



Pro-Gun New Hampshire, Inc.

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Hon. Elbert "Bick" Bicknell, President and Director
Sam Cohen, Executive Vice President, CEO, and Director
Evan Nappen, Corporate Counsel and Director
Richard Aldrich, Director • Ed Naile, Director

————— *Live Free or Die* —————

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August 21, 2009

Board of Selectmen
Town of Tamworth
84 Main Street
Tamworth, NH 03886

Gentlemen:

If I may be allowed to introduce myself, I am Elbert Bicknell, President of Pro-Gun New Hampshire, Inc. I have in my past been in law enforcement both in the State of Vermont as a local officer (Sgt., Detective, Youth Officer, etc.) and in New Hampshire as a State Trooper. I have also served two terms in the NH House on the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. In fact, I was the prime sponsor of the bill that became RSA 159:26.

If I am reading and hearing correctly, the town selectmen and the Chief of Police are in violation of that statute. I will not take up your time in this letter to write it out for you, as you have already received a letter from the Executive Vice President of Pro-Gun New Hampshire, and I suspect you all are aware of the law itself. However, I wish to call your attention to the last part of that law, which states that "all municipal ordinances and regulations not authorized under paragraph I relative to the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other matter pertaining to firearms, firearm components, ammunition, or firearms supplies shall be null and void."

In 2003, the town of Deerfield had a local ordinance prohibiting firearms on town property. Because this was an affront to the liberties of law-abiding citizens, I included the last part of the bill that I quoted above. Apparently Tamworth in 2009 is repeating the errors of Deerfield in 2003.

I believe also, though I am not an attorney, that the Tamworth Selectboard is setting the town up for civil suits, if not criminal action as being in violation of RSA 643:1, as the town is attempting to enforce a local ordinance or town policy that is in direct violation of RSA 159:26.

I sincerely ask that the Town's leadership reconsider their action as it pertains to its recently enacted policy on this matter, and that they delete the relevant portion of their employee manual.

Yours truly,

Elbert Bicknell
President, Pro-Gun New Hampshire, Inc.

"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." — Edmund Burke