

## About

GunnerySergeant dot org is a web site (currently in 'beta') whose purpose is to provide a platform that supports an acceptable 'solution' to the so-called gun-control issues. This paper discusses the web site's mission and purpose by providing some background details.

In a nutshell the site supports what we call a SMART solution that we think both Second Amendment advocates and gun-control advocates can understand and accept.

What's unique about our proposed idea is that it circumvents legal issues. Presently Second Amendment folks have erected formidable barriers, by means of lobbying groups and congressional ratings. The barriers prevent any real rules changes (such as attempts to ban so-called 'assault weapons'). In our discussions we call these folks KABA-rights folks since their primary mission is to preserve the Second Amendment and they tend to focus on the phrase 'keep and bear arms' (the phrase being a vital part of that amendment).

Before getting into our rationale and detail, we state up front that our web site does *not* take sides when it comes to the issues presented. We feel strongly that the Second Amendment is correct and can stand on its own. We also have empathy with concerned citizens who are worried about, terrorists, criminals, or mentally incompetents possessing lethal firearms.

What we propose (and have partially implemented) is a solution that does *not* threaten KABA rights and yet will, when complete, be able to reduce unfortunate incidents such as the Sandy Hook mass murders (twenty children and six teachers) or the Orlando massacre.

## Rationale

In order to achieve our goals, the first step we took is to decide that whatever we do we must *not* involve congress, legislation, rules changes, etc. This means that the 'status-quo', as far as we're concerned, exists and will continue to exist - perhaps for generations. So if the reader is one who maybe lobbies for no further restrictions (KABA folks) **or** if the reader has written to their congressional representative demanding some new rules (gun-control folks)...stay tuned. Indeed, waste no more money lobbying or writing frustrating letters that never get anywhere!

Instead we have developed our SMART solution. SMART is our acronym for the **S**ponsored **M**ilitia, **A**rmed and **R**egularly **T**ested.

## Discussion

Stepping back to when the Second Amendment was written our phrasing here is particularly appropriate. In colonial times there were primarily two mostly volunteer 'fighting' organizations. Every community was weary of the threat of fires and formed a volunteer fire *brigade*. In British colonies every community was weary of the perceived threat (or intrusions) of French occupied Canada or hostile native Americans. So a second mainly volunteer grouping was formed and that grouping was called a *militia*. Brigade and militia are pretty much interchangeable (consider the poem *The Charge of the Light Brigade*, dealing with a military movement, for instance).

Both groupings have consisted of volunteer members. Both 'fought' something or other (fires, hostiles). Most importantly, members were expected to meet regularly, learn and practice skills, and finally, test those skills under real conditions (e.g. a fire, an intrusion).

Two centuries later, it is interesting to note that volunteerism (especially regarding firefighters) persists even today. We daresay that the majority of so-called fire departments are unpaid volunteers - if you consider the fact that vastly more tiny townships exist compared to cities. It is heartening to know that these numerous modern fire brigades still meet, still practice, and still are tested under real conditions. We take special note that times have changed: the word *hazmat* never existed in colonial times. Yet that word, its meaning, represents a modern day concept that must be learned and understood. The reason for this special note is *adaption*. The colonial brigade has evolved. As a society we have skillfully adapted to a fire brigade's mission.

Unfortunately we have not properly evolved and adapted to any new militia concept or mission. Our web site fosters a modern interpretation of the colonial (and early federalist) concept of a militia. The Second Amendment reads:

"A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

In addition to the well-known phrase cited by KABA folks, "keep and bear Arms", other phrases such as "well regulated Militia" have some import. The problem is, there really is no formal militia (today) to be regulated. We aim to change that.

No. We don't advocate any government level (local, state or especially federal) to form a militia and "well regulate" it (such as register members, issue firearms, etc.) Instead we view our web site as a popular *groundswell* movement. We are always non-governmental. As an organization our intentions are the same as any other *nonprofit*, such as American Cancer Society. Indeed, the ugly situation today is that the proliferation of firearms has been a growing, festering cancer and there isn't enough decent regulation happening!

To fix this, without a single iota of governmental involvement, requires a very creative (albeit complex) solution. Taking a cue from the Second Amendment's phrasing we like to position our organization as "A *groundswell* regulated Militia". A vast movement that is entirely volunteer driven (outside of necessary staff positions). Our adopted motto is "We Do Our Part".

Because of the complexity of our approach, we currently focus on educating the population as to just how our novel, fresh approach should not only help mitigate firearm tragedies but also be acceptable to both KABA folks and gun-control advocates.

We host parlor presentations (visit [NRA.rip](http://NRA.rip) to email a reservation). The site itself tries to inform people about our solution via a series of 'blog' questions (visit [gunnerySergeant.org](http://gunnerySergeant.org)).

## Contact

Since we are in 'beta' mode we are willing and able to make changes. We especially welcome feedback from firearm owners, victims of gun violence, survivors, etc. The above web sites provide email addresses. Your comments are welcome!