearms are banned while being surrounded by armed guards. They may also obtain CCW permits and can take

advantage of Arizona's Constitutional Carry like everyone else.



The Good Bills

The following are pro-rights firearms bills that AzCDL supports this session.

HB 2103—An AzCDL-requested bill that would lower the age limit for CCW permit eligibility to 19 for those with military service.

HB 2127—Removes the prohibition for wildlife guides to carry a firearm other than a pistol.

HB 2186—Would allow college and university faculty members with CCW permits to "possess a concealed firearm" on campus.

HB 2189—Eliminates the upper age limit for membership in the State Militia. Requires a Constitutional Amendment. See HCR 2010.

HB 2190—Establishes a program to promote marksmanship skills for the citizens of Arizona.

HB 2209—An AzCDL-requested bill that would expand Stand Your Ground and the justification for the use of deadly force.

HB 2336—Clarifies that law enforcement officers cannot carry a firearm and consume alcohol at licensed liquor establishments unless in the performance

(Continued on page 3)



2014 Legislation



(Continued from page 2)

of their duties. No such restrictions exist in current law. However law-abiding citizens are forbidden to carry in establishments that serve alcohol unless they possess a CCW permit and the establishment has not posted a "no firearms" sign.

HB 2337—Would add "in the performance of their duties" to the exemption from laws prohibiting the possession, transfer and carrying of prohibited and defaced weapons by wardens and correctional officers.

HB 2338—An AzCDL-requested bill that adds to the definition of Aggravated Assault the taking, or attempted taking, of a legally possessed firearm (other than by law enforcement in the performance of their duties).

HB 2339—An AzCDL-requested bill that would prevent Public establishments from banning firearms possessed by CCW permit holders unless methods (metal detectors, security personnel, etc.) are used to screen everyone entering.

HB 2443—Would allow active duty military personnel, stationed in Arizona, to obtain hunting licenses.

HB 2445—Allows Arizona courts to restore rights taken away by jurisdictions outside of Arizona.

HB 2483—Strengthens the protection of the lawful use of firearms, air guns and archery equipment on private property.

HB 2517—Would add penalties for political subdivisions (counties, cities, etc.) that enact ordinances that violate state firearms preemption law. Would also allow for civil actions by those adversely affected by these illegal ordinances.

HB 2535—Would facilitate transfers of NFA (National Firearms Act) registered firearms by requiring local law enforcement to sign the required certification on legitimate transfers within 15 days after receiving a request to do so.

HCR 2010—Companion to HB 2189. A proposed Constitutional Amendment to eliminate the upper age limit for membership in the State Militia.

HCR 2014—A proposed Constitutional Amendment strengthening our right against unreasonable search or seizure. Includes *electronic communication and data* in the list of items protected.

SB 1063—An AzCDL-requested bill. If a Public facility that bans firearms is not in compliance with the statutory storage requirements, a person entering with a firearm is not violating the law.

SB 1064—An AzCDL-requested bill that eliminates conflicting definitions of firearms. Currently there are two definitions. One includes air operated (e.g., BB) guns. By having two definitions, law enforcement can cherry-pick which statute they want to apply for any given situation.

SB 1294—Any federal law in violation of the Second Amendment would be void in Arizona. Would also make it illegal for any state agency or employee to enforce any federal firearms laws.

Legislative Activism Raffle

Efforts to strip you your Right to Keep and Bear Arms have intensified. Your active participation in the Legislative process is critical.

<http://cqrcengage.com/azcdl/home>

To encourage your involvement, this year we are holding an activism contest for AzCDL members.

<http://cqrcengage.com/azcdl/issues>

AzCDL members who send every email we provide for contacting legislators or the Governor during the 2014 legislative session, from our Legislative Action Center, will be entered into a drawing for a \$300 gift certificate from Brownells

(<http://www.brownells.com/>).



Since not everyone reading this may have become a member in time to participate for the entire legislative session, we will also conduct a drawing for a \$100 Brownells' gift certificate.

Every AzCDL member who sends at least one email we prepared from our Legislative Action Center during the 2014 legislative session, but who did

not win the "grand prize" will be eligible for this drawing.

This contest is open to AzCDL members only. If you are receiving our Legislative Alerts but are not an AzCDL member, you need to join AzCDL to participate.

<http://www.azcdl.org/html/membership.html>

During the session we send out weekly Legislative Alerts. Check your spam and junk mail filters to make sure you are not blocking AzCDL email. You can also check on issues needing your attention by going to our Legislative Action Center and clicking on the "Hot Issues" tab.



Join us at Front Sight

The heaviest thing about carrying a firearm is the responsibility that comes with it. Even though Arizona's CCW permit is optional, that doesn't relieve us from our duty to know the law and be competent in our "skill at arms." To that end, since 2010 AzCDL has been coordinating annual training visits to Front Sight's Nevada facility.

<http://www.frontsight.com/>

You are invited to join AzCDL on our fifth annual trek to Front Sight for a 4 day Defensive Handgun class that runs from Friday, April 11 through Monday, April 14, 2014.

Following the 4 day class, for those interested, is a one day class that, combined with the 4 day class, meets the qualifications for the Nevada, Utah and Florida CCW permits.

Information about these classes can be found at Front Sight's website.

Don't let the "suggested retail" cost of the classes scare you. Not only are affordable course certificates available



from AzCDL members and online sources such as eBay, *all-inclusive Front Sight Diamond memberships*, that allow you to attend all Front Sight classes as often as you want, are available at AzCDL's online store at a *steeply discounted price*.

http://www.azcdl.org/html/online_store.html
(scroll to the bottom of the store)

Because Front Sight trains several thousand students every year, and the Spring months provide a better climate, classes and hotels fill up fast.

AzCDL has reserved a block of hotel rooms at a special rate for these clas-

ses, at the Saddle West hotel in Pahrump, about a 20 minute drive from Front Sight.

For information about making your own class and hotel reservations please contact AzCDL Board member Duke Schechter at americanicon@cox.net.

To learn more about what to expect during your visit to Front Sight, along with information about gear to bring, ordering lunches, etc. please check out:

<http://www.frontsight.com/FirearmTraining/front-sight.asp>

AzCDL also maintains a Yahoo! discussion group for our Front Sight attendees' use. Feel free to join and post any questions or comments you may have about the upcoming classes:

http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/AzCDL_FS/info

See you at Front Sight!



Glock Pistol Raffle

AzCDL is self-funded and fiercely independent. We are not beholden to any political parties, outsiders, sugar daddies, corporate string pullers or New York billionaires.

We don't send out "the sky is falling" begging letters threatening your rights if your don't send us money like so many other organizations do. Instead, we ask that you keep your membership current, and whenever possible, we offer raffle tickets for really cool stuff.



Our current raffle is for 3 (three!) Glock Model 23 Gen 4 pistols. Each pistol is chambered for .40 S&W and comes with two full capacity magazines and interchangeable back straps.

Only 900 tickets have been printed

Each ticket represents 3 chances to win

The raffle drawing will be conducted on Sunday, March 30, 2014

Tickets are only \$10 each

Winners need not be present to win. However each winner must pick up their pistol from a federally licensed (FFL) firearms dealer and all applicable federal, state, and local firearms laws regarding the transfer of these firearms, and their magazines, must be followed.



Tickets are available at the AzCDL table in most gun shows.

Tickets can also be purchased from AzCDL's online store:

http://www.azcdl.org/html/online_store.html

Help support AzCDL's continued success—buy raffle tickets!