
like the Constitution describes, you have a list of states which will accept your papers ... maybe. Depending on the cop you happen to meet on a roadside, on a good day ... if the officer's spouse was nice at breakfast.

A Big Mess

This mess — and it's a mess even though you may have grown accustomed, even happy, with it — has motivated a lot of otherwise decent and principled gun owners (and groups!) to ignorantly seek, even demand, national reciprocity law, or worse, a national-carry permit. Oh geez.

Law enforcement officers got one in 2004, called LEOSA (Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act), pressed into effect by our friends at the NRA, with massive help by the pro-gun-rights police group, LEAA (Law Enforcement Alliance of America), an NRA ally.

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Many of us argued this 2-tiered rights system — privileged police receiving rights the rest of us were supposed to have, unfringed national carry — was a really bad idea. They put us off quite tactfully, saying if cops and ex-cops were given national carry first — the easy first step — then we the peons would be next. But as soon as the law changed to protect and serve them, all effort ended. Why were we not surprised?

Even police got peon treatment at first, and had to pass additional law so they wouldn't get arrested for carrying safe hollowpoint defensive ammo. The law actually helped everyone, establishing in statute hollow ammo (a friendlier term) was preferred and safer, not deadlier as anti-rights maniacs claimed while foaming at the mouth.

The problem with giving feds national control over your right to carry arms is immediately after they get it, they'll start regulating it, and you know where this leads: thicker national registration. National testing, with tests you can't control (already attempted, HR-45). Rights removals with no restoration plan. These are powers the government shouldn't have. This demolishes the concept of “shall not be infringed.”

In fact, the whole notion of a permit is disgraceful and blemishes the idea of a society free to keep and bear arms.

Patriots Wanted

Sure, this is the only way we can currently effectively carry, and it's a good first step. It's accomplished a lot. Especially in destroying the paranoid mythology of an armed populace shooting slow waiters and people at traffic lights — leaving America to look like Dodge City in cowboy days (which never looked like Dodge City of Hollywood fantasies).

No, the way to authorize national carry isn't to authorize carry, it's to repeal the bad, illegal, infringing laws denying the rights we have and should be able to exercise.

Instead of defending the rights we have, we have rulers hard at work infringing our rights. These people should be removed from office, imprisoned and replaced with patriots. People who respect our rights, make it easier to exercise them and uphold the principles of the Constitution, *this* is who belongs in office. Our rights need restoration, not authorization. It can be done. It must be done. My hope is you will be part of this tide of hope and change.



Alan Korwin's company Bloomfield Press features plain-English books on state and federal gun laws for the public. He invites you to write to him or see his work, at GunLaws.com, where you can get books and DVD's that can help keep you safe.
