

June 19, 2019

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you about the Constitutional Carry bill the Federalism Committee is considering. My name is Kim Rodecker and I am the owner of Concealed Carry Courses in Cleveland. I am an 8-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps; I am also a

Military Policeman and Military Police Instructor
Marine Corps Competition Shooter
Primary Marksmanship Instructor U.S.M.C.
Civilian Competition Shooter National Level
NRA Certified in most fields of firearms training

I have taught gun safety and CCW classes to about 13,000 people. I am a strong supporter of the 2nd Amendment and I am also strongly opposed to House Bill 178 that would, in my opinion, put public safety as well as safety of legal gun carriers at risk.

I think you should know about what I see in teaching gun safety and CCW classes.

In most classes I teach, I meet people who, without these classes, could end up in the morgue or behind bars. There are many who don't know the law and do not have the judgment as to when they can and cannot pull that gun out.

There are many who have the wrong idea as to what they can and cannot do. They are good people. They just don't know the law, and won't take the time, on their own to learn, if not required to learn, by taking a class.

We spend 2 hours alone on learning the gun laws.

A little time learning is nothing for the safety of the public and the legal carriers! Just a little education will keep them out of jail or the morgue and will keep the public and the gun owners themselves from being hurt.

Information and protection go hand in hand. I know I have stopped people from going out and making a serious mistake.

Consider Ohio's MANDATORY hunter safety classes for first-time hunters. Before a person goes out and carries a firearm for hunting, these required classes have caused hunting accidents to steadily go down for many years in a row. If you would do that for Ohio hunters to bring accidents down, why not do it for CCWs and the public?

Despite what many gun advocates say about no increase in shootings in expanding laws from CCW to CC, there has never been a study done that statistically itemizes the specific results of going from licensed CCW to Constitutional Carry. All the studies

cover only all shootings of every kind....not specifically this issue of going from licensed CCW permits with training to Constitutional Carry without training.

This bill is a bad idea. Even the people who take my classes have been asked about this and they all think it is a bad idea and that the training is good idea. Even my students think that the classes should be mandatory!

I have had students not get their CWW license once they understood the laws. They made the decision not to carry because of us telling them of the responsibilities of being gun carriers. I have a stack of certificates of people who would have passed but decided it was not for them for whatever reason...for example, I've told them, "You don't have the temperament for this". It all comes down to knowing the law.

You should not allow people to carry without safety training. To keep citizens safe and legal gun carriers safe, reject House Bill 178.