

## Chairman's Chat (Chairwoman's)

M.J. Bolt,  
SCRCC Chair/CEO

*This Issue: Keep and Bear Arms - You have the right to protect yourself against enemies both foreign and domestic.*

*Next Issue: National Sovereignty, Immigration and Defense - We believe America must have the strongest national defense necessary to defend our borders, homes and national interests.*



*Congratulations to MJ Bolt, newly elected Chair of the Spokane County Republican Party (formerly Vice Chair) and Lyle Dach, newly elected Vice Chair. Both were elected last Saturday by Republican PCOs at a SCRCC meeting. They join our State Committeewoman, Ericka Lalka, State Committeeman, Mathew Hawkins and 14 District Leaders on our Spokane County Republican Party Executive Board. Ericka Lalka is also running for Spokane School District School Board. MJ serves on the Washington State Board of Education.*

It is an honor to be elected as your new Chair of the Spokane County Republican Central Committee! Thank you to the 162 PCOs that participated on Saturday for this important step in our process - voting for a New Chair.

As I shared on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at this meeting, in order to win we must do two (2) things:

**1. Be laser-focused on our goals** - "Distraction is the enemy of Vision," someone once said, and that could be no truer than in politics. We must stay laser-focused on "Getting our recommended candidates elected" right now! We have less than four (4) weeks to make that happen, and we need everyone on board to do that. Much is at stake in these critical races for school boards, for city council positions, for fire districts and, of course, for the Mayor of Spokane. Please reach out to the individual campaigns and ask how you can help right away. Volunteering can be as simple as sending a few texts or calling people. Every little bit helps! You can find a list of our recommended candidates on our website @ [spokanegop.com](http://spokanegop.com)

### AND

**2. Increase our numbers** - We need to grow our organization – encourage others to sign up on our website. Encourage people to vote! Ensure everyone you know turns in their ballots. Help grow our teams and the number of Precinct Committee Officers in our County by checking out our volunteer page [https://www.spokanegop.com/take\\_action](https://www.spokanegop.com/take_action)

Thank you for joining forces with us. I look forward to serving you and working with you all during these next 14 months to accomplish our Mission and Vision! We have a lot of work to do, so once again, let's roll up our sleeves and get to it!

### **Call to Action!** More Candidate Information on Page 3.

1. Text your friends, neighbors and family the Recommended Sample Ballot, [spokanegop.com](http://spokanegop.com).
2. Once ballots drop, text your friends, neighbors and family to make sure to vote and get their ballots in.
3. Last weekend before the election, text them again.
4. Tell your friends, family and neighbors to sign up on our website and join our team, [New Volunteer - Spokane County Republican Party \(spokanegop.com\)](http://spokanegop.com)

## DID YOU HEAR WHAT NEW MEXICO'S GOVERNOR DID?

Motivated by the state's crime rates and more recently the killing of a child on September 6<sup>th</sup> of this year, Governor Grisham announced the phasing in of gun control policies by invoking state emergency powers. No doubt her emotional governance attempted to align with the national gun control needle but unfortunately for her, it was in violation of our Constitutional rights. Bernalillo County's Sheriff John Allen agreed;

*"Bernalillo County Sheriff John Allen said he did not want to endanger his deputies by making them enforce the ban. "This order will not do anything to curb gun violence other than punish law-abiding citizens who have a constitutional right to self defense," Allen said at a press briefing. Sep 11, 2023"*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e7iY5C8GpI>

He is correct. Restricting gun rights will not protect the innocent. Imposing sweeping gun control laws will not stem shootings. And despite the spin circulating through some organized anti-gun, biased venues that will have us believe law-biding gun owners are to fear, we must remain mindful to their lies. In a google search asking, "How many shootings are committed with legal guns?" you get misleading stats: "Mass shootings in the U.S.: legality of shooter's weapons, as of August 2023. 100 of the mass shootings in the United States between 1982 and August 2023 involved weapons which were obtained legally; a clear majority. Only 16 incidents involved guns that were obtained illegally. Sep 5, 2023

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/476461/mass-shootings-in-the-us-by-legality-of-shooters-weapons/>

Since we ARE in fact critical thinkers, we might wonder why gun control activists place so much faith in things like "Gun Free School Zone" signs. Do they really think a sign will deter an individual with purpose to do harm? Of course not. Moreover, the same people who ignore those signs are the same people who hang on to their guns. Surely activists know this so we can deduce that they really don't care about innocent victims; they care about controlling us. They tweak and twist the stats, using semantics to mislead. Only 16 incidents [mass shootings] involved illegally obtained guns?! Beyond the "mass shooting" red heron and omission of other gun related deaths, a critical detail is missing; guns stolen from law-abiding citizens and used in crimes.

<https://www.npr.org/2023/02/10/1153977949/major-takeaways-from-the-atf-gun-violence-report>

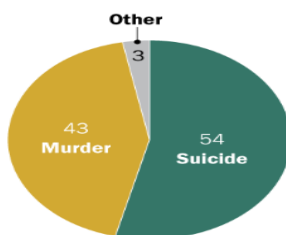
<https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/04/26/what-the-data-says-about-gun-deaths-in-the-u-s/>

<https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/GUIC.PDF>

<https://wiod.iheart.com/content/2019-08-23-qa-how-many-crimes-are-committed-by-legal-vs-illegal-guns/>

### Suicides accounted for more than half of U.S. gun deaths in 2021

% of U.S. gun deaths, by type



Note: "Other" includes gun deaths that were accidental, involved law enforcement or had undetermined circumstances.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

On September 6, 2023, an eleven year old boy was caught in the crossfire, shot and killed at a stadium game parking lot in New Mexico.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/two-men-arrested-new-mexico-shooting-11-year-old-prompted-governors-gu-rcna116844>

Do guns kill? A bullet leaves the gun chamber and barrel by depressing a lever on the gun. The gun does not depress its own trigger therefore the Who becomes a salient question to ask. In the tragic death of that eleven year old boy, one "Who" was a man with warrants. It wouldn't be a surprise to find that illegal gun(s) were involved. It's a repeat tragedy. It should not happen. It should anger us. Something should be done. The What is the question. Taking guns away from good law-abiding citizens will not stop or decrease crime IMO.

The irony in the gun control zealots' argument? Gun-free zones will rather likely be ignored by those of ill intent while deterring legal gun-carrying people, capable of protecting our loved ones. Security entrances and armed officers at events and schools is an unfortunate necessity. Some argue for more trained gun owners in schools for example. Wherever you land, ask yourself, will the majority of homicidal individuals with access to a gun - lawfully or unlawfully - select a soft target over one that is fortified? In other words, if a perpetrator knows a building or area is protected, will they move on to the next target or abort the mission? Very likely. At least it might decrease "gun violence" and we don't need to violate the Constitution to do it.

Remember: **GOD** Loves you.



# The Constitutional Corner

By Lori

"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."

We rightly focus on the fact that our right to bear arms shall not be infringed, but often we ignore the principle imbedded in the first part of the Second Amendment. The left loves to tell us that if we're not in a militia we don't need a gun. But the principle behind the militia is that the citizenry was to have the sacrosanct ability to protect their freedom. The Second Amendment is not about hunting and in many ways it isn't really about home protection (although that is an indisputable, important and fundamental right). This amendment is to protect freedom.

Throughout history there are ample examples of tyrants who have eliminated freedom and have done so beginning with the elimination of armed citizens. Venezuela and Hitler's Germany are only two fairly recent examples. Any dictator or government must think twice before he or she tries to take control of a citizenry able to defend themselves. Any invading

army, must hesitate in the face of a people who are armed and trained in the use of firearms. Do the lefties think it mere coincidence that no country has attempted a military invasion of the U.S? I hope and pray that we will never arrive at a place where we are at war with our own government. That would be horrific beyond description. Nor do I ever wish for China or any other nation to bring war to our shores. But at least I have the assurance that there would be significant opposition from those of us who understand our imperative as citizens to protect our own freedom. As we descend into national chaos, pursued and implemented deliberately by the communist left, our freedom becomes ever more imperiled. Moreover, we are being invaded—not by an organized army—but by a throng of illegal immigrants. Law-abiding citizens are victimized daily by the lawless mobs that have resulted from Soros AG's nation-wide who refuse to apply the law to criminals. The only thing standing between us and total lawlessness is the armed citizen. To coin a phrase, "...when they pry it from my cold, dead fingers."

## WAKE UP SPOKANE COUNTY

### PRECINCT COMMITTEE OFFICERS (PCOs)

*Terms began - December 1, 2022.*

If you do not know your Precinct number, you can find it at:

<https://voter.votewa.gov/>

Submit your name and birthday & click registration link to get your precinct number.

PCOs are such important connections between the people and the candidates. Please let us know if you do not have a PCO in your precinct.

<https://wsrp.org/assets/uploads/2022/05/2022-PCO-Manual.pdf>

### Would you consider volunteering?

#### CANDIDATE NEWS:

Visit [Spokane GOP endorsements and recommended candidates](#) for the latest news.

**KIM PLESE (R) is running for SPOKANE CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT.**

**ERICKA LALKA is running for SPOKANE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

*NOW LET'S GET behind our candidates.*

*Candidates who do not get the votes; PLEASE do not be discouraged. Get your name out there and return to the playing field. WE STILL NEED GOOD PEOPLE TO REPRESENT US.*

Excerpt from a column published in 2019 following passage of I-1639, requiring annual background checks and strict safe storage requirements. Citizens were encouraged by **Washington Strikes Back** to file criminal complaints on Attorney General Bob Ferguson. For the complete column: <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2019/sep/07/sue-lani-madsen-initiative-didnt-strengthen-gun-sa/>

**Washington Strikes Back** interprets Ferguson's endorsement of I-1639 as official misconduct under RCW 9A.80.010 for seeking to "deprive another person of a lawful right or privilege." The Washington state Constitution is plain-spoken: Article I Section 24 states "The right of the individual citizen to bear arms in defense of himself, or the state, shall not be impaired."

Ferguson endorsed I-1639 at the same time his office was tasked with writing a neutral ballot title and summary, stepping across the traditional boundary between executive and legislative branches. He admitted to a conflict of interest when he told Northwest Public Broadcasting in April 2018 that he'd have to "wall himself off" from that process.

In an open letter, former Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney Don Brockett said the Attorney General and the Governor should both step down if they are unable to uphold their oaths of office. After pointing out ways I-1639 is unconstitutional, Brockett points to the ridiculousness of having to "file a lawsuit and wait for a decision [and] in the meantime suffering a loss of our rights.

Lincoln County Prosecuting Attorney Jeff Barkdull believes "it would be a better use of time and money to build up our mental health services. We're dealing with mental health issues on a weekly basis even here, and that's the crisis – not guns."

Speaking at EWU's Public Health Grand Rounds lecture series on Friday, Sgt. Jordan Ferguson of the Spokane Police Department Domestic Violence Unit pointed out that firearms by themselves don't harm anybody, it's the breakdown in individuals and families that leads to trouble.

Therese Hansen, Injury and Violence Prevention Manager for the Washington Department of Health ran through the public health data, concluding "firearm suicide is the major issue here." She declined to comment on pending gun control legislation, citing her boundaries as a state employee.

A boundary the Attorney General seems to have ignored.

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## **2024 Washington Gubernatorial Election**

*(Rep. vs. Dem...vs Socialism?)*

**\*Primary election - August 6, 2024    \*General election - November 5, 2024.**

Every election year we hear how important it is to vote; each main political party vying for yours. The upcoming election year is no different except that one party's request for your vote is a vote for Socialism. Democrats are not Socialists, but unfortunately, they have aligned with Socialists (Socialist-Democrat – if there is such a thing), teaming up in order to hold onto power. The marriage, however, is on the rocks or it should be because even the most loyal traditional Democrat must be seeing how their party name is becoming synonymous with anti-American sentiment. Republicans and Democrats have always and will always disagree on issues but the ideology of Socialism is in a class of its own. The thing we have in common with Democrats is that we want the best for our people. How we make policy may differ but the bottom line is, we love this country. With the 2024 election year right around the corner, distinctions between Democrat and Socialist is necessary. Tell your Democrat friends that Socialism has no place in their party. We cannot afford to get this one wrong.

## FROM OUR WSRP CHAIR, JIM WALSH

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVLivWENFYw&list=PLXuqqUtFEHfSwUSWCEC7iQMxakJqbEvi2&index=9&t=20s>

Please sign these 6 initiatives for 2024 Washington ballot. Then, we vote <https://letsgowashington.com/>.

I-2113 Reasonable Police Pursuit  
I-2117 Stop the hidden gas tax

I- 2124 Opt out of state-run long-term care act  
I-2111 No state income tax

I-2109 Repeal the capital gains tax  
I 2081 Parental notification

### QUESTION:

WHY VOTE? MY ONE VOTE DOESN'T COUNT!

### ANSWER:

1800 – Thomas Jefferson won by ONE vote (In the House of Representatives after a tie in the Electoral College)

1824– Andrew Jackson lost by ONE vote in the House of Representatives after Electoral College dead-lock.

2017 – Shelly Simonds (D) won by ONE vote in Virginia House of Delegates. (Later overturned).

-----**VOTE!**----- BECAUSE THEY DO!

<https://www.npr.org/2018/11/03/663709392/why-every-vote-matters-the-elections-decided-by-a-single-vote-or-a-little-more>

### SAVE IMPORTANT DATES

Election Day for local races is Tuesday, November 7. Ballots have been mailed. Go to [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov) for more information.

### CONTACT US

[www.SpokaneGOP.com](http://www.SpokaneGOP.com)

### FIND US

[Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP)

[YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP](https://YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP)

[Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP](https://Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP)

### SUPPORT US

<https://www.spokanegop.com/donate>

### WATCH FOR UPDATES IN WASHINGTON:

2019-20 HB1087 Concerning long-term care tax and services.

<https://www.washingtonpolicy.org/publications/detail/payroll-tax-for-wa-cares-has-begun-but-meetings-continue-on-program-details> Additional Information:

<https://www.washingtonpolicy.org/centers/detail/center-for-health-care> or <https://www.washingtonpolicy.org/centers/detail/center-for-worker-rights>.

<https://www.washingtonpolicy.org/publications/detail/new-state-run-program-will-not-fix-long-term-care-crisis-nor-should-it-offer-peace-of-mind-to-workers-forced-to-fund-it>.

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**INITIATIVE I-2081 Parental Rights Initiative is available to sign NOW through mid-December.** We did not gather enough signatures to vote on a ballot measure overturning (2023) SB 5599 which furthers division between parent and child. Please sign Initiative I-2081 regarding parental notification by public schools.

Hiring Signature gatherers. For more policy issues and petitions, go to <https://letsgowashington.com/>.

**LET'S GET THE SIGNATURES AND MAKE THE BALLOT!**

### LEGISLATIVE WATCH

Washington Legislators meet again on the 8<sup>th</sup> of **JANUARY 2024**. Keep track of "Good", "Bad" and the "Ugly" bills in the legislature: **WSRP Olympia Watch**, <https://wsrp.org/olympia-watch/>. Watch the progress of the bills. Contact your legislators to voice your support or opposition. Your input is critical. Find bills at <http://leg.wa.gov>. Add the bill number to get the text, summary, when a public hearing will occur and videos of hearings. When a bill has passed out of one chamber, you can also see who voted "yea" and "nay" by clicking on View Roll Call.

Ponderosa Republican Women, PRW

<http://www.PonderosaRepublicanWomen.com>

House Republicans

<https://houserepublicans.wa.gov/2021/02/01/how-you-can-be-involved-in-the-legislative-process/>

Interested in sharing your ideas, knowledge or time? Please consider volunteering for a GOP committee position. If interested in helping with the Communications Committee or submitting work, you **MUST** meet the submission deadline. Contact Terri for more information at [terrizalevits@gmail.com](mailto:terrizalevits@gmail.com).