



# Firing Lines

Fighting for your Second Amendment Rights since 1965

*A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.*

Volume XXX, Issue I

January/February 2021

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

|                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| SCOPE Chapter and BoD Information | 2  |
| Newsletter Deadlines              | 2  |
| I was in DC                       | 3  |
| Civics and school votes           | 4  |
| Member Clubs                      | 5  |
| Encounter with SAFE Act           | 6  |
| Patriotism is not treason         | 8  |
| Demise of Constitution            | 9  |
| Election integrity matters        | 10 |
| Déjà vu                           | 11 |
| Red Flags                         | 12 |
| Crossing the Rubicon              | 14 |
| DRGO                              | 15 |
| America a diamond                 | 17 |
| SCOPE Members Meeting             | 17 |
| NY State Assembly                 | 18 |
| NY State Senate                   | 21 |
| NYS Legislative Session           | 23 |
| SCOPE application                 | 24 |

## Emotions and Politics

By Tom Reynolds

Emotions are the enemy of rational thinking. But emotions do stir actions. Politically, we are in a highly emotional state – at least politicians and the media are highly emotional right now. Unfortunately, that means lots of action and not much rational thinking. Those of us who are not politicians and not in the media are being bombarded with emotion. We need to take a moment, step back and think rationally.

SCOPE’s purpose is to defend the Constitution with an emphasis on the Second Amendment. We are incorporated as a 501c4 educational organization. That’s what our Articles of Incorporation say. So, let’s educate about the current political situation.

The Democrat Party – or at least the leaders and most vocal members of it – are anti 2A. Can anyone challenge that? (Okay, Joe Biden would say I’m “Full of s&#t” for saying he’s anti-2A but his actions prove otherwise.) Republicans defend 2A but there is some doubt about how “rabid” some of them are about it. But the leadership, especially President Trump, seemed committed to 2A. But I wouldn’t count on the remainder falling on their swords defending it. The logical (there I go using non-emotional words) course of action for those of us who want to preserve 2A is to put political pressure on both parties; political pressure is defined as money and / or votes. Most of us - and SCOPE - aren’t millionaires so votes are our avenue to success.

Democrats control the federal government (barely) and they overwhelmingly control New York State government. (With their total control of NY State, it is not unexpected that they are doing what they are do-

ing; pushing through their anti-2A agenda. What is surprising is that the Democrats in D.C. are pushing through an agenda that is equally radical, since their hold on power is so tenuous.

If Democrats lose one (1) Senator Seat, they lose their power in the Senate. In the House, if six (6) of 435 house seats switched to Republican (5- if Tenney wins) the control of the House becomes Republican. People die; you may have heard of the Covid epidemic. People retire; some take other jobs (Bernie Sanders did not get a job in the Biden administration because that would cause Democrats to lose their majority in the Senate. People change parties; Democrat Senator Joe Manchin represents Conservative West Virginia and he was reelected in 2018 with less than 50%. (Might he fear a backlash being associated with radical Democrats?) And of course, some do not always vote the party line on any individual issue.

Not to be forgotten, there is another election in 2022 and the President’s party usually loses seats in an off-year election. One Senator and six Representatives are all it takes to make D.C. different. All 435 House seats will be on the ballot and 34 Senate seats, too (20 are currently Republican and 14 Democrat. Only about 8 of these seats (4 Republican and 4 Democrat) are considered competitive – at this time. In NY State, all NY Senate and Assembly seats will be on the ballot as well as the Governor and one Senator. (Currently Chuck Schumer is incumbent.) The state of the economy will have a lot to say about this election.

Another factor is redistricting due to the 2020 census. Since Democrats control

*(Continued on page 11)*

**Join SCOPE Today!**  
**SCOPEny2A.org**

“Guns are our friends because in a country without guns, I’m what’s known as “prey.” All females are.”

**Ann Coulter**



**To contact SCOPE:**

E-mail:  
sue.scoopeny@gmail.com

**SCOPE Board Members**  
SCOPE Chapter Chairs are also Board Members

President  
At Large Director  
Tom Reynolds  
tkjl9@yahoo.com  
607.215.0612

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
John Prendergast  
jpr3nder66@outlook.com  
315.694.0481

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Steven Getman  
sjgetman@gmail.com  
607.288.3220

Treasurer  
At Large Director  
Nick Massal  
hunted@roadrunner.com  
585.393.0131

Chairman of the Board  
At Large Director  
Tim Andrews  
tandrews5@rochester.rr.com  
585.315.6411

Secretary  
Curtis Cappellano  
curtisc@nycap.rr.com  
518.330.7732

At Large Director  
Steven Speta  
nyankee92@aol.com  
585.466.6460

**SCOPE CHAPTER INFORMATION**

*\*Due to COVID restrictions, check with your local Chairman about meeting venues and dates; or go to www.SCOPEny2a.org/chapters*

Allegany Chapter  
Chairman Jim Krywalski  
jkrywalski@gmail.com  
716.913.8176  
Meetings 3rd Tuesday  
Angelica American Legion  
7:00pm Angelica, NY

Capital District Chapter:  
Albany/Columbia/Greene/  
Schenectady/  
Rensselaer/Saratoga  
Chairman Curtis Cappellano  
curtisc@nycap.rr.com  
518.330.7732  
Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 7:00pm  
Nassau Sportsmen's Club

Cattaraugus Chapter  
Chairman Mike Wesley  
mswesley@localnet.com  
Meetings 2nd Thursday 7:00pm  
American Legion Post 531, Little Valley

Cayuga Chapter  
Jim Dishaw  
dishawjp@gmail.com  
315.255.3315  
Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 7:00pm  
Masonic Lodge Weedsport, NY

Central NY Chapter:  
Contact don6027@gmail.com

# Newsletter Deadline for the Firing Lines

Firing Lines is printed every two months. The deadlines are **January 15, March 15, May 15, July 15, September 15 and November 15.**

We do take articles from you, our members. They are subject to editing for spelling and grammar. We also reserve the right not to print the article.

Articles should be emailed as a file. Text or basic Word document formats are preferred. Please pictures in JPG format. NO PDF files. Thank You

Chautauqua Chapter  
Chairman Will Conta  
716.857.0382  
will.conta@charter.net  
Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 7:00pm  
VFW Post 8647 Mayville, NY

Chemung Chapter  
Contact don6027@gmail.com

Delaware Chapter  
Contact don6027@gmail.com

Erie Chapter  
Chairman Nick Brzezniak  
beefree60@yahoo.com  
716.583.5394  
www.SCOPEny2A.org for meeting updates

Genesee Chapter  
Chairman Jim Tuttle  
jtuttle10@rochester.rr.com  
716-474-4454  
Meetings 2nd Tuesday 7:00pm  
Calvary Baptist Church  
3515 Galloway Rd. Batavia, NY

Jefferson-Lewis Chapter  
Chairman C. Bruce Kingsley  
cbkingsley@tds.net  
315.649.3424  
Meetings 3rd Monday 6:30pm  
Barton & Loguidice Bldg., Watertown, NY

Monroe Chapter  
Chairman Gene Nolan  
genenolan41@gmail.com  
585.520.3821  
Meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7:00pm  
Elks Lodge 24 Henrietta, NY

Niagara Chapter  
Contact don6027@gmail.com

Oneida-Herkimer Chapter  
Chairman Bohdan Rabarsky  
bohdan1@roadrunner.com  
315.733.2720  
Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 7:00pm  
Fraternal Order of Eagles Club,  
Deerfield, NY

Ontario Chapter  
Chairman Tim Maher  
tim@embroideryloft.com  
585.281.3336  
Meetings 3rd Monday 7:00pm  
Canandaigua Sportsmen's Club,  
Canandaigua, NY

Orleans Chapter  
Chairman David Thom  
orlctychair@gmail.com  
585.589.6918  
Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 7:00pm  
Hoag Library; 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Albion, NY

Schoharie Chapter  
Chairman Geruld Olsen  
golsen157@gmail.com  
518.588.1579  
Meetings 3rd Thursday 7:00pm  
Alternate venue every 3 months  
Jan/Feb/March/Jul/Aug/Sep:  
Carlisle Town Hall Carlisle, NY  
Apr/May/June/Oct Nov:  
Middleburgh R&G Club Middleburgh, NY

Schuyler Chapter  
Chairman Steven Getman  
sjgetman@gmail.com  
607-288-3220  
Meetings 2nd Thursday 7:00pm  
Jan/Mar/May/Oct  
Moose Lodge Montour Falls, NY

## FIRING LINES

Editor - Ralph Esposito

To contact SCOPE  
and FIRING LINES

Write to:  
**SCOPE**  
PO Box 165  
East Aurora, NY 14052-0165

All written material is copyrighted by the author and or SCOPE, Inc. Permission is granted to use all or part of the published articles in the Firing Lines as long as credit is given to the author and SCOPE, Inc.

Firing Lines allows S.C.O.P.E. to keep members informed on issues in regards to defense of the 2nd Amendment, in particular, and the Constitution in general. It is also an opportunity for members to voice their opinions and concerns on those subjects; as such, it contains a variety of personal opinions. It should not be taken as representing the official position of S.C.O.P.E. or its officers and members unless so stated. Readers should remember that it is not meant to constitute legal advice

**RC PRODUCTIONS**



(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Seneca Chapter  
Chairman John Christensen  
jcruger357@yahoo.com  
315.651.8753  
Meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7:00pm  
VFW Post 6433 Waterloo, NY

Southern Tier Chapter  
Contact  
don6027@gmail.com

Steuben Chapter  
Chairman Doug Mitchell  
dmitch7664@stny.rr.com  
607.359.2928  
Meetings 1st & 3rd Mondays  
7:00pm  
Bath Rod & Gun Club Bath, NY

Suffolk Chapter  
Chairman Sherman Kearns  
suffolkcountyscope@gmail.com  
631.806.1171

Ulster Chapter  
Chairman Edward Altenau  
ealtenau@hvc.rr.com  
845.382.1143

Wayne Chapter  
Chairman Don Smith  
don6027@gmail.com  
315.398.0195  
Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 7:00pm  
Marion American Legion, Marion, NY

Wyoming Chapter  
Chairman Ken Walradt  
kjrattman68@yahoo.com  
585.297.8203  
Meetings 2nd Thursday 7:00pm  
Dept. of Social Services Bldg.,  
Warsaw, NY

Yates Chapter  
Chairman John Prendergast  
jpr3nder66@outlook.com  
315.694.0481



[www.SCOPEny2A.org](http://www.SCOPEny2A.org)

## Check your address label for your renewal date

With this newsletter your expiration date is included on the address label. It will save SCOPE time and money if you can renew your membership a month or two before your membership is due to expire.

You can use the membership application in the newsletter or go online to [www.Scopeny2A.org](http://www.Scopeny2A.org) to renew.

Thank you

**Renew your membership today!**

## I Was In DC

By Bruce Kingsley

I was in Washington, DC on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. I didn't make the walk to the Capitol, but wish I had, just to see the intense energy.

The Fake News Media doesn't want to expose just how many people were at the January 6<sup>th</sup> rally. News Max was the only TV outlet that I've seen with an aerial photo from the 6<sup>th</sup>. There were helicopters flying, so there have to be photos somewhere. The original Park Service permit called for 5,000 but that was changed to 30,000 and there is no doubt we exceeded that total – **by a lot.**

All the media talks about are the actions of a few hundred frustrated people. (I don't condone their actions but I understand their frustration). Think about this: If tens of thousands of people were as angry as pictured in the media, there wouldn't be a Capitol! Consider, for a moment, that there were tens of thousands of demonstrators in DC that were equally frustrated - but those tens of thousands did not riot. They did not loot stores. They did not burn and throw Molotov Cocktails. They were peaceful. Did you see any police cars and buildings burning in the background as you did last June? Those "mostly

peaceful" rallies in the summer were not "mostly peaceful" as there was widespread violence. January 6<sup>th</sup> was overwhelmingly peaceful with only minimal violence.

The Park Authorities are their own worst enemy; too few garbage cans and toilets. People picked up the litter, but the cans were over filled.

What is forgotten, but is amazing to me and speaks to the intensity of feelings is that many people made the rally happen in just a few days. (Remember how the permit changed at the last minute.) The bus out of Utica was filled (55 seats) in two days. It should be apparent, but has been lost, that millions of people throughout the country are concerned with the direction the USA is going.

I have been to DC for four of these big, peaceful, rallies and one would think they were of insignificant size and meaning, based on media reporting. Glenn Beck, back in August 2010, had the "Restoring Honor Rally" at the Lincoln Memorial, where he repeated what M. L. King said. I chartered two buses from here. The estimates for people varied from 90K to 600K. Google the rally and get an idea as to how many people were there. Then compare it to the January 6<sup>th</sup> rally. Both rallies were huge!

The people attending both

Glenn's and the January 6<sup>th</sup>s rallies were of the same mentality; they were happy, smiling, and civil. People waited an hour to use the toilets while talking about the issues and being polite. When making eye contact, they asked, "Where are you from"? If it wasn't for Covid they would have been exchanging hugs. There were people from all over the USA.

Talk to anyone from a foreign country and they don't understand why we are throwing our Constitution under the bus. Many Chinese people were there; they were protesting any thoughts of the USA becoming like the Communism/Socialism form of government in China.

I'm buying 4 MAGA flags. We can't stop promoting MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN. I will continue wearing my hat.



## Civics and School Votes

By Tracy Marisa

Here we are early in a still-new year and many of us are making note of special dates on calendars, both paper and digital.

Here's one for you: Tuesday, May 18, 2021. What is it? School board and budget election day. By state law, school board and budget elections, in all districts except Buffalo, New York City, Rochester, Syracuse and Yonkers, must be held on the third Tuesday in May.

So, if you live in any school district in NY other than those five, I urge you in the strongest terms to not blow off that election. You may think it has little or nothing to do with the support of gun rights, the Second Amendment, or the Constitution in general. But it absolutely does.

You might occasionally wonder where people, especially the younger people coming up behind us, get some of their bizarre ideas regarding guns and gun owners. During the long leftist march to take over American institutions that has occurred over the last century or more, there are numerous places where people have acquired strange ideas; one of them is the K-12 schools, public and (increasingly) private schools.

You may recall the brouhaha about the New York Times and its "1619 Project" (the one that postulated that the country was founded explicitly to enable African slavery - long before the Declaration of Independence spelled out other, supposedly cynically misleading reasons for the country's founding). That caused a fair amount of pushback against the entire concept itself as well as against the lightning-quick move to insert the 1619 Project into many public schools as an integral part of the curriculum. There was also some movement to come up with competing curricula such as "1776 Unites." That's all well and good but we can't sit on any laurels or dust off our hands and say, "Phew! Dodged THAT bullet!" As usual the left is way ahead of us. Here's a cautionary tale:

The conservative-leaning American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) is considering a model bill that would have state legislatures mandate history and civics standards. That might be good, right, unless you live in deep blue states like

New York where the far left controls the legislature? After all, woke ideology such as that promoted by the 1619 Project as well as general civic illiteracy are huge problems.

Well-known conservative Stanley Kurtz argues that every one of these initiatives that ALEC is considering will undermine the very ends they appear to promote. Indeed, Kurtz argues, if state legislatures adopt the proposed ALEC bill, leftist history and civics will be legally locked in. How? The proposed ALEC model bill specifically recommends that the state school boards responsible for setting the required history and civics curricula consult with traditional-leaning institutions and organizations, including Hillsdale College and the Bill of Rights Institute -but that are only a recommended option. **Final responsibility for setting the new history and civics curriculum will lie with state school boards and their attendant bureaucracy.** ALEC's model bill effectively, if unintentionally, gives these left-leaning bureaucrats (NY State's version of D.C.'s Swamp) carte blanche to set state curricular standards. That means those standards will be a world apart from what parents in traditional and conservative-leaning school districts would choose.

Also, the civics now recognized and promoted by America's dominant, left-leaning education establishment is radically different from what conservatives or traditionalists think of when they hear the word "civics." Not one in ten conservatives has even heard of "action civics" or "project-based civics," but this is what professional educators now mean by civics. Essentially, "action civics" trains students to protest on behalf of leftist political causes. The Parkland students who agitate for gun laws are considered models of action civics by the Left.

As many of us are probably already aware, leftist action civics is already widespread in blue states like ours, and activists hope to force it onto deep-dyed red-state school districts via statewide civics mandates. Under ALEC, conservatives will inadvertently impose "action civics" on themselves.

Under the ALEC bill, state boards of education will probably throw a bone to conservative legislators by drawing a couple of items from Hillsdale or ConSource, while

they infuse the larger share of the curriculum with requirements in "action civics".

New state-level history and civics standards are not the solution to any state's civic problems. The best way to battle educational decline is a return to genuine local control. The real hope for improvement lies with parents, grandparents, and conservative-leaning voters in general. A grassroots movement to take back the curriculum from woke education bureaucrats could shift the composition of local school boards across the country, yes, even in NY State. (Remember, local elections are just that...local. NY City liberals have no vote in your local election).

At the local level, curricula recommended by places like Hillsdale College, ConSource, and 1776 Unites could be adopted. The newly announced group, American Achievement Testing (AAT), plans to take this strategy to another level by combining a comprehensive American history curriculum built around Wilfred McClay's *Land of Hope* (which I highly recommend) with the capacity for testing. Nowadays, influence over the curriculum requires the capacity to devise tests.

We MUST pay attention to what is going on in our local schools and not simply assume that everything is fine. It is quite possibly—and perhaps even likely—everything is NOT fine, even in small rural districts. While we should definitely be concerned about what schools cost us in terms of tax dollars (and renters, you pay school taxes, too—don't think your landlord isn't factoring his school taxes into your monthly rent), we need to also be concerned about what is being taught and who is making those decisions.

The eligibility requirements for voting in a school board election are pretty minimal: you are entitled to vote in school district elections if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years or older and have been a district resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote. No pre-registration is required but personal identification is required. That's right—you do not need to be a registered voter for other purposes (such as primaries or the general election in November) in order to vote in school elections, but you have to provide ID.

And just like we need con-

(Continued on page 5)

## SCOPE Member Clubs

The following are clubs that are members of SCOPE. If you plan to join a club, please try to join one that is a SCOPE member. If your club would like to become a SCOPE club member please give SCOPE a call or drop us an E-mail.

5 Point Rod & Gun Club  
Adirondack Federation  
of Sports Clubs  
Alabama Hunt Club  
Almond Rod & Gun Club  
A-ON-DO-WA-NUH  
Sportsmans Club  
Assoc. of Former NYS Troopers,  
*Baldwinsville Rod & Gun Club*  
Barre Sportsmens Club  
Barrington Rifle Club  
Batavia Rod & Gun Club  
Bath Rod & Gun Club,  
Bison City Rod & Gun Club  
Black Rock Fish & game  
Club of Cornwall  
Blasdell Rod & Gun Club  
Boonville Rod & Gun Club,  
Branchport Rod & Gun Club  
Bridgeport Rod & Gun Club  
Burlington Flats Fish & Game Club  
Busti Trap & Skeet Club  
Canajoharie Forest Fish  
& Game Club  
Canistota Rod & Gun Club  
Cayuga County Sportsmen's Assoc.  
Chemung County Fed of Sportsmen

Chemung County Rod & Gun Club  
Clarence Shooting Club,  
Community Conservation Club  
Conservation Club of Brockport  
Dalton Gang Sportsmen Club  
Deer Search of WNY  
Deerfield Fish & Game Club  
Delchenego Rod & Gun Club  
Depew Rod & Gun Club  
Dutchess Co. Pistol Association  
Dutchess County  
Sportsman Association  
Elbridge Rod & Gun Club  
Essex County Fish & Game League  
Federated Sportsman's Club of  
Cattaraugus County  
Franklinville Conservation Club  
Genesee Co. Fish & Game  
Protective Assoc.,  
Genesee Valley Conservation Club  
Glen-Coe Conservation Society,  
Gouverneur Rod & Gun Club  
Gowanda Rifle Club  
Grand Island Rod & Gun Club,  
Greenway Verona Mills  
Fish & Game Club  
Hamburg Rod & Gun Club  
Harder O'Donnell Post 734  
American Legion  
Hidden Lake  
Conservation Association  
Hidden Valley Lodge  
Hoisingtons NY Ranging Co. 1776  
Holland Rod & Gun Club  
Holley Rod & Gun Club  
Hornell Sportsman Club  
Ilion Fish & Game Club  
Irondequoit Bay Fish & Game Club  
Junior Wilson Sportsmen's Club  
Lackawanna Conservation  
Lima Gun Club  
Lime Lake Sportsman's Club  
Lodi Rod & Gun Club  
Long Lake Fish & Game Club  
Mendon Conservation League  
Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club  
Middlesex Conservation Club  
Millgrove Sportsmen's Club,  
Millport Hunting & Fishing Club  
Mount Hunger Club  
Neighbors Gun Club  
New Paltz Rod & Gun Club,  
Newark Rod & Gun Club  
North Star Sportsman's Club,  
Northern Chautauqua Rifle  
& Pistol Club  
Northwoods Sportsmen Association  
NY Houndsmen

Conservation Association  
Olean Rod & Gun Club,  
Ontario Rod & Gun Club,  
Painted Post Field & Stream Club  
Pearl River Gun Club,  
Point Rock Fish & Game Club  
Pulaski Police Association  
Randolph Rod & Gun Club,  
Red Creek Conservation Club,  
Ripley Rod & Gun Club  
Rochester Rifle Club  
Roslyn Rifle & Revolver Club  
Sara Spa Rod & Gun Club  
Saranac Lake Fish & Game Club  
Schroon Lake Fish & Game Club  
Scio Rod & Gun Club  
Shortsville Rod & Gun Club  
Sodus Bay Sportsman's Club  
Sons of American Legion  
Squadron 734  
South Bristol Fish  
& Game Association,  
Sportsmans Coon  
Hunters Association  
Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park  
Springville Field & Stream Club,  
Square Deal Sportsmen,  
Stamford Rod & Gun Club,  
Steuben Co. Federation  
of Conservation Clubs  
Syracuse Pistol Club  
Tonawandas Sportsmens Club  
Trumansburg Rifle & Pistol Club  
Tupper Lake Sportsmens Club  
Twin City Shooting Club  
Vernon Rod & Gun Club  
Waterloo Rifle & Pistol Club,  
West Falls Conservation Society  
Westfield Fish & Game Club,  
Whortlekill Rod & Gun Club,  
Williamson Conservation  
& Sporting Club  
Wolcottsville Sportsman's Club  
Wood & Brook Sportsman's Club  
Wyoming County Conservation  
Wyoming County  
Wildlife Federation  
Yates County Federation  
of Conservation Clubs  
Yates County  
Sportsmens Association

*(Continued from page 4)*

servative-leaning people to sit on juries, we need conservative-leaning people to sit on school boards. If you feel so moved, information about becoming a school board member can be found on the NYS School Boards Association website here, <https://www.nyssba.org/about-nyssba/running-for-the-school-board/>. Petitions to be on the May school vote ballot as a board candidate are due April 19 for central, union free and common school districts, and April 28 for all small city school districts.

Vote in your local school election May 18th. Don't give up. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

[www.SCOPEny2A.org](http://www.SCOPEny2A.org)

## My Encounter with the NY SAFE ACT

By Sandra Richardson, RN, MS

I am writing to inform people not just about my experience, but about some steps they might take if they find themselves in the same situation. The NY SAFE Act allows this to happen to anyone, anywhere in New York State.

When people seek help in managing the effects of stress, depression, anxiety, etc., we expect health care facilities and providers to be safe and confidential in providing the necessary guidance. My experience with the NY SAFE Act Mental Hygiene Law (MHL) 9.46 shows that, sometimes, this is not the case.

I am a very health literate individual who has worked in both clinical practice and public health. I was pretty stressed in April of 2020 and sought guidance to manage the circumstances. The causes of my stress are not relevant. What is relevant is what happened when I did the right thing in seeking help to address the problem.

I sought guidance regarding stress from health care professionals. While at the facility for less than three hours, I sat in a chair and told my story to staff who dropped by. There was no medication administered and the discharge direction was simply to follow up with my primary care physician within a week. Basically, no treatment was given or needed and I was fine to leave and drive myself home. Documentation related to that day supports that I was not a danger to myself or others, that there was no involuntary commitment, and there was no determination of mental deficiency or incompetence. In other words, mandatory reporting of my visit under MHL 9.46 of the NY SAFE Act or any other regulation was not required. In fact, I quite clearly stated to both the physician and the social worker that I had no thoughts, intentions, or plans to hurt myself or anyone else.

Five weeks after my visit, I was informed by the County Sheriff's Office that a petition was filed under the SAFE Act stating that I was a danger to myself or others. On securing a copy of my medical records, I saw that a false narrative was inserted based on fragments of a conversation taken out of context, unfounded assumptions, and outright false documentation. In spite of that - and given that the medical record documents that I was not a risk to myself or others - filing a petition under the SAFE Act violated the Hippocratic Oath by causing me harm.

This action increased my stress level and imposed a financial burden as I had to retain an attorney to successfully defend me in this matter. It prevented me from participating in activities that are beneficial to my physical and mental health.

My family does a lot of hiking, fishing, and hunting. These are activities that bring us together so we can share the experiences of physical exercise, the enjoyment of natural surroundings and fresh air, and legally secure free-range, hormone-free and antibiotic-free food. In other words, the activities that I engage in that involve guns support both my physical and emotional wellbeing.

I comply with all regulations regarding guns. In order to protect my home and family, years ago I filed paperwork with the Sheriff's Office requesting that information about my firearms permit not be publicly released. Filing an unfounded petition under MHL 9.46 has essentially undone that protection. Because this is now a court record, my home and family are a potential target for people who object to guns or want to take them illegally.

My medical records were released to other authorities when it was not required by law or regulation. A healthcare provider with a bias against or a fear of guns filed an unfounded petition under Mental Health Law 9.46. Simply owning a gun does not mean that there is risk of harm to

self or others, and the New York State Psychiatric Association states the following on their website: "Regarding discharge, we conclude that there is no need to file a SAFE ACT report upon discharge because an individual should not, at discharge, present a risk of harm to self or others."

When I received a call from the Sheriff's Office on June 6, 2020, the Deputy told me an Order to Show Cause would come in the mail and to turn in any guns that I owned. I called a lawyer and I made arrangements with the Sheriff's Deputy to comply with the Order to Show Cause. A few days later the Order to Show Cause arrived in the mail. I requested, paid for, waited for, then read copies of my medical records. I contacted trusted health care providers and asked them to document whether they felt the alleged problem existed. All of these medical records were shared with my attorney and the judge. The court hearing was on July 17, 2020. I bought myself a new outfit and made a matching mask to wear as I wanted to go in feeling great and present a good image. The County Court Judge's Conclusion of Law is dated July 20, 2020 and states the following. (The capitals and bold type are actually in the original document.)

"The Court has broad discretion in determining when to revoke and/or suspend a pistol permit. The evidentiary requirement is minimal and so long as the decision is not arbitrary, capricious or an abuse of discretion, it is entitled to deference."

"Accordingly, it is the judgment of this Court that Respondent's pistol permit is hereby **REINSTATED effective immediately.**"

Basically, the MHL 9.46 report was completely unfounded. I got my permit back, but it now bears a "scarlet letter." The permit number has a suffix of "REIN" to show that it was reinstated. If I am asked to show my permit to a game warden, forest ranger, police officer, etc., will they

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Continued from page 6)

see this as a red flag against me? Probably. So, I carry the Court decision with my permit.

After reading and rereading my medical records, I realized what occurred was professional misconduct. The medical records documented one thing and (according to the Order to Show Cause), the NY SAFE ACT report said the opposite. So, one of those reports was a false report. Also, other documentation in the medical record was blatantly false. I filed professional misconduct complaints with the New York State Education Department, Office of Professional Discipline and the New York State Department of Health, Office of Professional Medical Conduct.

What constitutes professional misconduct can be found online at <http://www.op.nysed.gov/title8/part29.htm>, and [https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/office-based\\_surgery/law/6530.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/office-based_surgery/law/6530.htm).

Given that the SAFE Act report was unfounded, Federal HIPAA regulations were violated by releasing my medical information without my consent. The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Civil Rights (OCR) handles HIPAA violation complaints, but they have to be filed within 6 months of the event (<https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/filing-a-complaint/index.html>). I filed twice and OCR closed the case without investigating, both times. I was finally able to speak to an OCR Regional Manager who suggested that I file the complaint in the format of who, what, where, when, how, and be sure to include the reference number from the first filing because that was within the 6-month limit. The results of those three complaints are still pending. I was not able to find a lawyer who wanted to take the professional misconduct cases because this wasn't "catastrophic."

Unfortunately, the law grants providers immunity for filing "in

good faith." After successfully proving in court that the petition filed was unfounded and filing complaints, I have little recourse but to share my story with others so they can avoid the same experience. I have learned that facilities providing mental health care are not a safe place for gun owners to seek assistance because of the NY SAFE Act. This situation highlights exactly why military and law enforcement personnel often avoid seeking mental health care.

What happens to information reported in the online NY SAFE ACT form (<https://nysafe.omh.ny.gov/>) should be transparent. Where does it go? Who has seen it? What was the purpose of each person's review of the report? Where is the information stored? How long is the information stored? Is the court's decision stored with the original allegation?

I have contacted the "New York State Office of NICS Appeals and SAFE ACT", and the "Office of Mental Health Public Information Officer". They responded, but they have not answered my questions.

I have spoken with my County Director of Community Services. He explained that his role was to verify that the report was filed by a mandated reporter and that it contained text indicating a valid reason to file the report. It is not his role to verify the truth of that reason. He does not store the information and was not certain where the report comes from or where it goes to after he completes his part.

I have a call out to the County Sheriff's Office to ask the same questions about the information. I am waiting for a call back.

My concern is this – I do not want the false statements to cause me harm in the future. It is unclear how to get a false allegation under the NY SAFE Act removed from systems or have the court decision attached to it. It has been many months since I saw the provider that filed the false report and the issues are still not fully resolved. I may never be compensated

for the harm done or the thousands of dollars it cost to defend myself, but I can share my story. I hope this will help others in their fight against false reporting under the MHL 9.46.

If someone files a NY SAFE Act MHL 9.46 report against you, here are some steps to consider, in whatever order works best for your situation:

- Do not be embarrassed or ashamed for seeking help. Most likely it was the right thing to do.
- Stand up against false allegations
- Call a lawyer
- Comply with the Order to Show Cause
- Get copies of your medical records
- Get input from trusted health care providers
- Keep records of all communications
- Keep copies of all documents
- Show up for the court hearing
- Carry a copy of the Court Hearing Conclusion of Law with your reinstated permit
- Review professional misconduct definitions online
- If indicated, file professional misconduct complaints with the appropriate offices
- If indicated, file a HIPAA violation complaint with the HHS OCR, in a format that they understand
- Ask questions until you get answers
- If you are comfortable, share your story to help others – Do you have any tips to add to this list?

[www.SCOPEny2A.org](http://www.SCOPEny2A.org)

## Patriotism is not Treason

By Attilio A, Contini

On January 6<sup>th</sup>, I expected to watch Democracy in action as it unfolded at the Capitol. It was to start with the people peacefully assembling and end with the people's representatives engaging in meaningful debate.

What actually happened on January 6<sup>th</sup> was an absolute and complete travesty. Those people who turned the demonstration on the Capitol steps into a mob and led them as they broke into the building should be punished to the full extent of the law. There is absolutely no reason to justify what happened. Rumors have it that Antifa agitators planted in the crowd instigated what turned into the storming of the Capitol Building and the crowd takeover the Chambers. Will we ever know the truth about what happened? Probably not with the Trump hating Swamp and the Biden administration doing the investigating and the liberal media taking a pass on real reporting.

There is no justification for the way the Democrats treated President Trump, since he won the election in 2016, just as there is no justification for what went on in the streets of our major cities over the past eight months.

Let's be honest, people demonstrating in D.C. were there because of the failure of the authorities to enforce the Constitution, in particular the election law in eight States. Unfortunately, the day ended with the certification of the Electoral College decision that was as fraudulent as the very election in question.

I don't know how many thousands of people were there, but, primarily, it was a peaceful protest. Certainly, it was far more peaceful than the so-called "peaceful protests" in many cities for the last eight months where looting, burning and insurrection were dominant factors.

It was by no means an insur-

rection or coup. It was an example of frustration and a total loss of confidence in our governing process. What is most unacceptable is the massive surrender by our elected leadership to the seditious anarchists who have infiltrated our government and are assisting in the taking over of our governing process.

Naturally, President Trump was blamed for instigating it. President Trump asked the demonstrators to be peaceful and go home. His comments were a far cry from those of Kamala Harris who said during this past summer's riots that killed a dozen people and did billions in damage that the riots "shouldn't end". Think about that for a moment. The person who will be the Vice President of the United States was calling for insurrection; she was saying that takeovers such as the 'CHOP' zone should continue.

The Democrats have been pushing us into this for four years and they have finally succeeded, with the help of the Republican RINOs who threw in with them. Some suggested that the only way to avoid a civil war was for the highest ranking general in our military to declare martial law, dissolve the Congress, and conduct a complete audit of the Nov, 3<sup>rd</sup> election - and maybe even have a re-election for president. That demonstrates just how angry many people have become to suggest something that extreme. (Would these thoughts have been unexpected if, in opposite circumstances, they had come from Kamala Harris?) Unfortunately, I don't believe it is possible to have a legal honest election in this country unless the voter registration and election process is completely cleaned up.

There are a lot of people and politicians in Washington who should suffer some consequences for what they have done and said about President Trump, let alone their criminal, corrupt, and seditious activities. Will it happen? Not a chance. At this point, the approval of the election of

Biden has become a mute question, right or wrong, legal or otherwise.

The behavior of so-called Republicans who abandoned Trump is now a major issue that has catastrophic consequences. The cowardly actions on their part were unjustified. If anything, they should have quietly voted no or present. But to criticize and condemn Trump the way they did was totally uncalled for. Joining forces with the Democrats put them in the same category as the "Deep State" Swamp dwellers and all should be purged from our Government.

There is something wrong with a society where being a patriot is an act of Treason but to commit an act of Treason has become patriotic. I am sorry but I cannot and will not work with people who threaten me and tell me they are going to "come after us" because we voted for Trump. Sorry, I cannot work with people who want to impeach the best President we have had in my life time, days before the end of his term in office.



[www.SCOPEny2A.org](http://www.SCOPEny2A.org)



## The Potential Demise of our Constitutional Republic

By Harold Moskowitz

On December 11, 2020, the Supreme Court refused to accept the case of *Texas v. Pennsylvania et al.* Texas, allegedly, did not have “standing” to initiate a case involving election procedures of another state. The Court ignored the fact that all states would be affected by the results of the Presidential election. Pennsylvania officials, not the state legislature, had made election law changes. According to the Constitution, only a state legislature may make such changes. The changes all decreased protections against election fraud.

Supreme Court justices take an oath to protect and defend the Constitution. They were morally obligated to hear the Texas case because it was based upon an unconstitutional action. Their decision to deny Texas “standing” was perhaps hypocritical and self-serving because in the case of *Massachusetts v. E.P.A.* (2007) it granted Massachusetts “standing.” In that case, Massachusetts sued the Environmental Protection Agency to require it to take action to regulate CO2 emissions from new cars manufactured in other states. Massachusetts claimed that such climate change inducing emissions were injurious to its residents. The Court sided with Massachusetts. Apparently, “climate change” concerns provided more grounds for “standing” than the need to prevent future election results from being doubted. Where there is distrust of election results, democracy cannot long survive.

It is particularly egregious that Justices Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, and Barrett, all nominated because of their alleged support for the Constitution as “originalists,” refused to join with Justices Alito and Thomas, who indicated in their dissenting statement that under the concept of “original jurisdiction” the Court should have accepted the case.

One can only speculate about why individual justices refused involvement in a case affecting the perception of “free and fair” elections. The legitimacy of a President must never be in doubt if our constitutional republic is to survive. It is basic to the tradition of peaceful and orderly transition of power. In my opinion, with so much at stake concerning the future structure of the national government, these justices exhibited individual and collective cowardice. Their behavior is a stark warning about the health of the “body politic.” Have we as a nation descended to the low level where fear and intimidation have become the motivating factors for official inaction when positive action is required?

By refusing to get involved, despite Pennsylvania’s unconstitutional actions, the precedent has been established for officials in other states to also use procedures intended to facilitate election fraud. In time, this will result in one-party rule over the nation. Progressive liberals plan to transform America’s economy and society. This cannot be achieved without perpetual one party rule as currently is seen in California and New York.

Citizens are losing faith in the ability of our government institutions to solve the nation’s problems. Feckless members of both houses of Congress make grandstanding speeches with hollow words. They hold meaningless hearings which do not lead to necessary results. There are investigations into wrongdoing which never result in punishment. Politicians are increasingly seen as self-serving. For most of them, their goals are to remain perpetually in office, to enrich their families, and to protect the Washington political status quo. Some, we now learn, are beholden to the power of the Chinese Communist Party in one way or another. Now, even the “court of last resort” has betrayed the Peoples’ trust.

Regardless of the reasons for

the demonstrated cowardice of Supreme Court justices, their inaction may well have given birth to the perception that there will be no government solution to the ongoing process of internal destruction of the nation and its bedrock values. Despite the beliefs of East and West coast liberal elites, the majority of Americans are loyal, patriotic, and God-fearing. It is unlikely that they will stand by and watch their nation endure a managed decline to a much lower standard of living. None want a nation without sovereignty or individual rights or liberty. Increasing poverty and lack of individual economic opportunity would not be acceptable. Above all, they will not tolerate government policy which by design places the nation under the political, economic, and military domination of the Chinese Communist Party.

If peaceful means of saving our constitutional republic no longer exist, then what options are left to those citizens who love their country and wish to preserve it? We are seemingly as irreconcilably divided as we were in 1860. No rational person would casually choose to endure another civil war. If there is to be eventual “physical conflict” between the republic’s “preservers” and “destroyers” then much of the resulting bloodshed will be figuratively on the hands of the “cowards” currently holding sinecures with lifetime job security on the High Court. They have lost the confidence and respect of the People. Their lack of fidelity to our republic’s future well-being will be forever seen in history in an unfavorable light.

On December 11, 2020, our constitutional republic received a potentially mortal blow from a two-sentence, fifty-word statement manifesting dereliction of duty by all but two justices on our highest court. The Supreme Court justices violated their oaths of office in a betrayal of both the republic and the brave patriots who long ago risked everything to give it life.

## Election Integrity Matters

By Richard Rossi,, Delaware County

What happened on January 6th does not change what happened on November 3rd. As Americans, regardless of your party affiliation, we must stand and advocate for true election Integrity. Our elections define us and help ensure that we will maintain our Rights and Freedoms, as defined in our Constitution/Bill of Rights. Our Democratic Republic requires and depends on each and every citizen not accepting anything less than election integrity.

O u r F i r s t Amendment protects the right that "We the People" can openly protest our government. *"Congress shall make no law...prohibiting...the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."* Thousands of citizens converged on the US Capital - the *people's house* - to do just that. As the media intentionally omitted, most of these citizens acted in a proper peaceful manner to demonstrate their disapproval of the election's integrity.

Yes, it got out of hand, by a minority of the protestor's, which should not have occurred. The reasons and who actually was responsible for this act of violence must be investigated.

By no means was this a terrorist attack, an insurrection or a revolt. As usual, the media is quick to label without investigation, especially when it helps promote their biased agenda. Many of our democratically elected officials were equally at fault.

The facts about what happened during the election have not changed. The fraud or the perception of fraud has not changed. Citizens have signed affidavits stating fraudulent activities under penalty of perjury. That mere fact is reason enough to fully investigate what happened. The *perception of the truth* is just as important as what is actually the truth in building confidence in elections. We cannot dismiss the fact that millions of citizens believe we had a fraudulent election. Until this election is fully investigated and

proven one way or the other - we will have a divided country.

Our mission as American citizens is to address these concerns to our elected representatives and we cannot accept anything but action on their part. They represent 'We the People' and they are obligated to serve us. Failure to take affirmative action is a violation of their sworn oath of office - period.

Unfortunately, what transpired over the last four years has been a disgrace to our country. Yes, citizens will always disagree with the current party in power's agenda; that is our right as American citizens. One can disagree with the president's agenda, policies or decisions, but to blatantly attack him with personal attacks and baseless racist remarks is totally unjustified and Americans of all political persuasions should have demanded it be stopped. It was even more appalling, when it was done by members of congress - of both parties

On a second, related issue - we have seen two events that are similar in one way and vastly different in others: the Black Lives Matter Movement (BLM) protests / riots and the Election certification rally / riot. The obvious fact is both incidents were reported in vastly different ways by the Media and the Social Networks. One was a 'Social Injustice' protest, the other was a 'terrorist attack' by Trump 'looneys'. The BLM movement was condoned by the National & Local Media, Social Networks, the Democratic party and various City and State Governments. The BLM rallies were reported as "mostly peaceful", even though countless acts of violence and insurrection happened. Businesses were destroyed, countless lives were put in danger, autonomous zones were built without any action. Police were ordered to 'stand down' even when they were being attacked.

W h y d i d t h i s happen? Could it be because we no longer have a news media that are free from political biases and their own personal agendas? Has journalistic integrity become a bad word? Do we have Social Media platforms that are selectively restricting free speech and only let certain groups exercise First Amendment Rights when those

opinions agree with their political stance?

I will let you as concerned intelligent citizens come to your own conclusions; however, please get all facts before making conclusions. Each and every one of us is entitled to our opinion; but facts are not opinions.

Think about this quote - unfortunately, I don't know the author: *"The greatest weapon is NOT a gun or bomb. It is the 'CONTROL OF INFORMATION'. To control the world's information is to manipulate all the minds that consume it"*

And a quote from our Declaration of Independence: *"... Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government..."* *"... But when a Long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Governments and to provide new Guards for their future Securities."* Have we reached this stage in our long history?

Hopefully, recent events will be a wake-up call to all. Our Founding Father's attempted to envision all possibilities and attempted to safe guard our Republic when they wrote the Constitution. If we follow their words, as written, we can't go wrong. But if 'We the People' let this continue, America will continue to be divided. We will not remain a 'Democratic Republic' but will have become a banana republic.

God Bless America. Long may our Rights and Freedoms prevail.



## Déjà vu all over again

By Tom Reynolds

Our Declaration of Independence says that we are endowed by our Creator with, "*Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. - to secure these rights, Governments are instituted.*" (It appears that some big city mayors don't agree with the part about securing our rights, unless you are a rioter.)

Less remembered parts of the Declaration laid out our grievances against the King of England. Many are pertinent to today. It said that the King had:

- "...erected a multitude of New Offices and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance". (Sounds like the Deep State bureaucracies.)
- "...combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution and unacknowledged by our laws..." (Globalization? Seattle's Chop / Chaz zone. United Nations Arms Treaty?)
- Deprived "us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury". (Red Flag laws.)
- Took "away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws..." (Governor Cuomo has been given the power to overturn laws; he has overturned hundreds.)
- "...abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his Protection..." (Big city mayors stopped protecting the lives and property of law-abiding citizens. Seattle's Police Chief concedes that if your Seattle property is attacked by the mob you won't get much assis-

tance.)

- "...burnt our towns and destroyed the lives of our people". (Government sanctioned mobs in Seattle, Portland, St. Louis, Chicago, etc.)

- "...has excited domestic insurrections amongst us". (Mobs in Seattle, Portland, St. Louis, Chicago, etc. Kamala Harris said riots should continue.)

Six months later, when the revolution was endangered, Thomas Paine wrote these words on December 23, 1776

- "**THESE** are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. **Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph.**" (Ask yourself what you are doing for your country.)

- "Tis surprising to see how rapidly a panic will sometimes run through a country". (Wow, talk about timely)

- "America did not, nor does not want force". (But America's enemies often don't recognize when it would be wise to stop pushing and they awake a sleeping giant.)

- "If a thief breaks into my house, burns and destroys my property, and kills or threatens to kill me, or those that are in it, and to bind me in all cases whatsoever to his absolute will, am I to suffer it?" (A great defense of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. The radical left seems to

believe that, yes, we should suffer it.)

- "*By perseverance and fortitude we have the prospect of a glorious issue; by cowardice and submission, the sad choice of a variety of evils - a ravaged country - a depopulated city - habitations without safety, and slavery without hope...and weep over it! and if there yet remains one thoughtless wretch who believes it not, let him suffer it unlamented.*" (The left-wing media will suffer it, unlamented.)

Two days later, Washington crossed the Delaware. Things can change quickly.

No sane person wants the current chaos to degenerate into civil war, unless one remembers Barack Obama's promise to fundamentally transform the United States of America; Civil wars are certainly transformational! Does the political leadership understand how close to the precipice we are moving? Do they understand that, when they undermine our Constitution, they are pushing us towards something neither side should want? But do they want it?

Many people on the side of 2A are warning of violence. But wouldn't it be easier to work hard to elect people who believe in and will defend our founding principles?



(Continued from page 1)

NY State's legislatures, they control the redistricting. Technically, an independent body does the redistricting but if their plan is rejected twice, the third plan is, effectively, drawn up by the legislature. This coming redistricting will be the first on under these new rules. The bad optics of blatantly political and hypocritical moves do not seem to bother Democrats

NY State will surely lose at least one – and maybe two – House seats. The loss of one will certainly

be felt in Upstate. In all probability, at least one NY Senate seat will shift from Upstate to NY City. In addition, districts may be reconfigured so that more districts are not competitive, especially if redistricting ends up done by the legislature.

Although NY State is dominated by anti-2A Democrats, Congressional districts are all local. Not one vote in overwhelmingly Democrat New York City can be transferred to, say, Chautauqua County. But voters have to actually...vote. Upstate's economy has been worsening

and could push some traditionally Democrat voters to vote Republican.

Which brings us to voter apathy or lack of it. Many NY Republicans are depressed over the past elections. (Don't call it depressed or you're likely to be Red Flagged. Will they drop out? We have opportunities, as shown above, especially in the 2022 elections. Voting is a lot easier than shooting.



## Red Flags for ERPOs & GVROs

By Dr. John Edeen

Posted on September 26, 2019 by Doctors for Responsible Gun Ownership (DRGO).

(DRGO has returned from the 34th Annual Gun Rights Policy Conference, hosted in Phoenix by the Second Amendment Foundation. This is a discussion of the problems with firearm confiscation orders.)

### What are these laws and why are they so dangerous?

► “Red Flag” laws are currently in effect in 15 states and the District of Columbia. Hawaii’s and Nevada’s Red Flag laws will take effect on January 1, 2020. Red Flag laws allow courts to issue orders to temporarily confiscate the firearms of individuals deemed to be a risk to themselves or others. Individual states differ as to who can request this.

► In most states, family members and/or law enforcement can request the order from a state court judge to confiscate the firearms of the person who they believe to be at risk. The exact details vary from state to state. The hearing is *ex parte*, which means that the at-risk individual has no notice, no representation and no opportunity to rebut the claims of those who would have his firearms taken. In most cases, the only warning is the knock on the door when law enforcement comes to take his property.

► The subject of the Red Flag order gets his day in court at some later date to plead his case. If the order becomes final, it can last for six months to a year before needing to be renewed. In New Jersey it is indefinite until the subject can convince a judge that he is no longer a danger.

### Many Constitutional protections are turned upside down or violated by these laws. The most obvious are, of course:

► the Second Amendment: “[T]he right of the people to keep and bear

*arms shall not be infringed.”*

► the Fourth Amendment: “*The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.*”

► the Fifth Amendment: “*Nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.*”

► the Fourteenth Amendment: “*No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due processes of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.*”

### In Addition:

► Your accuser has no obligation to prove your guilt. The order to deprive you of your Constitutional rights is given using completely unsubstantiated, arbitrary terms. You then have to stand before your government to prove your innocence.

► These laws also have a chilling effect on the First Amendment: “*Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, . . . or the right of the people to peaceably assemble.*” What you say on social media (e.g., “I support the Second Amendment”) or which organizations you belong to (e.g., National Rifle Association, Second Amendment Foundation) in San Francisco can label you a terrorist and subject you to being Red Flagged and have your property confiscated. What crime did you commit? The exercise of constitutionally protected rights.

► Since these proceedings fall under civil rather than criminal law, your Sixth Amendment protections are bypassed. These include “*the right to a public and speedy trial, by an*

*impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.*”

► The Seventh Amendment states: “*In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court in the United States, than according to the rules of common law.*” However, the civil proceeding against the individual by the state is regarding property worth far more than that \$20 civil threshold. Why do firearm confiscations not permit trial by jury? A judge holds your rights in his sole hands.

► The Eighth Amendment reads: “*Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.*” Is not having your property seized without trial or due process cruel and unusual? Is it not essentially an excessive fine to have to pay an attorney \$10,000-20,000 to get your property back even though you committed no crime?

► These laws turn “innocent until proven guilty” on its head. They allow unreasonable search and seizure, and void due process. They deny trial by jury and punish innocent persons before they are found guilty of a crime. The punishment (confiscation of property) happens without any criminal conviction or an adjudication of mental incompetence. The *ex parte* nature of the original hearing only presents one side of the argument. Is there a police investigation to confirm the claims of the person asking for the order prior to accepting the petition? Many Red Flag laws hold the complainant harmless from civil damages even when the claims are false. In some states the rules of evidence are waived.

(Continued on page 13)

► These laws bypass important existing processes. They take away the firearms but do not address any other potential self-destructive or criminal behavior of the person subject to the ERPO.

► There are civil commitment processes in place in every state for people to be evaluated by a mental health professional for a limited period of time. During the confinement, a psychiatric evaluation can be done in order to ascertain if they are truly a danger by reason of a mental illness. They can then be adjudicated as being a danger or not, with all due process. This has the added benefit of getting help for those who need it, while separating the person from all dangerous weapons.

► If there is criminal intent, the person can be arrested and be charged with a crime. They can then be tried with all their Constitutional protections in place. In any event, due process is preserved.

#### **Let's look at the practicalities of the ERPO system:**

► What judge is going to deny a petition claiming danger? The only risk they have is if the judge denies it and then the person does something dangerous. Most judges are elected and seek re-election.

► On the other hand, the accused now must shoulder a significant financial burden to prove his innocence. He would have to pay for his own mental health evaluation to try to recover his property, rights and reputation? Let us not forget that many in the mental health professions are biased against firearms and the Second Amendment. It may be difficult to find someone to give a fair reckoning on your behalf. How do you prove a negative? Our judicial system should put the burden of proof on the state here too, not on the accused.

► Red Flag laws can be used against women defending themselves against domestic abusers. They can be used in divorce and child custody litigation as leverage against their partners. They can discourage those who might need mental health treatment for depression or suicidal ideation from seeking help

for fear of triggering a Red Flag report.

► Who is responsible for preserving your property for the duration of an order? Police departments have been known to damage or destroy seized firearms. You might never get your property back. You will not be compensated for its value, and to add insult to injury you may be charged a storage fee too!

► Red Flag laws deprive you of your Right to Keep and Bear Arms. They subject you to unreasonable search and seizure. They deprive you of due process of law and deprive you of your property without just compensation. They contravene your rights to a speedy and public trial, an impartial jury of your peers and to confront your accusers, without even accusing you of a crime. You cannot call witnesses on your behalf or have counsel represent you until after your property and rights have already been violated.

► It is cruel and unusual punishment to be forced to prove your innocence, costing tens of thousands of dollars to prove a negative. Of course, this abridges the privileges and immunities of the citizens it is used against. These laws have already deprived people of their life, liberty and property. In jurisdictions that abuse the rights of citizens, will we see Federal prosecutors charge those who violate citizens' rights in these ways under 18 USC 241 (Conspiracy against rights) or 18 USC 242 (Deprivation of Rights Under Color of Law). We are still waiting.

#### **As an alternative, a writer named Ian Williamson has proposed a "Purple Flag Law":**

► When an accusation is made, instead of confiscating the person's guns, the person is escorted to a facility where his state of mind can be evaluated. This addresses the critical concern, separating the person from the guns. If a person is dangerous, he doesn't need guns to hurt or kill a lot of people. It keeps the firearms out of the hands of the state, since experience has proven that once they have been taken you are unlikely to get them back in good condition, if at all. And the person, unlike the guns,

has the right of habeas corpus.

► Second, if the accusation that leads to the evaluation turns out to be unfounded, the accuser gets a mandatory one year in prison, and is named in a mandatory civil lawsuit demanding \$1 million in damages. That will deter bitter ex-spouses, disgruntled employees, spiteful neighbors or anyone else with an ax to grind from initiating a Red Flag petition as a form of harassment.

► Finally, when an accusation is well-founded and a person turns out to be too dangerous to release, this framework has the crucial advantage of focusing attention where it belongs — on the person, not on the gun.

It is obvious to me that those who create Red Flag Laws are not really interested in public safety. They only want another means to confiscate firearms and to create more prohibited persons.

#### **References:**

Constitution of the United States of America  
KrisAnn Hall, JD, You Tube video, The Truly Insidious Nature of Red Flag Laws  
Tea Party Action Patriots. Say NO to "Red Flag" laws.  
CBS News. What are "red flag" laws, and which states have implemented them? August 9, 2019.  
DRGO on Firearm Confiscation due to dangerousness, March 13, 2018, drgo.us.erdeen

—Dr. John Edeen is a pediatric orthopedic surgeon in San Antonio, TX and is active in seeking the right to carry for qualified hospital staff. He is DRGO's Membership Director.



## Crossing the Rubicon

By Harold Moskowitz

Although SCOPE was formed to defend the Constitution with an emphasis on the Second Amendment, we should be aware that those who threaten the Constitution do not travel a narrow path. A threat to any part of the Constitution can eventually become a threat to our First and Second Amendment rights, and vice versa.

Are you worried yet? There are multiple examples for why you should be. You have probably read or heard about the attempts to stifle free speech on college campuses. A previous Firing Lines' article wrote about the New York Times "1619 Project" lesson plans which are now widely found in the required curricula of our public schools. The "1619 Project" uses Marxist revisionist history to teach impressionable youth to dislike, even hate, their own nation. You have been introduced to new terms associated with online censorship such as "demonetization," "deplatforming," "ghosting," and "shadow banning." "Cancel culture" is being used to destroy the livelihoods and reputations of those who are not "woke" enough nor in step with the day-by-day changes in talking points and definitions spouted by the progressive left.

Have you just been shaking your head as you speed read through articles mentioning these attempts to control information and thought? Their goal is to do away with your rights, especially your First and Second Amendment rights. Are you not alarmed? If not, maybe you should be! Social media oligarchs are preventing opinions with which they disagree from being shared with others. Accounts are being frozen. Followers of the "victims" of this abuse of power are also being denied access. Suppliers of "apps" for recently created alternative platforms are being threatened with loss of "Cloud" server space if they refuse to censor non-progressive news items, statements and viewpoints.

How ironic it is that the internet, intended to be an open forum for the free exchange of ideas, has become an instrument for censorship of opposing viewpoints. Abuse of Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act (1996) by social

media titans is the fountainhead of this censorship. Under this provision, social media platforms are not considered to be "publishers" and therefore are not liable for information posted by third parties if the platform acts in "good faith" to prevent objectionable material from reaching the public. It was never intended to grant them an excuse to censor viewpoints not held by the operators of those media platforms, such as the individual right to bear arms or any other societal issues. All attempts to get meaningful action by Congress to repeal Section 230 have failed. Could this be because of the large ongoing campaign contributions made by these corporations? Now, only the bravest of these mostly feckless legislators will risk becoming the next "cancel culture" target by speaking out about removing this legal immunity.

The question of the hour for our nation is how will we stop this movement toward Chinese Communist Party style censorship and manipulation of necessary public information. Media censorship played a substantial role in the outcome of the recent election. At least one major search engine created algorithms - with the help of Chinese government experts - to manipulate which search results would appear to viewers. Did social media moguls engage in election interference and manipulation of voter thinking? Was this a violation of election laws? If so, shouldn't their CEO's be held accountable? Do not count on it. Nothing will be done. "Nothing to see here," just focus on "cleansing" those who supported the "losing" candidate. One wonders if "re-education camps" will be mandated at some point, as a PBS lawyer has touted.

Dictators and ruling elites with a dictatorial mindset require and demand the destruction of anyone or anything which will prevent the total power required for implementing their agendas. This always includes some pretext for disarming the population. The leadership of the party which has just assumed power had previously indicated its intent to use an executive order to seize lawful weapons held by the People. Its administrative head has since stated that he intends to destroy the National Rifle Association and to end the immunity of firearm manufacturers

from lawsuits stemming from unlawful use of their products. Does taking an oath to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution" not also include preservation of the Second Amendment?

Those controlling the levers of government power in Washington, D.C. and in progressive run states have shown a totalitarian mindset. They have a neo-Marxist agenda with strong allies controlling the social media, mass media, sports, pop culture, Hollywood, and academia. Many of these politicians are willing, for financial considerations, to cooperate in the furtherance of Chinese Communist Party goals. Some have openly expressed admiration for the "efficiency" of Chinese Communist Party administration in China.

If you are not concerned yet about the Mao-style "cultural revolution" being initiated in this nation, I suggest that you research how the Chinese Cultural Revolution purged resisters. It resulted in the humiliation, mistreatment, beatings and deaths of at least one million Chinese people at the hands of gangs of youthful government-indoctrinated followers of Chairman Mao. Under the current system of thought control ("cancel culture") which is rapidly developing in our nation, expressing "inappropriate" beliefs or support of the wrong political candidate can cost you your job, the possibility of a future job, your professional reputation, the ability to operate a business, your ability to access credit, and eventually, perhaps your ability to receive necessary medical care from a nationally run health care system.

Technology makes control of a nation easier. Just ask the Chinese Communist Party. Those in power and the groups which assist them have already "crossed the Rubicon." Unless massive, coordinated, nonviolent resistance develops quickly, we will have lost not only the First and Second Amendments but our constitutional republic as well. The usurpers of our liberty are showing us how totalitarian enforced uniformity of thought will be used to create their dystopian, neo-Marxist utopia. The First Amendment is squarely in their sights as is the Second Amendment. Are you worried yet?

## Doctors for Responsible Gun Ownership

*Note: SCOPE believes the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment defense organizations need to be working together. Toward that end, we are partnering with Doctors for Responsible Gun Ownership. The following is an introduction to that organization.*

By Robert B Young, MD

Doctors for Responsible Gun Ownership is a national, pro-Second Amendment advocacy and watchdog group founded in 1994 by Dr. Timothy Wheeler, a now-retired ear-nose-throat surgeon from Southern California. Our current Project Director is Dr. Arthur Przebinda, an imaging specialist in the same forlorn state, supported by a multi-specialty executive committee.

We began as an affiliate of The Claremont Institute and are pleased now to be a program of one of America's premier gun rights groups, The Second Amendment Foundation, since 2011. Membership includes physicians, scientists, and other health professionals who support the safe and lawful use of firearms.

Then DRGO leadership testified before the House Appropriations Committee in 1994, exposing the anti-gun propaganda of by Centers for

Disease Control (CDC) officials intending to undermine private gun ownership. This culminated in the prohibition of gun control advocacy by the Centers for Disease Control (and later the National Institutes of Health) via the Dickey Amendment.

Ever since, DRGO's mission has been to scrutinize policy and medical and policy research dealing with firearms ownership, use and misuse. In this way, DRGO combats biased, agenda-based pseudoscience that would diminish the natural and civil rights of self-defense and gun ownership. The medical profession's "leadership" against firearms really comes from fear held by a vocal minority within it—fear of guns, and now fear of losing the funding of multiple Bloomberg-affiliated anti-gun groups and universities.

We have contributed to *amicus curiae* briefs to such cases as Emerson (1999), Heller (2008), *Wollschlaeger v. Florida* (2011), *Peruta* (2014) and *Duncan v Becerra* (2017). Our experts advocate for the Second Amendment in regional and national media such as Fox News, CBS News, *National Review*, *The Washington Times* and many other written, broadcast and online media. We publish objective, scientifically based position papers on subjects such as Public Health, Gun Safety,

Firearm Research, Medical Records, Suppressors & Hearing, and Emergency Protective Orders.

A special DRGO service is our project to link prospective patients with gun-friendly medical providers. On request, we will search our database of providers nationwide for the specialist the inquirer seeks within a designated distance from him or her. Understandably, we can't always identify one, but we continue to build the list of doctors, nurse practitioners, podiatrists and others in order to improve the resource. Check this out, as a provider or a patient, at [2Adoc.com](http://2Adoc.com).

DRGO exists to provide our unique perspective on Second Amendment issues. We can provide policy analysis and expert testimony in opposition to organized medicine's long-standing campaign against firearm rights. We are glad to offer our medical and scientific expertise to any fellow gun rights group while carrying out our own activities.

We host a blog with fresh content twice weekly and maintain a vigorous social media presence. Find our website at [www.DRGO.us](http://www.DRGO.us), our Facebook at [#DoctorsForResponsibleGunOwnership](https://www.facebook.com/DoctorsForResponsibleGunOwnership), and our Twitter at [@DRGOSAF](https://twitter.com/DRGOSAF). We welcome everyone who wants to support our work as a [member](#).





**Quality, Professional Firearm  
and Personal Safety Training**

**DONAHOO-CONSULTING, LLC®**

(914) 455 - 4099

pistolclass@donahoo-consulting.com

www.donahoo-consulting.com

**Please consider donating to the S.C.O.P.E., Inc.**

**Legal Defense Fund**

We still have much to battle Albany over, and as you well know it takes money to do this! This battle with Albany and the NY (UN)S.A.F.E. Act will be going on for the foreseeable future. Perhaps the action that N.Y.S.R.P.A. is undertaking against NYC will have a benefit for all of us, but we do not yet know. We must to be ready to fight, or assist others, in court.

We need to fight the socialist politicians on all fronts!

**Send your donations to: S.C.O.P.E., Inc., Attn: Legal Defense Fund  
PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052**

**SCOPE Business Associate Membership**

Show your support for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights with a Business Associate Membership. Dues are \$50 annually, or \$250 for a Sponsor level membership. Members will receive a window sign to display, a listing on our website and contact information. We will also supply them with membership applications and a supply of each issue of the *Firing Lines* for their store. Sponsors will also receive a wall plaque for display in their store.

**Application on page 12**

# America, Truly A Diamond

By Dr. John Edeen

The far left can't say enough bad about the America we love, the America which, under our Constitution, has done more for more people than any country in the history of the world. Forget our imperfections and ignore the rantings of the mob, it's time to stand up and unapologetically celebrate America and all its done and all it represents. America is a land of optimism and not regrets. We've got a lot to be proud of and celebrate and that was captured in a Neil Diamond song from a few years ago.

Far  
We've been traveling far  
Without a home  
But not without a star

Free  
Only want to be free  
We huddle close  
Hang on to a dream

On the boats and on the planes  
They're coming to America

Never looking back again  
They're coming to America

Home, to a new and a shiny place  
Make our bed, and we'll say our grace  
Freedom's light burning warm  
Freedom's light burning warm

Everywhere around the world  
They're coming to America

Every time that flag's unfurled  
They're coming to America

Got a dream to take them there  
They're coming to America

Got a dream they've come to share  
They're coming to America

My country 'tis of thee  
Sweet land of liberty  
Of thee I sing



\*\*\*\*\*

## Announcement on Members Meeting

The Members Meeting is required by the By-Laws to be held in April of each year. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the Corona Virus and restrictions, it cannot yet be scheduled.

When a date and place is finalized, it will be announced on the SCOPE website: [SCOPENY2A.org](http://SCOPENY2A.org), and by Email and other social media.

## At Large Director Election

Only one person was nominated for an At Large Director position: Dave Coburn. His biography follows. As he is the only person nominated, the Secretary will be directed to cast a ballot for him at the meeting in order to make his election official.

Thanks to Dave for volunteering.

## Biography of Dave Colburn

I am a 1970 graduate of Wayne Central School District in Ontario, NY. My wife, Linda, and I have been married 49 years and have four sons and six grandchildren. My career track has included fourteen years of employment at Eastman Kodak Company before leaving to pursue pastoral studies at Practical Bible Training School in Johnson City, New York, and then serving in two pastorates, also in New York State, from 1987 until 1996. After that I returned to my hometown high school

in Ontario, New York and became a computer technician where I had remained until my retirement in June of 2018.

I am a member at the Ontario Rod & Gun Club in Ontario, New York and maintained the club website for several years until 2019. Currently I have been supporting the New York State SCOPE website for the last year as well as the Wayne County chapter of SCOPE's Facebook page for the last two years. I am also a member of the New York State Rifle & Pistol Association and I have taken a variety of firearms training classes (NRA Basic Pistol, NRA Range Safety Officer, NRA Personal Protection in the Home, NRA Personal Protection Outside the Home, and two classes in tactical carbine with handgun from an NRA certified and highly skilled instructor.)

I enjoy trap and sporting clays as well as pistol and rifle shooting. My wife and I also enjoy boating and fishing at our summer camp in the Thousand Islands along with family activities with our sons and their families. We have also been members of the Webster Bible Church in Webster, New York since 2008, where I have served as chairman of the deacons and also provide the visual graphics for the pastor's sermons for most of the year.

Memberships: SCOPE (Wayne County Chapter), NYSRPA, Ontario Rod & Gun Club, NRA Range Safety Officer

[www.SCOPEny2A.org](http://www.SCOPEny2A.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

# NY State Assembly Members

| District |                        | Phone #      | E-Mail                        |
|----------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 1        | Fred Thiele            | 518-455-5997 | ThieleF@nyassembly.gov        |
| 2        | Jodi Giglio            | 518-455-5294 | giglioj2@nyassembly.gov       |
| 3        | Joe DiStefano          | 518-455-4901 | destefanoj@nyassembly.gov     |
| 4        | Steve Englebright      | 518-455-4804 | EngleS@nyassembly.gov         |
| 5        | Douglas M. Smith       | 518-455-5937 | smithd@nyassembly.gov         |
| 6        | Philip Ramos           | 518-455-5185 | ramosp@nyassembly.gov         |
| 7        | Jarett Gandolfo        | 518-455-4611 | gandolfoj@nyassembly.gov      |
| 8        | Michael J. Fitzpatrick | 518-455-5021 | FitzpatrickM@nyassembly.gov   |
| 9        | Michael Durso          | 518-455-5305 | dursom@nyassembly.gov         |
| 10       | Steve Stern            | 518-455-5732 | sterns@nyassembly.gov         |
| 11       | Kimberly Jean-Pierre   | 518-455-5787 | jeanpierrek@nyassembly.gov    |
| 12       | Keith Brown            | 518-455-5952 | brownk@nyassembly.gov         |
| 13       | Charles D. Lavine      | 518-455-5456 | LavineC@nyassembly.gov        |
| 14       | David McDonough        | 518-455-4633 | mcdonoughd@nyassembly.gov     |
| 15       | Michael Montesano      | 518-455-4684 | MontesanoM@nyassembly.gov     |
| 16       | Gina Sillitti          | 518-455-5192 | sillittig@nyassembly.gov      |
| 17       | John Mikulin           | 518-455-5341 | mikulinj@nyassembly.gov       |
| 18       | Taylor Darling         | 518-455-5861 | darlingt@nyassembly.gov       |
| 19       | Ed Ra                  | 518-455-4627 | rae@nyassembly.gov            |
| 20       | Melissa Miller         | 518-455-3028 | MillerML@nyassembly.gov       |
| 21       | Judy griffin           | 518-455-4656 | griffinj@nyassembly.gov       |
| 22       | Michaëlle C. Solages   | 518-455-4465 | SolagesM@nyassembly.gov       |
| 23       | Stacey Pheffer Amato   | 518-455-4292 | amatos@nyassembly.gov         |
| 24       | David Weprin           | 518-455-5806 | WeprinD@nyassembly.gov        |
| 25       | Nily Rozic             | 518-455-5172 | RozicN@nyassembly.gov         |
| 26       | Edward Braunstein      | 518-455-5425 | braunsteine@nyassembly.gov    |
| 27       | Daniel Rosenthal       | 518-455-4404 | rosenthald@nyassembly.gov     |
| 28       | Andrew Hevesi          | 518-455-4926 | HevesiA@nyassembly.gov        |
| 29       | Alicia Hyndman         | 518-455-4451 | hyndmana@nyassembly.gov       |
| 30       | Brian Barnwell         | 518-455-4755 | BarnwellB@nyassembly.gov      |
| 31       | Khaleel Anderson       | 718-322-4958 | andersonk@nyassembly.gov      |
| 32       | Vivian E. Cook         | 518-455-4203 | CookV@nyassembly.gov          |
| 33       | Clyde Vanel            | 518-455-4711 | vanelc@nyassembly.gov         |
| 34       | Jessica González-Rojas | 518-455-4545 | gonzalezrojasj@nyassembly.gov |
| 35       | Jeffrion L. Aubry      | 518-455-4561 | AubryJ@nyassembly.gov         |
| 36       | Zohran Mamdani         | 518-455-5014 | mamdanz@nyassembly.gov        |
| 37       | Catherine Nolan        | 518-455-4851 | NolanC@nyassembly.gov         |
| 38       | Jenifer Rajkumar       | 518-455-4621 | rajkumarj@nyassembly.gov      |
| 39       | Catalina Cruz          | 518-455-4567 | cruzc@nyassembly.gov          |
| 40       | Ron Kim                | 518-455-5411 | KimR@nyassembly.gov           |

(Continued on page 19)

*(Continued from page 18)*

|    |                            |              |                                  |
|----|----------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 41 | Helene Weinstein           | 518-455-5462 | WeinstH@nyassembly.gov           |
| 42 | Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn | 518-455-5385 | bichotter@nyassembly.gov         |
| 43 | Diana Richardson           | 518-455-5262 | district43@nyassembly.gov        |
| 44 | Robert Carroll             | 518-455-5377 | CarrollR@nyassembly.gov          |
| 45 | Steven Cymbrowitz          | 518-455-5214 | CymbroS@nyassembly.gov           |
| 46 | Mathylde Frontus           | 518-455-4811 | FrontusM@nyassembly.gov          |
| 47 | William Colton             | 518-455-5828 | ColtonW@nyassembly.gov           |
| 48 | Simcha Eichenstein         | 18-455-5721  | EichensteinS@nyassembly.gov      |
| 49 | Peter J. Abbate, Jr.       | 518-455-3053 | abbatep@nyassembly.gov           |
| 50 | Emily Gallagher            | 518-455-4477 | GallagherE@nyassembly.gov        |
| 51 | Marcela Mitaynes           | 518-455-3821 | mitaynesm@nyassembly.gov         |
| 52 | Jo Anne Simon              | 518-455-5426 | simonj@nyassembly.gov            |
| 53 | Martiza Davila             | 518-455-5537 | DavilaM@nyassembly.gov           |
| 54 | Erik Martin Dilan          | 518-455-5821 | DilanE@nyassembly.gov            |
| 55 | Latrice Walker             | 518-455-4466 | WalkerL@nyassembly.gov           |
| 56 | Stefani Zinerman           | 518-455-5474 | zinermans@nyassembly.gov         |
| 57 | Phara Souffrant Forrest    | 518-455-5325 | souffrantforrestp@nyassembly.gov |
| 58 | N. Nick Perry              | 518-455-4166 | PerryN@nyassembly.gov            |
| 59 | Jaime Williams             | 518-455-5211 | williamsja@nyassembly.gov        |
| 60 | Charles Barron             | 518-455-5912 | barronc@nyassembly.gov           |
| 61 | Charles Fall               | 518-455-4677 | fallc@nyassembly.gov             |
| 62 | Michael Reilly             | 518-455-4495 | reillym@nyassembly.gov           |
| 63 | Michael Cusick             | 18-455-5526  | CusickM@nyassembly.gov           |
| 64 | Michael Tannousis          | 518-455-5716 | tannousism@nyassembly.gov        |
| 65 | Yuh-Line Niou              | 518-455-3640 | niouy@nyassembly.gov             |
| 66 | Deborah J. Glick           | 518-455-4841 | GlickD@nyassembly.gov            |
| 67 | Linda Rosenthal            | 518-455-5802 | RosentL@nyassembly.gov           |
| 68 | Robert J. Rodriguez        | 518-455-4781 | Rrodriguez@nyassembly.gov        |
| 69 | Daniel J. O'Donnell        | 518-455-5603 | OdonnellD@nyassembly.gov         |
| 70 | Inez Dickens               | 518-455-4793 | DickensI@nyassembly.gov          |
| 71 | Al Taylor                  | 518-455-5491 | taylora@nyassembly.gov           |
| 72 | Carmen De La Rosa          | 518-455-5807 | delaRosac@nyassembly.gov         |
| 73 | Dan Quart                  | 518-455-4794 | quartd@nyassembly.gov            |
| 74 | Harvey Epstein             | 518-455-5506 | epsteinh@nyassembly.gov          |
| 75 | Richard N. Gottfried       | 518-455-4941 | GottfriedR@nyassembly.gov        |
| 76 | Rebecca Seawright          | 518-455-5676 | SeawrightR@nyassembly.gov        |
| 77 | Latoya Joyner              | 518-455-5671 | joynerl@nyassembly.gov           |
| 78 | José Rivera                | 518-455-5414 | RiveraJ@nyassembly.gov           |
| 79 | Chantel Jackson            | 518-455-5272 | Jacksonc@nyassembly.gov          |
| 80 | Nathalia Fernandez         | 518-455-5844 | fernandezn@nyassembly.gov        |
| 81 | Jeffrey Dinowitz           | 518-455-5965 | DinowiJ@nyassembly.gov           |
| 82 | Michel Benedetto           | 518-455-5296 | benedettom@nyassembly.gov        |
| 83 | Carl Heastie               | 518-455-3791 | Speaker@nyassembly.gov           |
| 84 | Amanda Septimo             | 718-292-2901 | septimoa@nyassembly.gov          |
| 85 | Kenny Burgos               | 718-893-0202 | burgosk@nyassembly.gov           |
| 86 | Victor M. Pichardo         | 518-455-5511 | PichardoV@nyassembly.gov         |
| 87 | Karines Reyes              | 518-455-5102 | reyesk@nyassembly.gov            |
| 88 | Amy Paulin                 | 518-455-5585 | PaulinA@nyassembly.gov           |

*(Continued on page 20)*



*(Continued from page 19)*

|     |                        |              |                              |
|-----|------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| 89  | J. Gary Pretlow        | 518-455-5291 | PretloJ@nyassembly.gov       |
| 90  | Nader Sayegh           | 518 455 3662 | sayeghn@nyassembly.gov       |
| 91  | Steven Otis            | 518-455-4897 | OtisS@nyassembly.gov         |
| 92  | Thomas J. Abinanti     | 518-455-5753 | abinantit@nyassembly.gov     |
| 93  | Chris Burdick          | 518-455-5397 | burdicke@nyassembly.gov      |
| 94  | Kevin Byrne            | 518-455-5783 | ByrneK@nyassembly.gov        |
| 95  | Sandy Galef            | 518-455-5348 | GalefS@nyassembly.gov        |
| 96  | Kenneth Zebrowski, Jr. | 518-455-5735 | ZebrowskiK@nyassembly.gov    |
| 97  | Michael Lawler         | 518-455-5118 | lawlerm@nyassembly.gov       |
| 98  | Karl A. Brabeneck      | 518-455-5991 | brabeneck@nyassembly.gov     |
| 99  | Colin Schmitt          | 518-455-5441 | schmittc@nyassembly.gov      |
| 100 | Aileen Gunther         | 518-455-5355 | GuntheA@nyassembly.gov       |
| 101 | Brian Miller           | 518-455-5334 | millerb@nyassembly.gov       |
| 102 | Christopher Tague      | 518-455-5363 | taguec@nyassembly.gov        |
| 103 | Kevin A. Cahill        | 518-455-4436 | CahillK@nyassembly.gov       |
| 104 | Jonathan Jacobson      | 518-455-5762 | jacobsonj@nyassembly.gov     |
| 105 | Kieran Lalor           | 518-455-5725 | LalorK@nyassembly.gov        |
| 106 | Didi Barrett           | 518-455-5177 | barrettd@nyassembly.gov      |
| 107 | Jake Ashby             | 518-455-5777 | ashbyj@nyassembly.gov        |
| 108 | John T. McDonald III   | 518-455-4474 | McDonaldJ@nyassembly.gov     |
| 109 | Patricia Fahy          | 518-455-4178 | FahyP@nyassembly.gov         |
| 110 | Phillip Steck          | 518-455-5931 | SteckP@nyassembly.gov        |
| 111 | Angelo Santabarbara    | 518-455-5197 | SantabarbaraA@nyassembly.gov |
| 112 | Mary Beth Walsh        | 518-455-5772 | walshm@nyassembly.gov        |
| 113 | Carrie Woerner         | 518-455-5404 | woernerc@nyassembly.gov      |
| 114 | Matthew Simpson        | 518-455-5565 | SimpsonM@nyassembly.gov      |
| 115 | Billy Jones            | 518-455-5943 | jonesb@nyassembly.gov        |
| 116 | Mark Walczyk           | 518-455-5545 | walczykkm@nyassembly.gov     |
| 117 | Ken Blankenbush        | 518-455-5797 | blankenbushk@nyassembly.gov  |
| 118 | Robert Smullen         | 518-455-5393 | smullenr@nyassembly.gov      |
| 119 | Marianne Buttenschon   | 518-455-5454 | buttenschonm@nyassembly.gov  |
| 120 | William A. Barclay     | 518-455-3751 | BarclaW@nyassembly.gov       |
| 121 | John Salka             | 518-455-4807 | salkaj@nyassembly.gov        |
| 122 | Joe Angelino           | 518-455-5741 | angelinoj@nyassembly.gov     |
| 123 | Donna Lupardo          | 518-455-5431 | LupardoD@nyassembly.gov      |
| 124 | Christopher S. Friend  | 518-455-4538 | friendc@nyassembly.gov       |
| 125 | Anna Kelles            | 518-455-5444 | kellesa@nyassembly.gov       |
| 126 | John Lemondes, Jr.     | 518-455-5878 | lemondesj@nyassembly.gov     |
| 127 | Albert A. Stirpe, Jr.  | 518-455-4505 | StirpeA@nyassembly.gov       |
| 128 | Pamela Hunter          | 518-455-5383 | HunterP@nyassembly.gov       |
| 129 | William Magnarelli     | 518-455-4826 | MagnarW@nyassembly.gov       |
| 130 | Brian Manktelow        | 518-455-5655 | manktelowb@nyassembly.gov    |
| 131 | Jeff Gallahan          | 518-455-3979 | gallahanj@nyassembly.gov     |
| 132 | Phil Palmesano         | 518-455-5791 | palmesanop@nyassembly.gov    |
| 133 | Marjorie Byrnes        | 518-455-5662 | byrnesm@nyassembly.gov       |
| 134 | Josh Jensen            | 518-455-4664 | jensenj@nyassembly.gov       |
| 135 | Jennifeer Lunsford     | 518-455-5784 | lunsfordj@nyassembly.gov     |
| 136 | Sarah Clark            | 518-455-5373 | clarks@nyassembly.gov        |

*(Continued on page 21)*

|     |                        |              |                           |
|-----|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 137 | Demond Meeks           | 585-454-3670 | meeksd@nyassembly.gov     |
| 138 | Harry Bronson          | 518-455-4527 | bronsonh@nyassembly.gov   |
| 139 | Stephen Hawley         | 518-455-5811 | HawleyS@nyassembly.gov    |
| 140 | William Conrad         | 518-455-4767 | conradw@nyassembly.gov    |
| 141 | Crystal Peoples-Stokes | 518-455-5005 | PeopleC@nyassembly.gov    |
| 142 | Patrick B. Burke       | 518-455-4691 | burkep@nyassembly.gov     |
| 143 | Monica P. Wallace      | 518-455-5921 | wallacem@nyassembly.gov   |
| 144 | Michael Norris         | 518-455-4601 | norrism@nyassembly.gov    |
| 145 | Angelo Morinello       | 518-455-5284 | morinelloa@nyassembly.gov |
| 146 | Karen McMahan          | 518-455-4618 | mcmahonk@nyassembly.gov   |
| 147 | David DiPietro         | 518-455-5314 | DiPietroD@nyassembly.gov  |
| 148 | Joseph Giglio          | 518-455-5241 | GiglioJ@nyassembly.gov    |
| 149 | Jonathan Rivera        | 518-455-4886 | riverajd@nyassembly.gov   |
| 150 | Andy Goodell           | 518-455-4511 | goodella@nyassembly.gov   |

## NY State Senators

| District |                        | Albany Phone # | Email                    |
|----------|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1        | Anthony H. Palumbo     | 518-455-3121   | palumbo@nysenate.gov     |
| 2        | Mario R. Mattera       | 518-455-2071   | mattera@nysenate.gov     |
| 3        | Alexis Weik            | 518-455-2838   | weik@nysenate.gov        |
| 4        | Phil Boyle             | 518-455-3411   | pboyle@nysenate.gov      |
| 5        | James Gaughran         | 518-455-3250   | gaughran@nysenate.gov    |
| 6        | Kevin Thomas           | 18-455-3260    | thomas@nysenate.gov      |
| 7        | Anna M. Kaplan         | 518-455-2170   | kaplan@nysenate.gov      |
| 8        | John E. Brooks         | 518-455-2765   | brooks@nysenate.gov      |
| 9        | Todd Kaminsky          | 518-455-3401   | kaminsky@nysenate.gov    |
| 10       | James Sanders, Jr.     | 518-455-3531   | sanders@nysenate.gov     |
| 11       | John C. Liu            | 518-455-2210   | liu@nysenate.gov         |
| 12       | Michael Gianaris       | 518-455-3486   | gianaris@nysenate.gov    |
| 13       | Jessica Ramos          | 518-455-2529   | ramos@nysenate.gov       |
| 14       | Leroy Comrie 5         | 18-455-2701    | comrie@nysenate.gov      |
| 15       | Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr. | 518-455-2322   | addabbo@nysenate.gov     |
| 16       | Toby Ann Stavisky      | 518-455-3461   | stavisky@nysenate.gov    |
| 17       | Simcha Felder          | 518-455-2754   | felder@nysenate.gov      |
| 18       | Julia Salazar          | 518-455-2177   | salazar@nysenate.gov     |
| 19       | Roxanne J. Persaud     | 518-455-2788   | senatorpersaud@gmail.com |
| 20       | Zellnor Myrie          | 518-455-2410   | myrie@nysenate.gov       |
| 21       | Kevin S. Parker        | 518-455-2580   | parker@nysenate.gov      |
| 22       | Andrew Gounardes       | 518-455-3270   | gounardes@nysenate.gov   |
| 23       | Diane J. Savino        | 518-455-2437   | savino@nysenate.gov      |
| 24       | Andrew Lanza           | 518-455-3215   | lanza@nysenate.gov       |
| 25       | Jabari Brisport        | 518-455-3451   | brisport@nysenate.gov    |
| 26       | Brian Kavanagh         | 518-455-2625   | kavanagh@nysenate.gov    |

(Continued on page 22)

*(Continued from page 21)*

|    |                                |              |                        |
|----|--------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| 27 | <b>Brad Hoylman</b>            | 518-455-2451 | hoylman@nysenate.gov   |
| 28 | <b>Liz Krueger</b>             | 518-455-2297 | lkrueger@nysenate.gov  |
| 29 | <b>José M. Serrano</b>         | 518-455-2795 | serrano@nysenate.gov   |
| 30 | <b>Brain B. Benjamin</b>       | 518-455-2441 | bbenjamin@nysenate.gov |
| 31 | <b>Robert Jackson</b>          | 518-455-2041 | jackson@nysenate.gov   |
| 32 | <b>Luis R. Sepúlveda</b>       | 518-455-2511 | sepulveda@nysenate.gov |
| 33 | <b>Gustavo Rivera</b>          | 518-455-3395 | grivera@nysenate.gov   |
| 34 | <b>Alessandra Biaggi</b>       | 518-455-3595 | biaggi@nysenate.gov    |
| 35 | <b>Andrea Stewart-Cousins</b>  | 518-455-2585 | scousins@nysenate.gov  |
| 36 | <b>Jamaal T. Bailey</b>        | 518-455-2061 | bailey@nysenate.gov    |
| 37 | <b>Shelley B. Mayer</b>        | 518-455-2031 | smayer@nysenate.gov    |
| 38 | <b>Elijah Reichlin-Melnick</b> | 518-455-2991 | reichlin@nysenate.gov  |
| 39 | <b>James Skoufis</b>           | 518-455-3290 | skoufis@nysenate.gov   |
| 40 | <b>Pete Harckham</b>           | 518-455-2340 | harckham@nysenate.gov  |
| 41 | <b>Sue Serino</b>              | 518-455-2945 | serino@nysenate.gov    |
| 42 | <b>Mike Martucci</b>           | 518-455-2400 |                        |
| 43 | <b>Daphne Jordan</b>           | 518-455-2381 | jordan@nysenate.gov    |
| 44 | <b>Neil D. Breslin</b>         | 518-455-2225 | breslin@nysenate.gov   |
| 45 | <b>Daniel G. Stec</b>          | 518-455-2811 | stec@nysenate.gov      |
| 46 | <b>Michelle Hinchey</b>        | 518-455-2350 | hinchey@nysenate.gov   |
| 47 | <b>Joseph A. Griffo</b>        | 518-455-3334 | griffo@nysenate.gov    |
| 48 | <b>Patty Ritchie</b>           | 518-455-3438 | ritchie@nysenate.gov   |
| 49 | <b>James Tedisco</b>           | 518-455-2181 | tedisco@nysenate.gov   |
| 50 | <b>John W. Mannion</b>         | 518-455-3511 | mannion@nysenate.gov   |
| 51 | <b>Peter Oberacker</b>         | 518-455-3131 | oberacker@nysenate.gov |
| 52 | <b>Fred Akshar</b>             | 518-455-2677 | akshar@nysenate.gov    |
| 53 | <b>Rachel May</b>              | 518-455-2838 | may@nysenate.gov       |
| 54 | <b>Pamela Helming</b>          | 518-455-2366 | helming@nysenate.gov   |
| 55 | <b>Samra G. Brouk</b>          | 518-455-2215 | brouk@nysenate.gov     |
| 56 | <b>Jeremy A. Cooney</b>        | 585-225-3650 | cooney@nysenate.gov    |
| 57 | <b>George M. Borrello</b>      | 518-455-3563 | borrello@nysenate.gov  |
| 58 | <b>Thomas F. O'Mara</b>        | 518-455-2091 | omara@nysenate.gov     |
| 59 | <b>Patrick M. Gallivan</b>     | 518-455-3471 | gallivan@nysenate.gov  |
| 60 | <b>Sean M. Ryan</b>            | 518-455-3240 | ryan@nysenate.gov      |
| 61 | <b>Edward A. Rath III</b>      | 518-455-3161 | rath@nysenate.gov      |
| 62 | <b>Robert G. Ortt</b>          | 518-455-2024 | ortt@nysenate.gov      |
| 63 | <b>Timothy M. Kennedy</b>      | 518-455-2426 | kennedy@nysenate.gov   |



Keep up with our NYS representatives.  
 Our Senators and Assemblymen need our input (whether they want it or not)

## **2021 NYS Legislative Session Calendar**

| <b>JANUARY</b> |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S              | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|                |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3              | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10             | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17             | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24             | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31             |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| <b>FEBRUARY</b> |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S               | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|                 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7               | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14              | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21              | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28              |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| <b>MARCH</b> |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|              | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7            | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14           | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21           | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28           | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

| <b>APRIL</b> |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|              |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4            | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11           | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18           | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25           | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |

| <b>MAY</b> |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S          | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|            |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2          | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9          | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16         | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23         | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30         | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

| <b>JUNE</b> |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S           | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|             |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6           | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13          | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20          | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27          | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |

**January 6** 2021 Legislative Session convenes  
**January 18** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
**January 19** Final Day for Submission of Executive Budget

**February 15** Presidents' Day  
**April 1** Beginning of new Fiscal Year  
**May 31** Memorial Day

Indicates session day

From, SCOPE, PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052  
Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Webster, NY  
Permit # 91

Firing Lines page 24

Your membership expiration date is on the label, please renew today!

**YOU INSURE YOUR CAR, YOUR HOME, EVEN  
YOUR HEALTH - WELL HOW ABOUT  
INSURING YOUR 2ND AMENDMENT RIGHTS?**

**SCOPE THE RIGHT INSURANCE!**

**SO DON'T DELAY  
SIGN UP TODAY!**



**We are S.C.O.P.E.**

- We get no air time on CNN.
- We don't riot and burn things down.
- We go to work and support our families.
- We love America.
- We protect the unborn.
- We salute the flag.
- We say the pledge of allegiance.
- We sing the Star Spangled Banner  
- while standing.
- We respect law enforcement  
and we obey the law.
- We appreciate the military.
- We use guns safely and legally.
- We defend the Constitution  
- especially the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment.
- We support conservation and hunting.
- We are S.C.O.P.E.

Donate Today!  
[www.SCOPEny2a.org](http://www.SCOPEny2a.org)



# SCOPE Membership Application

- Membership Dues:  Annual - \$25     3-Years Annual - \$70     SCOPE Patch- \$5  
**Check**     Sponsor - \$50     3-Years Sponsor - \$140     Senior Life (65+) - \$250 with proof of age  
**Appropriate**     Life - \$600     Endowment - \$800     Benefactor - \$1,000  
**Boxes**     New Member     Renewal     Window Decal \$2.50     Inside     Outside

Mail to: SCOPE (Shooters Committee On Political Education) PO Box 165 East Aurora, NY 14052  
Make Checks Payable to SCOPE, Inc. (**Do Not Send Cash**)

How do you want your newsletter delivered? US Mail or Email Link (Circle one)

Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (Needed for newsletter delivery) \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check the boxes that apply: Will you serve on Committees     Yes     No

Are you registered to Vote     Yes     No

Dues subject to increase.  
Contributions, gifts or membership dues made or paid to SCOPE are not refundable or transferable and are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.