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NRA-ILA Grassroots Webinar Series Summary

January 27, 2025

NRA-ILA Legal Update

With Joseph Greenlee leading the charge as the Director of Litigation Counsel, your NRA-ILA has been at the forefront of legal battles to protect our Second Amendment rights nationwide. With over a decade of experience, Joseph spearheads this Division to continue the successful legal track record that sets the standards in the Second Amendment legal field. Our victories are a testament to the strength of our cause and the dedication of our team.

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NRA-ILA Legal Update Summary

- **NYSRPA v. Bruen**
 - The NRA's case, NYSRPA v. Bruen, is arguably the most consequential Second Amendment case in American history
 - SCOTUS delivered this judgment in June 2022. The Court held that the Second Amendment protects carrying arms in public. Perhaps just as importantly, the Court invalidated the two-part test lower courts used to uphold virtually every gun control law they considered from 2008 to 2022. Instead, the Court clarified that the test for Second Amendment challenges is based on the Amendment's text, as informed by history. As we've seen since Bruen was decided, this test is far more favorable and has led to many more court victories in the last 2 years than we received in the 14 years between Heller and Bruen.
- **Bruen-Response Laws**
 - In the Bruen decision, the Court noted that firearm carry could be prohibited in courthouses, polling places, and legislative buildings due to them being "sensitive" locations. Anti-gun states unsurprisingly started deeming all types of public locations "sensitive." In response to this push, your NRA-ILA challenged this sort of response legislation in New York, Maryland, and Delaware.
- **What's The Next Legal Issue We Are Facing?**
 - NRA-ILA is focused on fighting "assault weapon" and magazine bans. SCOTUS has held that common arms cannot be banned, and nearly 30 million AR-style rifles and half-a-billion magazines are lawfully owned across the country. Nevertheless, several states have ignored that ruling. The NRA-ILA has challenged the following hardware bans:
 - New Jersey: 10+ Round Magazine Ban
 - Delaware: "Assault Weapon" and 17+ Round Magazine Ban
 - Illinois: "Assault Weapon" and Magazine Ban
 - Oregon: 10+ Round Magazine Ban
 - Washington: "Assault Weapons" Ban
 - California: 10+ Round Magazine Ban

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- **What are Amicus Briefs and Why Are They Important**

- Amicus Briefs are legal documents that individuals or organizations submit to the court because they are interested in the pending case. They allow the NRA-ILA to be engaged in many Second Amendment legal cases across the nation. This allows us to impact the outcome of cases outside of our own litigation.
- In 2024, Joseph and his team filed fifteen (15) amicus briefs—more than in recent years.

- **Licensing/Permit Schemes in the U.S. and the Response from Your NRA-ILA**

- Your NRA-ILA has cases in Maryland, Oregon, and Delaware challenging these unconstitutional licensing schemes, making it difficult for law-abiding Americans to exercise our Second Amendment rights by requiring extensive multi-day training, redundant background checks, and paying a lot of money to acquire a permit that is only valid for a few years before purchasing a firearm.

- **Is the NRA Done with NY?**

- Final judgment from the trial court in 2024 imposed more reporting and disclosure requirements to ensure better transparency for NRA Members. The key takeaway for NRA-ILA litigation efforts is that the NRA is now putting this case behind us and is focusing entirely on advancing our NRA programs and Second Amendment rights. We are dedicated to serving our members with the passion and strength of values our NRA members expect from us.

- **NRA v. Vullo, a Constitutional Win for the NRA and ACLU?**

- In another landmark decision, SCOTUS ruled 9-0 in favor of our First Amendment rights. The Court ruled that New York's "blacklisting" campaign against the NRA violated our First Amendment rights when New York urged banks and insurers to end their business with the NRA in 2018. The ACLU represented the NRA in this case.

- **What can NRA members do to support our litigation efforts?**

- NRA members are the core of the National Rifle Association. Your NRA-ILA is thankful for all members and supporters. To continue supporting America's oldest civil rights organization, please ensure you, your family, and your friends renew their memberships, donate, and spread the word about your NRA-ILA!

- **Coalition Building. Is it Vital?**

- Building coalitions is vital to protecting our Second Amendment rights. Sadly, some of our biggest challenges come from those who love our Second Amendment rights. We must continue to build bridges to bring the 2A community together. I am happy to say your NRA-ILA Legal Division has built working relationships with the following organizations:
 - Firearm Policy Coalition
 - Second Amendment Foundation
 - National Shooting Sports Foundation
 - Mountain States Legal Foundation
 - Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation
 - Safari Club International

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