



GUN OWNERS of California

ELECTION RESULTS - A RED WHAT?

Listening to the usual media suspects might drive one to think that the radical/progressive Leftists won a major victory last month, while those who believe in the Constitution were roundly defeated. Please hear this: this is emphatically untrue.

Stop! Stop it now! Listening to the media knuckleheads is enough to drive any sane person off the ledge. Those who were predicting a red tidal wave here and a red tsunami there were quoting the polls and surveys that they paid for, most of which were wrong, dead wrong! So, was this on purpose or just an honest mistake?

The founder of Gun Owners of California (GOC) and Gun Owners of America (GOA), California State Senator H.L. Richardson, who served in office for 22 years would often teach that when it comes to the media, there are never mistakes. Every story, article, report or broadcast is done with a purpose, and it isn't the altruistic goal of providing the masses with unbiased intent or simply informing the public of the day's events. We all need reminding that everyone has their own set of biases and political inclinations, including members of the media. The good Senator was right when he said those beliefs and inclinations will always affect their reporting. It's just human nature.

What ultimately was the effect of the media's constant reporting on the red tidal wave or tsunami? It's so simple, it's ingenious. If conservatives could be lulled into a false sense of security that they are going to win EVERYTHING, then it isn't critical that they even turn in their ballots or show up to vote. The left knows that even a small percentage shift could have a huge impact in many races. And it did.

So, what really happened?

Republicans took over the House of Representatives and the US Senate is basically status quo. Put simply we have the votes to stop Congress from passing anti-gun legislation which is great news, and this gives us more leverage to smack down agencies like the BATFE and the FBI when they step out of line. That is a huge victory!

Stop wringing your hands because the red tidal wave fizzled out! Don't you get it? It was never there. It was a creation of the Leftists in the media. And even though they are gloating on the outside...they are crying on the inside because they know they are no longer large and in charge.

With regards to the California elections, you guessed it, we still don't know the results of several important races a preliminary summary follows: Of the 7 candidates GOC endorsed in the State Senate, 5 of them won. Of the 37 candidates we endorsed in the Assembly, 15 won and 2 of them are way too close to call because they are around 1,000 votes apart with many more ballots to count. Doesn't look like there will be much change in the make-up of the Cal-

ifornia Legislature but remember, now that NYSRPA v Bruen is the supreme law of the land, we are in a much better position to battle the Hefty-Lefties in the Legislature because we now have some serious legal ammo.

BRUEN: THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Miller, Duncan & Rhode

It's important for us at GOC to keep members up to speed in real time when it comes to Second Amendment news – and sometimes this is easier said than done. By the time this newsletter lands in your mailbox, you may have heard news about a momentous Second Amendment legal event – it's timing coincides with the newsletter – so we will do our best to break down what we know at press time.

On December 12, 2022, Federal District Court Judge Roger T. Benitez (sometimes referred to as Saint Benitez by the pro-Second Amendment community because of his unfailing defense of the Constitution and the Second Amendment in particular) has scheduled a Motion Hearing. This Motion Hearing is set to include the following cases – each of which are to be heard on the same day: **Miller v Bonta (CA Assault Weapons Control Act), Duncan v Bonta (Large Capacity Magazine Ban) and Rhode v Bonta (Ammunition Background Checks).**

There are several possibilities of what

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BRUEN...CONT.

might occur. Judge Benitez may do nothing more than hear the oral arguments on all the motions to delay asked for by Attorney General Bonta, take them into consideration for a future decision, or finally, he could reject the Attorney General's motions and issue an order for trial dates for each of the cases.

However, there is one more possibility. Judge Benitez, who has resisted efforts by AG Bonta to postpone and procrastinate, could issue summary judgement opinions on each of the cases. This is particularly noteworthy, given that when the cases first came before him, he ruled they were each unconstitutional.

Judge Benitez has consistently been one step ahead of Attorney General Bonta; he has informed the AG that his office has had plenty of time to consider these cases since they have each been in the judicial system for years. Further, the AG has had plenty of time to prepare given the new standards of review provided by the Supreme Court's NYSR-PA v Bruen decision for Second Amendment cases.

Judge Benitez has seen through the delaying tactics and excuses as to why AG Bonta cannot do his job and basically told the AG that enough is enough. Time to put up or shut up...my words but you get the drift.

Antonyuk v Bruen

On November 7, 2022, Gun Owners of America (GOA), Gun Owners Foundation (GOF) and Gun Owners of California (GOC) secured a preliminary injunction in federal district court against most of New York's poorly named "Concealed Carry Improvement Act." This follows GOA, GOF and GOC securing a

temporary restraining order against the law in October, which was frustratingly blocked by a federal appeals court.

The ruling from Judge Glenn Suddaby, indicated this law has imposed "unprecedented constitutional violations" such as a requiring good moral character, the names and contact info of spouses and other adults in the applicant's home and mandating applicants to disclose social media accounts for review. Further addressed were the onerous restrictions on carrying in public parks, zoos, places of worship, locations where alcohol is served, theaters, banquet halls, conferences, airports and buses, lawful protests or assemblies, and the prohibition on carrying on private property without express consent from the owner. The injunction took effect immediately, despite the State of New York's attempt to delay the injunction.

But anti-gunners are not going quietly into the night; as expected, they filed notice of their intent to appeal the decision – and on Tuesday, November 15, the appellate court gave New York what they were seeking. They secured a temporary stay of Suddaby's ruling.

We do not look at this as a set-back, but rather as a set-up. **Judge Suddaby's ruling will serve as the foundation as we proceed up the proverbial court ladder – all the way to the Supreme Court.** The anti-gunners are hoping to bleed us dry with legal fees until we reach the point where we can no longer fight back. Your support will keep us in the battle no matter how long it takes.

ANNOUNCING PROJECT PROTECT

As we jump into 2023, GOC is launching a new program and filling what we believe is a vital need. As we've reported, more than 400,000 people became first time gun owners between 2020 and 2021. The numbers show us that people

are starting to wake up to the purpose of our 2nd Amendment; it is our right to bear arms and defend ourselves. We are our first line of defense! You have seen the change out there and so have we. Every year laws are pushed through that restrict our rights and we can all agree that unsettling national events have prompted millions of folks to become gun owners.

That being said, GOC is launching a brand-new program to help Californians in that pursuit. It's called Project Protect. This program is designed to provide resources to CCW instructors across the state and it is our hope to create a place where instructors will be able communicate and provide resources amongst each other. We are looking to pull the strongest cord in the line of defense: we want to network with those who are actively engaged in making sure the public is well-trained in the process of attaining a concealed carry weapons permit. CCW instructors work diligently to be approved and certified by the Department of Justice and local law enforcement, and are a crucial piece in the process of exercising and retaining our rights.

If you or someone you know is a DOJ certified and County certified instructor for CCW permits in California and who may want to become involved in this project, please contact us at (916) 984-1400 or email clayton@gunownersca.com. You can also support this program by financially supporting GOC.

WHAT'S UP FOR 2023! THE POWER OF YOU

2023 is just days away and GOC is already amping up for what's ahead in the New Year. We want to introduce our members to the resources that we have to keep you armed and informed – and ENGAGED! You, our members are where our strength lies, and with over **400,000 new gun owners in Califor-**

nia alone, we want to make sure these folks know **WHO WE ARE** and **WHAT WE DO**. Consider it a refresher course for our existing members, too.

Remember, GOC is NO COMPROMISE. We do this by boldly jumping into the legislative fray to impact public policy and **we are far more productive when you join us!** Our website can tell you how to engage in the process – whether as a citizen lobbyist or someone who wants to communicate electronically with your elected representatives. We have the goods!

LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER: When we join in a collective voice in support or opposition to an issue, we can be a powerful and effective force in changing public policies, whether at the local level, in Sacramento or even in Washington DC. Our Action Center is where you can send an email directly to your Senator or Assemblyperson. We've done all the work – you can use content that we've created or draft one of your own.

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCES: We provide some solid tips in case you are interested in coming to the Capitol or visiting a member in their district. What the process is, ideas on what to say and how to say it – even what to wear (don't come straight from the duck blind...)

THE AMMO BOX: This page on our website has a ton of resources – we have links to Gun Owners of America, Gun Owners Foundation (great source for court activity throughout the US) and GOC's Campaign Committee. We also have information on how to become involved with GOC's Industry Partners and Field Agent program. You'll also be able to find great resource links as well.



CRITICAL NEWS FLASH

If you were one of the millions of people whose personal data was leaked by the California Department of Justice, there is an important update on how to hold them responsible, but you must **ACT QUICKLY AS THERE IS A DEADLINE OF DECEMBER 27**. For more information, go to <https://www.gunownersca.com/news/>

DID YOU KNOW?

Nothing makes a Leftist foam at the mouth more than reading the news about the explosion of gun sales. And it has to be like pouring salt into an open wound to learn that a hefty number of the **39 million gun purchases in 2020 and 2021** are not only women, but a good percentage come from traditionally "gun-less" minority populations.

Obviously, this is great news for the 2A community – the more gun owners the better! **What's even more significant is that according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation, there were more than 5.4 million first time gun buyers in 2021 and 8.4 million in 2020. That's 13.8 million brand, new gun owners in the USA.**

Here's where it gets interesting for us in California:

In the lawsuit challenging California's ban on semi-automatic firearms and magazines (Miller v Bonta), Judge Roger Benitez mandated that Department of Justice provide gun sales statistics to the court. GOC is quite certain that the DOJ was more than a little irritated; they were forced to admit the following (excerpted from Ammoland, 9/29/22):

"Blake Graham, Assistant Director of the

California Department of Justice provided the following in **a sworn document to the court:**

*The total number of firearms sold in California with background checks in 2020 was **1,165,309**. As of March 12, 2021, the total number of firearms sold in California with background checks in 2021 was **180,058**.*

These figures account for all firearm sales conducted through FFLs in the state, including private-party transactions, consignments, and pawn sales.

Graham also provided the number of first-time firearm purchasers, as well as could be determined:

*'Based on these parameters, approximately **369,511** individuals purchased a firearm in California who had not previously submitted a DROS application to the Department prior to January 1, 2020. As of March 12, 2021, approximately **42,548** individuals purchased a firearm who had not previously submitted a DROS application to the Department prior to January 1, 2021.'*

Of the guns purchased in all of 2020 in California, about 32% were by new gun buyers. Of the guns purchased up until March of 2021, about 24% were new gun buyers."

Doing the simple math, that means between 2020 and 2021, California added **412,059 NEW GUN OWNERS**. That is an increase of 32% in 2020 and 24% in 2021 – and that's using only partial data from the Department of Justice (through March 2021). Clearly, the numbers would be considerably greater with the inclusion of eight additional months.

Whether it was the illogical "defund the police" movement, Leftist district at-

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DID YOU KNOW...CONT.

torneys failing to prosecute crimes or the profound uptick in violent crimes (such as murder), the face of the Second Amendment community is being radically transformed – and that scares the pants off the Left. **Contrary to popular belief about California, the evidence clearly shows that there are literally hundreds of thousands of Second Amendment supporting, gun owners in the state – and the numbers are growing.**

**52 GUNS IN 52 WEEKS
RAFFLE TICKETS: FLYING
OUT THE DOOR!**

Start 2023 off with a BANG and get your raffle ticket! For just \$50, you can get a ticket where we give one gun away, **EVERY WEEK for a YEAR!** We only sell 1,500 tickets, so the odds are certainly in your favor. State law prohibits us from selling them online, so just call the office today at **(916) 984-1400** to get your ticket (or tickets!) before they are gone.

EVENTS! EVENTS! EVENTS!

It's time to grab your calendars and save a few dates for GOC's 2023 events coming to your area! You don't want to miss the fun with like-minded, 2A defenders!

Your attendance helps us keep up the fight in a way that celebrates the 2A with great food, great drinks and even better company. And of course – there will be tons of guns!

(Dates/locations subject to change. Watch our website and newsletters)

- **Camanche Hills Clay Shoot**
Saturday, April 22nd
- **Sacramento Crab Feed**
Friday May 5th
- **Oroville Banquet**
Friday June 16th (tentative)
- **Yuba City Banquet**
Friday July 14th (tentative)
- **Fairfield Vacaville Banquet**
October (TBA)

If you'd like to help bring a GOC event to your area, please contact us via our website – gunownersca.com, or give us a call at 916-984-1400.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM GOC



The past three years have reminded GOC that we must always be ready to "adapt, improvise and overcome." It's in our DNA because it's something we've been able to do for the 40 plus years we've been in the trenches fighting for the Second Amendment. The winds may shift, but we will never veer off course. We remain steadfast and thankful for the great blessings we have as Americans – no matter the turmoil we face. We are deeply grateful for your support – for standing with us! It is our earnest hope that your Christmas and 2023 will be blessed and will bring a renewed sense of perseverance and gratitude.

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given, and the government
will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*



YES! I want Gun Owners of California, Inc. to continue fighting for our 2nd Amendment rights. I understand the minimum donation of \$35.00 entitles me to full membership benefits.

\$100 \$75 \$50 \$35 Other \$ _____

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*Gun Owners of California
Membership Benefits*

- Regular newsletters informing members of pending legislation and issues affecting gun rights.
- Information alerts through our website, email.
- Voting records of all California Legislators.
- Access to all Legislators through our website.

www.gunownersca.com

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