

On The Issues



2ND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

I am a strong supporter of our 2nd Amendment right to keep and bear arms and believe this is an individual right. In 1789 one of our founding fathers, Samuel Adams, said, "And that said Constitution be never construed to authorize Congress to infringe the just liberty of the Press, or the rights of Conscience; or to prevent the people of the United States, who are peaceable citizens, from keeping their own arms; ...". I firmly believe that there should be no restrictions placed on the ownership of firearms by law abiding citizens.

It may be a cliché but it still holds true that when we criminalize gun ownership only the criminals will have guns. Rather than placing more restrictions on law abiding citizens we should focus on enforcing existing laws. Thomas Jefferson, quoting Cesare Beccaria said, "Laws that forbid the carrying of arms...disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes... Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants; they serve rather to encourage than to prevent homicides, for an unarmed man may be attacked with greater confidence than an armed man."

The simple truth is that criminals do not obey laws and passing more gun laws does nothing to stop or deter crime. In my mind, the real definition of gun control is hitting your intended target.