



## The Big Business of Concealed Carry

By Corey Graff, Executive Director

really cost the DOJ \$50 to conduct a background check and print up a little black-and-white card? Make no mistake: This is a new gun tax. Some have called it a “coat tax.”

We all know that bureaucracies don’t tend to get smaller over time. More revenue will invariably lead to more vested interests in the system. This cycle will become self-perpetuating. New agents and administrators will be hired on. And the program becomes a means unto itself.

And then there’s the problem of a state law enforcement agency with a list of gun owners — never a good thing. With congress and the institutional gun lobby trying to pass HR 822, so-called National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity, it’s plain to see how the feds would also begin to get a vested interest in keeping — and regulating — concealed carry by permit.

### No Money in Freedom

Contrast that with what would happen if Constitutional Carry were to be passed (that is, no permit, background check or fees, as intended in the Second Amendment), then the money — poof! — suddenly goes away.

What will all these big-government bureaucrats do with themselves? For starters, they’d have to compete in the private sector for jobs requiring actual skills. And that’s hard work (for a government leach).

Now, there is some precedent that in states like Alaska, Arizona and Wyoming a permit-to-carry system morphed over time into

Constitutional Carry. But that always occurred years after a permit system had been in place. In other words, much money had already been made. And other factors — like a properly-trained pro-gun lobby convinced state politicians their vested interest in political reelection was in freedom-to-carry and not permit-to-carry. So those states moved to better laws in spite of vested interests working against them, not for lack of them.

Finally, what about the vested interests of concealed carry trainers? Some of these chaps — like the police department up in Marion, Wisconsin — are charging people upwards of \$150 for a class to get a permit. Others, like Technical Colleges in Central Wisconsin, charge around \$15 for the class.

One need not resort to wild conspiracy theories to explain why state officials are resistant to a concept like Constitutional Carry. It can simply be explained by human nature and the vested interests that feed off each other.

It all means that the fight to restore the right to bear arms will be met with resistance from every possible angle — even from those on the pro-gun side. Thankfully, the price of liberty is eternal vigilance. And if anything is worth a little vigilance, it’s liberty.

### Will Vested Interests Crush Constitutional Carry?

By the close of business on November 1, 2011, the Wisconsin Department of Justice reported that over 80,000 concealed weapons permit applications were downloaded from their website. That’s a lot of \$50 checks.

To be more precise, that’s \$4 million dollars worth of checks if all 80,000 people who downloaded the application actually applied. And that was just on day one. In Michigan, over 270,000 people had purchased a CCW permit in that state since its CCW law had been passed. If Wisconsin climbs to a similar number, as I believe we will, we’re talking about somewhere in the neighborhood of \$13.5 million dollars in new revenue pouring into state coffers every five years. No bureaucrat can ignore \$13.5 million dollars.

Business is good if your business is regulating inalienable rights.

Now, Act 35 — Wisconsin’s new shall-issue permit-to-carry-law — specifically states that these monies are not to exceed the administration costs of the license-to-carry program. But let’s face it: Does it

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# The Wisconsin Gun Owner

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### Mission

To restore and defend the right to keep and bear arms through on-target strategy, and to hold accountable all those who surrender that right through compromise.



*“The posting of all [Appleton] city buildings will occur. They will be posted as no firearms allowed. Unfortunately ... we cannot post the parks.”*

— Capt. Rudy Nyman, Appleton Police Dept. Read more p. 3

### Inside

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- Don’t Buy List
- Van Hollen Training: No Go
- Castle Doctrine
- Concealed Carry Business

## Permit to Carry Law Now in Effect

Madison, Wis. — At the stroke of midnight on November 1, 2011, the online application to apply for a Wisconsin Concealed Weapons Permit was turned on at the Wisconsin Department of Justice website. Before the close of business that day, over 80,000 applications were downloaded, according to DOJ.

But no sooner had the new law taken effect than State Attorney J.B. Van Hollen initiated Emergency Rules to create stringent training requirements for permit applicants. Even the National Rifle Association raised a hue and cry against the Attorney General’s actions.

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Photo by WGO Staff

**On November 1, 2011, the Wisconsin Department of Justice was flooded with concealed carry permit applications.**

## Posted! Anti-Gun Businesses Advertise “Criminals Welcome” ... “Please Rob Me”



Photo by WGO Staff

**Bigotry, segregation and ignorance in your face across Wisconsin as businesses tell gun owners they’re not welcome. Details on page 4.**

## Permit to Carry Law

*Continued from Page 1*

“Unfortunately, DOJ has chosen to overstep its authority by imposing conditions on prospective concealed weapons license applicants that the legislature never adopted or intended,” wrote NRA-ILA. “As part of the Executive Branch of state government, DOJ’s role is to faithfully implement the laws adopted by the legislature, not dramatically change them. If the Emergency Rules are allowed to become permanent, they will set a dangerous precedent that perverts our system of government and its principles associated with the separation of powers.”

According to WGO, the emergency rules proposed by WDOJ ran counter to the intent of ACT 35, the newly-passed CCW law. First, training was not to require a minimum time on the range; and, second, prior training received by gun owners was to satisfy the requirement.

However, Van Hollen’s justice department moved forward pushing for the minimum four hours of training, against the protests of many gun owners.

In his testimony to the Joint Committee for the Review of Administrative Rules (JCRAR), Van Hollen argued that without DOJ’s proposed training requirements, “the training requirement can be satisfied by anything and everything that an instructor or organization might want to call a ‘firearms safety or training course,’ without any regard to the contours of that program.”

“In the emergency rule making process,” Van Hollen continued, “DOJ did significant research and found that four hours is the minimum for what is recognized

as a safety-training course by those in the firearms community who regularly provide training. By focusing on the minimum amount of training that would satisfy the plain meaning of the statutory language, we have clarified expectations for permit applicants, those who wish to provide training, and those who will be processing applications.”

Later in his testimony, Van Hollen correctly observed that when the legislature killed constitutional carry, replacing it with permit-to-carry, it intended there to be restrictions placed on gun owners. This was one of the principle objections leveled against the compromise bill by WGO during months of intense grassroots lobbying.

“The legislature added the training requirement to this bill after the initial introduction of a constitutional carry bill, leading us to believe a meaningful training requirement was intended.”

### WGO Activists: No More Restrictions

On November 7, the committee voted to suspend the four hour training requirement and other requirements by firearms instructors that were deemed as being “micromanaged” in a scathing e-mail alert by NRA-ILA.

But no sooner had JCRAR put Van Hollen in his place than State Rep. Garey Bies (R-1) announced he would introduce legislation to increase the regulation and requirements to get a concealed carry permit to eight hours of training.

That’s when WGO activated the membership saying, “This is about more gun regulation, more government mandated hoops, designed to keep raising the bar



**The founding fathers: The right to bear arms shall not be infringed. Rep. Garey Bies: The right to bear arms shall be allowed when you complete the course we require.**

needed to “earn” the right to bear arms: something the founding fathers believed was an inalienable right.

“What these regulations really do, in practical terms, is disarm good people ... leaving them defenseless.”

WGO members once again answered with a resounding “No” — flooding the state legislature with petitions, calls and e-mails. At press time Bies had not introduced his promised gun control bill.

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**Log onto [wisconsin-gunowners.org](http://wisconsin-gunowners.org) and be sure to sign up for free gun rights alerts by e-mail.**

## Gun Case Law Change

### Mandatory Keep-Your-Gun-Clean Law Struck Down

Madison, Wis. — Since 1917, Wisconsin gun owners have been required by state law to transport guns in cases. And leaning a gun up against a vehicle was also a violation.

That changed on November 4, when Governor Scott Walker signed SB228 into law (Act 51), making it legal to transport unloaded long guns without cases. That includes boats as well as automobiles, an important victory for waterfowl hunters.

“The mandatory gun case law was a stupid, overbearing restriction that required gun owners to keep their guns clean,” said Corey Graff, Executive Director of WGO. “It criminalized dirty guns — the ultimate Big Brother example of state control run amok.”

But DNR officials, who oversee regulation of the state’s over 600,000 gun deer hunters, were crying rivers of tears over the law’s demise.

“This is not what we need,” said Dave Zeug of Shell Lake, a retired Wisconsin game warden, it was reported in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. “It does nothing to improve the quality of the hunt, and it certainly won’t make things safer.”

The DNR had in the past opposed the bill, but this year took a more neutral tone.

SB228 was fast-tracked after being introduced on October 12 by State Senators Moulton, Holperin, Kedzie, Galloway and Lazich. State Rep. Scott Krug was one of many republican co-sponsors.

In its coverage of the law change, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel



**Before the gun case law change that went into effect Nov. 18, an uncased long gun on the seat of a vehicle was illegal. Now, thanks to pro-gun activists, Wisconsin’s mandatory “keep your gun clean” anti-gun law is no more.**

cited statistics showing Wisconsin’s firearm incidents of 1.1 to 100,000 hunters as compared to the national average of 3.0 to 100,000, in what appears to gun activists as an attempt to show causation between the mandatory gun case law and the Badger State’s low accident rate.

According to the Journal Sentinel report, “Tim Lawhern, administrator of the DNR’s Enforcement and Science Division, said Wisconsin hunter education courses will continue to recommend firearms be transported unloaded and in cases.

“It’s the safest way,” Lawhern claimed. “It also protects your investment.”

Yet, despite Lawhern’s assertion that gun cases are the “safest way,” the 2011 Wisconsin Gun Deer Season was the third fatality-free season on record, since records have

been kept. The law change went into effect on Nov. 18 — one day before the gun deer season.

Said Lawhern after the season (where those uncased firearms failed to kill anybody), “Hunters can be proud of a second consecutive firearm-related, fatality-free year and the third fatality free season on record. This is an important milestone and one we hope to see again and again in future seasons.”

Without the State forcing gun owners to lock their guns in cases — whether to protect them from dust or from themselves — it is hard to fathom how hunters managed one of the safest seasons ever. 📺

*Is your WGO Membership current? Renew or join online at [wisconsin-gunowners.org](http://wisconsin-gunowners.org)!*



## Constitution Party of Wisconsin: Arms for What?

By Riley J. Hood, Chairman

the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” CPoW has several reasons for gun ownership.


1. It is your Constitutional Right. Our Platform States: “The right to bear arms is inherent in the right of self defense, defense of the family, and defense against tyranny, conferred on the individual and the community by our Creator to safeguard life, liberty, and property, as well as to help preserve the independence of the nation. The right to keep and bear arms is guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the Constitution; it may not properly be infringed upon or denied.” CPoW defines Constitutional Carry, as no restrictions, no taxes, and no prior permission from any level of government. It is a Right, not a privilege. The CPoW platform further states, “The Constitution Party upholds the right of the citizen to keep and bear arms. We oppose attempts to prohibit ownership of guns by law-abiding citizens, and stand against all laws which would require the registration of guns or ammunition.”

2. A well used firearm is an excellent way to fend off criminals. A firearm is the only equalizer that gives an elderly man or woman a chance against street gangs, thugs, rioters, rapists and murderers. Our Platform states; “We emphasize that when guns are outlawed, only outlaws will have them. In such circumstances, the peaceful citizen’s protection against the criminal would be seriously jeopardized.”

3. CPoW supports property ownership, including the Castle Doctrine. The homeowner has the God-given Right to defend his home against theft, invasion, and murder: to “safeguard life, liberty, and property.” “If a thief be found breaking up, and he be smitten that he die, there shall be no blood shed for him.” Exodus 22:2 The next verse does say, if it is daytime, and you can see he

is stealing, then he ought not be killed, but forced to pay restitution by the judges. The security of home is what is being emphasized, not the well-being of a criminal.

4. Most importantly, the citizen needs to bear arms to defend against tyranny. People under NAZI rule were crying out for rifles. People wanted a fighting chance, after realizing that appeasement forged their chains. Our Platform further states, “We call for the repeal of all federal firearms legislation, beginning with the Federal Firearms Act of 1968.” That Act mirrors the NAZI Firearms Act of 1938, which disarmed the German citizen. CPoW opposes all acts of disarmament, “We call for the rescinding of all executive orders, the prohibition of any future executive orders, and the prohibition of treaty ratification which would in any way limit the right to keep and bear arms.”

CPoW affirms that an armed citizen is a mark of a free nation. The armed citizen is part of America’s defense. America has outstanding Armed Forces, but they are deployed around the world. Any enemy would find 300,000,000 armed citizens a deterrent, no matter what they say. Constitutional Carry is the way to go. Registries only serve as tools for rogue governments to disarm the citizenry. That begs the question, If a civil government is honest, then why does it insist on rendering innocent people helpless? Why does it insist on taking away the Nation’s home-defense? 

Riley J. Hood is the Chairman of the Constitution Party of Wisconsin. To learn more, visit [constitutionpartywi.com](http://constitutionpartywi.com)

“Now there was no smith found throughout the land of Israel: for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make them swords or spears:”  
— I Samuel 13:19

On July 26, 1953 “Fidel Castro” Ruiz tried to take over Cuba. His first effort failed, so he launched a 5 year plan of coalition building and logistics. On March 17, 1958 Castro declared “total war” on the government of Fulgencio Batista y Zaldívar. On January 1, 1959 Batista resigned and fled Cuba. Upon the success of that goal, he turned around and asked his allies to turn in their weapons. He put the question this way, “Armas para que?” or “Arms for what?” It took two years to disarm his former allies. In 1961 Castro announced, “I am a Marxist-Leninist.”

Then he asked the question, “Elections for what?” He then enslaved the Cuban people, turning that nation into an island prison.

The Constitution Party of Wisconsin (CPoW) has an answer for “Arms for what?” Given the sinful nature of man, no one individual or group of individuals should have a monopoly on power. CPoW supports our Republic, with constitutional checks and balances, including the Second Amendment to the US Constitution. The Second Amendment prohibits any interference with gun ownership by saying: “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of

## Permit to Carry Law

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As of approximately 3:45 p.m. on Nov. 1, more than 120 licenses had been issued to qualified applicants. Almost 150 applications were received by the DOJ at the Attorney General’s Capitol office.

By the first day, almost 90 licenses had been printed and prepared for mailing. Since that time, gun owners reported mixed results in getting permits — some received

theirs within days, others were still waiting, despite DOJ having cashed their checks, according to applicants.

“This is a historic day for the state of Wisconsin,” Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen said. “As a long-time supporter of Second Amendment rights, I’m encouraged to see people exercising this freedom, and they can rest assured we’ll do our best to process applications from qualified residents as quickly as we can. I’m extremely proud of the DOJ

employees who have worked to get people their licenses promptly and efficiently.”

From Nov. 1 through Dec. 1, the Wisconsin DOJ has 45 days to deny or issue a license. After Dec. 1, 2011, DOJ is required to approve or deny within 21 days. 

To stay abreast of the latest developments and how to apply for a Wisconsin concealed carry permit, visit [wisconsin-gunowners.org/concealedcarry](http://wisconsin-gunowners.org/concealedcarry)

## Video: Appleton PD Discuss Concealed Carry

In an online video by the Appleton Post Crescent (posted at [wisconsin-gunowners.org](http://wisconsin-gunowners.org)), Capt. Rudy Nyman of the Appleton Police Department discusses the implementation of Wisconsin’s new concealed carry law.

In the video, Captain Nyman’s comments expose attitudes of police toward concealed carry permit holders. At one point, Capt. Nyman says that all public buildings in Appleton will post to prohibit concealed carry.

“The posting of all [Appleton] city buildings will occur,” he said. “They will be posted as no firearms allowed. Unfortunately, from a safety standpoint, we cannot post the parks. All city buildings will be posted with no firearms allowed signs. That does not include obviously law enforcement. It would be for licensees ... we will ensure we have the signs per statute being five inches by seven inches posted at ingress egress locations, and that they’re highly visible. We want to ensure that everybody understands that you cannot enter a City of Appleton building with a firearm.”

That means there will be suspension of constitutional rights (both state and federal) in our government buildings (those owned by taxpayers) throughout Appleton. It harkens back to the days of segregation, said WGO.


And it could be taken as “Martial



**Capt. Rudy Nyman of the Appleton Police Department: All Appleton City buildings will be posted. Why? “It’s a safety issue.” Watch at [wisconsin-gunowners.org](http://wisconsin-gunowners.org).**

Law Lite.” But no matter how you take it, WGO will be tackling these outrageous city-level gun bans and creation of criminal safe zones by our aldermen one by one.

“City government may not blanket suspend Constitutional Rights on city property without due process of the law,” wrote one user who watched the video. “City government is also of the people, by the people and for the people.

It is NOT it’s own entity separate from the people. The people have spoken in favor of lawful concealed carry so the city is bound by the citizens voice and shall not suspend that duty to comply.” 

Visit [wisconsin-gunowners.org](http://wisconsin-gunowners.org) to watch this and other videos.

# WGO Don't Buy List Exposing Anti-Gun Businesses

Baraboo, Wis. — No guns allowed signs were posted in a Baraboo convenience store, requiring anyone with a concealed weapons permit to either disarm before entering or take their business elsewhere.

But after a scant two weeks of posting the sign, the business owner changed his mind and removed them. "I thanked him and let him know that his business will be safer because criminals won't know whether any good guys are armed there," said John, a WGO member from Baraboo.

The business in question was listed on the Wisconsin Gun Owners Don't Buy List. Since removing the signs, the business was taken off the watchlist. "This is proof

Don't Buy List, and the number is growing. The most current list is available for download online at wisconsin-gunowners.org/dont-buy-list. Anti-gun businesses span the gamut — from a small pharmacy in Iola, Wisconsin, to major food chains throughout the state and large

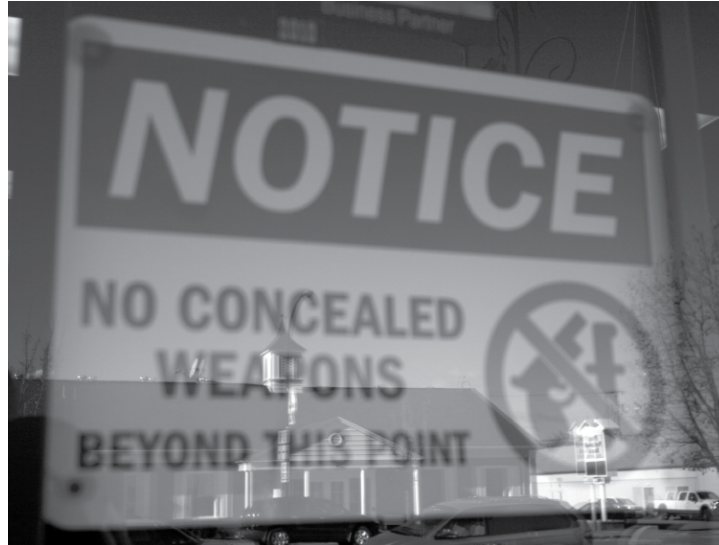


Photo by WGO Staff

positive the Don't Buy List Program works, said WGO executive director Corey Graff. "These businesses simply can't afford to alienate pro-gun people in a state like Wisconsin where there are so many gun owners, but they are posting these outrageous signs because they don't anticipate the loss of any substantial revenue.

"This program aims to change that."

But the bad news is that as of press time of this issue going to print, 167 businesses are still listed on the

car dealers in Madison. Yet there's one thing all of these businesses have in common: They are losing the support of gun owners. And Wisconsin has a lot of gun owners.

## Bigotry, Segregation and Ignorance

Harkening back to the days of segregation, when blacks were forced to sit in the back of the bus and couldn't eat in restaurants with whites, anti-gun signs also stem from ignorance.

In fact, CCW holders are the one

group that any responsible business would want to attract, said WGO. That's because CCW permittees act like an all-volunteer neighborhood watch group — citizens who possess the wherewithal to stop a felonious act of violence. Armed and everywhere, those who carry concealed are ready when seconds matter — and the police are minutes away.

These anti-gun, anti-concealed carry businesses will be notified that they have been added to the Don't Buy List and given an opportunity to remove the signs. If the signs come down, they will be promptly removed from the list.

The Don't Buy List will be distributed at gun shows, through the mail, the Internet, sportsman's clubs and anywhere and everywhere.

We are asking Wisconsin gun owners to report all businesses posting no CCW signs using the form found at wisconsin-gunowners.org/dont-buy-list. Inform these businesses that they have lost your business until the signs come down and they begin to respect the Bill of Rights. Take your business to the competition!



# Self-Defense Upgrade: Castle Doctrine Passes

Madison, Wis. — Until Dec. 7, Wisconsin was one of just 22 states without some form of "castle doctrine" or "Make-My-Day" law. But passage of Assembly Bill 69 on that date changes everything by improving legal protections for home owners who use deadly force in self-defense.

"A person has a right to defend themselves and their family in their dwelling," said Sen. Van Wanggaard (R-Racine), a lead sponsor of the legislation as reported on jsonline.com. "The fundamental issue is about protecting life, not property."

The bill passed the State Senate 26-7 on November 3, and was sent to Governor Walker for final passage into law on Dec. 7.

According to Wisconsin Gun Owners, (WGO) the legislation — which was rammed through at 5 am in the morning — is a step in the right direction but could have been stronger.

The bill, said WGO, affirmed only the "privilege of self-defense, not the right (as enumerated in the Wisconsin Constitution's Right to Bear Arms); it also didn't include the language "any place you may legally be.

"Under AB 69 criminal courts can still litigate against gun owners like you, potentially costing you thousands of dollars in attorney fees," said Dudley Brown, Executive Director of the National Assoc. for Gun Rights. "While AB 69 is not great it does significantly advance legal protections for Wisconsin's gun owners because, unlike other states, it includes your home, car, and workplace."

WGO plans to continue pushing for a better law, but aren't holding our breath waiting for the institutional gun lobby to take up that torch.

In the meantime, anti-gun lawyers with the State Bar of Wisconsin — a group representing more than 600 criminal defense lawyers, prosecutors, judges, academics and other numbskulls — opposed the bill crying foul that it would enable homeowners to shoot "trick-or-treaters."



Photo by WGO Staff

State Senator Pam Galloway (R-29) talks to the media about Constitutional Concealed Carry. Galloway, along with four other state senators and Governor Walker, are targeted for recall elections.

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