



## GUN OWNERS of California

### NEWSOM RECALL HEADED FOR FALL SPECIAL ELECTION

By Sam Paredes, Executive Director

The California Secretary of State recently announced that 1,719,943 signatures in the recall campaign against Gov. Gavin Newsom have been certified as valid and that a special election will be held this fall. **This is an unprecedented opportunity to take action against the most prolifically anti-gun governor in California's history.** In addition to being a chief proponent of 2016's Proposition 63 (ammo registration, etc), he has been tirelessly aggressive in his pursuit of more gun control since he was elected governor, and quite frankly – a nasty burr under GOC's saddle.

Voters will be asked a simple question as to whether the Governor should be removed from office or not. Additionally, the ballot will include an option to vote for a host of candidates who are seeking to replace Newsom should the recall succeed. If more than 50% of the voters agree that he should be recalled, then the candidate who receives the greatest number of votes will then become governor. Of course, the Left will rally behind Newsom and the Silicon Valley tech-giants have pledged millions of dollars to keep him in office. Although he may be publicly acting as if the recall is no big deal, we know for a fact that it's gotten under his skin big time.

The field of candidates who want the top job is crowded and runs the gamut, from former mayors, legislators, sports

stars and ambassadors to current mayors, models and business people.

A specific date has not been announced by the Secretary of State; it will be set once a fiscal analysis of the special election has been completed by the Department of Finance. To learn more about the recall, go to [www.recallgavin2020.com](http://www.recallgavin2020.com). RecallGavin2020 is an all-volunteer movement that is made up of thousands of full-time volunteers from all 58 counties in California.

### A LONG TIME COMING: A SCOTUS VICTORY

We have been saying that some of our greatest victories would be coming from the courts and that is proving to be true.

**The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) recently handed us an extraordinary victory in a 4th Amendment case, Caniglia v Strom, which involved unreasonable search and seizure.** Gun Owners of California's "friend of the court" brief had asked SCOTUS to accept the case and then rule in favor of protecting our constitutional rights. **The court agreed with our position and held that law enforcement officers could not confiscate a person's firearms without a warrant under the legal theory of "community caretaking", an authority that never existed.** The argument against this kind of action by law enforcement was so persuasive that the court ruled 9-0 in our favor. That rarely happens.

**We look to build on that victory with NY State Rifle and Pistol Association**

**v Corlett**, another 2nd Amendment case before SCOTUS that challenges the constitutionality of New York's concealed carry laws. Given that the court refused to hear nearly a dozen cases last year, a ruling on this is highly significant, as it is considered a "pure" 2nd Amendment case.

Many are curious why out-of-state cases are important to those of us in California. **Should the court ultimately rule that the only standard of review applicable for 2nd Amendment cases is the text, history and tradition of the meaning of the words at the founding, this would open the door to challenge a host of gun control laws in every state in the nation.**

### Rhode v Becerra CA'S AMMO SALES LAWS & REGULATIONS

Waiting is never fun but that's what we have had to do with this case. GOC asked to 9th Circuit to declare California's ammunition sales law and regulations as a clear violation of 2nd Amendment. The case has been argued and the court has issued a stay on the decision pending issuance of a mandate in Duncan v Becerra.

### Duncan v Becerra CA'S STANDARD CAP MAGAZINES

A 3-judge panel of the 9th Circuit ruled that California's magazine laws were unconstitutional, yet on February 25, 2021, the 9th set aside the favorable ruling and will rehear the case en banc (full court review).

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SCOTUS VICTORY...CONT.

**Rupp v Becerra  
CA'S ASSAULT WEAPONS LAWS**

Case to overturn California's assault weapons laws has been fully argued before the 9th Circuit. Awaiting decision of the 3-judge panel.

**LEGISLATIVE BACK-BURNER:  
A GOOD PLACE FOR BAD  
GUN BILLS**

When the 2021-2022 Legislature convened in January, we knew we were entering a battle royale for our gun rights. With the election of Joe Biden as President and the victories the Left achieved at the federal level, we knew they were going to be emboldened and would throw every anti-gun thing our way from Washington DC to California, and boy, did they!

GOC has been tracking over 20 bills this year – a few we support, a lot we are carefully watching as they moved through the process, and nine that we pulled out the stops to oppose. **Although the Legislature does not adjourn the first half of the two-year session until mid-September, six out of the nine bills we vigorously opposed have now been put on the legislative back burner.** No two ways about it - **THIS IS GOOD NEWS.**

The three remaining bills still moving are awful - each one is a nasty, incremental nail in the 2nd Amendment. Our commitment to opposing the following bills will not waver and we encourage you to stand with us in this tall order.

- **SB 264 / MIN** – This bill prohibits gun shows on state-owned property and is nothing more than an attempt to needlessly cripple gun shows who have operated in the state practically

without incident for over 50 years.

- **SB 715 / PORTANTINO** – This bill is a reintroduction of SB 914 (2020) which was vetoed by Governor Newsom. The bill is a convoluted mess, but primarily pertains to hunting license validation by the Department of Justice, complicating the issue of loaning firearms to minors, making it overly burdensome and unnecessary. The bill requires the presence of parents at all shooting activities, even when there is an abundance of adult supervision. Such a restriction unfairly and unnecessarily penalizes the many law-abiding youth in our country who are engaged in legitimate shooting sports – whether in high school or college.

- **AB 1223 / LEVINE** – This bill seeks to impose an excise tax of 10%/11% respectively on the sale of each new firearm and ammunition purchased in the state. As recently amended, the bill now specifies all funds raised from this tax are to be deposited into the newly created “Gun Violence Prevention, Healing and Recovery Fund.”

As we have reported, GOC has hit a ton of partisan roadblocks thus far in 2021, and we aren't naïve enough to think this is going to end any time soon. We have been forced to be creative in how we lobby – much of it from afar and making use of technology – and working the personal relationships we have established over the years and forming valuable connections with new members and staff.

We will continue our vocal opposition to each of these three bills and encourage you to do the same – if you

are uncertain how to contact/phone/email your representative, go to [www.findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/](http://www.findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/). To read our letters of opposition and to check out the status of stalled bills and others we are following, to GOC's website and click on “Legislation.”

Please know that we are fighting hard on your behalf at the Capitol and in the courts – and we will never report that ANY bill is officially DEAD until such time that the final gavel slams down on the dais that the Assembly and Senate have adjourned. After all, GOC's been around long enough to see some mighty shifty moves in the final days and hours of session. Stay tuned, and most importantly – **STAY ARMED AND INFORMED WITH GOC!**



**WHAT IS  
REAPPORTIONMENT...**

Every 10 years, after the federal government publishes updated census information, California must redraw the boundaries of its Congressional, State Senate and State Assembly districts in order to correctly reflect the state's population.

Prior to 2008, the Legislature had been in charge of drawing their own district lines, which led to a lot of self-serving shenanigans in the form of gerrymandering. An initiative was put on the ballot and voters subsequently authorized the creation of the California Citizens

Redistricting Commission who are now responsible for drawing new district lines every 10 years.

Although the 14-member Commission is not as non-partisan as the voters were promised, it's better than the "legislative foxes" watching the hen house. Current law now states that the Commission must draw the district lines in conformity with "nonpartisan" rules designed to create districts of relatively equal population that will provide fair representation. California actually lost a Congressional seat following the census and we can only hope the lines will be more balanced.

The Commission will hold hearings this summer where citizens are able to provide input about their community by phone during the meeting or electronically prior to the meeting. To learn more, go to [www.wedrawthelines.org](http://www.wedrawthelines.org)

**...AND HOW IT IMPACTS 2022 ELECTIONS**

As GOC reported last year, the election of 2020 was a mixed bag – even though we picked up seats in California, things were an overall mess nationally. With the election of Joe Biden, the Left has been emboldened to trot out agendas that are downright radical, and this is surely evident here in California. Rather than letting the sting of last year's election mess get us down, it's motivating us to jump into the process even earlier than normal. So, what is in store for us in the 2022 elections? There are several issues of major significance.

As mentioned before, California will experience a loss of a congressional seat – which is unprecedented. The Golden State's congressional representation will be reduced to 52 from 53 as a result of shrinking population (in 2020, California's population dropped by more than 182,000). Although this may not seem noteworthy – it is as it will likely combine two left-leaning districts into

one, therefore creating some intense competition. Other liberal states are losing seats similarly, while some of the more conservative states are picking up congressional seats – all of which is bad news for Nancy Pelosi and her grip on Congress. She and Joe Biden believes the 2020 election gave them permission to implement a radical agenda that is decidedly anti-American and anti-2nd Amendment. This is why every pro-gun candidate elected nationally is an important roadblock to their bulldozer mentality.

In our State Legislature, all 80 Assembly Members will be up for election, as well as 20 of the 40 State Senators. Newly drawn districts may create some opportunities to upset the applecart – we are realists and don't have grand illusions, but any step forward is positive. Thus, we are in a waiting game at present to see what new district lines will be drawn by the CCRC.

**Finally, there are a number of Sheriff's races throughout the state that could also have a very real impact on what's happening in your own backyard.** As you know, the last year has been particularly challenging to our friends in law enforcement and a number of "Constitutional" Sheriffs are stepping down, thus opening their seats up to new blood and very real potential changes in how Concealed Carry Weapons permits (CCWs) are issued. Please be assured we are working hard to identify worthy successors to our champion sheriffs. Stay tuned!

**GOC MEMBER SALUTE: JIM BARRY**

GOC is proud to salute an exceptional friend, **Jim Barry**. Jim has been a long-time member of GOC, and has selflessly invested both his time and resources to our organization and the 2nd Amendment community at large. His service

on our distribution team has been invaluable, and we are proud to stand with a true patriot. Thank you, Jim for all the work you have done on behalf of Gun Owners of California! We salute you and your extraordinary dedication to protecting the rights of law-abiding citizens in our state.

**CAPITOL TESTIMONY DERAILED AND WATCHING THE POLITICIANS**

**"HELLO? I need to testify on the bill that's being considered RIGHT NOW!"**

*CLICK.* The ATT operator controlling calls into the committee for testimony hung up.

Is this any way to begin testimony in a California legislative committee regarding a bill that would give the Department of Justice authority to cherry pick who can have access to "gun violence" data for research?

No – but that's exactly what happened recently when GOC's Executive Director Sam Paredes attempted to speak in opposition to **AB1237** by Assemblyman Ting. If this were the first time he was disconnected while being "in the queue" to testify, it wouldn't raise so many concerns, **but this was the third time GOC had been shut down during remote – yet critical, legislative testimony.**

Yes, COVID has wreaked havoc on everyone, and the Legislature is no exception, but how they handled public testimony has been a wholesale failure. Given that **California – who has a gross domestic product of \$3.2 TRIL-LION as of 2019, and is THE LARGEST SUB-NATIONAL ECONOMY IN THE WORLD, not to mention being home to the Silicon Valley's tech giants that**

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**CAPITOL TESTIMONY  
DERAILED AND WATCHING  
THE POLITICIANS...CONT.**

**the Legislature couldn't have figured out something far more efficient? Go figure!**

Which brings us to the old phrase *"laws are like sausages – it's better not to see them being made."* This is a very true statement and could have been coined after watching what happens under the dome in Sacramento.

Most of the time, the legislative process is like watching paint dry on a cold day – there's a lot of talking and not a whole lot of doing. Politicians from both political parties love nothing better than hearing the sound of their own voices, and when they see a microphone, the draw is irresistible. When verbal fireworks actually erupt, it can be entertaining but infuriating – after all, dogs bark, snakes wiggle, jackasses bray and radical leftists lie. It's in their nature to do so.

**"Laws are like sausages – it's better not to see them being made"**

This is one of the reasons that GOC is amping up our efforts to get you more involved in the process. Being an informed voter is hugely important, but we want to take things further. **And with no apologies, we are going to encourage you to actually listen and/or watch legislative proceedings.** Yes, it takes time and sometimes nerves of steel (but we have that in spades, right?). Realistically speaking, we need more people to know about **who** makes the laws we must live with and **how** they make them. Might you fall asleep? Maybe. Will your blood boil? **WE HOPE SO!** Believe it or not, but we can use the positive energy that comes from this kind of civic engagement.

It's one thing to get information from GOC about the hostility we face at the Capitol, but it's another thing altogether to see it in action. **We have been likened to child murderers, have been called disgusting and vile – that we have the blood of innocents on our hands.** It can get downright ugly sometimes.

Between now and when the Legislature adjourns in mid-September, there will be committee hearings and floor sessions in the Senate and the Assembly, where they will hear a host of bills

geared to dismantle our 2nd Amendment rights. Both the **Senate** ([www.Senate.ca.gov](http://www.Senate.ca.gov)) and the **Assembly** ([www.assembly.ca.gov/audioandtv](http://www.assembly.ca.gov/audioandtv)) televise Floor Sessions and Capitol Committee Hearings, and on **GOC's website**, you can follow the status of each bill we are tracking and when each bill is being heard. We encourage you to watch, listen and then send us your comments.

In addition, please check out the GOC Materials page on our website ([www.gunownersca.com/resources/goc-materials/](http://www.gunownersca.com/resources/goc-materials/)) to view flyers, bill alerts, and free printables that will help you lobby friends, family, businesses, and even the legislature. It will take every one of us to make the difference and you have the power to influence your representatives. Let's stick together and let's stay Armed and Informed!

Clearly, COVID has been a big obstacle in this process, but GOC has not let this stop us from advocating for the 2nd Amendment in the most antagonistic circumstances. Our rights are worth it – and so are you.

**GUN OWNERS  
of California**

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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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*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)

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