

About

GunnerySergeant dot org is a website (currently in 'beta') that provides a platform for an acceptable 'solution' to the so-called gun-control issues. This paper provides some background details about the website's mission and purpose.

In a nutshell, the site supports what we call a SMART solution that we think both Second Amendment advocates and gun-control advocates can understand and accept.

What's unique about our proposed idea is that it circumvents legal issues. Second Amendment folks have erected formidable barriers utilizing lobbying groups and congressional ratings. The barriers prevent real rule changes (such as attempts to ban so-called 'assault weapons'). In our discussions, we call these folks KABA-rights folks since their primary mission is to preserve the Second Amendment, and they tend to focus on the phrase 'keep and bear arms' (the phrase being a vital part of that amendment).

Before getting into our rationale and details, we state up front that our website does not take sides regarding the issues presented. We feel strongly that the Second Amendment is correct and can stand independently. We also have empathy with concerned citizens who are worried about terrorists, criminals, or mentally incompetent folks possessing lethal firearms.

What we propose (and have partially implemented) is a solution that does *not* threaten KABA rights and yet will, when complete, be able to reduce unfortunate incidents such as the Sandy Hook mass murders (twenty children and six teachers) or the Orlando, Lewiston, Buffalo, Uvalde, Parkland, Las Vegas massacres - the list goes on and on.

Rationale

To achieve our goals, we first decided that whatever we do, we must not involve Congress, legislation, rules changes, etc. As far as we're concerned, this means that the 'status quo' exists and will continue to exist - perhaps for generations. So if the reader may be lobbies for no further restrictions (KABA folks) **or** if the reader has written to their congressional representative demanding some new rules (gun-control folks)...stay tuned. Indeed, waste no more money lobbying or writing frustrating letters that never get anywhere!

Instead, we have developed our SMART solution. SMART is our acronym for the **S**ponsored **M**ilitia, **A**rmed and **R**egularly **T**ested.

Discussion

Stepping back to when the Second Amendment was written, our phrasing here is particularly appropriate. In colonial times, there were primarily two mostly volunteer 'fighting' organizations. Every community was weary of the threat of fires and formed a volunteer fire *brigade*. In British colonies, every community was weary of the perceived threat (or intrusions) of French-occupied Canada or hostile native Americans. So, a second mainly volunteer grouping was formed, called a *militia*. Brigade and militia are almost interchangeable (consider the poem *The Charge of the Light Brigade*, dealing with a military movement, for instance).

Both groupings have consisted of volunteer members. Both 'fought' something or other (fires, hostiles). Most importantly, members were expected to meet regularly, learn and practice skills, and finally, test those skills under real conditions (e.g., a fire or an intrusion).

Two centuries later, it is interesting to note that volunteerism (especially regarding firefighters) persists even today. We daresay that most so-called fire departments are unpaid volunteers - if you consider that vastly more tiny townships exist compared to cities. It is heartening to know that these numerous modern fire brigades still meet, practice, and are tested under real conditions. We take special note that times have changed: the word *hazmat* never existed in colonial times. Yet that word, its meaning, represents a modern-day concept that must be learned and understood. The reason for this special note is *adaptation*. The colonial brigade has evolved. As a society, we have skillfully adapted to a fire brigade's mission.

Unfortunately, we have not properly evolved and adapted to any new militia concept or mission. Our website fosters a modern interpretation of the colonial (and early federalist) concept of a militia. The Second Amendment reads:

"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."

In addition to the well-known phrase cited by KABA folks, "keep and bear Arms," other phrases such as "well-regulated Militia" have some import. The problem is that there really is no formal militia (today) to be regulated. We aim to change that.

No. We don't advocate any government level (local, state, or especially federal) to form a militia and "well regulate" it (such as registering members, issuing firearms, etc.) Instead, we view our website as a popular *groundswell* movement. We are always non-governmental. As an organization, our intentions are the same as any other nonprofit, such as the American Cancer Society. Indeed, the ugly situation today is that the proliferation of firearms has been a growing, festering cancer, and there isn't enough decent regulation happening!

To fix this without a single iota of governmental involvement requires a very creative (albeit complex) solution. Taking a cue from the Second Amendment's phrasing, we like to position our organization as "A groundswell regulated Militia," a vast movement that is entirely volunteer-driven (outside of necessary staff positions). Our adopted motto is "We Do Our Part."

Because of the complexity of our approach, we currently focus on educating the population as to just how our novel, fresh approach should not only help mitigate firearm tragedies but also be acceptable to both KABA folks and gun-control advocates.

We host parlor presentations (visit NRA.rip to email a reservation). The site itself tries to inform people about our solution via a series of 'blog' questions (visit gunnerySergeant.org).

Contact

Since we are in 'beta' mode, we are willing and able to make changes. We especially welcome feedback from firearm owners, victims of gun violence, survivors, etc. The above websites provide email addresses. Your comments are welcome!

Email: GunnerySergeant@Collogistics.com for additional questions/suggestions.