



# 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.*

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## Biden and the Democrats' Platform

By Tom Reynolds

Joe Biden has said that he is the Democrat Party. Taken directly from the Democrat platform in a section called "Healing the soul of America", below is Joe Biden's platform on gun control.

Democrats / Joe Biden will:

**End online sales of guns and ammunition;** (5 times as many people die from alcoholism as from non-suicide gun shots but you can still buy liquor online. Don't address problems - just make political points.)

**Close dangerous loopholes that currently allow stalkers, abusive partners, and some individuals convicted of assault or battery to buy and possess firearms;** (Let those same stalkers, abusive partners and assaulters out of jail - without bail - so they are free to threaten people again and be released again, if caught again. Wasn't the movie Groundhog Day about something like this?)

**Enact universal background checks;** (No transferring of a gun to a legally allowed relative without government permission. Also, see the Charleston Loophole, below.)

**Adequately fund the federal background check system and close the "Charleston loophole;"** (Currently, the FBI has 3 days to do a NICS check or the sale can proceed. Democrats want at least a 30 day waiting period. Great way for "The Swamp" to kill gun stores. But the FBI would never abuse its authority...would it?)

**Prevent individuals who have been convicted of hate crimes from possessing firearms;** (The definition of "Hate Crimes" will soon be changed to criticizing anything the Democrats like.)

**Ban the manufacture and sale of assault weapons and high capacity magazines;** (Democrats' ultimate goal is to expand the definition of an Assault Weapon to anything that assaults their snowflake feelings.)

**Incentivize states to enact licensing requirements for owning firearms;** (Use tax dollars to bribe the states. If the

government can license a constitutional right then it can also refuse to license a constitutional right.)

**Incentivize states to enact extreme risk protection order laws that allow courts to temporarily remove guns from the possession of those who are a danger to themselves or others;** (Use tax dollars to bribe the states while ignoring about half-a-dozen Amendments to the Constitution.)

**Pass legislation requiring that guns be safely stored in homes;** (Another of those pesky Constitutional Amendments (#4) to be ignored. If you are being assaulted, just call a time out so you can unlock your weapon.)

**Gun companies should be held responsible for their products, just like any other business, and prioritize repealing the law that shields gun manufacturers from civil liability;** (Will politicians be personally responsible for criminals out without bail who then commit more crimes? Will Sanctuary Cities' politicians be personally responsible for illegal aliens who commit crimes in their cities? Will car companies be responsible for vehicular assaults? Will liquor companies will be responsible for drunk drivers?)

Taken as a whole, these steps would eventually lead to no one legally owning a gun (except Democrat politicians, their friends and those protecting Democrat politicians). In fact, gun violence by criminals would undoubtedly increase since criminals don't obey any of these laws and they would know they face disarmed citizens. (Remember Sean Connery's famous line in the movie "The Untouchables" about bringing a knife to a gun fight.) Biden completely ignores that these steps would virtually eliminate legally owned guns from being used in self-defense; estimates on defensive gun use range from 50,000 to 2,500,000 per year, far outnumbering non suicide deaths of 16,000.

But, hey, what do facts mean to a guy that believes Antifa is only an idea?

**Join SCOPE Today!**  
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"Guns are our friends because in a country without guns, I'm what's known as "prey."  
All females are."

**Ann Coulter**

"Foolish liberals who are trying to read the Second Amendment out of the Constitution by claiming it's not an individual right or that it's too much of a public safety hazard, don't see the danger in the big picture. They're courting disaster by encouraging others to use the same means to eliminate portions of the Constitution they don't like."

**Alan Dershowitz**

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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

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

Chemung Chapter  
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## 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

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Chairman Nick Brzezniak  
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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 7:00pm  
Gander Outdoor Salmon Run  
Mall

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

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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

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Schoharie Chapter  
Chairman Walter Janczak  
ljanczak@midtel.net  
518.868.6902  
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 Mid-  
dleburgh, 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

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

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## FIRING LINES

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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 from page 2)

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Bath Rod & Gun Club Bath,  
NY

Suffolk Chapter  
Chairman Sherman Kearns  
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scope@gmail.com  
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Ulster Chapter  
Chairman Edward Altenau  
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845.382.1143

Wayne Chapter  
Chairman Don Smith  
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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



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## 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!**



Cattaraugus County chapter president, Michael Wesley, presents a \$300 check to sheriff deputy Lieutenant Melanie Churakos, as a donation to the Cattaraugus County Santa Sheriff Fund. The program provides a variety of gifts and/or meals to needy families in Cattaraugus County.



## Cuomo Executive Order 203

By Tom Reynolds

**Per the Association of Towns of the State of New York's web site - ([www.nytowns.org](http://www.nytowns.org)):**

*Governor Cuomo recently signed Executive Order 203: New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative, which directs local governments with police agencies to review and revise policies and create a plan to address race-based issues and foster trust in the community in order to receive state funding in 2021. Further guidance will be provided by the Division of Budget, in consultation with the Department of Criminal Justice Services.*

*In summary, the order states that:*

*Local governments with police agencies must perform a comprehensive review of police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures and practices.*

*A new plan must be developed that is meant to address the particular needs of the community, to promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness and legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color.*

*The chief executive officer of the local government must convene and consult with the local police agency and local stakeholders, such as members of the police force, interested non-profit and faith based community groups, and other elected officials, with a particular emphasis on areas with high numbers of police and community interactions, to create and implement this new plan that includes any modifications, innovations, modernizations to improve police agency and community relationships and reduce racial disparities in policing.*

*The plan must consider evidence-based policing strategies, including but not limited to, use of force policies, procedural justice; any stud-*

*ies addressing systemic racial bias or racial justice in policing; implicit bias awareness training; de-escalation training and practices; law enforcement-assisted diversion programs; restorative justice practices; community-based outreach and conflict resolution; problem-oriented policing; hot spot policing; focused deterrence; crime prevention through environmental design; violence prevention and reduction interventions; model policies and guidelines promulgated by the New York State Municipal Police Training Council; and standards promulgated by the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.*

*Plans must be offered for public comment and adopted by local law or resolution by April 1, 2021. - Local governments must transmit a certification to the Director of the Division of the Budget to affirm that they complied with this order and that such local law or resolution has been adopted. Those who fail to do so may not be eligible for state funding.*

Certainly, racism is not to be tolerated. If there were racist policies and practices in place in New York State's police departments, was Governor Cuomo (9 years as Governor) blissfully unaware of them before now? This issue obviously arose because of the riots, looting and arson that occurred in major cities throughout the USA. What is the message Governor Cuomo is sending to law abiding citizens such as gun owners? Answer: Don't worry about peacefully petitioning your government for redress of wrongs; a better plan is riot and insurrection.

The USA has a policy of not negotiating with terrorists since negotiating only encourages further acts of terrorism. By doing this, Governor Cuomo has given his approval to terrorism as a legitimate form of advocacy for government action. If lives and property are destroyed, so be it according to Cuomo. His message to terrorists is that a small number of violent people - in proportion to the

total population - have his approval to riot, loot and burn.

This Executive Order is obviously written from the perspective of downstate but forces all counties to do this. Most upstate counties have small minority populations and crime is not nearly the problem. As usual, the Democrats' favorite approach is one-size-fits-all and that size is whatever fits NY City.

Cuomo has wailed about a budget crisis that will affect the counties as well as the state as a whole and he is begging for a federal bailout. Did it occur to him that forcing this expense on all areas of the state would compound the budget issue? Probably not; this is the same governor who worries about the spread of the China Virus but ordered nursing homes to accept China Virus patients, so consistency is not one of his attributes.

Where in the New York Constitution does it give the Governor the right to stop the distribution of state funding already approved in the budget by the legislature? Even with a Democrat controlled legislature, he cannot stop funding to areas of the state on his personal whim.

The far-left has pushed their theory of "Systemic Racism" existing in the USA. Joe Biden and company have bought into that theory and, obviously, so has Andrew Cuomo. By doing this, Cuomo has tried to legitimize a theory only the far-left believe in. Coming soon to schools near you; "Systemic Brainwashing".



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## NYSBA: Expand Gun Control

By Steven J. Getman, Esq.

The New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) is the largest voluntary state bar association in the country and has served as “the voice of the legal profession” for nearly 150 years.

It was created to cultivate the science of jurisprudence, promote reform in the law, facilitate the administration of justice, and elevate the standards of integrity, honor, professional skill, and courtesy in the legal profession.

More recently, however, the NYSBA changed its mission statement from one related to the standards of the legal profession to something more political. It now gives its mission as “to shape the development of law, educate and inform the public, and respond to the demands of our diverse and ever-changing legal profession. NYSBA advocates for state and federal legislation and works tirelessly to promote equal access to justice for all.”

This increasingly political group, which previously weighed in on such potentially controversial measures as court overhaul and parole reform, has now turned its attention to attacking the Second Amendment.

In its recent report on stopping what it calls “the epidemic of gun violence,” the NYSBA, via its House of Delegates, recommended, among other measures, “bans on the possession, sale and manufacture of assault-style weapons.”

As noted in the press release accompanying the report (Kennedy, B. NYSBA Recommends New Laws To Reduce Mass Shootings, NYSBA Latest News, November 7, 2020), the NYSBA task force that drafted the report defined “assault weapons” as “high-powered semi-automatic firearms that are capable of autoloading a new cartridge into the chamber after

the gun is discharged.” This definition is so vague and broad that it could criminalize a huge percentage of common guns as “assault weapons.”

The term “high-powered” is, even among shooting enthusiasts, extremely vague. Even a small-caliber bullet, such as the .22 “plinker” round, travels extremely fast. Likewise, any home self-defense round that is capable of incapacitating an assailant with a single shot might be considered “high-powered” by certain people.

Beyond that, each and every semi-automatic firearm is, by definition, “capable of autoloading a new cartridge into the chamber after (it) is discharged.” This is what makes any gun “semi-automatic.” The operator pulls the trigger, fires a single shot, the gun reloads and is ready to fire another single shot. As such, it includes many common hunting guns and almost any handgun that is not a revolver.

A semi-automatic gun is, of course, not the same as an “automatic weapon.” An automatic weapon is a firearm capable of automatically cycling the shooting process, to fire multiple rounds of ammunition, without needing any more manual operation from the user than simply keeping the trigger depressed. It is what we often think of as a “machine gun,” and is already generally limited to the military, law enforcement and certain specially licensed individuals.

Therefore, rather than calling for a prohibition on fully automatic “military” weapons, the NYSBA is potentially urging a full ban the vast majority of personal firearms.

In the full report, approximately 100 pages in, the NYSBA attempts to narrow the definition of an illegal “assault weapon” by resorting to various physical characteristics that would be familiar to New York firearms owners, such as a

folding or telescoping stock, a protruding pistol grip and a bayonet mount. Most of these, however are largely cosmetic and would not substantively affect the lethality of a given weapon.

Further, while the NYSBA claims these distinctions will prevent criminalization of “traditional-style hunting firearms,” in another section of its report, the group explicitly calls for licensing and permits for the sale “and possession” of any type of gun, including hunting rifles and shotguns.

The NYSBA also calls for expanded grounds for denying and revoking permits, as well as expanded use of “Red Flag laws.” **In the case of Red Flag laws, the report acknowledges that some attorneys have expressed concerns that the laws do not sufficiently address a gun owner’s right to “due process” under the Constitution. However, it then hand waves away these concerns,** stating “a detailed discussion of the due process concerns stemming from (Red Flag laws) is beyond the scope of this report.”

It appears, therefore, the NYSBA is less interested in preserving the Second Amendment, and Constitutional due process, and more interested in transforming the right to keep and bear arms into a mere privilege, to be revoked for nearly any reason, with only the barest of legal protection.

Thoughtful attorneys, and their clients, who support the Second Amendment, including basic hunting and self-defense rights, are urged to disavow these ill-considered recommendations and request the NYSBA immediately return to the drawing board to craft more responsible measures.



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## Civil Disobedience

By Quinn Otto-Moudry

Although the electors have not voted and litigation is still ongoing as of this writing, it is likely that Joe Biden will be the next president of the United States. Biden's gun-control proposals are myriad and extreme: re-implementing an assault weapons ban; adding semi-automatic firearms and standard capacity magazines to the National Firearms Act; and incentivizing firearm confiscation.

Any proper effort from a GOP controlled Senate would certainly prevent these measures from being passed through Congress, but both Biden and Harris have promised to make use of Executive Orders to restrict Americans' Second Amendment rights. Many, if not all, of Biden's proposals would be struck down by an application of the Strict Scrutiny standard by the Supreme Court. However, such legal action can take months, or even years, during which millions of Americans could be persecuted for exercising their rights.

In response to the imminent threat, many gun owners are touting the mantra of "I will not comply", decrying that any more regulation would be a step too far. However, amidst this rising sentiment, it is important to remind ourselves about the reality of civil disobedience and how to ensure that it succeeds.

Generally speaking, the term "civil disobedience" refers to non-violent resistance where a person or group violates a law considered to be wrong or unjust in some way. Why adopt civil disobedience as a tactic? The short answer is that, as a form of political protest, it has the best optics. When an individual has been charged with a crime but has not acted in a violent or disruptive manner, the public is more likely to sympathize with his/her actions. Over time, if enough people are arrested and prosecuted despite doing no demonstrable harm to society, that can generate enough sympathy, with the cause as a whole, to result in meaningful political change.

In America, this tactic is most commonly associated with the civil rights movement, which employed civil disobedience to great effect. Almost everyone is familiar with the civil rights movement and there is a time and place for compar-

ing it to the current gun rights movement. However, a key factor that differentiates the civil rights movement from the gun rights movement is organization. Civil rights groups' responses to many of the most famous incidents of the civil rights movement were not spontaneous, they were heavily planned, coordinated, and deliberate. For example, Rosa Parks was not the first black woman to refuse to give up her seat on the bus. Her case was selected and promoted by civil rights leaders for a number of reasons such as her age, general appearance/demeanor, and that she had taken a seat in the black section of the bus. (Her "crime" was that when the bus got crowded, black passengers were required to give up their seats to white riders.) While there have been coordinated efforts between 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment groups, there is no movement-wide organization to the degree that we saw from the civil rights movement.

Another example of how civil disobedience can bring about political change is marijuana laws, where the major effort to make marijuana look legitimate was done in the media. Although criminalized nationally in 1937, today, marijuana possession is almost or entirely legalized in several states and the penalties amount merely to slaps on the wrist in others. Unlike the civil rights movement, marijuana legalization efforts did not have any large-scale organization. But they had something just as important: the media. Most people who were arrested were depicted as not doing any direct harm to others, which (as stated above) garnered sympathy for the cause.

And equally important, look at any number of films (especially comedies) from the past 20-30 years and you'll see a similar theme around marijuana use. Specifically, that it is universally presented as fun and harmless. Even characters whose entire existence can be summarized as being "generic stoner" are usually presented in a good light, as charming and clever, often dressing down others with their quick wit. The accuracy or inaccuracy of such portrayals is immaterial. When combined with the aforementioned sympathy garnered by widespread disobedience, change was inevitable.

At the risk of oversimplifying, these are two of the most effective means by which civil disobedi-

ence can be used to further a political agenda. There has been some large-scale intra-2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment cooperation, such as the Virginia rally back in January, and online content producers have made significant strides in both normalizing firearms and appealing to a wider audience. With that said, efforts within the movement are not interconnected or unified and are far from ideal.

Efforts through alternative media have been stymied by social media censorship. Traditional media (films, television, etc.) continue to present false information on firearms and depictions of firearms owners. The Crime Prevention Research Center has a sizable archive of articles on media bias against guns that provides more detail, but suffice to say, there are widespread mistruths presented by traditional media. Namely, how dangerous "assault weapons" and concealed carry are or how gun owners are crazy, racist, psychotic, or some combination of the three. None of these things are true, but when society is hammered with the same ideas over and over, perceptions of the issue change.

Civil disobedience is effective as a strategy under certain conditions. Disobedience for the sake of disobedience is foolish and self-destructive, especially if your plan is to stand up to the government as a lone-wolf. Usually, a significant plurality of people will only engage in the practice when the punishment is minor and not a felony with years in prison.

At present, the best hope for the gun rights movement is to fight in the courts and in the legislature. Involvement in politics at the local and state level is necessary, as most extreme gun control measures are not passed in Washington, but far closer to home. Additionally, helping to financially support the legal contestation of unconstitutional laws is crucial now that there is a seemingly guaranteed majority on the Supreme Court (something that did not exist until the appointment of Amy Coney Barrett). Do not be complacent, and do not lose hope, because there is still a definite path to victory.

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

## What to look for

By Tom Reynolds

As this is written, President Trump is contesting the election. By the time Firing Lines comes out, we may know the result of those efforts. The courts are usually loath to overturn an election so the odds are against Trump; but they have been against him since he entered politics. The Presidency is not the whole story as Congress and the courts deserve our attention, also. All of them will affect the future of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment.

**Joe Biden.** Biden has three general problem areas: economic, foreign and social. Trump's economic and foreign policies were successful but Biden campaigned against them. How will Biden deal with that inconsistency? Unfortunately, social policies are more of in-the-eye-of-the-beholder and this is where gun control falls. Biden is anti-gun.

Who Presidents surround themselves with is always important; they do the work and heavily influence decisions. The top staff has grown more powerful than most Cabinet members and the staffs are not vetted by the Senate. Also, Biden's wife is very politically ambitious and will wield influence. Expect that almost all of these will be anti-2nd Amendment.

If Biden is failing mentally and physically, will he recognize it and willingly surrender power? Will those around him, including his wife, allow him to surrender the office or will they hide any disabilities? Remember, their personal power disappears when his power disappears. Will his cabinet be willing to invoke the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment against Biden's wishes? The turmoil surrounding this could derail organized Democrat efforts against 2A.

Presidents without administrative experience usually falter, initially, and their administrations tend to lack direction. (Biden has none

other than watching Obama.) Confusion may prevent gun control measures from passing Congress - but may not stop Executive Orders.

Because of energy and mental capacity as well as age, Biden must be considered a one term President. Will other Democrats consider him to be a lame duck president and start positioning themselves for 2024 instead of supporting him? How will this impact on support or opposition to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment?

**Kamala Harris.** Harris is firmly and completely anti-gun.

Harris' campaign in the primaries continually lost momentum and she dropped out rather early. She is rated as the most liberal (radical) Senator, which does not play well with the moderates in her party. Harris got the Vice Presidency because of her color and sex, which will not play well with her political rivals in the Democratic Party; she was truly an "Affirmative Action" pick for VP. Her base of support has to be considered narrow.

If she were to succeed to the Presidency because of Biden's disability, she would pay the biggest political price for hiding Biden's condition from the voters during the campaign. However, she has the media on her side, which will also be less critical of a woman.

Will Harris be an inner circle person or will Biden try to keep distance between himself and her radical ideas? If Biden keeps her close, he may be buying into her radical agenda even though he was nominated because he was the least radical Democrat candidate. (Biden was radical, he was just the least radical Democrat.)

**The Senate.** The January 5<sup>th</sup> special elections in Georgia will determine which party has control in the Senate. Republicans appear to have taken 50 seats but need 51 for control. (The Vice President breaks ties.) Two seats in Georgia are on the line in that special election. Republicans will probably emphasize that winning

Georgia would allow the Democrats to implement their radical agenda and Chuck Schumer would become the Majority Leader of the Senate. How will Georgians feel about a New York City Liberal making decisions over them? Georgia is fairly evenly split but the recent election results would seem to favor Republicans in both these races.

Republicans had 53 seats in the Senate before the election, but three of them were squishes and several more were very weak until Trump gave them a backbone transplant. If Republicans maintain the majority, will Mitch McConnell be able to keep all 51 or 52 in line? Will Republicans hold the line on adding new states and packing the Supreme Court as "bridges too far", but give in on other issues like 2A? Democrats need only pick off one or two to pass their gun control agenda and Democrats will be more than willing to make sweetheart deals to do that.

Trump was strongly 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. Will Senators interpret the presidential election as a rejection of Trump's policies or just Trump's personality? If Senators see it as a rejection of Trump and not his policies, will they have the backbone to fight for policies like the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment?

**The House of Representatives.** Democrats will maintain their majority in the House, although significantly smaller.

Because of their losses, several House Democrats have been outspoken in their criticism of Nancy Pelosi's leadership, the party's far leftward tilt toward Socialism and the prominent place that radicals have taken in the party's public image. Will Pelosi keep the Speaker's position? Will a replacement be any better for 2A?

Senators represent an entire state - which may be dominated by a few large cities (as in New York) -

(Continued on page 8)



## SCOPE Sponsor Business

# *Oneida Electrical Contractors, Inc.*



Oneida Electrical Contractors Inc. is a full-service electrical contractor that has been servicing central New York for 43 years. Located in Utica, NY we focus mainly on commercial/industrial projects but do offer residential service.

---

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---

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## 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  
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Chemung County Fed of Sportsmen  
Chemung County Rod & Gun Club  
Clarence Shooting Club,  
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Conservation Club of Brockport  
Dalton Gang Sportsmen Club  
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Delchenego Rod & Gun Club  
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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  
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Conservation Association  
Hidden Valley Lodge  
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Lime Lake Sportsman's Club  
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Millgrove Sportsmen's Club,  
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Mount Hunger Club  
Neighbors Gun Club  
New Paltz Rod & Gun Club,  
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Northern Chautauqua Rifle  
& Pistol Club  
Northwoods Sportsmen Association  
NY Houndsmen  
Conservation Association  
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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,  
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Rochester Rifle Club  
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Saranac Lake Fish & Game Club  
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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  
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Whortlekill Rod & Gun Club,  
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Sportsmens Association

**Contact SCOPE for  
more information,  
application on page 11  
to become one of our  
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**S.C.O.P.E. Inc.**

**Shooters Committee On Political Education  
PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052**

**Application for Associate Club Membership in S.C.O.P.E., Inc.**

S.C.O.P.E. does not sell, give away, or allow others to use your club information

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DUES: \_\_\_\_\_ 1-99 Members: \$25 / Over 100 Members: \$50.00 / Sponsor (receives plaque) \$200.00

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Club Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Website: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please ensure we have an email contact for your club. This will enable us to keep you up to date on information regarding our Second Amendment rights.

**Advertising in FIRING LINES**

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**SCOPE Business Associate Members**

The following are business members of SCOPE. If your business would like to become a SCOPE business member please fill out the application below.

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585-599-3006

AR Pierrepont Co.  
154 Berkeley St  
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585-473-3225

Ashville General Store  
PO Box 199  
Ashville, NY, 14710  
716-763-3369

B&B Repair Service Inc.  
14 Second Street  
Canisteo, NY, 14823  
607-698-2876

B.D. Enterprises  
4514 Saeli Rd  
Savannah, NY, 13146  
315-754-6335

Batavia Marine & Sporting Supplies  
411 West Main St  
Batavia, NY, 14020  
585-343-4131

Bill Fox & Son Construction & Remodeling, LLC  
9346 South Street Rd  
LeRoy, NY, 14482  
585-356-4992

Bonded Collection Services  
PO Box 305  
Fairport, NY, 14450  
585-223-7357

BS Recreational Farm  
8384 State Park Rd  
Three Mile Bay, NY, 13693  
315-649-3424

Bullseye Shooters Supply  
453 S. Hamilton St  
Painted Post, NY, 14870  
607-962-1100

Cast Away Charters & Guide Service  
12 Hummingbird Rd  
Coudersport, PA, 16915  
716-560-9216

Dick Ferraioli/Guilderland Pump  
6230 Hawes Rd  
Altamont, NY, 12009  
518-861-8733

Donahoo-Consulting, LLC  
PO Box 70  
Jefferson Valley, NY, 10535  
914-455-4099

Double L's Shooting Sports  
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Arkport, NY, 14807  
607-295-7485

Fire Mark Insurance Agency, Inc.  
PO Box 39  
Cobleskill, NY, 12043  
518-234-2121

G. Chipman Insurance Agency, Inc.  
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Auburn, NY, 13021  
315-252-8541

Gene Swanson Auto Repair  
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Lakewood, NY, 14750  
716-763-0961

Golden Coin Laundry  
582 East Main Street  
Batavia, NY, 14020  
585-333-0030

Harold's Welding Shop  
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Penn Yan, NY, 14527  
585-554-5178

Interlaken Guns & Ammo  
8268 Main Street  
Interlaken, NY, 14847  
607-532-9244

Kilby's Mowing and Lawn Care  
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Batavia, NY, 14020  
585-297-9942

L&R Sporting Events  
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Brocton, NY, 14716  
716-792-9972

Legal Shield/ ID Shield  
PO Box 364  
Ransomville, NY, 14131  
716-863-6577

*(Continued on page 13)*

**SHOOTER'S COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL EDUCATION (SCOPE, INC)**

PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052

**Business Associate Membership Application**

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_ Donation, Annual \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Sponsor \$250 \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address if different \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name & Title \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Type of business (gun shop, sporting goods, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

(Donations to SCOPE are not refundable or tax deductible)

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315-733-1311

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of PM Research Inc.  
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Wellsville, NY, 14895  
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Canandaigua, NY, 14424  
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Rock Stream, NY, 14878  
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Tilton Sears, FFL  
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North Rose, NY, 14516  
315-587-9716

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Arms, LLC  
2332 Route 300  
Wallkill, NY, 12589  
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Walton's Service Center  
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Penn Yan, NY, 14527  
315-536-6928

Williamson Hardware  
4101 Main Street  
Williamson, NY, 14589  
315-589-4011

WNY Synthetics/  
AMSOIL  
3238 Lockport Rd  
Sanborn, NY, 14132  
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Frewsburg, NY, 14738  
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**Become a  
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**Help keep your  
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Amendment  
Rights**

**And help grow  
your business.**

**Application is on  
page 12**



\*\*\*\*\*  
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Mail to: SCOPE Membership, PO Box 165 East Aurora NY 14052

## S.C.O.P.E. Featured Sponsor Club



## WELCOME TO WATERLOO RIFLE AND PISTOL CLUB

The Club is a members-only firearms organization dedicated to the shooting sports. Our goal is to provide a safe, friendly atmosphere for the promotion and support of firearms use for shooters of all levels of expertise. Safety First, Last and Always!

We were founded in 1934 as the Rumseyville Pistol Club with the shooting range located on the top floor of a large building complex in downtown Seneca Falls, NY. After a year, the Club changed the name to Seneca Falls Rifle and Pistol Club. The Club incorporated in April 1935 and in April 1936 became an affiliated member of the NRA.

In 1952, Homer Jenkins, a long-time member, donated some 24 acres of land and the Club moved to its present location in Waterloo. Once a limestone quarry, it turned out to be the perfect location. In 2000, to alleviate the confusion of having the Club name not matching the geographical location, the name was changed to Waterloo Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc.

In our 86 years, there has never been a firearms related incident.

WRPC offers seven different shooting sports: Indoor and Outdoor Silhouette, Tactical/Fast Action, Sporterifle, Bullseye (Precision Shooting), IDPA and Club Defensive Handgun. Basic pistol and rifle courses, Women On Target Program, youth and quarterly military shooting events are also offered.

Our monthly shooting events are listed on our Club calendar located on our website. These events are open to the public and everyone pays nominal fees.

With the exception of our 200-yard rifle range, we observe a strict 1500 fps muzzle velocity limit on all other ranges.

Our updated website ([Waterloorpc.com](http://Waterloorpc.com)) gives the viewer a very good idea of what WRPC offers and as you can see below what we're all about -

**Safety – Marksmanship – Sportsmanship**

# S7065

by Tom Reynolds

On January 8, 2020, this bill was introduced in the NY Senate with a companion bill A01589-A introduced in the Assembly. The below was taken directly from the NY Senate's web site.

## 7065 (ACTIVE) - SUMMARY

**Requires a purchaser of any firearm, rifle or shotgun to submit to a mental health evaluation and provide the seller with his or her approval to purchase such firearm.**

### PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF BILL:

This bill will require a mental health evaluation before an individual may purchase any firearm, rifle or shotgun.

### SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:

...the bill amends general business

law...to require that before any sale, exchange, or disposal of a firearm, rifle or shotgun at a gun show, by a federally licensed dealer or private sale, including when such sale, exchange or disposal is between immediate family members, a purchaser of any firearm, rifle or shotgun shall submit to a mental health evaluation and provide the seller with proof of his or her approval to purchase such firearm, rifle or shotgun.

a person is guilty of criminal purchase or disposal of a weapon when knowing that a mental health evaluation is required under the mental hygiene law, he or she either purchases or disposes of a firearm, rifle or shotgun without such mental health evaluation approval for the purchaser.

### JUSTIFICATION:

The many recent tragic events have clearly demonstrated the need to prevent those with mental health problems from obtaining guns. This bill will require that a mental health evaluation be conducted before

an individual can purchase or obtain a gun. This bill will help to protect our citizens and prevent the death of innocent people.

For all those gun owners who believe that the gun grabbers are not coming after them and, thus, there is no reason for them to get involved or vote, this is the answer.

Do you want to give a firearm to your child, nephew or niece? They will have to submit to a mental health exam.

What standards will there be for determining your mental health? In the USSR, anyone who opposed Stalin was sent either to a Gulag in Siberia or a mental institution. One had to be crazy to want to go to a Gulag in Siberia so opposing Stalin was ample evidence you were crazy and eligible for the mental institution. Andrew Cuomo would never resort to something Stalin like...would he?

Can you afford the cost of a Mental Health Exam? What if your

(Continued on page 16)



(Continued from page 15)

Mental Health Examiner is anti-2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment? After paying for the exam, can you afford to go to court and challenge a determination that you are not mentally competent to own a firearm?

Biden wants to take away Manufacturers' Protection from frivolous law suits. This will either drive manufacturers out of business or raise their prices to cover the added cost of insurance and legal fees. Can you afford higher prices for buying a firearm? NY State profits from higher prices as it brings in more sales tax revenue per sale.

Bills are being introduced requiring Liability Insurance. Add that to the cost of owning a firearm.

Biden wants to put a \$200 tax on your weapons. Each weapon?

Under this bill, you will have to prove you are mentally competent in order to exercise your 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment constitutionally guaranteed right. Will people next have to prove mental competence in order to exercise 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Rights - like

criticism of the government?

The far left will not stop short of absolute power. Every time one avenue is closed, they open another one. Eternal vigilance is necessary to preserve freedom but so, too, is voting and being engaged.



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## **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 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**

## SCOPE Chapter activities

SCOPE is unique in that we are a true grassroots organization. Grassroots meaning the campaign to defend the Second Amendment is conducted by the members of our organization. To facilitate this, SCOPE is divided into county chapters. Chapters typically meet on a regular basis to discuss a plan of action for defending gun rights in their local communities.

We encourage you to attend your chapter meetings, check the chapter list in the front of this publication for chapter contact information in your area and, if meeting information is not listed, call for details. Battles are not won by generals they are won by the boots on the ground. Our biggest weakness is that most gun owners sit on the sidelines and do not get involved. We need you! Attend meetings get involved in your chapter if there is no chapter in your area contact SCOPE for information about starting a chapter.

COVID has made meeting and the boots on the ground challenging this year, the following is a condensed update of some of our chapter's activities.

**Allegany County:** Met October 20<sup>th</sup> and reported that the overall financial health of the chapter was good. They also reported one vacancy on the chapter's board. The chapter discussed the impact of COVID on membership.

**Genesee County:** Met September 8<sup>th</sup> and discussed the negative impact of COVID on chapter activities, including fundraising. The chapter has had success selling candy at businesses and retail locations and is working at expanding into more locations.

The chapter is inviting candidates for office to their next chapter meeting.

Genesee County SCOPE reported

receiving a thank you note from their youth trap league for sponsoring them this year.

**Jefferson-Lewis Counties:** Met September 21<sup>st</sup> and discussed chapter membership. The chapter voted to co-sponsor a peaceful protest in Jefferson County.

**Monroe County:** Met September 22<sup>nd</sup> and introduced a new member with firsthand experience with socialism and communism. The new member looks forward to actively participating in the chapter.

Nominations for chapter offices will be conducted in March 2021.

A discussion took place on state legislation A1598/S7065 that would require a mental health evaluation on all gun purchases.

Also discussed were judicial positions that were up for election this year. These positions often have a direct impact on our gun rights.

The chapter chair also reminded members if you are involved in a shooting incident do not talk to police until you have consulted an attorney. Candidate signs were available for interested members. The chapter meeting scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup> will have candidates for congress and state senate as guest speakers.

**Oneida-Herkimer Counties:** Met October 12<sup>th</sup> and discussed and approved the chapter's finances, including a fundraising raffle.

The chapter is also staffing a table at the Bare Arms Swap Meet in October.

The Chapter also hosted guest speakers who were running for the New York State Assembly and the U. S. Congress.

**Schuyler County:** Met October 8<sup>th</sup>, and in addition to chapter business the chapter hosted candidates running for the state Senate and a representative of Congressman Tom Reed.

The chapter will be doing direct mailing and advertising. The chapter's executive committee will also grade candidates for office.

A proposal was made and approved to donate \$400 to the Odessa club for the venture group youth shooting program.

**Wayne County:** Met November 11<sup>th</sup> and discussed efforts to develop teams to compete in the New York State High School clay target leagues as well as potential fundraising to support youth shooting teams. Preparing for the 2022 elections was discussed.

Supervisor Ken Miller reported on the three candidates for Wayne County Sheriff and who will attend the January 13, 2021, Wayne County SCOPE meeting.

Supervisor Miller also reported on Governor Cuomo's executive order to establish local "Police Reform Committees." Anyone interested should contact the supervisor. Chapter Chairman Don Smith will represent Wayne County SCOPE on the committee.

The chapter's guest speaker was Viet Nam veteran Pat Skelly who talked about his experiences as a young combat soldier. He also stressed the value of honoring and supporting veterans and those who care for the veteran's injuries.

**Wyoming County:** Met October 8<sup>th</sup> and distributed signs to interested members and discussed the importance of getting out the vote. Members were encouraged to assist anyone to get registered and help them vote.



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

## In God We Trust: Government, Not So Much

By Harold Moskowitz

By this time, you have probably asked yourself “What is going on in our nation?” There are many unanswered questions that should be troubling to you. The following is a compilation of some of the questions which reveal a disturbing picture of our nation today.

1 – Why was Hillary Clinton allowed to “escape” from prosecution regarding her actions involving her unsecured computer server and destruction of evidence?

2 – Why wasn’t Hillary Clinton subpoenaed by John Durham’s investigation into illegal actions, aimed at President Trump, related to the Russia Collusion Hoax?

3 – Why haven’t there been any indictments resulting from the two-year long Durham investigation?

4 – Why did legislators of both political parties neglect to take meaningful action on securing our Southern border, prior to President Trump?

5 – Why did legislators of both political parties participate in support for globalist agreements which predictably would lead to the loss of U.S. manufacturing to China and the slow ongoing destruction of the middle class?

6 – Why had both political parties irresponsibly increased the national debt to unsustainable levels even before the Chinese-caused pandemic? There was no meaningful action despite credible warnings that it would inevitably lead to horrific inflation with major erosion of the American standard of living.

7 – Elected officials knew for decades that China was stealing research and development from U.S. companies to the detriment of our economy and national security. Why did they ignore this situation until they could no

longer do so due to public outrage?

8 – Why aren’t Antifa and the Marxist inspired organization known as Black Lives Matter seriously being dealt with as domestic terrorist groups?

9 – Why aren’t the leftist billionaires and millionaires who fund the activities of rioting groups, whether directly or indirectly, being prosecuted for criminal behavior?

10 – Why is it now permissible for individuals and groups to fund or to participate in activities aimed at destabilizing society, and by extension, the nation?

11 – Why is it now permissible to incite groups of people to riot using social media platforms?

12 – Section 230 of the Communication Decency Act (1996) protects social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, and Google from nearly all lawsuits regarding content posted on their sites by third parties. These corporations censor information while allowing riotous groups to coordinate actions using these platforms. Why hasn’t Congress taken away their special protection from lawsuits?

13 – Why were individual members of Congress allowed to use their official positions to encourage civil unrest?

14 – Why are leftist billionaires allowed to destabilize and pervert the justice system by “buying” the election of prosecutors who will not prosecute rioters but will indict anyone attempting to protect themselves and their property from attacks by rioters?

15 – Why haven’t tax-supported public schools been penalized for deliberately teaching Marxist revisionist history designed to propagandize the young to dislike or even hate their nation?

16 – Why have some states been allowed to make election law changes which clearly are intended to facilitate election fraud in national elections? National election results affect the entire nation.

This is an incomplete list but the point has been made. Our elected officials have repeatedly failed us. Personal self-interest, political cowardice and even, in some cases, support for the Marxist goal of overthrowing our system of government have led us to this place. The nation is in peril. The internal enemies have taken control of the media, the education system from kindergarten through college, and the culture. There is some indication that even part of the military has been co-opted. To the average American who is paying attention, it seems that even the justice system has been compromised. Authority has been severely weakened. People are increasingly losing faith in the institutions of government. Our election results are suspect. Who can blame citizens for their increasing level of cynicism?

There is decreasing faith in the Congress and even in the Supreme Court to uphold the Constitution and the rule of law. It is almost as if the government is a mere shell, hollowed over time by internal rot. No one mired in the Washington, D.C. “swamp” is seriously attempting to save the ship of state as it drifts ever closer to the rocks of destruction. Any individual who tries to do the right thing faces the established political elite and the entrenched bureaucracy. Both of them are staunch supporters of the self-serving status quo. Corporate interests often are placed above the national or public interest.

Our enemies watch the drama, do what they can to increase our destabilization and gloat that their goals are being furthered by a major political party which shares their totalitarian mindset. We are divided and dysfunctional. The system we have is no longer working for the benefit of the nation. The American people need a “Plan B,” and soon. In the meantime, don’t put your trust in the feckless government officials to rescue us. There is a better place for your trust to be placed.

# Georgia: For All The Marbles

By Tom Reynolds

As of this writing, Biden leads in the presidential race and the Democrats held on to their majority in the House, but by a significantly smaller margin. If Biden holds on, Democrats are assured of two of the legislative and executive trio. The third, the Senate, holds the key to either a divided government or one where the Democrats can run wild.

In the 100 seat Senate, political parties need 51 seats for control. (The Vice President breaks ties.) After the November election, Republicans have 50 for sure. Democrats have 48 for sure. The two remaining undecided seats are both in Georgia.

A Senate candidate in Georgia must win 50% of the vote or there is a runoff election between the top two candidates. There were two Senate elections in Georgia (one was a special election) and no candidate won 50% in either election. So, there will be two Senate seats on the line in two January special elections. The Republicans need one victory to maintain control of the Senate while Democrats need a sweep of both for a 50 to 50 tie.

In one election, Republican David Perdue led by 86,000 votes with 49.7%. His challenger, Democrat John Ossoff, got 48.0% of the vote. The rest (115,000 votes, 2.3%) went to Libertarian Shane Hazel. One immediate question is: where will Hazel's voters go, (if they don't sit out the January election)?

Hazel is a Marine combat vet who supports 2A. He was a former Republican who was disenchanted with the party and became a Libertarian (but he did not become a Democrat). His web site has a mix of positions but would seem to lean Republican. However, did his supporters vote for him or against a major party; and if the latter, which party did they vote

against?

If exactly the same people vote in the special election that voted in the recent one, the Republican needs only 15,000 of the 115,000 who voted for Hazel. Of course, exactly the same people won't be voting for exactly the same party.

The other election is a real mixed bag. Democrat Raphael Warnock got 32.9% of the vote (1,615,000). There were two major Republican candidates who totaled 45.8% of the vote (2,250,000). Of these three major candidates, the two Republicans led by 635,000 votes.

There were 1,040,000 votes (21.3%) that went to 16 other candidates and some of these other candidates also identified as Republicans or Democrats! All candidates who identified as Republicans, including the two major ones, got a combined total of 2,425,000. All Democrat candidates totaled 2,390,000. There were about 104,000 votes that went to other candidates; primarily Independents.

50% of the total votes would have been 2,459,500. Therefore, Republicans need 34,500 of the 104,000 votes and Democrats need 69,500 of the 104,000 votes, if the same people vote in the same way they just did. But of course, exactly the same people will not vote for exactly the same party.

While every voter should have been aware that the majority in the Senate was generally at stake, it has now hit them like a 2 by 4 as to how important their Senate vote will be and that may change some votes and motivate people to vote.

The Senate Majority Leader has huge powers to determine what gets done (or not done). Expect Republicans to emphasize that this election is between Kentucky's Mitch McConnell and New York's Chuck Schumer for Majority Leader. Do Georgians want a Kentucky Republican or a New York City Liberal dictating policy to Georgia? It's unlikely that Democrats in Georgia will promote their connection to Schumer.

Democrats may try to bring up the recent Supreme Court fight, which may or may not help them.

Republicans will probably emphasize that winning Georgia is the only way to stop the Democrats from implementing their radical agenda while Democrats will emphasize that winning Georgia allows them to implement their agenda and reverse the Trump agenda. Under this scenario: will moderate Democrats be afraid of the radical left's agenda and either not vote or vote Republican; will more Republicans be motivated to vote in order to stop the radical left? Under this scenario, very few Republicans will probably change their vote to a vote for the radical Democrat agenda. But they have to show up!

Who will show up to vote? Given the importance of this race, there will be multi-millions of dollars spent and turnout should be heavier than normal for a Senate only race. But will turnout rise to the level of the just completed race, when presidential candidates were on the ballot?

Will gun rights be an issue, given the huge increases in NICS checks and gun sales, especially sales to first time gun owners?

Democrats are threatening to admit Puerto Rico and Washington DC as states with, presumably, all Democrat Senators in those two states. They need a Senate majority to do that. How will that play in Georgia?

Democrats also threaten to pack the Supreme Court. Republicans will use this to motivate Republicans while many Democrats have polled a bit negatively towards this power grab and it may de-motivate some of them.

January 5<sup>th</sup> is Election Day and the future of the country truly hangs in the balance.

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