



MESSAGE FROM MARSHA

RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS

Knocking on doors this summer I had the opportunity to meet with many citizens in HD19. Citizens from Falcon to Fountain, Calhan to Colorado Springs and Ramah to Rancho Colorado believe one of our most important rights remain under attack, our 2nd Amendment Right to “Bear Arms”. However, many individuals believe that only the military and peace officers should have the right to possess a gun and are willing to challenge our second amendment right.

A brief recap of the Colorado and United States Constitution’s clearly states that citizens have the right to bear arms. The United States Constitution(1791) states “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” and the Colorado Constitution states (1876) “The right of no person to keep and bear arms in defense of his home, person and property, or in aid of the civil power when thereto legally summoned, shall be called in question but nothing herein contained shall be constructed to justify the practice of carrying concealed weapons”.

Without our second amendment rights we would have many more restrictions on our liberties and freedom. China is one example of a country that does not have these protections. Their gun laws are among the most restrictive and include a blanket ban on the private ownership of rifles, pistols and even gun replicas. The Wall Street Journal Online, on October 14, 2008 reported a six month campaign to seize guns from their citizens netted 79,000 guns and 5.75 million bullets, and in 2006 over 178, 000 guns were confiscated in only four months.

One of El Paso County’s fiercest defenders of our 2nd amendment rights was **Dane Nowels**, who fought relentlessly at the local, state and national levels to protect our second amendment and private property rights. Dane, former president of the Pikes Peak Firearms Coalition (PPFC), passed away suddenly from a heart attack on December 1, 2009. You are welcome to attend the Memorial Service for Dane Nowels on Friday, December 18th, 1:00 pm, at the First Presbyterian Church, 219 Bijou Street, Colorado Springs. Anyone interested in learning more about the PPFC can visit their website, www.Ppfc.org.

Many people remain committed to protecting our 2nd amendment rights and will update you if there is any legislation in the upcoming General Assembly session that will affect your rights to own a fire arm and protect you, your family and property. Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

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