

Introduced 3/2/15
Public Hearing 3/16/15 Tabled
Council Action 5/4/15 4/6/15
Executive Action 5/12/15
Effective Date 7/12/15

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2015 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 3

Bill No. 8 -2015

Introduced by: Calvin Ball, Jennifer Terrasa, and Jon Weinstein

AN ACT to prohibit the carrying of certain weapons in certain County-owned buildings; renaming a certain subtitle; and generally relating to weapons controls in County buildings.

Introduced and read first time March 2, 2015. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on March 16, 2015.

Tabled April 6, 2015
By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator
This Bill was read the third time on May 4, 2015 and Passed , Passed with amendments , Failed .

By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 6th day of May, 2015 at 3:30 a.m./p.m.

By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive May 12, 2015

Allan H. Kittleman
Allan H. Kittleman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **WHEREAS** gun violence is one of the leading causes of death and injury to young
2 people in the United State and more than 30,000 people are killed by firearms each year in this
3 country; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in recent years, there have been a number of tragic incidents including
5 shootings in public buildings; and

6 **WHEREAS** prohibiting guns in public buildings decreases the opportunity that guns will
7 be misused and thereby protects the County employees working there and members of the
8 general public who are doing business there; and

9 **WHEREAS** State law already prohibits guns in schools and the Criminal Law Article,
10 Section 4-209 (b) specifically allows the County to prohibit possession of guns in other public
11 buildings; and

12 **WHEREAS** it is prudent to keep guns out of public buildings unless they are carried by
13 those who are specifically trained in their use for a legitimate public safety purpose.

14
15 ***Section 1. Be It Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the***
16 ***Howard County Code is amended as follows:***

17 *By amending*

18 *Title 8. Crimes and misdemeanors.*

19 *Subtitle 4. Firearms controls.*

20 *By adding*

21 *Section 8.407. Carrying guns on public property*

22
23
24
25 **Title 8. Crimes and misdemeanors.**

26 **Subtitle 4. ~~[[Firearms]] WEAPONS controls.~~**

27
28
29
30 **8.407. CARRYING WEAPONS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY.**

31 **(A) IN GENERAL.**

1 SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT CARRY A GUN
2 AS DEFINED IN § 8.400 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR A DANGEROUS WEAPON PROHIBITED BY § 4-101 OF THE
3 CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE WHILE IN A PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS ON
4 COUNTY PROPERTY

5 (B) EXCLUDED BUILDINGS.

6 THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE HOWARD COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT BUILDING.

7 (C) EXEMPT PERSONNEL.

8 THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO:

9 (1) A MARSHAL, SHERIFF, CORRECTIONAL OFFICER, OR DEPUTY;

10 (2) A POLICE OFFICER OR OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EMPLOYED BY A UNIT OF THE
11 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, A STATE GOVERNMENT OR A LOCAL SUBDIVISION OF A STATE;

12 (3) A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR OF THE NATIONAL
13 GUARD OR ORGANIZED RESERVES WHEN ON DUTY;

14 (4) A SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER AS THAT TERM IS USED IN § 3-301 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY
15 ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE;

16 (5) A GUARD IN THE EMPLOY OF A BANK, SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, BUILDING AND
17 LOAN ASSOCIATION, OR EXPRESS OR ARMORED CAR AGENCY, WHILE PROVIDING A SERVICE TO OR
18 FOR THE COUNTY;

19 (6) AN EMPLOYEE OF A UNIT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT WHO IS REQUIRED TO CARRY A GUN
20 AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT OR TO TRANSPORT OR OTHERWISE HANDLE A GUN OR
21 DANGEROUS WEAPON WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S EMPLOYMENT RESPONSIBILITIES;

22 (7) A QUALIFIED RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AS PROVIDED IN THE LAW
23 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SAFETY ACT IF THE RETIRED OFFICER COMPLIES WITH 18 U.S. CODE §
24 926C; ~~AND~~

25 (8) A PERSON ACTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PERMIT ISSUED UNDER § 19.205 OF THE
26 COUNTY CODE; AND

27 (9) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HANDLES AN UNLOADED GUN OR DANGEROUS WEAPON:

28 (I) WHILE ACTING AS A CURATOR, CONSERVATOR, DOCENT, OR HISTORICAL
29 REENACTOR, OR IN A SIMILAR ROLE; AND

30 (II) WHILE UNDER THE DIRECTION OR CONTROL OF, OR WITH PERMISSION FROM, THE
31 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS OR ANOTHER DEPARTMENT THAT:

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1. OPERATES A MUSEUM; OR

2. CONDUCTS A PROGRAM THAT IS HISTORICAL OR EDUCATIONAL.

Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.

Amendment 2 to Council Bill 8-2015

BY: Jon Weinstein and Greg Fox

Legislative Day No: 4

Date: 4/6/15

Amendment No. 2

(This amendment allows a person to handle guns or dangerous weapons if the person is (1) a county employee while within the scope of the employee's employment responsibilities or (2) working in a certain museum-related role.)

1 On page 3:

2

3 In line 20 after "EMPLOYMENT" insert "OR TO TRANSPORT OR OTHERWISE HANDLE A GUN OR
4 DANGEROUS WEAPON WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S EMPLOYMENT RESPONSIBILITIES".

5

6 In line 23, strike "AND".

7

8 At the end of line 25, before the period, insert

9 "AND

10 (9) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HANDLES AN UNLOADED GUN OR DANGEROUS WEAPON:

11 (I) WHILE ACTING AS A CURATOR, CONSERVATOR, DOCENT, OR HISTORICAL
12 REENACTOR, OR IN A SIMILAR ROLE; AND

13 (II) WHILE UNDER THE DIRECTION OR CONTROL OF, OR WITH PERMISSION FROM, THE
14 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS OR ANOTHER DEPARTMENT THAT:

15 1. OPERATES A MUSEUM; OR

16 2. CONDUCTS A PROGRAM THAT IS HISTORICAL OR EDUCATIONAL".

ADOPTED

FAILED

SIGNATURE

5/4/15

Jessica Feldman

1 SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT CARRY A GUN
2 AS DEFINED IN § 8.400 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR A DANGEROUS WEAPON PROHIBITED BY § 4-101 OF THE
3 CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE WHILE IN A PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS ON
4 COUNTY PROPERTY

5 (B) EXCLUDED BUILDINGS.

6 THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE HOWARD COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT BUILDING.

7 (C) EXEMPT PERSONNEL.

8 THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO:

9 (1) A MARSHAL, SHERIFF, CORRECTIONAL OFFICER, OR DEPUTY;

10 (2) A POLICE OFFICER OR OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EMPLOYED BY A UNIT OF THE
11 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, A STATE GOVERNMENT OR A LOCAL SUBDIVISION OF A STATE;

12 (3) A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR OF THE NATIONAL
13 GUARD OR ORGANIZED RESERVES WHEN ON DUTY;

14 (4) A SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER AS THAT TERM IS USED IN § 3-301 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY
15 ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE;

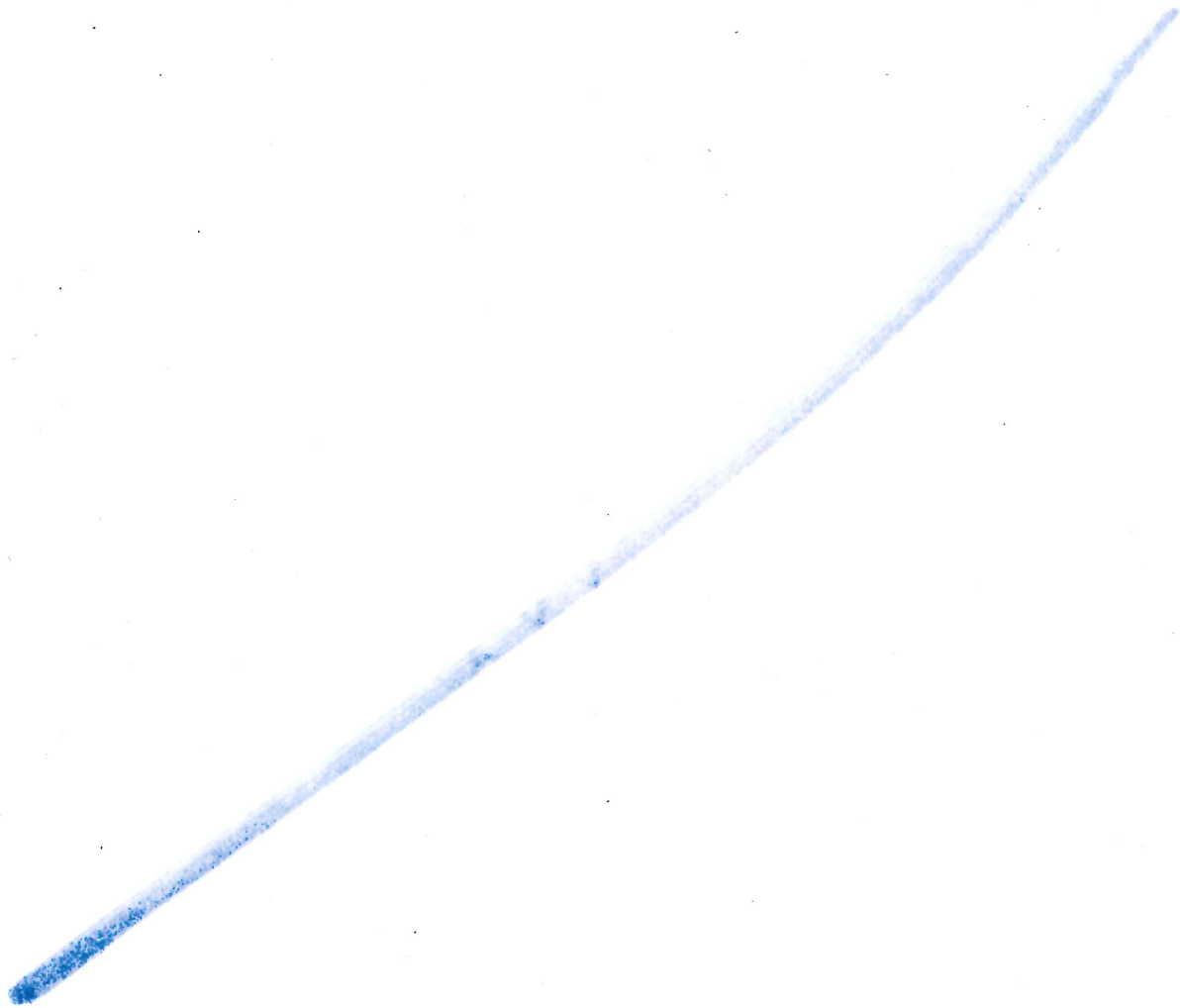
16 (5) A GUARD IN THE EMPLOY OF A BANK, SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, BUILDING AND
17 LOAN ASSOCIATION, OR EXPRESS OR ARMORED CAR AGENCY, WHILE PROVIDING A SERVICE TO OR
18 FOR THE COUNTY;

19 (6) AN EMPLOYEE OF A UNIT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT WHO IS REQUIRED TO CARRY A GUN
20 AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT;

21 (7) A QUALIFIED RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AS PROVIDED IN THE LAW
22 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SAFETY ACT IF THE RETIRED OFFICER COMPLIES WITH 18 U.S. CODE §
23 926C; AND

24 (8) A PERSON ACTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PERMIT ISSUED UNDER § 19.205 OF THE
25 COUNTY CODE.

26
27 *Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that*
28 *this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*
29



Amendment 1 to Council Bill 8-2015

BY: Greg Fox

**Legislative Day No: 4
Date: April 6, 2015**

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment adds an exemption for a person who has a permit to carry a handgun under state law, provides that the exemption does not apply in buildings monitored by a magnetometer or equivalent security protocol, requires the County, within a set timeframe, to update the security protocol at the George Howard Building, including but not limited to the installation of a magnetometer or equivalent security protocol, and requires that the County establish a policy for on-going security and vulnerability assessments for public County owned and leased buildings.)

1 On the title page, strike “and general relating to firearms controls” and substitute
2 “requiring that certain safety protocols for a certain County building be implemented by a certain
3 when limiting the ability to carry a gun or other dangerous weapon by law enforcement and other
4 citizens that are otherwise permitted to so by law date; requiring that a policy for conducting
5 security and vulnerability assessments for public buildings be developed; and generally relating
6 to security”.

7
8 On page 2, strike lines 1 through 13 and substitute:

9
10 “WHEREAS, in recent years, there have been a number of tragic incidents including
11 shootings, bombings and stabbings in public buildings; and

12
13 WHEREAS, reviewing the vulnerability and security of County employees and the
14 general public, especially in public County buildings, is paramount.”

15
16 On page 3, make the following changes:

- 17
18 1. In line 23, strike “AND”;
19 2. In line 25, immediately after “CODE”, strike the period and substitute “; AND”;
20 3. in line 26, insert:

ADOPTED
FAILED as amended 5/4/15
SIGNATURE Jessica Feldman

1 “(9) A PERSON WHO HAS RECEIVED A PERMIT TO CARRY A HANDGUN UNDER TITLE 5,
2 SUBTITLE 3 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.

3
4 ~~(D) EXEMPTION NOT APPLICABLE.~~

5 ~~THE EXEMPTIONS INCLUDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY IN A~~
6 ~~PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS MONITORED BY A MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT SECURITY~~
7 ~~PROTOCOL.~~

8 (D) EXEMPTION NOT APPLICABLE.

9 THE EXEMPTIONS INCLUDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY IN A
10 PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS MONITORED BY A PERMANENT MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT
11 SECURITY PROTOCOL AS DETERMINED BY THE HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT OR
12 DURING TIMES THAT TEMPORARY SECURITY PROTOCOL AS DETERMINED BY THE HOWARD
13 COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT IS IN EFFECT.

14 (E) EXEMPTIONS FOR BUILDINGS WITH MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT SECURITY PROTOCOL.

15 THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTIONS SHALL APPLY IF THE BUILDING SAFETY PROTOCOL INCLUDES THE
16 USE OF A MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT SECURITY PROTOCOL:

- 17 1. POLICE OFFICER OR OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF
18 OFFICIAL DUTY FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, A STATE GOVERNMENT OR A
19 LOCAL SUBDIVISION OF A STATE;
- 20 2. A PERSON WHOM THE OFFICER SUMMONS TO HELP IN MAKING AN ARREST OR IN
21 PRESERVING THE PEACE;
- 22 3. AN EMPLOYEE OF A UNIT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT WHO IS REQUIRED TO CARRY A GUN AS
23 A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT OR TO TRANSPORT OR OTHERWISE HANDLE A GUN OR
24 DANGEROUS WEAPON WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE EMPLOYEE’S EMPLOYMENT
25 RESPONSIBILITIES; AND
- 26 4. AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HANDLES AN UNLOADED GUN OR DANGEROUS WEAPON:
 - 27 (I) WHILE ACTING AS A CURATOR, CONSERVATOR, DOCENT, OR HISTORICAL
28 REENACTOR, OR IN A SIMILAR ROLE; AND
 - 29 (II) WHILE UNDER THE DIRECTION OR CONTROL OF, OR WITH PERMISSION FROM, THE
30 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS OR ANOTHER DEPARTMENT THAT:
 - 31 1. OPERATES A MUSEUM; OR

2. CONDUCTS A PROGRAM THAT IS HISTORICAL OR EDUCATIONAL.

~~*Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that the County shall develop and implement safety protocols for the George Howard Building, to include, but not be limited to, the installation of a magnetometer or equivalent security protocol, and that such implementation shall be completed by December 31, 2017.*~~

Section 32. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that the Department of County Administration shall work with the Department of Police to develop an on-going policy for determining which public buildings shall receive a security and vulnerability assessment.

Section 43. And Be it Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that the Department of County Administration and the Department of Police shall update the security and vulnerability assessment every 2 years after the initial enactment.”

Renumber the remaining sections accordingly.

Amendment 1 to Amendment No. 1 to Council Bill 8-2015

BY: Greg Fox

**Legislative Day No: 5
Date: 5/4/2015**

Amendment No. 1 to Amendment No. 1 to CB 8-2015

1 On page 1, in lines 2 and 3, strike “by a certain date” and substitute “when limiting the
2 ability to carry a gun or other dangerous weapon by law enforcement and other citizens that are
3 otherwise permitted to so by law”.

4
5 On page 2, strike lines 2 through 5, inclusive, and substitute:

6
7 “(D) EXEMPTION NOT APPLICABLE.

8 THE EXEMPTIONS INCLUDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY IN A
9 PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS MONITORED BY A PERMANENT MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT
10 SECURITY PROTOCOL AS DETERMINED BY THE HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT OR
11 DURING TIMES THAT TEMPORARY SECURITY PROTOCOL AS DETERMINED BY THE HOWARD
12 COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT IS IN EFFECT.”.

13
14 On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 26 through 29, inclusive.

15
16 On page 3, in lines 1 and 6, strike “3” and “4”, respectively, and substitute “2” and “3”,
17 respectively.

ADOPTED

5/4/15

FAILED

SIGNATURE

Jessica Edmond

Amendment 1 to Council Bill 8-2015

BY: Greg Fox

Legislative Day, No: 4
Date: 4/6/15

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment adds an exemption for a person who has a permit to carry a handgun under state law, provides that the exemption does not apply in buildings monitored by a magnetometer or equivalent security protocol, requires the County, within a set timeframe, to update the security protocol at the George Howard Building, including but not limited to the installation of a magnetometer or equivalent security protocol, and requires that the County establish a policy for on-going security and vulnerability assessments for public County owned and leased buildings.)

1 On the title page, strike “and general relating to firearms controls” and substitute
2 “requiring that certain safety protocols for a certain County building be implemented by a certain
3 date; requiring that a policy for conducting security and vulnerability assessments for public
4 buildings be developed; and generally relating to security”.

5
6 On page 2, strike lines 1 through 13 and substitute:

7
8 “WHEREAS, in recent years, there have been a number of tragic incidents including
9 shootings, bombings and stabbings in public buildings; and

10
11 WHEREAS, reviewing the vulnerability and security of County employees and the
12 general public, especially in public County buildings, is paramount.”

13
14 On page 3, make the following changes:

- 15
16 1. In line 23, strike “AND”;
17 2. In line 25, immediately after “CODE”, strike the period and substitute “; AND”;
18 3. in line 26, insert:

19 “(9) A PERSON WHO HAS RECEIVED A PERMIT TO CARRY A HANDGUN UNDER TITLE 5,
20 SUBTITLE 3 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.

1
2 (D) EXEMPTION NOT APPLICABLE.

3 THE EXEMPTIONS INCLUDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY IN A
4 PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS MONITORED BY A MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT SECURITY
5 PROTOCOL.

6 (E) EXEMPTIONS FOR BUILDINGS WITH MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT SECURITY PROTOCOL.

7 THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTIONS SHALL APPLY IF THE BUILDING SAFETY PROTOCOL INCLUDES THE
8 USE OF A MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT SECURITY PROTOCOL:

- 9 1. POLICE OFFICER OR OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF
10 OFFICIAL DUTY FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, A STATE GOVERNMENT OR A
11 LOCAL SUBDIVISION OF A STATE;
- 12 2. A PERSON WHOM THE OFFICER SUMMONS TO HELP IN MAKING AN ARREST OR IN
13 PRESERVING THE PEACE;
- 14 3. AN EMPLOYEE OF A UNIT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT WHO IS REQUIRED TO CARRY A GUN AS
15 A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT OR TO TRANSPORT OR OTHERWISE HANDLE A GUN OR
16 DANGEROUS WEAPON WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S EMPLOYMENT
17 RESPONSIBILITIES; AND
- 18 4. AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HANDLES AN UNLOADED GUN OR DANGEROUS WEAPON:
- 19 (I) WHILE ACTING AS A CURATOR, CONSERVATOR, DOCENT, OR HISTORICAL
20 REENACTOR, OR IN A SIMILAR ROLE; AND
- 21 (II) WHILE UNDER THE DIRECTION OR CONTROL OF, OR WITH PERMISSION FROM, THE
22 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS OR ANOTHER DEPARTMENT THAT:
- 23 1. OPERATES A MUSEUM; OR
- 24 2. CONDUCTS A PROGRAM THAT IS HISTORICAL OR EDUCATIONAL.

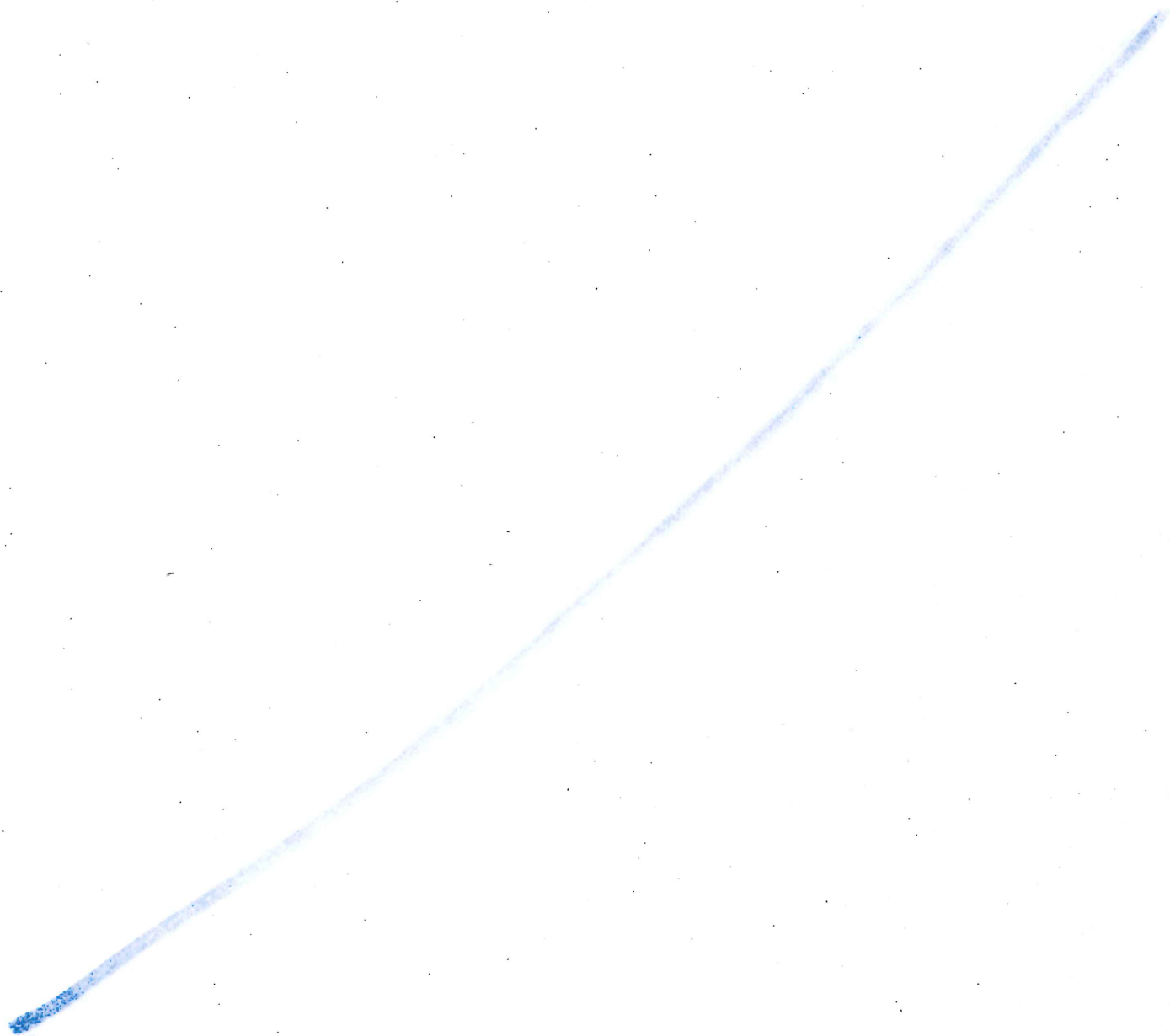
25

26 **Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
27 the County shall develop and implement safety protocols for the George Howard Building, to
28 include, but not be limited to, the installation of a magnetometer or equivalent security protocol,
29 and that such implementation shall be completed by December 31, 2017.

1 **Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
2 the Department of County Administration shall work with the Department of Police to develop
3 an on-going policy for determining which public buildings shall receive a security and
4 vulnerability assessment.

5
6 **Section 4. And Be it Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
7 the Department of County Administration and the Department of Police shall update the security
8 and vulnerability assessment every 2 years after the initial enactment.”

9
10 Renumber the remaining sections accordingly.



BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on

May 12, 2015.

Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on _____, 2015.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on _____, 2015.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on _____, 2015.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on _____, 2015.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on _____, 2015.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Amendment 1 to Council Bill 8-2015

BY: Greg Fox

Legislative Day, No: 4
Date: 4/6/15

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment adds an exemption for a person who has a permit to carry a handgun under state law, provides that the exemption does not apply in buildings monitored by a magnetometer or equivalent security protocol, requires the County, within a set timeframe, to update the security protocol at the George Howard Building, including but not limited to the installation of a magnetometer or equivalent security protocol, and requires that the County establish a policy for on-going security and vulnerability assessments for public County owned and leased buildings.)

1 On the title page, strike “and general relating to firearms controls” and substitute
2 “requiring that certain safety protocols for a certain County building be implemented by a certain
3 date; requiring that a policy for conducting security and vulnerability assessments for public
4 buildings be developed; and generally relating to security”.

5
6 On page 2, strike lines 1 through 13 and substitute:

7
8 “WHEREAS, in recent years, there have been a number of tragic incidents including
9 shootings, bombings and stabbings in public buildings; and

10
11 WHEREAS, reviewing the vulnerability and security of County employees and the
12 general public, especially in public County buildings, is paramount.”

13
14 On page 3, make the following changes:

- 15
16 1. In line 23, strike “AND” ;
17 2. In line 25, immediately after “CODE”, strike the period and substitute “; AND”;
18 3. in line 26, insert:

19 “(9) A PERSON WHO HAS RECEIVED A PERMIT TO CARRY A HANDGUN UNDER TITLE 5,
20 SUBTITLE 3 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.

1
2 (D) EXEMPTION NOT APPLICABLE.

3 THE EXEMPTIONS INCLUDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY IN A
4 PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS MONITORED BY A MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT SECURITY
5 PROTOCOL.

6 (E) EXEMPTIONS FOR BUILDINGS WITH MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT SECURITY PROTOCOL.

7 THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTIONS SHALL APPLY IF THE BUILDING SAFETY PROTOCOL INCLUDES THE
8 USE OF A MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT SECURITY PROTOCOL:

- 9 1. POLICE OFFICER OR OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF
10 OFFICIAL DUTY FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, A STATE GOVERNMENT OR A
11 LOCAL SUBDIVISION OF A STATE;
- 12 2. A PERSON WHOM THE OFFICER SUMMONS TO HELP IN MAKING AN ARREST OR IN
13 PRESERVING THE PEACE;
- 14 3. AN EMPLOYEE OF A UNIT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT WHO IS REQUIRED TO CARRY A GUN AS
15 A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT OR TO TRANSPORT OR OTHERWISE HANDLE A GUN OR
16 DANGEROUS WEAPON WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S EMPLOYMENT
17 RESPONSIBILITIES; AND
- 18 4. AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HANDLES AN UNLOADED GUN OR DANGEROUS WEAPON:
- 19 (I) WHILE ACTING AS A CURATOR, CONSERVATOR, DOCENT, OR HISTORICAL
20 REENACTOR, OR IN A SIMILAR ROLE; AND
- 21 (II) WHILE UNDER THE DIRECTION OR CONTROL OF, OR WITH PERMISSION FROM, THE
22 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS OR ANOTHER DEPARTMENT THAT:
- 23 1. OPERATES A MUSEUM; OR
- 24 2. CONDUCTS A PROGRAM THAT IS HISTORICAL OR EDUCATIONAL.
- 25

26 **Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
27 the County shall develop and implement safety protocols for the George Howard Building, to
28 include, but not be limited to, the installation of a magnetometer or equivalent security protocol,
29 and that such implementation shall be completed by December 31, 2017.

30

1 **Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
2 the Department of County Administration shall work with the Department of Police to develop
3 an on-going policy for determining which public buildings shall receive a security and
4 vulnerability assessment.

5
6 **Section 4. And Be it Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
7 the Department of County Administration and the Department of Police shall update the security
8 and vulnerability assessment every 2 years after the initial enactment.”

9
10 Renumber the remaining sections accordingly.

Amendment 1 to Amendment No. 1 to Council Bill 8-2015

BY: Greg Fox

Legislative Day No: _____

Date: _____

Amendment No. _____

1 On page 1, in lines 2 and 3, strike “by a certain date” and substitute “when limiting the
2 ability to carry a gun or other dangerous weapon by law enforcement and other citizens that are
3 otherwise permitted to so by law”.

4

5 On page 2, strike lines 2 through 5, inclusive, and substitute:

6

7 “(D) EXEMPTION NOT APPLICABLE.

8 THE EXEMPTIONS INCLUDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY IN A
9 PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS MONITORED BY A PERMANENT MAGNETOMETER OR EQUIVALENT
10 SECURITY PROTOCOL AS DETERMINED BY THE HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT OR
11 DURING TIMES THAT TEMPORARY SECURITY PROTOCOL AS DETERMINED BY THE HOWARD
12 COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT IS IN EFFECT.”.

13

14 On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 26 through 29, inclusive.

15

16 On page 3, in lines 1 and 6, strike “3” and “4”, respectively, and substitute “2” and “3”,
17 respectively.

Amendment 2 to Council Bill 8-2015

BY: Jon Weinstein and Greg Fox

Legislative Day No: 4
Date: 4/6/15

Amendment No. 2

(This amendment allows a person to handle guns or dangerous weapons if the person is (1) a county employee while within the scope of the employee's employment responsibilities or (2) working in a certain museum-related role.)

1 On page 3:

2

3 In line 20 after "EMPLOYMENT" insert "OR TO TRANSPORT OR OTHERWISE HANDLE A GUN OR
4 DANGEROUS WEAPON WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE EMPLOYEE'S EMPLOYMENT RESPONSIBILITIES".

5

6 In line 23, strike "AND".

7

8 At the end of line 25, before the period, insert

9 "AND

10 (9) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HANDLES AN UNLOADED GUN OR DANGEROUS WEAPON:

11 (I) WHILE ACTING AS A CURATOR, CONSERVATOR, DOCENT, OR HISTORICAL
12 REENACTOR, OR IN A SIMILAR ROLE; AND

13 (II) WHILE UNDER THE DIRECTION OR CONTROL OF, OR WITH PERMISSION FROM, THE
14 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS OR ANOTHER DEPARTMENT THAT:

15 1. OPERATES A MUSEUM; OR

16 2. CONDUCTS A PROGRAM THAT IS HISTORICAL OR EDUCATIONAL".

Kittleman signs Howard gun ban

By Amanda Yeager

MAY 12, 2015, 3:21 PM

Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman has signed a bill banning firearms in county buildings for everyone but police officers and people who have to carry guns on county business, he announced Tuesday.

The bill, passed by the council on May 4, was co-sponsored by County Council Democrats Calvin Ball, Jen Terrasa and Jon Weinstein. Council Chairwoman Mary Kay Sigaty, a Democrat, joined them to vote in favor of the bill, while Councilman Greg Fox, a Republican, voted against it.

Tuesday, Kittleman said he struggled over whether to sign the bill into law but ultimately was swayed by safety considerations.

"Keeping county employees and residents safe is one of my top priorities," Kittleman said in a statement. "Currently, there are no prohibitions against bringing weapons into county buildings and there is no question that we need to address this issue."

In March, the county executive had said he wanted to see an exception for concealed carry permit holders added to the bill -- an amendment that would have diluted its power, as open carry of firearms is illegal in Maryland.

Supporters of the ban said it would make county workplaces safer, while Fox and other opponents argued the legislation would be ineffective because county buildings do not have metal detectors installed at their entrances.

If Kittleman had vetoed the bill, he would have likely been overridden by the council's four-to-one Democratic majority.

"After serious consideration, I believe taking necessary steps to prevent individuals from bringing weapons into county office buildings outweighs my concerns over the lack of an exemption for concealed carry permits," he said Tuesday. "While I am a strong supporter of the Second Amendment and while [the bill] is not without flaws, I believe it provides necessary protections to our dedicated employees and citizens."

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Howard council passes bill banning guns in county buildings

By **Amanda Yeager**
Howard County Times

MAY 6, 2015, 12:00 PM

The Howard County Council on Monday voted to approve a bill that effectively bans concealed-carry permit holders from bringing guns into county buildings.

The bill, co-sponsored by council Democrats Calvin Ball, Jen Terrasa and Jon Weinstein, prohibits everyone but police officers and those who are permitted to carry a gun while on county business from carrying weapons into the George Howard complex in Ellicott City and on other county property.

The council approved the bill by a 4-1 vote.

Councilman Calvin Ball praised the new law as "common sense" and "a positive step for the county.

"I think that it's our responsibility to ensure as safe a gathering place as possible where the community does the community's business," Ball said, "and I am pleased that we came together and worked on a piece of legislation that will move public safety forward."

Meanwhile, Republican Councilman Greg Fox, the lone dissenter, said the gun ban made him feel "less safe."

Fox said the bill would be ineffective because the county won't be able to prevent anyone intent on committing a crime from entering a building armed.

Fox suggested exempting concealed-carry permit holders from the bill until the county could develop new safety protocols and install a metal detector at its headquarters. A later amendment removed the safety protocols and metal detector requirement; that passed but the concealed-carry exemption failed.

"Especially as you're seeing more things happen around the country with people, whether it's a gun, a knife, or something else – we haven't done anything to secure things from people who are intending to do harm. Therefore, I'm not sure how we could be safer," he said.

As of Tuesday, it remained to be seen whether County Executive Allan Kittleman would veto the bill. At a community town hall in Oakland Mills in March, Kittleman said he wanted to see an exception for concealed-carry permit holders added to the bill.

Andy Barth, a county spokesman, said Tuesday that the county executive was reviewing the bill and would make a decision "next week."

Two bills off the table

Two more controversial bills finally made it off the table Monday night.

One, initially intended to restructure the county's Office of Human Rights and Human Rights Commission when it was introduced in February, passed three months later in a significantly watered-down version.

All references to restructuring were removed from the legislation the council passed unanimously May 4. This Human Rights bill simply updated the county's charter with terminology preferred by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender groups.

The bill was tabled in March after commission members complained they had not been involved in conversations about possible changes; Kittleman and his aides insisted they had.

A resolution that had been put on hold for even longer than the human rights bill also got unanimous approval.

Legislation to reappoint land-use lawyer Bill Erskine to the Howard County Economic Development Authority's board of directors was introduced in July but tabled after a group of Howard County citizens involved in an attempt to take a handful of zoning decisions to referendum testified against Erskine, who represented developers with properties put in limbo by the referendum effort.

The referendum group especially objected to Erskine's decision to subpoena many of their members; Erskine maintained the subpoenas were critical to building his case and said the issue was separate from his tenure on the board, which is prohibited from participating in the zoning process.

Barth said Kittleman has known Erskine "for a long time, and while they may not always agree on everything, he's not concerned about Mr. Erskine serving on the economic development authority board."

Budget legislation

The council also introduced budget-related legislation Monday, and scheduled three extra voting sessions in case they aren't ready to reach a decision on the budget by May 20, the scheduled budget adoption date.

Some other proposed legislation, including requests from Kittleman for the council to approve sales of four county properties including the Columbia Flier building, was not introduced.

The council wanted to keep the focus on budget legislation this month, Council Vice Chairman Jon Weinstein said.

"We were kind of inundated with legislation with the budget coming up," Weinstein said, and didn't want the property disposal requests and other legislation to get "buried."

Barth said Kittleman still plans to file a budget amendment to show revenue from the property dispositions, which he estimated at about \$4 million in total. He "would like to see the council act on the resolutions," Barth said.

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Howard council votes to table bill banning guns in county buildings

By Amanda Yeager
Howard County Times

APRIL 7, 2015, 9:15 AM

The Howard County Council has put on hold a bill that would ban guns in county buildings.

Councilmembers voted unanimously Monday night to table the bill, which is sponsored by Democrats Calvin Ball, Jen Terrasa and Jon Weinstein and would prohibit guns in county-owned buildings. The legislation makes exceptions for active and retired police officers, as well as people who need to carry guns while on county business, such as armored vehicle guards making a delivery.

Ball said after the voting session that giving the bill some extra time creates "an opportunity to continue having a community conversation about the issues raised."

At a public hearing on March 16, supporters and opponents of the bill offered dueling arguments about the bill's merit; supporters said it would create a safer environment in county spaces, while opponents argued that people intent on committing a violent act would ignore the law.

Two amendments to the bill have been filed since it was introduced. The first, from Republican Councilman Greg Fox, would create an exemption for concealed-carry permit holders, except in buildings equipped in metal detectors, and would require the county to install a metal detector at its Ellicott City headquarters by the end of 2017. The amendment would bring Howard's practices closer with those in place at the state capitol in Annapolis, where weapons are banned and visitors must pass through metal detectors at the building's entrance.

"I was trying to put as much on the table to make sure I understood what the concerns were on the other side" instead of "kicking the can down the road," Fox said after Monday night's session.

Fox also worked with Weinstein on an amendment that would create an exception for museum curators and historic re-enactors, and would ensure that county employees who need to carry a weapon while on the job can do so.

The bill, as amended, is expected to come up for a vote at the council's next legislative session on May 4.

Human rights bill gets a second public hearing

Councilmembers decided to give another controversial bill an extension Monday night.

The original legislation, which was proposed several months ago by Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman, would have requested a report examining the Human Rights Commission's case load and considering passing the duty of adjudicating human rights cases to a hearing examiner, among other changes.

Since then, however, the bill has been stripped of its most significant changes. What remains are updates to the county code that would change the terminology used to refer to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and

6/17/2015

Howard council votes to table bill banning guns in county buildings - Baltimore Sun

people with disabilities to bring it up to date with each community's preferred laws.

Because the bill has changed quite a bit since it was originally introduced, councilmembers decided it warranted a second hearing.

The council's next public hearing is scheduled for April 20 at 7:30 p.m .

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Opponents, supporters debate Howard gun bill

By **Amanda Yeager**
Howard County Times

MARCH 17, 2015, 6:00 AM

Second amendment advocates and people urging greater gun control in Howard County turned out to a public hearing Monday night to debate a new weapons bill before the County Council.

The legislation, introduced last month, would ban everyone but police officers and people with permission to be armed on county business from carrying a gun or other weapon on Howard County property. It's sponsored by three of the council's four Democrats, Calvin Ball, Jen Terrasa and Jon Weinstein.

Before the hearing, held at the county's government headquarters in Ellicott City, Ball explained that the idea behind the bill was to bring Howard in line with norms elsewhere.

"I think we know that if we were to go to Congress... guns wouldn't be allowed; if we go to Annapolis, guns aren't allowed," Ball said. "This is the place where people do business in Howard County, and I think it was important to make sure it's as safe for us to do business as possible."

Jeffrey Underwood, a firearms expert and licensed firearms manufacturer, disagreed that banning legally concealed weapons would make county buildings more secure.

"Rules only give the criminals carte blanche," Underwood told the council. "Each jurisdiction that has banned firearms has made the occupants more vulnerable, not safer."

Opponents of the bill argued that allowing people with concealed weapons permits to carry a gun into county buildings would do more to create a safe environment on county property than banning most firearms.

"There is no such thing as gun violence, there is only people violence," said Brian Harvey, of Highland. "I'm a father of five, I coach county sports, I'm one of the good guys – I don't want to see a responsible citizen stripped" of the right to carry a concealed weapon, he added.

They also pointed to statistics, including some numbers from testimony by Jack McCauley, the former commander of the Maryland State Police's licensing division, that suggest that gun permit holders were very unlikely to be arrested on a gun violation.

Carol Loveless, a former state delegate candidate in Ellicott City's District 9B, who lost to current Del. Robert Flanagan, a Republican, in last June's primary, said she was concerned the bill had been inspired by "misconceptions about gun laws.

"This emotion of being so afraid that people who have handgun permits are going to shoot up people – it's not true," Loveless, who owns a security company, said.

But supporters of the bill came prepared with their own statistics about gun violence in the United States. The bill itself calls gun violence "one of the leading causes of death and injury to young people in the United [States]" and pointing to a death toll from gun violence that stands at "more than 30,000 people" a year, nationwide.

"We cannot dismiss threats of violence as idle talk, just another threat to prove a point," said Shari Zaret, a former Columbia Association board member who told councilmembers about an experience during her time with CA when a resident threatened board members at a public hearing.

Both supporters and opponents of the bill brought up last year's fatal shootings at the Mall in Columbia in their testimony.

While those arguing against the bill said allowing legal guns in the mall might have saved lives, Columbia resident David Marker, speaking on behalf of grassroots group Organizing for Action, questioned their logic.

"I don't believe for one minute that, at the mall, having crossfire of people trying to shoot at [shooter Darion Aguilar] would have created a safer situation," Marker said.

Instead, he argued, removing guns from the equation would lead to fewer accidents as well as escalations of conflict.

"Many of us have been at hearings such as this at the George Howard building where angry words are spoken and voices may be raised," he said. "It never occurred to me that these individuals might have a gun."

Council member Greg Fox, a Republican from Fulton, questioned how the bill would create a safer environment in county buildings when they are not equipped with metal detectors.

"Just saying you're going to ban something does not necessarily solve anything," Fox said.

In all, seven people spoke against the gun bill, and three people spoke in support.

The legislation is up for a vote April 6.

Howard councilmembers to consider weapons ban for county buildings

By Amanda Yeager
Howard County Times

MARCH 3, 2015, 11:45 AM

Three members of the Howard County Council are sponsoring a bill that would ban guns and other weapons in county buildings.

The bill, introduced at the council's legislative session Monday night, would prohibit everyone but police officers and a few other professionals from carrying weapons into the county's headquarters in Ellicott City and on other county property. Weapons are already banned in public schools.

Council members Calvin Ball, Jen Terrasa and Jon Weinstein, all Democrats, are co-sponsoring the bill.

In statements released before the bill was introduced, the three said it was intended to make county sites safer.

"I believe that county government has a responsibility to provide a safe environment both for constituents who come to conduct business with the county and for our county employees who come to work in our buildings every day," Ball said in a statement.

Terrasa called the bill, which excludes active and retired police officers, on-duty members of the military and people who are authorized to carry a gun on county business, a "common-sense measure.

"As elected officials, public safety is one of our primary concerns," she said.

While "nothing can make us completely immune to violence," Weinstein said in a statement, "this is a reasonable first step."

A public hearing on the bill, and others introduced this month, is scheduled for March 16.

Council tables Human Rights Commission reorganization

During its voting session Monday night, council members voted 4 to 1 to table a bill seeking to reorganize the county's Human Rights Commission.

The bill, proposed by County Executive Allan Kittleman, suggested shifting the commission's responsibility of hearing discrimination complaints to a hearing examiner with experience in civil rights law. But after commissioners complained that they had not had enough time to weigh in, the bill was stripped of its most significant changes.

Tuesday, the council's four Democrats said giving the bill some more consideration wouldn't hurt.

Councilman Greg Fox voted against tabling the bill. Fox, the council's lone Republican, called the decision "totally unnecessary.

"I think this is nothing more than political nonsense that is holding it up for the sake of holding it up," he said.

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Habicht, Kelli

From: Feldmark, Jessica
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 5:36 PM
To: Habicht, Kelli; Sayers, Margery
Subject: CB8-2015
Attachments: FW: Please don't be stricter than MD already is wrt Concealed Carry

For file and web...thanks!

Jessica Feldmark
Administrator
Howard County Council
410-313-3111
jfeldmark@howardcountymd.gov

Habicht, Kelli

From: Sigaty, Mary Kay
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 5:07 PM
To: Feldmark, Jessica
Subject: FW: Please don't be stricter than MD already is wrt Concealed Carry

CB 8-2015.

From: "tomkasubamd@netscape.net" <tomkasubamd@netscape.net>
Date: Saturday, March 21, 2015 at 7:43 PM
To: Calvin Ball <cball@howardcountymd.gov>, Jon Weinstein <jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov>, Jen Terrasa <jterrasa@howardcountymd.gov>, Mary Kay Sigaty <mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov>, Greg Fox <gfox@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Please don't be stricter than MD already is wrt Concealed Carry

Below is my testimony given to the MD Senate on March 12th, 2015 concerning the dangers the citizens of MD face and how conceal carry may save lives.

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has threaten to "kill intelligence officers, police officers, soldiers, and civilians." ¹ In response to this credible threat, the Pentagon's Force Protection Agency spokesman Christopher Layman's stating in a recent Military Times article that this is a "reminder for Pentagon employees to be vigilant at home, at work, during travel and in their communities, by using individual protective measures" . See reference: <http://archive.defensenews.com/article/20141029/DEFREG02/310290030/Pentagon-Warns-Employees-About-Islamic-State-Threats>

As you know, the Baltimore/DC corridor is the home for a myriad of US military installations and their supporting contractor facilities. The terrorist attacks in Paris, Sydney, Copenhagen and elsewhere have shown us the carnage just one or a mere handful of attackers can reap on defenseless victims. While some of these facilities are guarded, many are just common unsecured office buildings and the ones that are guarded are but "eggs"; hard on the outside but soft and vulnerable on the inside; and need I mention that all these citizens of Maryland have to get home safely at night; should they forgo ever attending a going away luncheon at a restaurant from now on outside their lightly protected sanctuaries?

You have it within your power to let the citizens of Maryland, the terrorist stated targets, to choose their "individual protective measures" that they see fit for their situation. Do not continue to curtail the freedom that may save people's lives. If Paris happens here, it was within your powers to have stopped it.

1. <http://www.cnn.com/2015/01/11/us/nypd-law-enforcement-isis-threat/index.html>

Now, I really think this bill is a purely political statement but such statements can endanger real people. MD Concealed Carry licenses are very rare so I can't see the need to have even brought this issue up.

Thomas J. Kasuba
2917 Rosemar Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043-3332
tomkasubamd@netscape.net
301-688-8543 (day)
March 21, 2015



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Pentagon Warns Employees About Islamic State Threats

Oct. 29, 2014 - 02:03PM | By JEFF SCHOOGOL | Comments

A A

The Pentagon's internal security agency is warning military personnel and civilians who work in the building that they could be targeted by the Islamic State group or other terrorists. (AFP)

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World News
North America

Military personnel and civilians who work in the Pentagon could be targeted by the Islamic State group or other terrorists, the building's internal security agency is warning employees in a new memo distributed late last week.

The Pentagon Force Protection Agency directed security managers to remind Pentagon employees about how they can avoid standing out to terrorists, said agency spokesman Christopher Layman.

"We disseminated this advisory, not because of a specific threat, but as a reminder for Pentagon employees to be vigilant at home, at work, during travel and in their communities, by using individual protective measures," Layman told Military Times on Wednesday.

Read the Pentagon memo

"Recent Threats and Individual Protective Measures"

However, the Oct. 24 memo comes on the heels of recent attacks in other countries, including Canada, where two soldiers were killed in separate incidents within a week.

"Recent threats, revealed through various intelligence and law enforcement sources, indicate that terrorists, directed or inspired by the Islamic States of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), view U.S. military members and law enforcement officers as legitimate targets for attacks," according to the memo, which was provided to Military Times. "Targets in recent ISIL-linked terrorist plots included places of public gatherings, government entities, mass transit nodes, and religious facilities. Attacks would most likely involve edged weapons, small arms, or improvised explosive devices, and could be perpetrated with little-or-no advanced warning. In light of these threats and recent attacks in the United Kingdom, France, and Canada, remaining vigilant is paramount."

The memo advises against posting "anything on social media opposing terrorist groups or organizations." It also calls on



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December 15, 2014

For Next Congress, Pressure Mounts for Faster Spending Bills

December 14, 2014

Pentagon employees should be careful about sharing personal information on social media, to lock down their social media accounts and change passwords regularly; and not to post anything online that affiliates them with the military or law enforcement.

Column: Preaching to the Choir

December 14, 2014

The memo reminds Pentagon employees to conceal any Defense Department, military or law enforcement badges, vehicle decals and other forms of identification while in public, to take different routes to work and to be on guard when in crowds.

"These are all things that Pentagon employees get throughout the year in different training anyway," Layman said. "So really, it's just a reminder of those things."

The Washington Times first reported about the memo on Wednesday.

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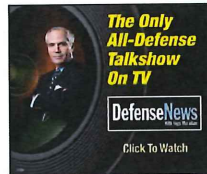
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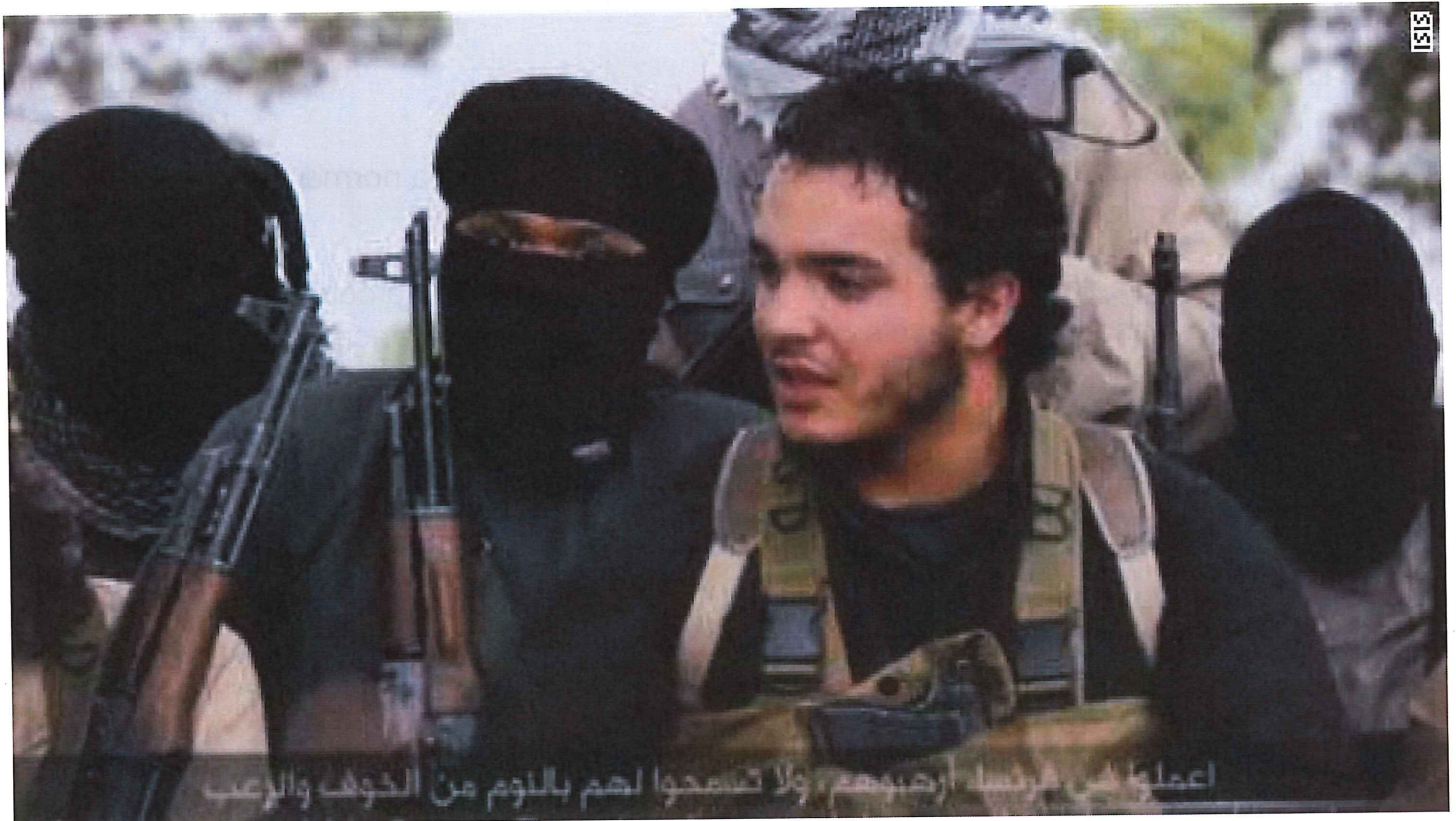


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NYPD, other law enforcement on alert after ISIS threat resurfaces

Lorenzo Ferrigno, Laurie Segall and Evan Perez, CNN

Updated 11:23 AM ET, Mon January 12, 2015.



NYPD on alert after re-released terror threat 01:28

Story highlights

(CNN)—The New York City Police Department and other law enforcement personnel responded

NYPD on high alert after threat, but the threat isn't new, NYPD official says

An ISIS spokesman is seen on video calling for followers to "rise up"

to a threat from ISIS after someone re-released a September 2014 message that tells followers to "rise up and kill intelligence officers, police officers, soldiers, and civilians."

The threat named the United States, France, Australia and Canada as targets.

In an internal memo, NYPD employees were told to "remain alert and consider tactics at all times while on patrol," especially in light of the attacks in France last week.

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The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security issued a similar bulletin to law enforcement across the country. That bulletin and the NYPD memo make it clear that this new message is consistent with previous threats that ISIS and others, including al Qaeda, have issued.

John Miller, the NYPD deputy commissioner for counterterrorism, tempered fears of a threat to officials in New York City.

"I don't think that we are under any more threat ... or any less threat than we were the day before," he said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

Miller said the department is on a "heightened security posture on a normal day compared to almost any other police department."

More than 1,000 police officers and civilian analysts are assigned to a counterterrorism mission every day, and officers have studied the recent attacks in France, he said.

France was hit with **three days of terror** after three suspects killed 17 civilians in multiple attacks last week.

Why is ISIS so successful at luring Westerners?

On Sunday, an update to an old ISIS video was released by an unidentified person or organization, adding scenes from the France terror attack. The video was not issued by **ISIS**, and the warnings in the video are taken from an earlier video released on September 14.

"They are hoping that the attacks in Paris by a group which included a self-professed ISIS follower will inspire other attacks in the West," CNN terrorism analyst Paul Cruickshank said.

Miller did say, however, that the video re-release shows that ISIS is "using the momentum from the Paris attacks in part of their messaging strategy to see: 'Who can we get to follow this?'"

ISIS spokesman Abu Mohammed al Adnani's "fatwa calling for lone-wolf attacks back in

September was a game changer," Cruickshank said. "Since then, we've seen ISIS-inspired attacks in all the Western countries he specifically mentioned: Canada, the United States, Australia and France. In October we also saw United Kingdom police break up a plot to target soldiers and police by extremists who British authorities say were deeply influenced by Adnani's fatwa," Cruickshank added.

NYPD: Hatchet attack an act of terror

The spree began in Paris on Wednesday at the offices of Charlie Hebdo, a satirical magazine, after two brothers stormed the building, killing 12 people and later escaping.

Early Thursday, a female police officer was killed after a man dressed in all black and wearing bulletproof vests shot her in a Paris suburb.

Two hostage situations unfolded Friday between law enforcement and the two sets of suspects. The first scene ended with the two brothers suspected of the magazine murders killed by security forces, said Bernard Corneille, the mayor of Othis, France.

At the same time, authorities moved into a kosher store where hostages were being held by the alleged cop killer. While 15 hostages escaped, four were killed, as was the suspect.

CNN's Kristina Sgueglia contributed to this report.

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William A. Thies
9381 State Route 99
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17 March 2015

Re: Council Bill 8-2015

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

I would like to offer my opinion regarding the flaws I believe exist in the logic of the "Whereas" statements within Council Bill 8-2015. My letter addresses the logic and presents my concerns for your consideration. Ultimately, my conclusion is that this bill is erroneous in the logic it contains and therefore attempts to resolve a perceived issue based upon false premises.

"WHEREAS gun violence is one of the leading causes of death and injury to young people in the United State and more than 30,000 people are killed by firearms each year in this country; and"

CDC 2013 US Data:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| US population | 316,500,000 |
| All poisoning deaths | 48,545 |
| All motor vehicle deaths | 33,804 |
| All firearms deaths | 33,636 (includes Police involved shootings) |
| Firearms homicide | 11,208 |

The CDC does not list unintentional injury deaths by firearms as they are statistically insignificant.
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/homicide.htm>

Every life is important. I believe that this legislation will unintentionally put more lives at risk, including the lives of the Bill's sponsors. Do not focus on statistical numbers as the first whereas statement suggests. Statistically, focus more effort on poisoning if the goal is to save more lives. Firearms homicides are statistically much less significant.

"WHEREAS, in recent years, there have been a number of tragic incidents including shootings in public buildings; and"

The following are a small sample of tragic shootings in public buildings/places with **two significant similarities**:

2012/12/14 Sandy Hook ES, Newtown, Conn. – male, 20 years old kills 20 first graders and six adults. **No armed persons present onsite.**

2012/07/20 Movie Theatre, Aurora, Co. – male, 25 years old kills 12, wounds 58. The owner of the Century 16 Multiplex, Plano, Texas-based Cinemark Holdings, does not allow anyone except law enforcement officers to carry legal firearms in their 459 theaters across the country. **No armed persons present onsite.**

2011/01/08 Supermarket, Arizona – male, 22 years old kills six, wounds 11 including Rep. Giffords. **No armed persons present onsite.**

2009/11/05 Fort Hood, Texas – male, kills 13 and wounds 32. "According to testimony from witnesses, Hasan passed up several opportunities to shoot civilians, and instead targeted soldiers in uniform, who were **not carrying personal firearms** in accordance with military policy."

<http://timelines.latimes.com/deadliest-shooting-rampages/>

<http://touch.latimes.com/#section/-1/article/p2p-50327416/>

The **two similarities** are that the shooter violated the existing firearms laws and the law-abiding citizens with carry permits obeyed the law by not having their firearm with them. I would suggest the combination of those two scenarios fatally created the opportunity for these tragedies to occur. While the horrific tragedies afore mentioned are news worthy and important events in our society, I would suggest that there are significant events that are not reported in the national news spectrum that involve citizens with firearms, both in homes

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and carrying on their person, who thwart criminal activity that could easily have become an event for the national news.

Here are some examples:

2015/02/18 Right-to-Carry permit holder stops knife-wielding aggressor in a filling station in Oklahoma. Source: KOTV, Tulsa, Okla.

2015/02/18 Pharmacist halts armed robbery in West Virginia. Source: WSAZ, MetroNews, West Virginia.

2015/02/09 Right-to-Carry permit holder stops meth-addled carjacker. Source: The Brazil Times, Brazil, Ind.

There are many more examples if you review the link below. Most important is that in each case, the defender with the firearm was acting in a legal manner, assessed the situation and acted accordingly and more importantly saved their life and the lives of others. A citizen, properly trained with a legal firearm on their person is a strong, effective deterrent. Not a threat as some would suggest.

<https://www.nra-ila.org/gun-laws/armed-citizen/>

“WHEREAS prohibiting guns in public buildings decreases the opportunity that guns will be misused and thereby protects the County employees working there and members of the general public who are doing business there; and”

The concept of guns being misused as it relates to criminal activity and those wishing to inflict harm on other, as noted in the terrible shootings that have occurred, were perpetrated by people with criminal intent. These people would not obey any law. Therefore, the logic of preventing such a tragic occurrence by creating a law is flawed logic. As previously stated, allowing law-abiding citizens with carry permits access would, in fact, provide a much more secure environment and would create deterrence for the would-be assailant.

“WHEREAS State law already prohibits guns in schools and the Criminal Law Article, Section 4-209 (b) specifically allows the County to prohibit possession of guns in other public buildings; and”

As the current debate continues as to whether or not to allow firearms in schools, even by uniformed officers, other states in the nation are considering options to allow trained school personnel to carry concealed firearms. Again, I refer to my position that a school building with children, a typically open structure and lack of sophisticated security continues to place them as a prime target for deranged criminals.

“WHEREAS it is prudent to keep guns out of public buildings unless they are carried by those who are specifically trained in their use for a legitimate public safety purpose.”

I would propose that a citizen with appropriate training who demonstrates trustworthiness and has been granted a carry permit be allowed to carry within a public building and that their presence serves a legitimate public safety purpose as stated above.

In conclusion, denying a citizen legally authorized to carry a firearm within the public domain would, by their very presence, provide the citizens and staff within a public building an added measure of safety against the possibility of an aggressive attack by a criminal element.

Sincerely,



William A. Thies
wathiesjr@yahoo.com

From: Susan Bannister [<mailto:suebirch@earthlink.net>]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:06 PM
To: Sigaty, Mary Kay
Subject: Support

I support County Council members Calvin Ball, Jenn Terrasa, and Jonathan Weinstein for introducing CB8-2015, a bill to outlaw the carrying of guns in public buildings in our county: <https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/olis/LegislationDetail.aspx?LegislationID=1159>

I support this legislation.

Susan Birch Bannister
5418 High Tor Hill
Columbia, MD 21045

William A. Thies
9381 State Route 99
Ellicott City MD 21042

17 March 2015

Re: Council Bill 8-2015

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

I would like to offer my opinion regarding the flaws I believe exist in the logic of the "Whereas" statements within Council Bill 8-2015. My letter addresses the logic and presents my concerns for your consideration. Ultimately, my conclusion is that this bill is erroneous in the logic it contains and therefore attempts to resolve a perceived issue based upon false premises.

"WHEREAS gun violence is one of the leading causes of death and injury to young people in the United State and more than 30,000 people are killed by firearms each year in this country; and"

CDC 2013 US Data:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| US population | 316,500,000 |
| All poisoning deaths | 48,545 |
| All motor vehicle deaths | 33,804 |
| All firearms deaths | 33,636 (includes Police involved shootings) |
| Firearms homicide | 11,208 |

The CDC does not list unintentional injury deaths by firearms as they are statistically insignificant.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/homicide.htm>

Every life is important. I believe that this legislation will unintentionally put more lives at risk, including the lives of the Bill's sponsors. Do not focus on statistical numbers as the first whereas statement suggests. Statistically, focus more effort on poisoning if the goal is to save more lives. Firearms homicides are statistically much less significant.

"WHEREAS, in recent years, there have been a number of tragic incidents including shootings in public buildings; and"

The following are a small sample of tragic shootings in public buildings/places with **two significant similarities**:

2012/12/14 Sandy Hook ES, Newtown, Conn. – male, 20 years old kills 20 first graders and six adults. **No armed persons present onsite.**

2012/07/20 Movie Theatre, Aurora, Co. – male, 25 years old kills 12, wounds 58. The owner of the Century 16 Multiplex, Plano, Texas-based Cinemark Holdings, does not allow anyone except law enforcement officers to carry legal firearms in their 459 theaters across the country. **No armed persons present onsite.**

2011/01/08 Supermarket, Arizona – male, 22 years old kills six, wounds 11 including Rep. Giffords. **No armed persons present onsite.**

2009/11/05 Fort Hood, Texas – male, kills 13 and wounds 32. "According to testimony from witnesses, Hasan passed up several opportunities to shoot civilians, and instead targeted soldiers in uniform, who were **not carrying personal firearms** in accordance with military policy."

<http://timelines.latimes.com/deadliest-shooting-rampages/>

<http://touch.latimes.com/#section/-1/article/p2p-50327416/>

The **two similarities** are that the shooter violated the existing firearms laws and the law-abiding citizens with carry permits obeyed the law by not having their firearm with them. I would suggest the combination of those two scenarios fatally created the opportunity for these tragedies to occur. While the horrific tragedies afore mentioned are news worthy and important events in our society, I would suggest that there are significant events that are not reported in the national news spectrum that involve citizens with firearms, both in homes

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and carrying on their person, who thwart criminal activity that could easily have become an event for the national news.

Here are some examples:

2015/02/18 Right-to-Carry permit holder stops knife-wielding aggressor in a filling station in Oklahoma.

Source: KOTV, Tulsa, Okla.

2015/02/18 Pharmacist halts armed robbery in West Virginia. Source: WSAZ, MetroNews, West Virginia.

2015/02/09 Right-to-Carry permit holder stops meth-addled carjacker. Source: The Brazil Times, Brazil, Ind.

There are many more examples if you review the link below. Most important is that in each case, the defender with the firearm was acting in a legal manner, assessed the situation and acted accordingly and more importantly saved their life and the lives of others. A citizen, properly trained with a legal firearm on their person is a strong, effective deterrent. Not a threat as some would suggest.

<https://www.nraila.org/gun-laws/armed-citizen/>

“WHEREAS prohibiting guns in public buildings decreases the opportunity that guns will be misused and thereby protects the County employees working there and members of the general public who are doing business there; and”

The concept of guns being misused as it relates to criminal activity and those wishing to inflict harm on other, as noted in the terrible shootings that have occurred, were perpetrated by people with criminal intent. These people would not obey any law. Therefore, the logic of preventing such a tragic occurrence by creating a law is flawed logic. As previously stated, allowing law-abiding citizens with carry permits access would, in fact, provide a much more secure environment and would create deterrence for the would-be assailant.

“WHEREAS State law already prohibits guns in schools and the Criminal Law Article, Section 4-209 (b) specifically allows the County to prohibit possession of guns in other public buildings; and”

As the current debate continues as to whether or not to allow firearms in schools, even by uniformed officers, other states in the nations are considering options to allow trained school personnel to carry concealed firearms. Again, I refer to my position that a school building with children, a typically open structure and lack of sophisticated security continues to place them as a prime target for deranged criminals.

“WHEREAS it is prudent to keep guns out of public buildings unless they are carried by those who are specifically trained in their use for a legitimate public safety purpose.”

I would propose that a citizen with appropriate training who demonstrates trustworthiness and has been granted a carry permit be allowed to carry within a public building and that their presence serves a legitimate public safety purpose as stated above.

In conclusion, denying a citizen legally authorized to carry a firearm within the public domain would, by their very presence, provide the citizens and staff within a public building an added measure of safety against the possibility of an aggressive attack by a criminal element.

Sincerely,



William A. Thies
wathiesjr@yahoo.com

From: Sue Geckle [<mailto:sgeckle@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:15 PM
To: Sigaty, Mary Kay
Subject: CB8-205

Dear Councilperson Sigaty,

Although I do not reside in your district I wanted to express my support for CB8-2015. I think that it is a common sense measure that should be approved.

I was disappointed when I read the article in the Sun in January (“Local government policies on guns vary”; Pamela Wood & Yvonne Wenger, The Baltimore Sun, January 24, 2015) that Howard County does not prohibit carrying guns into public buildings. I am pleased that CB8-2015 will correct this oversight.

I do not believe that guns should be permitted on county property. I feel it is a matter of public safety and that the public is safer when guns are restricted. My strong belief is that gun violence is not solved by allowing more people to carry guns outside their homes. I believe that increases the risk of more violence.

I hope that you will support this bill.

Thank you for consideration.

Suzanne (Sue) Geckle

Howard County Democratic Central Committee

12650 Emory Farm Lane

Sykesville, MD 21784

District 5

From: David Marker [<mailto:dmmarker@comcast.net>]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 4:10 PM
To: Weinstein, Jon; Ball, Calvin B; Terrasa, Jen; Sigaty, Mary Kay
Subject: Council Bill 8

Mary and I want to urge all of you to support Council Bill 8, “to prohibit the carrying of certain weapons in certain County-owned buildings.”

We strongly support such legislation and urge you to continue to find ways to limit the access to, and use of, guns. Even in the wrong-headed Supreme Court decision the only issue was a right to a gun in your home for self-defense. Even that was limited in some cases. We must reduce the chance that law abiding citizens will be in situations where they might be accidentally or purposely killed or injured by people who have guns.

David Marker

Council Chairperson Sigaty, Councilmembers Ball,
Fox, Terrasa, and Weinstein,

My name is Al Liebeskind, *My family and myself have been residents of Howard County for over 30 years.*

I am here this evening to testify in favor of Council Bill # 8 – 2015, “An Act to prohibit the carrying of certain weapons in certain County-owned buildings; renaming a certain subtitle; and generally relating to weapons controls in County buildings.”

Briefly, when the Constitution, specifically the Bill of Rights, was written 239 years ago, the United States was an agrarian nation.

Today, in 2015, we – the United States – is one of, if not the most industrialized country in the world.

There is not any reasonable or justified explanation why a person needs to bring any type of firearm or weapon into any public building: be [it] a County Office building, a courthouse, a library, a school. This also includes restaurants, movie theatres, and additional places of businesses where individuals congregate.

I ask the members of this County Council to seriously think of the safety of those who are employed by OUR County or those who choose to visit our County Buildings by supporting this legislation to prohibit the carrying of any type of weapons or firearms into any Howard County building.

Thank you.

Good evening council members.

My name is Dr. Jeff Underwood, I'm a forensic firearms expert and ballisticsian. I am a Maryland State Police Certified HQL and CCW Firearms instructor. I am the current president of the Maryland Munitions Group representing Maryland Firearms Dealers Statewide. I have been trained in firearms since the age of 6 and am certified as an expert marksman. I am also certified by the National Rifle Association as a Firearms Safety Instructor. And, I am the ONLY person in the United States lawfully licensed to carry concealed firearms in Maryland Washington DC and 47 other states.

Bill 8-2015 is both unnecessary and ill conceived. Every jurisdiction that has banned firearms and/or created phony "gun-free zones" has made the occupants or patrons MORE vulnerable NOT safer.

For the 177 years of Howard County's existence guns in public buildings has not been a problem. The Columbia Mall prohibited guns yet a sick individual FLOUTED those regulations and killed 2 people. I can guarantee you, if I {or any other} lawful concealed carry holder, trained in situational awareness and defensive firearm use - were on the scene that day the psychopath would not have been able to kill those two kids or at the very least he would have been stopped shortly after presenting his shotgun... With everyone disarmed by the bad guys - EVERYONE becomes a victim.

The governments war on banning poverty has failed, the war on banning drugs has failed and the war on banning firearms is failing – all 42 states that have SHALL ISSUE carry permits have reduced their crime rates. Maryland currently ranks as the 7th most violent state BECAUSE of its BACKWARD laws on lawful firearm possession and use.

Bill Text:

The text of this proposed law is misleading and disingenuous:

WHEREAS gun violence is one of the leading causes of death and injury to young – people in the United State and more than 30,000 people are killed by firearms each year in this 3 country

The violence is CAUSED BY THUGS, DRUG DEALERS AND FELONS using guns UPON UNARMED DEFENSELESS VICTIMS

2012 FBI stats, report 355 firearm homicides in the US 371 of those with handguns, 16,740 firearm-related suicides. {5.4/100,000} 30th place – many companies with strict gun laws have higher rates of suicide. {see below} {25,559 total, gun deaths 2012}

Defensive gun use is estimated 65,000 – 2.5 million. Even if we accept the 65,000 rate that equals 7.3 lawful defensive guns uses for every homicide, so as we can see firearms protect people FAR more than they harm. Since we CAN'T eliminate firearms we certainly should not ban their lawful use.

WHEREAS, in recent years, there have been a number of tragic incidents including shootings in public buildings {note: GUN FREE ZONE}; and COMMITTED BY PSYCHOPATHS THAT CARRIED GUNS IN TO PLACES WHERE IT WAS ALREADY ILLEGAL

WHEREAS prohibiting guns in public buildings decreases the opportunity that guns will be misused {it ACTUALLY INCREASES the chance for misuse as the assailant knows he can commit as much damages as possible before an armed resistance arrives} and thereby protects the County employees working there and members of the –general public who are doing business there; and NO IT DOES NOT, THOSE WHO WILL USE GUNS TO KILL WILL NOT ABIDE BY YOUR SIGNS

WHEREAS State law already prohibits guns in schools and the Criminal Law Article, Section 4-209 (b) specifically allows the County to prohibit possession of guns in other public buildings; and

WHEREAS it is prudent to keep guns out of public buildings unless they are carried by those who are specifically trained in their use for a legitimate public safety purpose. LAWFULLY CONCEALED CARRY PERMIT HOLDERS ARE SPECIFICALLY TRAINED TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AND OTHERS

SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (1 C) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT CARRY A GUN AS DEFINED IN § 8.400 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR A DANGEROUS WEAPON PROHIBITED BY § 4-101 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE WHILE IN A PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS ON COUNTY PROPERTY (B) EXCLUDED BUILDINGS. THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE HOWARD COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT BUILDING.

7 (C) EXEMPT PERSONNEL.

8 THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO:

9 (1) A MARSHAL, SHERIFF, CORRECTIONAL OFFICER, OR DEPUTY;

10 (2) A POLICE OFFICER OR OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EMPLOYED BY A UNIT OF THE – Yearly Qualification -- 50 rds day 50rds night no mental health requirement

11 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, A STATE GOVERNMENT OR A LOCAL SUBDIVISION OF A STATE;

12 (3) A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR OF THE NATIONAL

13 GUARD OR ORGANIZED RESERVES WHEN ON DUTY;

None of the above requires any regular mental health checks and/or extensive firearms training once sworn as an officer.

13a LAWFULLY CONCEALED CARRY PERMIT HOLDER {my addition} EVERY MD CCW TAKES THEIR RESPONSIBILITY SERIOUSLY AND SHOOTS 200 ROUNDS PER WEEK

14 (4) A SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER AS THAT TERM IS USED IN § 3-301 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY

15 ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE;

16 (5) A GUARD IN THE EMPLOY OF A BANK, SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, BUILDING AND

17 LOAN ASSOCIATION, OR EXPRESS OR ARMORED CAR AGENCY, WHILE PROVIDING A SERVICE TO OR

18 FOR THE COUNTY;

19 (6) AN EMPLOYEE OF A UNIT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT WHO IS REQUIRED TO CARRY A GUN

20 AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT;

21 (7) A QUALIFIED RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AS PROVIDED IN THE LAW

22 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SAFETY ACT IF THE RETIRED OFFICER COMPLIES WITH 18 U.S. CODE §

23 926C; AND

24 (8) A PERSON ACTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PERMIT ISSUED UNDER § 19.205 OF THE COUNTY CODE.

| Rank | Suicide per 100,000 people per year ^[2] | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------------------|----------------------|
| | Country | Male | Female | Average | Year |
| 1 |  Greenland ^{[3][4]} (more info) | 116.9 | 45.0 | 83.0 (0.0830%) | 2011 ^[5] |
| 2 |  Lithuania ^[6] (more info) | 65.1 | 12.4 | 36.7 (0.0367%) | 2013 |
| 3 |  South Korea ^[7] (more info) | 39.8 | 17.3 | 28.5 (0.0285%) | 2013 |
| 4 |  Guyana ^[8] (more info) | 39.0 | 13.4 | 26.4 (0.0264%) | 2006 |
| 5 |  Kazakhstan ^[8] (more info) | 43.0 | 9.4 | 25.6 (0.0256%) | 2008 |
| 6 |  Slovenia ^[9] | 34.6 | 9.4 | 21.8 (0.0218%) | 2011 |
| 7 |  Japan (more info) ^[10] | 29.7 | 12.2 | 20.7 (0.0207%) | 2013 |
| 8 |  Slovakia ^[11] | 17.4 | 2.8 | 9.9 (0.0099%) | 2011 |
| 9 |  Hungary ^[12] | | | 21.1 (0.0211%) | 2013 |
| 10 |  Latvia ^[citation needed] | | | 20.8 (0.0208%) | 2010 ^[13] |
| 11 |  Belarus ^{[14][15]} | | | 20.5 (0.0205%) | 2012 |
| 12 |  Ukraine ^[16] (more info) | | | 19.8 (0.0198%) | 2012 |
| 13 |  Croatia ^[17] | 30.2 | 10.0 | 19.7 (0.0197%) | 2002 |
| 14 |  Russia ^[18] (more info) | | | 18.2 (0.0182%) | 2014 |
| 15 |  Moldova | | | 17.6 (0.0176%) | 2008 |
| 16 |  Poland | | | 17.5 (0.0175%) | 2013 |
| 17 |  Sri Lanka (more info) | 34.8 | 9.24 | 21.3 (0.0213%) | 2011 ^[19] |
| 18 |  Belgium ^{[note 1][11][note 2]} | | | 17.0 (0.017%) | 2009 ^[20] |
| 19 |  Uruguay ^[21] | | | 16.5 (0.0165%) | 2012 |
| 20 |  Bhutan ^[22] (more info) | | | 16.2 (0.0162%) | 2011 |
| 21 |  Finland ^[23] | 24.6 | 7.9 | 16.0 (0.016%) | 2012 |
| 22 |  South Africa ^[24] | | | 15.4 (0.0154%) | 2005 |
| 23 |  Austria | 23.8 | 7.1 | 15.45 (0.01545%) | 2009 |
| 24 |  Taiwan ^[25] | 20.5 | 9.7 | 15.1 (0.0151%) | 2011 |
| 25 |  Estonia | 27.3 | 4.5 | 14.8 (0.0148%) | 2010 ^[13] |
| 26 |  France (more info) | 22.8 | 7.4 | 14.7 (0.0147%) | 2010 ^[13] |
| 27 |  Suriname | 23.9 | 4.8 | 14.4 (0.0144%) | 2005 |
| 28 |  Bosnia and Herzegovina ^[26] | | | 13.3 (0.0133%) | 2011 |
| 29 |  Czech Republic | | | 12.8 (0.0128%) | 2010 |
| 30 |  United States ^[27] | 20.3 | 5.4 | 12.5 (0.0125%) | 2012 |
| 31 |  Cuba | 19.0 | 5.5 | 12.3 (0.0123%) | 2008 |
| 32 |  Bulgaria | 18.8 | 6.2 | 12.3 (0.0123%) | 2008 |
| 33 |  Hong Kong ^[28] | 16.2 | 8.8 | 12.3 (0.0123%) | 2011 |
| 34 |  Germany ^[29] | | | 12.2 (0.0122%) | 2012 |
| 35 |  Sweden | 17.3 | 6.9 | 12.0 (0.0120%) | 2012 ^[30] |
| 36 |  Romania | 20.8 | 3.7 | 11.9 (0.0119%) | 2009 |
| 37 |  Norway | 14.0 | 5.0 | 11.9 (0.0119%) | 2012 |
| 38 |  United Kingdom (more info) | 18.2 | 5.1 | 11.8 (0.0118%) | 2011 ^[31] |
| 39 |  New Zealand ^[32] | 17.0 | 6.4 | 11.5 (0.0115%) | 2010 |
| 49 |  Australia ^[39] | 15.3 | 4.8 | 10.0 (0.01%) | 2011 |

Testimony Before the Howard County Council

March 16, 2015

I am happy to be here today to speak on behalf of Organizing For Action (OFA) Howard County in supporting Council Bill 8, “to prohibit the carrying of certain weapons in certain County-owned buildings.” Reducing gun violence is one of the core issues of OFA; this bill will make our community safer, and prevent dangerous issues at public events.

It is a shame that we have to consider such a bill, but the rewriting by 5 members of the U.S. Supreme Court of 100 years of settled case law has encouraged more people to own and carry guns. As a result, residents of Howard County are more likely to be in locations where some citizens have guns. This increases the dangers to our citizens in two ways, accidental discharge of firearms and escalation of angry confrontations.

According to data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in the United States 45 people are shot or killed in an accident with a gun *every day!*¹ These accidents are not because of evil intent on behalf of anyone, but they can *only* happen where people are allowed to have a gun.

Public buildings are where citizens go for services, but it is also where citizens with a grievance go to get a response from elected leaders and public servants. Sometimes the response to those grievances is not what the citizen was hoping for. These discussions can often become arguments. Many of us have been at public hearings such as this in the George Howard building where angry words have been spoken and tempers have been raised. It had never occurred to me that some of those people might be carrying guns.

¹ The Brady Campaign averaged the most recent three years of data from death certificates (2008-2010) and estimates of emergency room admissions (2009-2011) available via CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control's web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System, <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>. Data retrieved 12/28/12.

We know that on average, 32 Americans are murdered with guns *every day* and 140 are treated for a gun assault in an emergency room.² We want to make sure that those tragedies do not happen to our elected officials, public servants, or anyone else. Council Bill 8 is a modest and limited step that will make it safer to be in a public building in our County.

I urge you to support this bill and consider further actions that can be taken at the State or local level to keep all of us safe from guns and those who carry guns.

David A. Marker
7131 Willow Brook Way
Columbia, MD 21046

² Ibid.

David Markov

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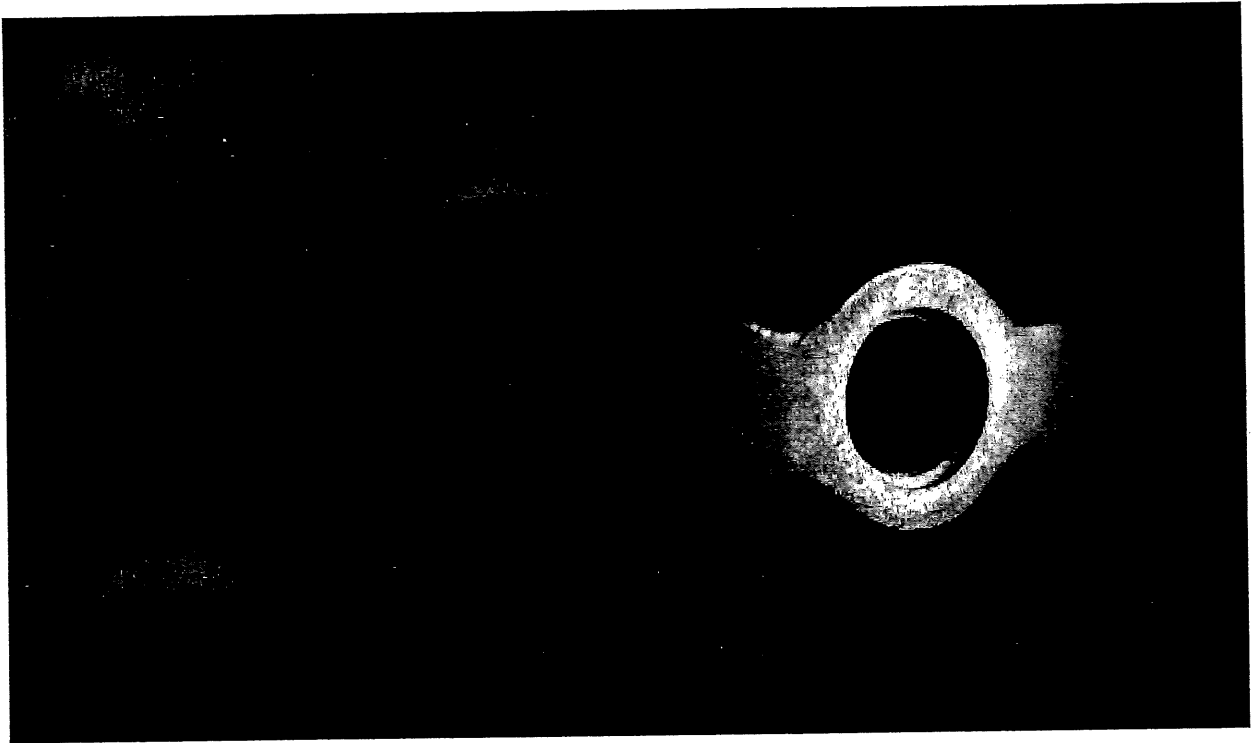
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Editor's Note:

Story by the Associated Press; curated by Jason Howerton

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans who live in a household with at least one gun is lower than it's ever been, according to a major American trend survey that finds the decline in gun ownership is paralleled by a reduction in the number of Americans who hunt.

According to the latest General Social Survey, 32 percent of Americans either own a firearm themselves or live with someone who does, which ties a record low set in 2010. That's a significant decline since the late 1970s and early 1980s, when about half of Americans told researchers there was a gun in their household.



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The General Social Survey is conducted by NORC, an independent research organization based at the University of Chicago, with money from the National Science Foundation. Because of its long-running and comprehensive set of questions about the demographics, behaviors and attitudes of the American public, it is a highly regarded source of data about social trends.

Data from the 2014 survey was released last week, and an analysis of its findings on gun ownership and attitudes toward gun permits was conducted by General Social Survey staff.

The drop in the number of Americans who own a gun or live in a household with one is probably linked to a decline in the popularity of hunting, from 32 percent who said they lived in a household with at least one hunter in 1977 to less than half that number saying so now.

That the number of households with at least one gun is declining doesn't necessarily mean that the number being purchased is on the decline. Data from the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check system shows that in recent years there's actually been an increase in the number of background checks being run, suggesting the total number of firearms being purchased is going up.

But those are concentrated in fewer hands than they were in the 1980s, the General Social Survey finds. The 2014 poll finds that 22 percent of Americans own a firearm, down from a high of 31 percent who said so in 1985.

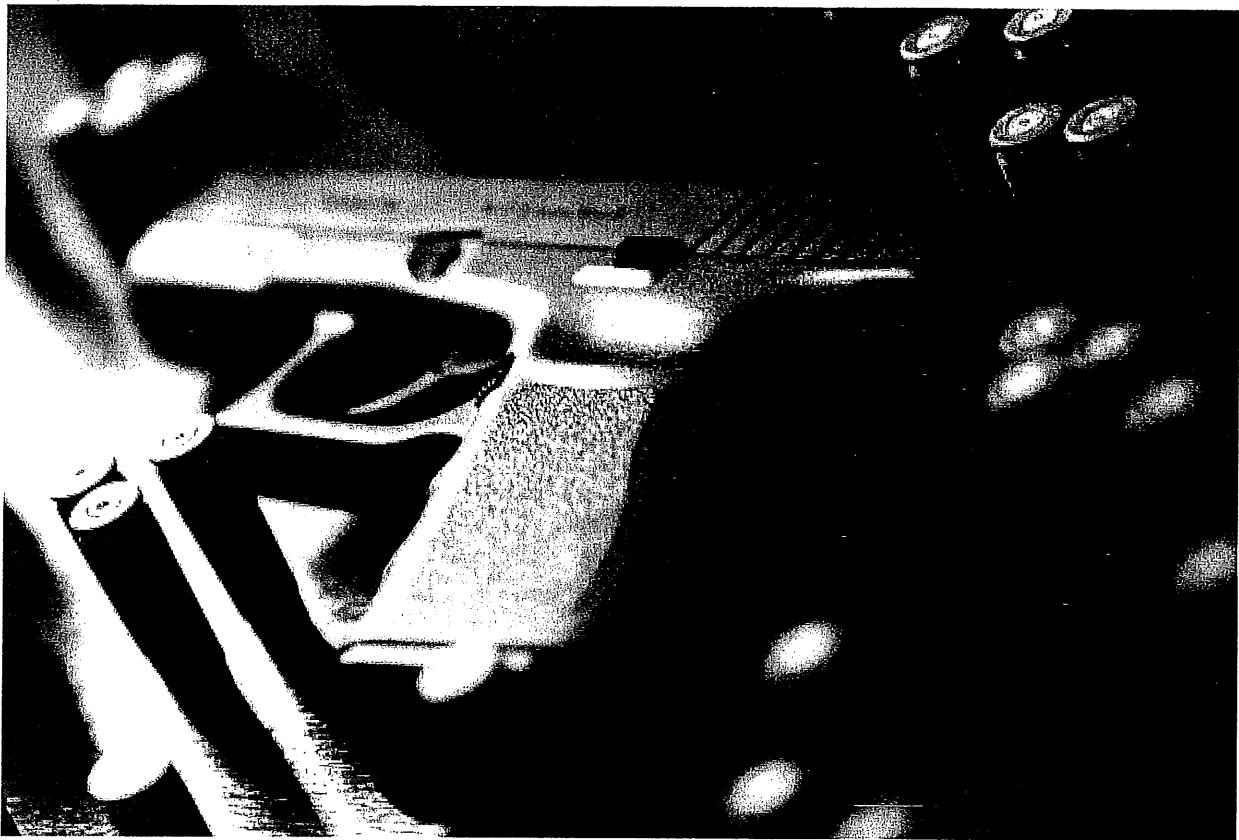
The survey also finds a shrinking gender gap in personal firearm ownership as a result of a decline in the percentage of men who own one, from 50 percent in 1980 to 35 percent in 2014.

Fewer women than men own guns, but the percentage among women has held fairly steady since 1980, with 12 percent now saying they personally own a gun.

Only 14 percent of adults under age 35, but 31 percent of those over age 65, say they personally own a gun. That gap has increased over time—in 1980, younger adults were only slightly less likely than older ones to report that they owned a gun.

The poll finds half of Republicans live in households with at least one gun, which is twice as high as ownership among Democrats or independents.

People in higher-income households are significantly more likely than those in lower-income households to own a gun, the survey finds. Gun ownership rates also vary by race, with 4 in 10 white Americans living in households with a gun compared with less than 2 in 10 blacks and Hispanics.



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Blacks and Hispanics are also more likely than whites to support requiring a permit to own a gun, although large majorities among all three groups support requiring a permit.

Support for requiring a gun permit climbed to a peak of 82 percent in the late 1990's, but has fallen since then. The 72 percent who support requiring a permit now is at its lowest level since 1987.

The General Social Survey is administered by NORC at the University of Chicago, primarily using in-person interviewing. The GSS started in 1972 and completed its 30th round in 2014. The typical sample size was 1,500 prior to 1994, but increased to 2,700-3,000 until 2008, and decreased to 2,000 for the most recent surveys. Resulting margins of error are between plus or minus 3.1 percentage points for the smaller sample sizes and plus or minus 2.2 percentage points for the larger sample sizes at the 95 percent confidence level. The 2014 survey was conducted March 31-Oct. 11, 2014, among 2,538 American adults. The GSS 1972-2014 Cumulative File was used to produce the statistics presented.

3.4K

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POPULAR STORIES ON THE BLAZE

Testimony: Howard County Council

March 16, 2015

I am Shari Zaret (10087 Hatbrim Terrace, Columbia, MD) and

I am here to testify on behalf of the Columbia Democratic Club in favor of Council Bill #8, to prohibit guns in public buildings that are on Howard County property.

While serving on the Columbia Association Board of Directors, I attended a meeting where several groups were gathered for Resident Speak-out. This is a regular part of the bi-weekly agenda, where residents can address Columbia Council representatives from all ten villages on issues that are important to them. Several residents were irritated about a particular topic, and expressed themselves directly, and at increasing volume, as they each gave testimony. This is part of the democratic system at work; but then there was a change in tone.

As the language grew more heated, some people became agitated, and one senior made his way to the rostrum, fuming about how bad things were becoming, in his opinion. Then he said, and I paraphrase: "...and next time, I'm gonna just bring my shotgun...", and quite frankly, I don't remember the rest of the threatened action.

The fact that this statement went unchallenged, but created a noticeable shift in the anger of the crowd, was chilling to me. It is patronizing to think that only young people are capable of violence, or that people will not follow through on public threats of personal injury. Although we are pledged, as a county, to practice civility in our public discourse, we cannot dismiss threats of violence as idle talk, just a way of creating drama to emphasize a point. There are simply too many guns around.

It used to be that we in Howard County felt insulated from types of violence that we associate with inner city poverty. But imagine the shock I felt, a while back, when I was visiting in New York City, and came down for breakfast at the hotel, and saw on the large-screen TV County Executive Ken Ulman and the Howard

County Chief of Police being interviewed by CNN television about the shooting that had occurred in the Columbia Mall. My reaction was so visceral, a powerful gut-wrenching sense of shock, and sorrow. Like so many of my friends and neighbors, the immediate thought was, "How could it happen HERE?".

We have witnessed gun violence in all parts of the country, and under all circumstances. It is surely better to take action now in our county, to clearly state what our boundaries and expectations are, than to wait for an incident to occur.

This legislation, Council Bill #8, states clearly and logically the proposition that prohibiting guns in public buildings decreases the chance that a gun will be misused. This is a sound and simple way to protect our workers and citizens. I ask that you cast a vote in favor of public safety, and pass this bill.

Thank you.

3/16/15

SBZ/sbz

Good evening, my name is Brian Harvey and I'm a third generation Howard County resident. I'm here tonight to ask that you do NOT approve County Council bill 8-2015.

The bill is based on five issues and I'd like to quickly address each one.

1. Gun violence is one of the leading causes of death and injury to young people. There is no such thing as gun violence, there is only people violence. Unfortunately this bill only addresses lawful concealed carry permit holders who are less than 1/3 of 1% of the population of Maryland. Law abiding citizens, especially those who have gone through the stringent vetting process of the Maryland State Police to receive their concealed carry permit, are not a risk to our community. These permit holders undergo comprehensive background checks, fingerprinting, mandatory firearms training, as well as a personal interview with a Maryland State Trooper. These are not the people committing crimes of violence in Howard County. As a matter fact, many of the concealed carry permit holders are business owners like me who create jobs and generate tax revenue for the county. To prevent these people from carrying their concealed gun into a public building on county property will do nothing to reduce or prevent injury or death. Gun related crime is primarily carried out by known criminals.

2. There have been a number of tragic incidents including shootings in public buildings. Honestly ask yourselves if a sign on the door would have prevented any of these incidents. Ironically some of the worst incidents of gun related crimes have occurred at so called "gun free" locations, including schools and movie theaters. As a matter of fact, our nation's capital is for all intents and purposes a gun free zone yet it has a higher percentage of gun related crimes than any of the 50 states.

3. Prohibiting guns in public places decreases the opportunity that guns will be misused and thereby protects county employees and the general public. I agree that it decreases that opportunity since the gun isn't there but it also decreases the opportunity that the gun will be used properly, which is in the defense of life. I'm sure you are all aware of the town council meeting last January in New Hope, Minnesota where a mentally disturbed man tried to shoot his way into the meeting. If you've seen the video, then you've watched one of the city council members draw his legally carried personal firearm, while the man shot two police officers out in the hallway. Fortunately the officers were able to stop the man but had they not; the armed Councilman was the last line of defense for the other council members.

4. State law already prohibits guns in schools and allows to the county to prohibit guns in other public buildings. My response is just because you can doesn't mean you should. You are also putting other Maryland residents who lawfully carry a concealed weapon in a dangerous situation. Those people will be forced to disarm themselves, which most likely means storing their firearm in their vehicle. Which is better for the community, to have the firearm secured on a person who has been thoroughly checked out by the Maryland State police or to have that firearm sitting in an unattended vehicle?

5. Lastly the bill says it is prudent to keep guns out of public buildings unless they are carried by those who are specifically trained in their use for a legitimate public safety purpose. Those who carry a firearm legally in Howard County have passed a very stringent training requirement and should be allowed to retain that firearm to help maintain public safety if the need ever arose.

Respectfully submitted by Brian Harvey, 7605 Greendell Lane, Highland, MD 20777.

Habicht, Kelli

From: Feldmark, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 12:26 PM
To: Sayers, Margery; Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Testimony CB8-2015
Attachments: CB8-2015.pdf; Concealed-Carry-Permit-Holders-Across-the-United-States.pdf

Jessica Feldmark
Administrator
Howard County Council
410-313-3111
ifeldmark@howardcountymd.gov

From: Mark Grutzmacher [<mailto:markgrutz@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 10:57 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Testimony CB8-2015

I am attaching my written testimony for CB8-2015. Both are in pdf format.

Thank You,
Mark Grutzmacher

Written Testimony in Regards to CB8-2015

Submitted 3/17/2015

Mark Grutzmacher
10202 Maplewood Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21042

I am writing to OPPOSE CB8-2015 as written.

The primary issue that I bring up is the the financial impact of this bill. As this bill currently reads "A PERSON MAY NOT CARRY A GUN AS DEFINED IN § 8.400 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR A DANGEROUS WEAPON PROHIBITED BY § 4-101 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE WHILE IN A PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS ON COUNTY PROPERTY." This would seem to include all buildings including administrative buildings; libraries; fire stations; senior centers, park buildings (including bathrooms); sheds; salt domes and more. Now this may seem a bit extreme to bring this up, however, on a cursory look this includes 24 major buildings that are generally accessible to the public¹. On another general cursory look, the cost for an average x-ray machine used at security checkpoints is \$16,000.00, the cost for an average magnetometer is \$4,000.00 and hand held magnetometer is \$200.00². This does not include construction costs for barricades which I can estimate at about \$3,000.00 and this is probably on the low side. Factor in additional staff (at least 2 per checkpoint) and lets assume a base salary of \$23,000.00 per year per person for a total of \$46,000.00 per checkpoint. This should come to \$71,200.00 per location for the first year and \$46,000.00 for each following year. Bringing our grand sum total to **\$1,708,900.00** for the first year and \$1,104,00.00 for each additional year (not including maintenance costs of equipment).

This does not include any other security upgrades. It would after-all not make sense to allow employees access through secondary entrances since they themselves would not be screened. Take for example the Navy Yard shooting in 2013, where the shooter was authorized to be in the building, but was not screened. Employees that were allowed to enter the building(s) without screening could easily bring firearms or other weapons into the building without detection simply because they would be "trusted" to enter any door they have card access to. Obviously this would prove to be quite the hassle to staff to come to work every day and undergo a thorough security screening when they arrive, come back from lunch, come back from meetings, etc. If this bill is only applied to the public, then all this bill would be

is a “feel good” piece of legislation. We can again take a look at the scandal surrounding the Baltimore Jail where guards (trusted employees) were sneaking phones, drugs and weapons into the prison and handing those items over to inmates. Security is only as good as the weakest link.

As you can see the financial impact of securing just the primary buildings that the public has access to on a daily basis is quite great. If you want to follow the letter of the law, then we must then include all additional buildings that the public may have access to. Does this seem extreme? Perhaps, however if someone were to bring a firearm into a public location that was not the George Howard Building (as it sounded like the intent of the law was from the hearing on 3/16) would that not open the County to litigation since the law states “...A PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS ON COUNTY PROPERTY.” Aside from the quite expensive startup and ongoing expenses for equipment, construction, staff, training and upgrades, this has the potential for millions in damages should something go wrong in the future.

My second issue is the apparent targeting of Maryland Wear and Carry Permit holders. The bill as written has several exemptions for those who may still carry firearms onto County property. These individuals already are exempted under State Law. Additionally since there is generally a prohibition on carrying firearms in the State of Maryland without a Wear and Carry Permit, individuals who do not possess a permit are already in violation of State Law. The County Code already includes a provision under §8.405 for \$1,000.00 fine or 6 months in jail. The State Law provides for 30 days to 3 years and \$250.00 to \$2,500.00 for violation of §4.203. Since the State Law already provides harsher penalties and would cause any person in violation of State Law to become a “Prohibited Person” due to the maximum of 3 year imprisonment, wouldn't it make more sense to defer to State Law. In case you were unaware of what a “Prohibited Person” is under State Law is, these individuals are prohibited from possession of ANY firearm in the State of Maryland unless the charge is expunged or pardoned. In addition some charges under State Law may cause the individual to be disqualified under Federal Law as well.

The individuals who complete the process to obtain a Maryland Wear and Carry Permit have been thoroughly vetted by the Maryland State Police and have undergone extensive training and qualification. As several folks alluded to during the hearings on 3/16/15, a study done by the Crime Prevention Research Center in 2014 concluded that over a 20 year period in Florida, of the 2.64 million permit holders only 168 were revoked for some sort of violation, equating to 0.006%. In contrast over a 2 year period in Florida, police officers were more likely to commit a firearm violation at 0.007%. I

have attached a copy of the study in full to read if you wish³.

In conclusion, this bill will not stop one single crime from happening UNLESS every publicly accessible building is equipped with thorough security screening. If your focus is preventing firearms in the George Howard Building, then frame the bill in that narrow context, otherwise this bill ONLY targets those who are already in compliance with State Law. I also realize that (like many other hearings I have attended in the past) the decision to pass this bill was made when it was written, and public comment will have no impact whatsoever, but I am hoping that in light of the change in political climate in Maryland during the last election, that perhaps you would take a moment to look at facts instead of working on feelings alone.

Thank You,

Mark Grutzmacher

1. The buildings referenced were pulled from GIS data from <https://data.howardcountymd.gov/> and include the following addresses:
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, 3430 Courthouse Drive, 9250 Bendix Road, 10910 Clarksville Pike, 8930 Stanford Blvd, 7120 Oakland Mills Road, 6692 Cedar Lane, 9900 Columbia 100 Pkwy, 2350 Route 97, 9421 Frederick Road, 3725 Park Ave, 6544 Washington Blvd, 10375 Little Patuxent Pkwy, 6600 Cradlerock Way, 9525 Durness Ln, 3300 Milltowne Dr, 9401 Frederick Road, 2400 Route 97, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way, 6150 Foreland Garth, 6540 Washington Blvd, 6600 Cradlerock Way, 7080 Cradlerock Way, 9411 Whiskey Bottom Rd.
2. Quick price lookup from <http://www.americansecurity.net/> for all three devices.
3. <http://crimepreventionresearchcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Concealed-Carry-Permit-Holders-Across-the-United-States.pdf>

Report from the Crime Prevention Research Center

Concealed Carry Permit Holders Across the United States

July 9, 2014

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Summary

The last comprehensive report on the number of concealed carry permit holders was completed three years ago by the U.S. Government Accountability Office and showed that 8 million Americans held a concealed carry permit.

CPRC collected the most recent data available for each state and the results showed that there are total of 11,113,013 Americans who currently hold concealed carry permits representing 4.8 percent of the total population.

The number of concealed carry permit holders is likely much higher than 11.1 million because numbers are not available for all states that issue permits, such as New York. Additionally, five states and the majority of Montana do not require that residents have a concealed handgun permit to carry within the state so the number of residents who carry a concealed weapon is not recorded.

The percent of the adult population with concealed handgun permits is determined by how difficult it is to get the permits, how long the permits have been available, and whether the government has discretion over who gets the permit.

The report also examines the violent crime rate in relation to the rising percentage of the adult population with concealed carry permits. Between 2007 and the preliminary estimates for 2013, murder rates have fallen from 5.6 to 4.4 per 100,000 – a 22 percent drop in the murder rate at the same time that the percentage of the adult population with permits soared by 130 percent. Overall violent crime also fell by 22 percent over that period of time

Background

Over the years, more and more states have adopted laws to allow individuals to obtain concealed carry permits. Illinois was the last state to do so, with the first permits began being issued earlier this year, in March 2014. Today all states permit concealed carry.

The rules vary greatly from state to state, and in many states it's still difficult to obtain a permit. It's easy in South Dakota, where the fee to obtain the four-year permit is only \$10 and there is no training requirement. In Pennsylvania, the permit only costs \$19 for five years and there is no training requirement. By contrast, Illinois costs \$150 fee and requires 16 hours of training. With training and range time in Illinois costing around \$450 to \$500, total dollar costs of getting a permit are over \$600. Not surprisingly, concealed carry is much more popular in states where permits are relatively inexpensive and easier to obtain.

This report will focus on the growth of concealed carry. Obviously, the main focus from a crime prevention point of view should be whether people actually do carry guns, not whether theoretically they could be allowed to do so after a long and difficult application process.

Perhaps needless to say, the number of permits issued has grown faster than the number of states that allow concealed carry. This is because in each state, as the law has allowed for concealed carry, more and more people have gradually applied and received permits. So, in other words, concealed carry has grown overall due to *both* more states allowing it and more and more people in each state getting permits.

Initially the increase in permits was relatively slow, growing from roughly about 2.7 million permit holders in 1999 to 4.6 million eight years later in 2007. But the number of concealed handgun permits has exploded during the Obama presidency. For December 2011, the federal Government Accountability Office estimated that there were at least 8 million concealed handgun permits. By the June 2014, it had grown to well over 11.1 million.

To put this in perspective, during the eight years from 1999 to 2007, the number of permits increased by about 240,000 per year. During the next four years that figure surged to 844,000 net new permits per year. And from the end of 2011 to 2014 the yearly increase had soared to 1,390,000 net new permits per year.

The rapid increase in concealed carry permits is mirrored by the rapid increase in gun sales. NICS background checks soared from 11.2 to 21.1 million between 2007 and 2013. The sale of guns accelerated further over the last two years -- averaging 14 million during 2008 to 2011 and over 20 million during 2012 and 2013.

Alas, permit data is somewhat sketchy and many states do not keep data on past permit rates. Some states publish their data on their state websites, but most states require researchers to contact every state each year. To make matters worse, for some states, the data is only available at the county level and each county has to be contacted separately.

The total number of permit holders presented in our report somewhat underestimate the true number of people who can legally carry concealed handguns. There are three reasons for this.

- 1) Permits are not required to carry a concealed handgun in five states and 99.4 percent of Montana. Generally, people only obtain permits in those states so that they can carry concealed when travelling outside of their home states. With no requirements, these states undoubtedly would be the states where people legally carry concealed guns the most frequently.
- 2) Data is not readily available for all states. For example, New Hampshire only collects data for permits issued to non-residents.
- 3) For some states the data is one or two years old and this misses the huge recent growth we have seen in the number of permits.

Number of Permits Issued

Overall, the percent of adults with permits is easily explained by how difficult it is to get permits, how many years permits have been available, and whether government officials have discretion in issuing permits.¹ Among our findings:

- Each \$10 increase in fees reduces the percent of adults with permits by about a half a percentage point.
- Each 10 years that the permit law is in effect increases the percent of adults with permits by 1.5 percentage points.
- Giving government officials discretion in who gets permits, reduces the percent of adults with get permits by more than two-thirds.

How law-abiding are permit holders?

One extremely easy fact to get information on is how law-abiding permit holders are. Much of the existing public discussion on crimes committed by permit holders in the media involves a report by the Violence Policy Center. Unfortunately, that report contains many inaccuracies as it often double or triple counts cases that shouldn't even be counted as crimes or problems with guns to begin with.²

Consider the two large states at the front of the current debate, Florida and Texas: Both states provide easy web access to detailed records of permit holders. During over two decades, from October 1, 1987 to May 31, 2014, Florida has issued permits to more than 2.64 million people, with the average person holding a permit for more than a decade.³ Few -- 168 (about 0.006%) -- have had their permits revoked for any type of firearms related violation, the most common being accidentally carrying a concealed handgun into a gun-free zone such as a school or an airport, not threats or acts of violence. It is an annual rate of 0.0002 percent.

The already low revocation rate has been declining over time. Over the last 77 months from January 2008 through May 2014, just 4 permits have been revoked for firearms-related violations. With an average of about 875,000 active permit holders per year during those years, the annual revocation rate for firearms related violations is 0.00007 percent -- 7 one hundred thousandths of one percentage point.

For all revocations, the annual rate in Florida is 0.012 percent.

The numbers are similarly low in Texas. In 2012, the latest year that crime data are available, there were 584,850 active license holders.⁴ Out of these, 120 were convicted of either a misdemeanor or a felony, a rate of 0.021 percent, with only a few of these crimes involving a gun.⁵

The Florida numbers can easily be compared to data on firearms violations by police officers during the three years from January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2007.⁶ During that time period, the annual rate of such violations by police was at least 0.007 percent. That is higher than the rate for permit holders in Florida.

The police data on total annual offenses also provide a direct comparison for Florida and Texas. The rate of all crimes committed by police is 0.124 percent – a number about 6 times higher than the rate for in Texas and about 10 times higher than for Florida.

Deterrence

Thus, deterrence isn't just a matter of whether states have adopted right-to-carry laws. It very much depends on the percentage of the population with permits. The large majority of peer-reviewed academic research by economists and criminologists concludes that permitted concealed handguns reduce violent crime. The debate is between those who claim that concealed handgun permits reduce crime and those who say it has no effect (for a survey see Lott, "What a balancing test will show for right-to-carry laws," *University of Maryland Law Review* (2012): 1205-1218).

Nonetheless, the research focuses on what states allows right-to-carry, not the number of permits. Only peer-reviewed studies by John Lott in the second and third editions of *More Guns, Less Crime* (University of Chicago Press, 2000 and 2010) use the number of permits to measure the impact concealed carry laws have on crime rates. The third edition of his book examined crime data from 1977 to 2005.

The six states that allow people to carry concealed handguns without a permit have much lower murder and violent crime rates than the six states with the lowest permit rates. Indeed, the murder rate is 23 percent lower in the states without permits. The violent crime rate is 12 percent lower. The murder and violent crime rates are also lower in the 25 states with the highest permit rates compared to the rest of the US.

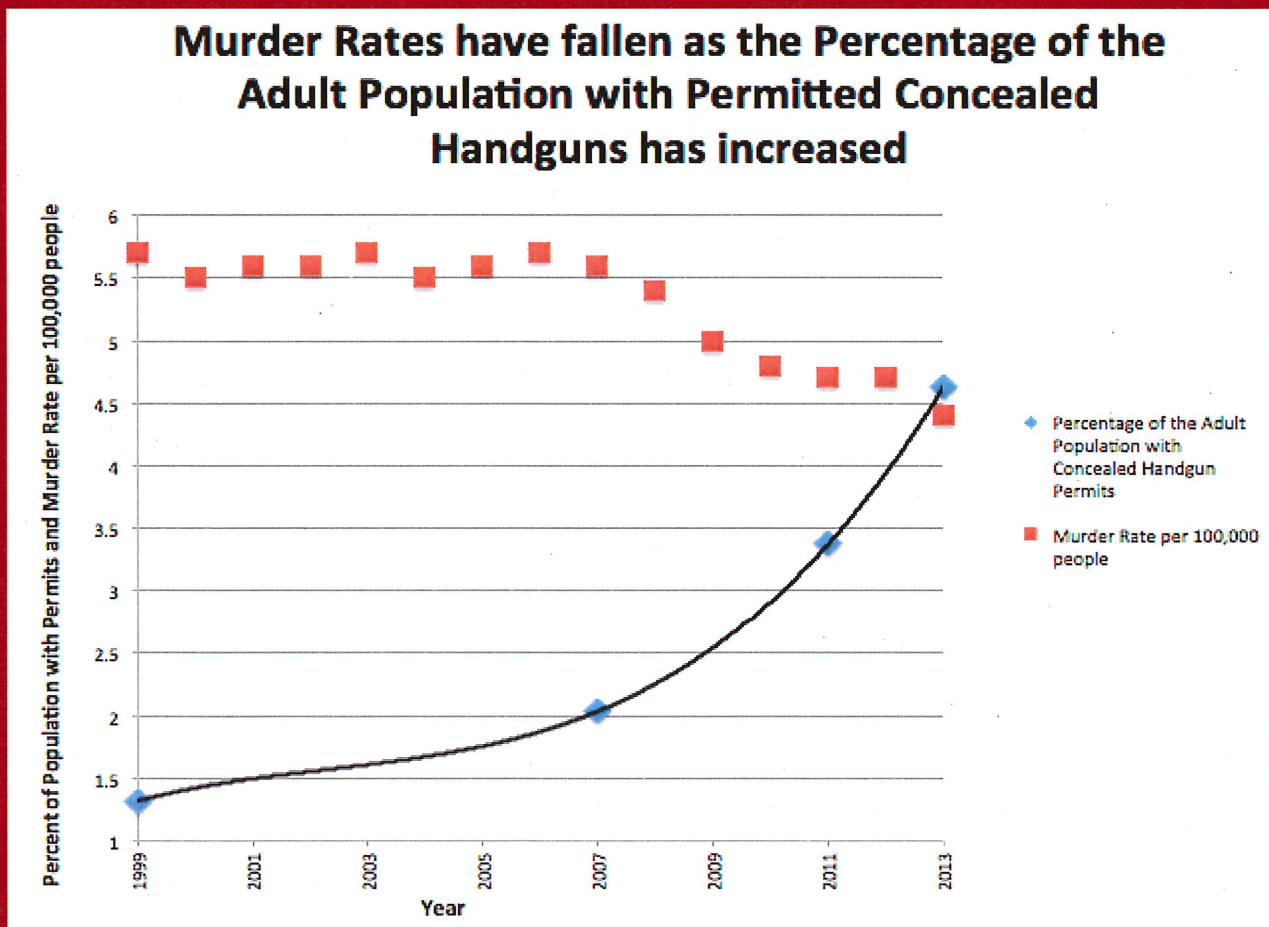
However, this is a much too simplistic of an approach. Despite their common use, simple cross-sectional comparisons can be very misleading. There are many factors that vary across places that explain differences in crime rates.

Unfortunately, it is often too difficult to account for them. A much better approach is to study how crime rates vary before and after changes in permit rules have occurred.

The current analysis doesn't provide the sophisticated estimates provided with earlier analyses simply because the necessary data won't be available for a couple years. Thus, it should only be viewed as suggestive.

Between 2007 and the preliminary estimates for 2013, murder rates have fallen from 5.6 to 4.4 per 100,000 – a 22 percent drop in the murder rate at the same time that the percentage of the adult population with permits soared by 130 percent. Overall violent crime also fell by the same percentage, 22 percent, over that period of time.

Using this new state level permit data from 2007 on, our analysis suggests that each one percentage point increase in the percent of the adult population holding permits is roughly associated with a 1.4 percent drop in the murder rate.⁷



Number of Concealed Carry Permit Holders by State

| State | Active Permits | Data Updated |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Alabama | 379,917 | 7/12 |
| Alaska† | 8,000 | 5/14 |
| Arizona† | 222,191 | 6/14 |
| Arkansas† | 165,248 | 3/14 |
| California | 35,000 | 9/11 |
| Colorado | 170,636 | 12/13 |
| Connecticut | 203,989 | 2/14 |
| Delaware | 5,000 | 9/11 |
| Florida | 1,278,246 | 12/13 |
| Georgia | 600,000 | 9/11 |
| Hawaii | 183 | 1/10 |
| Idaho | 85,535 | 12/12 |
| Illinois | 33,631 | 1/14 |
| Indiana | 537,964 | 12/13 |
| Iowa | 201,901 | 12/13 |
| Kansas | 75,099 | 12/13 |
| Kentucky | 203,266 | 12/12 |
| Louisiana | 136,505 | 12/13 |
| Maine | 33,000 | 12/13 |
| Maryland | 14,298 | 04/14 |
| Massachusetts | 251,000 | 07/12 |
| Michigan | 430,095 | 03/14 |
| Minnesota | 163,758 | 02/14 |
| Mississippi | 63,900 | 12/11 |
| Missouri | 171,000 | 2/13 |
| Montana †† | 38,616 | 2/14 |
| Nebraska | 30,505 | 12/2013 |
| Nevada | 80,892 | 2/14 |
| New Hampshire ^o | 10,133 | 12/13 |
| New Jersey | 1,212 | '12-'13 |
| New Mexico | 37,579 | 1/14 |
| New York‡ | | |
| NYC | 5,700 | 12/10 |
| North Carolina | 570,464 | 05/14 |
| North Dakota | 30,997 | 2/14 |
| Ohio | 391,816 | 9/13 |
| Oklahoma | 191,263 | 3/14 |
| Oregon | 194,162 | 7/13 |
| Pennsylvania | 872,277 | 12/12 |
| Rhode Island | 3,280 | 2/14 |

Florida is the state that has issued the most concealed carry permits at 1.28 million

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-------|
| South Carolina | 229,456 | 12/13 |
| South Dakota | 76,600 | 5/14 |
| Tennessee | 468,079 | 5/14 |
| Texas | 708,048 | 12/13 |
| Utah* | 550,663 | 3/14 |
| Vermont† | | |
| Virginia | 363,274 | 5/14 |
| Washington | 456,270 | 5/14 |
| West Virginia | 92,000 | 12/11 |
| Wisconsin | 212,848 | 2/14 |
| Wyoming† | 27,517 | 2/14 |
| TOTAL | 11,113,013 | |

† States where permits not required to carry within the state. Permits only obtained to carry outside of state.

†† Permits not required to carry in 99.4 percent of Montana. For those people, the only reason that they would obtain a permit is to carry in other states.

* Only Utah's permits issued to residents are included here.

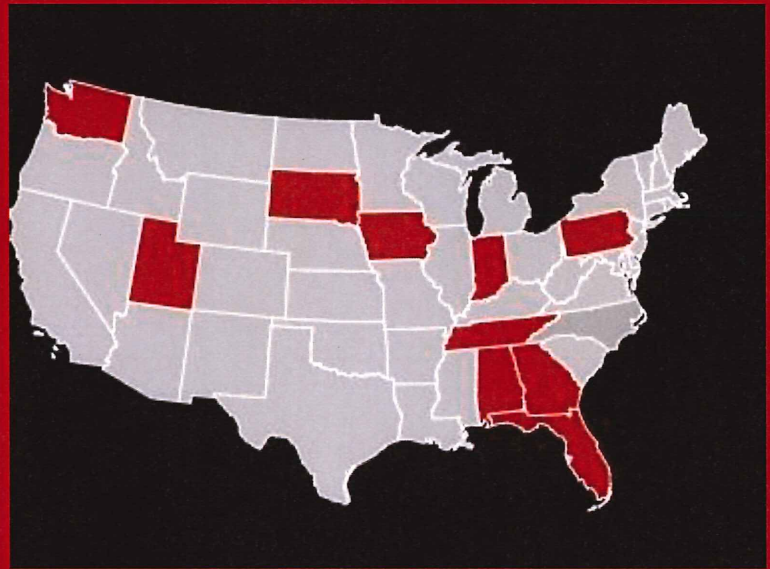
º New Hampshire's permit numbers only include out-of-state permits.

¥ Data are not available for New York State.

Percent of adult population with permits by state

| State | % of Population with cc permit |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| South Dakota | 12.03% |
| Indiana | 10.79% |
| Alabama | 10.21% |
| Utah†† | 9.75% |
| Tennessee | 9.35% |
| Pennsylvania | 8.67% |
| Iowa | 8.53% |
| Washington | 8.49% |
| Florida ^a | 8.23% |
| Georgia | 8.00% |
| North Carolina | 7.54% |
| Arkansas† | 7.35% |
| Connecticut | 7.26% |
| Idaho | 7.22% |
| Oklahoma | 6.59% |
| Oregon | 6.32% |
| West Virginia | 6.25% |
| South Carolina | 6.21% |
| Wyoming* | 6.18% |
| Kentucky | 6.01% |
| Virginia | 5.68% |
| Michigan | 5.62% |
| North Dakota | 5.53% |
| Montana† | 4.88% |
| Wisconsin | 4.80% |
| Massachusetts | 4.74% |
| Arizona* | 4.44% |
| Ohio | 4.39% |
| Colorado | 4.23% |
| Maine | 4.12% |
| Minnesota | 3.95% |
| Louisiana | 3.89% |
| Nevada | 3.80% |
| Missouri | 3.68% |
| Texas | 3.65% |
| Kansas | 3.46% |
| Mississippi | 2.84% |
| New Mexico | 2.38% |
| Nebraska | 2.17% |

8% or more of the population in 10 states hold concealed carry permits (see figure).



| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Alaska* | 1.46% |
| New Hampshire | 0.96% |
| Delaware | 0.69% |
| Rhode Island | 0.39% |
| Illinois | 0.34% |
| Maryland | 0.31% |
| California | 0.12% |
| NYC | 0.09% |
| New Jersey | 0.02% |
| Hawaii | 0.02% |
| New York | . |
| Vermont* | . |

*States where permits not required to carry within the state. Permits only obtained to carry outside of state. These numbers will dramatically underestimate the true rate that guns are legally carried concealed in these states.

† Permits not required to carry in 99.4 percent of Montana. For those people, the only reason that they would obtain a permit is to carry in other states.

†† Only Utah's permits to residents are included here.

‡ Florida's number includes a significant number of out of state residents.

Notes

*Alexander Gallo, Chengyu Huang, and Sherwin Lott provided valuable research assistance in producing this report.

1. To calculate what influences whether people get permits, we ran a simple regression on the right-to-carry and may issue states, excluding the six states that do not require that people have to have permits to legally carry a concealed handgun. The absolute t-statistics are shown in parentheses.

Percent of adult population with permits = 0.00148 (1.61) years that the right-to-carry law has been in effect + 0.0229 (0.84) whether the right-to-carry law was in effect before 1977 - 0.044 (1.87) May Issue law with discretion on who gets a permit - 0.00051 (2.71) Fees for getting permit - 0.00035 (0.17) Hours of training required to get permit + 0.085 (3.21) Constant

| | Average |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|
| Years Right-to-Carry Law in effect by 2014 | 11.14 |
| Fee | \$66.99 |
| Hours | 5.57 |

2. "Massive errors in the Violence Policy Center's 'Concealed Carry Killers'," Crime Prevention Research Center, July 6, 2014 (<http://crimepreventionresearchcenter.org/2014/04/massive-errors-in-the-violence-policy-centers-concealed-carry-killers/>). See also John Lott, "Bogus Gun-Control Numbers," National Review Online (<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/376745/bogus-gun-control-numbers-john-r-lott-jr>).

3. http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/7499/118851/cw_monthly.pdf
[http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/7471/118627/Number of Licensees By Type.pdf](http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/7471/118627/Number_of_Licensees_By_Type.pdf)

4. <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/rsd/chl/reports/ActLicAndInstr/ActiveLicandInstr2012.pdf>

5. <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/RSD/CHL/Reports/ConvictionRatesReport2012.pdf>

6. This is surely an underestimate of the true rate of crime by police because it is derived solely from news reports and not all crimes by police will get media attention. Stinson, Liederbach and Freiburger, "Exit Strategy: An Exploration of Late-Stage Police Crime," Police Quarterly, December 2010 13: 413-435 (<http://pqx.sagepub.com/content/13/4/413.full.pdf>). The number of full-time law enforcement employees in 2006 is available here (http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2006/data/table_70.html).

7. To estimate this we ran a couple simple regressions on the murder rate on the percentage of adult population with permits as well as with and without state and year fixed effects. There is a lot of noise in these estimates both because the permit numbers come from many different years as well as the estimated number of murders in 2013. These estimates have a great deal of measurement error and should only be taken as suggestive. That said, the simplest estimate regressing the murder rate on the percentage of the adult population with permits produces a coefficient and absolute t-statistics of -12.68 (1.66). With fixed effects, the estimate was 6.8 (0.82).

Data Sources for Number of Concealed Handgun Permits

| State | Data Source |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alabama | http://blog.al.com/breaking/2012/10/armed_in_alabama_permits_show.html Using these counties to estimate a state rate |
| Alaska* | Department of Public Safety, Permits & Licensing |
| Arizona* | http://www.azdps.gov/Services/Concealed_Weapons/Statistics/ |
| Arkansas | AR State Police email |
| California | http://www.gao.gov/assets/600/592552.pdf |
| Colorado | Bureau of Justice statistics annual reports. |
| Connecticut | email reply from DESPP, 3rd party email (Sgt Kraus) says 168,000 as of 3/2011 |
| Delaware | http://www.gao.gov/assets/600/592552.pdf |
| Florida | http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/7499/118851/cw_monthly.pdf |
| Georgia | http://www.gao.gov/assets/600/592552.pdf Hard to find any data or contacts |
| Hawaii | GAO says zero permits. Legally Armed says 183 security guards in 2010. http://www.hawaiireporter.com/hawaii-firearms-registrations-reach-record-high-after-70-percent-jump/123 |
| Idaho | http://www.gao.gov/assets/600/592552.pdf . State AG office replied to email saying there are no centralized statistics. |
| Illinois | http://www.suntimes.com/25287211-761/police-object-to-very-few-concealed-carry-applications.html |
| Indiana | State Police Quarterly publication http://www.in.gov/isp/images/4th_Quarter_2013_Handgun_Report.pdf . GAO reported 406,000 as of 12/31/2011 |
| Iowa | DPS email 4/8/2014 |
| Kansas | http://ag.ks.gov/search-results-detail/2014/01/06/ag-schmidt-record-number-of-concealed-carry-applications-received-in-2013 |
| Kentucky | sum of Issued & Renewal numbers for 5 years, reports at http://www.kentuckystatepolice.org/conceal.htm |
| Louisiana | Legally armed. |
| Maine | 3x the # of permits issued in 2013. http://www.maine.gov/dps/msp/licenses/weapons_permits.html . Verified by Maine State Police via email. Permits last for four years so that this is a conservative estimate. |
| Maryland | Email from MSP. |
| Massachusetts | http://www.usacarry.com/massachusetts_concealed_carry_permit_information.html , http://www.handgunlaw.us/states/massachusetts.pdf |
| Michigan | http://www.michigan.gov/msp/0,4643,7-123-1591_3503_4654-77621--,00.html |
| Minnesota | http://madfi.org/permitcount.asp |
| Mississippi | GAO. |
| Missouri | Vince Winkeler, Missouri Carry LLC |
| Montana † | Montana Department of Justice / Division of criminal investigation, Bryan Lockerby, Division Administration, |
| Nebraska | Nebraska State Patrol / Criminal investigation division, nsp.webmaster@nebraska.gov |
| Nevada | http://www.nvrepository.state.nv.us/ccw_stats.shtml |
| New Hampshire | New Hampshire department of safety/ Division of State Police /Permits and Licensing Unit, Linda Denoncourt, Program Assistant II, PermitsandLicensing@dos.nh.gov |
| New Jersey | New Jersey State Police/ Firearm investigation office, Glenn Ross #5092, Assistant Unit Head, lpp5092@gw.njsp.org |
| New Mexico | http://www.dps.state.nm.us/index.php/nm-concealed-carry/concealed-handgun-carry-statistics/ |
| New York NYC | Gawker FOIA release of NYPD licensees. 114 pages of carry licenses with 50 names each = 5,700. http://gawker.com/5974190/here-is-a-list-of-all-the-assholes-who-own-guns-in-new-york-city |
| North Carolina | NC Attorney General, email from public information officer |
| North Dakota | http://www.ag.nd.gov/BCI/CW/CW.htm and http://www.ag.nd.gov/BCI/CW/GeneralInfo/CWLIssuedCounty.pdf |
| Ohio | http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Files/Publications/Publications-for-Law-Enforcement/Concealed-Carry-Publications/Concealed-Carry-Annual-Reports |
| Oklahoma | http://www.ok.gov/osbi/ and http://www.ok.gov/osbi/documents/2012%20SDA%20Annual%20Report%20Final.pdf |
| Oregon | Email, and http://www.oregonlive.com/clackamascounty/index.ssf/2013/10/revised_figures_show_1_in_16_o.html |
| Pennsylvania | http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=4451&&PageID=462425&mode=2 |
| Rhode Island | Email and http://www.riag.ri.gov/bci/permits.php |
| South Carolina | http://www.sled.sc.gov/CWPStats.aspx?MenuID=CWP |
| South Dakota | email from SD Sec of State |

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|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tennessee | http://www.tn.gov/safety/stats/DL_Handgun/handgun.shtml |
| Texas | http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/rsd/chl/reports/ActLicAndInstr/ActiveLicandInstr2013.pdf |
| Utah†† | http://publicsafety.utah.gov/bci/documents/2014Q1.pdf |
| Vermont* | |
| Virginia | email from State Police |
| Washington | email from WA Licensing |
| West Virginia | http://www.gao.gov/assets/600/592552.pdf |
| Wisconsin | Wisconsin Department of Justice, Dana Brueck, Communications Officer, brueckdl@doj.state.wi.us |
| Wyoming* | http://wyomingdci.wyo.gov/dci-criminal-justice-information-systems-section/concealed-firearms-permits |

CPRC Academic Advisory Board

Chair of the Board:

William M. Landes is the Clifton R. Musser Professor Emeritus of Law and Economics, and Senior Lecturer at the University of Chicago Law School. Mr. Landes has written widely on the application of economics and quantitative methods to law and legal institutions, including multiple victim public shootings, hijacking of airplanes, and the bail system. Landes has been an editor of the *Journal of Law and Economics* (1975–1991) and the *Journal of Legal Studies* (1991–2000), is past president of the American Law and Economics Association, and is a member of the American Economic Association, the Mont Pelerin Society, and the Council of Economic Advisers of the American Enterprise Institute. He is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Members

J. Scott Armstrong is a professor at the Wharton Business School of the University of Pennsylvania. He is internationally known for his pioneering work on forecasting methods. Most recently, his research activities have involved forecasting for terrorism and conflicts. He is author of *Long-Range Forecasting*, the most frequently cited book on forecasting methods. He is a co-founder of the *Journal of Forecasting*, the *International Journal of Forecasting*, the *International Symposium on Forecasting*, and forecastingprinciples.com. He is a co-developer of new methods including rule-based forecasting, causal forces for extrapolation, simulated interaction, structured analogies, and the “index method.” In addition to forecasting, Professor Armstrong has published papers on survey research, educational methods, applied statistics, social responsibility, strategic planning, and scientific peer review.

Arthur Z. Berg, M.D. is a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and former member of the APA Violence Task Force. He was founding Psychiatrist-in-Chief at Beverly Hospital (emeritus) and former Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. A recent article that Dr. Berg had in the *Wall Street Journal* on multiple victim public shootings is available [here](#).

Tim Groseclose is the Marvin Hoffenberg Professor of American Politics at UCLA. He holds appointments in the political science and economics departments at the university. In 1987, he received his B.S. in Mathematical Sciences from Stanford University. In 1992, he received his PhD from Stanford’s Graduate School of Business. He is the author of over two dozen scholarly articles as well as the book **Left Turn: How Liberal Media Bias Distorts the American Mind**. Given the extensive media bias on guns, Professor Groseclose’s expertise on identifying media bias will be important. He contributes to the blog, www.Ricochet.com, and is an active tweeter at @Tim_Groseclose (https://twitter.com/Tim_Groseclose). You can learn more about him and his writings at www.timgroseclose.com.

Jonathan M. Karpoff is the Washington Mutual Endowed Chair in Innovation Professor of Finance at the University of Washington Foster School of Business. Karpoff has published pathbreaking research on the topics of corporate crime and punishment as well as corporate governance. He is the associate editor for the *Journal of Finance*, *Journal of Financial Economics*, *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, *Management Science*, *Managerial and Decision Sciences*, and *The North American Journal of Economics and Finance*. He has received a long list of academic awards.

Joyce Lee Malcolm is the Patrick Henry Professor of Constitutional Law and the Second Amendment at George Mason University Law School. She has a Ph.D. in history and is internationally known for her books **Guns and Violence: The English Experience**, Harvard University Press (November 24, 2004), and

To Keep and Bear Arms: The Origins of an Anglo-American Right, Harvard University Press (March 2, 1996). **Guns and Violence** provides a comprehensive history and examination of changes in murder rates in England from the middle ages to the current day. She is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and she has held positions at Princeton University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Cambridge University. Malcolm also served as the Director, Division of Research Programs for the National Endowment for the Humanities during 2005-2006.

Scott E. Masten is Professor of Business Economics and Public Policy in the University of Michigan Stephen M. Ross School of Business, where he has been a faculty member since 1984. A leading scholar in the area of transaction cost economics, Professor Masten's research focuses on issues at the intersection of law, economics, and organization. In addition to his primary appointment, he has held appointments as the Louis and Myrtle Moskowitz Research Professor in Business and Law at Michigan, John M. Olin Faculty Research Fellow at Yale Law School, John M. Olin Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law at the University of Virginia Law School, and Visiting Professor in the University of Michigan Law School. He was President of the International Society for New Institutional Economics in 2008-09, is a co-editor of the *Journal of Economics & Management Strategy*, and serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Law, Economics & Organization* and *Managerial and Decision Economics*.

Carl Moody, Professor of Economics, William & Mary. Professor Moody has published extensively on the relationships between guns, crime and imprisonment in such academic journals as *Criminology*, *Homicide Studies*, the *Journal of Law and Economics*, the *Journal of Legal Studies*, and the *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*. He teaches mathematical economics and econometrics.

J. Mark Ramseyer is the Mitsubishi Professor of Japanese Legal Studies at Harvard University Law School. Prior to coming to Harvard, Mark held tenured positions at the University of Chicago and UCLA and visiting positions at such places as the University of Tokyo, University of Virginia, Tel Aviv University, and University of Haifa. Among the vast array of topics that he has studied, he is an expert on the Japanese legal system including criminal law. In the field of criminal law and procedure, he has studied the relation between prosecutorial behavior, prosecutorial budgets, and conviction rates; the structure of the Japanese judiciary and its effect on the adjudication of politically charged cases; the relation between judicial background and the imposition of the death penalty; and the relation between court structure and conviction rates.

Paul H. Rubin is the Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Economics at Emory University, and Editor in Chief of *Managerial and Decision Economics*. He has been president of the Southern Economic Association. His research interests have included crime, the death penalty, and gun control. He received his B.A. from the University of Cincinnati in 1963 and his Ph.D. from Purdue University in 1970. He is a Fellow of the Public Choice Society, a Senior Fellow at the Progress and Freedom Foundation, an Adjunct Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and the Georgia Public Policy Foundation, and former Vice President of the Southern Economics Association. Dr. Rubin has been Senior Staff Economist at President Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers, Chief Economist at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Director of Advertising Economics at the Federal Trade Commission, and vice-president of Glassman-Oliver Economic Consultants, Inc., a litigation consulting firm in Washington.

CB8-2015

From: gregoryhills@comcast.net [<mailto:gregoryhills@comcast.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 2:03 PM
To: Fox, Greg; Ball, Calvin B; Terrasa, Jen; Sigaty, Mary Kay; Weinstein, Jon
Subject: 2 points regarding firearms legislation

Dear Elected Representatives in Howard County

ISSUE #1

I understand Bill 8-2015 has been introduced to limit firearms in county controlled buildings. It will not deter criminals from wrong doing, but it does limit one's ability to protect themselves. I believe it's a bill in search of a problem and if approved it would apply to a very small number of people as permits to carry are already very limited. It will penalize law abiding citizens, who have already gone through multiple background checks, completed the MD State Police required concealed carry training and who have already met the very, onerous requirements the state of Maryland imposes to obtain a carry permit.

I encourage you to view the short 2 minute video at the link below and ask yourself; if you were in that situation with a gunman outside the meeting room, would you be happy your coworker had a firearm? If not and you prefer to take your chances, do you feel you should have the right to prevent your co-worker or constituent from defending themselves.

<http://www.cnn.com/2015/01/27/us/minnesota-city-council-officers-shot/>

ISSUE #2

I would also like to point out that Howard County law is already restrictive, to the point of silly, when it comes to some firearm laws.

- Did you know that shooting a toy gun such as shown here is illegal in our county?



- Did you know that an adult cannot legally shoot targets with a B-B gun or airsoft gun (plastic BB's) outdoors in the county except at a range? Even on their own property ...and... even if you're on a 25 acre farm. While officers and/or

prosecutors could exercise some discretion in these matters, I don't believe it is fair to ask a citizen to break the law and take a chance that they will.

SUMMARY

Please vote down Bill 8-2015.

Please consider changing current law to allow the use of toys and B-B guns in a safe manner.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the issues.

Respectfully,

Gregory Hills
3307 Sang Rd, Glenwood MD 21738
District 3