

Good Day.

My name is Derek Powell and as a resident of Cleveland Ohio, I wish to know why you are repudiating the very document that you swore an oath to protect and uphold by attacking law-abiding citizens and trying to deny them their rights as granted to them by the Constitution of the United States of America?

I ask because you seem confused as to what the Second Amendment of the Constitution states. The Second Amendment is what **guarantees** your First Amendment Rights as well as your Fourth Amendment Rights.

And before you stupidly say that the Second Amendment only applies 18th century firearms technology, understand that rapid-fire and fully *automatic* were being developed during the 18th century. An example of a fully automatic, rapid-fire firearm developed during the 18th century is the Puckle Gun, which was patented in 1718. Fifty-eight years *prior* to the writing of the Constitution of the United States of America.

I ask why you are attacking the Law-abiding citizens of this state instead of the criminals. I understand that you want to do something in response to the recent school shootings. But you seem to think that attacking Law-abiding citizens is going to stop criminals from committing crimes. I'll make this stupidly simple for you, "Criminals **DO NOT OBEY Laws!**" To think otherwise is the very epitome of stupidity.

What you, as members of the governing body of this state, failed to do is learn the actual causes of these schools shooting **AND** the criminally negligent **failures** of both law enforcement and school management. The schools shooting in Broward County Florida could have been prevented *IF THE SCHOOL BOARD, THE BROWARD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND THE FBI FOLLOWED THE LAWS WRITEN!!!* Instead, all three failed. The Broward County School District failed to file charges against the shooter for earlier threats. The Broward County Sheriff's Department failed to arrest and charge the shooter during earlier "visits". The FBI and the Sheriff's Department failed to enter the shooter's name into the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). These three failures, are circumstantial proof that creating *more* laws will not change a failing system.

In fact, the NICS background check system has **failed** to prevent more than 16 different mass shootings. **WHY?**

And just as importantly, What are YOU going to do about the FAILURES of the NICS background check system? What are you doing about allowing police to *enforce current laws?! What are you doing about school boards that allow both students and teachers to bully others?*

If you insist on continuing to attack law-abiding citizens instead of actually looking at the causes of mass shootings, at the very least, you may find yourself in civil court if not criminal court.

Because if you are not protecting my rights and me.... You are aiding and abetting criminal enterprises and trying to make me a victim.

Thank you for your time.

Derek Powell