



## GUN OWNERS of California

### 2016 – WRAPPING UP THE YEAR

By Sam Paredes, Executive Director

There's no doubt about it: 2016 has been one for the record books. It was filled with some huge downs but a very "YUGE" up on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### THE LEGISLATURE

During the 2015-2016 legislative year, we endured an avalanche of anti-Second Amendment bills, and it was business as usual at the State Capitol as one bad proposal after another was jammed through the process. Legislative leaders had no problem ignoring both the Constitution and statutory rules; but thankfully, California voters got at least something right when they passed Proposition 54, which puts a stop to a lot of legislative shenanigans. Proposition 54 requires public display of all bills before the Legislature can pass them, and eliminates the popular yet underhanded "gut and amend" schemes that are used to avoid public scrutiny. This new transparency is good news for the citizens of California.

By the time the legislature adjourned in the fall, a pile of bills were sent to the Governor (and signed into law) that did everything from requiring background checks for the purchase of ALL ammunition, banning the possession of magazines that hold

more than 10 rounds, and making it illegal to lend guns without legally transferring them through a dealer.

One of the worst to reach Governor Brown's desk (and get his signature) was a proposal that specifies any gun with a mechanical device that requires a tool to remove a magazine (commonly known as a "bullet button") would now be considered a California Assault Weapon. Thus, it now requires that it be registered with the Department of Justice, moved out of state, turned in to law enforcement, destroyed, or reconfigured to a "featureless" gun that complies with the new definitions of the law. Also, the sale of new "bullet button" guns will be illegal as of January 1st, 2017.

### WARNING!

Anyone who wants to buy a Modern Sporting Rifle before the ban goes into effect must do so this year, and the firearm must be **picked-up from the dealer on or before December 31st, 2016. If a buyer waits until December 21st, 2016** to purchase the gun, there is a significant risk of not being able to take possession should ANYTHING go wrong during the 10-day waiting period, whether it is the fault of the Department of Justice, the dealer, the buyer or a simple paperwork error. There will be no exceptions; no such firearms will be released in 2017, PERIOD! Plan accordingly.

In the immediate aftermath of Governor Brown's signature of seven anti-gun bills, a grassroots effort exploded and a referendum was filed to overturn his signature on those bills. Dubbed "Veto Gunmageddon", the bid to "referend" was hampered by an extremely short period of time (roughly six weeks) to collect the 365,880 signatures needed to get each of the seven measures on the ballot. Gun Owners of California joined the statewide drill and although unsuccessful in the collection of 2,561,160 signatures, the efforts of thousands of volunteers were valiant. Many were hopeful at the outset but much of the enthusiasm was transferred to the next battle: the elections.

### OVER PLEASE ...



*Merry Christmas And  
Happy New Years From  
GOO!*

*"I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old, familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet  
The words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"*

~ Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



## 2016 – WRAPPING UP THE YEAR...CONT.

### THE ELECTIONS

There is no other way to describe the result of California's elections than disappointing. Voters were duped into passing Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom's Proposition 63, who was able to simultaneously capitalize on the publicity for his run for Governor in 2018 while messing with our Constitutional rights. He cowardly refused to publicly debate us because he knew that we would clean his clock and he continuously spewed outright lies about the measure and what it would do, which was largely unchallenged by the gullible media.

Gun Owners of California teamed up with an extraordinary line of our pro-Second Amendment partners, including the California Rifle and Pistol Association, NRA, a strong contingent of law enforcement such as California's Sheriffs, Chiefs of Police, Correctional Officers, Deputy District Attorneys for Los Angeles, Fish and Game Wardens, Reserve Peace Officers, Police Officers Research Association of California, and Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs (partial list), to wage a united campaign under the banner of the **Coalition for Civil Liberties**. With very limited financial resources, we waged a gallant campaign to spread truth and dispel lies of Prop. 63's proponents, as did the parallel effort by our friends at the Firearms Policy Coalition.

On the bright side, we were able to convey the message to 4,508,772 pro-gun voters in California who voted against Proposition 63. That's a lot of people, but ultimately, we lost by a seriously unfortunate margin: 63% to 38%.

### SO NOW WHAT?

As we move into the New Year, Gun Owners of California will continue to inform our membership about the impact of the new laws. Although we wish we could give details now, it's just not possible because the Department of Justice still must write the regulations, and figure out how exactly they will be implemented. At this point, they aren't even sure which laws will be operational – the bills passed by the legislature or the language of Prop. 63? The conflicts are significant – so that's the ridiculous rub we are currently facing in our own backyard.

Without question, the election of Donald Trump will give us the much-needed path to overturning many of the unconstitutional laws we've had to endure for the past decade. Frankly speaking, it gives us a renewed confidence. GOC will continue to testify at the Capitol on further Second Amendment assaults, we will be proactively vigilant in the elections to come, and will do whatever we can to insure Gavin Newsom does not become our next Governor. Most importantly, we have already begun preparation in coordination with our pro-gun partners to wage battle in the courts –so we may restore our Second Amendment rights in the Golden State.

Your continued support of Gun Owners of California is the best gift you can give your family and your friends because with it comes *the promise that liberty and freedom will not be abandoned*. We are looking forward to emerging from the dark tunnel of tyranny and into the light of freedom, standing shoulder to shoulder with our faithful friends and supporters.

Stay armed and informed - visit our website, [www.gunownersca.com](http://www.gunownersca.com), read our blog, and share our newsletter; we are stronger together than we are individually. We remain grateful for your confidence in us.

### PROP 63 PASSED – NOW WHAT?

We are just weeks away from a whole lot of "new" – a new year, a **new** anti-gun reality with the ammo grab here in California – and a **new** President. How they all intersect with each other will also send us down a new road – and one that GOC is eager to head down.

We are the first to acknowledge that there are plenty of reasons to be frustrated – the anti-gunners haven't met a lie they didn't like and it's always tough to watch voters being swayed by fear, corrupt statistics and slick politicians. GOC has been picking through the mess we now face in the wake of Proposition 63's success, and our legal beagles are drilling on the details of "what trumps what" with the proposition and legislation signed by the Governor last summer. While Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom and Senator Kevin de Leon continue to spar over the competing specifics of their proposals, we doubt they are losing any sleep over the mess they've made.

As things stand now, the mandates of each have been "merged" and the operative dates are as follows:

- Reporting mandate of lost and stolen guns: **July 1, 2017**

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### PROP 63 PASSED...CONT.

- "Large" capacity magazine possession ban: **July 1, 2017**
- Illegal ammunition transfers (supplying ammo to any person you have cause to believe is not the actual buyer): **Effective immediately**
- Ammunition sales process (deadline for completion of regulations): **January 1, 2018**
- Ammunition vendor licensing requirement and ban on internet sales: **January 1, 2018**
- Limitations on ammunition displays: **Effective date is unknown**
- Registration of ammunition sales: **January 1, 2019**
- Ammunition purchase permits: **January 1, 2019**
- Local regulation of ammunition – not preempted: **Effective immediately**
- Confiscation of firearms from prohibited persons: **January 1, 2018**

But we're not down for the count – in spite of our California chaos, **we nailed the big one** and because of the impressive election of Donald Trump as President, there are many things we can look forward to in 2017. In short, his win has delivered the 2nd Amendment, pro-Constitution community an epic gift: **an appointment to the Supreme Court**. Trump's promise to uphold the 2nd Amendment will put us in a solid position to battle in both federal

and state judicial arenas, and at very least, we'll have a better platform for our message in the Golden State. We're going to take the national win and use it to our advantage in every way possible.

With the new year also comes a new Attorney General; Kamala Harris bested Loretta Sanchez in the race for the U.S. Senate and Governor Jerry Brown recently announced he will appoint Congressman Xavier Becerra as her replacement. Becerra was hailed by Senator de Leon as a "a perfect matching of man and moment, given that California's prosperity and people are currently under threat by a hostile Trump administration." This is hardly good news for the gun owners of the state, but we were fully prepared for Brown to appoint someone who was more foe than friend. We are also confident that Becerra's appointment will secure Senate confirmation, given the political make-up of the legislature.

Regardless of the losses we face in our state, or the wins we gain nationally, GOC's message has not changed – and it never will. Until we change the fannies that are sitting in the seats of power, we are never going to get anywhere. **Every anti-gunner we boot from office delivers us a bit more freedom, and this is what drives us!** It's why we get up every day ready for battle. Does it take time? Yes! Money? Of course. Hard work? You bet. We know it's worth it!

## WITH CHRISTMAS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

As another year draws to a close, it is important that we look back at everything that has occurred. We must weigh it all out—the good and the bad—so that we can see that we are still truly blessed by living in this country. Here are just a few things that we, the staff at GOC, think that every gun owner can and should be thankful for.

### We should be so grateful that...

**10.** Every Christmas and New Year, we set aside everything in order to spend time with good company and good food.

**9.** The election season is FINALLY over!

**8.** The apparent mass exodus of many celebrities from the United States due to Donald Trump's election (we're talking about you, Amy Schumer and Miley Cyrus...just a friendly reminder).

**7.** For the stimulation of the tissue economy – Hillary Clinton's supporters alone could spike stock prices with all the post-election weeping.

**6.** After eight long years of exploiting tragedies to influence his anti-gun agenda, President Barack Obama will be leaving office.

**5.** That California State Senator Isadore Hall III, who publicly charged that gun owners and 2nd Amendment activists were defending the

OVER PLEASE ...

**WITH CHRISTMAS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER...CONT.**

actions of terrorists and murderers —was shut out of his race for Congress AND lost his seat in the Senate.

4. The nation elected a President whose administration does NOT see the Australian gun buyback model as a viable option for the United States.

3. In spite of the longstanding love affair the media had with Hillary Clinton, Americans shut their eyes and ears to the propaganda, and ended her political career.

2. The Forefathers had the wisdom and foresight to include the Right to Bear Arms in the Constitution.

1. We still live in a country that allows for all of its citizens to participate in its government.

**2017 GOC FUNDRAISING EVENT CALENDAR**

**YUBA SUTTER**

Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds  
FRIDAY, APRIL 7

**SACRAMENTO CRAB FEED**

Citrus Heights Community Center  
FRIDAY, APRIL 21

**SPORTING CLAY SHOOT (IONE)**

Camanche Hills Hunting Preserve  
SATURDAY, JUNE 3

**OROVILLE**

Location TBD  
Tentative FRIDAY, JUNE 16

**VACAVILLE CRAB FEED**

Ulatis Community Center  
DATE TBD (Early Fall)

**TICKET SALES ARE ROLLING: 2017 52 GUN RAFFLE**

Last year, we sold out of the 52 Gun Raffle Tickets in record time and we hope to do the same this year! Once again, with our biggest fundraising event of the year, we are selling tickets for just \$50 each, for a chance to win a gun in 2017. We only sell 1,500 tickets and we give a gun away, EVERY WEEK for 52 weeks!

Tickets make great stocking stuffers and Christmas gifts to the gun owner in your life! To get your tickets, contact our office at 916-984-1400 or go to [www.gunownersca.com](http://www.gunownersca.com) where you can print out the mail-in form.

Help GOC continue the fight to protect what is left of your Second Amendment rights here in California and work to reinstate some of what has been lost! It is a tough battle and this is a great opportunity to help!



**TO: SENATOR H. L. RICHARDSON, (ret.)**

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

\$100    \$75    \$50    \$35    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print:**

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please charge the above amount to my Visa or MasterCard:**

One Time Only    Quarterly    Monthly

Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Gun Owners of California  
Membership Benefits*

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

[www.gunownersca.com](http://www.gunownersca.com)

*Gun Owners of California, Inc.*

1831 Iron Point Road, Suite 120

Folsom, CA 95630

Office (916) 984-1400

Fax (916) 984-1402



**email: [gunownca@gunownersca.com](mailto:gunownca@gunownersca.com)**

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