

Hello To All,

Every so often someone asks me why the SD Shooting Sports Association is affiliated legislatively with the National Rifle Association.

CASE 1

Gun confiscation by government officials temporarily became a reality in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina. Temporary is the key word here, thanks to the quick action by the National Rifle Association. While other national gun rights groups showed their rightful disgust and anger and cried out for this injustice to be halted, it was the NRA that filed suit with the United States District Court for the Eastern District in Louisiana. On September 23rd the court sided with the National Rifle Association (NRA) and issued a restraining order to ban further gun confiscations from peaceable and law-abiding victims of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. "This is a significant victory for freedom and for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The court's ruling is instant relief for the victims who now have an effective means of defending themselves from the robbers and rapists that seek to further exploit the remnants of their shattered lives", said NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre.

CASE 2

As the anti-gun Washington insiders attempt to disarm our population by litigating honest firearms manufacturers into bankruptcy, it is the NRA that makes the first strike every time with federal legislation to protect gun makers from these damaging frivolous lawsuits. A Florida Supreme Court decision in September 2005 against gun makers reaffirmed the need for the U.S. House of Representatives to act quickly in passing the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (S. 397). The court ruled that gun makers' commercial liability insurance policies do not cover them against damages that cities and counties are seeking for medical costs and other services related to gun violence. And then to compound matters, the U.S. Supreme Court refused the firearm industry's request to strike down a District of Columbia Court of Appeals ruling permitting lawsuits against firearms manufacturers. The NRA sponsored bills, S. 397 and H.R. 800, will put an end to these wrongful civil liability lawsuits. Once again, every national gun rights group rightfully cried out for justice for our firearms manufacturers, but only one took the preemptive legislative strike, the NRA.

CASE 3

In September of 2003, Weyerhaeuser Timber Mill in Oklahoma fired several employees for having legally concealed firearms in their vehicles on the company's public access parking lot. This infringement to their Second Amendment rights prompted a change to existing state law to prohibit this travesty from ever happening again. "No person, property owner, tenant, employer or business entity shall be permitted to establish any policy or rule that

has the effect of prohibiting any person, except a convicted felon, from transporting and storing firearms in a locked vehicle on any property set aside for vehicles” is how the law reads. Just a day before Oklahoma’s statute was to take effect, a federal lawsuit was filed by Conoco/Phillips effectively halting this much needed change to existing law. National gun groups were again openly outraged but only one took legal action. The NRA filed a “friend of the court” brief in the case and intends to see this through. Wayne LaPierre stated, “We did not seek out this fight, but it goes to the core of Second Amendment freedom. We will not rest until our rights are protected”.

These are just three examples of why I am proud to be affiliated with the strongest and most renowned pro gun group in the US. While other organizations rightfully talk the talk, it is the NRA that financially plunges into each situation with legislative or judicial remedies. As the NRA State Affiliate, the SD Shooting Sports Association strives to match the NRA’s commitment to gun owners at the state level. Our legislative accomplishment record is 100% and second to none. Since 1998, we have successfully lobbied to completion numerous bills that we have authored, without help from other SD gun rights groups (*), and without ever soliciting a dime from anyone. How can we have such a high success rate, you ask? It is because of people like you and an Alert Network such as this. This E-mail Alert Network was born three years ago and has grown to over 2,000 recipients state wide. It is the back bone for all of our successes. It allows you, the recipient , to have instant access to legislative happenings almost within the hour while our Legislature is in session from January to March. It is also a two sided forum and we encourage your input on these and all issues. As we lobby at the State Capital, it is always imperative that we know where the firearms’ owner’s concerns resonate from. **We represent you!**

As an informed gun owner, the power to make decisions and changes is now at your disposal. As many of you already know, being a member of SDSSA is not required to be a part of the Alert Network. Prior to session every year, in lieu of financial contributions, we ask our Alert Network recipients to invite two fellow gun owners to subscribe. The years thus far have proven that this network is effective and is all we need to be successful. So may we impose on you once again to help expand the Alert Network by signing up at least two new members. You can send their e-mail addresses directly to me at sdssala@cs.com or you can contact me using the below information. All new members receive an introductory e-mail message which explains our mutual goals towards protecting and enhancing our Second Amendment rights. Being a member of the SDSSA E-mail Alert List does not constitute a commitment of any kind, other than to accept the messages and stay informed. An informed public is our biggest and most useful tool. It is pretty tough to pull the wool over someone’s eyes when they have all the facts right at their fingertips.

Rest assured, I guarantee that this list and any e-mail addresses on it will never be given, leased, or sold to anyone for any purpose outside of this Alert Network.. Should anyone ever wish to be excluded from the list in the future, their e-mail address is deleted immediately. This is a policy which has been honored

since the birth of the Alert Network, and always will be. It is a very simple, but an extremely effective concept, which works. An informed society is a proactive society. The decision to react lies solely with you, the recipient. We are the messenger and your voice at the capital.. We are also the largest and most influential Second Amendment lobbying organization in South Dakota and with your help, will remain as such.. Our firearms rights do not come without a price. We must forever stay vigilant and legislatively engage anyone who attempts to strip us of these freedoms, while also enhancing our present rights to expand them where ever needed. This has always been the SD Shooting Sports Association commitment and always will be.

Thank You,

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* (note) The SD Wildlife Federation handles hunting related issues and deserves due credit here for an excellent job year after year. SD Shooting Sports Assoc. mainly concentrates on Second Amendment and firearms rights issues.

If you have received this message in error, (and this does happen occasionally), forward this message to the e-mail address sdssa@cs.com, and your e-mail address will be deleted. If this is the case, please accept our apologies.