

June 30, 2004



Dear Candidate for Elected Office,

Enclosed is a questionnaire concerning possible firearms-related legislation. Colorado Ceasefire is interested in your stances on the gun-related issues that may come before the General Assembly. Please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return as soon as possible (by July 12th at the latest), either by faxing to 303-377-2165 or by sending to the address below. For your convenience, we have enclosed a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Your responses will be a significant factor in our determination of the candidates we will endorse and support in the upcoming elections. Colorado Ceasefire is a nonpartisan Political Action Committee dedicated to reducing the toll of gun violence through public policy changes. We were founded in 2000 as the Colorado Gunviolence Accountability Project and in that election cycle made significant contributions to both Republican and Democratic candidates. Additionally, we mobilized volunteers to assist in a number of selected campaigns, and communicated with voters through limited advertising and direct mail.

If you have any questions, please call a Colorado Ceasefire at 303-380-6711.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eileen McCarron', written in a cursive style.

Eileen McCarron
Registered Agent
Colorado Ceasefire

P.S. Please return completed Questionnaire by July 12th.



2004 Colorado State Candidate Questionnaire

Colorado Ceasefire – a Colorado political action committee advocating common-sense gun legislation and working to elect a legislature that reflects the will of Colorado voters on gun issues -- is using this questionnaire to determine candidates' stances on gun violence issues. Colorado Ceasefire will endorse candidates and make contributions or provide volunteer support to strategically selected campaigns. Please indicate your responses below, and return your completed form to Colorado Ceasefire. If you would like the endorsement of Colorado Ceasefire, please mark the form accordingly.

Please mail or fax your completed form to Colorado Ceasefire by Monday, July 12, 2004

Colorado Ceasefire, P.O. Box 7501, Denver, Colorado 80207 Fax: 303-377-2165
For further information, call a Colorado Ceasefire at 303-380-6711.

Candidate's name _____

Candidate's signature _____

Office _____ District _____ Party _____

Street or mailing address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Web page _____

1. Background Checks at Gun Show

In the fall of 2000, Colorado voters by an overwhelming 70%-30% margin passed an amendment to "close the gun show loophole." This amendment requires all purchasers at gun shows pass a background check by a federally licensed firearms dealer. All four guns used at Columbine were gun show purchases. During the last legislative sessions, attempts were made to amend and weaken this law. These efforts were rebuffed by the legislature, and opposed by Colorado Ceasefire.

_____ I **supported** closing the gun show loophole and would **oppose** any effort to amend it.

_____ I **supported** closing the gun show loophole, but would **not oppose** efforts to amend it.

_____ I **opposed** closing the gun show loophole.

Your Comments:

2. CBI Background Checks for All Gun Transfers

In Colorado, all gun sales by a FFL dealer and all gun sales at gun shows are subject to Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) background checks. Outside of the gun show environment, background checks

are not required when persons who are not licensed gun dealers sell or give guns to other persons. This then allows guns to be purchased by persons (felons, domestic violence offenders, drug abusers, etc.) who would otherwise be unable to purchase firearms.

_____ I support requiring CBI background checks for all gun transfers.

_____ I oppose requiring CBI background checks for all gun transfers.

Your Comments:

3. Safe Storage (Child Access Prevention)

Irresponsible gun storage by gun owners results in children dying in our state every year. Guns fall into the hands of children because they are not properly stored in the homes where children live. Children easily find guns because they are naturally curious. When a child finds a gun -- a parent, a sibling, or even a close friend can be killed or injured. Currently, there is no criminal penalty for a gun owner who negligently stores a firearm, even if that weapon is accidentally fired and kills another person. The gun can be used by a juvenile in the commission of a crime and again there is no penalty for the improper storage. Colorado Ceasefire supports holding gun owners responsible for the safe storage of their weapons, with penalties that would apply if a juvenile obtains a gun and commits a crime with it.

_____ I support holding gun owners responsible for the safe storage of their weapons, with penalties applied if an improperly stored weapon is used by a juvenile in a crime.

_____ I oppose holding gun owners responsible for the safe storage of their weapons.

Your Comments:

4. Assault weapons ban

Unless Congress and President Bush act quickly, the Federal Assault Weapons Ban will expire in September. The ban was enacted in response to a series of brutal mass shootings with assault weapons and has resulted in a dramatic decrease in the percent of crime guns that are assault weapons. This decrease has occurred even though assault weapons are still sold (sales of guns manufactured prior to the ban were never prohibited and manufacturers have redesigned previous weapons to "sneak" under the law). With the expiration of the federal law, we expect a proliferation of assault weapons, such as the AK-47, Uzi, and TEC-9 (The TEC-9 is an assault handgun and was one of the guns used in the Columbine massacre). In other states, legislation has been proposed that would result in a comprehensive ban on all sales or transfers of semiautomatic assault weapons.

_____ I support a comprehensive ban on all sales or transfers of semiautomatic assault weapons

_____ I oppose a comprehensive ban on all sales or transfers of semiautomatic assault weapons

Your Comments:

5. 50-caliber Military Sniper Rifles

50-caliber sniper rifles can shoot down airplanes and pierce armored vehicles from more than a mile away. These high-powered attack weapons were used extensively by the U.S. military during the Persian Gulf War. Their combination of armor penetrating power and exceptional long-range accuracy make them formidable weapons for the military and a dangerous threat in terrorists' hands. There is no civilian purpose to these weapons. We believe the sale of 50-caliber weapons should be limited to law enforcement and the military.

_____ I support restricting the sale of 50-caliber sniper rifles to military/police:
_____ I oppose restricting the sale of 50-caliber sniper rifles to military/police:

Your Comments:

6. Local Powers / State Powers

In 2003 the state legislature and governor acted to preempt or remove from local officials all power to regulate guns. Local cities and counties face the brunt of gun violence and are in the best position to know what types of additional legislation are needed to address gun violence in their communities. While strong, responsible statewide gun laws are essential to public safety, cities and counties need the authority to enact gun regulations to meet specific local problems. We support restoring to local cities and counties the power to enact gun laws that are stronger than state law or fill in gaps in state law.

_____ I support restoring to local elected officials the power to regulate guns in their communities.
_____ I oppose restoring to local elected officials the power to regulate guns in their communities.

Your Comments:

7. Concealed Carry

In 2003 the state legislature and governor acted to enact a statewide concealed carry law. This new law requires a sheriff to issue a permit to carry a concealed weapons unless the sheriff can provide documentable evidence that the applicant is unfit. This creates the scenario where a sheriff must issue a permit to carry a concealed weapon, even when he or she knows the applicant to be dangerous to the community. In 2004, legislation was introduced to even do away with the permitting process and automatically grant permission to carry a concealed weapon to all persons legal to purchase a weapon. Colorado Ceasefire opposes loosening the concealed carry law and supports returning discretion to local law enforcement.

_____ I support local law enforcement officials being able to use their discretion in issuing concealed carry permits.
_____ I oppose local law enforcement officials being able to use their discretion in issuing concealed carry permits.
_____ I support loosening the concealed carry law so that all legal gun purchasers are automatically permitted to carry concealed weapons.
_____ I oppose loosening the concealed carry law so that all legal gun purchasers are automatically permitted to carry concealed weapons.

Your Comments:

8. Concealed Carry Permit Database

Under the Concealed Weapons Law enacted in 2003, the state of Colorado and sheriffs would be prohibited from creating or maintaining a database of concealed carry permit holders after the year 2007. We believe that this secrecy of concealed carry permit holders does not serve the interests of law enforcement or the public in general. We also believe that it is important for the public to know how well the law is working, and therefore believe that in addition to maintaining a database of concealed carry permit holders, the Department of Public Safety should update its web site monthly with a statistical run-down of the number of concealed carry permit holders, the number of permit holders by county, the number of crimes committed (misdemeanor and felony) and accumulated subtotals as to the types of crimes committed by permit holders.

- _____ I **support** maintaining a database of concealed carry permit holders and making available to the general public a statistical analysis of concealed carry permit holders and crimes.
- _____ I **support** maintaining the database, but oppose the publication of crime statistics with regard to concealed carry permit holders.
- _____ I **oppose** maintaining a database of concealed carry permit holders.

Your Comments:

9. Violent Crime

Under current federal law, persons convicted of a felony can not purchase a firearm. Some crimes of violence may be punishable with a misdemeanor. In states which have extended the prohibition against gun purchase to those convicted of violent misdemeanors, a marked decrease in gun violence has been observed. Colorado Ceasefire supports public safety measures that limit gun access to persons who have been convicted of a crime of violence.

- _____ I **support** prohibiting gun purchases to persons with violent misdemeanor convictions.
- _____ I **oppose** prohibiting gun purchases to persons with violent misdemeanor convictions.

Your Comments:

Endorsement

- _____ | would like to be endorsed by Colorado Ceasefire
- _____ | do not wish to be endorsed by Colorado Ceasefire

Comments: