

# Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Ventura County Fairgrounds, 31st District Agricultural Association  
10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: [venturacountyfair.org](http://venturacountyfair.org) Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Derby Club/ Director's Room**

## **Teleconference Location Open to the Public:**

Director M. Cecilia Cuevas will be in attendance via teleconference at 12:00 p.m. (EST)  
JW Marriott Orlando, Grande Lakes, Business Center  
4040 Central Florida Parkway, Orlando, Florida 32838

All matters noticed on this agenda may be considered for action. Items listed on the agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Board President. Any item not so noticed will not be considered or discussed. The Board requests your courtesy to **mute your electronic devices and limit usage to note taking.**

### **I. Call to Order**

#### **Roll Call**

#### **Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

Does any Board member have a conflict of interest that should preclude them from participating in discussions about or voting on any matter on today's agenda?

### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

### **III. Welcome and Introduction of Guests & Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

### **IV. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with state law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

### **V. Approval of Minutes**

A. August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting

### **VI. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018

### **VII. New Business**

A. Discussion and possible action regarding 2019 Fair dates.

### **VIII. Old Business**

A. Gun Shows on Ventura County Fairgrounds

**IX. Committee Reports**

- A. Operations Committee Meeting September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Armando Lopez, Chair
  - 1. Discussion and possible action regarding developing an RFP for the arena.
- B. Livestock Committee Meeting September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Dan Long, Member

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: 2018 State Rules Advisory Committee Meeting
- B. Thank you note from James Lee Rea III
- C. Thank you note from Mika Miles

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-4 (travel claims, if any) are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

- A. Agreements
  - 1. Standard Agreements
  - 2. Rental Agreements – Fair
  - 3. Rental Agreements – Interim
  - 4. Judging Agreements

**XII. CEO Report**

**XIII. President's Comments**

**XIV. Director's Comments**

**XV. Future Agenda Items**

**XVI. Adjourn**

**Americans With Disabilities Act**

The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Heidi Ortiz at (805) 648-3376 ext. 106 or sending a written request to that person at the Fairgrounds: 10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001. Although not required, providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Fairgrounds  
31st District Agricultural Association - 10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: venturacountyfair.org Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

## **I. Call to Order**

### **Roll Call**

### **Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

The meeting convened at 9:11 a.m., and called to order by President Cornejo.

**Directors present:** President, Leslie Cornejo, Vice President, Leah Lacayo, Michael Bradbury, M. Cecilia Cuevas (via teleconference), Daniel Long, Armando Lopez and Jim Salzer.

**Absent:** Bonnie Atmore and Shanté Morgan-Durisseau.

**Staff present:** Barbara Quaid, CEO, Vickie Taylor, Accounting Manager, Cristian Yepez, Accounting Assistant, Kim Leach, Exhibits Supervisor, James Lockwood, Marketing and Publicity Manager, Ron Murphy, Maintenance Supervisor, Lilia Kenneally, Sales Manager, Luis Juarez, Senior Maintenance and Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary.

**Guests Present:** Bernard Wittkins, Lee Draughon, Margarita C., Carolyn Herrera, Jeff Bregman, John Sabo, Rob Templeton, Keith High, Robert Decker, Carly Schroeder, Tom Caen, Bruce Brockett, Sandi Henderson, Charles Henderson, Douglas Liedblod, David Wyers, Steve Nash, Rod Currie, Ernest Blackmore, David Shewmaker, Michael Cervantes, Rich Minnich, Turners Outdoorsman (Joe Crump), Marian Walluks, George Shannon, David Kimes, Troy Corley, Martha Bravo, Bob Weiss, Tony Karian, Daniel Mattera, Ed Mann, Rick Erickson, Charles Guenther and D Hawper.

There were no conflicts of interest with any of the Board members that were present.

Due to the number of people present President Cornejo took item VIII, Old Business, out of order and moved it after item IV, Public Comments. She also limited the amount of time each speaker will have to three minutes.

## **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Lopez led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. Welcome and Introductions of Guests and Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

## **IV. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with State law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

There were 31 public speakers who all addressed the gun show and whether or not they were in favor of or against continuing to have them at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Sandi Henderson – Pro Gun Show  
Daniel Mattera – Pro Gun Show  
Rob Templeton – Pro Gun Show  
John Sabo – Pro Gun Show  
Bert Rivera – Pro Gun Show  
Jeff Bregman – Pro Gun Show  
Tracy Olcott – Pro Gun Show  
Jack Wise – Pro Gun Show  
Bob Weiss – Anti-Gun Show  
Lisa Karfe – Anti-Gun Show  
Roderick Currie – Expressed no opinion, wants factual information  
George Shannon – Pro Gun Show  
David Kimes – Pro Gun Show  
Troy Corley – Anti-Gun Show  
Michael Cervantes – Anti-Gun Show  
Dr. Martinez – Anti-Gun Show  
Marian Walluks – Pro Gun Show  
Ernest Blackmore – Pro Gun Show  
Richard Minnich – Pro Gun Show  
David Wyers – Pro Gun Show  
Steve Nash – Anti-Gun Show  
Turners Outdoorsman (Joe Crump) – Pro Gun Show  
Ed Mann – Pro Gun Show  
Tony Karian – Pro Gun Show  
Brandt Jackson – Pro Gun Show  
Barry Sheumaker – Pro Gun Show  
Tiffany Cheuvrant – Pro Gun Show  
Sarah Williamson – Pro Gun Show  
Karen Peters – Anti-Gun Show  
JJ Citizen – Anti-Gun Show  
Carlye Glaser - Pro Gun Show

**VIII. Old Business – This item was taken out of order and discussed following public comments.**

**A. Gun Shows on Ventura County Fairgrounds**

There have been requests from the Board to address the gun shows and the Board has received a large amount of information that needs to be processed. There are many legal issues surrounding this, so the Board needs to make sure they are doing things properly. President Cornejo appointed an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of herself, Vice President Lacayo and CEO Quaid to work with the State's legal counsel, Christine Vana, on these issues and bring a recommended policy back to the full Board. Each Director had the opportunity to give their input and ask any questions. The Ad Hoc Committee will take all comments into consideration and make sure any questions get answered.

Director Cuevas disconnected.



## **V. Approval of Minutes**

### **A. August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting**

**MOTION:** To approve the August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting minutes.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury (Second)	X		
Director Cuevas (offline)			
Director Long	X		
Director Lopez	X		
Director Salzer (Motion)	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

## **VI. Financial Report**

### **A. Financials ending July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

Ms. Taylor gave a detailed explanation of the financials.

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Discussion and possible action regarding 2019 Fair dates.**

CEO Quaid recommended the 2019 Fair dates to be July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION:** To approve July 31<sup>st</sup> through August 11<sup>th</sup> as the 2019 Fair dates.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas (offline)			
Director Long	X		
Director Lopez (Motion)	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

## **IX. Committee Reports**

### **A. Operations Committee Meeting September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Armando Lopez, Chair**

#### **1. Discussion and possible action regarding developing an RFP for the arena.**

- The Operations Committee has been waiting for a proposal from Spectra on the issue of the arena since last year and since they have not heard anything other than that they are working on it. The committee decided to move forward with doing an RFP and ask the State to assist with it.
- It would be a nationwide search for a private partner to bring the arena up to the standards that are desirable to the Board.

**MOTION:** To approve working with the appropriate State agency to develop an RFP that would go out nationwide for a public/private partnership on the arena itself not a temporary facility.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury (Second)	X		
Director Cuevas (offline)			
Director Long	X		
Director Lopez (Motion)	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

B. Livestock Committee Meeting September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Dan Long, Member

- The minutes are before everyone, but one of the biggest topics was that a committee was set up to work on making sure Independent exhibitors follow the same rules as the other groups.

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Memo from John Quiroz, California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: 2018 State Rules Advisory Committee Meeting  
 B. Thank you note from James Lee Rea III  
 C. Thank you note from Mika Miles

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-4 (travel claims, if any) are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

- A. Agreements
1. Standard Agreements
  2. Rental Agreements – Fair
  3. Rental Agreements - Interim
  4. Judging Agreements

**MOTION:** To approve consent agenda items A, 1-4.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas (offline)			
Director Long	X		
Director Lopez (stepped out of room)			
Director Salzer (Motion)	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

**XII. CEO Report**

- Happy to be back and gave as much of an update from all the different departments.
- Read the mission statement to remind everyone the charge of the fairgrounds.
- Many of our events, including the gun shows, are educational as well as safe and they are all within our mission statement.

### **XIII. President's Comments**

- It is so wonderful to live in this country. She travels a lot and loves going but is always proud to come home because there are such wonderful traditions here.

### **XIV. Director's Comments**

Director Salzer

- Explained that he read an article on the LA County Fair and reviewed some of the promotions they do and suggested looking at some of those promotions down the road.

Director Bradbury

- During testimonies people were comparing the safety at gun shows to the lack thereof at Fair. We have one of the safest and finest Fairs in the country and there is no evidence that it is a dangerous place to be.
- Have staff look at sound system and see if it can be updated.
- Delighted to have CEO Quaid back

Director Lacayo

- Thanked Ms. Vana and Mr. Quiroz for coming to this board meeting.

### **XV. Future Agenda Items**

### **XVI. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ortiz, Executive Assistant

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Quaid, CEO Ventura Fairgrounds

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Cornejo, Board President

## GOING OFF OF SCRIPT

Personally, I am surprised that I haven't heard of the animal rights groups wanting to eliminate the farm animals from being displayed at the annual fairs.

Once you begin limiting certain activities because of the opinion of a small group of people it encourages other groups to take up their cause.

I am a mechanic...I don't junk the car because of one noisy wheel bearing

*David Wyers*

9/24/2018

To whom it may concern:

VENTURA COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICIALS  
REGARDING THE CONTINUEING VENUE OF GUNSHOWS AT THE FAIRGROUNDS

It has come to my attention that the Ventura county fair board is addressing the possibility of banning gun shows in Ventura county fairgrounds on this coming Tuesday.

My wife and I have had a very keen interest in target shooting and researching the science and development of firearms from the mid 1800's to WWII for the past 30 years. We have attended and had tables at the Ventura gun show, so we have a firsthand knowledge of the activities that occur at the gun shows.

The gun shows are not the problem.

Of the crimes that occur that are reported in the news the crimes are committed by individuals that never should have had access to the firearms that they used.

The gun shows are closely monitored by local and federal law enforcement and they have done a very good job of keeping our shows in the state of California legal. Driving the guns underground will create more of a black market than already exists, making the job of law enforcement even more difficult.

As an example, it would be a minor child that gained access to a gun owned by an adult that was not legally secured, guns used by gangs, illegal drugs, marijuana cultivation or the mentally unstable. Gun shows are not a lure to these people.

From my experience the people that we know that still do gun shows maintain a vestigial of illegal activities and will not sell to anyone that in their opinion are not responsible.

I support the laws that our governor signed in recent days that prohibit the acquisition of a firearm by anyone committing domestic violence or has been diagnosed mentally unstable and I would have added anyone that is prescribed drugs that obscure good judgement. The drug use is not addressed by people that use these drugs and drive. I have declined to work on customers cars that I feel should not be behind the wheel of a car.

I have many and varied interests such as sailing, older vehicles, ham radio, road trips, some or all of these activities can be vilified in one way or another. I don't see why I should be denied one of these activities because of the illegal activity of a very few.

David Wyers CAMARILLO RESIDANT AND BUSINESSMAN FOURTY YEARS

9/24/2018

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David Wyers CAMARILLO RESIDANT AND BUSINESSMAN FOURTY YEARS

A few months ago, I was driving in the city of south Oxnard, when my older children appeared to be in shock to know that they were reading a bright yellow advertisement for a gun show. We have never seen these types of signs in my more affluent and predominantly white neighborhood; nor are these signs present by their school. They couldn't understand why such a thing existed; after all they frequently have to train at school for a possible mass shooting. While my generation practiced earthquake drills, my children's generation is practicing mass shooting drills. Let's be clear, this has a negative impact on their world view and development.

I have and hope to always be an advocate for the well being of children, which is why I raise the following concern with your gun shows. Gun shows specifically providing free entrances to children under the age of 12 in addition to advertising to marginalized communities near children's schools. The American Academy of Pediatrics along with the American Psychological Association have delineated their recommendations and concerns (since the 1960's) for advertising for children. The APA specifically has formed a current task force reviewing the literature. While there is a gap in the literature specifically on gun violence, and politics is responsible for this absence, science can point to certain facts.

"Research indicates clearly that advertising exerts substantial influence on children's attitudes and behaviors, and these effects go well beyond moving product desire from one brand to another. More specifically, the evidence points directly to one fundamental concern: that advertising targeting children below the ages of 7–8 years is inherently unfair because it capitalizes on younger children's inability to attribute persuasive intent to advertising. As a result of this limitation, children below this 7age comprehend the information contained as uncritically, accepting most advertising claims and appeals as truthful, accurate, and unbiased." (APA Advertising & Children).

Furthermore, we know the reviews of the literature have found a substantial relationship between children's viewing of tobacco and alcohol ads and positive attitudes toward consumption of such products. Considerable research has also examined advertising's cumulative effect on children's eating habits; leading to poorer health.

Billions of dollars are spent on advertising for children and research on children's commercial recall and product preferences confirms that advertising typically achieves its intended effects. A variety of studies using differing methodologies find that children recall content from the ads to which they've been exposed. Most importantly, studies

have shown that product preferences affect children's product purchase requests and that these requests do influence parents' purchasing decisions.

As a social scientist and clinician, I urge you to use an evidence based approach as to your decision to review gun show policies. As a mother, I urge you to look at other financial options for your organization, those that do not hurt our children in the short or long term.



9-25-18



We are not asking you to make a legal decision. We are asking that you make a moral decision. It's easy to get caught up in all of the 1st Amendment, 2nd Amendment, Heller this, Nordyke that noise. Let's just focus on what this community wants. We want gun shows off of public property. Quite simply, there are ample alternatives for gun show promoters to hold events on private property.

We don't want to intimidate or bully you. That is what the other side does. Remember, that all pro-gun groups are supported by the NRA. The NRA has become, for all intents and purposes, an advocacy group for the arms manufacturers. They hide behind the 2A to turn a profit. Their goal is to sell as many weapons and accessories as possible. 300 million+ guns in America aren't enough. They want to arm teachers, for goodness sakes! Could you ever have imagined a world in which this is even a remote possibility? I couldn't, yet here we are. Today, our schools practice active shooter drills. Is this something we should be proud of? Do you know that there are school backpacks that have been designed to incorporate a Kevlar-type shield? Who profits from this madness? Well, it certainly isn't you or I.

We all know the dry statistics, like how every day 96 Americans are killed with guns and hundreds more are shot and injured. But the effects of gun violence extend far beyond these casualties—gun violence shapes the lives of millions of Americans who witness it, know someone who was shot, or live in fear of the next shooting. And whether it's Mr. Weiss or Mr. Guttenberg or any of the other parents of the 1,600 children and teen homicide victims killed every year by guns, we weep as they tell their heart-rending stories of loss.

Enough. Please do the right and moral thing and ban any future gun shows at the Fairgrounds.

## Veterans for Peace Statement on Gun Violence

### END THE GUN VIOLENCE, AT HOME AND ABROAD!

#### *An Urgent Message from Veterans For Peace*

As veterans who have been traumatized by the violence of war, we were shocked and saddened by the recent mass murder of 17 high school students in Parkland, Florida. This horrible slaughter, carried out by a troubled young man with a military assault rifle, would be tragic enough if it were a freak occurrence. But sadly, this appalling event is part of a well-established pattern – an unchecked epidemic of mass killings in the U.S.

**Typically, these killings have been perpetrated by troubled young men**, using military style assault weapons, which are bought and sold in stores across the nation, to anyone 18 or over. Typically, there is a public outcry after these massacres. Typically, the National Rifle Association (NRA), one of the most powerful lobbies in this country, pressures politicians to do little or nothing to restrain unfettered access to these weapons of mass destruction. Somebody is making a lot of money off the sale of these weapons, and they are sharing some of it with the politicians. Plain and simple.

**We applaud the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School** and other students around the country who have decided to directly challenge the corrupted politicians and the NRA's lobby for violent death (and profits).

**Veterans For Peace will have a contingent in the March For Our Lives in Washington, DC, on March 24**, including several members of our national Board of Directors. We encourage our members to join us in that march, and also to participate in the many local March For Our Lives actions around the country on Saturday, March 24th.

**Veterans For Peace is also concerned about the culture of violence and hyper-masculinity** that has been cultivated in the United States. While extreme violence is most visible in video games and movies it has become the normal part of all aspects of our culture. Young men are taught that to be a man they must prepare to be violent. Recently Mother Jones compiled a study that shows of all the mass shooting since 1982, they found that 97% were male. We must start talking about and working on ways to dismantle notions of patriarchy that tells men domination and violence are the only way.

**Many military veterans see gun violence as a reflection of our culture which teaches that force or the threat of using force is the most effective and honored way to address conflict resolution.** That issues are always simple with "bad guys and good guys" and the bad guys must be killed. This reflection of gun violence is most starkly seen in the "permanent wars" that the U.S. is carrying out in multiple countries. At last count, the United States was bombing at least seven nations (Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Yemen, Libya, and Somalia), as well as using drones to carry out targeted assassinations. Here at home, deaths of students and others killed in mass shootings and gun violence, including suicide gun deaths, are said to be the price of freedom to bear arms. Civilian casualties in war are written off as "collateral damage," the price of freedom and U.S. security. But the truth is, at home or abroad, violence begets violence. These U.S. wars have only served to create more violence, and despite more and more gun access and the spread of open carry and other gun friendly laws, we see more and more mass shootings and gun violence here at home. In both cases, nobody wins except those who are making armloads of money through the sale of guns and bombs.

Here in the U.S., the epidemic of killing is not limited to young disgruntled men with assault weapons. **We must also address an epidemic of police killings, which take place in virtually every U.S. city.** According to a well-researched article by Michael Harriot in The Root, police officers killed 1,129 people in 2017.

"More people died from police violence in 2017 than the total number of U.S. soldiers killed in action around the globe (21). More people died at the hands of police in 2017 than the number of black people who were lynched in the worst year of Jim Crow (161 in 1892). Cops killed more Americans in 2017 than terrorists did (four). They killed more citizens than airplanes (13 deaths worldwide), mass shooters (428 deaths) and Chicago's "top gang thugs" (675 Chicago homicides)."

A highly disproportionate number of those killed by police are people of color, primarily Black people, Native Americans and Latinos. The percentages are even higher for people of color who were unarmed when gunned down by police. Only 12 officers were charged with a crime related to a shooting death, and certainly fewer were convicted.

We must also oppose the militarization of the police, who are being armed with weapons of war and trained to treat communities of color as occupied enemy territory.

To fully address gun violence, we must also talk about domestic violence, violent crime and gun deaths by suicide. A few statistics from the website Everytown tell a violent story.

Women in the U.S. are 16 times more likely to be killed with a gun than women in other high-income countries.

- Every year U.S. women suffer from 5.3 million incidents of intimate partner violence.
- In an average month, 50 U.S. women are shot to death by intimate partners
- Nearly 1 million women alive today have been shot, or shot at, by an intimate partner.
- About 4.5 million U.S. women alive today have been threatened with a gun by an intimate partner.
- Everytown's analysis of mass shootings from 2009 to 2016 shows that in 54 percent of mass shootings, the shooters killed intimate partners or other family members.

Unfettered gun rights advocates claim that more guns will make us safe. While it is true that legal gun owners commit a small fraction of gun violence offenses, there is a growing body of research that shows the presence of a gun in a home increases the likelihood of someone in the home being killed by a gun. For example, of the 93 people who die from gun violence in the U.S. every day, 58 of those deaths, or nearly two-thirds, are suicides with guns. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data shows suicide with a gun is the most common and by far the most deadly suicide method. This is close to home for us as veterans because 20 to 22 of us die by suicide a day. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, in 2014, 66% of those deaths were the result of firearms injuries. If we couple these suicide statistics with the above domestic violence numbers, it is easy to see that violent crime, like mass shootings and street violence are only part of our nation's gun death epidemic.

This is the holistic view of gun violence that Veterans For Peace wants to share with all those who share a sense of urgency that something must be done. Yes, military assault weapons should be banned. High capacity ammo magazines too. Thorough background checks should be required of all those wishing to purchase firearms, without exceptions. Those are obvious common sense steps that are being demanded by the March For Our Lives. We must work to support these young folks and others who have been engaged to continue getting to the root of the epidemic of violence.

We must also take steps to rein in racist police killings and to change the violent, hyper-masculine culture in this country. We must demilitarize U.S. society, and reverse the violent U.S. foreign policy which is causing death and destruction in too many countries. We must address domestic violence and suicide. We must ask who is benefiting from flooding U.S. urban and rural communities with guns? Are they the same manufactures and investors that gain from global arms sales that ensures gun violence around the world?

The toll of this violence on our society, on the working class men and women who are pressed into fighting the nation's wars, as well as the violence the U.S. government exports and kills innocent people around the world is tragic and intolerable. It must end.



Veterans For Peace (and allied organizations) contingent for D.C. march will meet at 11am next Saturday in front of the Harrington Hotel (436 11th Street. NW, Washington, DC. 20004)

After the march there will be an informal gathering at Bus Boys and Poets at 5th and K (1025 5th St NW Washington D.C. 20001)

# 31<sup>ST</sup> DAA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Ventura County Fairgrounds

September 25, 2018

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Welcome, All, to our monthly board meeting of the 31<sup>st</sup> DAA meeting, District Agriculture Association Meeting. We would begin with the call to order and the roll call. Heidi?

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Director Atmore?

(No audible response.)

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Director Bradbury?

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Present.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Director Cuevas?

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Here.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Director Long?

DIRECTOR LONG: Here.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Director Lopez?

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: Here.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Director Morgan-Durisseau?

DIRECTOR MORGAN-DURISSEAU: Present.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Director Salzer?

DIRECTOR SALZER: Here.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Vice President Lacayo?

VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Here.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: And President Cornejo?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Here.

Does any board member have a conflict of interest that should preclude them from participating in discussion about or voting on any other of today's agenda?

(Board responded.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Comments? Good.

I did neglect to mention that it is my discretion to change the order of the agenda to accommodate the proceedings. Being that we have such a large group of people here, I would like to move item number 8, which is Old Business, and we will move that up to after item 4, after public comment on Items not on the Agenda.

We will, at my discretion as well, change the amount of time that you have to three minutes, and I do hope that you can just abbreviate some of the things that you had to say today. They're very important. We want to make sure you're all heard, but even with three minutes we'll probably be here over an hour and a half with your comments, and we do want to get on with proceedings as well. So just to respect everyone's time and their right to speak, we will shorten it to the three minutes per person.

At this point Pledge of Allegiance.

Armando, would you lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance?

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: Ready, begin.

(Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I will mention as well, in case you're curious or interested, we do have a one member attending by phone, voice conference, phone conference, and we will be taking a break here to follow *Bagley-Keene* to make sure that it is appropriate and legal that she participate in this meeting, so this is Cecilia Cuevas who will be listening in, has the right to vote as well.

Let's see. We'd like to introduce guest staff. If you're going to speak, maybe don't introduce yourself because that will just make it all that much longer and you'll get a chance to introduce yourselves when you speak.

But we do have some important guests – I know you are all important, really – but if we could go ahead with John Quiroz and – go ahead and introduce yourself, if you would, please.

JOHN QUIROZ: Hi. My name is John Quiroz. I'm with the Department of Food and Agriculture.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

STAFF COUNSEL VANA: Hello. My name is Christine Vana. I am staff counsel with the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: And who else, staff? Kim?

KIM LEACH: Kim Leach, Exhibits Supervisor.

CRISTIAN YEPEZ: Cristian Yopez, Finance

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

JAMES LOCKWOOD: James Lockwood, publicity for the fairgrounds.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: And I think that's it. Oh, and Lilia?

LILIA KENNEALY: Lilia Kennealy, Account Manager.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Anybody else?

(No audible response.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

All right. First, we would have the public comment on items not on the agenda.

Is there anyone that has filled out a card to discuss anything besides item 8 on the agenda, the gun show? Is there anything else, or is everything related to gun show?

(No audible response.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. All right. So then let's proceed with that, then.

So. I'd like to go ahead, and Barbara, if you'd read off the names in the order that they're just thrown into the stack?

CEO QUAID: Absolutely.

Sandi Henderson?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: And who's our time keeper?

CEO QUAID: Heidi.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Yeah.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Three minutes.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It might be good to and then announce who's next after you get them up "followed by".

CEO QUAID: Followed by Daniel Mattera.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It helps.

SANDI HENDERSON: Good morning. I'm sorry?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Pull that mic down a little bit, if you would, for me.

SANDI HENDERSON: Better? Okay.

Good morning. I – I just --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can't hear you back here.

SANDI HENDERSON: I don't know how to raise the volume.

Does that work?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah. That's good.

SANDI HENDERSON: Raise the volume with my voice.

Again, good morning. I'm just here to represent the sanity of gun owners in the State – not only the State of California, the United States of America, and the County of Ventura.

Background checks are done before guns can be purchased, before anything is done at the gun shows, the ability to sign up and take classes in how to properly use a firearm are offered by many. T-shirts are sold. It's – it is no more lethal a hobby than is race car driving, motorcycle driving, skeet shooting – okay, that's a gun thing – any of the hobbies. Football can be more dangerous than gun ownership and having a gun as a hobby. I would just like to share that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

Okay, next?

CEO QUAID: Daniel Mattera followed by Rob Templeton.

DANIEL MATTERA: Good morning, Folks. My name's Dan Mattera. I am a retired Los Angeles fire captain. I am here to implore you to make your decision, evidenced by your vote, on whether or not to continue the gun show. I'd like you to -- it's an important decision you're gonna make. Please make that decision based upon logic –

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Speak up, please. Can't hear you.

DANIEL MATTERA: I'm sorry?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Raise it up.

DANIEL MATTERA: There, how's that?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's good.

DANIEL MATTERA: All right. There's a decision going to be made on whether or not to continue the gun shows here. I would ask you to make that decision based upon logic. There's gonna be some rhetoric spoken today based upon emotion. There's no crime associated with these gun shows. With the lack of any criminal activity, why would you discontinue these shows?

People show up. We buy goods here. There's taxes paid to the County of Ventura. We go to the restaurants. We go to the gas stations afterwards. With there not being any criminal activity associated with it, as the young lady before me said, any guns that are purchased have to comply with state and federal laws. There's no reason to ban these gun shows. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can we ask for no clapping? Do what the City Council does.

CEO QUAID: Rob Templeton followed by John Sabo.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: And I will ask that we keep the applause or negative talk, any kind of noise, at a minimum, kindly, out of respect for everyone here and out of respect for everyone's time. Everyone will have a chance to speak.

ROB TEMPLETON: Can you hear me in the back at all?

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen of the Board. I appreciate the opportunity that I have to come here and speak with you today.

(Feedback issues.)

ROB TEMPLETON: My name is Rob Templeton. My family owns and operates Crossroads of the West Gun Shows. We have been doing this in our family for 40 plus years. I know there's gonna be a lot of people today that speak about the legality and things of the gun show. I wanted to talk just briefly on the safety and security procedures that we have at the gun show to keep everyone safe there.

As having done the shows for so long, we know some of the pitfalls that we might fall into with safety. One of the things that we do to keep everyone safe there at the gun show, anyone that comes to the show, whether it's a dealer or a member of the public, when they come to the show they need to check in at the security office, the safety and security office, and our safety officer takes possession of that gun and operates the action and gets the action tied -- zip-tied so that's it's inoperable, rendering the gun -- it cannot fire with the zip tie that's in there. All the guns that come have that.

And any safety concerns that there might be, the dealer's gonna be the first to let us know. This is our livelihood. This is the way my family makes money. This is the way hundreds of our dealers, this is the way they support their families and make money, and none of us would do anything to put that in jeopardy. All the guns are tied.

We also have so that there's no loose rounds of ammunition that are allowed in the show. And maybe that's redundant. We have that so that you can't stick a shell inside of a gun to see if it works, to check the size or whatever. Like I say, maybe that's redundant because the guns are inoperable with that zip tie, but it's just a, you know, double check, a double security.

We have had zero accidental discharges here at the Ventura County Fairgrounds in the 12 years that we've done shows. We have so many safety procedures put into place, I wish we had more time to talk about them all. Suffice it to say that we have had no incidents at all. And the gun shows are actually a very not only legal but very safe place to be. Thank you for your time.



(Applause.)

ROB TEMPLETON: And I've got here -- I've left some little pamphlets. If you have an opportunity to read those sometime and look at them, they are brief, and it has some of the things that were kind of discussed.

CEO QUAID: John Sabo, and I hope I'm saying that correctly, followed by Bert Rivera.

JOHN SABO: Yeah. I'd just like to say that being a resident of Ventura County, I've seen the gun shops here go under, for whatever reasons, and it's a safe place to go to buy parts and ammunition. I know the county makes money. Fairgrounds offer parking, admissions, and sales tax. And other than political correctness, I don't see any reason why gun shows cannot exist peacefully along with all the other venues at the fairgrounds up and down the State.

Can anybody tell me why?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We're not allowed to answer discussion questions.

JOHN SABO: Do you want me to jot it down?

But anyway, you know, there's -- is there any problems law enforcement-wise or anything?

I go to every gun show, and I don't see any problems. So that's what I have to say.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

CEO QUAID: Thank you. Bert Rivera --

JOHN SABO: Thank you, all.

CEO QUAID: -- followed by Jeff Bregman.

BERT RIVERA: Speak into this? All right.

Can everybody hear me back there?

(Crowd answers in the affirmative.)

BERT RIVERA: All right. So, the trick is, people, put your lips to the microphone.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Move back a little bit.

BERT RIVERA: You want me back?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just a little.

BERT RIVERA: All right. Okay, here, cool. So, mine's gonna be very brief.

You know how to cook a frog? Anyone? Okay. It's a rhetorical question. You don't put them in boiling water, you put them in cold water, and you slowly turn up the heat. The reason I give that little story is because that's how our rights are eroded by things like

“Let’s eliminate this over here. Let’s eliminate that over there”. A death by a thousand cuts. That’s how our freedoms are lost.

Well, we have the opportunity right now in this country to speak our minds without going to jail, the First Amendment. The Second Amendment is right behind it. It was so important to the founding fathers they put it right after the First.

So, some might say this is off topic, but it’s not. This relates to our freedoms, so if there was a pattern, if there were statistics to back up violence coming out of gun shows, I, as a firefighter paramedic, I would see that, I would know that because I’m involved 30 years. I’d be putting my hand up against that. I don’t see that.

In fact, the group that I see that defends our freedoms the most are those that are carrying guns. There’s a lot of people in Ventura County with concealed weapons permits. They’re not out there shooting it up. There’s a lot of enthusiasts in, like, different groups, both conservative and liberal, that enjoy shooting guns. They need to have a place to come that’s safe, and at this show it is safe, and purchase and exchange information. I thank you for your time.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Jeff Bregman, followed by Tracy Olcott.

JEFF BREGMAN: My name is Jeff Bregman. I am actually the owner of a gun shop down in Glendale --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We can’t hear you.

JEFF BREGMAN: My name is Jeff Bregman. I’m the owner of a gun shop down in Glendale, California, and I use gun shows for promotion, advertisement because radio and television advertising is permitted in California.

But my statement more along the lines is: It’s your responsibility as our government. The progressive movement to ban guns is based on misinformation and lies. It’s willful ignorance. You have an obligation to protect the freedoms of your citizenry from that willful ignorance.

There’s a movie called Idiocracy from 2006 where the lowest common denominator continues to vote and encourage stupidity where the rights of the people are taken away. Your obligation is to protect us from that, not to encourage it, not to bow to it. It takes more courage to stand up for rights of an individual than to listen to the screaming masses who are ignorant of an environment.

The people that are opposed to these gun laws has read your comments. They don’t understand how restrictive California gun laws actually are. They don’t understand that California government is encouraging violent crime by freeing people, by not pressing charges, and creating a greater level of violence of the crime that’s actually happening and causing underreporting of crime by reclassifying it.

Your right to protect yourself and your family is tantamount, it's paramount. It's a, as someone called, a God-given right. It is a natural right, and to take away the opportunity to learn about the tools of that practice is idiocy. Because if you're not willing to stand up and defend yourself, you have no right to expect anybody else to do it, and you have to show the courage to stand up to a loud minority of people who will scream idiocy at you because of their willful ignorance.

(Conversation with Cecilia Cuevas about background noise.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I'm sorry, and you've used most of your time.

JEFF BREGMAN: So to wrap it up, basically, I beg you, don't devolve into an idiocy. Use the courage that you're supposed to have as our leaders and stand up against a vocal minority who is only speaking out of willful ignorance. They are not speaking on facts. They are not speaking on anything truthful. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Tracy Olcott?

TRACY OLCOTT: Hi. I'm Tracy Olcott. I'm president of Crossroads of the West Gun Shows. We are a family-owned company. We've been promoting gun shows for over 40 years, and we started in Utah. We started up in California since 1984. We offer gun shows in four states at 13 venues, six of them here in California.

In order to promote gun shows in California, we must obtain licensing from the Department of Justice. This license is called a Certificate of Eligibility and requires a background check and continuing interaction with DOJ. We also work with local law enforcement to make sure our shows are offered in full compliance with the law.

Each week that we have a show in California, we submit a list of vendors who wish to sell firearms to the Department of Justice. As required by California law, all firearms sold at the gun show must be held by a federally-licensed firearms dealer until the 10-day waiting period and background check is completed. When the buyer passes the background check and the waiting period is met, they must demonstrate practical knowledge of that firearm before it can be delivered to them.

Gun shows are a great place for people to see and compare many firearms and handle them before they make a purchase. There are a lot of things besides guns being sold at a gun show. The gun show provides a forum for education about gun training and safety, whether beginners or the very experienced, including current and former law enforcement and military personnel and regular folks like you and me.

Those of us who attend gun shows simply have a different hobby interest than those who might attend a different consumer show. If you've never attended our event, we encourage you to come out and see what it's all about. It is all in compliance with the law, and we welcome any of you who have questions to give us a call and we'll help you out understand what we do. Thank you.

CEO QUAID: Thank you. Jack Wise, Jack Wise followed by Bob Weiss.

JACK WISE: How convenient was that, two Wises in a row?

I want to thank you for the Pledge of Allegiance this morning. Our forefathers fought and died so we could do that. Many of the people in this room were part of the military, 36 years firefighter, a long-time or a life-long resident of Ventura County.

If you're looking at gun shows, I'm hoping that each and every one of you had an opportunity to come to one of those gun shows. What kind of audience do you see there? You don't see the amount of agents out there. You don't see the illegal elements. What you see is families enjoying the day. You see that.

For 12 years I've brought my kids to (unintelligible) where we've learned about gun safety, where we've seen the nostalgia about the history of our military, where we had the opportunity to look at coins and so many venues that are there and most important gun safety. We have the most stringent gun safety laws in the nation and they are abide there.

There's no gun strong purchases being sent out the back door of here as so many like to illiterate about. It's not that way here. This is a safe venue. It's a family venue. I enjoy bringing my family here, and I'll continue doing that.

I implore you, just like everybody else said up to this point, don't get in the hysteria of oh, you guys shut down all these gun shows. It's a safe place. It's a family place. It's good for the community. It brings in revenue, and I implore you, please, don't stop the gun show here. My family and many others will be devastated.

And I want to thank those that came here in attendance today, especially our military, our first responders to support that gun show. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Bob Weiss followed by Lisa Karfe.

BOB WEISS: Good morning. It was Memorial Day weekend a few years ago. Everybody was in a good mood. Everybody was ready to have picnics and have a great time. My daughter was coming home from school for the weekend. Unfortunately, she didn't make it.

At about 10:00 o'clock Friday night we were awakened by a call from one of her sorority sisters. This is at the University of Santa Barbara just right up the road. They said there had been a shooting incident in Isla Vista, and they were trying to just check in with all the girls and make sure everybody's okay, but they couldn't get ahold of Veronica Weiss, my daughter.

Well, that was weird because Veronica never goes anywhere without her phone and she always stays in touch with us, so we were quite nervous. After about an hour of

thinking about it, we jumped in the car at midnight and drove up to Isla Vista to find out what was going on.

What was going on was a young man decided that he wanted to storm a sorority house and kill every sorority sister inside. He went up to the door. He found the door locked. He turned around and decided to hit the street and kill anybody he saw.

Well, my daughter, Veronica, and her two sorority sisters were walking down the sidewalk. They were just coming back from getting a bite to eat, and they happened to be in his pathway.

So, he shot Katie right here, right in the socket and killed her instantly. Veronica was shot seven times. The bullet came through right here and destroyed her lung, then it destroyed her heart, and then it destroyed her other lung. She took six other shots.

There's a lot of people in here who want to talk about how safe guns are and how we want to take their guns away. I don't want to take anybody's guns away. I am not preventing (unintelligible). I am not trying to take away the Second Amendment. I support the Second Amendment, and I support everyone in this room's right to own guns and buy and sell guns. That's not what this is about. This is about whether or not the County wants to be in the gun business.

The County already spends a hell of a lot of money -- Santa Barbara County spent two million dollars cleaning up the mess up there where seven were killed, 18 others were shot. The County, where I pay my taxes to, should not be promoting gun sales, should not be in league with gun dealers.

Now, one thing that has not been mentioned is gun shows are a notorious place to go and buy a gun without gun -- under the -- under the radar, lax market sales.

(Audience commotion.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Please, please. Mr. Weiss, Mr. Weiss. Everybody, please, mainly out of respect for others, let him have his say. Everyone here has their say, please.

CEO QUAID: If you interrupt him it's taking part of his three minutes. I'm letting him go over, so Mr. Weiss, would you continue, please?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're beyond three minutes.

BOB WEISS: My daughter is dead because guns are too easy to buy, and they get in the wrong hands in America. Our gun dead rate is 30,000 a year, between 30,000 and 35,000 new people a year are shot to death. I would say that's a little more dangerous than race car driving. The County should not be in the gun business.

(Applause.)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There's confusion on county and state.

CEO QUAID: Thank you. Lisa K – Karfe? Lisa Karfe?

LISA KARFE: It's Lisa K.

CEO QUAID: Sorry.

LISA KARFE: I've been here quite a few times already. I just want to say that –

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Closer to the mic, please.

LISA KARFE: I just want to say that I stand with Bob Weiss, I stand with Brady Campaign, Progressive Democrats of America Ventura, Our Revolution Gold Coast, Veterans for Peace, Longmen Action (phonetic), and many other groups against Ventura County Fairgrounds. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Thank you. Roderick Currie followed by George Shannon.

RODERICK CURRIE: Can you hear me back there?

Okay. I'm Roderick Currie. I'm a 30-year resident of Ventura County. I'm not a native Californian. I'm a seventh generation from Langford (phonetic). I'm sorry for my voice. I had stage 3 lung cancer, and I have a tumor wrapped around my esophagus, so it kind of affects my voice.

We've heard a lot of deep opinions here from both sides, very impassioned. I have heard a lot of facts, and I try and put myself in other people's positions, and I would not have called this meeting unless I had statistics gathered about this gun show that either indicated it was associated with local crime or that it wasn't associated with local crime because if all you're going on is emotional (unintelligible) here, then you're inviting mob rule. That's as simple as that. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Okay. George Shannon followed by David Kimes or Kimes?

DAVID KINES: Kimes.

CEO QUAID: Thank you.

GEORGE SHANNON: Good morning, God. Thank you for this opportunity. I've been a California resident all my life. And I can vouch that the number of places where someone can purchase a handgun or shop for a handgun or rifle, any type of firearm, is becoming harder and harder. There's fewer places. A lot of stores and businesses are being pushed out through regulations and gun laws in the state of California.

I attend the gun shows. I've been attending gun shows for 20, 20 plus years. I've also tried Sierra, and I can vouch that they're safe events. You can't -- if you buy a firearm

due to private-party sales, you have to go through a background check and through an FFL.

And the gun shows in Ventura County at the fairgrounds offer an opportunity for veterans, military members, law enforcement, gun collectors, sportsmen to look at various types of firearms or accessories. There's also arts and crafts that are sold there, so it's a wonderful family event, and it's very safe, and I can vouch for that. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: David Kimes.

Kimes, did I say that correct?

DAVID KIMES: Yes, ma'am, that's correct.

CEO QUAID: Okay. Followed by Troy Corley.

DAVID KIMES: Okay. Hello. My name is David Kimes. I'm a 1980 Olympian in the sport of shooting, which is the only accident-free and injury-free sport in the Olympics. I was also a back-to-back world champion with the world record both times in the international high-power 300-meter free position rifle shooting.

I have been to Port Hueneme dozens of times coaching the Navy Safe Harbor Wounded Warriors in the shooting events, one of seven sport events for Wounded Warriors headed for the annual Warrior games. I only have two points to make.

Canceling this show will have a negative effect on the VATF as they attend most or all of these shows undercover. This will reduce some of their overtime. Many times they also have a table where the citizens can ask questions about current laws and restrictions, and so on. Yes, the VATF attends most or all the shows undercover. Gun show loophole is a big myth because of that.

You know, my father used to never tell anyone they were lying. He would say "Nothing could be further from the truth", and that is the case when the gun show loophole is mentioned, nothing could be further from the truth. And please do your homework before leaving what maybe the other side – before believing what the other side maybe says. Here's an example by U.S. Customs.

1976 Olympian and Gold medalist Lanny Bassham created his own business of coaching, mostly about mental management. Without his coaching I would not have won and increased my world record in the world championships or made the '80 Olympic team.

Several years back he met a teenaged young woman from India at the airport on the East Coast. When she arrived from India, she was coming to America so Lanny could work with her. Her \$5,000 .22 caliber rifle and her visa was all on alert, but the Customs persons called her aside and would not let Lanny be there while they questioned her.

When replying to a question about why she was coming to America with a rifle, she told them it was because she wanted to work with the Olympic Medalist Lanny Bassham to help her make the Olympic team for India in shooting. Customs gave her a red mark because she lied to them and denied her visa because there, quote, there was no shooting in the Olympics.

Folks, shooting has been in the Olympics since 1896, the start of the first modern Olympics. In fact, almost a third of the athletes there at that first modern Olympics were shooters. So please do your homework before you believe what maybe the other side is saying or trying to give you statistics; okay? Do your homework.

And finally, as you know, gun shows sell much more than guns, as you've been hearing today. And normal apparel, camping gear, jewelry. Hey, I had my Belgian Sheepdog's photo applied to a T-shirt at the gun show in Orange County. Great place. I love those shows.

CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Kimes. Your time was up.

DAVID KIMES: Anyway, your consideration is greatly appreciated. Thanks a million.

CEO QUAID: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Troy Corley, sorry, followed by Michael Cervantes.

TROY CORLEY: Hi, can you hear me, folks?

CEO QUAID: Troy, pull it a little closer to you, just the microphone. There you go.

TROY CORLEY: How's that?

CEO QUAID: Better. That's great.

TROY CORLEY: So, my name's Troy Corley. I live in Oxnard, great place, especially if you like to smuggle illegal guns into the state. We have people getting picked up almost every day in Oxnard on these common issues.

But I'm just not from Oxnard. I'm actually what Rob Templeton Senior calls an anti-gunner, at least that's how he describes people who do not want our county fairgrounds, our state fairgrounds, our city fairgrounds to host gun shows, and that's what he said on NRA TV.

So, the other thing I know about Templeton Senior is that he's a convicted felon, so I'd like to know why a state-owned property is doing business with a convicted felon, and yes, he was convicted on firearms charges. It's not a question of whether or not he did his time for his crime. It's the fact that you are doing business with a federal convict who happened to do -- promotes guns shows -- by the way, there were 60 of them across the nation. There's about 500,000 to 600,000 that go to these things, and yet he's a convicted felon.



And there are -- the California Department of Justice is currently investigating Mr. Templeton and the Crossroads of the West, and in addition to that charge, the San Francisco City Attorney sued Crossroads for flagrantly facilitating the illegal sales of large capacity magazines in 2013.

Oh, again, here we go. So how do you know what he's doing, actually, at these fairgrounds? This is a state-run property. You have the right to refuse service. You make decisions about who gets to do business, and this is about business, on this property. If you can't let the Grateful Dead come here, I don't understand why you can't let gun shows come here, and you have a choice who you do business with.

By the way, depending on how the wind blows, he's either the owner or not the owner because he actually does not have a Certificate of Eligibility, which is required in California for all prospective firearms dealers, gun show promoters, and others. It confirms that the Department of Justice has conducted a background check.

When this comes up he says "I don't have one. I don't need one because my wife and daughter run the company". However, this board actually said at the last meeting "Oh, (unintelligible), we do business with him". You do business with this man, and he does not have the required certificate.

CEO QUAID: Ms. Corley, your time is up.

TROY CORLEY: One more thing, his show was responsible for selling the piercing bullets to the Las Vegas shooter, just to let you know. That's correct.

(Audience commotion.)

CEO QUAID: Ms. Corley, your time is up.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Okay. Where was I?

Michael Cervantes followed by -- oh, dear -- it could be Dr. Martinez, or it could be D. Martinez.

DR. MARTINEZ: Doctor.

CEO QUAID: Doctor, okay.

MICHAEL CERVANTES: Yes, good morning. My name's Michael Cervantes. I'm a Vietnam war veteran infantry, and I'm from Oxnard -- born in Ventura, raised in Oxnard.

I have a Veterans -- and I'm with Veterans for Peace. I have a Veterans for Peace national statement here in front of me. I have a copy if the board would like to have a copy of it. I'm not gonna be able to read it in three minutes. It takes about seven, but I'll start here with it.

As veterans who have been traumatized by the violence of war, we were shocked and saddened by the recent mass murder of 17 high school students in Parkman, Florida. This horrible slaughter carried out by a troubled young man with a military assault rifle would be tragic enough if it was a freak accident, but sadly, this appalling event is part of a well-established pattern, an unchecked epidemic of mass killings in the U.S.

Typically, these killings have been perpetrated by troubled young men using military style assault weapons which are bought and sold in stores across the nation to anyone 18 or older. Typically, there is a public outcry after these massacres. Typically, the National Rifle Association, one of the most powerful lobbies in this country, pressures politicians to do little or nothing to restrain unfettered access to these weapons of mass destruction. Somebody is making a lot of money off the sale of these weapons, and they are sharing some of it with politicians, plain and simple.

We applaud the students of Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School and other students around the country who've decided to directly challenge the corrupted politicians and the NRA's lobby for violent death and profits.

Veterans for Peace is also concerned about the culture of violence and hyper-masculinity that has been cultivated in the United States. While extreme violence is most visible in video games and movies, it has become the normal part of all aspects of our culture. Young men are taught that to be a man they must prepare to be violent.

Recently Mother Jones compiled a study that shows of all the mass shootings since 1982, they have found 97% were male. We must start talking about and working on ways to dismantle notions of patriarchy that tells men domination and violence are the only way.

Now, I know I'm getting to my three-minute limit, so I'm gonna have to not read a lot of this.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: You have 30 seconds left.

MICHAEL CERVANTES: I'm gonna have to end by saying that until we address gun violence, we must also talk about domestic violence, violent crime, and gun deaths by suicide. I was trying to give a holistic view. I had a lot of statistics to read. It's all in the national statement. There are a hundred chapters across the country.

SECRETARY ORTIZ: Mr. Cervantes, your three minutes are up.

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Madam Chair, may we have the full statement entered into the record?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Sure. We'll take copies and have – is that okay with you?

(Applause.)

DR. MARTINEZ: I have and hope to always be an advocate for the well-being of children, which is why I raise the following concern with your gun shows. Gun shows

specifically providing free entrances making it family friendly, and this is to children 12 and under in addition to advertising to marginalized communities near children's schools as we say – as I have seen in the City of Oxnard near schools.

The American Academy of Pediatrics, along with the American Psychological Association have delineated their recommendations and concerns dating back since the 1960s for advertising for children. The American Psychological Association specifically has formed a task force reviewing the literature. While there is a gap in the literature specifically on gun violence, and politics is responsible for this absence, science can point to certain facts.

Quote, research indicates that clearly advertising exerts substantial influence on children's attitudes and behaviors and these effects go well beyond moving product desire from one brand to another. More specifically, evidence points directly to one fundamental concern, that advertising targeting children below the ages of seven to eight years is inherently unfair because it capitalizes on younger children's inability to attribute persuasive intent to advertising.

Furthermore, we know the reviews of the literature have found a substantial relationship between children's viewing of tobacco and alcohol ads and positive attitudes toward consumption of such products. Considerable research has also examined advertising's cumulative effect on children's eating habits, leading to poorer health.

Billions of dollars are spent on advertising and research on children's commercial recall and product preferences confirms that advertising typically achieves its intended effects. A variety of studies using different methodologies find that children recall content from the ads to which they have been exposed. Most importantly, studies have shown that product preferences affect children's product purchase requests and that these requests do influence parents' purchasing decisions.

As a social scientist and as a clinician, I urge you to use an evidence-based approach as to your decision to review gun show policies. As a mother, I urge you to look at other financial options for your organization that do not hurt our children either in the short or the long term.

And as you look around this room, you will see that the majority of people up here are older, what I see as white men while I am here as a young mother --

(Audience commotion.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Everyone, please, silent.

DR. MARTINEZ: And I am a younger mother of three young children. Again, I am a young mother of three young children --

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Please, please stop. Kindly, if you would all please give her the respect --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're not gonna tolerate that; okay? Just knock it off.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Jim will handle it. Please. Thank you.

DR. MARTINEZ: Again, I am here as a mother of three young children, and while I was in school I had to go through earthquake drills. Well, my children are having to go through mass shooting drills; okay? So, you think that doesn't have an impact on their lives and their world views, well, it does.

And the fact that these are older people coming up here saying that everything is safe, well, I really urge you to look at the data on advertising. In the end, we are going to hopefully be seeing more data on how all these drills impact our children's lives. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Marian Walluks --

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Just a moment.

Mike?

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Madam Chair, I'd like to expand my last request; and that is, anyone who has a written statement that they're not able --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Can't hear you. Can't hear you, speak up.

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Anyone who has a written statement, and they're not able to complete it within the three minutes, if they could submit it and have it made part of the permanent record for us. We can read it at our leisure.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's up to the chair.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: *Bagley-Keene Act*.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: You're welcome to. That's part of our *Bagley-Keene* environment, that's fine.

CEO QUAID: Marian Walluks followed by Ernest Blackmore.

MARIAN WALLUKS: Good morning. My name is Marian Walluks. I'm a Ventura County resident, a small business owner, a regular attendee at gun shows, and a regular vendor at gun shows, especially the ones in Ventura.

There are many issues that have been brought up. I see three key issues. The first one, of course, is safety. And those of you who regularly attend gun shows, and you heard this, these are family events. These are parents bringing their children. These are grandparents bringing their grandchildren. These are fun family events. These are very safe events. These people wouldn't bring their families to events that weren't safe.

So, from a safety standpoint they are extremely safe. In fact, you probably have less incidence with these events than you do many of the other events out here at the fairgrounds.

Then the second point is the value to small businesses. The collateral damage that you would render if you disallow gun shows isn't huge. Those of us who attend gun shows know that the majority, way, way past half, is small businesses that are selling other things. They are not selling guns. They're selling backpacks. They're selling beef jerky. They're selling pillows. They're selling massage things. They're selling handmade items such as we sell for handmade knives that are made here in California.

These are family-owned businesses. They rely on this income, and they attend these regularly, and they make sure that they're safe. They don't want these events to be places that they don't want to come, so they are right up there on the top with the safety. And of course, there are many rules that everybody has to follow and especially the gun providers and the ammunition providers.

The third issue is one that should be very near and dear to your heart and that is income to the Ventura County Fair, the fairboard. I know that this is not an easy business to be in when you have venues where people come and pay to come, and I know that your attendance at your fairs have been going down and so you need good, safe, income-producing events.

And these people that come to the gun shows, now they know the fairgrounds. They can come to other events here because they know the parking, they know how to get in and out. These people are familiar with your venue because of the gun shows, so you certainly want to keep that in mind. People who attend gun shows spend money at the show, they spend it in the city, they spend it in the county. These people are bringing revenue in not just to the fairgrounds.

And also, please be careful not to allow a small vocal minority to bully you into making a politically-correct decision that is not necessarily the true voice of the people in the county, only a few minority, some of which don't even reside in the county. I appreciate your intention, and I think you'll make a good decision on this.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Ernest Blackmore followed by Richard Minnich.

ERNEST BLACKMORE: Hello, Ernest Blackmore. I'm 63, been here since 10 years old, East Ventura, gone to the fairgrounds for a lot of the fair activities including the concerts.

I've been to three gun shows here. I don't see anything that would make it uncomfortable. I've seen a lot more dangerous-looking people at the fair than I have at the gun show. I've seen groups of guys that were older in fights, drunken people, all that stuff so, you know, keep that in consideration

What I had at the fair – at the gun show was I bought a shovel, I bought a military-style shovel for camping, I bought a flashlight with a stun gun, and an alarm for my girlfriend because she works at night – excuse me –works at night sometimes and even just blowing the pit out, a piercing alarm would go off, so I didn't know about those things, but it's not here, so that's a good idea.

And local merchants, there's an archery shop that I didn't know was here in town, and -- I'm a little nervous, sorry -- and because of the gun show I met the proprietor, went down, and renewed my interest in archery and bow hunting.

The gun show is not just for guns. All kinds of things are sold, and the people that come, they go to restaurants, buy gas, stay at the hotels. It helps the community and your pockets as well as far as the revenue for the fair, I guess.

I get emotional on the subject because the way society is going, they seem to focus on the tools of destruction that people misuse than the people.

Sir, I'm very sorry --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Speak to us, please.

ERNEST BLACKMORE: I'm sorry you lost your daughter. That's tragic. But the gun did not kill her, the maniac behind the gun did.

The gun shows are a place for families, for education. I signed up for a tactical gun class, didn't know that was around, so it was very helpful for the encouragement of the sport and for protection. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Richard Minnich followed by David Wyers.

RICHARD MINNICH: Yeah, my name is Richard Minnich, and I've lived in the Conejo Valley for 60 years going back to when it was mostly ranches and not very many people 'til today, alas, and I have been coming since I was a child to the -- to the fairgrounds here to the annual -- it used to be the annual fairs were, like, in October, and they used to have things like cake baking and making pies and Home Ec stuff, a very different sort of thing than it's been today.

I've actually, though, been coming to gun shows here since probably the early 1990s, and I've actually -- during that period of time I've worked sometimes at booths that were inside the grounds and sometimes at the free speech area that was outside, so I've observed a lot of people, and rather than necessarily getting into the plusses and minuses that other people are talking about, I'd like to talk just a little bit about who do these gun shows serve.

Well, I know we had an ex-President who once said that it was bitter people who were clinging to their guns and God. I confess I cling to my guns and God, but I don't think

I'm terribly bitter. And we've been called deplorables, we've been called recently, was it, despicables, but we're not. We're just normal citizens.

The people who I saw coming to those gun shows, as a couple of other people have mentioned, a lot of families, husband and wives, girlfriends/boyfriends. Actually, you'd be amazed at how many young guys who were at Point Mugu and Port Hueneme and things in the Navy who come by and do that, come by to see the gun show and to go around there. All sorts of -- by the way, all sorts of people of ages and races come.

And interestingly enough, the area that I know we serve from this gun show, I've had people who are coming down from Paso Robles and Morro Bay and Santa Maria. We've had people who come, of course, from the San Fernando Valley. We have people from Saugus, Newhall, all of those areas. It's a tremendously large area that people come down and go to the gun show here. I think it's a real benefit both to the county and to the fairgrounds group in that sense.

We serve a large population of people, and as people have pointed out, I think it's pretty much a crime-free zone. Oddly enough, you know, we have a lot of policemen around, we have a lot of rules that are being followed, and they are followed. You know, it turns into a pretty safe place.

So, I would suggest that there's really no legal, logical, or reason of public safety that you would need to consider going and canceling this gun show. So, thank you very much. Appreciate the opportunity.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: David Wyers followed by Steve Nash.

DAVID WYERS: Hello. This is David Wyers. I'm a business owner in Camarillo, have a mechanic shop/auto shop, there for over 40 years; don't know how much longer it will last because my knee is kind of giving out on me.

But my wife and I have a very keen interest in target shooting and researching the science and development of firearms from the 1800s to World War II for the past 30 years. We have attended and have had tables at the Ventura gun show, so we have firsthand knowledge of the activities that occur at the gun shows. The gun shows are not the problem.

Of the crimes that occur that are reported in the news and crimes that are committed by individuals that never should have had access to a firearm in the first place. The gun shows are closely monitored by local and federal law enforcement, and they have done a very good job of keeping our shows in the state of California legal.

Driving the gun shows underground will create more of a black market than already exists, making the job of law enforcement that much more difficult. As an example, it would be a minor child that gained access to a gun owned by an adult that was not legally secured, guns used by gangs, illegal drugs, marijuana cultivation, or the mentally

unstable. These laws are already in effect, and usually when these crimes are committed, they're committed by somebody that never should've had access to a gun.

Gun shows are not a lure to these people. From my experience, the people that we know that still do gun shows maintain a vestigial of illegal activities and will not sell to anyone, in their opinion, that are not responsible.

I support the signed laws in California of the acquisition of firearms by anyone committing domestic violence or has been diagnosed mentally unstable, and I would add anyone who is prescribed drugs that obscure good judgment. Those people should not be allowed to handle guns. The drug use is not addressed by people that use these drugs and drive. I have declined to work on customers' cars that I feel should not be behind the wheel of a car.

I have many and varied interests such as sailing, older vehicles, ham radio, road trips. Some or all of these activities can be vilified in one way or another. I don't see why I should be denied one of these activities because of the illegal activity of a few. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Okay, Steve Nash, Steve Nash followed by Turners Outdoorsman.

STEVE NASH: Hello. Thank you for this opportunity.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Can you move closer to the mic, please?

STEVE NASH: We are not asking you to make a legal decision. We are asking that you make a moral decision. It's easy to get caught up in all of the First Amendment, Second Amendment, Heller this, Nordyke that noise. Let's just focus on what this community wants. We want gun shows off of public property. Quite simply, there are ample alternatives to gun show promoters to hold events on private property.

300 million plus guns in America aren't enough, apparently. Now we want to arm teachers. Could you have ever imagined a world in which this is even a remote possibility? I couldn't, yet here we are. Today our schools practice active shooter drills. Is this something we should be proud of? I'm not.

Do you know that there are school backpacks that have been designed to incorporate a Kevlar-type shield? Who profits from this madness? Well, it certainly isn't – it certainly isn't you and it certainly isn't I.

We all know the dry statistics, like how every day 96 Americans are killed with guns and hundred more are shot and injured. But the effects of gun violence extend far beyond these casualties. Gun violence shapes the lives of millions of Americans who witness it, know someone who was shot, or live in fear of the next shooting.



And whether it's Mr. Weiss or Mr. Guttenberg or any of the other parents of the 1,600 children and teen homicide victims killed every year by guns, we weep as they tell their heart-rending stories of loss, at least I do, at least I have a conscious.

Enough. Please do the right and moral thing and ban any future gun shows at the fairgrounds.

And I would not -- I'm a gun owner. I believe in the correct historical interpretation of the Second Amendment, which is "Ye shall have a muzzle-loaded musket as part of a" --

(Laughter.)

STEVE NASH: And see, listen to the individuals who would mock my words. I would not mock or interrupt the father of a shooting victim. This is the culture you are perpetuating by allowing gun shows to continue at the fairgrounds. Listen to our words, listen to what the speakers say, and listen to their attitudes. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Turners Outdoorsman followed by Ed Mann.

JOE CRUMP: Hello. I've been in the hunting and fishing and archery business for over half of my life. I work for a company that has been in business in California for over 40 years. We have 600 plus employees that we employ in 22 locations. We're involved in Cow Palace, Ventura, Palmdale, Victorville, and Fresno gun shows. It's a great opportunity for us to advertise and speak with our local customers and interact.

We wouldn't put those employees' jobs and our livelihoods at risk if these gun shows were operating outside of the federal and state regulations that we follow at our store. Thank you.

CEO QUAID: Can I have your name, sir?

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Can I have your name?

JOE CRUMP: Yeah, Joe Crump.

CEO QUAID: Crump, thank you.

JOE CRUMP: Thank you.

CEO QUAID: Let's see, who did I say?

ED MANN: Ed Mann.

CEO QUAID: Ed Mann.

ED MANN: Thank you. I'm a former Marine officer (inaudible).

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: A little closer to the mic. Can't hear you, please. Thank you.

ED MANN: After that I was a prosecutor for seven years. I think that background causes me to have a little attitude about the issues here, and I'd like to focus on what's really before the board.

Some people believe that approaching the issue, as one speaker referred to with the effort of a thousand cuts will get away – will remove guns from the national agenda and the culture. It's not. The bad guys, in my experience, will always get the guns.

One of the antique gun show proponents mentioned that illegal guns come into Oxnard. That has nothing to do with what we're talking about here today.

I've been coming to the Ventura gun show since probably '91, lived in Conejo Valley, Thousand Oaks specifically since that time. It is rare that I don't come to a gun show. I've never seen anything illegal there. I've never seen any backdoor transactions. This is stuff that is easy and – it's an easy obligation to make and it's not supported by the facts, but it's an emotional issue, and we're trying to separate emotion from the facts here.

The bad guys don't worry about whether there's a gun show. They don't worry about background checks. Because they're out there, the genie is out of the bottle. I'd like the Court – or excuse me. That's old prosecutorial background there.

I've been hearing references to piercing bullets being bought at gun shows. Well, as far as I know all bullets are piercing or there's not much point in them. And the fact that it was purchased at a gun show would not allow -- or not prevent that same person from getting those -- that ammunition from a variety of sources. It just happened to be the one source he chose.

I ask the board to stay on the road and out of the weeds and focus on what's really at issue here, and basically, if you do so, I think you'll come to the right conclusion. And while it might be a bunch of old white guys here, I submit that a bunch of younger white guys, as well as others, are at work today and this is not a representative sample of the people who are very much in support of the Ventura Gun Show and just couldn't be here to offer their support. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Tony Karian followed by Brandt Jackson.

TONY KARIAN: Good morning. I've heard some interesting conversations this morning. Can't say that I love the slur as a white male, an older white male. If I had done the same towards the gender or race of someone else that would've been offensive, and it should be.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Excuse me just a moment. Okay. Please continue.

TONY KARIAN: I'm also a father. I have a nine year old and an 11 year old. I have all the same concerns that any parent has of something happening to them. It's not limited to violence that's perpetrated by someone with a firearm. It's -- there's a lot of bullying that goes on in schools. There's a lot of -- there's a lot of things that can happen to a child, so as a parent we're all very concerned about our children.

The gun show is a place where I actually have zero concerns. It is a safe environment. When the fair's in town or we take the kids to a show, I can't relax. There's a lot of violence that happens there. There's a lot of sketchy people. It is not -- it tends to be a family-friendly environment, but it's not a perfect environment.

Gun show's not like that. Gun show's the safest place. I don't worry about my kids being around there. And that's one of the things that you have to keep in mind. You've heard people talk about the possibility of illegal sales, but it doesn't happen at gun shows. It can't. As people say, the ATF is in attendance. They monitor these things closely. If you want to have a safe forum for communicating ideas and merchandise, that's it. That's the best possible place, don't drive it underground.

And don't compare it to hypothetical situations where somebody's injured by a firearm. Let's face it, if my kids were injured by a firearm I would be upset. I'd be just as upset if they were injured by a fire bomb or hit by a car or anything. You can't vilify the tool. The car is not the evil instrument. The gun is not the evil instrument. These are just tools that we have to, as a society, accept. They're part of our life.

The Supreme Court has ruled yes, it's an individual right. The Second Amendment applies to the individual. And as was pointed out, it's only second to the First Amendment. These are important rights. The right to protect yourself, the right to protect your family is a basic human right, and we shouldn't walk away from that because a few people have had bad experiences. If that were the case, we wouldn't see doctors because far more people die from medical malpractice than from firearm shootings. And that's just -- that's well-established fact. That's not -- I'm not making anything up. That's pulled directly from statistics, the AMA statistics.

So, keep all of this in mind as you ponder this question. Try not to let the emotionality of the situation, and it is an emotional situation, try not to let that govern your decisions. Thank you for your time.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Brandt Jackson followed by Barry Sheumaker.

BRANDT JACKSON: Good morning. Can I be heard back there? Can you hear me okay?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: You're good, thank you

BRANDT JACKSON: Look, I want to go on record, first of all, saying I'm one of those old white farts that -- you can't always judge a book by its cover, though, because my

mother is half Mexican and half Indian. I'm Irish and German on my dad's side, who was an ex-Marine, by the way, survived Pearl Harbor and the major (inaudible) in the Pacific.

You know, I was gonna say a lot about the gun shows but a lot of it's already been spoken about, but I feel for the small business man; the people that -- in this state, in particular, have such a difficult time with all the regulations, so I think it's a real negative for them.

By the way, I'm an ex-teacher, retired, and that's probably one reason why there's not younger people here today because they're working, a lot of us are retired. I was born here in 1947. I've seen a lot of changes, not only here in the state -- or in the county but the state as well.

I've been an educator for 39 years, and one of the most difficult things I had to do was to go to a trial and one of my students was involved in a shooting and I had to -- they were asking me should he get the death penalty or life imprisonment or what the penalty should be.

Gun violence is a terrible thing, but I gotta -- I gotta tell you, the people here in Ventura, and particularly the gun show, they do an excellent job of monitoring. When I heard about this meeting and the things that are going on at the Cow Palace, I thought "Are we inundated by terrorists or something really evil's going on?" I don't think so.

And when you talk about the guns and the community and the culture today, I think what's going on with -- remember the '70s, the MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, was an epidemic of young people getting killed in auto accidents. What did they do? What did those mothers do? They went after the drunk driver. They didn't go after the automobile. They didn't say "Hey, why do we have to have cars that go over 65 miles an hour? We don't need that." Like today we're saying "Why do we need magazines over 10 rounds? Why do we need ARs or semi-automatics?" and so on.

This -- this thing about getting rid of gun shows is just another -- another one of the chinks in the armor of hav -- being able to legally have weapons in this state. My gosh, don't we have enough ungodly rules already or laws on the books? We can't go on the Internet without having to pay an arm and a leg to finally get things like the rest of the country.

I thought we were the United States. We're not so united anymore. California's a completely different -- different country when you look at what's going on with the rest of the country. That kind of bothers me. Anyway, I said my piece.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Barry Sheumaker followed by Tiffany Cheuvront.

Is Sheumaker correct?

BARRY SHEUMAKER: Sheumaker, that's correct.

Can everybody hear me back there?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

BARRY SHEUMAKER: My name's Barry Sheumaker. I live in Lakeview. I've been going to the gun shows here for 30 years. I'm a U.S. Airforce veteran and a member of the DAV.

And when I joined the service, I took an oath to protect the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic, and the First and Second Amendment and our availability to come together in a meeting place is enhanced by the gun shows.

I come here not only for guns. Heck, the last time I was here I bought fudge. You know, and I'm a gun collector. You know, I go mainly after Old West guns, which you can't find anymore at any of the gun shows. And I run into people I haven't seen in years, people I worked with in the oil fields 20, 30 years ago, so it is a social event for me also.

So, I'd just like to express my feelings on keeping the gun shows. I see a lot of young people, a lot of baby strollers, people having a great time, and I wouldn't go there if I didn't feel I was safe or had anything to worry about, and that's all. Thank you.

CEO QUAID: Thank you. Tiffany Cheuvront and Sarah Williamson.

TIFFANY CHEUVRONT: Good morning. My name's Tiffany Cheuvront. I represent B & L Productions as their counsel, and I'm here to -- I had a lot of different things to talk about with gun show as far as the safety and the security and the family part of it, but that seems to have already been said.

I want to make sure that these get entered into the record. These are statements to false claims that have been made by the groups that are opposing the gun show. They're backed up by statistics, they're backed up by legal opinions, and they're backed up by reports and studies that have been done across the board from universities and program groups and anti-gun groups showing that gun shows are not the problem. There is a criminal element. There is a mental health issue, and those cannot be equated to the same people that attend these gun shows. The people that attend the guns shows are lawful, abiding citizens that are practicing their legal rights.

Another thing I feel like I need to address, because it was brought up, is the actual attack on the B & L Production family itself. Bob Templeton did have a conviction four years ago. That has been fully restored, federally fully restored. There is no issue with that. DOJ knows about that. DOJ has that information. They don't have a problem providing a COE, a Certificate of Eligibility, to his family to run these guns shows, and they're in full compliance.

Another thing that was brought up was the San Francisco litigation where the district attorney in San Francisco actually sued the B & L as one of many gun owners or promoters regarding selling of illegal magazine kits.

Let me let you know: First of all, they were not illegal. The magazine kits were repair kits, and they were not illegal. What the problem was is that he was saying that they knowingly were selling them so that other people could go out and make large-capacity magazines. That's not something that any vendor knows what the person's gonna do with it once they purchase that item. Somebody doesn't know once they purchase that item, which they purchase a truck or an automobile, that they're gonna go run somebody down. That's not something a vendor or a promoter can know.

And as soon as B & L realized what was going on, they actually settled and decided that they weren't gonna sell those anymore. They took that upon themselves to make the gun show safer, so this is not a situation where they (inaudible) with anything or that they did anything wrong.

Additionally, there's no investigation with DOJ. I've been in communication with DOJ as their counsel. It was requested by some opposition groups that DOJ investigate B & L Productions, but they're not doing anything illegally. They have all the certifications. They've been doing this for 30 years in California, and they're following the law.

They have good working relationships with law enforcement, both local and state and federal, and everything is being done to the letter of the law at the shows.

CEO QUAID: Thank you, Tiffany, your time is up.

TIFFANY CHEUVRONT: Thank you. I appreciate you reviewing that material and keep the gun show.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: Sarah Williamson followed by Karen Peters.

SARAH WILLIAMSON: Good morning, Madam Chairwoman and members of the board. I've been a resident of Ventura County since 1994, and I've been coming to this gun show since that time, about 24 years, and I go to other gun shows as well. I'm a competitor shooter. I've been shooting since I was 11 years old and hunting since I was 13 years old. I've never pointed a gun at a human being or threatened a human being. I'm a law-abiding citizen and a law-abiding gun owner.

It's easy to assign tragedy and emotion to things like this. We all experience tragedy. I had a good friend who was murdered in 2016 by a rope. They tied it around his neck and his ankles to steal his motorcycle, and the man died. I didn't blame the world, I blame the people. My cousin was killed by a drunk driver. I did not blame the alcohol, I blame the person. And a friend of mine died due to a texting driver. I didn't blame the cell phone.

If we're gonna blame people's deaths on events like this, you should not hold electronic shows here and promote cell phones because people die every day, 37,000 people a year die from cell-phone deaths and driving. Are we going to stop electronic shows or social media? 150,000 kids are home today skipping school for fear of being bullied and cyber bullied. Are we gonna outlaw Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, all these things because people suffer? We have to deal with the root cause, and a gun show is not the root cause of people getting hurt and killed by firearms.

So this is a public venue, I'm the public, and these folks are the public, so please do not discriminate against me because of other people who violate the law and stop me from coming to this gun show to buy vintage weapons that I enjoy, competitive weapons that I enjoy, and the ammo I need to compete, et cetera. Please don't discriminate against me. Thank you.

(Applause.)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can we take five minutes?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We have one left going forward.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, great.

CEO QUAID: Karen Peters.

KAREN PETERS: Yeah. Hello. I want gun shows to be stopped on our fairgrounds. I subscribe to what County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky said when a little place called Los Angeles County banned gun shows in 1999. He said "Our feeling is the county should not be profiting from the gun business".

Gun shows in public facilities are being stopped all over the country. A quick Google search brought up Fort Lauderdale leased to a gun show company for over 20 years for gun shows six times a year, stopped; Del Mar, California, another recently stopped; Glendale, California, banned them in 2013; Nashville ended their 35-year tradition of holding gun shows at the city-owned fairgrounds, and I've got a whole bunch others here. And of course, just in, the California lawmakers just approved a bill to ban gun shows at the Cow Palace.

I would like to repeat what a Glendale official said: The government isn't required to provide its property for the exercise of Constitutional rights. Please vote to stop the gun shows here. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: The question came up about what happened in Del Mar, and I think --

KAREN PETERS: Del Mar just voted to put a moratorium on their gun shows for one year. They did not vote to stop gun shows. And at the Cow Palace, the Cow Palace

has a contract with B & L for 2018 and 2019, and the last I heard that contract was going forward.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. I think a last request by board members is going to allow us to just get a brief break, please.

(A brief recess was taken.)

CEO QUAID: JT Citizen; is that correct?

JJ CITIZEN: That's close, JJ.

CEO QUAID: JJ, sorry.

JJ CITIZEN: Where do I see the time going?

CEO QUAID: We'll watch it here for you and let you know when your three minutes is up.

JJ CITIZEN: Three minutes, all right.

CEO QUAID: Yes.

JJ CITIZEN: I'm -- first name is Joe. I'm a member of three different veterans' organizations, so I speak well for veterans' issues. Veterans for Peace is my first. I'm the president of the local chapter of Veterans for Peace 112. I'm also a member of Disabled American Veterans Chapter 24. I'm also a member of the Native American Veterans Association based out of Los Angeles, and it's a national organization.

I have watched this whole area called fairgrounds evolve since we moved here in 1947. As a youth I used to play on the grounds that are now the Big Bowl parking lot. I used to go to the baseball games in Babe Ruth Field. I was a member of the knot hole gang. We used to watch the games through the knot holes in the fence for free. If we ever caught a home run, then we were able to get in.

I come from a disadvantaged family economically and by housing, so I had never in my life ever envisioned that I would be speaking before the fairboard because back in the '40s and the '50s when I lived across the street from the parking lot, just off of Front Street which ran along the railroad tracks, it was in an area called Tortilla Flats.

And since those youth days, I used to be a member of the police boys club and we used to have wooden rifles that we used to walk around the -- I guess it's the Ortega building or whatever it is down there on Main Street, still standing, that was our clubhouse.

So, we used to parade around there with these rifles on our arms, doing close-order drills, and learning how to be militaristic. We're talking about 10, 15 years old. I was a member of that organization until I got too old, so I do not envision the fact that today



we're talking about issuing or selling weapons of mass destruction here on the fairgrounds.

As a member of the veterans' groups, we fully understand what the use of weapons are and the people that buy them and what happens to them. So, I would just encourage all those that are in favor of selling guns on this fairgrounds that used to be Seaside Park, I would encourage them to disavow any involvement with selling weapons of mass destruction to anybody that comes up, no matter what they're qualified to carry a firearm for. Weapons do nothing but kill people, and as a veteran I can attest to that, weapons kill. Guns, knives --

CEO QUAID: Mr. Citizen, your three minutes are up. Thank you.

JJ CITIZEN: Thank you very much for allowing.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: We have one more speaker and then --

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We will be closing public comment at that point because we need to carry on.

CEO QUAID: Carlye Glaser.

CARLYE GLASER: Hi, good morning. My name is Carlye Glaser, and I'm the owner of Second Amendment Sportsman out of Camarillo. This is my daughter and number one business girl. We have been coming and doing the Crossroad shows since she was eight months old. We started attending prior to that but as a vendor.

I know the lady that spoke before me stated that she didn't feel or that -- excuse me. Someone had said that government should not be in the business of providing their land for practicing constitutional rights, and I just had to say if that's not what our government's for, I don't know what it is.

Our Second Amendment is what protects all of our other amendments. People who give up their right to defend themselves against a tyrannical government and against other people who are trying to take away their rights are giving up any other rights that they feel that they are entitled to.

So, I just wanted to bring that one to your attention and thank you for your time.

(Applause.)

CEO QUAID: That will close public comment.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: At this point, just to discuss with the board, we have had request from the board to address the gun shows because it had been really highlighted in the public and just to address, revisit, make sure that we are comfortable with what we're doing with the fair and the fairgrounds, and we've received a huge amount of information that we need to process.

What I would like to do at this point is – the other thing I’m finding out is how many legal issues there are. I mean, we need to step very carefully on this on the rights of all, and so we need to make sure we’re doing this properly.

And I would like to propose -- or I’d like to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee of myself as the president and Leah Lacayo as the vice president to work with counsel, Christine Vana with the State.

Your title again is?

STAFF COUNSEL VANA: Staff Counsel.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Staff counsel, to work on these issues to bring – to bring this matter to the board as – as policy, to not take a vote on anything today, but to have -- give every director the opportunity to give every question, doubt, comment that they would like to be included in this discussion as we proceed for this. I don’t see that there’s an urgency to make a vote on anything today, especially because we can be making some very – we can make some mistakes legally on this, and we need to be very, very cognizant of that for all.

And I have to say as well how much I appreciate -- I just came back from international travel last night -- how much I appreciate our country and the ability that we have had to speak up and have everyone have their right to speak forth and be respected with their opinions no matter what they are, so I appreciate everyone’s input today. It’s all taken very seriously and will be put forth.

But I would like now, at this point, if we may just give each of the directors the opportunity to bring up concerns, questions, follow up so that we can do a very thoughtful, careful right thing for our fairgrounds and for our community.

Leah, are you all right with that?

VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Yes. And thank you for appointing me to that committee. I look forward to working on it.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Sometimes we’re political opposites, but we work well together, so it will be a good balance.

All right. Anyone would like to start with questions?

Jim, please

DIRECTOR SALZER: Just curious, the contract, that ends this year?

VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Yes, it ends at the end of 2018.

DIRECTOR SALZER: Okay. That’s all I have.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Mike?

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Yes. I assume that we'll want some kind of an interim approach during the development process for a policy eventually.

And my question is: Is it possible to limit a contract for one show at a time to make sure we give ourselves adequate time to --

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: One thing about this is I'd like to approach this as not protecting one particular vendor but to actually come out with a broad policy for the fairgrounds on this, so I don't know if it's --

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: I guess my question is --

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: -- if it's timely do we -- are we hurting -- I'm sorry.

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Better put it is: It's not a matter of entering into a year contract or not entering into a year contract. We could, I assume, enter into a contract for one show and then maybe another show, if it's required at the time --

CEO QUAID: Yes, we can enter into a contract for each individual show rather than five or six shows per year.

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Right. Before we finally develop our policy, that's my concern. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. Leah?

VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: I would like to see us not do anything until the Ad Hoc Committee has had an opportunity to meet and talk to each one of our directors and work with our counsel to determine how we're going to proceed.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Dan?

DIRECTOR LONG: I did read in the Star newspaper on September 13 what the Del Mar Fairgrounds had done, and I thought that was a very prudent way to go about trying to figure out what our policy's gonna be.

So just to have it just be kind of fluid of when we're gonna do something and how long there is to do it, I would like a little bit more specificity to that or do what Del Mar did and call for a moratorium of the gun shows, finish out the ones that we have on contract until we come up with our own policy.

What we did was we took B & L's policy and just kind of went with that, and I kind of think that what Del Mar did was -- made sense to me, so my suggestion was to do a moratorium to a certain date until we come up with, you know, policy in the meantime.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: My question would be: Are there legal -- legal ramification to moratorium?

STAFF COUNSEL VANA: So that's something that I would work with the Ad Hoc Committee to determine.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: So, we would need to work on that with – with counsel and bring that back.

DIRECTOR LONG: And the other thing question I have, we have – do we have one more gun show or two this year?

CEO QUAID: One.

DIRECTOR LONG: One, that's what I thought.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Jim?

CEO QUAID: Two, two, sorry.

DIRECTOR LONG: Two.

DIRECTOR SALZER: I'm not sure what we're talking about when we're talking about policy. I mean, is it something complicated?

I mean, it's a moratorium or it's go forward. I mean, it's either/or. I mean, what are we talking about here as a policy? It's a question.

DIRECTOR LONG: I think we're talking about the board eventually developing a policy regarding gun shows, and it could be whether or not we keep them, it could be if we keep them conditions, it could be anything, and that's what the Ad Hoc Committee will be doing, gathering information to make recommendations to the board on that issue.

In the interim, I guess was my question; and that is, we can contract for one show at a time. We don't have to enter into a year-long contract. So, before we would address that, I would appreciate hearing Barbara's recommendation. If we – if we have to address that, I'd like Barbara's recommendation on that.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Well, I think we direct the policy whether we should or not and – and she can tell us what kind of ramifications that has for us on income, on – on staffing, and everything else, but at this point we have agreed as a board to maintain the existing contract until the end of the year, as I understand it.

VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Yes.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: And then so is --

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: What is that? I didn't hear what you -- what you agreed on.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: That we agree to stay with contracts as -- as they stood through the end of 2018.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Sorry, one more time, that we agreed to go through with the contracts?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Correct. Correct. Through the end of this year.

DIRECTOR SALZER: We have an option here. I mean, we're contracted for the gun show.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Right. Right. Well, we always have the option to break the contract, but we agreed earlier this year that we would maintain the contract through the end of this year.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Was that a board – was that a complete board vote?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes.

DIRECTOR LONG: Previously.

CEO QUAID: It was in May –

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: May.

CEO QUAID: -- Cecilia. We voted on that -- or you voted on that in May.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Okay. I'd like to make a comment.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay.

DIRECTOR LONG: The reason I raise that issue --

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: It's Cecilia's turn.

DIRECTOR LONG: Oh, I'm sorry

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I would prefer, Dan and Leah, that we put a moratorium on any future gun shows, including the one that we're contracted for, notwithstanding any financial obligation that we don't know of at this point or at least I'm not aware of any financial obligation that we have as a result of not going through with that final show.

And so a moratorium in place either with that show proceeding or not depending on whether or not there's financial commitment that we would have to fulfill whether we chose to not – not have the show this year and put that moratorium in place until we fulfill development of our gun show policies, and I believe that what Dan had said in using B & L's suggested verbiage that that's not appropriate for us to do that at this time.

DIRECTOR LONG: Can you summarize what she said, please?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: That was difficult. I'm sorry.

Cecilia, what I'm understanding you to say is that you're asking that we work on a moratorium at this time even though we already voted to continue with the contracts through the end of this year; is that correct?

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Correct.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: So, you want to change your –

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: That's correct.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: You want a new vote to change that policy?

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Correct. And then I believe that was what Leah had suggested during her comment that -- that we follow the example of Del Mar and place a moratorium until our -- until development of our gun show policy's in place because what we based that -- what we based that decision on in May, I believe I voted yes to that, was to use the B & L language and existing policy for the board at this time, and I don't believe that that's appropriate for us to be doing.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Leah?

VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Cecilia, my recommendation is to follow through with the Ad Hoc Committee, gather information, not to take a vote today on anything we already voted in May to allow our contract to continue, and just refer it to the Ad Hoc Committee with our counsel and input from our fellow board of directors.

DIRECTOR LONG: If that's a motion, if you need it, I would second it

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: So, you're not suggesting a moratorium at this time?

VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: No. And I'm not making a motion. It's just that I've been appointed as part of the Ad Hoc Committee. It needs no motion.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I am -- I am in support of the Ad Hoc Committee, but I am also further asking for a moratorium. If I -- if I need to make that into a motion, I can, for purposes of a vote. It's not about our policy, it's about --

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I'm not -- I'm not saying that that's not a good thing to discuss or vote on. I'm not sure we're in a position to vote on this with all the information that we've been taking in today and the research that needs to be done to make sure that we're -- the legal ramifications and the cost ramifications of a moratorium.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I see.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: So, I would -- I would not say that we wouldn't do that. I would like to make sure that the Ad Hoc Committee works on that so that we can make an informed decision and vote on that.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Okay. Well, if that's the case, would a mor -- would that information be done and completed by the Ad Hoc Committee before the next scheduled show?

CEO QUAID: Our next show is in October, so I doubt that that information would become available, but I'm a little bit unclear, so I'm gonna ask this question, Cecilia.

The board voted to continue with the 2018 shows, so that's already done. What we're discussing now is the possibility of having shows in 2019.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I understand that, Barbara, but I'm also asking that because that vote was made with information taken from the B & L policy -- or the -- the policy that we're currently using is B & L language that that be reviewed and that we put a moratorium in place, even for this last show, notwithstanding the cost of what it would cost the district to do so. I know we don't have that information today, but I'm looking for that. I'm looking for a moratorium to not have this last show.

And I know that the board did vote, but we were using invalid information.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: As I recall, but I will probably have to go back and look at the minutes, we did not vote to use the -- we voted to accept the B & L contract as it stood for the rest of the year, that we were comfortable with the contract with those terms through the end of the year with the vote to be coming back after fair at this time to proceed with future contracts or future policy.

Okay. I've just been handed that motion. The motion in May was to approve to keep the current gun show contract for 2018 and put the gun show policy in place to not sell parts for AR-15s and have the board revisit the gun show contract for 2019 in September, meaning in our September meeting, which is what we're doing, public comment.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Right. But you confirmed that we're using the B & L policy as our existing policy and that was what we voted on.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We did not vote on that as policy because if it would, it would've been entered into our policy handbook, and it didn't. We are just confirming the contract that we have in place.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: We used it for the purposes of the vote, Leslie. We used it for the purposes of the vote.

DIRECTOR SALZER: Madam Chair?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes.

DIRECTOR SALZER: As far of parliamentary procedure is concerned and by Mike, the Chair has made a decision to form an Ad Hoc Committee. That decision stands unless someone wants to appeal the decision of the Chair, in which case that takes a motion and a vote rather than going back and forth, back and forth, back and forth. The chair has spoken.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you. Anyone -- is everyone comfortable with the procedure that we put in place for future?

(No audible response.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. I do think that it would be helpful, Christine, if you could tell me your availability and maybe a general timeline. I'm not gonna put a

deadline on it, like, by a certain date, but I'd like to know – I think that's where the comfort level is what we need is – is a timeline to know when things are coming.

STAFF COUNSEL VANA: So --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Move closer.

STAFF COUNSEL VANA: Can you hear me? Is it on?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Closer.

STAFF COUNSEL VANA: Okay. So that is gonna take board direction to the Ad Hoc Committee, what issues would you like to prioritize right now before October, before your October meeting? What information would you like answered?

And then following that meeting, what other questions or issues would you like the Ad Hoc Committee to look into?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes?

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: I want one issue to be considered, and I don't want this to be interpreted, in any way, whether I'm for or against gun shows. I haven't decided that yet, but I would like the issue of whether age should be a consideration at gun shows.

(Applause.)

STAFF COUNSEL VANA: Is that age of attendance?

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: Age of attendees, yes.

STAFF COUNSEL VANA: All right. Okay.

CEO QUAID: Which way?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Older or younger?

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: Depends on how old.

CEO QUAID: Oh, don't even say that.

(Laughter.)

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: It's not up to me, that's why I'm asking.

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: Over 85.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. My question, I have two that come to mind, there may be more, and please, we appreciate input, but here is a good place for us to get official request; mine is, what kind of a budget impact do we have because we're looking at next year's budget, so we need to know what that impact is towards our fairgrounds.

The other is I'd like a clarification on the fact that we are State, so what laws must we abide by that either coincide, conflict, and that's complicated. That's not something I



know well, but I know we can step in it if we're not careful on making decisions with our state facility, state facility here. We've talked that we are a county fair but we're a state facility, so it's a very complicated set of issues on that, too, so we'd like to make sure we're in line with the law for those

Yes, Mike?

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: I think mine kind of dovetail with yours, Madam Chair, that I'm interested in, first of all, is this a legal decision or a policy decision?

And if it's a policy decision, are there any legal prohibitions or any legal considerations that we have to look at or is it strictly policy?

Being a state institution, can the State overrule us? Who is the final decision maker in this process? Is it, in fact, the board, the 31<sup>st</sup> or Department of Agriculture, the Governor, whatever?

What would preclude the State from bringing an action against us, if we are the final decision makers, if they don't like the decision we make?

We talked about litigation and then legislation involving the Cow Palace there. Is that a unique situation, or is there anything in that regard that would impact us?

We may not have to respond to this other question since I think we're all pretty squared away on the fact that we're going to honor our 2018 contract, but if we didn't, I assume there would be substantial contractual liability, and we may or may not have to look at that.

Lastly, we have options other than just banning gun shows for 2019 if we have not yet developed the policy. I am hopeful we will have a policy before then.

So, it raises the question of what is the last date – and this is something maybe for Barbara as opposed to a legal issue – what's the last date that we can enter into a contract for gun shows for 2019?

I think we need to know that and that we should -- you already indicated we can. I think we ought to double check to make sure that that Crossroads, or whatever company is out there that we would deal with, would be willing to enter into contracts for a single gun show at a time if, in fact, we have not yet developed our policy. Hopefully we will, but I don't think we ought to be looking at just abolishing guns shows for 2019 automatically.

CEO QUAID: Well, as a business person, Mr. Templeton books these shows at the beginning of the year, so he has already put in a request for 2019 for five days. Now, whether he would be willing to settle for a contract for one date or not, I can't answer that question. That's certainly up to him. We have done contracts for events for just one date, but I can't answer – I can't answer for him or his attorney.

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Thank you.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We certainly have meetings on calendar for October, November, and we can even call one for December, if it matters, to make, you know, to make sure that this gets done, so because I think it's important; it's important to us, it's important for the community to have this resolved one way or the other.

So, Dan?

DIRECTOR LONG: Well, I feel very strongly that we shouldn't do another gun show until we have a policy because there's a lot of things moving around, and you may not call that a moratorium, but I don't think it would be prudent of us to have another gun show until we come up with a policy of what we're doing; our own policy, not B & L's or anybody else's, and make sure that it's legal.

I want to make sure, too, that all the directors have -- get all this information disseminated today in writing and otherwise we didn't have a chance to read everything that was submitted so we all have time to read that and if, you know, before the Ad Hoc Committee meets so we can all put input or give ideas or questions to the committee.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Dan, if you're willing to make that a motion I would -- I would support your motion.

CEO QUAID: Are you talking about 2018?

DIRECTOR LONG: I didn't make a motion. No, 2000 -- I expect us to have -- I'm sorry. Probably Director Cuevas maybe misheard me.

I voted for and I still support having the other gun show that we have on the books. We voted for that, and I supported that. But what my concern and I think some other concerns have been for what comes after what we are already contracted for, I don't want to sign another contract for a gun show until we have a policy in place.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I would agree with that also, Dan.

CEO QUAID: So, does everyone -- I -- I misspoke when I said one gun show. We have two gun shows left in 2018.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: (Inaudible.)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What did she say?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Leah?

VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Well, that shouldn't change anything, Cecilia, because we voted in May to allow those, yeah.

DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Well, it does give us -- it does give a different perspective to the public on whether we're moving forward or not. I understand I was part of that vote. I voted against it. And I just think -- I think that we're operating under a B & L policy, and that's -- it's my understanding --

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: But that's incorrect, yeah. We are operating on the fact that we have – we are a rental facility that has rented the facility to a gun show and that we are comfortable with the contract that they have in place, but that is not our policy. We did not adopt their contract as our policy on gun shows.

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: Madam Chair?

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes.

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: We don't have before us today the issue of whether we have to give someone a one-on-one event contract, so I don't think it's necessary for us to express our position on whether we would or would not approve a contract for one show. That's not before us today.

The -- it's very -- it's very simply: How often does the executive committee feel they need to meet or how long will it take them to report back to us with a policy?

I think the public has waited long enough for us to do our work.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yeah. And the reason that we're looking at doing Ad Hoc is so that we can move it faster. If we have an executive committee, that means three people with 10 days' notice for any meeting that we ever have with counsel, it will take us forever.

So, if we do Ad Hoc we can work with her on this way. We can't make any official decisions, but we can just absorb and disseminate the information faster to everyone so that's the point of doing the Ad Hoc over having a full executive committee, and therefore, also we're not having the executive committee making decisions – kind of pre-making decisions for the board because this is something that the whole board wants a decision on.

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: I understand that, and that's why I think that discussing any other options at this point is not even relevant. You just need to meet and come back to us --

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Well, I would agree, but I just also want to make sure everybody has their chance to have everything --

DIRECTOR LOPEZ: Sometimes that's a good thing, sometimes it's not.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I know.

All right. Yes, Mike?

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: I have one more question that I'd like to submit as well. The answer may seem obvious, but it may not be; and that is: If, for any reason, we would enter into a moratorium or the policy pending a policy development, or the policy would preclude gun shows, would that subject us to any liability?

And we'd have to look beyond contractual law and look at constitutional provisions as well in that regard. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Dan?

DIRECTOR LONG: And you brought it up, President, on the fiduciary respons – our fiduciary responsibility and how much money the gun shows bring in. You know, I see the numbers that we get. I don't know if that also, if we get -- do we get a percentage of sales or is it just the rental?

And I don't care, you know, whatever it is. I just want to know exactly how much we, you know, what we will get or not get if we do or do not have a gun show.

CEO QUAID: It's rental of buildings and grounds, parking revenue, and a percentage of food sales.

DIRECTOR LONG: Of food sales?

CEO QUAID: Of food sales as well. And usually it's -- it averages about between \$88,000 and a \$100,000 a year on five shows.

DIRECTOR LONG: Okay. That way we have all the numbers that -- because if we did not have them, what would we replace it with, so that's kind of --

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: (Inaudible) parking.

CEO QUAID: Yes, parking usually runs about between \$9,800 and \$10,000.

DIRECTOR BRADBURY: For the year?

CEO QUAID: A show.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: So based on that, Leah and I will meet as soon as possible and as often as possible with Christine to work on these issues to be brought back to the next meeting and so that we can get a policy in place so it's timely so that we can keep our budget in line for next year as to what we're going to do without the shows.

We just need to have that as timely as possible so with all the ramifications but also in protection. Our job is to protect this palace, and we need to make sure that we are solvent, and we need to make sure that we're doing the right thing by our policy.

DIRECTOR LONG: So, I guess just the other question, Barbara, do you -- if he wants us to sign a contract for next year sooner, would you be doing that, before the end of the year?

CEO QUAID: Not without board approval, no.

DIRECTOR LONG: Okay. That's -- I just wanted to be clear on this.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: She has the right to do that, but we've revoked to approve those, and I think she knows that regarding those, she's not gonna be signing contracts without --

DIRECTOR LONG: That way the public knows that, too, so we don't need a moratorium at this time.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And I notice we're going to be discussing the weight of lambs next if our audience would like to stick around.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What's the timeline of setting our budget for next year?

CEO QUAID: Our budget, we like to have our budget done by the end of the year. We didn't have it done last year by the end of the year. We had some budget issues, but if we could have it done by optimal 31<sup>st</sup> of December.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There was a fire last year too.

CEO QUAID: We did.

PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. At this point I'd like to move on our agenda if that's all right I appreciate the public being here and seeing what we're about but we will be working diligently on this issue.

CEO QUAID: Thank you, all.

(Whereupon, this portion of the board meeting agenda adjourned.)

**CROSSROADS OF THE WEST  
GUN SHOWS**

***and the***

**VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

**A 12 year mutually-beneficial  
business relationship**

Prepared by  
Rob J. Templeton

## ***CROSSROADS OF THE WEST GUN SHOWS AT THE VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS***

### ***An event such as a gun show poses valid public safety concerns.***

The California State Assembly and Senate in 1999 crafted rules governing conduct and activities at gun shows in the state. The result of that collaboration between legislators, law-enforcement and gun show producers was Assembly Bill 295, the Gun Show Regulatory Bill. As a result of that legislation and collaboration, laws were enacted that address issues of public safety and compliance with all applicable laws.

**Crossroads of the West Gun Shows: A 12 year history at the Ventura County Fairgrounds with no incidents and a clear record with all law-enforcement agencies, federal, state and local.**

### ***California has the strictest laws in the nation regarding activities at gun shows.***

- **No firearms may be sold by individuals at the show.** All firearms sold must be processed by a fully-licensed dealer. No firearms are delivered at the shows. Anyone wishing to purchase a firearm must undergo the California Department of Justice background check, which includes a thorough search of federal records, and wait ten days before picking up the firearm at the licensed dealer's store.
- **All firearms buyers are subjected to a rigorous background check.** The background checks are conducted by the California Department of Justice and the FBI under the federal NICS (National Criminal Background Check) system.
- **No firearm may be delivered at the show.** A buyer must wait 10 days until his application to purchase has been approved by the California Department of Justice. They must pick up their firearm at the licensed dealer's premises.
- **No "assault weapons" are sold at the show.** California law prescribes strict limitations on the types of firearms which are sold either at stores or at gun shows. Military style semi-automatic firearms may not be sold in the state of California and are not sold at Crossroads shows. Further restrictions on semi-automatic firearms have been enacted by the

## ***CROSSROADS OF THE WEST GUN SHOWS AT THE VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS***

California legislature starting on January 1, 2018. No semi-automatic firearm may be sold in the state unless it must be disassembled to remove the magazine. No quick-release magazines or so-called "bullet-buttons" are permitted to be offered for sale at the shows or in stores anywhere in California.

- **No high-capacity magazines are sold at the show** or in stores in California. Any magazine offered for sale in California may not hold more than ten rounds.

**Federal, state and local law-enforcement officers are present at all Crossroads shows held at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.** The California Department of Justice has several undercover officers in attendance at all southern California gun shows. Additionally, federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosive (B.A.T.F.E.) undercover officers are in attendance at the show. Law enforcement agencies maintain surveillance over the activities at the show in a uniformed or in an undercover capacity to ensure that all applicable laws are being complied with by all vendors and members of the public. The tens of thousands of Ventura County residents who own and use firearms lawfully and responsibly comprise the crowds which have attended Crossroads shows for over twelve years at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. They support the Constitutional right to own firearms, and continue to actively support the Crossroads shows.

**Crossroads provides active enforcement oversight.** In order to further ensure that all merchandise at the show is compliant with federal and state laws, Crossroads has hired a retired California Department of Justice Bureau of Firearms enforcement officer to monitor the activities at the show. This retired D.O.J. officer knows California firearms laws, and oversees the activities at the Ventura show and at all Crossroads shows in southern California.

Crossroads of the West is a family-owned company which conducts over 60 gun shows in four western states every year. We are committed to making sure that all of the activities at our shows are in compliance with all applicable laws, and we work pro-actively with law-enforcement agencies at all levels to ensure compliance with those laws.



## VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS GUN SHOW SAFETY & SECURITY PLAN

***An event such as a gun show present special security concerns which must be addressed in order to provide a safe and secure environment for all show participants and for facility personnel, and to reassure members of the community-at-large that all applicable laws and safe practices are being observed and implemented.***

This updated Safety & Security Plan (March 27, 2018) will address concerns and issues specific to the gun shows produced by Crossroads of the West at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

### **SHOW ATTENDEE PROFILE:**

The show is attended by a diverse crowd and is comprised of a broad cross-section of Ventura County and southern California residents. It includes area sportsmen and women, collectors, target shooters and hunters, law-enforcement and military personnel.

Primary occupational groups of attendees include law-enforcement, military personnel and private security officers. Family groups are well represented and we see many fathers and sons, grandfathers and grandkids and husbands and wives among those in attendance. We encourage a limited number of vendors who offer products such as personal security products... for example, pepper gas and stun guns, hunting and fishing gear and jewelry and diverse other items which will appeal to all who attend the show.

We welcome all to the show, but there are several cohorts which may not attend the show. Convicted felons are specifically prohibited by law from handling or purchasing a firearm or ammunition. The show is actively monitored by law-enforcement personnel from several agencies, including the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Firearms Enforcement Division. Persons such as convicted felons or other persons who are prohibited from purchasing firearms are generally aware of the active law-enforcement presence and generally avoid attending the shows. No one under the age of eighteen is permitted in the show without the direct supervision of a parent or grandparent.

No firearms are sold or delivered at the show. If a person wishes to purchase a firearm, they must wait until the licensed dealer has submitted the Dealer Report of Sale to the California Department of Justice, completed the state-mandated background check and completed the required ten-day waiting period before taking delivery of a gun. **The gun can only be delivered to the purchaser at the dealer's place of business, and no guns are delivered at the show.**

Our Crossroads compliance officers monitor the shows prior to opening and continuously throughout the duration of the show to ensure that all products being offered for sale comply with applicable federal and state laws. Such items as brass knuckles, switch-blade knives, butterfly knives and replica hand grenades are prohibited by California law and are not permitted to be displayed or offered for sale at the show. Our policy has always been not to permit bump stocks or any device which provides for an increased rate of fire for any firearm. Recent changes (January 1, 2018) impose additional restrictions on the types of semi-automatic firearms which may be sold in the state, and our staff monitors displays to ensure that no illegal firearms or accessories are being offered for sale.

### **SHOW ENTRANCE SECURITY**

During the hours that the show is open to the public two persons, typically two retired Ventura County Sheriffs, are on duty to check and clear all firearms and all backpacks, etc. to ensure that no loaded guns are being permitted into the show. They check, clear and tie all firearms to be inoperative and attach a tag to each firearm. The tag states that if the firearm is sold or transferred at the show, it must be through a licensed dealer. The law requires that all transfers must be conducted by a licensed transfer dealer, and Crossroads provides a list of local licensed dealers to facilitate such transfers.

### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF FIREARMS AGENTS:**

The California Department of Justice has established a task force to monitor all activities at gun shows throughout the state. Officers trained to identify unlawful firearms or other items prohibited by state or federal law are regularly present in an undercover surveillance and enforcement capacity. They are plainclothes officers who actively monitor vendors and members of the public to ensure compliance with applicable laws. Their presence and the knowledge on the part of the vendors and members of the public that California Department of Justice enforcement agents are surveilling and monitoring the activities at the show provides an effective deterrent to those who might otherwise offer illegal items for sale or engage in any type of unlawful activity.

### **U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS AGENTS:**

The shows are intermittently monitored by agents from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to ensure compliance with applicable federal laws. While the federal agents do not generally make themselves known to Crossroads staff members, their presence is welcome and they provide another deterrent to illegal activities.

### **ADDITIONAL SAFETY AND SECURITY MEASURES:**

A Crossroads safety officer patrols the show prior to opening to ensure that all firearms have been properly safety-tied and that all detachable magazines have been removed. The safety officer will actively monitor the show throughout the weekend to ensure that all firearms remain properly secured. Additionally, the safety officer will monitor for any illegal or inappropriate items which might be displayed.

Crossroads has trusted vendors who assist in actively monitoring the show to protect against any safety or security violations. These vendors provide additional surveillance throughout the duration of the show, further ensuring that other vendors and members of the public are in compliance with Crossroads safety and security rules and with all applicable laws.

Crossroads of the West Gun Shows shares a twelve year partnership with Ventura County Fair in producing quality events for the residents of Ventura County and all of southern California. We at Crossroads are committed to continuing the strong and mutually beneficial business relationship we have with the Ventura County Fair and pledge to continue to provide safe and secure events which comply with all federal, state and local laws.

Dear Ventura Fair Grounds 31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association Board,

**We, the below signed, urge you to vote in support of continuing to allow gun shows, especially those produced by the Crossroads Of the West organization, at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.**

This request is being made for the following reasons:

**1) Banning gun shows or similar types of events, will not make our community or the world safer.**

Gun shows, and their attendees, are not dangerous. Over a decade of holding gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds proves this. Moreover, gun shows are a safe and family friendly environment where sons, daughters, and grandchildren can be introduced to shooting sports with the proper safety, training, and supervision and to the joys of collecting and learning the history of the items collected.

The often-referred to "gun show loophole" is an absolute myth, especially in California. No one is able to walk into a show, purchase a firearm, and walk out without having gone through a background check. Any gun purchase made at the show must be conducted through a licensed federal firearms dealer with a background check and 10 day waiting period. Firearms and ammunition are kept separate and out of direct reach of the public without assistance from the licensed dealer. Safety and security are taken very seriously at these shows and this is proven by their clean records.

**2) Although traditionally referred to as "gun shows", these events include considerably more than guns and ammunition.**

A vast majority of the vendors at these events are small business owners selling a wide variety of products related to hunting, fishing, outdoors activities, health, family fun, and survival and include food, jewelry, clothing, equipment, books, and collectibles. Additionally, gun shows often serve as a venue for accessing firearms safety classes and programs which help law abiding gun owners keep firearms out of the hands of children and teach responsible firearms ownership and usage.

3) In keeping with the Ventura County Fairgrounds Mission to "promote, support, educate, celebrate and preserve the diverse culture and traditions of our county and to make certain that the Ventura County Fairgrounds be an exemplary multi-use community resource" and in view of the fact that the Ventura Fairgrounds is state property operated by a government body, **any prohibition against law-abiding gun shows and their participants is an act of discrimination.** To do so based on the fact that the people in power just don't "like" the content of the speech or an event is a violation of constitutional rights both for the promoter (as noted in the *Cinevision Corp v. City of Burbank* case) and for the thousands of people who attend gun shows to engage with a community of like-minded people and exercise their constitutional rights.

**4) Although many of the people encouraging you to take away the rights of a large group of citizens appear to be acting as individuals, they are actually being funded and encouraged by organizations spear-heading the opposition to gun shows and gun ownership statewide and nationwide.** These organizations, including MoveOn.org, are heavily funded by anti-Americans such as George Soros who wish to destroy our culture and traditions, prevent us from legally owning and using guns, and prevent our children from becoming part of this time-honored group of loyal Americans exercising their rights. Once we are helpless, they can take over and shape our country any way they wish. We encourage you not to be intimidated by these groups and their scare tactics.

**As such, we respectfully ask you to vote in favor of the continuation of Crossroads of the West and other similar gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.** Preventing them from using these facilities for their events would eliminate a critical source of gun safety programs, materials, and training opportunities in the Coastal California Area; would negatively impact a great many small and large businesses, both at the events and in the community; would cause a substantial loss of revenue to the Fairgrounds; and would infringe on the constitutional rights of a large number of law-abiding citizens and their families.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ventura County Fairgrounds  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 25, 2018

**Informational Packet for Gun Show Discussion**

By: Michel & Associates, P.C.

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September 24, 2018

**VIA FEDEX**

Barbara Quaid, CEO  
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Leah Lacayo  
Bonnie Atmore  
Michael Bradbury  
M. Cecilia Cuevas  
Armando Lopez  
Shante Morgan-Durisseau  
Jim Salzer  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
Derby Club / Director's Room  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Ventura, CA 93001

**Re: Ventura County Fairgrounds Board of Directors  
Informational Packet for Gun Show Discussion-  
September 25, 2018 Agenda**

Dear Ventura Fairgrounds Board of Directors:

I write to you on behalf of our client the California Rifle & Pistol Association, Incorporated ("CRPA"). CRPA has a history of over 143 years in promoting firearms safety, training, hunting, shooting sports, and defending the rights of those who would choose to lawfully own and possess a firearm in the state. CRPA requests that the Board fully consider the ramifications of removing a long standing and legal business from its property and ask that the Board move to adopt the 2019 contracts without delay.

Included with this letter is information that dispels many of the false claims that have been made in recent years regarding gun shows in California. This is a passionate topic and many people like to throw out "facts" that they hear from media and websites from across the country but concerns from other parts of the country do not equate to California gun shows because of the highly regulated environment in California.

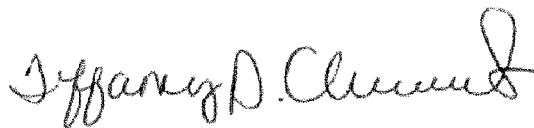
In 2000 California passed the Gun Show Enforcement and Security Act which lays out in detail the numerous regulations gun show promoters and vendors must follow. Part of this law is that gun shows must follow the exact same process for completing a gun sale as any brick and mortar store. This means that no one leaves a gun show with a firearm on the day of the show. There is a background check and a 10-day waiting period before the transaction is complete. The Department of Justice (DOJ) also get a list of the DOJ approved vendors and what they are selling. DOJ and other local and federal law enforcement are on site to ensure that there are no transactions of illegal items being sold and that all transactions are in compliance with the law. You can also put the myth to bed that there are Assault Weapons or Magazines capable of holding more then 10 rounds being sold at gun shows- this is illegal activity in California and is not happening at the gun show.

In addition to the Gun Show Enforcement and Security Act of 2000, in 2016 the state also passed legislation and Proposition 63 with places more restriction on the sale and transfer of both firearms and ammunition. All gun shows and vendors must follow these laws as well and there are no exceptions for gun shows. The insinuation that a promoter would give up their entire livelihood to break the law is simply ludicrous.

The Crossroads of the West Gunshow has a long history of following the rules in California. They have the proper background checks and licensing from the State of California, they work well with law enforcement to maintain the safety and security of the event and attendees, and they are operating in full compliance. Because it is lawful to sell firearms and ammunition in California, Crossroads of the West is in full compliance with state and federal law, and the venue has had no issues with safety and security of this long-standing show compared with that of any other shows—therefore, the gun show should continue in 2019.

Please take the time to read the material provided and thoughtfully consider any questions. I will make myself available to the Board for any questions either at the meeting on Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> or as any future questions arise. Please feel free to contact my office at any time.

Sincerely,  
**Michel & Associates, P.C.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tiffany D. Cheuvront". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and a stylized "C".

Tiffany D. Cheuvront

## **FALSE CLAIMS MADE AGAINST CALIFORNIA GUN SHOWS**

### **FALSE CLAIM 1: Gun Shows Are Under Regulated**

Gun shows are modern bazaars where a wide variety of goods are offered for sale and foods are served. Only about 10% of exhibitors' tables offer firearms. Crossroads is in full compliance with DOJ regarding the promotion and operation of gun shows in the state and has been for over 30 years.

Gun shows in California are among the most highly regulated events that occur in the state. **(Exhibit 1- Penal Code Explanation for Gun Shows)**.

The promoter of a gun show must have a certificate of eligibility (COE), which is essentially an ongoing background check from the California Department of Justice (DOJ).

All gun show vendors who want to sell items at a gun show must also have a COE and be approved by DOJ and have all other local licenses that are necessary to conduct business.

California laws require police to be at every gun show. There are always uniformed officers and agents, and usually undercover police present as well. Federal, state and local police work to ensure there is a safe and non-violent environment for all participants. Police monitor firearms and ammunition transactions, inspect licenses, safety check and tag all firearms coming into the show for sale, patrol the exhibition tables for illegal products, watch for any illegal or unsafe activity, make sure firearms are properly secured, and make sure that all vendors and guests are in compliance with all laws. Undercover law enforcement officers sometimes conduct "stings" during the gun shows as well. **(Exhibit 2- Penal Code Section regarding Gun Show Operations)**

### **FALSE CLAIM 2: Guns Are Sold illegally to Criminals at Gun Shows**

Opposition groups claim that guns sold at gun shows in California are later used to commit violent crimes. There is no connection between guns sold at gun shows and guns used in violent crimes. Although any gun, sold anywhere, may eventually fall into the wrong hands because of theft or an illegal sale, guns sold at gun shows are sold to law-abiding citizens who pass a background check. Sales are conducted through a properly licensed firearm retailer, approved buyers must wait ten days to pick up their purchase, and every transaction is recorded, and sale/purchase is registered. Banning gun shows does not stop gun crime because criminals are not frequenting gun highly regulated gun shows to access firearms.

Criminals do not buy guns at gun shows. **(Exhibit 3- Study Criminals Do Not Buy Guns At Gun shows)** <https://hotair.com/archives/2015/09/05/shocking-study-criminals-generally-dont-buy-guns-legally-at-gun-shops/>

A study from the National Institute of Justice, the research arm of the U.S. Department of Justice, debunks the claim that criminals use firearms purchased at gun shows by showing that across the country this happens at a miniscule rate (**See Exhibit 4-Study from the National Institute of Justice**) <https://www.cato.org/publications/commentary/facts-about-gun-shows> ) and that criminals getting firearms from gun show is not a major problem in cities across America. Criminals do not try to buy guns in the highly regulated environment of a California gun show. Why would a criminal attempt to make a purchase in such a highly regulated environment?

### **FALSE CLAIM 3: Gun Shows Promote a Violent “Gun Culture”**

Opposition groups claim that gun shows promote the “proliferation of a gun and violence culture” and argue this is a reason to ban gun shows. They say that children should not be exposed to guns and the “gun culture” they claim exists at gun shows.

This is a culture clash, and a First Amendment as well as a Second Amendment issue. A small group of people who hate guns want to eradicate the “gun culture” by censoring those who would exercise their First and Second Amendment rights.

A 2008 study actually found no evidence that gun shows lead to substantial increases in either gun-related homicides or suicides. (**See Exhibit 5-University of Michigan Study**) <http://www.ns.umich.edu/htdocs/releases/story.php?id=6759>

A recently released (although held back) report from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) speaks to the use of “good guys with guns” who have successfully used firearms for self-defense more than once thought. “[E]ven accepting the minimum estimate of defensive gun uses in the U.S. each year from a source hardly inclined toward Second Amendment advocacy, that number still dwarfs the number of instances in which guns are used to commit violent crime. “Almost all national survey estimates indicate that defensive gun uses by victims are at least as common as offensive uses by criminals,” the report summarized.” (**See Exhibit 6-Center for Disease Control Study Admissions**) <http://cfif.org/v/index.php/commentary/54/4038-cdc-admission-guns-used-far-more-often-in-self-defense-than-crime> Thus the ability of a person to defend themselves and their family is the real deterrent to violent crimes.

The lawful possession and ownership of firearms for sport or self-defense is still a legal and constitutionally protected activity. Parents have a right to pass down their children a healthy respect for safe handling of firearms and the traditions that come along with choosing to own a firearm. For many families, hunting and sport shooting are traditions passed down through generations. These families are offended that groups who want to ban gun shows are implying that they are “violent” or that they “support violence” in any way because they choose to teach their children about these traditions or take their child to a gun show.



**FALSE CLAIM 4: “Loopholes” in California Law Allow People to Walk Out of Gun Shows with Guns**

There is no “gun show loophole” in California laws.<sup>1</sup> California law prohibits a person going to a gun show, or to any brick and mortar retail gun shop, and walking out with a firearm on that same day. As a matter of fact, none of California’s statutes regulating firearms possession, sale, or transfer has an exception for different conduct while at a gun show. Anyone who attends a gun show must follow the same legal requirements that apply at a commercial storefront firearm retailer, and all gun sales in California must be conducted through a gun dealer with valid federal, state, and local licenses. All gun sales, not matter where they occur, include a background check, 10 day waiting period and written and demonstration knowledge and safety tests before a buyer is allowed to take possession of a purchased firearm. **(Exhibit 7-Differences in gun shows and gun store operation chart)**

Beginning in 2019, additional regulations will go into place which will regulate ammunition transactions both in brick and mortar stores and at gun shows.

**FALSE CLAIM 5: California Gun Shows Are Conducted in the Same Way as Shows in Other States**

California has a completely different gun show regulatory scheme than anywhere else in the country. The highly regulated gun shows must follow numerous rules, safety measures, background checks for all show promoters and all vendors who sell firearms or ammunition at the shows, as well as restrictions on what can be legally sold and carried into a gun show.

The difference is the highly regulated gun shows in California versus other states can even been seen on the Giffords Law Center website where the numerous regulations that apply to California gun shows are compared to other states **(Exhibit 8-Gifford Law Center’s Own recognition of California’s strict gun regulations compared to other states).**

The claim that there are illegal purchases, unlawful activity, and people walking out of a gun show with a firearm in California-it simply is not true.

**FALSE CLAIM 6: Gun Shows Glorify Gun Culture and Encourage Children to Handle Guns**

Gun shows are important gathering points for people who are interested in Second Amendment issues. Gun rights groups frequently set up booths at gun shows to distribute literature and recruit members. Members of these groups learn safety, handling, shooting skills, hunting, and respect for firearms. Gun shows are places where Americans properly exercise

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.gunfacts.info/blog/california-nevada-gun-shows-not-what-the-media-reported/>

their First and Second Amendment rights, and neither gun show patrons nor vendors deserve the mean-spirited campaign of abuse to which they are subjected.

Parents who choose to educate their children about proper firearm safety and usage, pass along hunting and sporting traditions, and allow their children to gain a better understanding of firearms technology, and their constitutional rights in a safe and secure environment should not be demonized because a few have deemed lawful activity “bad” just because they just do not believe in it.

Children may attend gun shows because they are family-friendly and safe ways for all members of a family to learn and understand their rights. Gun owners teach their children about gun safety and practice safety in the home:

- Gun owners with children younger than 18 in the household are more likely than those who aren’t parents to say they keep all their guns locked and unloaded while they’re at home;
- Gun owners with children are also less likely than those without children to have an easily accessible gun in the home;
- Regardless of how their guns are stored, the large majority of gun-owning parents say they have talked with their children about gun safety (82%). A smaller share of parents who don’t own guns say the same (51%).

Opponents to the gun shows claim that guns are glorified at gun shows and children are in danger if exposed to this culture, but the Pew Study references the exact opposite- most gun owners are responsible, safe people who teach their children to respect firearms. <sup>2</sup>These are the same people attending gun shows. **(Exhibit 9- Pew Research Study)**

<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/06/26/among-u-s-gun-owners-parents-more-likely-than-non-parents-to-keep-their-guns-locked-and-unloaded/> )

#### **FALSE CLAIM 7: Gun Shows Decrease Public Safety**

There are very limited statistics that prove that crime goes up in a California community following a gun show. There was a recent study that showed that when gun shows happen in neighboring states that crime and violence increase in California, but this study was quickly found to be flawed in its data and process, showing that even when opposition funded research attempts to make the connection between crime and gun shows in California with flawed data, it fails

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<sup>2</sup><http://www.gunfacts.info/gun-control-myths/children-and-guns/>  
<http://www.gunfacts.info/blog/pondering-parkland/>  
<http://www.gunfacts.info/blog/suicides-and-guns/>

Gun shows must follow the same procedure as any gun store. By saying that the gun shows are unsafe and that sales are too easy, they are saying that all gun sales are too easy—yet California has the toughest firearm sale laws in the country.

**FALSE CLAIM 8:        We Should Be Able to Limit Gun Shows Because We Just Don't Like It In Our Community.**

"I am for universal background checks ... but my personal opinion isn't law. I'm not going to make a knee-jerk reaction. My concern is about being drawn needlessly into court and spending taxpayer dollars on an issue still being debated in Washington and various statehouses in the union."

Kyle Allen, Democrat, Lake County Fair Board member, Crownpoint, IN.

**1. First Amendment Protections**

Imagine where our world would be if the few get to dictate what is "good" or "bad" just because they are offended by it. The very purpose of the Constitution is to protect the rights of the individual from that of the masses. The purposed of the First Amendment is to protect speech from those that would try to silence people because they find that speech offensive. Speech must not be banned by a government entity, just because some do not agree or find it offensive.

Just this week, the Ninth Circuit found that limiting the speech of gun dealers and retailers is a reach where the government "may not restrict speech that persuades adults, who are neither criminals no suffer from mental illness, from purchasing a legal and constitutionally protected product, merely because it distrusts their personality trait and the decisions that personality trait may lead them to make later down the road."

Opponents to gun shows are looking to eliminate the commercial speech of those participating in the shows and the speech of those that choose to lawfully own or possess a firearm. The very fact that people continue to attend the gun shows in light of all of the political controversy around firearms shows that these venues are important for the expression of speech and the exercise of rights. The size and space of government venues open to the public also lends itself to gatherings where individuals can express themselves and have open dialogue regarding their rights.

We see this attack on a promoter's First Amendment rights played out in *Cinevision Corp. v. City of Burbank* (754 F.2d 560 (9th Cir. 1984).) Here a promoter challenged the City's ability to reject a series of concerts that the City Council felt to be offensive. This is a case of "first amendment protected *Cinevision* against arbitrary, content-based rejection of the entertainers." The Court found in favor of *Cinevision* noting that "the City transformed publicly

owned property into a public forum<sup>3</sup> for expressive activity and it cannot, absent a compelling government interest, open the forum to some and close it to others solely in order to suppress the content of protected expression.” This case equates to attempts to ban gun shows in that the “general fear” that something *may* be dangerous or “laws *may* be broken” is unavailing.

Any willful effort by a government entity to suppress protected expression and speech (including commercial speech) clearly conflicts with the First Amendment.

## 2. Preemption Protections

In *O’Connell v. City of Stockton*, 41 Cal.4th 1061 (2007), the Court found that “A conflict exists if the local legislation “duplicates, contradicts, or enters an area fully occupied by general law.” A “local ordinance enters a field fully occupied by state law in either of two situations—when the Legislature ‘expressly manifest[s]’ its intent to occupy the legal area of when the Legislature ‘impliedly occupies the field.” (*Sherwin-Williams Co. v. City of Los Angeles*, 4 Cal.4th 893, 897 (1993).)

In 2000, the State of California enacted Assembly Bill 295 which created the most comprehensive regulations on the operation of a gun show of any state in the country. The bill places restrictions on who could promote a gun show, what information is required for participants in a gun show who would sell or transfer firearms, requires written contracts between gun show producers and gun show vendors, prohibit anyone (except vendors and law enforcement) to have both ammunition and firearms in their possession at the same time, requires the posting of special notices, requires that all firearms brought onto the premises be checked and tagged, and that no minor be admitted without parent or legal guardian. Additionally, the legislation requires promoters to have a “security plan,” a minimum of \$1 million insurance policy, and signs posted to inform attendees of current law. This became known as the Gun Show Enforcement and Security Act of 2000. Because the 2000 Act “occupies the field” of controlling *all* aspects of gun shows, it would preempt any local enforcement that would conflict or go beyond the scope of the Act.

“The council could have jumped on the national wave of concern over gun violence and either spoken out against the show on behalf of the government or tried to pass some kind of resolution prohibiting businesses from hosting such events.

That would have been the wrong thing to do. As long as the owner of a business complies with existing local, state and federal laws for hosting such events, the city should let the businesses decide for themselves what they will and will not host.”

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<sup>3</sup> Designated public forums are those facilities that the government has created to be open for use as a site by private persons. The owner of a designated public forum is not allowed to discriminate among expression held in the forum and the basis of the ideas and opinions expressed. (*Illinois Dunesland Preservation Soc’y v. Illinois Dep’t of Natural Resources*, 584 F.3d 719, 723 (7th Cir. 2009) (citing *Cinevision Corp. v. City of Burbank*, 745 F.2d 560 (9th Cir. 1984).)

(See Exhibit 10 <https://dailygazette.com/article/2018/07/25/editorial-council-rightly-stays-out-of-gun-show-debate> )

**FALSE CLAIM 9: Gun Shows Are Not “Needed”**

Political pressure by the few to attack a constitutionally-protected activity of others is never a worthwhile endeavor and one that should not be allowed to stand. This is not a question of “need.” Gun shows and the buying and selling of firearms are lawful activities in California. Crossroads of the West has been successfully holding safe gun shows for over 30 years in the state and works with law enforcement in every single one of the shows produced. Opponents to the show like to complain about the current laws not going far enough and have tried to demonize a lawful business. Their concern that laws do not go far enough, are not something that should be used against a business that is *fully complying* with the requirements. If opponents don’t like the shows, they do not have to attend.

At a recent hearing from another venue gun show opponents brought up the list of crime over the past several years around the gun show. They claimed that the gun shows invited criminal activity and that that this type of activity was not needed or wanted in their community. It was quickly observed, by the head of security for the venue, that this list of crimes was *not from the gun show*, but from the surrounding community and that the actual theft that was discussed in the hearing as being “dangerous criminal activity” occurred at the Quilt Show of all places and *not* the gun show. Opposition groups are selling half-truths in the hopes that boards will be gullible enough to believe it.

Communities where gun shows have been held for decades are not crime-ridden areas. If crime is really the true concern of these opposition groups, it looks like they should be calling for a ban on concerts (drunk driving and drugs), Ventura Fair (criminal activity and gang activity), and quilt shows (theft inside show and parking lots).

There are all kinds of people in the communities served by large facilities such as Ventura Fairgrounds. People from all walks of life enjoy activities, exhibitions, fairs, shows, and events here. This is an open forum where the public can come to enjoy these things, but it is not required. A small group of people should not get to decide for the rest of the community whether some is “needed” or not. The Board must listen to the *entire* community and the thousands of people who choose to support events like the gun show at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.





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Section:

[Up^](#)[Add To My Favorites](#)**PENAL CODE - PEN****PART 6. CONTROL OF DEADLY WEAPONS [16000 - 34370]** ( Part 6 added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. )**TITLE 4. FIREARMS [23500 - 34370]** ( Title 4 added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. )**DIVISION 6. SALE, LEASE, OR TRANSFER OF FIREARMS [26500 - 28490]** ( Division 6 added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. )**CHAPTER 3. Gun Show or Event [27200 - 27415]** ( Chapter 3 added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. )**ARTICLE 1. Gun Show or Event [27200 - 27245]** ( Article 1 added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. )

27200. (a) No person shall produce, promote, sponsor, operate, or otherwise organize a gun show or event, as specified in subdivision (b) of Section 26805, unless that person possesses a valid certificate of eligibility from the Department of Justice.

(b) Unless the department's records indicate that the applicant is a person prohibited from possessing firearms, a certificate of eligibility shall be issued by the Department of Justice to an applicant provided the applicant does all of the following:

(1) Certifies that the applicant is familiar with the provisions of this article and Article 2 (commencing with Section 27300).

(2) Ensures that liability insurance is in effect for the duration of an event or show in an amount of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

(3) Provides an annual list of the gun shows or events that the applicant plans to promote, produce, sponsor, operate, or otherwise organize during the year for which the certificate of eligibility is issued, including the date, time, and location of the gun shows or events.

(c) If during that year the information required by paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) changes, or additional gun shows or events will be promoted, produced, sponsored, operated, or otherwise organized by the applicant, the producer shall notify the Department of Justice no later than 30 days prior to the gun show or event.

(d) The Department of Justice shall adopt regulations to administer the certificate of eligibility program under this section.

(e) The Department of Justice shall recover the full costs of administering the certificate of eligibility program by fees assessed applicants who apply for certificates. A licensed gun show producer shall be assessed an annual fee of eighty-five dollars (\$85) by the department.

(f) It is the intent of the Legislature that the certificate of eligibility program established pursuant to this section be incorporated into the certificate of eligibility program established pursuant to Section 26710 to the maximum extent practicable.

(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. (SB 1080) Effective January 1, 2011. Operative January 1, 2012, by Sec. 10 of Ch. 711.)

27205. (a) Before commencement of a gun show or event, the producer thereof shall, upon written request from a law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the facility, make available to that agency, within 48 hours or a later time specified by the agency, a complete and accurate list of all persons, entities, and organizations that have leased or rented, or are known to the producer to intend to lease or rent, any table, display space, or area at the gun show or event for the purpose of selling, leasing, or transferring firearms.

(b) The producer shall thereafter, upon written request, for every day the gun show or event operates, within 24 hours or a later time specified by the requesting law enforcement agency, make available to that agency an accurate, complete, and current list of the persons, entities, and organizations that have leased or rented, or are

known to the producer to intend to lease or rent, any table, display space, or area at the gun show or event for the purpose of selling, leasing, or transferring firearms.

(c) Subdivisions (a) and (b) apply to any person, entity, or organization, regardless of whether that person, entity, or organization participates in the entire gun show or event, or only a portion thereof.

(d) The information that may be requested by the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the facility, and that shall be provided by the producer upon request, may include, but is not limited to, the following information relative to a vendor who offers for sale firearms manufactured after December 31, 1898:

(1) The vendor's complete name.

(2) A driver's license or identification card number.

*(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. (SB 1080) Effective January 1, 2011. Operative January 1, 2012, by Sec. 10 of Ch. 711.)*

27210. (a) The producer and facility's manager of a gun show or event shall prepare an annual event and security plan and schedule that shall include, at a minimum, the following information for each show or event:

(1) The type of show or event, including, but not limited to, antique or general firearms.

(2) The estimated number of vendors offering firearms for sale or display.

(3) The estimated number of attendees.

(4) The number of entrances and exits at the gun show or event site.

(5) The location, dates, and times of the show or event.

(6) The contact person and telephone number for both the producer and the facility.

(7) The number of sworn peace officers employed by the producer or the facility's manager who will be present at the show or event.

(8) The number of nonsworn security personnel employed by the producer or the facility's manager who will be present at the show or event.

(b) The annual event and security plan shall be submitted by either the producer or the facility's manager to the Department of Justice and the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the facility.

(c) If significant changes have been made since the annual plan was submitted, the producer shall, not later than 15 days before commencement of the gun show or event, submit to the department, the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the facility site, and the facility's manager, a revised event and security plan, including a revised list of vendors that the producer knows, or reasonably should know, will be renting tables, space, or otherwise participating in the gun show or event.

(d) The event and security plan shall be approved by the facility's manager before the event or show, after consultation with the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the facility.

(e) A gun show or event shall not commence unless the requirements of subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) are met.

*(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 303, Sec. 415. (AB 731) Effective January 1, 2016.)*

27215. The producer of a gun show or event shall be responsible for informing prospective gun show vendors of the requirements of this article and of Article 2 (commencing with Section 27300) that apply to vendors.

*(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. (SB 1080) Effective January 1, 2011. Operative January 1, 2012, by Sec. 10 of Ch. 711.)*

27220. (a) Within seven calendar days of the commencement of a gun show or event, but not later than noon on Friday for a show or event held on a weekend, the producer shall submit a list of all prospective vendors and designated firearms transfer agents who are licensed firearms dealers to the Department of Justice for the purpose of determining whether these prospective vendors and designated firearms transfer agents possess valid licenses and are thus eligible to participate as licensed dealers at the show or event.

(b) The department shall examine its records and if it determines that a dealer's license is not valid, it shall notify the show or event producer of that fact before the show or event commences.

*(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. (SB 1080) Effective January 1, 2011. Operative January 1, 2012, by Sec. 10 of Ch. 711.)*



27225. If a licensed firearms dealer fails to cooperate with a producer of a gun show or event, or fails to comply with the applicable requirements of this article or Article 2 (commencing with Section 27300), that person shall not be allowed to participate in that show or event.

*(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. (SB 1080) Effective January 1, 2011. Operative January 1, 2012, by Sec. 10 of Ch. 711.)*

27230. If a producer fails to comply with Section 27215 or 27220, the gun show or event shall not commence until those requirements are met.

*(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. (SB 1080) Effective January 1, 2011. Operative January 1, 2012, by Sec. 10 of Ch. 711.)*

27235. Every producer of a gun show or event shall have a written contract with each gun show vendor selling firearms at the show or event.

*(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. (SB 1080) Effective January 1, 2011. Operative January 1, 2012, by Sec. 10 of Ch. 711.)*

27240. (a) The producer of a gun show or event shall require that signs be posted in a readily visible location at each public entrance to the show containing, but not limited to, the following notices:

- (1) This gun show follows all federal, state, and local firearms and weapons laws, without exception.
  - (2) Any firearm carried onto the premises by any member of the public will be checked, cleared of any ammunition, and secured in a manner that prevents it from being operated, and an identification tag or sticker will be attached to the firearm before the person is allowed admittance to the show.
  - (3) No member of the public under the age of 18 years shall be admitted to the show unless accompanied by a parent, grandparent, or legal guardian.
  - (4) All firearms transfers between private parties at the show shall be conducted through a licensed dealer in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.
  - (5) Persons possessing firearms at this facility must have in their immediate possession government-issued photo identification, and display it upon request to any security officer or any peace officer, as defined in Section 830.
- (b) The show producer shall post, in a readily visible location at each entrance to the parking lot at the show, signage that states: "The transfer of firearms on the parking lot of this facility is a crime."

*(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. (SB 1080) Effective January 1, 2011. Operative January 1, 2012, by Sec. 10 of Ch. 711.)*

27245. (a) A willful failure by a gun show producer to comply with any of the requirements of this article, except for the posting of required signs, shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000), and shall render the producer ineligible for a gun show producer license for one year from the date of the conviction.

(b) A willful failure of a gun show producer to post signs as required by this article shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the first offense and not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for the second or subsequent offense, and with respect to the second or subsequent offense, shall render the producer ineligible for a gun show producer license for one year from the date of the conviction.

(c) Multiple violations charged pursuant to subdivision (a) arising from more than one gun show or event shall be grounds for suspension of a producer's certificate of eligibility pending adjudication of the violations.

*(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 711, Sec. 6. (SB 1080) Effective January 1, 2011. Operative January 1, 2012, by Sec. 10 of Ch. 711.)*



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As a threshold matter, firearm transfers are prohibited from taking place at any gun show in California absent very limited exceptions applicable to law enforcement.<sup>1</sup> Instead, all transactions must generally be processed by a California licensed firearms dealer.<sup>2</sup> This allows the dealer to conduct the necessary background check, ensure the firearm is properly registered to the purchaser, and to hold the firearm for the required 10-day waiting period before delivering it to the purchaser.<sup>3</sup>

## I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL GUN SHOW PRODUCERS AND VENDORS

All gun show producers must possess a valid certificate of eligibility issued by the California Department of Justice, and must:

- Certify that they are familiar with all California laws regarding gun shows;
- Possess a minimum of \$1,000,000 liability insurance;
- Provide an annual list of shows or events to be held to the California Department of Justice; and,
- Notify the California Department of Justice no later than 30 days prior to the gun show or event of any changes to the above.<sup>4</sup>

Producers must make available to law enforcement a complete and accurate list of all vendors that will participate in the show for the purposes of selling, leasing, or transferring firearms.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Cal. Penal Code § 27310 (requiring all firearm transfers at gun shows to comply with state and federal law); Cal. Penal Code § 26805 (prohibiting the sale or transfer of a firearm by a licensed dealer at any location other than the dealer's premises as listed on their license, but allowing dealers to prepare documents at a gun show in preparation for sale at the dealer's premises); Cal. Penal Code § 27545 (requiring all firearm transactions to be processed through a licensed dealer when neither party is a licensed firearms dealer).

<sup>2</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27545.

<sup>3</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27540.

<sup>4</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27200.

<sup>5</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27205.

Producers must prepare an annual event and security plan and schedule to the California Department of Justice and any local law enforcement agency. The plan must include:

- The type of show or event;
- The estimated number of vendors offering firearms for sale or display;
- The estimated number of attendees;
- The number of entrances and exits at the event;
- The location, dates, and times of the event;
- The contact person and telephone number for both the producer and the facility;
- The number of sworn peace officers employed by the producer or facility's manager who will be present at the event; and,
- The number of non-sworn security personnel employed by the producer of the facility's manager who will be present at the event.<sup>6</sup>

Producers must inform prospective vendors of all California laws regarding gun shows.<sup>7</sup>

Producers must submit a list of all prospective vendors and designated firearm transfer agents who are licensed firearms dealers to the California Department of Justice no later than seven days prior to the event for the purpose of determining whether the vendors possess a valid license and are thus eligible to participate in the event.<sup>8</sup> If it is determined that a vendor does not possess a valid license, the California Department of Justice will notify the producer prior to the commencement of the event, and will then prohibit the vendor from participating in the event.<sup>9</sup>

If a licensed firearms dealer fails to cooperate with a producer, or fails to comply with all applicable California laws, that dealer will be prohibited from participating in the event.<sup>10</sup>

If a producer fails to inform all prospective vendors of California's laws, or fails to submit a list of all prospective vendors to the California Department of Justice, the event cannot commence.<sup>11</sup>

All producers must have written contracts with each vendor selling firearms at the event.<sup>12</sup>

Producers must post signs in a readily visible location at each public entrance to the event that includes all of the following notices:

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<sup>6</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27210.

<sup>7</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27215.

<sup>8</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27220.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27225.

<sup>11</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27230.

<sup>12</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27235.

- “This gun show follows all federal, state, and local firearms and weapons laws, without exception.
- Any firearm carried onto the premises by any member of the public will be checked, cleared of any ammunition, and secured in a manner that prevents it from being operated, and an identification tag or sticker will be attached to the firearm before the person is allowed admittance to the show.
- No member of the public under the age of 18 years shall be admitted to the show unless accompanied by a parent, grandparent, or legal guardian.
- All firearms transfers between private parties at the show shall be conducted through a licensed dealer in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.
- Persons possessing firearms at this facility must have in their immediate possession government-issued photo identification and display it upon the request to any security officer or any peace officer, as defined in Section 830.”<sup>13</sup>

Producers must also post signs in a readily visible location at each entrance to the parking lot at the event stating:

- “The transfer of firearms on the parking lot of this facility is a crime.”<sup>14</sup>

A willful failure of a producer to comply with any of California’s applicable laws is considered a misdemeanor punishable with a fine of up to \$2,000 and will render the producer ineligible for a gun show producer’s license for one year.<sup>15</sup> Subsequent offenses are grounds for suspension of a producer’s certificate of eligibility.<sup>16</sup>

A willful failure of a producer to post the required signs is considered a misdemeanor punishable with a fine of up to \$1,000 for the first offense and up to \$2,000 for subsequent offenses.<sup>17</sup> Subsequent offenses will render the producer ineligible for a gun show producer license for one year.<sup>18</sup>

## II. THE GUN SHOW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY ACT OF 2000

The Gun Show Enforcement and Security Act of 2000 was part of a larger policy debate about banning gun shows in the state. Thanks to testimony offered by DOJ representatives which warned legislators that banning gun shows would push gun sales into the black market, more restrictions on gun shows were implemented as safeguards. **Just this week, in the California State Legislative Hearings of the Public Safety Committee, again the DOJ position that banning gun shows would be detrimental to safety and keeping these transactions out in the open was echoed by Assemblyman Quirk when he stated that “*that this is a situation where [at gun shows] all of the laws are observed and if people don’t buy a gun here, I am worried that they will buy a gun in a***

<sup>13</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27240(a).

<sup>14</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27240(b).

<sup>15</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27245(a).

<sup>16</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27245(c).

<sup>17</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27245(b).

<sup>18</sup> *Id.*

*place where all of those laws are not observed.*"<sup>19</sup> Assemblyman Quirk refused to support a bill that would shut down a gun show in the state.

All gun show vendors must certify in writing to the show's producer that they:

- Will not display, possess, or offer for sale any firearms, knives, or weapons for which possession or sale is prohibited;
- Acknowledge that they are responsible for knowing and complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws dealing with the possession and transfer of firearms;
- Will not engage in activities that incite or encourage hate crimes;
- Will process all transfers of firearms through licensed firearms dealers as required by state law;
- Will verify that all firearms in their possession will be unloaded, and that the firearms will be secured in a manner that prevents them from being operated except for brief periods when the mechanical condition of the firearm is being demonstrated to a prospective buyer;
- Have provided all required information to the producer under Penal Code section 27320; and,
- Will not display or possess black powder or offer it for sale.<sup>20</sup>

All firearms transfers at gun shows must be processed in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws.<sup>21</sup>

Ammunition may only be displayed in closed original factory boxes or other closed containers, with the only exception for showing the ammunition to a prospective buyer.<sup>22</sup>

Before participating in an event, every vendor who intends to sell firearms must provide the producer with all of the following information relative to the vendor, the vendor's employees, and other persons, compensated or not, who will be working or otherwise providing services to the public at the vendor's display space:

- The person's complete name;
- The person's driver's license or state-issued identification card number; and,
- The person's date of birth.<sup>23</sup>

The producer must keep all vendor information at the onsite headquarters of the event and regular place of business for two weeks after the conclusion of the event and make available the information to any peace officer upon request.<sup>24</sup>

All vendors and their employees must wear a name tag indicating their first and last name.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> <http://assembly.ca.gov/media/assembly-public-safety-20180619/video>

<sup>20</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27305.

<sup>21</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27310.

<sup>22</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27315.

<sup>23</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27320(a).

<sup>24</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27320(b).

No person other than security personnel or law enforcement are allowed to possess both a firearm and ammunition for that firearm at the same time, with the exception of vendors who are selling both.<sup>26</sup>

No member of the public under 18 years of age may enter the event or be permitted to remain unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.<sup>27</sup>

Anyone other than security or law enforcement who brings a firearm into the event must have the firearm checked, cleared of any ammunition, secured in a manner that prevents them from being operated, and have a tag or sticker attached to the firearm prior to being allowed admittance.<sup>28</sup> The tag or sticker must state that all firearm transfers must be conducted through a licensed dealer in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws, and must also include the owner's signature, printed name, and identification number from the owner's government-issued identification.<sup>29</sup>

Any person who possess a firearm at a gun show or event must have a government-issued photo identification in their immediate possession and must display it upon request to any security personnel or peace officer.<sup>30</sup>

Any unintentional first-time violations of the Gun Show Enforcement and Security Act of 2000 are considered infractions.<sup>31</sup> However, willful violations and subsequent offenses are considered misdemeanors.<sup>32</sup>

Crossroads of the West Gun Shows have continued to make improvements to their operation protocols which may serve to address some concerns by community members. In addition to complying with all applicable laws, Crossroads Gun Shows have implanted the following additional safety procedures including:

- Retaining the services of a retired California DOJ Bureau of Firearms Enforcement Officer to actively monitor activities at shows and insure compliance with state laws;
- Actively surveilling the shows to ensure all merchandise at the shows is legal and compliant with all applicable laws;

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<sup>25</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27325.

<sup>26</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27330.

<sup>27</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27335.

<sup>28</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27340. *See also Gun Show Safety and Security Responsibilities: ADDITIONAL REMINDER*, California Department of Justice, FIREARMS DIVISION, <https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/firearms/infobul/0402.pdf>? (May 26, 2004).

<sup>29</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27340.

<sup>30</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27345.

<sup>31</sup> Cal. Penal Code § 27350.

<sup>32</sup> *Id.*

- Increased scrutiny of anyone bringing in a personal firearm for the purposes of repair, appraisal, or repair;
- Education of attendees regarding current transfer of firearm laws and that any such transfer must be through a licensed dealer per applicable law;
- Enforcing new laws regarding ammunition sales where ammunition must be kept behind a barrier and out of reach of the public and only licensed dealers may sell ammunition;
- All employees of any ammunition seller must have a background check and be in possession of a valid Certificate of Eligibility issued by the California DOJ; and,
- Stricter monitoring of shows by contracted security personnel to ensure that no one under the age of 18 is admitted without a supervising adult.

### **III. PROHIBITING LAWFUL ACTIONS AT GUN SHOWS WOULD VIOLATE CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES**

Any proposal requiring the Show to be discontinued would be problematic since it would likely be unconstitutional and lead to possible litigation. Banning the Show would be an improper content-based restriction that violates the First Amendment, unduly and unjustly burdens activity protected by the Second Amendment, and makes classifications affecting those fundamental rights in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause.





# Shocking Study: Criminals Generally Don't Buy Guns Legally At Gun Shops

JAZZ SHAW Posted at 1:01 pm on September 5, 2015

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## HOT AIR

Every time there is a mass shooting or any other criminal event involving guns there is a chorus of voices imploring us to *think about the children* and pass new background check laws or other restrictions on the purchase of firearms. It's a touching story and one which gets the media all up in high dudgeon as they beseech us to *help stop the violence*. So how much of an impact will these laws have in terms of keeping the guns out of the hands of the bad guys? Yet another study (which will doubtless receive no attention in the mainstream media) has given us a fairly good idea of the answer to that question. Criminals aren't buying their guns at Walmart, folks. (NRA-ILA)

SEE ALSO: [Yale Study: There are probably twice as many illegal immigrants living in America as commonly believed](#)

Numerous studies conducted by academic researchers and by the federal government have shown that criminals do not use legal markets to obtain guns. And now we have [more evidence](#) of this reality, this time looking at criminals in Chicago.

Philip J. Cook, Susan T. Parker, and Harold A. Pollack conducted interviews with criminals being held in the Cook County Jail. Their primary findings were that criminals get guns from their "social network," i.e. friends and persons known to

them, but generally not from the various legal sources available to them.

They do not buy guns in gun stores. They do not get guns at gun shows. They do not buy them from Internet sources. The study even found that criminals only rarely steal guns.

The basic mechanics of this study are of interest because of the source material used. Let's say you want to know where criminals are getting the guns they use in their crimes. I suppose you could do a national survey and ask people what they think. Or you could call in Michael Bloomberg or one of the other leaders of various gun grabbing groups and get them to opine. But these studies took a different approach: they went into the jails and prisons and *asked the actual prisoners themselves*. What a refreshing idea.

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RECOMMENDED



**Report: Feinstein  
forwarded letter about  
Kavanaugh to the FBI**

The results shouldn't be all that shocking to anyone who has thought about it in an honest fashion for more than a few minutes. Lots of criminals who are playing the game at a level that will involve shooting people already have extensive records and wouldn't pass even the most cursory background check if they tried to purchase a gun legally. (And contrary to popular liberal belief, there are virtually no legal gun sales taking place which don't require a background check aside from family or estate purchases.) And even if a would be criminal has a clean enough record to buy one, the study reveals that most of them fear purchasing a gun legally because they know it could be quickly traced back to them. There are probably a few stupid criminals out there who don't realize this, but thankfully the stupid criminals are generally the easiest ones to find.

Instead, the people we should actually be trying to stop are buying their guns on the black market. They get them from friends and criminal associates. Most of those interviewed even distrusted so called internet sales on guns because they feared they were sting operations and they'd wind up trying to buy one from an ATF agent. In other words, passing more laws to hamper the sales of guns through

normal, legal means is only going to impede people who tend to follow the law in the first place. I know... I know... knock you over with a feather.

Strangely, the closing footnotes of the linked study still seem to wind up at the wrong destination after producing so much good work.

They concluded that since criminals do not hold guns long, “disrupting” the supply chain would have a positive effect on criminal gun use. That seems like a safe conclusion driven more by common sense than any evidence from an expensive academic study. But how this “disruption” can be achieved is not spelled out or suggested.

I absolutely agree that “disrupting the supply chain” of guns passing into the hands of criminals is a wonderful idea. Of course, you’re not going to do that by closing down gun shops or shutting down gun shows or putting more restrictions on legal sales to law abiding citizens. You could, however, enforce our existing laws and aggressively channel the necessary resources into law enforcement to root out and eliminate the suppliers who are selling black market weapons to drug dealers and killers. But I suppose that makes too much sense to bother with, eh?



## COMMENTARY

# The Facts about Gun Shows

By *David B. Kopel*

*January 10, 2000*

“**C**lose the gun show loophole,” demands Handgun Control, Inc. The major obstacle to Congress’s complying with HCI’s wishes appears to be the desire of many Democrats to preserve gun shows as a campaign issue in the 2000 election. But if the voters learn the facts about gun shows, they will discover that there is no gun show loophole, no gun show crime problem and no reason to adopt federal legislation whose main effect would be to infringe on First and Second Amendment rights.

Despite what some media commentators have claimed, existing gun laws apply just as much to gun shows as they do to any other place where guns are sold. Since 1938, persons selling firearms have been required to obtain a federal firearms license. If a dealer sells a gun from a storefront, from a room in his home or from a table at a gun show, the rules are exactly the same: he can get authorization from the FBI for the sale only after the FBI runs its “instant” background check (which often takes days to complete). As a result, firearms are the most severely regulated consumer product in the United States — the only product for which FBI permission is required for every single sale.

Conversely, people who are not engaged in the business of selling firearms, but who sell firearms from time to time (such as a man who sells a hunting rifle to his brother-in-law), are not required to obtain the federal license required of gun dealers or to call the FBI before completing the sale.

Similarly, if a gun collector dies and his widow wants to sell the guns, she does not need a federal firearms license because she is just selling off inherited property and is not “engaged in the business.” And if the widow doesn’t want to sell her deceased husband’s guns by taking out a classified ad in the newspaper, it is lawful for her to rent a table at a gun show and sell the entire collection.

If you walk along the aisles at any gun show, you will find that the overwhelming majority of guns offered for sale are from federally licensed dealers. Guns sold by private individuals (such as gun collectors getting rid of a gun or two over the the weekend) are the distinct minority.

Yet HCI claims that “25-50 percent of the vendors at most gun shows are unlicensed dealers.” That statistic is true only if one counts vendors who aren’t selling guns (e.g., vendors who are selling books, clothing or accessories) as “unlicensed dealers.”

Denver congresswoman Diana DeGette says that 70 percent of guns used in crimes come from gun shows. The true figure is rather different, according to the National Institute of Justice, the research arm of the U.S. Department of Justice. According to an NIJ study released in December 1997 ("Homicide in Eight U.S. Cities," a report that covers much more than homicide), only 2 percent of criminal guns come from gun shows.

That finding is consistent with a mid-1980s study for the NIJ, which investigated the gun purchase and use habits of convicted felons in 12 state prisons. The study (later published as the book *Armed and Considered Dangerous*) found that gun shows were such a minor source of criminal gun acquisition that they were not even worth reporting as a separate figure.

At the most recent meeting of the American Society of Criminology, a study of youthful offenders in Michigan found that only 3 percent of the youths in the study had acquired their last handgun from a gun show. (Of course some criminal gun acquisition at gun shows is perpetrated by "straw purchasers" who are legal gun buyers acting as surrogates for the individual who wants the gun. Straw purchases have been federal felonies since 1968.)

According to the educational arm of HCI, the group's own survey of major-city police chiefs found only 2 out of 48 who said that guns from gun shows (both "legal and illegal sales" according to the questionnaire) were a major problem in their city.

Although the horrible murders at Columbine High School have energized anti-gun activists, no proposed federal law would have made any difference. The adults who supplied the Columbine murder weapons (Robin Anderson and Mark Manes — the latter a son of a longtime HCI activist) were legal purchasers.

Since every gun show takes place entirely within the boundaries of a single state, Congress has no legitimate constitutional basis, under its "interstate commerce" power, to attempt to control gun shows.

Nevertheless, both houses of Congress have passed gun show legislation. The House bill does only what the gun control advocates claim to want: the imposition of federal background checks on personal sales at gun shows.

The Senate version — passed 51-50 thanks to Vice President Gore — goes much further, setting the stage for gun shows to be outlawed. The Senate bill gives the secretary of the Treasury nearly unlimited power to regulate gun show sales.

In the past, Treasury has abused its administrative authority over firearms to ban certain guns, so, similar treatment for gun shows can be expected. For example, the Treasury banned the import of various rifles that were popular for competitive target shooting. Although a federal statute specifically orders Treasury to allow the import of "sporting" firearms, Treasury claimed that only firearms that were recommended by hunting guides were "sporting."

The Senate version also imposes a tax on gun show promoters and allows the secretary of the Treasury unlimited power in setting the tax level. One can bet that, in this case, the power to tax really will be the power to destroy.

Gun shows are huge gathering points for people who are interested in Second Amendment issues. Gun rights groups frequently set up booths at gun shows to distribute literature and recruit members. Gun shows are places where Americans properly exercise their First and Second Amendment rights, and neither gun show patrons nor vendors deserve the mean-spirited campaign of abuse to which they have been subjected.



David B. Kopel is an associate policy analyst at the Cato Institute.

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## Gun shows do not increase homicides or suicides

October 1, 2008

Contact: [Jared Wadley](mailto:jared.wadley@umich.edu) [jared.wadley@umich.edu](mailto:jared.wadley@umich.edu)

ANN ARBOR—A new study finds no evidence that gun shows lead to substantial increases in either gun-related homicides or suicides.

The University of Michigan and University of Maryland study also shows that tighter regulation of gun shows does not appear to reduce the number of firearms-related deaths.

"We believe that this analysis makes an important contribution to understanding the influence of gun shows, the regulation of which is arguably the most active area of federal, state, and local firearms policy," said Brian Jacob, a professor at the University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

"To our knowledge, this is the first study that directly examines the impact of gun shows on gun-related deaths."

Jacob wrote the study with co-authors Mark Duggan and Randi Hjalmarsson from the University of Maryland.

The researchers analyzed data from Texas and California, chosen because they are the nation's two most populated states, have large numbers of gun shows, and are at opposite ends of the spectrum regarding gun show regulation. California has some of the most aggressive gun show regulations, including background checks for all gun show purchasers and a 10-day waiting period to obtain the firearm. Texas has no similar regulations.

Data came from the dates and locations of more than 3,400 gun shows, and firearm-related deaths from 1994 to 2004. More than 105,000 homicides and suicides were reported in the two states during the 11-year period.

To determine the impact of gun shows, the authors traced the number of gun-related deaths in ZIP codes close to where gun shows took place, looking at how the number of deaths changed leading up to and following the shows. Researchers looked at the gun-related deaths in the weeks immediately after gun shows and actually found a small decline in the number of homicides following shows in Texas.

"The absence of gun show regulations does not increase the number of gun-related deaths as proponents of these regulations suggest," said Jacob, director of its Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP).

The researchers offered two caveats to their analyses. The study focused on the geographic areas surrounding the gun shows, and would not capture the effect when weapons were transported more than 25 miles away. In addition, the data tracked the effects only up to four weeks after the gun shows, which would exclude later gun-related deaths.

The full paper is available at <http://closup.umich.edu>.

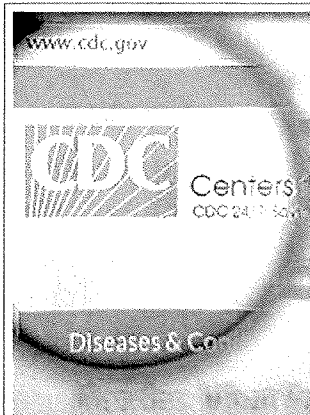
For more on Jacob, visit: [http://fordschool.umich.edu/faculty/Brian\\_Jacob](http://fordschool.umich.edu/faculty/Brian_Jacob)

Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy: <http://www.fordschool.umich.edu/>

Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy: <http://closup.umich.edu>

[The study \(.PDF\)](#)[Brian Jacob](#)[Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy](#)[Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy](#)





Nonetheless, the lopsided disparity between defensive gun use and criminal gun use further obliterates the assumptions underlying the gun control movement.

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## CDC Admission: Guns Used Far More Often in Self-Defense Than Crime

By Timothy H. Lee

Thursday, April 26 2018

Firearms are used for defensive purposes between 500,000 and 3 million times every single year in the United States.

In comparison, firearms were used to commit violent crime 300,000 times as of 2008.

So objectively and rationally, gun prohibitions are a good idea, right?

If your reflexive reaction to reading that data is that it must rely upon exaggerated estimates by pro-Second Amendment activists, guess again. The source of that data is none other than a study commissioned by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) following an instruction from President Barack Obama in January 2013 "to research the causes and prevention of gun violence."

In other words, even accepting the minimum estimate of defensive gun uses in the U.S. each year from a source hardly inclined toward Second Amendment advocacy, that number still dwarfs the number of instances in which guns are used to commit violent crime. "Almost all national survey estimates indicate that defensive gun uses by victims are at least as common as offensive uses by criminals," the report summarized.

That had to come as a shock to Obama and CDC officials, and the inconvenient conclusions surely explain its lack of mainstream media focus.

And now, we learn that the 2013 CDC report wasn't an isolated result.

Recently, Florida State University researcher Gary Kleck uncovered CDC estimates conducted in 1996, 1997 and 1998. And as reported in *Reason* magazine, those estimates confirmed Kleck's

own research determining that firearms are used for defensive purposes approximately 2.5 million times per year, unbeknownst by the public:

*The CDC essentially confirmed Kleck's results. But Kleck didn't know about that until now, because the CDC never reported what it found. Kleck's new paper - "What Do CDC's Surveys Say About the Frequency of Defensive Gun Uses?" - finds that the agency had asked about DGUs in its Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System in 1996, 1997, and 1998. Those polls, Kleck writes, "are high-quality telephone surveys of enormous probability samples of U.S. adults, asking about a wide range of health-related topics. Those that addressed DGUs asked more people about this topic than any other surveys conducted before or since... The final adjusted prevalence of 1.24% therefore implies that in an average year during 1996-1998, 2.46 million U.S. adults used a gun for self-defense.*

Not that a disparity one way or the other would be determinative regarding the Second Amendment, which protects the natural, individual right to keep and bear arms regardless of statistical estimates.

Nonetheless, the lopsided disparity between defensive gun use and criminal gun use further obliterates the assumptions underlying the gun control movement. Namely, that prohibition or even confiscation of firearms would slash violent crime. The reality as established by the CDC data above is that it would more often prevent defensive gun use than violent crime.

One need only examine global gun possession and violent crime data to confirm that reality.

The worldwide average murder rate across all nations stands at approximately 11 per 100,000 people. The U.S., which claims the world's highest gun possession rate and obviously protects that right via the Second Amendment, falls far below that average at approximately 4 per 100,000.

While gun control advocates elevate European nations as some sort of gun-banning, violence-free utopia, their murder rates actually stand fairly close to the U.S. at 2 or 3 per 100,000.

And notably, Switzerland claims the world's second-highest gun possession rate, yet suffers an extremely low murder rate.

Meanwhile, nations that follow domestic gun controllers' prohibitionist and even confiscatory agenda actually suffer murder rates far above the worldwide average. For instance, gun-banning Mexico suffers a murder rate of approximately 24 per 100,000. Similarly, Brazil endures a murder rate of 26 per 100,000, and Russia stands at 14 per 100,000.

Accordingly, even completely repealing the Second Amendment and prohibiting gun possession wouldn't translate to a miniscule murder rate, as global experience shows.

And as the federal government's own data spanning two decades show, doing so would prevent law-abiding citizens from protecting themselves, other people or property far more often than it would prevent crime.

When even the CDC acting at the direction of Barack Obama reaches that conclusion, the truth becomes inescapable.



# RULES FOR RETAILERS IN CALIFORNIA

CA GUN SHOW VENDORS		BRICK AND MORTER RETAILERS
1. CA Firearm Dealers must obtain a valid firearm license.	✓	✓
2. Firearm dealers must have a valid COE Issued by the CA Dept. of Justice.	✓	✓
3. All employees that handle ammunition or Firearms must have a valid COE.	✓	✓
4. Private collectors can buy, sell, trade, but transactions must go through a licensed dealer and background check.	✓	✓
5. Firearm purchases must go through background check and 10 (24-hour) waiting period. No transactions are done same day.	✓	✓
6. All firearms and ammunition must be kept out of direct reach of customers unless being assisted by the retailer.	✓	✓
7. Customers must complete a Firearm Safety Certificate Test prior to purchasing a gun.	✓	✓
8. Customer is limited to buying only one handgun in any 30-day period.	✓	✓
9. Fully-automatic weapons are illegal to sell in California.	✓	✓
10. Customers must have personal firearm checked, cleared and tagged at the door by an agent.	✓	✗
11. Purchases constantly monitored by ATF and CA DOJ agents on site.	✓	✗





# Gun Shows: State by State

## Gun Shows in Alabama

*Last updated September 16, 2018.*

Alabama law provides:

“Persons dealing in pistols, revolvers, maxim silencers, bowie knives, dirk knives, brass knucks or knucks of like kind, whether principal stock in trade or not shall pay the following license tax: In cities and towns of 35,000 inhabitants and over, \$150; and in all other places, \$100. The required license amounts shall be paid for each place of business from which sales of such items are made. In addition to any other required licenses, a person may organize and conduct a gun and knife show of no more than seven days, by paying the maximum license tax prescribed in this section, as well as the maximum license taxes provided in Sections 40-12-158 and 40-12-174(d), for each such show. Participants shall not be required to pay the license taxes provided in this section, nor in Section 40-12-158 or 40-12-174 for participating in such shows, provided the organizer has paid the license taxes prescribed in this section prior to the commencement of the event. It shall be the duty of the organizer of such show to determine if each participant is licensed under the sales tax laws of this state as well as the particular county and municipality in which the show is conducted. The organizer shall be responsible for providing a list of participants to the county and municipality in which the gun show is held and for collecting and remitting all state and local sales taxes for any participant not licensed under state or local sales tax laws. In the event the organizer does not provide the information required herein or pay the license taxes prescribed in this section, prior to the commencement of the event, each participant shall be responsible for his or her



applicable licenses. The organizer and all participants shall abide by applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.”<sup>1</sup>

See our **Gun Shows** policy summary for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Alaska

*Last updated November 9, 2017.*

Alaska has no law regulating gun shows. See the **Alaska Private Sales** section for additional state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Arizona

*Last updated November 14, 2017.*

Arizona has no law regulating gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows Policy Summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Arkansas

*Last updated November 1, 2017.*

Arkansas has no law regulating gun shows.

See the **Arkansas Private Sales** section for additional state laws that may apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in California

*Last updated October 31, 2017.*

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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In 1999, California enacted the nation's broadest legislation to increase oversight at gun shows (**AB 295**). In California, all firearms transfers at gun shows must be processed through a **licensed firearms dealer**.<sup>1</sup> Licensed dealers ordinarily are permitted to sell firearms only from their licensed premises; however, California law provides an exception for sales at California gun shows as long as they are not conducted from motorized or towed vehicles.<sup>2</sup> A dealer operating at a gun show must still comply with all applicable laws, including **California's waiting period law**, other **California laws governing the transfer of firearms by dealers**, and all local ordinances, regulations, and fees.<sup>3</sup>

California requires a person who promotes, produces, sponsors, operates, or otherwise organizes a gun show ("producer") to obtain a Certificate of Eligibility from the **California Department of Justice ("DOJ")**, which requires a background check.<sup>4</sup> California also requires the producer to, among other things:

- Certify that he or she is familiar with the California laws governing gun shows;<sup>5</sup>
- Ensure that liability insurance is in effect for the duration of a gun show or event in a minimum amount of \$1,000,000;<sup>6</sup>
- Provide an annual list of the gun shows or events the applicant plans to produce, including the date, time, and location of the gun shows or events;<sup>7</sup>
- Prior to the commencement of a gun show or event, and within 48 hours of a written request by a law enforcement agency, make available to local law enforcement a complete and accurate list of all persons, entities, and organizations leasing or renting a table, display space, or area at the gun show or event for the purpose of selling, leasing, or transferring firearms;<sup>8</sup>
- Working with the facility manager, prepare an annual event and security plan and schedule to be submitted to DOJ and the local law enforcement agency. The event and security plan must include, among other things:
  - o The type of shows or events including, but not limited to, antique or general firearms;
  - o The estimated number of vendors offering firearms for sale or display, and the estimated number of attendees;
  - o The number of entrances and exits at the gun show or event site; and
  - o The number of sworn peace officers and non-sworn security personnel employed by the producer or the facilities manager who will be present at the show or event;<sup>9</sup>

- Within seven calendar days of the gun show or event, submit a list of all prospective vendors and designated firearms transfer agents who are **licensed firearms dealers** to DOJ for the purpose of determining whether these prospective vendors and transfer agents are eligible to process firearms transactions at the show or event;<sup>10</sup>
- Have written contracts with all gun show vendors selling firearms at the show or event;<sup>11</sup>
- Post certain signs in a readily visible location at each public entrance to the show;<sup>12</sup> and post, in a readily visible location at each entrance to the parking lot at the show, a sign that states, “The transfer of firearms on the parking lot of this facility is a crime”;
- Inform prospective gun show vendors of the requirements of California law that govern gun shows;<sup>13</sup> and
- Pay an annual fee of \$85.<sup>14</sup>

Prior to a gun show, each vendor must provide to the gun show producer the names, driver’s license or state-issued identification card numbers, and dates of birth of the vendor, the vendor’s employees, and any other persons providing services to the public at the vendor’s display space. The producer must make the information available to law enforcement upon request.<sup>15</sup>

California law also provides that gun show vendors may not display, possess, or offer for sale any black powder or prohibited firearms, or engage in any activities that incite or encourage hate crimes.<sup>16</sup> Gun show vendors must verify that all firearms in their possession at the show will be unloaded, and that the firearms will be secured in a manner that prevents them from being operated, except for brief periods when the mechanical condition of a firearm is being demonstrated to a prospective buyer.<sup>17</sup> Ammunition may be displayed only in closed original factory boxes or other closed containers, except when it is being shown to a prospective buyer.<sup>18</sup>

No person at a gun show, other than security personnel or sworn peace officers, may possess at the same time both a firearm and ammunition that is designed to be used with the firearm. However, vendors having those items at the show for sale or exhibition are exempt from this prohibition.<sup>19</sup> All persons possessing firearms at the gun show must have government-issued photo identification in his or her immediate possession and display it upon request to any security officer or any peace officer.<sup>20</sup>

When Proposition 63 is implemented, ammunition vendors will be required to conduct background checks and record ammunition sales made at gun shows, as elsewhere. For more information, see the **Ammunition Regulation in California** section.

Any member of the public who is under the age of 18 may not attend a gun show unless accompanied by his or her parent, grandparent, or legal guardian.<sup>21</sup>

All firearms carried into a gun show by members of the public must be checked, cleared of any ammunition, secured in a manner that prevents them from being operated, and an identification tag must be attached to the firearm, prior to the person being allowed admittance to the show. The identification tag must state that all firearms transfers between private parties at the show must be conducted through a licensed dealer in accordance with applicable state and federal laws. Before the tag is attached to the firearm, the owner must print and sign his or her name and enter the number from his or her government-issued photo identification on the tag.<sup>22</sup>

See the **Private Sales in California** section for additional state laws that apply at gun shows.

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## Gun Shows in Colorado

*Last updated November 7, 2017.*

In 2013, Colorado enacted a law requiring most unlicensed sellers (sellers who are not federally licensed dealers) to have a background check conducted on a prospective purchaser when transferring any firearm, whether at gun shows or elsewhere. See the **Colorado Universal Background Checks** section for further information.

In addition, in 2000, Coloradans voted in favor of a ballot initiative to require background checks specifically at gun shows. As a result, a separate provision of Colorado law requires all firearms transfers at gun shows to be processed by a licensed firearms dealer.<sup>1</sup> Prospective purchasers are subject to the same background check process that applies to retail firearms transfers and processing dealers must record the transfer and retain the records in the same manner as with retail transfers (see the **Colorado Background Checks** and **Dealer Regulations** sections).<sup>2</sup>

Firearms dealers may charge a fee of up to \$10 for conducting the background check, and gun show promoters must prominently post a notice setting forth the requirement for a background check.<sup>3</sup> These provisions do not apply to the transfer of antique firearms or curios or relics, as defined under federal law.<sup>4</sup>

Colorado law defines a gun show as:

**[T]he entire premises provided for an event or function, including but not limited to parking areas for the event or function, that is sponsored to**

facilitate, in whole or in part, the purchase, sale, offer for sale, or collection of firearms at which: (a) twenty-five or more firearms are offered or exhibited for sale, transfer, or exchange; or (b) not less than three gun show vendors exhibit, sell, offer for sale, transfer, or exchange firearms.<sup>5</sup>

See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Connecticut

*Last updated November 15, 2017.*

Connecticut defines a gun show as any event at which 50 or more firearms are offered or exhibited for sale, transfer or exchange to the public, or at which two or more persons are exhibiting one or more firearms for sale, transfer or exchange to the public.<sup>1</sup>

At least 30 days before a gun show, the person who organizes, plans, promotes or operates the show must notify the chief of police, warden, or first selectman of the jurisdiction in which the show is to take place, of the date, time, duration and location of the gun show.<sup>2</sup>

Connecticut prohibits any person, firm or corporation from selling, delivering or otherwise transferring any firearm at a gun show until the person, firm or corporation requests a background check for the prospective transferee and receives an authorization number approving the transfer from the state Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.<sup>3</sup>

Connecticut now requires private sellers (sellers who are not federally licensed dealers) to have a background check conducted on a prospective purchaser when transferring any firearm, whether at gun shows or elsewhere. See the **Private Sales in Connecticut** section for further information, including additional laws that may apply at gun shows.

See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Delaware

*Last updated November 7, 2017.*

Delaware has no laws specifically regulating gun shows.

Delaware requires private sellers (sellers who are not federally licensed dealers) to have a background check conducted on a prospective purchaser before transferring any firearm, whether at gun shows or elsewhere. See the **Private Sales in Delaware** section for further information, including additional laws that may apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows** policy summary* for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Florida

*Last updated September 17, 2018.*

Florida does not explicitly regulate gun shows, although retail sales of handguns at gun shows are subject to the state's mandatory **three-day waiting period**. In addition, the Florida Constitution permits counties to enact ordinances requiring criminal history records checks and three to five-day waiting periods in connection with the sale of any firearm occurring on property to which the public has the right of access.<sup>1</sup>

See the **Florida Private Sales** and **Florida Waiting Periods** sections for more information.

See our ***Gun Shows** policy summary* for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Georgia

*Last updated October 30, 2017.*

Georgia has no law regulating gun shows or requiring background checks on gun purchasers at gun shows. In addition, Georgia law explicitly prohibits any county or municipal corporation, by zoning or by ordinance, resolution, or other enactment, from regulating gun shows in any manner.<sup>1</sup>

See the **Georgia Private Sales** section for state laws that may apply to firearm sales at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows** policy summary* for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Hawaii

*Last updated October 31, 2017.*

Hawaii does not regulate gun shows. See the **Hawaii Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Idaho

*Last updated November 1, 2017.*

Idaho does not regulate gun shows.

See the **Idaho Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Illinois

*Last updated September 13, 2018.*

All sellers are required to conduct background checks on prospective firearm purchasers at gun shows in Illinois.<sup>1</sup> Any person who is not a licensed dealer who desires to transfer or sell a firearm at a gun show must first request that the Illinois Department of State Police (“DSP”) conduct a background check on the prospective recipient.<sup>2</sup> The DSP must assign a unique identification number to the transfer, if approved, which is to be provided to the transferor.<sup>3</sup> Approvals are valid for 30 days.<sup>4</sup> The unique identification number must be recorded by the transferor on the record of the transfer, which (like all transfer records) must be kept for a minimum of 10 years.<sup>5</sup>

“Gun show” is defined as “an event or function: (1) at which the sale and transfer of firearms is the regular and normal course of business and where 50 or more firearms are displayed, offered, or exhibited for sale, transfer, or exchange; or (2) at which not less than 10 gun show vendors display, offer, or exhibit for sale, sell, transfer, or exchange firearms.<sup>6</sup> A gun show includes the entire premises provided for the event, including parking areas.<sup>7</sup>

Non-residents of Illinois cannot purchase handguns at gun shows, but may buy rifles or shotguns and ammunition for such long guns if they are residents of Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, Wisconsin or Kentucky, or are residents of another state with a valid non-resident hunting license.<sup>8</sup> The non-residents of Illinois must not be otherwise prohibited

by the laws of Illinois, their state of domicile, or federal law from purchasing or possessing such guns.<sup>9</sup>

See the **Private Sales in Illinois** section for additional state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Indiana

*Last updated November 17, 2017.*

Under Indiana law, a retail dealer may display, sell, or transfer handguns at a gun show in accordance with Chapter 35-47-2 and federal law.<sup>1</sup> Indiana uses the federal definition and corresponding regulations for gun shows.<sup>2</sup>

See the **Indiana Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Iowa

*Last updated September 13, 2018.*

Iowa law does not specifically regulate gun shows. Anyone seeking to purchase a handgun at a gun show or any other location, however, must possess a valid five-year permit to acquire these firearms.<sup>1</sup> A background check is required for issuance of a permit, and the permit remains valid for five years.

Iowa prohibits any person from acquiring a handgun without possessing a valid five-year permit to acquire a handgun, and from transferring ownership of a handgun to a person who does not possess a valid five-year permit.<sup>2</sup>

See the **Iowa Private Sales** section for state laws that may apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Kansas

*Last updated September 14, 2018.*



Kansas has no laws expressly regulating gun shows. Sales of collectibles, including guns, are exempt from state laws requiring the licensing of transient merchants in each county where the merchant does business.<sup>1</sup> A “transient merchant” is any person who engages in, does or transacts any temporary or transient business in the state, either in one locality or in traveling from place to place in the state, and includes merchants who, for the purpose of carrying on such business, hire, lease, use or occupy any building, structure, motor vehicle, railroad car or real estate.<sup>2</sup>

See the **Kansas Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Kentucky

*Last updated September 11, 2018.*

Kentucky has no laws explicitly regulating gun shows.

See the **Kentucky Private Sales** section for additional state laws that may apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Louisiana

*Last updated November 3, 2017.*

Louisiana has no laws expressly regulating gun shows. See the **Louisiana Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Maine

*Last updated November 17, 2017.*

Maine has only one law that explicitly regulates gun shows. The following sign must be posted at all entrances of an organized gun show, in block letters not less than one inch in height:

**“ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A CHILD IS A CRIME. IF YOU LEAVE A FIREARM AND AMMUNITION WITHIN EASY ACCESS OF A CHILD, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO FINE, IMPRISONMENT OR BOTH. KEEP FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SEPARATE. KEEP FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION LOCKED UP. USE TRIGGER LOCKS.”<sup>1</sup>**

See the **Minimum Age to Purchase or Possess** section for additional laws that apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Maryland

*Last updated August 17, 2018.*

Maryland requires all vendors displaying state-defined “regulated firearms” (handguns and assault weapons)<sup>1</sup> for transfer from a table or fixed display at a gun show to hold either a valid Maryland regulated firearms dealer’s license or, for persons displaying a firearm at five or fewer gun shows per year, a temporary transfer permit issued by Secretary of the Maryland State Police.<sup>2</sup> Maryland defines a gun show as “any organized gathering open to the public at which any firearm is displayed.”<sup>3</sup> All prospective transfers of regulated firearms at a gun show are subject to a background check.<sup>4</sup>

Each temporary transfer permit is valid for a single gun show, and a person may not receive more than five permits during a single calendar year.<sup>5</sup>

Persons displaying standard rifles and shotguns are not required to possess either a dealer’s license or a temporary transfer permit, and private transfers of these firearms are not subject to federal or state background check requirements, although federal and limited state purchaser prohibitions still apply.

See the **Maryland Private Sales** section for state laws that may apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Massachusetts

*Last updated September 14, 2018.*

See our ***Gun Shows policy*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

A licensed firearms dealer in Massachusetts is permitted to sell or transfer firearms and ammunition at a gun show open to the general public, as long as the dealer complies with the licensed dealer conditions in Massachusetts law and ensures that such sales or transfers are in conformity with federal and state law, including the prohibitions on sales to purchasers who lack the required firearm identification cards, licenses to carry firearms, and/or permits to purchase, rent or lease firearms.<sup>1</sup>

Unlicensed sellers may transfer “not more than four” firearms in any one calendar year, so long as both the buyer and the seller have the proper cards, permits or licenses to possess or purchase the types of firearms being transferred, and the seller reports the sale to the state, as required by law.<sup>2</sup>

See the **Private Sales** section for additional state laws that apply at gun shows.

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## Gun Shows in Michigan

*Last updated September 13, 2018.*

Michigan has no law specifically regulating gun shows. See the **Michigan Private Sales** section for state laws that apply to firearm transactions at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Minnesota

*Last updated November 7, 2017.*

Minnesota does not regulate gun shows. See **Private Sales in Minnesota** for state laws that may apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Mississippi

*Last updated September 11, 2018.*

Mississippi does not regulate gun shows. See the **Mississippi Private Sales** section for state laws that may apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Missouri

*Last updated November 1, 2017.*

Missouri has no laws regulating gun shows. See the **Missouri Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Montana

*Last updated November 2, 2017.*

Montana specifically denies local governments the power to prohibit the legitimate display of firearms at shows or other public occasions by collectors and others.<sup>1</sup> Montana has no other relevant laws regulating gun shows. See the **Private Sales in Montana** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Nebraska

*Last updated November 15, 2017.*

Nebraska has no law regulating gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in Nevada

*Last updated November 15, 2017.*

Nevada has no laws regulating gun shows.

See the **Nevada Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## Gun Shows in New Hampshire

*Last updated November 2, 2017.*

New Hampshire does not specifically regulate gun shows. See also the **New Hampshire Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in New Jersey

*Last updated November 6, 2017.*

While New Jersey does not explicitly prohibit gun shows, state law significantly restricts the sale of firearms at gun shows. No retail dealer is permitted to conduct a retail business in a mobile or temporary facility.<sup>1</sup> Mobile means “a facility easily moved from one location to another.” Temporary means “not having indicia of permanency,” and a “temporary facility” includes, but is not limited to, garage sales, flea markets, gun shows and exhibits.<sup>2</sup>

New Jersey generally prohibits any person from manufacturing, transporting, shipping, selling or disposing of any handgun bullet comprised of specific materials, although the state explicitly allows licensed collectors of ammunition to transport certain ammunition from the collector’s dwelling, premises or other land owned or possessed by him or her to any gun show for the purposes of display, sale, trade, or transfer between collectors.<sup>3</sup> See the section entitled **Ammunition Regulation in New Jersey** for more details.

See the section entitled **Private Sales in New Jersey** for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in New Mexico

*Last updated September 11, 2018.*

New Mexico has no laws regulating gun shows.

See the **New Mexico Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows*** policy summary for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in New York

*Last updated November 8, 2017.*

See our ***Gun Shows*** policy summary for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

New York law defines “gun show” as “an event sponsored, whether for profit or not, by an individual, national, state or local organization, association or other entity devoted to the collection, competitive use, sporting use, or any other legal use of firearms, rifles or shotguns.”<sup>1</sup> The definition also includes an event at which:

- Twenty percent or more of all exhibitors are firearms exhibitors;
- Ten or more firearms exhibitors are participating;
- Twenty-five or more handguns are offered for sale or transfer; or
- Fifty or more firearms are offered for sale or transfer.

The term “gun show” includes any building, structure or facility where firearms are offered for sale or transfer and any grounds used in connection with the event.<sup>2</sup>

New York requires all firearms sales at gun shows to be processed by a licensed dealer.<sup>3</sup> Prospective purchasers are subject to the same background check process that applies to retail firearm transfers and all dealers processing transactions must record the transfer, retain the transfer records for 10 years, and make the records available to law enforcement (see **Retention of Background Check / Sales Records in New York**).<sup>4</sup> A person is criminally liable for a misdemeanor if he or she offers or agrees to transfer a firearm to another person at a gun show and then deliver the firearm at a location other than the gun show in order to evade compliance with the background check requirement.<sup>5</sup>

A licensed dealer is permitted to conduct business temporarily at a gun show or event sponsored by any organization devoted to the collection, competitive use or other sporting use of firearms.<sup>6</sup> Gun show operators are required to provide access to a licensed firearm dealer at gun shows for the purpose of completing background checks.<sup>7</sup>

Gun show operators must conspicuously post and maintain signs stating: “A National Instant Criminal Background Check must be completed prior to all firearm sales or transfers, including sales or transfers of rifles or shotguns.”<sup>8</sup> Signs must be posted at all entrances to the gun show, at all places where admission tickets to the gun show are sold, and at not less than four additional locations within the grounds of the gun show.<sup>9</sup> A gun

show operator must notify exhibitors, in writing, that a National Instant Criminal Background Check System (“NICS”) check is required prior to all firearm transfers.<sup>10</sup>

In *Scope, Inc. v. Pataki*, 386 F. Supp. 2d 184 (W.D.N.Y. 2005), a group of gun association plaintiffs challenged New York’s gun show statutes on various constitutional grounds, including that they allegedly violate the: 1) due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, because the definition of “gun show” is vague; and 2) First Amendment because the definition of “gun show” is so broad that it declares any assembly of gun owners for any purpose a “gun show,” infringing on plaintiffs’ rights of lawful assembly and free speech and right to petition the government.

On the due process challenge, the court held that the definition of gun show in New York law was not vague.<sup>11</sup> The court found that definition of “gun show” is not vague, but as to the First Amendment challenge, the court found the definition to be overbroad in its prohibitions, stating that the law “defines any gathering of a gun club to be a ‘gun show.’”<sup>12</sup> Thus, the court found the definition to be unconstitutional.

New York now requires private sellers (sellers who are not federally licensed dealers) to have a background check conducted on a prospective purchaser before transferring any firearm, whether at gun shows or elsewhere. See the **Private Sales in New York** section for further information, including additional laws that may apply at gun shows.

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## Gun Shows in North Carolina

*Last updated September 17, 2018.*

North Carolina does not have a law regulating gun shows.

See the **North Carolina Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

---

## Gun Shows in North Dakota

*Last updated November 17, 2017.*

North Dakota does not have a law regulating gun shows. See the **North Dakota Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

## Gun Shows in Ohio

*Last updated November 16, 2017.*

Ohio has no law regulating gun shows. See **Private Sales in Ohio** for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

---

## Gun Shows in Oklahoma

*Last updated November 16, 2017.*

Oklahoma does not explicitly regulate gun shows.

See the **Oklahoma Private Sales** section for state laws that apply to firearm sales at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

---

## Gun Shows in Oregon

*Last updated November 6, 2017.*

Oregon law requires both firearms dealers and unlicensed sellers to perform background checks at gun shows before transferring any firearm.<sup>1</sup> A “gun show” is defined as an event at which more than 25 firearms are on-site and available for transfer.<sup>2</sup> For the laws applicable to firearms dealers, see the **Oregon Dealer Regulations** section.

Any person who is not a firearms dealer may not transfer a firearm at a gun show unless he or she either completes the transfer through a licensed dealer, or requests a criminal background check prior to transfer, receives notification that the person acquiring the firearm is qualified to receive the firearm, and has the recipient of the firearm complete the necessary state form, which the transferor must retain for at least five years and make available to law enforcement agencies for the purpose of criminal investigations.<sup>3</sup> A person who organizes a gun show must post in a prominent place at the show a notice explaining these requirements, and must provide the required form to any person transferring a firearm at the gun show.<sup>4</sup> These background check requirements will not be



applied to a person who did not know, or reasonably could not know, that more than 25 firearms were at the site and available for transfer.<sup>5</sup>

See the **Oregon Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Pennsylvania

*Last updated November 27, 2017.*

Pennsylvania does not specifically regulate gun shows. However, it does regulate where and how private persons may transfer handguns and short-barreled rifles and shotguns to unlicensed transferees.<sup>1</sup> Pennsylvania law specifies that the place of business for a retail dealer includes a lawful gun show or meet.<sup>2</sup> Since a transfer of a handgun must be carried out at the place of business of a licensed dealer,<sup>3</sup> a private person may transfer a handgun to an unlicensed transferee at a gun show. However, the private seller must have a licensed importer, manufacturer, dealer or county sheriff's office perform a background check on the prospective purchaser.<sup>4</sup> The licensee must also follow all other dealer regulations specified in the **Pennsylvania Dealer Regulations** section before transferring the handgun.<sup>5</sup>

See also the **Pennsylvania Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Rhode Island

*Last updated September 17, 2018.*

Rhode Island does not have specific laws regulating gun shows. The state imposes background checks for private purchases of firearms, however, and has a seven-day waiting period for all firearm sales to non-law enforcement personnel. See the sections entitled **Private Sales in Rhode Island** and **Waiting Periods in Rhode Island**.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in South Carolina

*Last updated September 19, 2018.*

South Carolina does not explicitly regulate gun shows. See the **South Carolina Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows** policy summary for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

---

## Gun Shows in South Dakota

*Last updated November 6, 2017.*

South Dakota has no laws expressly regulating gun shows. See the South Dakota Private Sales section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows** policy summary for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

---

## Gun Shows in Tennessee

*Last updated November 17, 2017.*

Tennessee does not regulate gun shows. In fact, an exception to the prohibition on possessing certain proscribed weapons with the intent to go armed (not including most handguns and long guns)<sup>1</sup> allows individuals to possess such firearms when conducting or attending “gun and knife shows” where the program has been approved by the administrator of the recreational building or property.<sup>2</sup>

See the **Tennessee Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows** policy summary for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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## Gun Shows in Texas

*Last updated September 14, 2018.*

Texas has no laws expressly regulating gun shows. See the **Texas Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows** policy summary for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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# Gun Shows in the District of Columbia

*Last updated November 27, 2017.*

The District of Columbia does not specifically regulate gun shows. Generally, firearms may not be transferred in the District until the purchaser has been issued a firearm registration certificate, which requires a background check by the Chief of Police.<sup>1</sup>

See the **District of Columbia Background Checks, Prohibited Purchasers Generally and Registration** sections for further information.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

---

# Gun Shows in Utah

*Last updated November 14, 2017.*

Utah does not regulate gun shows.

See the **Utah Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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# Gun Shows in Vermont

*Last updated September 17, 2018.*

Vermont has no law specifically regulating gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

---

# Gun Shows in Virginia

*Last updated August 20, 2018.*

In 2016, Virginia enacted a law requiring the State Police to be available at gun shows to conduct background checks on purchasers or transferees of firearms at the request of the parties to the transaction. The law provides immunity from liability to any person who sells or transfers a firearm to a person after receiving a determination from the State Police that the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm. The promoter of a gun

show must provide adequate space for the State Police to make these determinations, and must ensure that a notice that these determinations are available is prominently displayed at the show.<sup>1</sup> Virginia law still does not require unlicensed sellers and transferors to seek this background check before the sale or transfer of a gun at a gun show.

Virginia law requires any person, firm, corporation, club, association, or organization holding a firearms show to give notice at least 30 days prior to the show to the State Police and the sheriff or chief of police of the locality in which the firearms show will be held.<sup>2</sup> The notice must be given on a form provided by the State Police. A separate notice is required for each firearms show.<sup>3</sup>

The promoter must also maintain for the duration of the show a list of all vendors or exhibitors in the show for immediate inspection by any law-enforcement authorities.<sup>4</sup> Within five days after the conclusion of the show, the promoter must transmit a copy of the complete vendor or exhibitor list to the law-enforcement authorities to which the 30-day prior notice was required. The vendor or exhibitor list must contain the full name and residence address and the business name and address, if any, of the vendors or exhibitors.<sup>5</sup>

Virginia law exempts from these requirements any firearms shows held in any town with a population of not less than 1,995 and not more than 2,010, according to the 1990 United States census.<sup>6</sup>

See the **Virginia Private Sales** section for additional state laws that may apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

---

## Gun Shows in Washington

*Last updated November 14, 2017.*

Washington has no law regulating gun shows.

See the **Washington Private Sales** section for additional state laws that may apply at gun shows.

See our ***Gun Shows policy summary*** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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## Gun Shows in West Virginia

*Last updated November 14, 2017.*

West Virginia does not have a law regulating gun shows.

See the **West Virginia Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

---

## Gun Shows in Wisconsin

*Last updated November 14, 2017.*

Wisconsin has no law regulating gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

---

## Gun Shows in Wyoming

*Last updated November 7, 2017.*

Wyoming has no laws regulating gun shows.

See the **Wyoming Private Sales** section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

*See our **Gun Shows policy summary** for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.*

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### SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

**POLICY AREAS**



**STATES**

**TAKE ACTION**

**ABOUT**

**GIFFORDS  
LAW CENTER**  
**TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE**

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MENU

RESEARCH AREAS

SEARCH

JUNE 26, 2017



## Among U.S. gun owners, parents more likely than non-parents to keep their guns locked and unloaded

BY ANNA BROWN ([HTTP://WWW.PEWRESEARCH.ORG/STAFF/ANNA-BROWN](http://www.pewresearch.org/staff/anna-brown))

([http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/06/26/among-u-s-gun-owners-parents-more-likely-than-non-parents-to-keep-their-guns-locked-and-unloaded/ft\\_17-06-26\\_parentsguns\\_1/](http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/06/26/among-u-s-gun-owners-parents-more-likely-than-non-parents-to-keep-their-guns-locked-and-unloaded/ft_17-06-26_parentsguns_1/)) Gun owners with children younger than 18 in the household are more likely than those who aren't parents to say they keep all their guns locked and unloaded while they're at home, according to a new Pew Research Center survey (<http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2017/06/22/americas-complex-relationship-with-guns/>). Even so, 44% of gun-owning parents say there is a gun that is both loaded and easily accessible to them all or most of the time when they're at home.

Among gun-owning parents with children in their household, 54% say all of the guns in their home are kept in a locked place and 53% say they are all kept unloaded. By comparison, 30% of gun owners who are *not* parents say all their guns are locked and 40% say they are unloaded, according to the survey.

(<http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2017/06/22/americas-complex-relationship-with-guns/>) conducted in March and April among 3,930 U.S. adults, including 1,269 gun owners.

Gun owners with children are also less likely than those without children to have an easily accessible gun in the home: 44% say there is a loaded gun that is easily accessible to them all or most of the time when they are home, compared with 59% of non-parents.

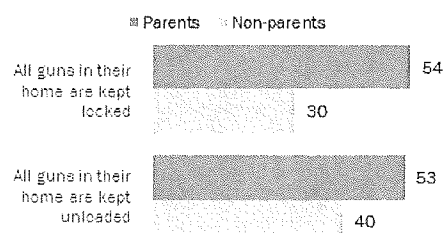
([http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/06/26/among-u-s-gun-owners-parents-more-likely-than-non-parents-to-keep-their-guns-locked-and-unloaded/ft\\_17-06-26\\_parentsguns\\_2/](http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/06/26/among-u-s-gun-owners-parents-more-likely-than-non-parents-to-keep-their-guns-locked-and-unloaded/ft_17-06-26_parentsguns_2/)) Regardless of how their guns are stored, the large majority of gun-owning parents say they have talked with their children about gun safety (82%). A smaller share of parents who don't own guns say the same (51%).

Among non-gun owners, mothers are much more likely than fathers to say they have talked with their children about gun safety (58% vs. 37%). And while 59% of white parents who don't own guns say they have talked with their children about gun safety, 40% of nonwhite parents who don't own guns say they have done this.

Americans overall say keeping guns unloaded and in a locked place and storing guns and ammunition separately are more important when there are children in the home than when there are no children in the home. The pattern is similar among parents and non-parents and among gun owners and non-owners, though non-owners are consistently more likely than owners to say each is essential for owners with or without children.

### Parents are more likely to keep their guns locked and unloaded

% of gun owners saying ...



Note: Parents include adults with children younger than 18 living in their household.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 15-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

### Gun owners are much more likely than non-owners to talk with their children about gun safety

% saying they have ever talked with their children about gun safety, among parents of children younger than 18 living in their household



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 15-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

feedback



9/21/2018

Among U.S. gun owners, parents more likely than non-parents to keep guns locked, unloaded

When it comes to taking gun safety courses and keeping shooting skills up to date, Americans don't distinguish between households with and without children when considering how important these safety measures are. For example, similar shares say it's essential for gun owners with children in the home and those with no children to take gun safety courses (73% and 68%, respectively).

SHARE THIS LINK:

<http://pewrsr.ch/2sTnhrm>



---

Anna Brown (<http://www.pewresearch.org/staff/anna-brown>) is a research analyst focusing on social and demographic trends at Pew Research Center.

POSTS | EMAIL

**feedback**



## Editorial: Council rightly stays out of gun show debate

Let businesses decide for themselves what events they should host

Gazette Editorial Board | July 25, 2018



Ken Kennedy looks at pistols during the Gun and Militaria Show at the Saratoga Springs City Center, sponsored by NEACA, in 2016.

PHOTOGRAPHER: ERICA MILLER

Schenectady city officials did something that more governments should do when it comes to the actions of private companies.

Stay out of their business.

Earlier this week, Ray Legere, co-owner of the Schenectady Armory Center, decided for himself to turn down business by rejecting a bid by the New Eastcoast Arms Collectors Associates to host a gun show at the armory.

If it followed the pattern of other gun shows hosted by the organization, it would have brought hundreds visitors and a lot of money to the armory and other downtown Schenectady businesses.

After some consideration, Legere, given the rash of gun violence in the country, simply decided his venue wasn't the appropriate place for the gun show at this time. That's his right as a business owner, and he should be respected for his decision.

Who also should be respected are the mayor and members of the Schenectady City Council for their role in the decision. They had none.

The council could have jumped on the national wave of concern over gun violence and either spoken out against the show on behalf of the government or tried to pass some kind of resolution prohibiting businesses from hosting such events.

That would have been the wrong thing to do. As long as the owner of a business complies with existing local, state and federal laws for hosting such events, the city should let the businesses decide for themselves what they will and will not host.

That's counter to what the City Council in Saratoga Springs did earlier this year when it made the issue of the gun show at the Saratoga Springs City Center political by passing a lease addendum on the venue to impose a ban on the sale of guns and ammunition at the facility.

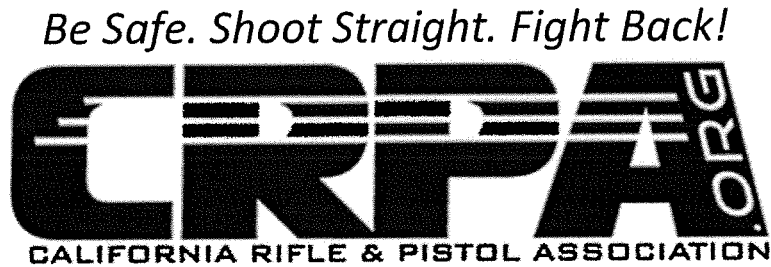
Effectively, council members killed the gun show not because it would generate violence or contribute to the mass shootings in the country, but because it made them look like they were being tough on gun violence.

The gun show had been at the City Center for 30 years, with a stellar reputation for safety and abiding by the law. It attracted gun enthusiasts, collectors and hunters from all over.

New York has among the toughest gun laws in the country, particularly when it comes to gun shows. Heavily regulated gun shows like these are tough places for crazed maniacs to buy their weapons.

The vast, vast majority of legitimate sportsmen and collectors who attend such events are not criminals; government intervention in this matter would have labeled them as such.

Governments have no justification for getting involved in such business decisions. The Schenectady mayor and council rightly let the business decide for itself.



October 19, 2018

Barbara Quaid, CEO  
Hon. Daniel Long  
Hon. Leslie Cornejo  
Hon. Leah Lacayo  
Hon. Bonnie Atmore  
Hon. Michael Bradbury  
Hon. M. Cecilia Cuevas  
Hon. Armando Lopez  
Hon. Shante Morgan-Durisseau  
Hon. Jim Salzer  
**Ventura County Fairgrounds**  
**31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association**  
Derby Club / Director's Room  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Ventura, CA 93001  
EMAIL: [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)

**Re: 2019 Gun Shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds**

Dear Ventura Fairgrounds Board of Directors:

I write to you on behalf of the California Rifle & Pistol Association, Incorporated ("CRPA"). CRPA has a history of over 143 years in promoting firearms safety, training, hunting, shooting sports, and defending the rights of those who would choose to lawfully own and possess a firearm in the state.

At the September 2018 Ventura Fair Board meeting, CRPA presented Board members with a blue binder outlining many of the myths that continue to be brought forward by those that are opposed to the gun shows. California is completely different from other states in that there are very strict laws that govern the operation of gun shows and the sales of firearms and ammunition. Even with these restrictions in place and widely known, confusion seems to be wide-spread by those that do not have experience with the gun shows or purchasing a firearm.

As an example, in Exhibit A, you can see to individuals holding signs at a Never Again California protest. These photos were taken from the Never Again California website. For anyone who knows firearms, these two signs are complete falsehoods.

*Be Safe. Shoot Straight. Fight Back!*



1) Photo 1-“Ban Assault Weapons”

Since 1989 it has been illegal to sell a firearm that the state has defined as an “assault weapon” and that has been listed in California Department of Justice (“DOJ”) roster of prohibited firearms. This includes many military look-alike semi-automatic rifles and .50 caliber BMG rifles. Any person already possessing a *lawfully registered* assault weapon may possess the firearm only under limited conditions, unless they obtain a permit for additional use from DOJ.

Additionally, after January 1, 2017, the definition of a rifle that would be considered a “Category 3 Assault Weapon” was expanded through state legislation. Those persons in possession of a firearm with this expanded definition had to either make the firearm featureless or register the firearm that was once considered not to be an assault weapon, as an assault weapon under the new and expanded definitions under the penal code.

There are no “assault weapons” being sold at gun shows because they have been illegal to sell for many years. The fact that anti-gun show groups are still promoting the belief that someone could and is transacting in illegal gun sales in a place with multiple divisions of law enforcement is nothing more than a ploy to deceive the unsuspecting public and board members. It is misleading and untruthful and should these groups should be held responsible for allowing these falsehoods to continue to be perpetrated.

2) Photo 2-“Owning a Gun Should Be As Hard As Owning A Car”

To own a car, anyone can walk onto a car lot and, if they have the money, can purchase a car. There is no age requirement or government approval required to purchase a car. If the person wants to drive the car, they must be of a certain age, register the car, take a brief written test that most people do not even study for, a brief driving test, take a multiple-choice test, and get insurance.

To own a firearm in California there are many more rules. A person must be a specific age to purchase either a handgun or a long gun (beginning January 1, 2019). A person can only purchase one handgun per month and generally must be 21 years of age in order to purchase a firearm with minimal exceptions for those that have a hunting license. Those wishing to purchase a firearm must be a California resident with a valid government identification. They must pass a background check with a 10-day waiting period.

The person must not be considered a “prohibit person” by the state of California which means that if you fall under one of the categories of persons who are prohibited from possessing firearms under California or federal law, your name is entered into the Automated Criminal History System. It is illegal to even attempt to purchase a firearm in California if you are a prohibited person.

*Be Safe. Shoot Straight. Fight Back!*



Once the person has passed the federal background check, they must take a written test regarding their understanding of the operation of a firearm and they must demonstrate to the seller that they know how to use the firearm they are purchasing through a demonstration test. Note that all of this cannot happen at the gun show because the person cannot take possession of their firearm until 10 days later and after the background check is complete. *There is no one walking out of a gun show with a firearm that day* (unlike the car where you can in fact walk out the same day with a car).


In addition to the two misleading photos from the Never Again website, this same group continues to spread false information and statistics. They wear shirts with “statistics” that have nothing to do with California gun shows. They try to equate violence and unrestricted activity from around the country with what is going on in California. As a government entity that operates property you must look to what is going on in *your* part of California. Your responsibility in managing public property is to ensure that all people and groups are treated equally and have the same access without discrimination.

Those fighting against the gun shows, just don’t like them. They don’t want people to be able to come together with the same ideals that they do not agree with. This is a dangerous precedent and one in which other jurisdictions have spent thousands of dollars attempting to defend. Where one group is trying to deem a lawful activity “bad” just because they do not agree with it, the scrutiny level must increase.

Groups like Never Again California are Political Action Committees (PACs). Their purpose is to push a political agenda. They will settle for nothing less than total banning of the gun show. It is your job to manage the fairgrounds facilities and ensure that there is equal access for all groups-even those that may be controversial to some.

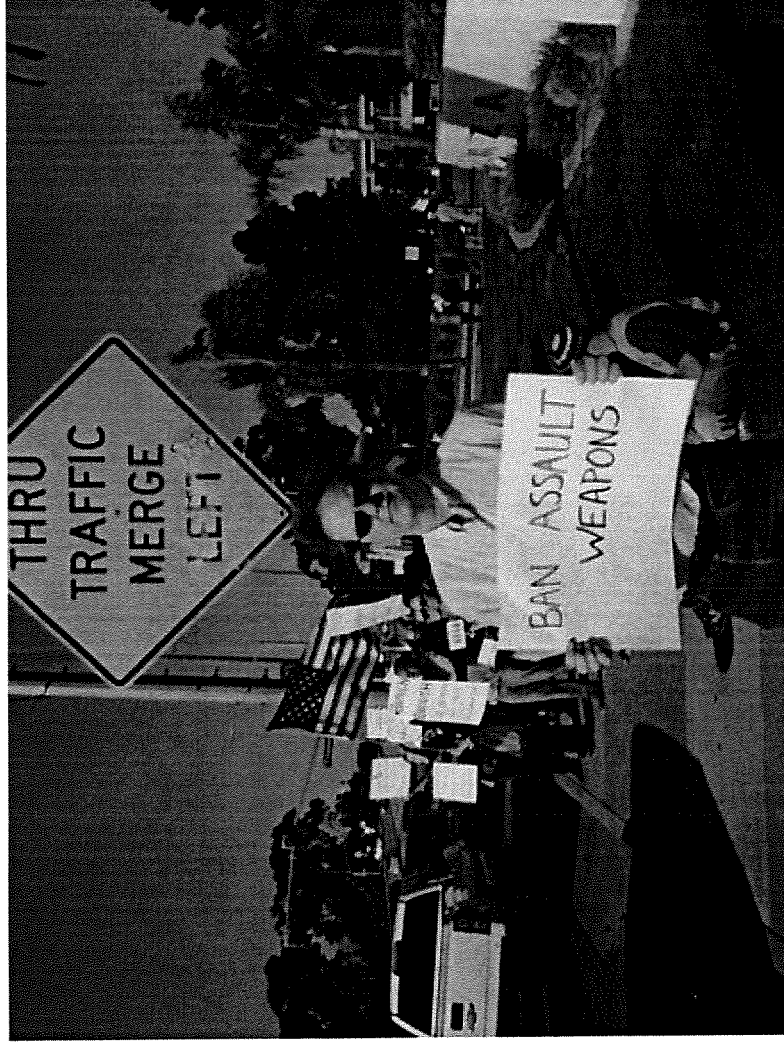
On behalf of the tens of thousands of CRPA members in the state of California we ask that you not accept the statements made by these groups as facts. Do your own research by reaching out to all types of groups, law enforcement, and attendees who participate and understand what occurs at a California gun show. Most importantly, we ask that you not swiftly follow the lead of other venues who acted hastily and will now be embroiled in defending their choices for a very long time.

The CRPA would like to help the Board by offering any information and statistics needed. Please feel free to contact my office with any questions.

Sincerely,  
  
Tiffany D. Cheuvront  
Assistant Corporate Counsel

## EXHIBIT A







# Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Ventura County Fairgrounds, 31st District Agricultural Association  
10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: [venturacountyfair.org](http://venturacountyfair.org) Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Derby Club/ Director's Room**

All matters noticed on this agenda may be considered for action. Items listed on the agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Board President. Any item not so noticed will not be considered or discussed. The Board requests your courtesy to **mute your electronic devices and limit usage to note taking.**

**I. Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

Does any Board member have a conflict of interest that should preclude them from participating in discussions about or voting on any matter on today's agenda?

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Welcome and Introduction of Guests & Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

**IV. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with state law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

**V. Approval of Minutes**

A. September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting

**VI. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**VII. New Business**

A. Director's Strategic Planning Session

**VIII. Old Business**

**IX. Committee Reports**

A. Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Reports

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

A. Letter from Ventura County Cattleman's Association Chairman, Jim Pendleton

B. Thank you letter from Michael Clifford, Mary Jean Abatti and Greg Beard

C. Post Card and email from Robin Birney

- D. Email from Ruth Schwartz
- E. Email from Sandy Ross
- F. Email from Karin Grennan
- G. Email from Mary Lyman
- H. Email from George Shannon
- I. Email from Jessica Barajas
- J. Email from Debby
- K. Email from Karilyn Steward
- L. Email from Jill Rippon
- M. Email from Julie Diaz Martinez
- N. Email from Zakia Kator
- O. Email from Allen Chinn
- P. Email from John Griffin
- Q. Email from Bob Kahn

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-2 and B are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

- A. Agreements
  - 1. Rental Agreements – Interim
  - 2. Sponsorship Agreements
- B. Travel Claims

**XII. CEO Report**

**XIII. President's Comments**

**XIV. Director's Comments**

**XV. Future Agenda Items**

**XVI. Adjourn**

**Americans With Disabilities Act**

The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Heidi Ortiz at (805) 648-3376 ext. 106 or sending a written request to that person at the Fairgrounds: 10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001. Although not required, providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

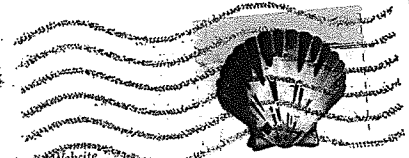


SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
PO Box 96832  
Washington DC 20090-6832

SANTA BARBARA CA 931

03 OCT 2018 PM 2 L

AfricanAmerican.si.edu Website  
NMAAHCmember@si.edu Email



I am asking you not to  
renew the contract with  
CrossRoads of the west  
Gun Shows. stop all gun  
shows at the Ventura  
airgrounds

Robert Burrey  
Help make history happen—support the National Museum of African  
American History and Culture at [go.si.edu/postcard](http://go.si.edu/postcard).

1314 Weyman Lane  
Ventura CA 93001

Barbara Quaid  
10 W Harbor Blvd  
Ventura CA  
93001

31st D.A.A.

OCT 09 2018

Ventura County Fairgrounds

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 03, 2018 8:27 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Stop gun shows at our fairgrounds

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Robin Birney <[robinbbirney@gmail.com](mailto:robinbbirney@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** October 2, 2018 at 4:51:01 PM PDT  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Stop gun shows at our fairgrounds

I am Robin Birney, 1314 Weymouth Lane, Ventura Ca 93001-4050. I am asking you to not renew the contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows at our Ventura County Fairgrounds. STOP all gun shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds Thank you

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, October 08, 2018 6:10 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Ban gun shows from the fairgrounds

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Ruth Schwartz <[jeruth51@aol.com](mailto:jeruth51@aol.com)>  
**Date:** October 7, 2018 at 6:18:14 PM PDT  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Ban gun shows from the fairgrounds

Hi MS Quaid:

As a taxpayer and resident of a community that I dearly love, my heart falls every time I see an advertisement for a gun show on state-owned property. I am even more stunned to see that children are admitted free. MS Quaid, how many killings will it take before your agency puts lives above profit and says *Enough*.

It was reported that representatives of the NRA, who I'm sure are all members of a well regulated militia, were disrespectful to the father of a slain child and that a reporter was harassed. I hope at your next meeting there will be as many members of law enforcement as necessary to keep the meetings of the Ventura County Fair Board of Directors orderly and respectful.

Sincerely,  
Ruth Schwartz  
5954 Bridgeview Drive, Ventura, CA 93003

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2018 6:31 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: recommendation

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Sandy Ross <[spotaross@roadrunner.com](mailto:spotaross@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** October 4, 2018 at 5:13:58 PM PDT  
**To:** <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** recommendation

Dear Ventura County, Fair Board Directors:

I live in Ventura and I ask that you that you end ALL gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, a state-owned property. As a taxpayer and resident, I believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition. The advertisement of firearms when viewed by children have a negative impact on their health and well-being. I believe it is your responsibility to find other financial means to support our 31st Agricultural District.

Sandy Ross



## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2018 4:13 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gun shows

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** The Grennans <[grennan4@verizon.net](mailto:grennan4@verizon.net)>  
**Date:** October 3, 2018 at 5:37:06 PM PDT  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Gun shows

Ms. Quaid – Could you please forward my letter below to the members of the Ventura County Fairgrounds Board?

Dear Ventura County Fairgrounds Board of Directors,

I am writing to ask you to discontinue gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Please don't sign any more contracts with Crossroads of the West or any other organization wanting to hold gun shows at the fairgrounds.

The American Public Health Association and the American Medical Association have both taken to calling gun violence a public-health problem. There are 36,000 gun deaths a year in the United States. Half of all suicides are done with a gun, and nearly three-quarter of homicides involve guns.

Studies have shown that places that have more and easier access to guns tend to have more gun deaths. A woman is five times more likely to be killed if she lives in a house with a gun, according to one study.

Please don't contribute to this devastating public health crisis by hosting gun shows. The Ventura County Fairgrounds should not profit from the sale of guns.

Thank you for your consideration.

Karin Grennan  
2013 Via Montecito  
Camarillo, CA 93012

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 03, 2018 2:21 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Do not renew contract with Crossroads

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mary Lyman <[m.gaudino.lyman@gmail.com](mailto:m.gaudino.lyman@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** October 3, 2018 at 2:22:14 PM PDT  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Do not renew contract with Crossroads

Dear Ventura County, Fair Board Directors: I live in Ventura County and I ask that you not re-new the contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows, and that you end ALL gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, a state-owned property.

As a taxpayer and resident, I believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition.

The advertisement of firearms when viewed by children have a negative impact on their health and well-being.

I believe it is your responsibility to find other financial means to support our 31st Agricultural District.

Regards,  
Mary Lyman  
914 Fawnglen Place  
Newbury Park, CA 91320

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** George Shannon <georgeshannon@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2018 10:33 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Cc:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun Shows on Ventura County Fairgrounds

Dear Ms. Quaid and Board of Directors,

I was in attendance at the Board of Directors meeting on September 25, 2018. I voiced my support for continuation of gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Thank you for listening. I now want to share some of my thoughts and observations as you proceed with the forthcoming ad hoc board meetings.

After hearing opponents voice opposition to having these shows at the fairgrounds, it occurred to me that public safety is not their concern. These opponents, for political reasons, want to exclude people from conducting a perfectly safe and legal activity—protected by the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendments—at venues our taxes pay to support. If you allow this to happen, what's next? PETA coming before you demanding cancelation of the county fair, horseracing and livestock shows?

To blame guns and lawful gun owners for the brutal murder of six children in Isle Vista—three of which were stabbed to death—is misguided and ignores the real problem, which is a lenient justice system and our state's ineffective approach to dealing with mental illness. Ending gun shows will not solve the problem.

During the board meeting I recall a doctor voicing her opinion on the effects of advertising on children and referencing a pediatric study. The real take away from her message is: Ban the gun-shows and enable us in the abolishment of guns by destroying a culture, a class of citizens who believe in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, through attrition.

The county is not in the business of promoting guns, beer, amusement rides, horseracing, livestock or flea markets. However, our county does support diversity and maintains a multi-use community resource. Please don't discriminate to support a political agenda, but rather continue the gun shows in the spirit of your mission statement.

*"The mission of the 31st District Agricultural Association, otherwise known as the Ventura County Fair is to promote, support, educate, celebrate and preserve the diverse culture and traditions of our County and to make certain that the Ventura County Fairgrounds be an exemplary multi-use community resource."*

Hunters, sportsman, gun collectors, military veterans, and peace officers, all of whom attend gun shows, are part of the diverse culture and traditions of our county.

Sincerely,  
George Shannon  
Thousand Oaks, CA

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2018 1:26 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Ventura County Fair Board of Directors Meeting

**From:** Jessica Barajas [mailto:ephgirl97@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 2, 2018 1:30 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Ventura County Fair Board of Directors Meeting

Dear Ventura County, Fair Board Directors:

My husband and I moved to Ventura four years ago, shortly after we had our second child. We moved here for a job opportunity and to give our children a better quality of life. My husband grew up in Camarillo and always wanted to return here when we started a family. We have loved living here because of the beautiful beach location and the laid-back atmosphere. We have thoroughly enjoyed going to the Ventura County Fair every year with our children.

We were disturbed to learn of the contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows. We do not feel that hosting gun shows at the Fair Grounds contributes to the family atmosphere in this city. In fact, we feel that it detracts from it. We do not want our children to be around or see advertising for guns or become desensitized to the dangerous nature of firearms. Furthermore, as taxpayers and residents, we believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition. The Fair Board of Directors needs to find other financial means to support our 31st Agricultural District. We ask that you NOT re-new the contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows, and that you end ALL gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, a state-owned property.

Additionally, I learned that representatives from the NRA were present at the last Ventura County Fairgrounds meeting and that they heckled and harassed a member of the community who spoke about his daughter's death in a mass shooting. I also understand that those same NRA representatives harassed a female reporter who was present at the meeting. This is unacceptable. People should not be harassed for speaking their mind and members of the press should not be harassed for doing their jobs. I request that you have law enforcement present to protect the safety of community members at the next meeting on October 23. I plan to be at that meeting and hope to be able to speak without being harassed by someone from the NRA.

Sincerely,  
Jessica A. Barajas

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2018 10:26 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Gun shows

**From:** Debby [mailto:photodeb@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 2, 2018 8:59 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Gun shows

**Dear Ventura County, Fair Board Directors:**

**I live in Ventura County and I ask that you not re-new the contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows, and that you end ALL gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, a state-owned property. As a taxpayer and resident, I believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition. The advertisement of firearms when viewed by children have a negative impact on their health and well-being. I believe it is your responsibility to find other financial means to support our 31st Agricultural District.**

Thank you,  
Debby  
Sent from my iPhone

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2018 6:57 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: No gun shows

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Karilyn Steward <[klyn7@roadrunner.com](mailto:klyn7@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** October 1, 2018 at 11:03:09 PM PDT  
**To:** "[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)" <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** No gun shows

To Ventura County Fair Board –

I am emailing to ask that the Ventura County Fair Board do not have gun shows at the Fairgrounds. I realize that this past year has been difficult for revenue, but there must be better, more creative ways to make money for the Fairgrounds. I live in Ventura and it disturbs me to see the advertisements and know that my Fairgrounds is complicit in the promotion of guns. There are plenty of other reputable and legal places for people to buy guns with the proper background checks.

Thank you,

Karilyn Steward

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

**Heidi Ortiz**

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2018 11:13 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Stop gun shows

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jill Rippon <[jillripton@icloud.com](mailto:jillripton@icloud.com)>  
**Date:** October 1, 2018 at 11:19:03 AM PDT  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Stop gun shows

Good morning,

I live in Newbury Park, and I'm emailing to ask that the Fair Board decline to renew its contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows. I believe that you should end all gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, which are a state-owned property.

As a taxpayer, I believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition. Beyond the general public-health concerns, studies have shown that advertisements for firearms are detrimental to the well-being of the children who see them. You should make it your responsibility to replace these gun shows with other events that will support our 31st Agricultural District.

Thank you for your time,  
Jill Rippon

Sent from my iPhone

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2018 9:48 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: END Gun SHOWS at the Fairgrounds

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** julie martinez <[casaartearch@att.net](mailto:casaartearch@att.net)>  
**Date:** October 1, 2018 at 9:55:03 AM PDT  
**To:** "[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)" <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** **END Gun SHOWS at the Fairgrounds**  
**Reply-To:** julie martinez <[casaartearch@att.net](mailto:casaartearch@att.net)>

Good Morning Barbara Quaid,

As a resident of Ventura County for over twenty years I am asking that the Board please END any and all contracts for Gun SHOWS at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Please do not contribute to gun violence and please do not open up your elected Board to lawsuits.

Sincerely,

Julie Diaz Martinez  
15475 Braun Court  
Moorpark, CA 93021  
805.660.6571



## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2018 9:01 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please do NOT renew contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Show

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Zakia Kator <[zkator@hotmail.com](mailto:zkator@hotmail.com)>  
**Date:** October 1, 2018 at 6:51:46 AM PDT  
**To:** "[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)" <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Cc:** "Sanah (AKA Sunshine/Chanoo) Niazi" <[sanahkator@gmail.com](mailto:sanahkator@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** **Please do NOT renew contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Show**

Ventura County Fair Board  
10 West Harbor Blvd. Ventura, CA 93001  
Attn. Barbara Quaid, CEO

Dear Ms. Quaid and Ventura County Fair Board Directors,

I live in Ventura County and I ask that you not re-new the contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows, and that you end ALL gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, a state-owned property. As a taxpayer and resident, I believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition. The advertisement of firearms when viewed by children have a negative impact on their health and well-being. I believe it is your responsibility to find other financial means to support our 31st Agricultural District.

We are requesting that law enforcement be present at your next meeting in order to provide a safe environment for community speakers at Ventura County Fairgrounds Meeting scheduled for 10/23.

Sincerely,

Zakia Kator

Sent from my iPhone

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2018 9:01 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Non-renewal of Gun Show Contract

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Allen Chinn Andrews <[agc32361@yahoo.com](mailto:agc32361@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** September 30, 2018 at 11:10:40 PM PDT  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Non-renewal of Gun Show Contract

Dear Ventura County, Fair Board Directors:

I live in Ventura County and I ask that you not re-new the contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows, and that you end ALL gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, a state-owned property. As a taxpayer and resident, I believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition. The advertisement of firearms when viewed by children have a negative impact on their health and well-being. I believe it is your responsibility to find other financial means to support our 31st Agricultural District.

We are requesting that law enforcement be present at your next meeting in order to provide a safe environment for community speakers at Ventura County Fairgrounds Meeting scheduled for 10/23.

Sincerely,

Allen Chinn  
46 Debussy Lane  
Ventura 93003

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2018 9:01 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gun Shows at Fairgrounds

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** John Griffin <[johnjgriffin@gmail.com](mailto:johnjgriffin@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** September 30, 2018 at 11:03:48 PM PDT  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Gun Shows at Fairgrounds

Ventura County Fair Board:

I have been a resident of Ventura County for 20 years. In all that time, I've never had reason to visit the fairgrounds for a gun show. I have read numerous accounts that tell of the sale of illegal guns and gun parts at such difficult to regulate events. It is not in the best interests of our communities to be party to such.

Please do not renew the Crossroads of The West Gun Show contract. We should not encourage the proliferation of weaponry in our county.

Thanks!

John Griffin  
Thousand Oaks

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 09, 2018 5:37 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Gun Shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds

**From:** Bob Kahn [mailto:[delpha100@verizon.net](mailto:delpha100@verizon.net)]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 8, 2018 8:37 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Cc:** debicatdelpha@verizon.net  
**Subject:** Gun Shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds

Dear Barbara,

I am a 32 year Ventura County resident and tax-payer and would like to voice my opposition to allowing gun shows on our fair grounds property, i.e., the Ventura County Fairgrounds. My brother was indiscriminately murdered in the 1990's by a man who possessed guns and used them.

If you were to spend the time truly speaking to the population, you would find that I am far from being the only one you talk to who has been impacted by this embarrassing epidemic in America, gun violence. In fact, far from it.

As I see it, people make mistakes. We are human. But with a gun, there is a great chance of the mistake affecting dozens of hundreds of friends and families of the single gun shooting victim. Almost all other forms of attack would be far less likely to be fatal.

At the very least, I just don't think the state and other government properties should be hosting gun shows. There are other private citizens that could host such events on their land, property, etc.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bob Kahn | 818.404.1097 | [delpha100@verizon.net](mailto:delpha100@verizon.net)

# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Fairgrounds  
31st District Agricultural Association - 10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: venturacountyfair.org Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**

## **I. Call to Order**

### **Roll Call**

### **Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m., and called to order by President Cornejo.

**Directors present:** President, Leslie Cornejo, Vice President, Leah Lacayo, Bonnie Atmore, Michael Bradbury, M. Cecilia Cuevas, Daniel Long, Shanté Morgan-Durisseau and Jim Salzer.

**Absent:** Armando Lopez.

**Staff present:** Barbara Quaid, CEO, Cristian Yopez, Accounting Assistant, Kim Leach, Exhibits Supervisor, James Lockwood, Marketing and Publicity Manager, Lilia Kenneally, Sales Manager, Luis Juarez, Senior Maintenance and Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary.

**Guests Present:** David Kimes, Bruce Gregory, Robin Lerner, Lisa Kaye, Margarita Cobilen, B. Lutterbeck, Troy Corley, Jane Ann Douglas, Janet Eckhouse, Douglas Liedbled, Julie Diaz Martinez, Marian Walluks, Merrill Berge, Allen Chinn, Martha Martinez, Sandi Henderson, Kevin Small, Steve Nash, Dr. Martinez-Bravo, Karen Peters, Jon Cummings, Nelson Buss, Pablo Ortiz and Charles Henderson.

There were no conflicts of interest with any of the Board members that were present.

## **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Salzer led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. Welcome and Introductions of Guests and Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

## **IV. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with State law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

Due to the number of public comments President Cornejo limited each speaker to three minutes.

Kevin Small – Pro Gun Show  
David Kimes – Pro Gun Show  
Steve Nash – Anti Gun Show

Dr. Martinez-Bravo – Anti Gun Show  
 Troy Corley – Anti Gun Show  
 Janet Eckhouse – Anti Gun Show  
 Karen Peters – Anti Gun Show  
 Julie Diaz Martinez – Anti Gun Show  
 Merrill Berge – Anti Gun Show  
 Douglas Liedbled – Pro Gun Show  
 Marian Walluks – Pro Gun Show  
 Jon Cummings – Anti Gun Show  
 Sandi Henderson – Pro Gun Show  
 Nelson Buss – Anti Gun Show  
 Pablo Ortiz – Pro Gun Show

There were informational packets submitted to the Board.

## **V. Approval of Minutes**

A. September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting

**MOTION:** To approve the September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting minutes.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Atmore	X		
Director Bradbury (Motion)	X		
Director Cuevas			X
Director Long	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau			X
Director Salzer (Second)	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

## **VI. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Mr. Yopez gave a detailed explanation of the financials.

Director Cuevas had multiple questions regarding the financials which most of them were answered by staff. The remainder of the questions will be addressed in an email to the full Board.

## **VII. New Business**

A. Director's Strategic Planning Session

- This will take place after the Board Meeting scheduled for November 27<sup>th</sup>. Rebecca Desmond will be asked to facilitate as done in the past. Directors are to email CEO Quaid or President Cornejo in advance if they would like to see something included in the discussion.

## **VIII. Old Business - None**

## **IX. Committee Reports**

A. Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Reports

Vice President Lacayo reported that the Ad Hoc Committee met October 9<sup>th</sup>. It included President Cornejo, herself, CEO Quaid and via conference call with General Counsel, Michele Diaz, and Staff Counsel, Christine Vana. They discussed next steps in developing the Ventura County Fair's Gun Show policy pending the collection of further information and legal analysis. They are continuing to doing their due diligence.

President Cornejo explained that the Surfer's Point Working Group met October 9<sup>th</sup> which was attended by Director Bradbury, herself, CEO Quaid, engineers and other associations of interest in the project. They are making some recommendations/proposals on Phase I, which has not been finished, and presented two alternative concepts for Phase II. Nothing will be done without Board approval. Organizations, including the City Of Ventura, are looking for grant money and providing the engineers as well. It involves our property and potentially giving up some of our property for public use so the Ad Hoc Committee is examining where the benefit is to the fairgrounds as well as the community.

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Letter from Ventura County Cattleman's Association Chairman, Jim Pendleton
- B. Thank you letter from Michael Clifford, Mary Jean Abatti and Greg Beard
- C. Post Card and email from Robin Birney – Anti Gun Show
- D. Email from Ruth Schwartz – Anti Gun Show
- E. Email from Sandy Ross – Anti Gun Show
- F. Email from Karin Grennan – Anti Gun Show
- G. Email from Mary Lyman – Anti Gun Show
- H. Email from George Shannon – Pro Gun Show
- I. Email from Jessica Barajas – Anti Gun Show
- J. Email from Debby – Anti Gun Show
- K. Email from Karilyn Steward – Anti Gun Show
- L. Email from Jill Rippon – Anti Gun Show
- M. Email from Julie Diaz Martinez – Anti Gun Show
- N. Email from Zakia Kator – Anti Gun Show
- O. Email from Allen Chinn – Anti Gun Show
- P. Email from John Griffin – Anti Gun Show
- Q. Email from Bob Kahn – Anti Gun Show

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-2 and B are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

- A. Agreements
  - 1. Rental Agreements – Interim
  - 2. Sponsorship Agreements
- B. Travel Claims

**MOTION:** To approve the consent agenda with items A, 1-2, and B.

Director Long	Approved	Not Approved	
Board Member Name	(Yes/No)	(No Vote)	Abstain
Director Long	X		
Director Satorre	X		
Director Bradbury (Motion)	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
President Cornejo	X		

**XII. CEO**

**Report**

- There were changes to the Del Mar Fairgrounds cannabis policy at their last meeting so CEO Quaid will incorporate those changes and email one document to the full Board.
- Continuing to play catch up from Fairtime since she was out sick.

### **XIII. President's Comments**

- Attended the Seaside Highland Games and thoroughly enjoyed it. Loves that the fairgrounds is used for this event and hopes they continue to come back.
- Thanked the Board for their extra time because the meetings are running long, but it important to give the public the right to speak and we will manage it the best we can.

### **XIV. Director's Comments**

Director Salzer

- Appreciates that CEO Quaid is managing to run to catch up.

Vice President Lacayo

- Same comments as Director Salzer.

Director Atmore

- Participated in the Harvest Festival and wanted to give a special thank you to Mr. Murphy and his team for all their help.
- Officially installed as the Treasurer for the local chapter for the Cattleman's Association.
- Perhaps in January she would like to invite the new Ag Commissioner and the new City Manager to introduce themselves so we can build that partnership/relationship.
- Appreciates the tenor in which the Board is managing through a very difficult discussion today and really appreciates it. She believes it will allow the Directors to be judicious on how they move forward and it is also a reminder that the Board sets the tone and tenor for what happens in the Director's Room.
- Glad to see CEO Quaid is better.

Director Cuevas

- Wanted to acknowledge and thank, on behalf of the Board, Michelle Brown, Rosa Vanoni-Brown and Derrek Smalley for all their work during the Fair.

Director Morgan-Durisseau

- Apologized for missing the last meeting.
- She is glad CEO Quaid is back and feeling better.
- Appreciates hearing from all sides of the public.
- Asked to adjourn and recognize longtime leader, Dr. Bedford Pinkard, who recently passed away. He was the first African-American elected in the tri-county area, served on the Oxnard school board along with many other wonderful things.

Director Long

- Everyone is glad to see CEO Quaid back in the pink.
- President Cornejo ran a great meeting today. It is important for the Board to keep supporting each other through this stressful time.

### **XV. Future Agenda Items**



**XVI. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. in memory of Dr. Bedford Pinkard.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ortiz, Executive Assistant

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Quaid, CEO Ventura Fairgrounds

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Cornejo, Board President

# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Fairgrounds  
31st District Agricultural Association - 10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: venturacountyfair.org Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

## **I. Call to Order**

### **Roll Call**

### **Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

The meeting convened at 9:02 a.m., and called to order by President Cornejo.

**Directors present:** President, Leslie Cornejo, Vice President, Leah Lacayo, Michael Bradbury, M. Cecilia Cuevas, Daniel Long, Shanté Morgan-Durisseau and Jim Salzer.

**Absent:** Bonnie Atmore.

**Staff present:** Barbara Quaid, CEO, Vickie Taylor, Accounting Manager, Cristian Yopez, Accounting Assistant, Kim Leach, Exhibits Supervisor, James Lockwood, Marketing and Publicity Manager, Ron Murphy, Maintenance Supervisor, Lilia Kenneally, Sales Manager, Luis Juarez, Senior Maintenance, Jason Amelio, Assistant Satellite Manager and Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary.

**Guests Present:** Christy Weir, Rennee Dehesa, Bruce Boyer, Suz Montgomery, Kathleen Shore, Alfred Monroy, Kyle Schleiderer, Andrea Arriaga, Trudy Tuttle Arriaga, Gina Muscatel, Jon Cummings, Carol Lindberg, Greg Hayward, Vicki Fullington, Steve Nash, Troy Corley, Guy Bon Giovanni, Joan Karp, Nelson Buss, Terence Geoghegan, Jerry Clifford, Gordon Clint, Lisa Kaye, Sandi Henderson, Jean Kammerer, Edith Santangelo, Brian Brennan, Gregory Cohen, Randal Beeman, Leslie Ogdan, Steve Bennett, Lisa Burton, Donald Busik, Daniel Mattera, Jack Wise, Joanne Coville, Daniel Upham, Ron Rambin, Jim Lingrosse, Karen Peters, Sheila Smith, Michael Cervantes, Richard Minwich, Ann Ohlenkamp, Lynn Edmonds, George Anthony, Carlye Glaser, Richard Mercer, Debbie Diamond, Michael Shaw, Dr. Martha Martinez-Bravo, Carmen Ramirez, Richard Horne, Brian Silk, Tiffany Lewis, Frank McCarthy, Rob Templeton, Julie Martinez, Rose Ann, Tiffany Chevront, Michelle Hynds, Reverend Nicole Janelle, Brandt Jackson, Kathy Wertheem, Tom Harris and Donald Gallagher.

There were no conflicts of interest with any of the Board members that were present.

## **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Salzer led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. Welcome and Introductions of Guests and Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

#### **IV. CLOSED SESSION**

The Board is authorized to enter into closed session with CDFA Legal for the purpose of: Pending Litigation – Gun Shows (Gov. Code § 11126(e)(1))

The Board went into closed session at 9:05 a.m.

- CDFA’s staff legal counsel, Ms. Vana, explained that there were many complex legal issues which she reviewed so the Board would understand and could go forward in the most defensible way.
- The Board would not be making a policy decision, but would be voting to contract for gun shows in 2019.
- The Board needs to make sure they do their due diligence and research on the policy which will take an unknown amount of time.

The Board reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

#### **V. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with State law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

Brian Brennan - Stated that the Surfers Point Working Group has been working diligently to come to a conclusion on a plan so that things can move forward. He stated it is looking like a robust El Nino season which can cause things like the bike path to be lost. He would love to start the New Year beginning the discussion on this.

#### **VI. Approval of Minutes**

A. October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting

**MOTION:** To approve the October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting minutes.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer (Motion)	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

#### **VII. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Ms. Taylor gave a detailed explanation of the financials.

#### **VIII. New Business**

A. Annual Appointments by the Board

1. Secretary/Treasurer-Manager

**B. Secretary/Treasurer-Manager Annual Delegation of Authority**

The (Secretary/Treasurer-Manager) Chief Executive Officer, Barbara Quaid, is authorized to execute Rental Agreements up to \$75,000.00, Standard 2 Agreements up to \$75,000.00 and Grandstand Contracts up to \$150,000.00 without further authorization from the Board of Directors.

**MOTION:** To approve the reappointment of CEO Quaid as the Secretary/Treasurer-Manager and authorize CEO Quaid to execute Rental Agreements up to \$75,000.00, Standard 2 Agreements up to \$75,000.00 and Grandstand Contracts up to \$150,000.00 without further authorization from the Board of Directors.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long (Motion)	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

**C. 2019 Committee Assignments**

President Cornejo is leaving all the current committee assignments as they are for next year. If any committee member, as always, has an issue with either time or being on a particular committee to please contact her and she can make adjustments.

**IX. Committee Reports**

**A. Operations Committee Meeting November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Mike Bradbury, Chair**

- Update on infrastructure projects

**B. Marketing Committee Meeting November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Leah Lacayo, Chair**

- Discussed the 2018 survey that the fairgrounds held as well as a survey for 2019. The committee felt that at this time the 2018 survey was all inclusive. They asked Mr. Lockwood to add additional items before next year so there would be an even more comprehensive survey.
- Poster contest was going to be a future agenda item.

Director Morgan-Durisseau had concerns about reversing the committee's position about whether or not to do a survey, she thinks the committee still needs to consider that. She would like to see the budget numbers because that was supposed to be part of the planning for the upcoming year.

The survey will be added to the next agenda for discussion.

**C. Livestock Committee Meeting November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Mike Bradbury, Vice Chair**

- There was a lot of ground covered such as adding classes which is reflected in the minutes.

- Committee member Long commended Ms. Leach for doing a great job and for all the work she has done behind the scenes to keep us in State compliance and keeping ahead of some of the things that are continually changing.

**MOTION:** To approve to add four additional classes to the carriage show and five additional junior classes to the draft show which would increase the total premiums to approximately \$2,395. The entry fees would be increased from \$17 to \$22 per class.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Bradbury (Second)	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long (Motion)	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

D. Ad Hoc Committee Meeting November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Leslie Cornejo, Chair

1. Public Comments on Gun Shows

(Time per speaker may be limited to proceed with the agenda.)

2. Discussion and possible action on contracting for Gun Shows in 2019

- The committee continues to gather information considering public comments that have been received thus far. There is no report for the Board at this time. The committee is still in the early stages of policy development and there is much to consider before the Board makes any final policy decision on gun shows. There are constitutional rights on both sides of the issue. This is a process that takes time so that the Board may perform its due diligence and make an informed decision. They expect that there will be a few staff recommendations before there is any final Board decision. The committee wants to ensure the public that they will have the opportunity to provide comment during this process.

Due to the number of public comments, President Cornejo limited each speaker to two minutes.

Suz Montgomery – Anti Gun Show  
 Reverend Nicole Janelle – Anti Gun Show  
 Alfred Monroy – Pro Gun Show  
 Kyle Schleiderer – Pro Gun Show  
 Andrea Arriaga – Anti Gun Show  
 Trudy Tuttle-Arriaga – Anti Gun Show  
 Gina Muscatel - Anti Gun Show  
 Jon Cummings – Anti Gun Show  
 Lynn Edmonds – Anti Gun Show  
 Greg Hayward – Anti Gun Show  
 Vicki Fullington – Pro Gun Show  
 Steve Nash – Anti Gun Show  
 Troy Corley – Anti Gun Show  
 Guy Bon Giovanni – Anti Gun Show

Gordan Clint – Anti Gun Show  
 Lisa Kaye – Anti Gun Show  
 Jean Kammerer – Anti Gun Show  
 Edith Santangelo – Anti Gun Show  
 Gregory Cohen – Pro Gun Show  
 Randal Beeman – Pro Gun Show  
 Leslie Ogdan – Anti Gun Show  
 Steve Bennett – Anti Gun Show  
 Daniel Mattera – Pro Gun Show  
 Jack Wise – Pro Gun Show  
 Joanne Coville – Anti Gun Show  
 Daniel Upham – Pro Gun Show  
 Ron Rambin – Pro Gun Show  
 Jim Lingrosso - Pro Gun Show

Joan Karp - Anti Gun Show  
 Terence Geoghegan – Pro Gun Show  
 Jerry Clifford – Anti Gun Show  
 Richard Minnich – Pro Gun Show  
 Karen Peters – Anti Gun Show  
 Richard Mercer – Pro Gun Show  
 Dr. Martha Martinez Bravo – Anti Gun Show  
 Richard Horn – Pro Gun Show  
 Frank McCarthy – Pro Gun Show  
 Tiffany Cheuvront – Pro Gun Show  
 Brandt Jackson – Pro Gun Show  
 Tom Harkins - Pro Gun Show  
 Kevin Small – Pro Gun Show  
 Carol Lindberg – Anti Gun Show

Sandi Henderson – Pro Gun Show  
 Sheila Smith – Anti Gun Show  
 Michael Cervantes – Anti Gun Show  
 George Anthony – Pro Gun Show  
 Carlye Glaser – Pro Gun Show  
 Debbie Diamond – Anti Gun Show  
 Carmen Ramirez – Anti Gun Show  
 Brian Silk – Pro Gun Show  
 Rob Templeton – Pro Gun Show  
 Michelle Hynds – Pro Gun Show  
 Kathy Wertheem – Anti Gun Show  
 Christy Weir – Anti Gun Show  
 Bruce Boyer – Pro Gun Show

There was a discussion as to what direction to give CEO Quaid regarding future contracts for gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds pending policy development.

A big part of the study through the Ad Hoc Committee is working with counsel and any other information that they can gather to make sure they are following the law; making sure they are paying attention to constitutional rights for all parties and protecting the fair with the potential consequences of litigation later on as well. They have to make an informed decision based on all those things which is the reason why the policy may take a long time to develop.

It was pointed out that the Board has fulfilled their legal obligation for this year but the Board is not legally obligated to enter into any contracts for 2019 at this time.

**MOTION:** To instruct CEO Quaid to enter into a contract for 2019 for two gun shows, hopefully the Board will hear back from the Ad Hoc Committee during that period to explore how we could replace the revenue if it is in fact lost.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Bradbury (Motion)	X		
Director Cuevas		X	
Director Long		X	
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer (Second)	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: 2018 CFA Fall Managers’ Conference
- B. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Quality Assurance & Ethics Training Requirements for all California Fairs
- C. Correspondence received on Gun Shows

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1 are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

**A. Agreements**

**1. Rental Agreements – Interim**

**MOTION:** To approve the consent agenda with items A, 1.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long (Motion)	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

**XII. CEO Report**

- Thanked everyone for their comments.

**XIII. President's Comments**

- We do not have a policy on posting our minutes online, but we will begin to post them on our website.
- Appreciates the Board's indulgence in the fact that we are postponing the strategic planning session, it will most likely be in February or March.

**XIV. Director's Comments**

Director Bradbury

- Thanked the Ventura PD officers for being present today.

Director Salzer

- Appreciates all the comments and testimonies from everyone.

Vice President Lacayo

- When talking about the fairgrounds people sometimes get confused when we are talking about the Fair; it is two different subjects.

Director Long

- There is a lot of erroneous information and it's coming from both sides of the issue. People don't realize the fairgrounds does not get any tax dollars and he sees that on both sides coming forward with the gun show issue. He understands that there are a lot of expenses and that the Board has fiduciary responsibilities. Whichever way the Board goes this will have to be figured out.
- Asks that the Board continues to move in a positive direction.
- Pleased to hear we will be posting our minutes.

Director Morgan-Durisseau

- Thanked the public for coming out and speaking on behalf of the gun show issue that is part of what makes the United States a unique country.
- Believes the Board has both a fiduciary and moral responsibility which she took very seriously when she voted. She will look very closely at the ad hoc committee and the work they will be doing before the Board makes another decision on extending another contract.

Director Cuevas

- Pleased to hear we will be posting minutes.
- She is concerned over the detail and length of the minutes and wanted to make sure important, relevant points are mentioned, especially when items such as these are of interest to the public not that all of our business is not.
- The gun show is a difficult and controversial issue and she welcomes and appreciates the public's time and focus on this issue. She also appreciates counsel's representation from the state and values her input and direction/guidance to the Board.
- Hopes the Board would conduct itself as a service to the public and as servants of the public and try to keep personal attacks and/or comments out of the Board's discussion and deliberations on these issues.

Ms. Vana stated that meeting minutes will not be as detailed and have every single public comment offered at these meetings, but the comments are going to be synthesized and put together in a relevant and meaningful way with the information provided by the Ad Hoc Committee so that report will be more specific. That would be made available online with the meeting agenda when the time comes for that report to be presented to the Board and the public.

CEO Quaid asked the Executive Committee to discuss the manner in which the minutes are transcribed at their next meeting.

President Cornejo stated that point is taken.

## **XV. Future Agenda Items**

## **XVI. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

## **~~XVII. Reconvene at 1 p.m. Strategic Planning Session~~ CANCELLED**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ortiz, Executive Assistant

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Quaid, CEO Ventura Fairgrounds



Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Cornejo, Board President

Nov. 27th, 2018

Martha Martinez-Bravo, MA, PsyD

Good morning. First, I would like to thank every one of you who are still on this board, for taking your time since the beginning of this year to listen to our concerns. Regardless of the outcome and your vote, I feel privileged to have been a voice here and to have been a part of the learning process.

A concern that was brought up from your board in the beginning was that of the financial viability of the fairgrounds without the gun shows. One of your board members alluded to a moral aspect to the board. So my question to you is, since April of 2018, what strategic research have you done as a board to look for other means of financial sustainability for the fairgrounds?

Once again, gun violence is a multifaceted problem and it requires multifaceted solutions. It is completely false and complete black and white thinking to believe that ending gun shows will end all gun violence. That is not what we as anti-gun violence activists have been stating. We strongly believe that our state should not financially benefit from the proliferation of guns or ammunition, which in turn is the weapon used for various forms of gun violence, including suicide, intentional, or accidental deaths or injuries.

"Access to a firearm is the common denominator in every firearm related death or injury" (APA). There is not a single DSM diagnosis that leads one to be mass murderer, and the APA has in turn repeated that isolating the variable of mental health when speaking about gun violence does not bring about solutions. Mental health problems occur around the globe, but it is only in the US where we have a gun violence epidemic.

Gun shows advertise as a family friendly event, yet if you follow the statistics, only about 30 percent of gun owning families store their guns and ammunition properly, even those families who have a child with self harm risk factors. Should an accidental or intentional gun violence incident occur (if it hasn't already) either on site or off site with the use of weapons or ammunition purchased at the gun show, this would put the state at great financial liability. I imagine this would also have an emotional impact on you personally as well. How would you feel if a gun purchased at the gun show was used in a mass shooting, a suicide, homicide or even an accidental death or injury of a child? Gun violence is a public health epidemic, and your choices do in fact play a role in the well being of others. This isn't about an effort to take people's guns away, this is about what financial and moral responsibility you have as a board and how those choices impact the health of all residents.

I was given my first rifle - (1)  
a fancy, shiny G2 at the age  
of 11 when I lived <sup>at</sup> in Southern  
Idaho. I shot squirrels but  
would hit rabbits and  
pheasants for dinner. at  
the age of 13 we moved to CA  
and I worked in a ranch in  
Fondland, Oregon. I learned the  
pastures with my handy G2,  
shooting rabbits for soup then soon  
eating the coati/pots and for  
me to eat. I loved going out  
at dawn, reading my favorite horse  
and hunting rabbits.

But we don't need gun  
shows. If you want to take  
your child to a family friendly  
event there are lots of places  
that are more family friendly  
than gun shows. If you

want to introduce someone to  
a child - to the world of hunting  
and guns there are many  
excellent, reputable, gun shows  
that would provide an excellent  
introduction.

If it is against the law to  
stop gun shows, we can  
not allow anyone under 21 to  
enter. We can not allow  
canceled weapons. We can  
require that there be a 2 month  
waiting period before they  
can enter. We do not need  
more gun in Southern County.  
When there are weapons we  
are easily accessible. We  
do not need that!

SPEAKER REQUEST

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Public comments shall be limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. In accordance with public meeting law, no action can be taken on public comments unless they are identified elsewhere on the agenda. Public comments on items listed elsewhere on the agenda will be heard as that item is being considered.

AGENDA ITEM: #9 Written remark

NAME: Ms. Carol Lindberg  
5548 Amherst St.  
Ventura, CA 93003

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street address, City, State, Zip Code)

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

## Ventura County Fair Board Meeting

November 27, 2018

Agenda Item #9

Dear Ms. Quaid,

Please inform your Board that I oppose the renewal of the permit for gun shows at the Ventura County Fair Grounds.

I hope you will share my reasons with your Board, and that it will vote to deny the permit for gun shows in 2019.

- a. The United States citizens have been debating this issue for years.
- b. The majority of citizens want common sense gun legislation.
- c. Ventura County Fair Grounds doesn't need to contribute to the sale of guns at gun shows.
- d. If the Board is concerned about the loss of money from gun dealers, I suggest you cut something out of the budget, or find other companies to take the place of gun shows.
- e. Ventura County can show its support for the victims of the mass shootings in Thousand Oaks. I know killers can buy guns elsewhere, but at LEAST we wouldn't be contributing to possible future deaths.

Thank you for reading my strong appeal to deny the permit for gun shows.

I grew up in Ventura and am a retired teacher now. It's a beautiful city. Let's keep it that way.

Sincerely,

Carol Lindberg  
Ventura, CA

SPEAKER REQUEST

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Public comments shall be limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. In accordance with public meeting law, no action can be taken on public comments unless they are identified elsewhere on the agenda. Public comments on items listed elsewhere on the agenda will be heard as that item is being considered.

AGENDA ITEM: 9

NAME: Christy Weir

ADDRESS: 1953 E Linda Vista Ave, Vista  
(Street address, City, State, Zip Code)

TELEPHONE: 805 258-3153

(see comments on back)

Our community needs activities and events that are uniting and bring people together, like the Fair and Highland Games. Guns are dividing communities. Does our Fairgrounds want to foster that? To be known for promoting gun culture? Next year, the Fairgrounds will host the Angren Bike Race, a healthy family event that unites us and celebrates Ventura's assets. Let's concentrate on events like that. Please do not renew the gun show contract, for the sake of Community spirit, safety and peace of mind. If public land is best used for the common good. Selling weapons for profit does not fit that criteria. Thank you.

31<sup>ST</sup> DAA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
November 27, 2018

1 (Whereupon, the meeting was called to order, roll call was taken, and other board  
2 business was conducted.)

3 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: The next is the Ad Hoc Committee meeting. This is the  
4 Ad Hoc Committee for gun shows. I think, Leah, were you gonna read the statement --  
5 read the statement first, and then we'll have public comment, and then I will do the rest; is  
6 that right?

7 VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Perfect. Okay. The committee continues to gather  
8 information considering public comments that have been received thus far. There is no  
9 report for the board at this time. We are still in the early stages of policy development, and  
10 there's much to consider before the board makes any final policy decision on gun shows.  
11 There are constitutional rights on both sides of the issue.

12 This is a process that takes time so that the board may perform its due diligence  
13 and make an informed decision. We expect that there will be a few staff recommendations  
14 before there is any final board decision. We want to assure the public that you will have  
15 the opportunity to provide comment during this process.

16 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: And with that we are going to take public comments.  
17 Based on the number of requests that we have for public comment, there are a little over  
18 60 requests, and so what we will do, I have the opportunity and right to decide the length of  
19 the -- of those. In the interest of people's time, we will hold it to two minutes per person.  
20 That should take a couple of hours. And we welcome those comments, and we'd like to go  
21 ahead and start -- if Barbara would start with the name, and she will give you the person  
22 who is up next so you can be prepared.

23 CEO QUAID: Okay. Our first speaker is Suz Montgomery, and our second  
24 speaker is Kathleen Shore.

25 SUZ MONTGOMERY: Good morning. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to  
26 you today. My personal feelings as a long-time community activist, mother, grandmother,  
27 great-grandmother is to leave a legacy of good works left behind so we have future  
28 generations to inherit.



1 The issue today of banning local gun sales at the Ventura County Fairgrounds  
2 shocks me, and it does because of the generating the wrong message to our engaged  
3 community lifestyle. It's not a mental health issue. It's not a first -- second amendment  
4 issue. Some of them have attempted to portray that with no evidence. That is completely  
5 a separate issue that needs greater community input and discussion at a later time.

6 Today it's about the availability and (unintelligible) and the sales in dollar signs.  
7 We have had many local shootings. We've had them nationwide. It's not a message that  
8 we want our future generations to inherit. It's something that we need to look for and also  
9 fix respectfully, and I ask everyone in the audience to be respectful with their comments as  
10 well today.

11 We live in violent times, and this is something we can do as a locally-engaged  
12 community to really look at this: Is it providing the right message to our community? Is it  
13 something we want to be known for and left behind?

14 Thank you for the opportunity to speak, and I take your comments also very  
15 seriously. Thanks.

16 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I am going to ask at this time that you hold your  
17 applause to the end in the interest of time, everyone's time. We have supporters on both  
18 sides. We want to give everyone equal time before they (unintelligible).

19 CEO QUAID: Kathleen Shore and Alfred -- I'm sorry, I can't understand that,  
20 could be Monsroy (phonetic).

21 NICOLE JANELLE: Good morning. I'm not Dr. Kathleen Shore, but she's left  
22 and has encouraged me to take her spot.

23 CEO QUAID: May I ask your name, please?

24 NICOLE JANELLE: Nicole Janelle.

25 My name is Nicole Janelle. I'm a Ventura County resident. As an Episcopal  
26 priest with a background in public health, I see the issue of gun violence through the lens  
27 of both the religious, ethical imperative and public health. Jesus never said "Blessed are  
28 the weapon or the gun makers". Rather he said "Blessed are the peace makers".

1 Guns and ammunition are everywhere in American life. Why do we need more?  
2 Why do we want more huddled to the members of our community?

3 The public health community has dutifully, in studying this issue of gun violence,  
4 were not blocked from accessing or collecting raw data. We all know the statistics, just  
5 read the backs of these orange shirts. These statistics are damning.

6 The public health community has it right when it conceptualizes gun violence as a  
7 disease that's reached epidemic proportions to describe how guns are affecting our  
8 communities, God's people, God's precious children.

9 These gun shows, they're not good for the soul of our community. They  
10 introduce, nurture, and normalize gun culture, and that gun culture is inextricably linked to  
11 a culture of violence, toxic masculinity, and racism.

12 When I moved to Ventura a little over five years ago, the advertised gun shows  
13 first came to my attention a mere month before I would accompany the community of Isla  
14 Vista, where I served the church at the time, through the heart-breaking aftermath of its  
15 own mass shooting.

16 Dorothy Day, a traffic worker and social justice advocate, used to talk about  
17 increasing the sum total of goodness in the world and decreasing the sum total of evil.  
18 How can each one of us increase the sum total of peace in our society and decrease the  
19 sum total of gun violence?

20 Well, for us in Ventura County today, this is where we start. This is how we honor  
21 our own dead. Stop these gun shows. The health and well-being of our community is at  
22 stake.

23 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

24 NICOLE JANELLE: Thank you.

25 CEO QUAID: Alfred Monsroy (phonetic)? Kyle -- is Alfred here? Okay. And  
26 then Kyle Schleiderer.

27 I apologize in advance for butchering your names.

28 ALFRED MONROY: That's quite all right.

1 My name is Alfred Monroy. I have lived here all my life. I'm a vet, honorably  
2 discharged, and I'm not a good public speaker. I'm terribly sorry. But I'm an advocate for  
3 this. I am a -- I love my firearms. I love people that are responsible with firearms. I'm a  
4 very responsible person with mine when I had them. I lost them in the fire, but I would like  
5 to bear firearms to teach my own child how to use them, how to be safe with them.

6 I believe in educating, not eliminating because when you eliminate something,  
7 whether it be a (unintelligible) or an idea or something, you make it foreign, you make it  
8 mysterious, you make it dangerous. When you educate somebody, especially at a young  
9 age, you make it accessible, you make it non -- I'm not really sure how to articulate this,  
10 but you don't make it as big of a deal as what people think it could be.

11 Yes, they are dangerous, but so are vehicles. You know, at Bastille in France,  
12 you know, the guy ran over 80 people, killed 30 kids with a moving truck. You know, he  
13 had no firearms whatsoever. People at 09/11, they had no firearms. They had box cutters,  
14 and they were able to hijack a plane. You know, guns aren't the issue, it's mental illness,  
15 it's -- it's the people behind it.

16 We're not -- I -- I -- I wouldn't want to see tools being blamed for something if it is  
17 used not for what its purpose. It's the person behind it. The people and their mind-set is  
18 what we need to help regulate, not -- not the -- the devices that we choose to use.

19 I -- like I said, I just don't want a victim mentality saying "We need to get rid of this  
20 because I don't like it, because I don't think it's right". You know, I don't like a lot of things.  
21 I don't think a lot of things are right, but if we compromise and we come to a headway and  
22 we try to work together, we can make things a little better of a place. Don't eliminate,  
23 educate. That's my --

24 CEO QUAID: Thank you. Your time is up.

25 ALFRED MONROY: Thank you very much for your time.

26 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

27 ALFRED MONROY: Thank you.

28 CEO QUAID: Kyle -- Kyle -- Kyle followed by Andrea Arriaga.

1 KYLE SCHLEIDERER: Good morning, Board and everyone here. Thank you  
2 very much for coming.

3 My name is Kyle Schliederer. I was born and raised here in Ventura my entire  
4 life -- I'll move a little closer to the microphone. Thank you -- born and raised here,  
5 educated here K through 12, some college here, some college elsewhere.

6 I'm pro gun. There's no ifs, and, or buts about it. I actually love living here. I  
7 love Ventura. I love the fairgrounds. And I've been to schools where there have been  
8 lockdowns. I was up at school when Goleta happened, and yeah, it scared me, but that's  
9 not gonna change. Bad people do bad things. It's not about the business. Anyone can  
10 make the choice to be good or bad, it doesn't matter.

11 It seems like every single time we have a shooting everyone wants to assign  
12 blame and no one wants to blame the one that holds the most, which is the actual  
13 perpetrator. Everyone wants to blame the actual tools. They want to blame the hotels.  
14 They want to blame the car. They want to blame where these tools were bought from, and  
15 again, anything can be used for any purpose. It's the person behind it.

16 Mental illness stems from everything, but guess what? We don't have people not  
17 smoking. We don't have people not using drugs anymore because it's still there. The gun  
18 culture, no gun culture. It's been there. It's going to be there.

19 I'm sure that while many are at work, unlike me, I think that if this board meeting  
20 was held at a different time, we might have more complete voice of the public, unlike the  
21 seizing current amount of people here, so I would hope everyone takes that with a grain of  
22 salt that I'm one of the lucky few of my age group that's able to be here and speak on this.  
23 Thank you.

24 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

25 Andrea Arriaga followed by Trudy Tuttle Arriaga.

26 ANDREA ARRIAGA: Good morning. My name is Andrea Arriaga, and I stand  
27 here as a local member of the community and a representative of young parents in the  
28 community.

1 As everyone knows we just had the Borderline shooting here in our county, and  
2 there have been almost one mass shooting per day in the last year, so I applaud people  
3 that own guns and teach their children how to use them and educate them and are -- have  
4 access to mental health, but unfortunately that's not the situation nationally or in our state.

5 And so I would really advocate that this fair board does its best to keep our  
6 children safe and keep guns from being distributed in our community until there is a federal  
7 (phonetic) on the other component factors that, you know, have caused and led to violence  
8 within our county, so thank you.

9 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Andrea.

10 Trudy Tuttle Arriaga followed by Gina Muscatel.

11 TRUDY TUTTLE ARRIAGA: Good morning. I'm Trudy Tuttle Arriaga, and I am  
12 born and raised Ventura, raised my own children -- that was my daughter -- raised my own  
13 children and now my grandchildren in this community. I have served as a lead educator in  
14 the Ventura Unified School District, including 14 years as your superintendent, having the  
15 incredible responsibility and privilege to oversee 18,000 young people a year.

16 As I served as superintendent, let me just say a few words: Columbine, Sandy  
17 Hook, Parkland, Florida, and then Santa Fe High School. And my guess is there are  
18 people who will say "Santa Fe High School, what was that?" Well, that was May of 2018  
19 where eight students were killed.

20 And I believe that it is now become our predictable, our norm, our expected, so  
21 now when it happens, unlike when Sandy Hook happened, we listen for a minute, we  
22 grieve for a second, and we move on because it's the expected now, it's the norm.

23 I plead with you on behalf of the children of this community to make a symbolic  
24 statement, and of course this is only one way. I agree with mental health. I agree with  
25 education. This is one way, but one way could equal one child.

26 (Applause.)

27 CEO QUAID: Gina Muscatel followed by Jon Cummings.

28 GINA MUSCATEL: Good morning. My friend Jon Cummings and I are here

1 today to speak on behalf of our two children who are high school juniors in Thousand  
2 Oaks, so this statement that I'm going to read is from my daughter, Quinn Muscatel, who  
3 couldn't be here this morning because she's in U.S. History class right now.

4 (Reading): Last spring we helped organize a group called Never Again Social to  
5 lead vigils and walkouts in response to the mass shooting that took 17 lives in a high  
6 school in Parkland, Florida. We were inspired by the courage of the Parkland survivors  
7 who hadn't waited for weeks or days or even hours before deciding it was not too soon to  
8 talk about our nations' overly-permissive gun laws and our violent gun culture.

9 Their classmates' deaths on what seemed like a normal Wednesday morning that  
10 taught them that they were not safe in their own school, just as they were not safe in their  
11 own church, their own shopping mall, or their own movie theater.

12 They had the perfect response to those who called for arming teachers or pastors  
13 or ushers, for arming everybody, basically. To those who believe that selling more and  
14 more guns will somehow result in less violence, their response was simply "We call BS".

15 Here in Ventura County, even though we were 3,000 miles away, we thought that  
16 by advocating as the Parkland students have done, we might educate our fellow students  
17 and help our community recognize the need to do more to stop gun violence.

18 But then three weeks ago that violence came home to us for what had seemed  
19 like a normal Wednesday evening at a nightclub packed with students on college night,  
20 and we now know we simply aren't safe there either, that we can no longer feel secure in  
21 the places where we should be able to have fun and feel joy, and we wonder whether, in a  
22 nation so full of guns, there's any place at all that we are safe. Thank you.

23 CEO QUAID: Thank you. Our next speaker is Jon Cummings, yes, followed by  
24 Carol Lindberg.

25 JON CUMMINGS: Good morning. I'm gonna continue reading the statement  
26 that was written by Quinn Muscatel and my son Jason Cummings.

27 (Reading): Yesterday morning we led another vigil, to commemorate 12 more  
28 lives lost to gun violence just a couple miles from our school. We read their biographies,

1 and we mourned the fact that these young people had their lives cut short because one  
2 more guy who shouldn't have had a gun was able to get his hands on one so easily, not to  
3 mention the heroic Sheriff's deputy who couldn't stop the tragedy and became a victim  
4 himself even though he was, quote, a good guy with a gun, end quote.

5 Today you're going to vote on whether our fairgrounds and our government  
6 should continue profiting from our gun culture in providing a space where more guns will  
7 get in the hands of more people.

8 We've heard that during these hearings this fall, people who support gun shows  
9 have described them as family-friendly places that people visit less to buy guns and  
10 ammunition than to buy knickknacks or homemade fudge. To that we have a simple  
11 response: We call BS.

12 Many of the guns and rounds of ammunition sold during a gun show, no matter  
13 who the buyer or how long the waiting period, are uniquely deadly weapons that might  
14 someday be used in a robbery or a suicide or an act of domestic violence or even a mass  
15 shooting, and when that gun show is staged on public property with our government  
16 approving and even profiting from it, we are all complicit.

17 It frustrates us that we are not yet old enough to vote for political leaders who will  
18 make better decisions when it comes to preventing gun violence, but we can tell you that  
19 the thought of our government in our county being in the gun business makes us sick. We  
20 can't vote today, but you can.

21 We're under no illusions that your votes will end our American carnage, but we  
22 hope that you'll do the right thing here and end our complicity in that carnage. Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 CEO QUAID: Carol Lindberg --

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Would you remind about the applause?

26 CEO QUAID: -- followed by --

27 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Would you remind them about the applause one  
28 way or the other?

1 CEO QUAID: Okay.

2 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yeah. I would just ask that the applause be kept to a  
3 minimum kindly out of respect for each other.

4 CEO QUAID: Carol Lindberg followed by Greg Hayward, and I will read  
5 Ms. Lindberg's statement.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's just a written remark and (inaudible).

7 CEO QUAID: Okay. Then we'll just put it in the record. Okay.

8 Greg Hayward followed by Vicki Fullington.

9 GREG HAYWARD: Good morning. I love Ventura. I love America. I love our  
10 freedoms and rights. I respect everybody that's here on both sides because everybody's  
11 being patient and respectful of each other, but just like you don't allow for tobacco sales on  
12 premises, I think that the time has come where we make a decision that we can't facilitate  
13 gun sales on premises any longer. Thank you.

14 CEO QUAID: Vicki Fullington followed by Steve Nash.

15 VICKI FULLINGTON: Hi. I'm Vicki Fullington. I've been an attorney for 24 years  
16 in this area and Los Angeles County, and I'm also an eight-year military veteran. I believe  
17 in guns, and I'll tell you why.

18 The reason I believe in guns and I believe in gun shows and anything that  
19 supports guns by citizens who are trained, have licenses, have been background checked,  
20 is because if we don't have people doing this out there in the public -- look at what would  
21 happen in Thousand Oaks at Borderline if we had some armed people there besides that  
22 shooter. There were six or seven police officers there, if they had been allowed to have  
23 their guns, the security guard have a gun, maybe the bartender have a gun, maybe two or  
24 three people would have died not 12, 12 victims dead.

25 So for defense purposes, guns are very, very important, and there are a lot of  
26 examples of that. It's not just that. Examples are, let's say, gun -- Gun Crime Gallery  
27 2007, (reading): A former cop and volunteer security worker, Jeanne Assam, saved the  
28 day at a New Life Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Thousands of people were



1 exiting the Sunday mass that day as the shooter opened fire; however, Assam ran toward  
2 the line of fire killing the shooter and saving countless lives.

3 A good person with a gun can save lives. They are important.

4 Another situation: Alton Nolen of Moore, Oklahoma, was charged with first  
5 degree murder in a gruesome beheading of a Vaughan Foods' worker. His rampage halted  
6 by Mark Vaughan, a reserve Sheriff deputy and company's chief operating officer who used  
7 his personal firearm -- that could've been anyone with a personal firearm -- to wound Nolen  
8 and stop the further crime and death.

9 Gun Crime Gallery in Garland, Texas, two gunmen opened fire outside a Prophet  
10 Muhammad cartoon drawing contest in 2015.

11 CEO QUAID: Vicki, you're at two minutes.

12 VICKI FULLINGTON: Am I? Okay. Multiple examples of how people, good  
13 people save good people with guns.

14 CEO QUAID: Steve Nash followed by Troy Corley.

15 STEVE NASH: Madam President?

16 CEO QUAID: Yes, sir?

17 STEVE NASH: Can I give my time slot to Mayor Pro Tem Carmen Ramirez?

18 Her time is valuable.

19 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We normally do not do that. I would prefer that you  
20 speak on your behalf and that she sign the card and speak as well.

21 STEVE NASH: I thought I'd try.

22 So I'm so glad that the previous speaker brought up the fact that, you know, a  
23 good guy with a gun can stop a bad guy with a gun.

24 At the Borderline we had Officer Helus, a 29-year veteran of the Sheriff's  
25 department, who had spent literally thousands of hours training in the classroom and at the  
26 firing range, and he was not able to stop the situation. In fact, unfortunately and tragically,  
27 he died.

28 So this is one of the false narratives that are so often presented, and there are

1 many situations. Just recently I've read a security guard in a mall was shot, an innocent  
2 person because of mistaken identity and the shooter escaped.

3           So for me this is a land-use issue, and all we're saying is that gun sales should  
4 not be permitted on public property. If you want to have a gun show, let it be strictly  
5 educational and strictly for training purposes. I'm not opposed to that, but for the county  
6 fair to profit from the sales of firearms, it's not -- it's not a morally-mutual decision. This  
7 sends the wrong message to our community.

8           Just yesterday I was at the golf course, River Ranch, when I heard gunshots, and  
9 I just about jumped out of my skin. What was happening is they were -- the golf course  
10 was shooting coons for nuisance abatement.

11           But this is the situation that we're in where, you know, we're looking -- our kids  
12 are going through active shooter drills. The sound of gunshots, imagine if you had some  
13 sort of posttraumatic stress syndrome, so please do not allow gun shows on public  
14 property on the fairgrounds. Thank you.

15           CEO QUAID: Troy Corley followed by Guy Bon Giovanni.

16           TROY CORLEY: Hi. It's Troy Corley from Oxnard. And I believe -- I hope  
17 Barbara Quaid received my email last night at 11:00 o'clock. We have a petition that's  
18 asking to end gun shows at the county fairgrounds, and that has 2,708 signatures as of  
19 11:00 o'clock last night. I would've presented you a printed one, but my printer broke trying  
20 to print 255 pages.

21           So there's not much more that I can say that I haven't said before in front of this  
22 board, but my intention from the outstart was to point out that you are promoting gun  
23 culture. Gun culture is based on using issues that are simply built to kill human beings and  
24 animals, and so you are predicating part of your budget on a show that promotes this. This  
25 is promoting, I think, a culture that we don't need in this county.

26           When I first came across this, I saw these giant billboards and I saw advertising  
27 at bus stops, including one in which a young man had been killed by a gun waiting for a  
28 bus just down the street from where I live in North Oxnard, and there was another gun

1 show showing a gun and a target.

2 It's a culture. It's a culture of violence and death. I don't think that's what the  
3 fairgrounds is about. I understand there's a fiduciary duty here, but there must be other  
4 means.

5 And the fact that it's taking you this long, I'm not sure if you're really considering  
6 what all possible policies you could create here, but I also know that there's a fear that -- of  
7 lawsuits and other things from people like Crossroads of the West, who promotes their own  
8 gun shows, who brings their lawyer here, who's all upset that people are questioning the  
9 fact that we're promoting violence. Does our community really need that? We've just  
10 suffered violence in Thousand Oaks.

11 And again, by the way, the extended magazine that the shooter had, well, that  
12 was supposed to be banned in California --

13 CEO QUAID: Troy, two minutes.

14 TROY CORLEY: -- but the California Rifle and Pistol Association and the  
15 California Sheriff's Department supported keeping that in our community.

16 CEO QUAID: Troy, two minutes is up.

17 TROY CORLEY: That's something to think about. Thank you.

18 CEO QUAID: Guy Bon Giovanni --

19 GUY BON GIOVANNI: That's me. Good morning. I have been educated by --

20 CEO QUAID: -- followed by Joan Karp.

21 GUY BON GIOVANNI: Followed by Joan who?

22 CEO QUAID: Karp.

23 GUY BON GIOVANNI: Karp, thanks. Now start the clock.

24 I have been educated by very friendly gun owners this morning. Mr. Solace  
25 (phonetic) has been a great help to me. He advised me that the AR-15 was originally  
26 called the ArmaLite Rifle in the 1950s and they lost their patent and they're now over eight  
27 million generic AR-15s in existence.

28 Okay. I'm not interested in AR-15s. I'm not interested in handguns. I have

1 handguns. What I am interested in is selling guns in a fair where beer is sold. I don't think  
2 that when you buy a gun in a gun shop you get a blood test to find out if you're loaded.  
3 You just get a background check if you're lucky. If you're not lucky you get a gun from the  
4 back of a truck.

5 I am concerned that this fair ignored the 500 signatures that think that everyone  
6 who wants no guns sold where there is alcohol is being paid by George Soros. I'm not  
7 being paid by anyone.

8 I am a citizen of this country and this county. I live in Simi Valley. The shooter at  
9 Borderline is reported to have bought his weapon in Simi Valley. He did it legally. How you  
10 can find out if somebody is crazy or not is only when they go crazy and shoot someone.  
11 Please don't give them the opportunity to do that at the fairground where our children and  
12 drunkards are present. Thank you so much.

13 CEO QUAID: Joan Karp followed by Nelson Buss.

14 JOAN KARP: Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you today.

15 I came to Ventura County 17 years ago to help start a new university. One of the  
16 first jobs that I had was to come to the fair and work at a booth to advertise that university.  
17 I got to see the proud heritage of agriculture in this community.

18 If you had a midway ride that killed dozens of Ventura County citizens or  
19 hundreds or thousands of people in the United States, would you encourage that vendor to  
20 come to your fair and advertise and sell that equipment?

21 You are a business. This business does not need to be in the business of -- of  
22 maintaining killing machines. I understand that you are doing an analysis and a report. I  
23 would like -- on the policies and what is happening in other communities in California. I  
24 encourage you to make that a public document so that members of the community can  
25 understand what your analysis are of this really important policy and the vote that you will  
26 be taking. Thank you very much.

27 CEO QUAID: Nelson Buss followed by Terence Geoghegan.

28 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nelson had to leave.

1           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Nelson left.

2           CEO QUAID: Okay. Terence Geoghegan followed by Jerry Clifford.

3           TERENCE GEOGHEGAN: Good morning, members. Thank you for your time  
4 today. I would like to point out that late last night I did email a rather comprehensive letter  
5 to Ms. Quaid. I don't know if it was received, and I don't know if it's considered timely. My  
6 understanding is that a letter submitted before or at the meeting would be considered.

7           Do you recall if you received it?

8           CEO QUAID: I don't recall if I received it. I had several emails this morning.

9           TERENCE GEOGHEGAN: Okay. Well, assuming that it was timely provided,  
10 would that become part of the record and be considered?

11          CEO QUAID: It would become part of correspondence for the next meeting.

12          TERENCE GEOGHEGAN: For the next meeting? Okay. Then I will be very  
13 brief, and I guess I'll be here for the next meeting as well.

14          My name's Terence Geoghegan. I'm a local lawyer. I've been here for 25 years.  
15 My wife and I raised our daughter here. We're raising our grandchildren here.

16          I'm here to speak on behalf of continuing the gun shows at Ventura fairgrounds. I  
17 have a lot of personal friends, folks that you see wearing orange, and I'd like you to listen  
18 to what they have to say because what you will find is that to the extent they discuss facts  
19 at all, they discuss facts that simply aren't true.

20          I've had a lot of correspondence on Facebook, other social media platforms with  
21 my friends here, and a lot of them bemoan the gun-show loophole, and you point out to  
22 them that the gun-show loophole in California hasn't existed for 25 years, okay, that every  
23 gun sold -- sold at the gun show has to go through the same Cal DOJ background check  
24 and waiting period as any gun sold in a -- in a retail store, and yet even though you  
25 assuage this fear, they still insist that we just don't need gun shows at the fairgrounds.

26          They then site the fact that there are so many retail establishments where one  
27 can buy weapons, where one can buy ammunition, why do we need the fairgrounds? Well,  
28 one has to kind of take that with a grain of salt because these very same people tonight will

1 be at the Oxnard City Council for an urgency measure to stop pursuing any permits for gun  
2 and ammunition sales in the City of Oxnard.

3 I guess I'm --

4 CEO QUAID: Your two minutes are up, yes.

5 TERENCE GEOGHEGAN: All right. I'll see you at the next meeting. Thank you  
6 for your time.

7 CEO QUAID: Jerry Clifford followed by Gordon Clint.

8 JERRY CLIFFORD: Thank you very much. Thank you very much for the time  
9 that you serve for the community.

10 My simple message is that guns kill. It's not just people. If you have a  
11 mentally-deranged person, a mentally-disturbed person who goes on a rampage, with a  
12 knife they can maim someone, they may be able to kill a person within an arm length, but  
13 they won't be able to kill at distance, so -- and if it's a high-magazine gun, they can kill  
14 many people.

15 So my position is guns kill. If they didn't kill, people wouldn't buy them. So for  
16 me it's a moral position that we take. It's a moral position that we don't need that culture.  
17 We don't need that. Having traveled the world, people look at the United States and say  
18 "What are we doing?" Well, we can only take small steps in small communities like ours,  
19 but it's still very important, and I thank you.

20 CEO QUAID: That was Jerry; right?

21 Okay, you're Gordon?

22 GORDON CLINT: Good morning. I'm Gordon Clint from Newbury Park, and I've  
23 previously submitted the reasons in writing before the previous meeting, so I'm not gonna  
24 go into all the reasons.

25 But I'm here today -- I came today because I love Ventura County and I love the  
26 Ventura County Fair, and the reason I like the fair is because it shows what's best from our  
27 county, it shows the good things.

28 And as you've heard, there's a lot of controversy over the -- the gun shows and

1 selling guns, and this is something you don't need to do. This is a business that, you know,  
2 they can sell them elsewhere. They don't have to sell them on our public property because  
3 it's not what's really good about Ventura County. It's caused so many problems, and we  
4 don't need that. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

5 CEO QUAID: Lisa Kaye followed by Jean Kammerer.

6 LISA KAYE: Hi. My name is Lisa Kaye. I live in Oxnard. We've been coming to  
7 these board meetings since April and still no vote. State agencies should not promote and  
8 profit from the proliferation of guns and ammunition.

9 The NRA and their supporters insist that guns don't kill, that people do. If the  
10 shooter at the Borderline Bar and Grill had been yielding a knife or baseball bat, then 12  
11 people would not be dead, a Deputy Sheriff would not be dead. These senseless acts of  
12 horrific violence are becoming too commonplace.

13 After this last senseless shooting in Thousand Oaks, our new governor stated  
14 "This is America. It's got to change. This doesn't happen anywhere else on the planet.  
15 We can't allow this to be normalized".

16 So I'm asking you: How many more school shootings will it take before you act  
17 responsibly? How many more Borderline Bar and Grill shootings will it take before you  
18 vote responsibly?

19 CEO QUAID: Jean Kammerer followed by Edith Santangelo.

20 JEAN KAMMERER: Hello. My name is Jean Kammerer, and I'm a resident of  
21 Thousand Oaks and have lived here 18 years. I'm associated with the Joint Lutheran  
22 Episcopal Task Force to Prevent Gun Violence. This group represents an area from San  
23 Luis Obispo to San Diego. We are not anti-gun. We are anti-gun violence and anti-gun  
24 death.

25 Today I speak for myself, and I urge that pending the new policy that has been  
26 under consideration that you cancel the upcoming December 14th gun show and not  
27 renew the vendor's contract.

28 There are reports of felony convictions among the organizers of this gun group.

1 There are reports of spurious transactions related to these gun shows. There are currently  
2 state and federal investigations reportedly into this gun show. Our community agency  
3 should not be doing business with them until those investigations are complete.

4 Further, our county should not be in the gun business. We should not be profiting  
5 from the sale of guns and ammunition. Sales of gun -- firearms and ammunition should be  
6 conducted only by reputable shops whose owners follow the letter and spirit of the law  
7 which were meant to safeguard all of us.

8 The advance materials for the upcoming show emphasize that it's still legal in  
9 California to purchase unlimited amounts of ammo with no background checks. This is  
10 abhorrent given the alleged connection between the Vegas shooter and a vendor of -- the  
11 vendor that's going to be hosting this show. It's doubly abhorrent given the recent  
12 massacre in Thousand Oaks.

13 There are still gun show loopholes in our firearm laws that put all families at risk.  
14 This is one small loophole you can close. I urge you to resolve and never renew a contract  
15 for a gun show on county land. Maybe you will save a life. Thank you.

16 CEO QUAID: Edith Santangelo followed by Gregory Cohen.

17 EDITH SANTANGELO: Good morning. I am Edie Santangelo, and I'm a 40-year  
18 resident of the City of Camarillo.

19 I stand before you today to ask for your cooperation in protecting the public  
20 safety of the residents of this county. It is difficult for me to believe that following the  
21 shootings at the Borderline Bar and Grill, that each one of us in this room isn't a bit more  
22 concerned about our safety and that of our families as we go off to school, participate in  
23 concerts, attend church, or go to a shopping mall.

24 I'm a licensed marriage and family therapist. I am keenly aware of the impact of  
25 gun violence on members in our community. Some are killed, others are physically  
26 impaired for life, and still others deal with the debilitating emotional scars of traumatic  
27 events. Many are angry, (unintelligible) lonely individuals who lack impulse control. They  
28 are the ones who perpetrate the violence. They are not mentally ill.



1 It is virtually impossible to predict who will become a mass murderer. Likewise,  
2 with suicides, individuals do not always come forward and they (unintelligible) to end their  
3 lives. Access to weapons makes it easier for these individuals to carry out their plans.  
4 Access to automatic weapons makes it easiest for many of them to be killed in a short  
5 amount of time. Why host a gun show that entices participants to buy more guns?

6 I understand that gun shows provide the fair board with a flow of revenue.  
7 However, do you really want to profit from the proliferation of firearms? Fairgrounds are  
8 state-owned property. You are representing a public agency that should be protecting  
9 constituents by promoting their safety.

10 I challenge each one of you not to be intimidated by the gun business and do  
11 what is right for your county. Thank you.

12 CEO QUAID: Gregory Cohen followed by Randall Beeman.

13 GREGORY COHEN: Good morning, Board of Directors. My name's Gregory  
14 Cohen. I'm a member of Southern California and live in the San Fernando Valley. I've  
15 been attending the gun shows at least the last 20 years, and I have never met a more  
16 friendly group of people.

17 I've heard what the other people have to say as far as the violence, and that's  
18 said all across the United States. But in my opinion, the gun show, the positive aspects of  
19 it is as the fairgrounds for the county, you guys also give those that have the desire to  
20 defend themselves at their home have the right to purchase firearms at gun shows at this time  
21 as well as gun stores.

22 A lot of the people that go to the shows that I've met are going there to learn  
23 about gun safety as well as some that are not informed by firearms, they get  
24 misinformation that I've heard a lot of from some of the people behind me. It's just  
25 misinformation.

26 But there's a lot of safety courses that are given at the fairgrounds. There's a lot  
27 of clubs that support the fairgrounds, and you guys support them, sportsmen's clubs.

28 I own guns. I do not go hunting. I don't kill anything. I own them for safety. I

1 own them for protection, and it's my right. We teach at our range, range safety instructor  
2 officer, and we take extreme caution and care in making sure that anybody that's in our  
3 range understands the fundamental of firearms, understands the safety. It's not a toy. It's  
4 a tool. Like anything else in this world, a tool can be used for good or evil, so to speak.  
5 Alcohol, tobacco, more people are dying from that.

6 The gun issue --

7 CEO QUAID: Mr. Cohen, your two minutes are up.

8 GREGORY COHEN: -- needs to be addressed, and as the fairground board, you  
9 really need to be listening to the community as a whole with the time factor.

10 CEO QUAID: Thank you. Your two minutes are up.

11 Randall Beeman followed by Leslie Ogdan.

12 RANDALL BEEMAN: Good morning. Thank you for letting me speak.

13 My name is Dr. Randall Beeman. I'm a retired professor of history. I live about  
14 five blocks from here. I'm also an adjunct professor at two of our local universities.

15 I probably have a unique perspective among most of the crowd here today: I've  
16 been a victim of gun violence. When I was in college, I was being a Good Samaritan. I  
17 was helping break up a fight, and I was shot along with two other people.

18 I'm not a member of the National Rifle Association, and I am as probably about  
19 as liberal a person as you can imagine. I'm also a proud gun owner. I enjoy coming to the  
20 gun shows. I can purchase virtually everything that I could buy at the gun show on  
21 Amazon. I choose to try to go to the gun show to buy things because many of the  
22 businesses are locally owned. If you go to the gun show, you'll see that many of the  
23 people working there who are business owners are women, many of them are people of  
24 color. I don't see a toxic masculinity there. I see Americans pursuing freedom.

25 And the people who are on the other side of this, I applaud them, I applaud their  
26 passion. I know they're very well-intended people. Well intentions and passions should  
27 not triumph over our constitution and the freedom to be responsible gun owners.

28 We have automobiles that kill many more people than guns do that we made a

1 decision as a society that we allow automobiles because they represent freedom and  
2 mobility, just as guns represent freedom. So please allow responsible people to pursue  
3 their passion responsibly. Thank you for your time.

4 (Applause.)

5 CEO QUAID: Leslie Ogden followed by Supervisor Steve Bennett.

6 LESLIE OGDAN: Good morning. I'm Leslie Ogden, and I -- just very briefly, our  
7 country is awash in guns. We all know that and understand that other countries are not.  
8 One of the things I think is of import here is that it has effects on -- on -- on our citizens, on  
9 our people that we're not always aware of.

10 I have an 18-year-old girl in our household who confided with me recently after  
11 the Borderline shooting and after a few days within that time of a gun on the Channel  
12 Islands University as well, but as early as kindergarten, she had been watching in every  
13 room she entered, in particular the classroom, for a place to hide, a place to get out of, a  
14 place to pull her friends into safety.

15 And I don't know, I don't feel good about that. I don't feel good about a youngster  
16 who early on feels like she needs to protect herself and protect her friends against  
17 shooters in schools.

18 I would ask you that as a board, you take a position that you can -- even if it's a  
19 symbolic one, that you take a position, you take a stand that says we need fewer guns in  
20 our community rather than more. Thank you.

21 CEO QUAID: Supervisor Steve Bennett followed by Lisa Burton.

22 SUPERVISOR STEVE BENNETT: Good morning. We have the fundamental  
23 question, I think, in front of us is: Why virtually all of modern countries in the world does  
24 America, by a wide margin, have much more gun violence than everybody else?

25 Is it because we have more bad people running around than those countries? Do  
26 we have more mentally-ill people running around than those countries? Do they have  
27 more good people with guns running around protecting their citizens? No, none of those.  
28 We're very similar to those other modern countries.

1           The big difference between the United States and those countries is the  
2 pervasiveness of the gun culture here in the United States, and that gun culture got a  
3 major funding boost decades ago by those who profit from selling guns, and they've now  
4 turned that gun lobby into one of the most effective vocal political movements in the  
5 country, and that is the fundamental difference between this country and other countries.

6           And a few decades ago, you could never have imagined that gay marriage would  
7 be universally embraced in this country, and there was a very effective lobby against it or  
8 that reached an inflection point, and suddenly it all changed. I would offer to you we're  
9 coming to that inflection point when it comes to gun violence and the pervasiveness of the  
10 gun culture here.

11           And the question for you is: Are you going to play your part in turning that tide in  
12 helping us decrease the influence of the pervasiveness of the gun culture? Are you going  
13 to join in an effort to try to end putting profits, even the profits of the fairground, in front of a  
14 common-sense policy that says not that we're gonna attack everybody and their gun  
15 ownership, but we're not gonna have public policy that increases the pervasiveness of the  
16 gun culture.

17           I have a nine-year-old boy that I am anxiously trying to raise to not embrace the  
18 pervasiveness of this gun violence, and that nine-year-old boy is influenced when he rides  
19 around and sees that there is a gun show here at the fairgrounds. Thank you very much.

20           CEO QUAID: Thank you.

21           (Applause.)

22           CEO QUAID: Lisa Burton followed by -- the last name is Busik. I can't  
23 understand the first name.

24           Pardon me?

25           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Lisa has left.

26           CEO QUAID: Oh, Lisa left?

27           Okay. Busik is the last name followed by Daniel Mattera.

28           (No audible response.)

1 CEO QUAID: No Busik?

2 Okay. Daniel Mattera followed by Jack Wise.

3 DANIEL MATTERA: Good morning, folks. My name's Dan Mattera. I live in  
4 Thousand Oaks, California. I'm a retired Los Angeles fire fighter. I hold a federal firearms  
5 license and a California certificate of eligibility, so I have experience in the compliance with  
6 the laws here in the State of California for buying and selling of firearms and associated  
7 accessories.

8 Everyone here in the State of California, and California is a stringent one, every  
9 law that is forced upon brick and mortar stores out there is also forced upon vendors here  
10 at the gun show. There is no gun show loophole. That is fallacy.

11 I'd ask you to base a decision based on logic. There's no logical reason to  
12 prohibit the gun show at this or any other venue. There's no extraordinary crime  
13 associated with this or any other gun show. Please make a decision based on this logic  
14 and not on symbolism. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 CEO QUAID: Jack Wise? Jack Wise followed by Joanne Coville.

17 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Again, I'd like to ask everyone to hold their applause  
18 until the end just out of respect for each other.

19 JACK WISE: Okay. I'd like to follow my -- follow my brother there emotionally.  
20 I'm a retired city fire fighter. I'm a 62-year resident of Ventura, lifelong resident in  
21 Thousand Oaks, whose dear friend lost his son in the recent tragedies.

22 Many in the room would say that removing gun shows (unintelligible) to a  
23 populace would stop tragedies like this from happening. I urge you not to allow the current  
24 hysteria and tragedy cloud your views and the facts regarding gun shows in America or  
25 gun shows in California.

26 Gun shows are a safe family event that uphold the same restrictions that are  
27 everywhere in California. Illegal straw purchases and high-capacity magazine sales are  
28 illegal in California period. There are undercover agents everywhere.

1 And I challenged you at the last meeting to go to a gun show and see the people  
2 there. I also tried to obtain an illegal gun or a straw purchase. I hope you guys had an  
3 opportunity to do that, see the kind of people that are there. It doesn't happen. You'll be  
4 asked to leave.

5 If these support violence, what about our video games, our culture, our movies?  
6 Many of the hypocrites in the audience today that are complaining about gun show still  
7 have Xbox in their children that are promoting gun violence, take their children to the  
8 shows, and support violence that way.

9 I ask you, once again, not to be clouded by the current hysteria because what is  
10 next? If we're trying to legislate morality here, what about the sales of alcohol on the  
11 fairgrounds and us profiting from that? How about gambling on the fairgrounds and  
12 profiting from that? How about the abuse of animals in our rodeos and our livestock sales?  
13 How about the fencing of stolen goods at our swap meets? What about encouraging  
14 racing and other dangerous acts at our fairgrounds? Let alone allowing criminals and gang  
15 members to participate and be at our county fair?

16 I urge you, don't be blinded by the current hysteria because what is next?

17 (Applause.)

18 CEO QUAID: Joanne Coville followed by Daniel Upham.

19 JOANNE COVILLE: Good morning. I'm Joanne Coville, and I just want to start  
20 off by saying I think it's inappropriate for our government to either directly or indirectly  
21 support guns. I understand that it's legal, but my government shouldn't be supporting  
22 guns, in any way.

23 Having said that, I want to add that I'm really kind of appalled at how little  
24 information or how hard it is to get information on what your prior deliberations have been  
25 on this subject. Your web site includes the current agenda for meetings but no historical  
26 ones, no meeting minutes. It seems that I have to come to meetings all the time in order to  
27 learn what the business of this group is and what decisions have been made so far.

28 So I was pleased to hear Vice Chair Lacayo state that there would be

1 recommendations coming forward and that she would get input from the community on  
2 that, so I can only hope that you will beef up your web site and put information, data,  
3 analysis, minutes on that web site so that the public can really see what's going on and get  
4 some transparency on that. Thank you.

5 CEO QUAID: Daniel Upham followed by Ron Ramin.

6 DANIEL UPHAM: Good morning. My name's Dan Upham. I've lived in Simi  
7 Valley since 1978, Ventura County. I've only recently been to a couple of the gun shows. I  
8 enjoyed them. It was nice to get out there and see a bunch of people who really  
9 understood what guns were about, what the laws are, and are very good at educating the  
10 public about what they do and why they do it.

11 I was in (unintelligible) from 1969 to 1970. I was an officer. I had a lot of men  
12 enlisted working for me, all well-trained, all very trustworthy, all knew how to handle their  
13 weapons and how to be safe. And now out in the public and they're doing the same kinds  
14 of things: They're encouraging gun safety and the (unintelligible).

15 Now, I'm not a Democrat. I'm not a Republican. I'm not a conservative or a  
16 liberal. I'm an American. I believe in the constitution and the rule of law. I'm very  
17 concerned about the State of California becoming a rogue state. This country has laws,  
18 and there are processes, proper processes to change the constitution if the public should  
19 want to do that. I don't think that's the case.

20 I travel all over the United States and all over the world, and I tell you what,  
21 America is still the safest place. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 CEO QUAID: Ron Ramin followed by Jim Lingrosso.

24 RON RAMBIN: Good morning. Thank you for having us. I've been attending the  
25 gun shows for approximately 30 years. I have fired maybe a million rounds of ammunition  
26 over my lifetime. I had my first gun at seven years old. My household was full of guns.  
27 We never fired a gun in anger in my household. My grandfather, my great-grandfather, my  
28 current mom who lives in Camarillo has a weapon in her house for her protection. She's

1 ninety-five, and she can shoot really good.

2           These kinds of things where we don't -- we don't use information properly are  
3 very concerning. The gun show is not an evil thing. I'm not evil, although we're portrayed  
4 as evil that we're gun owners. We are all people. We're Americans. I believe the previous  
5 person who said that we are a nation of laws, and I obey all the laws to the best of my  
6 ability. When California changed their laws, I changed my gun situation so I obeyed the  
7 current California laws.

8           Banning gun shows is not a fix. It's a political game. It will not change anything.  
9 I thank you for your time and vote appropriately.

10           (Applause.)

11           CEO QUAID: Jim Lingrosso followed by Sandi Henderson.

12           JIM LINGROSSO: Thank you. My name is Jim Lingrosso. I'm 70 years old. I  
13 live in San Fernando Valley. I've been coming to gun shows for years. I am the gun show.  
14 I am what people that come to gun shows are like. You guys ought to try coming to a gun  
15 show. The people are not murderers. They're not killers. We're regular people, and that's  
16 all I gotta say.

17           (Applause.)

18           CEO QUAID: Sandi Henderson --

19           SANDI HENDERSON: Good morning.

20           CEO QUAID: -- followed by Shasta Smith -- that may not be the correct person --  
21 Sheila Smith, sorry.

22           SANDI HENDERSON: Good morning. I want to read from your web site.

23 (Reading): The mission of the 31st District Agricultural Association, otherwise known as  
24 the Ventura County Fairgrounds, is to promote, support, educate, celebrate, and preserve  
25 the diverse culture and traditions of our county and to make certain that the Ventura  
26 County Fairgrounds be an exemplary multi-use community resource.

27           I challenge you to keep that mission in your mind as you make your vote on the  
28 gun shows. There are enough of us here who are promoting or who are in favor of



1 maintaining the gun shows because there is a large group of people who attend from the  
2 county and there are a large group of people from the county who also sell there. There  
3 are hotel owners, gas stations, restaurants, all whose revenue increases because of the  
4 gun shows.

5 And nobody walks out of the gun show with a gun in their hand. The State has  
6 very strict laws in place. If you buy a gun today anywhere, whether it be at the gunshow  
7 or at Turner's or anywhere, it's 10 days before you can take it. It's 10 days that you have  
8 to clear all of the licensing and registration and training and information.

9 There are not that many guns sold at the gun shows. There's more T-shirts.  
10 There's more fudge. There's more beef jerky, probably hot dogs, popcorn. People go  
11 there to learn about what's available. People go there to look at and purchase  
12 memorabilia, and taking that away from the community, from the community that is wanting  
13 it and requesting it, is not within the mission of the fair board. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 CEO QUAID: Sheila Smith followed by Michael Cervantes.

16 SHEILA SMITH: Hello there. I'm Sheila Smith. I moved to Ventura County in  
17 1946. My dad retired in Mojave from the military and came to Mugu to work when it  
18 opened. Thank God he didn't stay in Mojave.

19 So a kind of a peculiar thing happened to us. Some of the public might not know,  
20 but I'm not sure it's constitutional, so as a member of Veterans for Peace, we used to come  
21 to the fairgrounds to the Free Speech Zone and give out peace stickers. We made \$3,000  
22 at every fair, and we could give away 500 -- six \$500 scholarships to local high schools, but  
23 then we were told we couldn't give out peace stickers anymore. So we came back, and we  
24 only made about \$400 for the whole show, so it wasn't worth paying for parking.

25 So I'm not sure if the peace stickers were that unsafe as guns, so I'm a little  
26 perplexed about constitutional rights. We never came to the fair and complained. We  
27 never came to the board and said -- we just said "Okay. That's a rule we'll stand by. That's  
28 a rule you guys have". We didn't say we're gonna sue you or anything.

1           So also, I don't know my time, but they write about the veterans coming to the  
2 gun show, the military coming to the gun shows. They never mention how many of our  
3 military come home and kill themselves. My husband's very best friend from Vietnam  
4 came home, killed himself, and all the weapon choice is guns. So I'm sure a \$100,000 you  
5 are lacking, I'm sure Bob Wise would pay it to get his daughter back. Thank you.

6           CEO QUAID: Michael Cervantes followed by Richard Minnich.

7           MICHAEL CERVANTES: My name's Michael Cervantes. I'm a founding member  
8 of the local chapter of Veterans for Peace, and I'm a Vietnam war veteran infantry, and so I  
9 know what kind of weaponry you're talking about here, automatic assault rifles, but I have  
10 something that might catch you by surprise and will probably not surprise you.

11           First of all, I'm gonna -- from what I'm gonna say here, it relates to this book, first  
12 I might say to the military people that have been in the military here that they might  
13 consider what a bad thing it was in Vietnam.

14           And so what I wanted to get across was that back in 1984 -- I thought someone  
15 here spoke about the proliferation of guns over the decades of our history. Back in 1984 in  
16 one of our United States through the help of conservative elements, there was established  
17 lawfully through state legislatures something called state civil defense forces, and two of  
18 those forces, the Pentagon turned over \$3,000,000 of military weaponry and of course,  
19 included in that are assault weapons.

20           And once those weapons were distributed out to those civil defense forces, they  
21 were revalued. They were sent out at \$3,000,000, distributed at \$3,000,000. When they  
22 revalued those brand new weapons, that military equipment, they were revalued at  
23 \$6,000,000, and so when they were recalled back into (inaudible) civilian defense forces,  
24 they were recalled back at that -- they were worth 3,000,000 when they went out. They  
25 were revalued at 6,000,000, and they only wanted 3,000,000 back, which meant -- which  
26 means that three -- that half of those distributed weapons --

27           CEO QUAID: Mr. Cervantes, your two minutes are up. Thank you.

28           Richard Minnich -- okay, Minnich, and then Ann Ohlenkamp.

1           RICHARD MINNICH: Yes. My name is Richard Minnich, and I'm glad this is the  
2 agricultural committee. I'm just, you know, I always thought of it as the fair committee, but I  
3 have lived in Cabrillo Valley for 61 of my 65 years starting out on a small ranch where we  
4 raised cattle and everything else like that and remember when -- those of you who are  
5 approaching my age probably remember when Ventura County was known as the lima  
6 bean capital of the world in the Oxnard Plain. Who remembers when that was?

7           You know, there's been a lot of things said, and I don't really want to repeat a lot  
8 of that, but I would kind of urge you when you're doing your analysis and think about a  
9 couple more what I would call process and public policy points rather than, per se, the pros  
10 and cons of this particular issue is I really -- when you're doing this and making a decision,  
11 I'd look at what the organizing principles, what is the criteria gonna be that we're going to  
12 base this decision on?

13           And I think some people have mentioned that about, you know, almost anything  
14 that's done here at the fair, you can find things that you would say "Oh, this is not good.  
15 This is not good". I understand that there's been problems sometimes with crime and  
16 drugs and things at the concerts.

17           I mean, honest to goodness, a car show, you can go and someone's gonna go  
18 out and drive away in a car and race down the avenue trying to get back on the 101  
19 freeway to L.A. really fast and hit somebody, kills them. I mean, gambling, gambling is  
20 documented to have problems with families and, you know, people who become addicted,  
21 essentially.

22           I don't know for sure, but I suspect before the county was allowed to put this  
23 facility in, there was probably a lot of resistance from a lot of people, so kind of organizing  
24 a faction of people who might be opposed to this is probably wouldn't have been all that  
25 terribly difficult.

26           So I'm just gonna say in a way, because of the broad scope of your mandate with  
27 numerous things you do, all of which have plusses and minuses, I suppose, the notion that  
28 the board is morally culpable for any of these sorts of things is, well, specious.

1 But my question in a way is: Is this a bad precedent that you would be setting?  
2 And this gets, actually, down to my -- thank you -- is it a bad custom of these things  
3 speaking because are we gonna tell the 4H people and FFA kids because PETA comes  
4 and organizes, that we really can't allow you to bring your animals to the show to be judged  
5 and to sell because it's abusing animals?

6 CEO QUAID: Your two minutes are up.

7 RICHARD MINNICH: Thank you.

8 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

9 Ann Ohlenkamp?

10 (No audible response.)

11 CEO QUAID: Ann Ohlenkamp?

12 Lynn Edmonds followed by George Anthony.

13 (No audible response.)

14 CEO QUAID: Lynn Edmonds left?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

16 CEO QUAID: Okay. George Anthony followed by Karen Peters.

17 GEORGE ANTHONY: I'd like to know first and foremost as a foundation, do your  
18 positions require an oath of office to be here?

19 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes.

20 GEORGE ANTHONY: To which constitutions have you taken the oath?

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Don't answer that.

22 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We don't indicate.

23 GEORGE ANTHONY: We don't indicate? This goes to foundation. We have to  
24 have you guys following your oath of office. We need to know which constitution you went  
25 with. Sometimes I've found out through investigation, many use the wrong constitutional  
26 oath that makes everything you do invalid. I would encourage you to be able to verify what  
27 you've done and honor your oaths.

28 Now, your oath to the constitution, for example, we can look at the Secretary of

1 State's web site, and it says 1849. Many people use the 1879, that's not correct. That  
2 invalidates it.

3           You also must all have registration as a foreign agent. Believe it or not you are all  
4 foreign. This makes this a corporation because when you are under a corporation, you're  
5 not under a government. We have to have a lawful government, and if you bother to read  
6 that constitution, it never says one word about "gun". It says "arm". We have a right to  
7 keep and bear arm. You all know why? Because if we don't have the Second we won't  
8 have the First. So it's incumbent upon all of you to honor your oaths.

9           The fact that you want to say "Oh, you can just call the cops", for example. Well,  
10 when seconds count, cops can be minutes away and they're not even required to show up,  
11 but so let's see, as our first City of Antioch, they don't even have to show up.

12           So I really do think you all need to read the constitution and comprehend it or find  
13 out, get it interpreted by someone that does.

14           CEO QUAID: Karen Peters followed by Carlyle (sic) Glaser.

15           KAREN PETERS: Hello. My name is Karen Peters, and I live in Thousand Oaks.  
16 I'm with the Ventura County chapter of the Brady Campaign to Stop Gun Violence. I  
17 missed the water that we had over the break. I just want to remind the board of some  
18 pertinent facts.

19           More than 100,000 people are shot each year in the United States. Now, mental  
20 illness is now being discussed often as a reason. In reality, studies show that Americans  
21 really don't have more mental health problems than other developed nations of a  
22 comparable size which experience far fewer shootings. The only variable that can explain  
23 the high rate of shootings in America is the easy availability of guns, and that's from the  
24 American Journal of Psychiatry.

25           Now, let me also read something to close, the names of the victims at the  
26 Borderline shooting 20 days ago in my town, and it would be nice to have a short moment  
27 of silence afterward. I'll try and get through it.

28           (Reading): Ron Helus, Noel Sparks, Dan Manrique, Justin Meek, Cody Coffman,

1 Alaina Housley, Telemachus Orfanos, Sean Adler, Mark Meza, Jr., Blake Dingman, Jacob  
2 Dunham, and Kristina Morisette.

3 (Moment of silence.)

4 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

5 Carlyle (sic) Glaser followed by Richard Mercer.

6 CARLYE GLASER: Hi. Good morning. My name is Carlye Glaser, and I am a  
7 lifetime resident of California, over a decade of which in Ventura County, and I'm a  
8 business owner of a small business in Camarillo. Many have essentially wanted to speak  
9 to facts, and I would like to do that as well.

10 The CDC under President Obama did a study on gun violence in the United  
11 States. They found that on average 13,000 people died of gun-related homicide. They  
12 also found that over 500,000 documented cases and up to 3,000,000 per year of guns in  
13 defensive use. That's -- you can look it up. That is a CDC published survey -- study,  
14 excuse me.

15 I'm so thankful that we live in a country where we can practice our First  
16 Amendment rights. Many countries do not have this option. We have freedom of speech.  
17 We have freedom of assembly. Many people today have said that they don't understand  
18 the use of government state property for practicing constitutional rights.

19 It is so nice to have fairs. It is amazing to have craft shows. I love the --  
20 personally I have a friend who's in the demo derby every year and has actually won it a  
21 couple times, which I'm not sure if that's winning or losing, but we don't have any First  
22 Amendment rights or the Third or Fourth or on and on without the Second.

23 The founding fathers made no mistake when they made the right to bear arms  
24 the Second Amendment because that is what defends our First. It is not necessarily about  
25 personal defense, which it is; it is not necessarily about hunting, which it is; and it's  
26 certainly not about 1800-, 1700s-era muskets. It is defense against tyrannical government.

27 So if we want to give up all of our rights, then I urge you to give up our Second  
28 Amendment, but as long as we have a place that we can exercise our constitutional rights,

1 I feel like we should do so. Thank you so much for your time.

2 CEO QUAID: Richard Mercer followed by Debbie Diamond.

3 RICHARD MERCER: Good morning. This has all been, frankly, generated into a  
4 pro and con of the Second Amendment. I think we've lost sight of what you're here to  
5 decide, and that is the future history of the Ventura gun show.

6 If -- and formulated into that, I want to draw an analogy. I'm bitterly opposed to  
7 abortion; however, one, I'm not a woman that's ever been pregnant, and I respect the law  
8 of Roe versus Wade as the law of the country. I wish people could respect the same of the  
9 Second Amendment that's (inaudible and unintelligible).

10 But getting back to the situation at hand, we can already see we've been talking  
11 about, I'm one of about 90 percent of the community of gun show that have nothing to do  
12 with guns. I sell framed butterflies from South America. I sell fossils. I sell mineral  
13 specimens. I do this because I have to do it. I make \$1,150 a month in Social Security. I  
14 would be dead in the water if I didn't have these gun shows to support me.

15 And I represent a good 90 percent -- you would think these people who are  
16 against -- so emotionally involved in anti-guns, if they would come to the gun show, there  
17 aren't any gun dealers. Speak about Turner's in Oxnard as some kind of (inaudible), but  
18 most of -- most are like me, they're just trying to make a living.

19 And this debate now is every year we discuss the gun show itself. I -- I just listen  
20 person after person. I would challenge the people in the orange shirts to come to a gun  
21 show, see what they're like. They're just regular people like all of us.

22 And if you -- if you discontinue the gun shows, as Delmar's just done, I'm gonna  
23 have to leave the state. I have no extra income. I have to make money. I've never been  
24 (inaudible) pulled my wagon. When I was young I always pulled the wagon, and I'm not  
25 gonna get in the wagon now, so you'll drive me out of the state. Thank you.

26 CEO QUAID: Debbie Diamond followed by Michael Shaw.

27 DEBBIE DIAMOND: Hi. I'm Debbie Diamond. I've lived here for four years. I  
28 love Ventura County, and I came here to say something about a friend of mine who

1 (inaudible) about she's a school psychologist, and she has seen for 22 years so many kids  
2 who are crippled from school (inaudible) wherever they go, and that's what I was gonna  
3 talk about. Now I've listened to these people talk about guns.

4 I don't have a gun. I don't want a gun. My sister was killed by a gun, but I think  
5 people have the right to have their guns, and that's not what I'm here about. I'm here  
6 because I don't think it should be at the county fair.

7 The county fair is a place, peaceful, you bring your children. You wouldn't want to  
8 have them selling knives and other things that would be harmful to people, but I would like  
9 to see that something else replace the gun shows because it is a peaceful town we live in,  
10 and I would like to keep it that way. And thank you for your time.

11 CEO QUAID: Michael Shaw?

12 (No audible response.)

13 CEO QUAID: Michael Shaw followed by Dr. Martha Martinez.

14 I don't think Mr. Shaw is here.

15 DR. MARTHA MARTINEZ: Good morning. Quote, access to a firearm is the  
16 common denominator in every firearm-related death or injury, according to the American  
17 Psychological Association. There is not a single DSM diagnosis that leads one to be a  
18 mass murderer, and the APA has, in turn, repeated that isolating the variable of mental  
19 health while speaking about gun violence does not bring about solutions. Mental health  
20 problems occur around the world, but it is only in the U.S. where we have a gun violence  
21 epidemic.

22 Gun shows advertise as a family-friendly event. Yet, if you follow the statistics,  
23 only about 30 percent of gun-owning families store their guns and ammunition properly,  
24 even those families who have a child with self-harm risk factors.

25 Should an accident or intentional gun violence incident occur, if it hasn't already,  
26 either onsite or off site in the use of weapons or ammunition purchased at the gun show,  
27 this would put the state at great financial liability. I imagine this would also have an  
28 emotional impact on you personally as well. How would you feel if a gun purchased at the



1 gun show was used in a mass shooting, a suicide, homicide, or even an accidental death  
2 or injury of a child?

3 Gun violence is a public health epidemic, and your choices do, in fact, play a role  
4 in the well-being of others. This isn't about an effort to take people's guns away. This is  
5 about what financial and moral responsibility you have as a board and how those choices  
6 impact the health of our residents.

7 We strongly believe that our state should not financially benefit from the  
8 proliferation of guns or ammunition, which in turn is the weapon used for various forms of  
9 gun violence, including suicide, intentional or accidental deaths or injuries.

10 And I also wanted to provide some articles that were also emailed to you. This  
11 includes evidence-based facts from the American Psychiatric Association, American  
12 Psychological Association because physicians, psychiatrists, and mental health  
13 professionals, this is our lane.

14 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Can you hear me?

15 I'm gonna ask the board, because of the long sit, we've got about another 45  
16 minutes to go on public comment.

17 Are we fine, or does anyone need a break? Five minutes, or do we continue?

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Take five minutes.

19 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Five minutes, and I'm gonna hold you to five minutes,  
20 okay. Five-minute break.

21 (A brief recess was taken.)

22 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. We want to thank you. It was a little more than  
23 five. It's hard to wrestle up people and herd cats, but we're back. So hope everyone had a  
24 little bit of comfort so we can give our full attention to our speakers.

25 Barbara, who do we have coming up?

26 CEO QUAID: Okay. Our first speaker is Carmen Ramirez followed by Richard  
27 Horn.

28 CARMEN RAMIREZ: Good morning, and thank you for this opportunity. I'm -- I

1 happen to have the privilege and honor of being (inaudible) for the City of Oxnard. I want  
2 to talk about what Oxnard's doing this evening in a moment. But I want to say respectfully  
3 to you, I understand you (inaudible) for this. You thought this was going to be great fun  
4 when you were we're appointed, and I know what that feels like.

5 First of all, this is not about taking anyone's gun away. People have rights. We  
6 have legitimate sellers, retailers in our city. It is about real -- this state institution survive in  
7 this stable but thriving gun culture, and that's for you to decide.

8 I want to associate myself with the remarks of Supervisor Steve Bennett, and I  
9 think he said it all. I want to see a thriving fairgrounds. I've been coming here for decades.  
10 I do enjoy it. I know what work it takes to put it on.

11 This afternoon at city council in Oxnard, we are not eliminating gun retailers.  
12 We're setting standards. I was very appreciative to hear Vice Chair Lacayo say "We're  
13 going to set standards". If we don't set standards, then anything can happen. We have a  
14 lot of things that people don't like or love that will come to you and say "We want a show  
15 about cannabis, pornography", whatever. You have no standards. You are very  
16 vulnerable. Please set good standards that reflect what people's rights are and what the  
17 community wants.

18 There was talk that off-duty officers at the Borderline grill should've taken care of  
19 business. In talking to the chief of police, we know that our off-duty officers, when having a  
20 good time, having some drinks, and having fun are not allowed to carry firearms. Please  
21 keep that in mind.

22 Tonight in Oxnard we're gonna potentially pass a moratorium on new retail sales.  
23 Why? Because an individual living in the community found that a store was going to be  
24 opened in his neighborhood. We discovered we had no standards to put any restrictions  
25 on where or how it would open. That's what we're doing. We are not banning retail sales.  
26 We're putting a moratorium on it until we pass standards.

27 Please do the right thing. Think of your legacy. Think of what the community  
28 needs. I respect people's rights, have the right to have a gun, but the state does not have

1 to profit and live off gun --

2 CEO QUAID: Your two minutes are up.

3 Richard Horn followed by Brian Silk.

4 RICHARD HORN: Good morning. I really appreciate you staying -- good  
5 morning. I really appreciate you staying and listening to all of our concerns.

6 I actually wanted to speak, I put my name in because I feel like I need to get up  
7 here and say I'm representing the thousands and thousands of people in the county and  
8 that come from this area and from Santa Barbara County and the valley who come to the  
9 gun shows that happen in Ventura County. When I come down here, I don't get a good  
10 parking place because the parking lot's full. Those people are all really nice people. I've  
11 never had a problem with any of them.

12 It's like I'm representing the -- I don't know if you have the statistics of how many  
13 people show up in the parking lot, but it's a huge amount of people that come here. They  
14 are not looking for bad things. Gun culture to most of them is teaching my fourteen year  
15 old gun safety, how to shoot the new .22 I got him, and how to be a gun owner and a safe  
16 gun owner.

17 My gun culture is taking a new young child, young guy, 14, 15 years old, take him  
18 up to Ojai Valley, teach him how to shoot, take him on his first hunt to Wyoming or  
19 Colorado. That's what my gun culture is, and I'm a -- I've been in Ventura County since --  
20 I've been in Ventura since 1955. I lived in Ventura when it was a riverbed, potato ranch.

21 That gun culture was not bad. You could spit out the gun culture. You enjoyed  
22 sharing it and taking young people, getting them involved, fishing, hunting. You can do all  
23 of that. Ventura County Fair and the gun show is just an opportunity for people that are not  
24 the bad gun culture to try.

25 Every gun I purchased goes through a wait period. The last gun show I bought a  
26 double-barrel shotgun, and it was used, got a good price on it. I still had to wait ten days  
27 and go to the gun shop to pick it up.

28 It's really nice that all the folks wearing orange shirts come down here to protest

1 against and tell all those thousands of people what they should be doing with their lives --  
2 thank you. I appreciate it.

3 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

4 RICHARD HORN: Thank you.

5 CEO QUAID: Brian Silk followed by Tiffany Lewis.

6 BRIAN SILK: Good morning. I'm Dr. Brian Silk. I'm a retired Army officer. I have  
7 shot competitively for a number of years. I view the activity as recreational. I am now in  
8 the education business. For the past five years I've been attending a quarterly meeting  
9 sponsored by the Los Angeles Office of the FBI for educators. We talk about the active  
10 murderers. We don't call them active shooters. These are murderers.

11 With the exception of two school shootings, all the students involved have been  
12 on prescription medical drugs. They have a medical problem that hasn't been addressed  
13 in the schools.

14 (Pause in proceeding.)

15 BRIAN SILK: There's a comment made about children that are killed in school  
16 shootings. There are more children dying in the United States every year from jumping in  
17 their swimming pools than have been shot, yet we don't have laws and rules about  
18 swimming pool safety.

19 How many people come to the fairgrounds, the gun shows? It's been going on  
20 for 20 years. The previous speaker just talked about thousands of people. If I take  
21 retardants (phonetic), they basically shoot for recreation.

22 And the final point I want to raise with you, you don't read in the newspapers  
23 every day about the thousands of people across the United States, hundreds every day  
24 that use firearms to save their lives are in McDonald's or fast food places when a robbery  
25 occurs, these are not being publicized.

26 People buy firearms for safety, recreation, and enjoyment. We should continue  
27 the gun shows here, and the role of government is to support the constitution of the United  
28 States.

1 CEO QUAID: Tiffany Lewis followed by Frank McCarthy.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Tiffany's gone.

3 CEO QUAID: Frank McCarthy followed by Rob Templeton.

4 FRANK McCARTHY: Hi. Good morning. My name is Frank McCarthy. I live in  
5 Ojai. I have -- I was familiar with Deputy Sheriff Ron Helus, never met him, but we shared  
6 a local Facebook group. His profile said that he was a firearm's instructor and a CCW  
7 instructor. He was very much pro responsible gun ownership.

8 This part is hard. I'm sorry. The post in his group, someone asked about the new  
9 Sheriff. He responded back about 9:00 p.m. About three hours later he was killed in  
10 Thousand Oaks. I just wanted to point out that he was very much pro citizen responsible  
11 gun ownership, and he's...

12 The second thing I want to say, I took my sixteen-year-old granddaughter to the  
13 gun range to share my interest. I spent a half an hour before I even loaded a gun teaching  
14 her safety, procedure, operation of the weapons. She did not enjoy herself. It wasn't her  
15 cup of tea, and that's fine. However, she just does love coming to the gun shows with me.  
16 There's plenty else for her to see, gentleman with the butterflies and crystals. There was --  
17 a couple times there was a group of women in the defense that she talked extensively to,  
18 so it is a family thing. It is something that someone who's not even necessarily a gun  
19 enthusiast will enjoy. And I've seen, you know, I've been there many times. She loves to  
20 come with me, so I just wanted to point that out.

21 Am I out?

22 CEO QUAID: Yes.

23 FRANK McCARTHY: Okay. Thank you very much.

24 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

25 Rob Templeton followed by Julie Martinez.

26 ROB TEMPLETON: Good morning. I'm glad to be here. We have heard a lot  
27 today. We hear a lot about mass shootings and equating mass shootings to gun shows,  
28 and I am here to say that's a false narrative.

1 I am a gun owner. I'm as appalled as anyone about the terrible tragedies that our  
2 country suffers, you know, on a weekly basis. I've heard from some how they are upset,  
3 excuse me, about their children having to perform active shooter drills, and a hundred  
4 percent: My kids go to the same school as their kids, and I am afraid of that as well.  
5 Again, has nothing to do with gun shows.

6 I commend the board for forming the Ad Hoc Committee to learn about gun  
7 shows. I ask that as you continue to gather information that you allow us to continue with  
8 our business. What better way to learn about the gun show than going to a gun show and  
9 seeing what happens there, seeing people there, so we just ask that you let us continue  
10 with our lawful business as you consider some of the things that you are considering.

11 I'm a gun owner, and I am against gun violence as everyone is. It's a little bit -- it  
12 bothers me when I hear people talk about, you know, "I'm anti-gun and so I'm  
13 anti-violence". I think we're all anti-violence. I think that's clear. I just wanted to point out  
14 again that gun shows don't have anything to do with mass shootings, don't have anything  
15 to do with the tragedies that are taking place. Thank you for being here today.

16 CEO QUAID: Julie Martinez.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She left.

18 CEO QUAID: Julie left. Rose Ann? Rose Ann's (unintelligible). Rose Ann's  
19 gone?

20 Tiffany Cheuvront followed by Michelle Hynds.

21 TIFFANY CHEUVRONT: Hello. My name's Tiffany Cheuvront. I represent the  
22 California Rifle and Pistol Association and B and L Productions. It was nice to hear that  
23 some people have taken notice of my appearance at these meetings. I appreciate that.

24 And I just wanted to -- hopefully I -- I turned into you at the last meeting, I believe,  
25 a booklet that had tons of facts in it, legal arguments that have to do with gun shows, has  
26 to do with the Penal Code, federal law, everything that goes into place for a gun show  
27 operator to have a show. I hope that you studied that because there has been a lot of false  
28 information that's being said here today.

1 And I actually made a list of all of the false things that have been said, and my  
2 commitment to you is that we will address those with legal arguments and based on the  
3 Penal Code and the laws that are in place now, and I will submit that back to the board so  
4 that you will have a full understanding of all of the statements that are being made that  
5 aren't necessarily true. I think they're being made with passion and fervor, but they're not  
6 necessarily true, and I feel that you guys need to have a full view of that.

7 I do represent B and L Productions, and they are a lawful business that has  
8 operated for 20 years conducting gun shows in California. Never in those 20 years have  
9 they been shut down for noncompliance or not following the law.

10 They engage with DOJ, with ATF, with local law enforcement on a continual basis,  
11 and those law enforcement agencies, if there was anything going on that shouldn't be, like  
12 selling illegal items or not following the rules in the Penal Code, they would be shut down  
13 or they would at least be fined. This has not happened. You have to take this for what it is:  
14 They are a lawful business operating under the laws of the state and the federal  
15 government.

16 We also represent California Rifle and Pistol Association. We represent them --  
17 they've been in business for over a hundred and forty years in California. They educate.  
18 They train. They provide information on the ever-changing laws -- is my two minutes right  
19 now?

20 And I just hope that you will take this opportunity to consider all of the  
21 information, and we'll be submitting that to you. Thank you.

22 CEO QUAID: Michelle Hynds followed by Reverend Nicole Janelle.

23 MICHELLE HYNDS: Good morning. My name is Michelle Hynds. I am the gun  
24 culture of Ventura County. I'm a member of the LGBT community. I fly a Pan airline. I'm  
25 an airline pilot because of my occupation, and I am the gun culture of Ventura County. I'm  
26 also a member of the NRA, and I'm also a firm believer in Jesus. And somebody had  
27 mentioned earlier that Jesus said "Blessed are the peacemakers", and there's no doubt  
28 why Colt named one of its most successful pistols the peacemaker.

1 I want to tell you here that the County of Ventura is a government entity and as  
2 such, is compelled not to infringe on my right to either assemble -- my First Amendment  
3 right to assemble, but these bullies here would have you think otherwise. The "bullies" that  
4 I'm referencing are people in the audience.

5 I'm sorry. I get carried away with myself.

6 You guys are not to infringe on my First Amendment, my Second Amendment  
7 rights. There's plenty been said already about the Second Amendment, but I don't think  
8 you have looked well enough that this is also a First Amendment issue that we need to be  
9 able to continue to assemble, whether it's for a vendor that sells butterflies or because I  
10 might want to look at whatever new weapons that I might want to acquire, and I have a  
11 vast collection of weapons.

12 Again, I am the gun culture. The gun culture consists of women, LGBT people,  
13 conservatives, liberals alike, and I don't really appreciate the fact that we're put in a  
14 negative light. And I would hope that all of you would consider all of these aspects. And  
15 thank you for giving me these few minutes.

16 CEO QUAID: Reverend Nicole Janelle?

17 (No audible response.)

18 CEO QUAID: Reverend Nicole Janelle?

19 (No audible response.)

20 CEO QUAID: Okay. Brandt Jackson followed by Kathy Wert -- Kathy Wertheem.  
21 Brandt Jackson?

22 You can all move up now that there's empty chairs.

23 BRANDT JACKSON: Did you serve lunch here today?

24 You know, I've heard many things here today, and one of them, a gentleman had  
25 mentioned that there's beer being sold at the gun shows. I wish that gentleman would  
26 point that out to me the next time I go to a gun show because I could use a cold beer, but I  
27 don't think you can have them. I don't think they're allowed to serve alcohol there.

28 And I know everybody in this room is devastated by what's happened from



1 Columbine to Thousand Oaks and everything in between, and I -- I felt when I heard about  
2 the Thousand Oaks incident, I knew they're gonna come for my guns again.

3 I come to gun shows because I'm a collector. I -- my dad was in the Marine  
4 Corps. He survived Pearl Harbor, and I wanted to collect the weapons that were used in  
5 World War II. So when I go to a gun show, I'm looking for old firearms. I don't have an AR.  
6 I would like to, but in this state I don't think -- I think that's gonna be something that might  
7 be on the endangered species list.

8 I've heard people say today that "Well, we don't want to take your guns", but if  
9 you listen to the record of our governor-to-be, he said, and I quote "We're coming to get  
10 your guns", so this is just another little chip working towards that end because the only way  
11 you can completely stop gun violence, I believe, is if you don't have any guns, but we have  
12 guns. If you take them away from the law abiding, whatever's gonna happen down the  
13 road as far as this state goes, the only ones that will have the gun is the criminal.

14 Now, people have said today that it's gonna be a bully, it's not the mental -- by the  
15 way, there was a statistic mentioned here by Mr. Bennett that we had the most gun deaths  
16 than any country. We don't. We're 99th if you base it on gun deaths per every 100,000.

17 CEO QUAID: Your two minutes are up.

18 BRANDT JACKSON: All that said I could go into -- thank you.

19 CEO QUAID: Kathy -- I know I'm not saying your last name correctly, sorry.

20 KATHY WERTHEEM: It's Wertheem, Kathy Wertheem.

21 CEO QUAID: Wertheem followed by Tom Harkins.

22 KATHY WERTHEEM: Thank you for having me here. My name is Kathy  
23 Wertheem. I live in the City of Ventura. My family's lived here in the city for 38 years, and  
24 I'm a professional fundraiser.

25 One of the arguments that's been made is that the fairgrounds need the gun  
26 shows financially, but you can look at the fairgrounds, and there's not enough maintenance  
27 being done and things look kind of crummy, frankly, so therefore, we need the finances  
28 from the gun shows. Well, if gun sales were gonna fix the fairgrounds, they would've

1 already fixed the fairgrounds.

2           What you need is -- I'm a fundraiser, so I'm gonna say it: You need fundraising,  
3 just duly standard capital campaigns, very, very normal in fundraising. You can figure out  
4 what your dreams are for the fairgrounds and go out and ask people for money, and they  
5 will give it to you. This room was filled two hours ago. These are people who are willing to  
6 support the fairgrounds, but you're not asking for big gifts to actually do that which you  
7 want to accomplish.

8           To me, Memorial Hospital here in Ventura in the city just finished a \$25,000,000  
9 capital campaign. That was money that was already there waiting for a good idea. That  
10 was just from the City of Ventura because other cities have their hospitals. You're the  
11 fairgrounds for the entire county. You can raise money from the entire county. Ventura  
12 Botanical Gardens is raising millions of dollars locally.

13           So everyone thinks Santa Barbara is the rich county, Santa Barbara has all the  
14 money, we're the poor little sister. Well, in rankings for wealth and income of the 50 plus  
15 counties in California, Santa Barbara ranks 18th, 18th wealthiest county. Ventura's number  
16 five. We have the money. We can fix the fairgrounds. You don't need the gun shows.

17           CEO QUAID: Tom Harkins?

18           TOM HARKINS: I'm sorry, my handwriting is awful, Harkins, H-a-r-k-i-n-s.

19           CEO QUAID: Okay, thank you. Followed by Donald Gallagher.

20           TOM HARKINS: Good afternoon, board members. I want to start out by reading  
21 something. This is a -- and these are my own personal beliefs. I'm not representing any  
22 organization.

23           This is in reference to something in the Book of Revelation (reading): And he had  
24 two horns of the lamb. The lamblike horns indicate youth, innocence, and gentleness, fitly  
25 representing the character of the United States when presented to the prophet as coming  
26 up in 1798.

27           Among the Christian exiles who first fled to America and sought asylum -- and  
28 sought asylum from royal oppression and priestly intolerance were many who determined

1 to establish a government based on the broad foundation of civil and religious liberty.  
2 There is a place in the Declaration of Independence which sets forth the great truth that,  
3 quote, all men are created equal, end quote, and endowed with the inalienable right to life,  
4 liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. And the Constitution guarantees to the people the  
5 right of self-government, provided that representatives elected by the popular vote shall  
6 enact and administer the laws, and then it goes on to talk about freedom of religion and  
7 other things.

8 This author also talks in another place about the principles of the Constitution  
9 being repudiated and replaced with other bits of ideas.

10 So my concern is just generally speaking with the things that I see in society  
11 today, and maybe this isn't an action of the board or things for the board to look at, you  
12 know, the right to privacy, I think that's been somewhat replaced with the Privacy Act or the  
13 Patriot Act; free speech, we've always had free speech. Personally I -- and then religious  
14 freedom has been replaced by social justice, perhaps. There's some of these things I'd  
15 like to look at this more comprehensively, but I think it would be wise to honor how the  
16 country was set up and these great rights that were guaranteed to people. These  
17 guaranteed things, these people literally -- am I at two minutes?

18 CEO QUAID: Two minutes are up.

19 TOM HARKINS: Okay. Well, all right. Personally, I don't shoot very often, but I  
20 would suggest that people get together with some of these people that do shoot and, you  
21 know, meet them.

22 And it's a constitutional issue, too. I think if someone else could be here, I think  
23 anybody would have the right to, you know, have the right to use the fairgrounds.

24 CEO QUAID: Donald Gallagher followed by Bruce Boxer.

25 Donald Gallagher?

26 (No audible response.)

27 CEO QUAID: Bruce Boxer?

28 (No audible response.)

1 CEO QUAID: Christy Weir?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Christy's here.

3 CHRISTY WEIR: I wrote my comments.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Did you want to speak?

5 CHRISTY WEIR: I wrote my comments. I do have my iPad. This is my iPad.

6 (Inaudible conversation.)

7 CEO QUAID: Would you like to read them into the record?

8 CHRISTY WEIR: No, that's fine, just put them in there.

9 CEO QUAID: Rene Dehasa (phonetic)? Rene Dehasa?

10 (No audible response.)

11 CEO QUAID: That's it. Rene is the last speaker.

12 (Inaudible speaker.)

13 CEO QUAID: I'm sorry?

14 KEVIN SMALL: I put in my card. I didn't hear my name called.

15 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: What is your name?

16 CEO QUAID: Please come up now.

17 KEVIN SMALL: Thank you very much. I appreciate it. My name is Kevin Small.

18 I'm coming to you today on behalf of the gun show. I want -- I want you to consider a  
19 couple of things. I'm gonna touch on two things. One of them is a little bit more broad.  
20 The other one is a little bit more within the scope of what we're discussing here.

21 We've heard an argument -- a few arguments, actually, on the gun culture and  
22 the violence within. I think it might be important to bring a little bit of perspective to this by  
23 taking a look at the absence of gun culture.

24 In 1911 Turkey, the country of Turkey was disarmed. From 1915 to 1917, 1.5  
25 million Armenians were murdered. In 1929 Russia was disarmed. From '29 to '53, 20  
26 million Russians were murdered. In 1935 China was disarmed. From '48 to '52, 20 million  
27 Chinese were murdered. In 1938 Germany was disarmed, and from '39 to '45, 16 million  
28 Jews were murdered. In 1956 Cambodia was disarmed, and from '75 to '77, one million

1 were murdered. And finally, in Uganda, they were disarmed in 1970, and from '71 to '79,  
2 300,000 Christians were murdered.

3 So is this really an issue of culture? I don't really think so. We have plenty of  
4 evidence that when countries are disarmed these things still happen.

5 The other thing that I wanted to touch on, which is, like I said, a little bit more  
6 within the scope here to consider is the small businesses that would be run out of state if  
7 the show doesn't commence. Even putting a year moratorium on this fairground would be  
8 taking that income away from those small businesses for a year.

9 So I'd like to urge you to make the decision to go forward with the contracts so  
10 that these people can continue earning revenue, so that they can continue to live in this  
11 state because otherwise they're not gonna be able to. Thank you.

12 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We'll close our public comment.

13 Okay. So at this time we will open the discussion to the board as to what  
14 direction we give our CEO regarding future contracts for gun shows at the Ventura County  
15 Fairgrounds: Camping, development, other policy.

16 Does anyone want to begin or have a question or concern?

17 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: I'd just like to ask if the Ad Hoc Committee has any  
18 estimates in terms of the amount of time it would take as they develop recommendations?

19 VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: We are unsure, and we are doing our due  
20 diligence. We do know that this will take some time. It might take as long as a year. We  
21 just don't know, but we do not want to form a policy that we have not -- don't feel that we  
22 have done and researched everything, all of your comments, pros and cons, constitutional  
23 rights. We're being very mindful of all the input we have received. That's the best answer I  
24 can give you.

25 Leslie?

26 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I would say the same. If this -- this type of process,  
27 when you have these issues brought up, we welcome public comment. Every comment  
28 we are studying the issues that have been brought forward to us, and those are every

1 issue that you hear and that we are taking minutes on. We go back, and we refer those to  
2 counsel and discuss each one. We sort them to make sure that any issue -- every issue is  
3 being addressed and considered.

4 But that in the forming of policy, and again, talking about possible iterations of  
5 that could easily be in error and discussions with counsel could go longer than that. This is  
6 a matter of protecting our fair. This is a matter of all the issues that have come up before  
7 us.

8 Yes, Jim?

9 DIRECTOR SALZER: So testing, hello.

10 So we're being asked to decide between two groups, each wanting to take away  
11 the constitutional rights of the other, and whatever we decide, we have to be able to defend  
12 that decision. That's what it comes down to, and you can't do it with false statements and  
13 misrepresentation, I'm sorry.

14 CEO QUAID: Chairman Cornejo?

15 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: May I ask --

16 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Shanté?

17 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: No, she was waiting.

18 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Go ahead, please.

19 DIRECTOR MORGAN-DURISSEAU: I have a question. I don't know if this is  
20 possible: Is there any way to trace or document how guns from, let's say, our gun show  
21 are used? Is there any sort of data available?

22 I mean, we did have a lot of statements, and I have concerns and, you know, are  
23 guns purchased at gun shows being used for, I mean, purposes that we would have some  
24 concern for? I'm just curious, is that information available?

25 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Barbara?

26 CEO QUAID: To the best of my knowledge there has not been any incidents that  
27 have been traced back to the Crossroads of the West gun shows.

28 (Inaudible speaker.)

1           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We actually are not engaging public at this time.

2           Other board members, do you have questions?

3           DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Yes.

4           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Mike, go.

5           DIRECTOR BRADBURY: May I ask Barbara a couple questions?

6           Barbara, approximately how much money do we derive from the contract with  
7 Crossroads?

8           CEO QUAID: Between 92 and a 100,000 a year, and that includes parking and  
9 food, etc.

10          DIRECTOR BRADBURY: And how many gun shows have you anticipated in  
11 2019 if we decide to have them?

12          CEO QUAID: I believe they are asking for six, six or seven.

13          DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Is it possible, while we're waiting for the Ad Hoc  
14 Committee to come back to the board, to contract for less than a year, for example, for two  
15 shows instead of six shows and to see if, in fact, the Ad Hoc Committee comes back within  
16 that time frame?

17          CEO QUAID: That's at the pleasure of the board.

18          DIRECTOR BRADBURY: But the Crossroads, you think, would be willing to do  
19 that?

20          CEO QUAID: I can't answer for Crossroads. I simply don't know.

21          DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Is that a reasonable possibility or not?

22          CEO QUAID: Again, I can't answer for Crossroads.

23          DIRECTOR BRADBURY: I mean, from our perspective.

24          CEO QUAID: That is reasonable from your perspective. I can't answer for theirs.

25          PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I think, also, one of the things that's at issue is not a  
26 specific vendor but the idea of gun shows on the grounds, so -- so we have those two  
27 issues: Do we -- do we -- is there interest in allowing the CEO --

28               (Microphone went out.)

1           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Are we okay? Can you hear me now? Okay. Sorry,  
2 thank you. Lost my thought, though.

3           Is there interest in giving direction to the CEO to continue contracting during this  
4 process?

5           We have -- and I think --

6           DIRECTOR LONG: It's out again.

7           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I think could we ask Christine to let us know what our  
8 options, or would you prefer we discuss -- I'm sorry -- should we just discuss, you know, we  
9 could -- and there are risks with every decision that we take. We're under advisement by  
10 counsel as to some of the risks on the decisions that we take, and those weigh on us very  
11 heavily as well, again, in many directions.

12           So you know, we could -- there are options to entirely stop gun shows. We could  
13 try a moratorium. We understand there's litigation for that. We can continue with the gun  
14 shows on either a short-term or a long-term during the process, but I would like to know  
15 how the board feels about that or if there's any kind of emotion at this point or what  
16 discussion or questions that you have on this.

17           Dan?

18           DIRECTOR LONG: Thank you, Madam President.

19           So we started discussing the gun shows early -- much earlier this year, and -- and  
20 I think we've directed our CEO not to contract for 2019 until we've come up with a policy.  
21 We first adopted B and L's policy in the interim, and then we decided --

22           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We did not. We did not.

23           DIRECTOR LONG: We did not? Okay. So we don't have a policy and standards  
24 that we need to have.

25           I am not in favor, personally, of changing my mind about contracting any gun  
26 shows next year until we get a policy in place.

27           UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: I'm sorry. Can you repeat that, Dan, please?

28           DIRECTOR LONG: I'm not interested in having -- renewing our contracts for the



1 gun show -- any gun show in 2019 until we have a policy and standards in place.

2 I did hear a lot from a lot of people that a lot of other things going on besides  
3 selling of guns and ammunition. I wonder, is that even feasible to have a gun show without  
4 actually guns or ammo present?

5 It seems like an oxymoron to me, but we kept hearing that over and over. I, you  
6 know, I'm just wondering. So just for me, you know, there's a lot of other questions that we  
7 still need to answer.

8 And I get the fiduciary responsibility that we all have to keep this fairgrounds in  
9 better shape. I'd kind of like to get the card with Wendy out there that maybe she'll help us  
10 with some capital gains improvement with our fairgrounds.

11 But even with that risk, I'm just not -- I think things are changing in this country. I  
12 think a lot of votes have changed across this country about what people think about guns,  
13 and I do think it is part of our responsibility as leaders in this community how we change  
14 with the thoughts in mind of all of our county residents?

15 So I'll just leave it as that for now.

16 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Madam chair?

17 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes.

18 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: I'd like to make a motion that may appear to some to  
19 split the baby, but I'd like to move that --

20 DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I'm sorry, Director Bradbury. Can I ask that any motions  
21 be held until all the members of the board comment?

22 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: You can continue to discuss a motion once its made.

23 So I'd like to make a motion that we instruct Barbara to enter into a contract for  
24 2019 for two gun shows. Hopefully within that period of time we may hear back from the  
25 Ad Hoc Committee, and that during that period she also explore and report back to the  
26 board how we could replace that revenue if it, in fact, is lost.

27 DIRECTOR LONG: Second the motion -- I'm sorry.

28 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: So I have a motion and a second, and we can

1 continue discussion on this motion. Any discussion points?

2 Shanté?

3 DIRECTOR MORGAN-DURISSEAU: Yes. In terms of if there were two gun  
4 shows, would we have to be in conversation with B and L to determine when those would  
5 happen or would we be setting those a timeline?

6 DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I also want to point out that it's been -- it's been noted that  
7 one director understood that we were operating under the draft policy, if you will, I'll call it a  
8 draft, but under the draft by Crossroads in the current year in operations of these gun  
9 shows and it was to be used as a policy, if not -- if not a policy directly, but in terms of  
10 guidelines, we were using and, in fact, have been using the Crossroads contract.

11 So I would like for clarification because that was, in fact, made clear at the last  
12 board meeting that we didn't have our own policy and the policy or guidelines that we were  
13 operating under with these gun shows was under the contract of Crossroads.

14 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I distinctly said the opposite at our last meeting that we  
15 are not operating or using their contract as our policy.

16 DIRECTOR LONG: We did, and we dropped it.

17 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We discussed -- we discussed the possibility --

18 DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I'm not saying -- I'm not saying (speakers talking over  
19 each other) policy. I'm saying it was being used as our guiding document.

20 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We were using them -- we were only allowing them as  
21 a legal contract that we were not going to change, but they were -- we are not using them  
22 as a basis for our policy. We are using the law as our policy.

23 Yeah?

24 CEO QUAID: I just wanted to reiterate that I think that's what we were talking  
25 about was their -- Crossroads follows the current California law, and that's what was  
26 discussed as policy. Even though they already follow the law, we were talking about  
27 incorporating that into our policy. I think that's where the confusion was.

28 DIRECTOR CUEVAS: So we were talking about incorporating the contract

1 presented by Crossroads as our language for our own policy?

2           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We were talking about incorporating the law into our  
3 policy.

4           DIRECTOR CUEVAS: So why aren't we using their contract as the basis  
5 of establishing that --

6           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We acknowledged that we have them. Someone  
7 suggested it. We discussed it, but we never did.

8           DIRECTOR CUEVAS: So what is it that we're using today?

9           DIRECTOR MORGAN-DURISSEAU: Excuse me, Director Cuevas, I actually had  
10 a question on the table.

11           DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Please.

12           DIRECTOR MORGAN-DURISSEAU: I'm sorry.

13           Can I -- can I please have my question answered?

14           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Please, Shanté. Repeat the question, please.

15           DIRECTOR MORGAN-DURISSEAU: Okay. What I asked was: If, indeed, we  
16 were to adopt the motion that's on the table for the two gun shows, how would we begin to  
17 negotiate when those gun shows would take place or how would we reconsider --

18           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Barbara?

19           CEO QUAID: We have a request from them for similar dates as they've had in  
20 past years; the first one being in February. I think the second one being in April.

21           Does that answer --

22           DIRECTOR MORGAN-DURISSEAU: Yes, thank you.

23           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I'm sorry that I overlooked that.

24           DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Can we call for the vote?

25           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Does anyone have any other questions regarding this  
26 before we go to the vote or comments?

27           VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: I have a comment. I just want to make sure we're  
28 doing this with the very -- with the fairgrounds what's best for the fairgrounds when we

1 actually vote on this, if this is something you think you want, and we're adopting without a  
2 policy, and we will continue to work on that policy, so I just ask.

3       PRESIDENT CORNEJO: A big part of our study through the Ad Hoc Committee  
4 is working with our counsel and any other information that we can gather to make sure that  
5 we are following the law, that we are making sure that we're paying attention to  
6 constitutional rights for all parties, and as well protecting the fair with the potential  
7 consequences of our litigation later on as well. We have to -- we have to make an  
8 informed decision on -- based on all of these things.

9       So I'm not trying to advocate for any one thing or another. I'm just advising why  
10 this policy could take so long to put together. It's not -- It is not something we approach  
11 lightly and whether you're taking -- when you're trying to create a legal basis for your  
12 decisions, you have to do it right, so that's why it would take so long.

13       What the board would like to do in the meantime regarding directing the --  
14 Barbara for these -- for a short-term continuance of these contracts, that's the question --  
15 that's the question that's at hand.

16       Yes?

17       DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I would just like to point out that although we -- although  
18 we have fulfilled our contract this year and are not contemplating entering into another  
19 contract for next year, we do -- and as we mentioned in the audience and in speaker  
20 comments, we do have the opportunity at this time to table any further contract or any  
21 future shows until we have our own crafted, drafted, vetted, researched policy and not hold  
22 any gun shows, if at all, until that work is done.

23       CEO QUAID: Cecilia, there's a gun show coming up in December.

24       DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I know, and that fulfills our legal obligation this year. I'm  
25 speaking to next year. I didn't mention this year. I'm speaking to next year.

26       We have the opportunity to -- to not move forward with that until we have a set  
27 policy in place. We're not obligated at this time to move forward with a 2019 contract as  
28 we were obligated for 2018, which I also opposed back in April when we voted on that.

1           So we're not -- we're not legally obligated to enter into any future gun shows at  
2 this time. I would like to remind each and every board member that we're not legally  
3 obligated to do that.

4           PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Jim, you've got a comment?

5           DIRECTOR SALZER: Well, simply, I'd like to ask Cecilia, what has changed?

6           DIRECTOR CUEVAS: From my position, nothing. I haven't been a supporter of  
7 these gun shows at all.

8           DIRECTOR SALZER: The rules are still in place. You know, you're just creating  
9 barriers and objections. I understand that's what everybody else that's anti-gun is doing,  
10 but you know, we've talked about how important it is to defend our decision. I think we're  
11 prepared to do that.

12          PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. Any other comments by anyone?

13          (No audible response.)

14          PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We will call for the question.

15          Take the vote, please, Heidi.

16          HEIDI ORTIZ: Yes.

17          Director Bradbury?

18          DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Yes.

19          HEIDI ORTIZ: Director Cuevas?

20          DIRECTOR CUEVAS: No.

21          HEIDI ORTIZ: Director Long?

22          DIRECTOR LONG: No.

23          HEIDI ORTIZ: Director Morgan-Durisseau?

24          DIRECTOR MORGAN-DURISSEAU: Yes.

25          HEIDI ORTIZ: Director Salzer?

26          DIRECTOR SALZER: Yes.

27          HEIDI ORTIZ: Vice President Lacayo?

28          VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Yes.

1 HEIDI ORTIZ: And President Cornejo?

2 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes.

3 Motion carries.

4 Okay. The motion is to direct Barbara to continue contracting for gun shows for  
5 two gun shows, so we'll revisit. Thank you very much.

6 Let's move on on the agenda.

7 (Thereupon, the gun show portion of the board meeting closed.)

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# Board of Directors Annual Meeting Agenda

Ventura County Fairgrounds, 31st District Agricultural Association  
10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: [venturacountyfair.org](http://venturacountyfair.org) Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Derby Club/ Director's Room**

All matters noticed on this agenda may be considered for action. Items listed on the agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Board President. Any item not so noticed will not be considered or discussed. The Board requests your courtesy to **mute your electronic devices and limit usage to note taking.**

**I. Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

Does any Board member have a conflict of interest that should preclude them from participating in discussions about or voting on any matter on today's agenda?

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Welcome and Introduction of Guests & Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

**IV. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with state law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

**V. Presentations**

**VI. Approval of Minutes**

A. November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting

**VII. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**VIII. Old Business**

A. City of Ventura, Brad Starr – Surfer's Point Phase II

1. Discussion and possible action regarding Surfer's Point Phase II.

**IX. Committee Reports**

A. Marketing Committee Meeting January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 – Leah Lacayo, Chair

1. Discussion and possible action regarding budgeting NTE \$15,000 on a professional survey.

B. Executive Committee Meeting December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Leslie Cornejo, Chair

1. Discussion and possible action regarding adopting CDFA's Public Records Act Request policy.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding approving the 20 year lease for the Phoenix Tower International contract.

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: 2019 State Rules for California Fairs
- B. Correspondence received on Gun Shows

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-2, and B are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

- A. Agreements
  1. Standard Agreements
  2. Rental Agreements – Interim
- B. Travel Claims

**XII. CEO Report**

**XIII. President's Comments**

**XIV. Director's Comments**

**XV. Future Agenda Items**

**XVI. Adjourn**

**Americans With Disabilities Act**

The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Heidi Ortiz at (805) 648-3376 ext. 106 or sending a written request to that person at the Fairgrounds: 10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001. Although not required, providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.



**Ventura County Fairgrounds**

**Board of Directors**

**10 W. Harbor Blvd.**

**Ventura, CA 93001**

**Re: Gun Shows / Ventura Fair Grounds**

I was disappointed today to read that the Board has elected to renew the Gun Show for 2019. I'm sure you have heard the arguments against doing this.

**Maybe we can learn something from the attached article.**

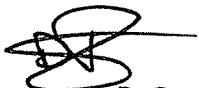
**There is a solution and someone needs to get it started!**

From the Ventura County Star:

**"In March, the board directed its executive committee to craft a policy regulating gun shows. But in September, the board voted instead to form an ad hoc committee of Cornejo and Vice Chair Leah Lacayo to research with the board's attorney the legal ramifications of banning gun shows, the financial consequences of eliminating them, what new regulations could look like and related issues"**

**In March? ... Let's see what has happened since March. See attached - Keep in mind.. this does not include Parkland.**

**I would like to know what is on your agenda everyday that is more important than people being killed by guns.**



Dennis DeGennaro

Thousand Oaks, CA.

805 402 8318

31st D.A.A.

DEC 03 2018

Ventura County Fairgrounds

- Journal List BMC Public Health v.11; 2011
- PMC3270062

- **Abstract**

- **Background**

- In California, some 40, 000 retailers sell tobacco products. Tobacco's ubiquitousness in retail settings normalizes use and cues smoking urges among former smokers and those attempting cessation. Thus, limiting the number of retailers is regarded as key to ending the tobacco epidemic. In the past decade, independent pharmacies and local grocery chains in California and elsewhere have voluntarily abandoned tobacco sales. No previous studies have examined the reasons for this emerging phenomenon. We sought to learn what motivated retailers to discontinue tobacco sales and what employees and customers thought about their decision.

- **Methods**

- We conducted case studies of seven California retailers (three grocery stores, four pharmacies) that had voluntarily ceased tobacco sales within the past 7 years. We interviewed owners, managers, and employees, conducted consumer focus groups, unobtrusively observed businesses and the surrounding environment, and examined any media coverage of each retailer's decision. We analyzed data using qualitative content analysis.

- **Results**

- For independent pharmacies, the only reason given for the decision to end tobacco sales was that tobacco caused disease and death. Grocers listed health among several factors, including regulatory pressures and wanting to be seen as "making a difference." Media coverage of stores' new policies was limited, and only three retailers alerted customers. Management reported few or no customer complaints and supportive or indifferent employees. Pharmacy employees were pleased to no longer be selling a deadly product. Grocery store management saw the decision to end tobacco sales as enhancing the stores' image and consistent with their inventory of healthy foods. Focus group participants (smokers and nonsmokers) were largely unaware that retailers had stopped selling tobacco; however, almost all supported the decision, viewing it as promoting public health. Many said knowing this made them more likely to shop at the store. Most thought that advertising the store's policy was essential to generate good public relations and tobacco norm changes.

- **Conclusions**

- Voluntary retailer abandonment of tobacco sales both reflects and extends social norm changes that have problematized tobacco in California. Our findings suggest that such voluntary initiatives by retailers are welcomed by consumers and should be publicized, enhancing public health efforts.
- Approximately 40, 000 California retailers sell tobacco products [1]. Outlet density increases the likelihood of smoking among minors and adults [2,3], due partly to tobacco advertising in tobacco outlets, which normalizes and promotes tobacco use [4-10] and, among smokers and former smokers, triggers smoking [9,11-13]. The ubiquity of tobacco outlets also normalizes purchase and sale of addictive and deadly products [14]. **The Institute of Medicine regards limiting the number of tobacco outlets as key to ending the tobacco problem [[15], p. 307].**

November 19, 2018	<u>Chicago, Illinois</u>	4 <sup>[n.1]</sup>	0	4	<u>Mercy Hospital shooting</u> : A gunman opened fire in the <u>Mercy Hospital and Medical Center</u> in Chicago, killing a doctor at the hospital who was his former fiancée, a police officer, and one other person before being killed either by himself or by police. <sup>[13]</sup>
November 11, 2018	<u>Robbins, Illinois</u>	1	4 <sup>[n.1]</sup>	5	<u>Shooting of Jemel Roberson</u> : A man re-entered a bar after being ejected and began to fire, wounding three people and becoming injured himself. Armed security guards apprehended the suspect. Responding officers saw one of the security guards with a gun, and shot and killed him. <sup>[14]</sup>
November 7, 2018	<u>Thousand Oaks, California</u>	13 <sup>[n.1]</sup>	12+	25+	<u>Thousand Oaks shooting</u> : A man entered a bar hosting a student line-dancing event and killed twelve people, including a police officer. At least twelve people were injured. The gunman then killed himself. <sup>[15]</sup>
November 2, 2018	<u>Tallahassee, Florida</u>	3 <sup>[n.1]</sup>	5 <sup>[n.2]</sup>	8	<u>2018 Tallahassee Attack</u> : A man entered a yoga studio and killed 2 women and injured 5 others; four by gunshots and one by <u>pistol-whipping</u> , before committing suicide. <sup>[16]</sup>
October 27, 2018	<u>Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania</u>	11	6	17	<u>Pittsburgh synagogue shooting</u> : A man opened fire in the Tree of Life synagogue in an <u>antisemitic</u> attack, killing eleven people and injuring six others (including four police officers). The suspect was taken into custody by police. <sup>[17][18]</sup>
October 3, 2018	<u>Florence, South Carolina</u>	1	7	8	<u>Florence County shooting</u> : Officers were shot at during a two-hour standoff while attempting to execute a search warrant in which the perpetrator held children hostage, killing one and wounding seven before being arrested. <sup>[19]</sup>
September 21, 2018	<u>Aberdeen, Maryland</u>	4 <sup>[n.1]</sup>	3	7	<u>Aberdeen, Maryland shooting</u> : An employee of the <u>Rite Aid</u> Distribution facility killed three victims before wounding herself. The shooter died later in the hospital. <sup>[20]</sup>
September 6, 2018	<u>Cincinnati, Ohio</u>	4 <sup>[n.1]</sup>	2	6	<u>Fifth Third Center Shooting</u> : A gunman entered a loading dock at the <u>Fifth Third Center</u> skyscraper and opened fire before entering the lobby of a building.

August 26, 2018	<u>Jacksonville, Florida</u>	3 <sup>[n.1]</sup>	9	14	Four people, including the shooter, were killed and two were injured. <sup>[21]</sup> <u>Jacksonville Landing Shooting</u> : A gunman killed two people and wounded eleven more (nine with gunshot wounds) at a <u>Madden NFL 19</u> competition before killing himself. The shooter was identified as <u>David Katz</u> , an individual who had reportedly been eliminated from the competition before the shooting. <sup>[22][23][24]</sup>
June 28, 2018	<u>Annapolis, Maryland</u>	5	2	7	<u>Capital Gazette shooting</u> : A gunman entered the offices of <u>The Capital Gazette</u> and killed five employees and wounded two others. <sup>[25][26]</sup> <u>Art All Night shooting</u> : Multiple gunmen wounded 17 people at the Art All Night festival. Five others were wounded when they were trampled by people around them. One of the suspected gunmen was shot and killed by police. Police suspect the shooting was gang-related. <sup>[27]</sup>
June 17, 2018	<u>Trenton, New Jersey</u>	1 <sup>[n.1]</sup>	22 <sup>[n.2]</sup>	23	<u>2018 Scottsdale Spree Shootings</u> : Over the course of several days, a man killed a forensic psychologist, two paralegals, a counselor, and a couple from whom he took a handgun. The suspect killed himself when police began closing in on him. <sup>[28][29]</sup>
May 30–June 4, 2018	<u>Scottsdale, Arizona</u>	7	0	7	<u>Santa Fe High School shooting</u> : A student at <u>Santa Fe High School</u> shot and killed ten people and wounded fourteen others. Explosive devises were also found, but they were not detonated. The suspect was taken into custody by police. <sup>[30]</sup>
May 18, 2018	<u>Santa Fe, Texas</u>	10	14 <sup>[n.1]</sup>	24	<u>Nashville Waffle House shooting</u> : A gunman entered a <u>Waffle House</u> , where he killed four people and injured two others. He was later taken into custody. <sup>[31]</sup>
April 22, 2018	<u>Nashville, Tennessee</u>	4	2	6	<u>Yountville Shooting</u> : A man entered the <u>Veterans Home of California</u> and held three staff members hostage. He killed the three staff members (and the unborn child of one of the staff members, who was pregnant) before killing himself in a murder–suicide. <sup>[32]</sup>
March 9, 2018	<u>Yountville, California</u>	5 <sup>[n.1]</sup> 11 <sup>[n.4]</sup>	0	5	

cc

Department of Food and Agriculture  
1220 N. Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Friday, January 11, 2019 2:37 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Letter re Nov. 2018 Ventura Fair Board Meeting [MA-Interwoven.FID27444]  
**Attachments:** Ltr from CRPA re Ventura Fair Board Meeting Questions re Gun Shows.pdf

---


**From:** Laura Palmerin [mailto:[lpalmerin@michellawyers.com](mailto:lpalmerin@michellawyers.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 11, 2019 2:28 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Cc:** Tiffany Cheuvront  
**Subject:** Letter re Nov. 2018 Ventura Fair Board Meeting [MA-Interwoven.FID27444]

Hello,

Attached please find a letter regarding the Ventura Fair Board Meeting held in November 2018.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

<p><b>Laura Palmerin</b> Legal Secretary/Paralegal</p>  <p><b>MICHEL &amp; ASSOCIATES, P.C.</b> Attorneys at Law Environmental - Land Use - Firearms - Employment Law Civil Litigation - Criminal Defense</p>	<p>Direct: (562) 216-4473 Main: (562) 216-4444 Fax: (562) 216-4445 Email: <a href="mailto:lpalmerin@michellawyers.com">lpalmerin@michellawyers.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.michellawyers.com">www.michellawyers.com</a></p> <p>180 E. Ocean Blvd. Suite 200 Long Beach, CA 90802</p>
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January 11, 2019

Barbara Quaid, CEO  
Hon. Daniel Long  
Hon. Leslie Cornejo  
Hon. Leah Lacayo  
Hon. Bonnie Atmore  
Hon. Michael Bradbury  
Hon. M. Cecilia Cuevas  
Hon. Armando Lopez  
Hon. Shante Morgan-Durisseau  
Hon. Jim Salzer  
**Ventura County Fairgrounds**  
**31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association**  
Derby Club / Director's Room  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Ventura, CA 93001  
EMAIL: [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)

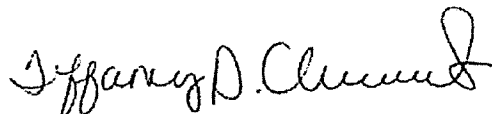
**Re: November 2018 Ventura County Fairgrounds Board Meeting**

Dear Ventura Fairgrounds Board of Directors:

Enclosed please find our responses to questions and false statements made at the November 27, 2018 Ventura Fairgrounds Board meeting.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Tiffany D. Cheuvront  
Assistant Corporate Counsel

Responses to questions and false statements made at November 27, 2018 Ventura Board of Directors

*The following statements and questions were made at the Ventura County Fair Board meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup> by members of the public. Some of those statements were false and need correction in order for the Board to be informed in their consideration of such statements.*

**1) What is the issue here?**

On November 27, 2018, members of the public attended the Ventura County Fair Board to debate and discuss the continued operation of a gun show on the county fairgrounds. Unfortunately, there were many misleading, inflammatory and unfair comments regarding suicide rates, gun violence throughout the state and public safety in general by anti-gun activists. There were also comments on the lack of mental health assistance for troubled people and how students feel going to school. While all of these are “human” issues that we should all be concerned about, these are not the issues before the Board.

The Board is considering its management of state public property and whether to prohibit a contractor’s use of that property based on nothing more than political pressure and the fact that some people have the opinion that firearms are not needed. These same people are not just pressuring the Board in Ventura, they are systematically working across the State of California to stop lawful activity and abrogate citizens’ rights in multiple venues.

The State of California already has laws in place that govern the operation of gun shows. These laws are more detailed and comprehensive than those for brick and mortar stores and far more restrictive than most of the other 49 states. The gun show promoters in Ventura County are in full compliance with state law and federal law and there have been no issues with the show’s compliance. Thus, as a matter of law, the Board (as a State actor), cannot discriminate against the lawful activity of one group just because some members of the public don’t agree with it.

As a matter of law, the issue about the gun show is almost certainly settled. However, this response seeks to address the gun-control activists claims made during the Board meeting. It is clear from many of the comments at this meeting, that anti-gun activists have a different agenda in mind; one which is based on fear and emotional pleas instead of factual representations on the actual subject matter.

**2) “Who owns the fairgrounds?”**

The Ventura County Fairgrounds are owned by the State of California, overseen by the State Department of Food and Agriculture, and managed by a local board of directors that are appointed by the Governor to carry out the State purpose of managing the public venue. “Public venue” means that these state properties are open to all.

**3) “This is not a mental health issue.”**

This statement was made repeatedly by members of the public speaking out against the gun shows. However, gun violence *is* a mental health issue because mentally sound, law-abiding citizens do not go out and commit gun violence. It is important that we do not diminish or stigmatize the mentally ill. Indeed, the phrase “mentally ill” encompasses a wide range of ailments, from mere depression to chronic schizophrenia. Careful consideration must be taken to craft any policy which would both advance public safety and prevent unnecessary abuse. However, the problem with mental illness is not solved with more restrictions on the right to keep and bear arms. It is solved by improving and properly funding existing mental health services, as well as getting those that are tasked with recognizing people with mental issues to actually report those people into the systems that have been set up to prevent access to firearms.

A recent report found that although state law requires courts to report individuals to the Department of Justice whenever the court makes certain mental health determinations, many courts in California were not aware of these requirements.<sup>1</sup> Many of these courts could not even tell the researchers how many prohibited people they failed to report to law enforcement.

The gap in court reporting results in unreported individuals with mental illness and law enforcement is less likely to identify persons who may be prohibited from owning firearms. Additionally, the report noted that the Department of Justice division that tracks armed and prohibited persons, did not always flag armed and prohibited persons with mental illnesses about whom it has received reports.

When the systems that we have are breaking down, how are more restrictions on law-abiding people— to make gun ownership more difficult— helpful in preventing anything? To make a statement in a public meeting and imply that the violence we are all seeing is not caused by mental issues and a breakdown in the current systems that we have in place, but instead blaming all violence on a gun show that has been operating for over 30 years, and the lawful attendees, is simply misleading the Board and to the public.

**4) “This is not a Second Amendment Issue.”**

This is a common statement for the groups that oppose gun shows across the state. Actions are often more revealing than mere words, and one look at their website denotes a very different picture. They *are not* supporters of the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. Rather, they want to make it as difficult as possible for lawful citizens to have firearms.

There is literally a gun control handbook on how these anti-gun activist groups should “choose their language” when speaking in public to avoid the appearance of extremism and to appear

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<sup>1</sup> California State Auditor Report 2013-103, October 2013.



more mainstream. How they should employ effective messaging and how to gauge the type of audience they are speaking to.

When you are focused on stopping lawful activity just because you do not agree with it, that group is not a friend to any portion of the constitutional rights that we all enjoy. Shutting down lawful activity that makes it more difficult for citizens to participate in their constitutional rights *does implicate* their intentions to restrain the Second Amendment.

**5) "Availability of guns is not something we want."**

Whenever the Board hears this comment there are two things that it should focus on- the "we" and the exaggeration.

The "we" in this comment does not represent all of those in your county or those thousands that visit your county to attend the gun shows. There are many people that don't see the need to attend cannabis shows, car shows, boat shows, etc. Those people just do not go. No one is forcing anyone to attend a gun show.

The First Amendment is in place to protect that speech that some may find offensive. This is the exact purpose of the First Amendment. When the Board allows the few to determine what is/is not acceptable, it enters a very dangerous area of discrimination and censorship.

California has some of the most stringent laws in the country when it comes to obtaining a firearm. There is a background check, a safety demonstration, and a 10-day waiting period before anyone gains access to a firearm from a federal firearm dealer at a gun show. The mere implication that guns are easily available to anyone is simply false.

A recent study notes that where gun shows in California are not available, citizens travel to less strict states to purchase firearms, thus pushing gun sales outside of the highly restrictive environment of California and into a more lenient jurisdiction. Stopping gun shows in California will not stop people from owning firearms, it will just make it easier for them to acquire.

**6) "The gun culture is limited to violence and toxic masculinity."**

This statement by an anti-gun activist at the meeting demonstrates their ignorance of what "gun culture" actually is and what it is becoming. Two of the fastest growing segments<sup>2</sup> in firearms

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.americas1stfreedom.org/articles/2016/9/7/gun-ownership-booming-among-women-minorities-seniors/>

purchases<sup>3</sup> are women<sup>4</sup> and minorities<sup>5</sup>. Equating gun culture with toxic masculinity and violence disrespects and erases the existence of millions of female and minority firearms owners, all of whom own firearms for legitimate purposes.

Not only is this type of characterization of firearm owners offensive, but it speaks to the lack of knowledge some members of the public and anti-gun groups in general have when addressing the Board and other public forums on gun ownership. There are millions of firearms owners in California and the United States, each with their own individual ideas and motivations. Whatever gun culture is, it is not a monolith. The law-abiding gun community has many differences of opinions regarding gun laws and public safety and they are perfectly happy to discuss and debate them in good faith. However, this sort of polemic about gun owners as inherently “violent and toxic” destroys any possibility of a good faith discussion.

Second, this charge of “toxic masculinity” not only insults men but does a disservice to those who actually own firearms in order to protect themselves from very common threats. Domestic violence, and violence against women are very real and serious problems in our society, for which “toxic masculinity” and “machismo” culture has played an important part. Indeed, several firearms groups, including Pink Pistols, an LGBT gun rights organization, were founded to support marginalized persons who wish to defend themselves after dealing with a lifetime of toxic masculinity, homophobia and transphobia throughout their lives. Throwing “toxic masculinity” insults at all gun owners devalues the term and does nothing to advance public safety or social emancipation.

It is clear from this sort of language that anti-gun activists are not interested in understanding gun culture, in engaging with it, or even in showing it basic respect. Indeed, how can someone be respected or reasoned with if they are inherently “violent and toxic?” How could such a person even *deserve* the right to self-defense?

The purpose of such rhetoric is not to “solve” any problems with gun violence, or advance public safety, but to discredit gun owners and devalue gun ownership. Worse, the charge of being inherently violent and toxic effectively silences debate and says that the concerns of firearms owners don’t deserve to be voiced, much less addressed.

**7) “The health and well-being of the community is at stake.”**

This type of fear mongering is out of place in a discussion regarding a lawful business that has operated without incident for *over 30 years*. There is no link to any criminal or safety issues in the community with any activity that the gun show conducts in Ventura. In fact, it was reported

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<sup>3</sup> <https://crimeresearch.org/2018/08/new-study-17-25-million-concealed-handgun-permits-biggest-increases-for-women-and-minorities/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://sportingclassicsdaily.com/women-in-the-shooting-sports/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.ammoland.com/2016/01/national-african-american-gun-association-member-of-the-month-sirrajabdel-alim/#axzz5aMZhboSU>

by KPBS that over the past year the San Diego County Fair had 13 arrests (the KAABOO music festival has 16 arrests, and the gun shows had one arrest this year<sup>6</sup>). Gun shows see far less criminal activity than other types of events because of the presence of law enforcement. The gun show operators encourage law enforcement and warn the public about the strict laws. The gun shows held at the Ventura County Fairgrounds follow all state and federal law and are compliant. The state set these regulations for the safe operation of gun shows across the state and the state requirements ARE the precursors for safe operation of a gun show.

The only study done to *try* to show any connection with gun shows and violence was done by UC Davis Health, the department in charge of UC Davis' medical school and hospital. It looked at Texas gun shows (which are not as highly regulated as California gun shows) to try to create a connection with the shows in other states and the impact on violent crime in California communities. This study was found to be flawed and misleading because the research contains errors which produced false results.<sup>7</sup> The U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health actually warns against using this study in formulating gun policy, yet anti-gun activists love to quote this study over and over again. Flawed methodology and false studies should not be used as a basis for political attacks on lawful businesses.

Understanding whether the "health and well-being of a community" is at stake requires considering things in context. This applies equally to deaths from gun violence as well as from car accidents, cancer, heart disease etc. Over 2.6 million Americans die every year. Firearm deaths represent just over one percent of all of these deaths overall. Two thirds of all firearm deaths are suicides. And if you only consider mass shootings, the percent is even lower. From a "health and well-being" perspective, there are many other causes of death that would be much more deserving of public attention, and much more likely to save lives than banning firearms, let alone gun shows.

When a government introduces safety regulations on car manufacturers or drivers, like seatbelts, airbags and so on, it can reasonably assume that every reduction in the number of deaths represents a life saved. Regulation of cars is also different from regulation of firearms in that owning and possessing a firearm is a constitutional right in America. Even though anti-gun activists like to compare these two forms of regulation, they are – different.

Gun violence in America is a major problem, but it is much more related to sociological failures that state and city governments already have many tools to address. But this requires real work of a pragmatic sort. It requires good-faith collaboration and conversation with gun owners. It does not mean applying the same old theory about society ("Guns are bad") and giving the same answer to every question ("Let's just ban the gun shows!") Campaigning for these kind of laws does have a pleasing simplicity to them, even if they are as useful as a ban on cancer. But real solutions require real work. The Ventura County Fair Board has the authority to manage state

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.kpbs.org/news/2018/oct/10/gun-show-without-guns-and-ammo-no-were-looking-oth/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2936974/>

property and does not have the authority to implement public safety type legislative initiatives. That role is left to the duly elected city and county governments who are tasked with representing the local community. Fair boards manage for facilities and are not in the business of developing public policy.

**8) "There is almost one mass shooting per day in America."**

It is a myth that the United States leads the world in the number of mass shootings that occur. While the U.S. has about 4.6 % of the world's population, it has just 2.88 % of the world's mass public shootings.<sup>8</sup> Mass public shooting deaths make up less than 1% of all gun homicides, making them a small part of the conversation even though they are highly covered by news outlets. Contrary to popular rhetoric, the U.S. does not have more mass shootings than any other country<sup>9</sup>.

Regardless of the statistics presented in numerous studies that debunk the claims regarding mass shootings, these mass shooting events are in no way linked to California gun shows. Ventura County Fairgrounds is not tasked with making decisions based upon political rhetoric or pressure, it is tasked with management of the state property for use by the public.

**9) "Gun Shows are not family friendly."**

This is obviously the statement of someone who has never attended a gun show in Ventura. It is also plainly circular— "gun shows are not family friendly *because...why?*" Again, this is the sort of remark that comes from someone who has never been to a gun show and isn't interested in genuine engagement.

The truth is that gun shows attract all kinds of families: parents and children, fathers and teens, grandparents and grandchildren, and single mothers and children. All these families have one goal in mind- to teach the next generation about guns, gun safety, and heritage that allows responsible gun owners to own a firearm for protection, sport, and hunting. Having guns at a gun show helps to facilitate these conversations and discussions among gun enthusiasts, collectors, families, sportsmen, and patriotic attendees.

Vendors are very careful to not allow minors to handle firearms. Ammunition must be placed behind the counter and only those with an ammunition vendor's license may assist customers. Additionally, youths under the age of 18 years may not attend the show without a parent or guardian.

The fact that some parents do not want their children to learn about gun safety and their constitutional rights does not mean that other parents must be prohibited from raising their

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<sup>8</sup> *How a Botched Study Fooled the World About the U.S. Share of Mass Public Shootings — U.S. Rate is Lower than Global Average*, Lott, 2018.

<sup>9</sup> *Mass Shootings: Media, Myths, and Realities*, Jaclyn Schildkraut, H. Jaymi Elsass.

children in the way that they think is best. Not 30 years ago, 9-10-year-old kids getting a BB Gun, an air rifle, or a hunting rifle was not out of the ordinary. Those same family values and heritage have not changed. To imply that every child should be raised exactly the same with the same values proscribed by anti-gun activists is ludicrous.

**10) "It is a false narrative that good guys with guns stop tragedies."**

Millions of Americans legally carry firearms everyday for self-defense and protection of themselves and others. According to statistics, the number of households with one or more firearms actually increased in 2017 to 43%<sup>10</sup>. Those guns are overwhelmingly never used in anger, because in order to carry a firearm in California, the individual must have a license to carry, which requires a full background check by law enforcement. The "good guys with guns" are some of the most law-abiding citizens you will find, and they spend a significant amount of time and resources in order to gain a license to carry their firearm and be properly trained in the use of their firearms.

One study conducted by the Center for Disease Control ("CDC") reports that defensive gun use against crime is a very common occurrence. This is because the police may not be able to get to the scene of the crime quickly enough to stop the criminal or because the police have no constitutional duty to protect someone.<sup>11</sup>

In California, the years of harsh gun laws have not proven a deterrent to crime. A recent study published by UC Davis Health found that 33 of the State's 58 counties saw an increase in their violent crime rates in 2017. Those counties with some of the toughest gun laws (Santa Clara, San Francisco, and San Mateo) saw an increase in *both* violent and property crime in 2017.

In 2016, the State of California passed legislation that released inmates from jail before their sentence was complete<sup>12</sup>. So, we are now as a state placing criminals back into the population before they are ready, crime is increasing, and we are trying to stop law-abiding citizens from protecting themselves where law enforcement has no duty to protect them. Recently, the City of San Jose announced that due to violent criminals being released early, they will begin to ask the federal government to prosecute violent crimes as a way to combat the ever-growing criminal elements in their community. San Jose is all but admitting that the laws in place are not working to keep people there safe. Good guys with guns save lives every single day. To ignore this is to ignore the truth. Many of those "good guys" get the training, community involvement, and gear that they need to be educated and safe firearm owners at gun shows.

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.statista.com/statistics/249740/percentage-of-households-in-the-united-states-owning-a-firearm/> (This is the same number of households with at least one firearm as were reported in 1972, thus showing that gun ownership is not on the decline).

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2005/06/28/politics/justices-rule-police-do-not-have-a-constitutional-duty-to-protect.html>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.laadda.com/meet-violent-inmates-getting-released-prison/>

**11) "Guns are meant to kill people and animals and we don't need that culture."**

It's hard to know where to begin with this statement. This statement appears to define "guns" as both an object and a culture. Guns are certainly objects, that is indisputable. But culture is, among other things, a set of unique behaviors and practices. It has no physical representation.

Let's be generous and give it a rewrite that makes it a bit more clear. "Guns are meant to kill people and animals, and we don't need a "culture of killing people and animals." Maybe that's what the speaker is trying to say. On this basis, the speaker believes that gun shows should not be allowed in Ventura.

Suppose one agreed that gun shows somehow contribute to a "culture of killing people and animals." Well, it then follows that banning shows might save some people and animals. But the same logic would justify banning car shows. Of course, no one proposes this because everyone agrees that cars provide benefits that outweigh their dangerousness. But what about boats, that people may use only for pleasure (drownings rank higher in death statistics by the CDC than firearm deaths). Banning boat shows will not stop drownings. It would be absurd to assume that banning firearms sales in one location would somehow reach the goal of stopping gun crime or suicides.

In normal cases, deciding whether something should be banned involves weighing the costs and benefits before making a decision. But for some reason, gun control activists never do this. It is utterly symptomatic of their political blindness that gun control activists refuse to admit an obvious fact: that guns have benefits too.

Can firearms kill people and animals? Certainly. They are a technology that excellently transforms that intention into reality. But firearms do a lot of other things too. Firearms enable us to defend ourselves, our families, and our homes. They help us bond with our families and our friends. Firearms are also used in sport; in target shooting, exhibition shooting, and yes, even hunting. Firearms are also used to teach and pass on important values like self-reliance, independence, and conservation. They enhance our rights and our political consciousness: including our civic responsibility to ourselves and our fellow citizens. Ultimately, the right to bear arms protects the people from tyrannical governments that would seek to strip their rights.

Discrimination takes on many forms and one of those is to delegitimize people who have different views by stereotyping them or associating them with violence or immorality. This tactic worked very well during the Red Scare, and in promoting anti-miscegenation laws. Decades ago Americans struggled and fought for equal treatment among all races and today in America the fight for equality in sexual preference rages on. What would happen if these same people that say we don't *need* guns in our culture, said the same thing about a group of people of a different race or sexual preference? We would all be horrified. Yet, gun owners are repeatedly vilified as people only wanting to exercise their rights for anti-social and destructive purposes.

We will not stoop to these measures. We understand that gun control activists are concerned about gun violence. And despite their attempts to demonize gun owners and overwhelm the discourse with murderous statistics and spurious public health arguments, we recognize that they are afraid. They are not fearful of an objective risk to their lives, but their subjective feelings of vulnerability. They are worried about mentally ill people obtaining firearms or minor arguments escalating into gun battles or mass shootings at schools, churches or festivals. These are not just seen as crimes, but as deliberate attacks on the peace itself, and they are right to hold their governments responsible for dealing with it. They, like everyone else, want to live their lives as civilians rather than be constantly alert to a deadly attack.

But a single group of people does not make the sole decision about what we need or do not need in culture. Demonizing gun owners and appealing to unrealistic and draconian policies like banning gun shows is both unhelpful and lazy. It avoids the hard work that comes with living in a democracy: government by discussion. The ACLU has noted many times that gun laws “like any law, should be fair, effective and not based on prejudice or stereotype<sup>13</sup>.” In a recent court case, *NRA v. Cuomo*, the ACLU<sup>14</sup> took a stand on the targeting of a group that conducts lawful activity (promotion and use of firearms) by the state of New York as a violation of the First Amendment. The ACLU is concerned about the rights of all organizations to engage in speech without fear that the state will use its authority to penalize them for doing so. Should the Ventura Fairgrounds give into this type of hateful discrimination against gun owners and the culture and belief to which they subscribe, it stands to reason that the ACLU argument in New York would also apply in Ventura.

**12) “There is access to automatic weapons at gun shows.”**

Again, this is a totally false statement by someone who knows nothing of the current gun laws that we have in the state and in the nation. Automatic weapons have been outlawed for sale in California since 1989. Assault Weapons are listed on the California DOJ Roster of Prohibited Firearms by particular model. Federal law also requires fully automatic weapons made before 1986 to be registered with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

The media and anti-gun activists tend to confuse the banned assault weapons with semi-auto legal firearms simply based upon ignorance of the differences and the appearance. There are no illegal assault weapons sold at California gun shows under the very noses of local, state, and federal law enforcement who attend those gun shows.

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<sup>13</sup> <https://www.aclu.org/blog/disability-rights/gun-control-laws-should-be-fair>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.aclu.org/legal-document/nra-v-cuomo-aclu-amicus-brief>

**13) "The gun lobby outspends and is more effective in this county which is why we have so many guns."**

In 2018 gun-control groups actually out-spent pro-gun groups nationwide. Lobbying for both sides is not illegal as long as there is disclosure, and the entity is registered. Many of the local anti-gun activists groups, like Indivisible Ventura and Never Again California, seem to be acting illegally to influence decisions because they are not registered with the State as entities and are not registered lobbyists. Yet they repeatedly attempt to influence decisions by local boards including the Ventura Fair Board. They don't fully report their activism and lobbying efforts, yet anti-gun groups try to argue they are being outspent.

Regardless, statements like these totally disregard the fact that millions of Americans choose to lawfully own firearms and thousands attend the gun shows at Ventura. These are people that are controlled by their love of the constitution and exercising their rights, not by lobbyists.

**14) "Studies show that America doesn't have more mental issues than other countries."**

According to a recent survey from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health<sup>15</sup>, nearly 20% of the adult population in America suffers from mental illness. That is 10.4 million people. Additionally, it is reported that 20% of youth also suffer from mental disorders.

The World Health Organization supported these finding and determined that the United States is the country with the highest prevalence of mental disorders in the world.<sup>16</sup> In the United States only 41% of people get treatment for mental disorders.

Mother Jones began compiling data on mass shooters and came to the conclusion that approximately 54% of mass shooters have prior histories of mental health issues.<sup>17</sup> When those that monitor mental health episodes or concerning behavior are not reporting this to the proper authorities, or when those authorities do not follow up with the systems that are in place to prevent those with mental disorders from carrying out their intended actions, there is a societal failure. The real causes of violence, again, have a lot more to do with social conditions and inequality than with guns. Perhaps we as a country are simply bad at addressing these causes. That is a failure of politics, but it does not add up to a case for gun control.

While you cannot determine whether a mental disorder will present itself or not, education about mental disorders and ending the façade that there are no mental health issues in the U.S. is a start. One thing is clear, you cannot address the mental health crisis in this country by

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<sup>15</sup> <https://www.antioch.edu/auonline/2017/03/03/mental-health-issues-america-rise-2/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2011/10/why-more-americans-suffer-from-mental-disorders-than-anyone-else/246035/>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.gunfacts.info/blog/mental-health-and-homicides/> (Mother Jones is likely low in that they received their information from the press who does not always research the mental health issues of the shooters. It is thought to be as high as 54% to 80% once all are factored in).



taking away the right of citizens to lawfully own firearms. This tactic is over-reaching and does not address the real issues.

### **Conclusion**

The issue at hand is a challenge by a small group of anti-gun activists to ban a legal activity in Ventura. The State of California has already mandated safety procedures for handling a gun show in California. Agricultural Districts, while possessing the authority to manage state property, do not have the authority to rule on public issues affecting the legal rights of citizens.

The Ventura fairgrounds is a public venue where groups may come to express and share ideas. For over 30 years gun shows have safely operated at state fairgrounds with no issues. The fact that now some people just do not agree with the rights of others to share in this culture, does not give the Board the ability to arbitrarily shut down the shows.

We hope that the Board continues to consider the balance of constitutional rights and not feed into the political rhetoric that can become so prevalent in these types of passionate discussions. The gun shows should continue at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.



## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Mr Old Fashioned <darrens@mroldfashioned.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 26, 2018 10:03 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid; Heidi Ortiz; darren swanick  
**Subject:** Ventura County Fairgrounds- Crossroads of the West Gunshow

To: Barbra Quaid, CEO-[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)

and

Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary-[hortiz@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:hortiz@venturacountyfair.org)

Date: 11/26/2018

I hope that either of you will take the time to read my email in support of Crossroads of the West using the Venue of the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

I work full time and have neither the luxury or subsidy to be able to appear in person. For enjoyment I teach various forms of firearm safety, working with various firearms from the 1700's forward. As I am local, the Crossroads of the West Gunshow is the only one that I have a table at that gives me the opportunity to be able to meet with people from our area. I started attending the show last year and have found from the beginning that the people who run it do an awesome job. They make sure that the vendors are operating following the law and that the space is safe and secure.

I expect that you will have your fill of heart wrenching stories of lives touched and cut short as a result of criminals who used guns. Or equally heart wrenching stories of accidents where people were injured or killed by guns, or incidents where people committed suicide with the aid of a gun. Although tragic, how are such things the sole result of a firearm? If that were true then the same logic must be applied to the same tragedies that are a result of knives, vehicles, alcohol, all drugs prescription and illicit, incidents as a result of animal attack or accident, and virtually anything we come into contact with on a daily basis that either a criminal or person intent on doing harm to themselves or others can use to such ends.

That a group invests so much time into demonizing a very large portion of American society and forces us, in whichever group is the current target, to have to defend ourselves vigorously for no other

reason than we disagree with them, should be troubling; because at some time we will all find ourselves in a targeted group because no matter how safe we feel in our beliefs or hobbies , someone , somewhere will take offense by it. The longer , the greater 'we' allow these outrages by smaller groups to dictate what 10's of thousands if not 100's of thousands of local citizens participate , peacefully in every year at your venue, the harder it will be to ever protect anything from such attack. If this is allowed to happen, you might as well just shut down your venue entirely and sell your land, because outrage can be found in everything.

By all means, extend heartfelt sorrow for their tragedy, and if they do not want to attend such a thing... Don't go.... But don't try to take away a thing that thousands upon thousands of people peacefully and respectfully participate in.

I truly hope that you will allow the Crossroads of the West to continue renting your venue throughout the year, because there is no reason they should be denied over any other group that rents your venue.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter

Sincerely,

Darren Swanick

805-744-7063

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Bob and Lyndell <pandabearcub@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 14, 2019 12:39 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Support for Gun Shows at VC Fairgrounds

Please note, this email is for Barbara Quaid

Ms. Quaid,

I am writing you to reinforce my support for the Gun Shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds. Appreciate your efforts to allow future shows being held. I avoid going to any other shows except this one, and want to support VC shows. I believe the revenue from these shows help pay for expenses to operate the fairgrounds. With declining attendance for other shows and annual County Fair, we need to encourage participation and support so taxpayer dollars are not spent to keep the fairgrounds open.

Respectfully,

Robert Fong, Newbury Park

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Brandon Creel <brandon.creel@ianative.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 13, 2019 6:13 PM  
**To:** bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org; Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Keep Ventura County Gun Shows

Dear Fairgrounds Board Members:

I am writing in support of the continuation of the Crossroads of the West gun shows held at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

I am a frequent attendee and sometimes exhibitor at area gun shows. This gun show is very important to provide not only a legal marketplace for firearms and related items, but is a forum where ideas and information is exchanged. It is also an excellent resource for locating education pertaining to firearm and hunter safety. Especially being that there are currently no gun shows being held in Los Angeles County, it is becoming increasingly difficult to locate these resources.

Despite the sentiment many hold against firearms in general, ending gun shows does nothing to promote public safety. Despite heavy restrictions, many firearms are, in fact, perfectly legal in California. All transactions at the gun show are completed with universal background checks in conformity with California law. Moreover, being that California law has a 10-day waiting period for transfers, not a single gun is actually transferred to a purchaser at the show! Purchasers can only take possession at the dealer's off-site retail location several days after the show has concluded. I have further not heard of any safety issues ever arising at the Ventura gun show.

Again, I urge your continued support of the Ventura gun show. I appreciate your consideration to my comments.

Regards,

Brandon R. Creel  
Law Office of Brandon R. Creel  
1603 W. Valley Blvd. #3276  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
(949) 677-8074  
brandon.creel@IANative.net

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Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Ronald Ensele <rejenesele@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 10, 2019 12:44 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz

Banning gun shows is not the solution for gun control because the only ones who abide by gun laws is law abiding citizens, criminals don't care about gun shows or gun stores so why punish the law abiding citizen so go after the criminals that's why we need the wall for protection.

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Guy Bouck <Bouckster52@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 09, 2019 9:59 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun Show

### Talking Points

Hello my name is \_\_Guy Bouck\_\_\_\_\_ and I am a CRPA member

I am here today to urge you to consider keeping the Crossroads of the West Gun Show here in Ventura

- While those opposed to this gun show say banning it will make us safer, banning the show will actually deprive the community of vital safety training opportunities o Gun shows are a major outlet for firearm safety training and materials. o The gun show serves as a venue for classes like Eddie Eagle and Project Childsafe, which teach safe responsible firearms ownership. o Banning the show will cut off countless law abiding gun owners from these safety resources.
- Gun shows sell much more than guns o Everything from apparel, gear, parts, and ammunition is sold at these shows. They provide a valuable outlet for local small businesses to showcase and demonstrate their goods to the community.
- In the history of the Ventura Show, there has never been any incident of illegal or criminal activity o Crossroads Ventura Show has a perfect record of complying with California's firearms laws.
- Despite the misconception that someone can go to the show and walk out with a gun, there is no "gun show loophole" o In California, there is no gun show loophole. Any gun purchase made at the show must be conducted through a licensed dealer with a background check and a 10 day waiting period. Firearms are kept separate and out of direct reach of the public.
- Gun Shows are a safe and family friendly environment o Gun shows create a safe environment where children can be introduced to shooting sports and hunting with the proper safety and supervision.
- The move to ban this show is a reactionary response to isolated incidents of terror o Banning this show will have no effect on gun violence; the opposition is taking advantage of tragedy to advance their unconstitutional agenda of disarmament.
- Gun Show attendees are law-abiding gun owners and are a vital part of the social fabric of Ventura County o Hunting and sport shooting are popular sports here in the county, with various clubs and ranges around the county offering introductory classes to the shooting sports, and this show provides those opportunities as well
- This show brings in vital revenue for the County Fair Grounds as well as revenue to the surrounding community.

I respectfully ask you to vote in favor of the Crossroads Ventura show. Allowing it to close would eliminate a critical source of gun safety programs, materials, and training opportunities, in Ventura County.

Look long and hard to see the good in this world..., you'll find it.



**Heidi Ortiz**

---

**From:** Steve & Linda Kimbrough <stevek712@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 07, 2019 7:01 PM  
**To:** bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org  
**Cc:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Please continue to support local Gun Shows

Honorable Chair and Members of the Board of Directors  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please continue to provide the venue for the Gun shows that serve Ventura County. I am troubled by the tactics of the Anti-Gun advocates who seek to intimidate business, banking and insurance companies into not doing business with anyone in the business of firearm sales. This opposition is largely funded by outside interests. Rather than tiring you with the actual tactics of these people, I will just list a few of the benefits to the Ventura Communities.

Gun Shows in California are conducted completely within both State and Federal law. No firearms are sold illegally, and the State watches closely. Much of the inventory offered for sale is not firearms but accessories and used Stuff.

Gun shows provide a rendezvous-like atmosphere for old friends visiting, and for young and old to learn about the shooting sports.

Hopefully, your Fairgrounds contracts bring a good return to the fairgrounds revenues. Revenues that have become even more essential following the uncertainty of receiving State financial support

You would never dream of banning Horse Shows and livestock competitions, even though many Vegans detest the livestock industry. Furthermore, the Fairgrounds exist to provide a wide range of entertainment, learning opportunities and wholesome activities for the Community.

Please continue the gun show activities at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.  
Sincerely,

*Stephen J. Kimbrough*

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Gary Stephens <gary-stephens@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 04, 2019 5:33 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun Shows

I will make my comment short. If you eliminate Gun Shows I will never set foot in the fair grounds again for any other show or activitie.

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, January 07, 2019 8:17 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support for Gun Shows

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** 21billdog <[21billdog@gmail.com](mailto:21billdog@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** January 4, 2019 at 6:40:00 PM PST  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Support for Gun Shows

Honorable Chief Executive Director Quaid,

For the record, I strongly oppose banning gun shows at the Ventura County Fair Grounds.

Respectfully submitted.

William F. Marquis

cc: Leslie Cornejo, Chair of Ad Hoc Committee

Sent from Samsung tablet

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** John Bynon <jpbynon@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 04, 2019 6:35 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Leslie Cornejo

No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms.”  
– Thomas Jefferson, Virginia Constitution, Draft 1, 1776

Sent from my iPad

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Ron Wong <wongr1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 04, 2019 7:53 PM  
**To:** bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org; Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Ventura Gun Show

Hello my name is Ron Wong and I am a CRPA member.

I am writing today to urge you to consider keeping the Crossroads of the West Gun Show here in Ventura.

- While those opposed to this gun show say banning it will make us safer, banning the show will actually deprive the community of vital safety training opportunities

- o Gun shows are a major outlet for firearm safety training and materials.

- o The gun show serves as a venue for classes like Eddie Eagle and Project Childsafe, which teach safe responsible firearms ownership.

- o Banning the show will cut off countless law abiding gun owners from these safety resources.

- Gun shows sell much more than guns

- o Everything from apparel, gear, parts, and ammunition is sold at these shows. They provide a valuable outlet for local small businesses to showcase and demonstrate their goods to the community.

- In the history of the Ventura Show, there has never been any incident of illegal or criminal activity

- o Crossroads Ventura Show has a perfect record of complying with California's firearms laws.

- Despite the misconception that someone can go to the show and walk out with a gun, there is no "gun show loophole"

- o In California, there is no gun show loophole. Any gun purchase made at the show must be conducted through a licensed dealer with a background check and a 10 day waiting period. Firearms are kept separate and out of direct reach of the public.

- Gun Shows are a safe and family friendly environment

- o Gun shows create a safe environment where children can be introduced to shooting sports and hunting with the proper safety and supervision.

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** AOL <rnrnsons3@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 04, 2019 10:12 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun Shows

Respectfully,  
Please continue to support gun shows at your facility.  
Thank you.

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** chrisheads4u@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 05, 2019 9:19 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun Show  
**Attachments:** Ventura-County-Fairboard-Talking-Points-for-Volunteers\_11-19-18.pdf

Hello my name is Chris Brintnell and I'am a CRPA member please vote to save the gun shows

## Talking Points

Hello my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am a CRPA member

I am here today to urge you to consider keeping the Crossroads of the West Gun Show here in Ventura

- While those opposed to this gun show say banning it will make us safer, banning the show will actually deprive the community of vital safety training opportunities
  - Gun shows are a major outlet for firearm safety training and materials.
  - The gun show serves as a venue for classes like Eddie Eagle and Project Childsafe, which teach safe responsible firearms ownership.
  - Banning the show will cut off countless law abiding gun owners from these safety resources.
- Gun shows sell much more than guns
  - Everything from apparel, gear, parts, and ammunition is sold at these shows. They provide a valuable outlet for local small businesses to showcase and demonstrate their goods to the community.
- In the history of the Ventura Show, there has never been any incident of illegal or criminal activity
  - Crossroads Ventura Show has a perfect record of complying with California's firearms laws.
- Despite the misconception that someone can go to the show and walk out with a gun, there is no "gun show loophole"
  - In California, there is no gun show loophole. Any gun purchase made at the show must be conducted through a licensed dealer with a background check and a 10 day waiting period. Firearms are kept separate and out of direct reach of the public.
- Gun Shows are a safe and family friendly environment
  - Gun shows create a safe environment where children can be introduced to shooting sports and hunting with the proper safety and supervision.
- The move to ban this show is a reactionary response to isolated incidents of terror
  - Banning this show will have no effect on gun violence; the opposition is taking advantage of tragedy to advance their unconstitutional agenda of disarmament.
- Gun Show attendees are law-abiding gun owners and are a vital part of the social fabric of Ventura County
  - Hunting and sport shooting are popular sports here in the county, with various clubs and ranges around the county offering introductory classes to the shooting sports, and this show provides those opportunities as well
- This show brings in vital revenue for the County Fair Grounds as well as revenue to the surrounding community.

I respectfully ask you to vote in favor of the Crossroads Ventura show. Allowing it to close would eliminate a critical source of gun safety programs, materials, and training opportunities, in Ventura County.



## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, January 07, 2019 8:16 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gun Shows - Why They're Good for Veterans

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Ali Sarsak <[ali@alisarsak.com](mailto:ali@alisarsak.com)>  
**Date:** January 5, 2019 at 1:05:42 PM PST  
**To:** "[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)" <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** Gun Shows - Why They're Good for Veterans

Ms. Quaid,

As a combat veteran, I want to tell you why gun shows are so important for us. I know you've been under pressure to ban them at the fair grounds, but please hear me out.

When I came home to California after serving in the army for 8 years, I was looking for other veterans to connect with. The few veteran groups that remain are dwindling in numbers, and the younger veterans are mostly isolated and alone. But the one place I always find lots of veterans is at the gun show. This is an important part of American culture that is important to the mental health of veterans because it puts us in a comfortable place around other people we know we can trust.

Not only that, but have you ever been to a gun show? I know most people who haven't probably think it's where rednecks get together and plan who knows what. But there are a lot more than guns at the show. Did you know that many veteran support services are offered at gun shows? I even came across veteran services I didn't even know existed at a gun show. One group had a table at a gun show with information on applying for disability benefits

Using their free services, they helped me apply for benefits I didn't even know I was entitled to. Now I have access to healthcare where I hadn't had it before. All because I went to a gun show.

But the real reason I go to gun shows is because they're fun. Guns are cool. There are also information booths that offer gun safety courses. Banning gun shows would prevent gun owners from learning about these services and may likely have an inadvertent effect of the number gun accidents

Thank you for your time and I hope you consider my thoughts on this matter.

Cheers,

Ali Sarsak

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** TOM DEBARDAS <t.debaldas@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 05, 2019 1:36 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun Shows

To whom it may concern:

I would like to present this letter to you in support of continuing the presence of gun shows that exhibit at the Ventura County Fair Grounds.

I have been a rifle target shooter since age eleven. I continues this hobby into adulthood and then included handguns into the program.

I served in the U.S. Army as a reservist for six years. In the past over a thirty-seven year period I was employed by two Sheriff's Departments for various specialties.

As to why the gun shows should be allowed to continue at their present location in Ventura, I believes that the shows provide a multitude of attractions that as presented provide a safe and educational environment. another observation that I make at the shows is that you will see very few people in attendance using cell phones. What does this mean? In this day and age you have many people who have their nosed glued to a cell phone and are oblivious to their surroundings and the people around them. The art of communicating and relating to those around us is vanishing. You can note at the shows that the patrons are having discussions with the vendors and other patrons regarding the various venues of the show. Be it about rifles, shotguns, antiques, bows and arrows, target shooting or self defense, these people are all interacting about their common interests. They are enjoying each others company, even if it is only for a few minutes.

Also of note is that even though the buildings are quite large, at moments it is a little busy. However, everyone in attendance exhibits a quiet and respectful demeanor. No pushing or shoving. As for the sale of firearms, all the vendors are licensed to do the required procedures for those sales. As I have experienced, they are all very knowledgeable about what they are selling or exhibiting.

In conclusion, I respectfully request that the gun shows be allowed to continue at the present location so the diverse community may continue their ongoing support of this venue.

Sincerely,

Thomas DeBardas,  
Ventura, Ca.

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Michael Brumbelow <mbrumbelow@ca.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 05, 2019 7:21 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Please Suport Gun Shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds

Heidi Ortiz

Government facilities should be open to all without discrimination against one group just because a small minority doesn't like the activity. Many of the citizens of Ventura County frequent gun shows at the fairgrounds. Please don't take that right away from them.

Mike Brumbelow  
Oxnard CA

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Nentay <nentay2112@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 05, 2019 11:27 PM  
**To:** bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org; Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Ventura Gun Shows Pro

Dear Board members,

I send this letter to let you know I am a registered Democrat, Pro gun ownership and Second Amendment supporter. Please continue the Ventura Gun shows.

Several times a year I drive up from Burbank for the Ventura gun shows. I also attend the Sprint car races.

I do not hunt. I do enjoy range time monthly. Also, please note the founding fathers wanted the citizenry to own firearms for protection.

I pay in excess of \$30,000 yearly in taxes to this state. Please don't give in to an agenda that DOES NOTHING to protect the public.

N O T H I N G.

It only hurts honest tax paying residents that will never do ANYTHING nefarious with their lawfully owned firearms.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Todd Jeanpierre

cc Leslie Cornejo

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, January 07, 2019 8:16 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gun Shows

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** John P Dunlap <[jdunent@aol.com](mailto:jdunent@aol.com)>  
**Date:** January 6, 2019 at 2:24:51 PM PST  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gun Shows

-----Original Message-----

**From:** John P Dunlap <[jdunent@aol.com](mailto:jdunent@aol.com)>  
**To:** bquaid <[bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org)>  
**Sent:** Sun, Jan 6, 2019 1:49 pm  
**Subject:** Gun Shows

Ms. Quaid -

Ownership and use of firearms are a constitutionally protected right. It makes no more sense to outlaw gun shows than to ban newspapers or other press coverage since these are also constitutionally protected. Perhaps we should make certain forms of speech illegal just because some find it objectionable? Like all constitutionally protected freedoms legal gun shows are essential for educating everyone on the laws which govern firearms and the legal and safe use thereof. I trust that you will vote to restrict legal firearm activities at the fairgrounds only to the extent which you limit the exercise of other constitutional freedoms.

John Dunlap

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Joseph McDonough <mr\_mcdonough@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 06, 2019 7:54 PM  
**To:** bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org; Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Support for gun shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds

Dear Barbra Quaid and Heidi Ortiz,

I am writing this email in support of future gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. These are places where lawful gun owners can gather and engage in lawful activities.

While those opposed to this gun show say banning it will make us safer, banning the show will actually deprive the community of vital safety training opportunities

- o Gun shows are a major outlet for firearm safety training and materials.
- o The gun show serves as a venue for classes like Eddie Eagle and Project Childsafe, which teach safe responsible firearms ownership.
- o Banning the show will cut off countless law abiding gun owners from these safety resources.

Gun shows sell much more than guns

- o Everything from apparel, gear, parts, and ammunition is sold at these shows. They provide a valuable outlet for local small businesses to showcase and demonstrate their goods to the community.

In the history of the Ventura Show, there has never been any incident of illegal or criminal activity

- o Crossroads Ventura Show has a perfect record of complying with California's firearms laws.

Despite the misconception that someone can go to the show and walk out with a gun, there is no "gun show loophole"

- o In California, there is no gun show loophole. Any gun purchase made at the show must be conducted through a licensed dealer with a background check and a 10 day waiting period. Firearms are kept separate and out of direct reach of the public.

Gun Shows are a safe and family friendly environment

- o Gun shows create a safe environment where children can be introduced to shooting sports and hunting with the proper safety and supervision.

The move to ban this show is a reactionary response to isolated incidents of terror

- o Banning this show will have no effect on gun violence; the opposition is taking advantage of tragedy to advance their unconstitutional agenda of disarmament.

Gun Show attendees are law-abiding gun owners and are a vital part of the social fabric of Ventura County

- o Hunting and sport shooting are popular sports here in the county, with various clubs and ranges around the county offering introductory classes to the shooting sports, and this show provides those opportunities as well

This show brings in vital revenue for the County Fair Grounds as well as revenue to the surrounding community.

I respectfully ask you to vote in favor of the Crossroads Ventura show. Allowing it to close would eliminate a critical source of gun safety programs, materials, and training opportunities, in Ventura County

Best regards,

Joe McDonough, MBA, BSEE, PMP

## Heidi Ortiz.

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**From:** R Kenedy <robert.kenedy@live.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 26, 2018 9:12 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun Shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

I just wanted to ask for your support for continued gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

I live in Pebble Beach, not very far up the coast, cherish the ability to attend, and hope it continues.

Thank you,  
Robert Kenedy

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** bereans@mindspring.com  
**Sent:** Monday, November 26, 2018 5:48 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid; Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Banning Gun Shows at Ventura Fair Grounds

We are opposed to the banning gun shows at the Ventura Fair Grounds. It is an infringement on our right to bear arms as defined by the 2nd Amendment. The Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution as a covenant between the citizens and the government to protect the delineated rights. The Bill of Rights was never meant to be a list of rights that the Constitution granted to the citizens but a list of rights the citizens already had and the government would protect. They were to protect the individual from the group. "...endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights..." and not the House of Representatives, the Senate or the Supreme Court. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men. That means governments are not instituted to define rights but to secure rights. Every Constitution of each of the 13 original colonies had almost the identical wording for the right to bear arms before the 2nd Amendment was added to the U.S Constitution. Unalienable is the key word.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Rich & Michele Rutkowski  
Thousand Oaks, Calif.



## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Michael Delgado <michael@michaeldelgado.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 26, 2018 5:18 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz; Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Supporting legal Gun Show Events

### Supporting legal Gun Show Events

Ms Quaid and Ms Ortiz,

As a lifetime resident of Ventura County I live to enjoy so much of what our community has to offer.

For 50+ years I have been enjoying the Ventura County Fair since I was a child. Racing, Rodeos, Livestock, etc.

I lost track of the amount of times I've shopped on Flea Markets / Swap Meets / Junk Hunts.

My Fair Grounds has much to do with my life's collection of music and countless concerts that give me the best memories of Ventura County.

I have also attended Gun Shows for the past 40 years. Here is a location where people from different culture, economic background, social and political beliefs can meet, discuss American history, learn and share safety, classes on safety & hunting safety, purchased parts, supplies, clothing, gun storage/safe. All done in a safe and peaceful manner.

Gun Shows have an equal place in what makes Ventura County a diverse community.

I ask that Ventura County Fairgrounds continue Gun Shows.

Kindest Regards,

Michael Delgado

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 28, 2018 10:26 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Gun Control

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**From:** Howdy [mailto:howdy39@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2018 2:44 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Gun Control

Please add my name to the of the Right to Bear Arms

J. H> Spicer

528 So. O Place

Lompoc, CA

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 28, 2018 10:27 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Gun show

**From:** darlenetrevathan [mailto:darlenetrevathan@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2018 9:50 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Gun show

I hope your board made the right decision today about the gun show being held at the fairgrounds. I am very much against holding a gun show after such recent tragic events in your county. I believe gun shows allow criminals or mentally ill people to purchase guns. There is still not a universal background check that is effective so these gun shows will aid murderers to get weapons.

Sincerely  
Darlene Petoletti

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 28, 2018 10:28 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Please vote against Gun Show Contract(s)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Margo Haas [mailto:margomildenh@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2018 8:54 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Please vote against Gun Show Contract(s)

Please vote against renewing the Fair Board contracts with gun show operators for next year.  
Thank you.  
M. Haas

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 28, 2018 10:29 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Gun Shows

-----Original Message-----

From: Pamela Hazard [mailto:pshinvent48@gmail.com]  
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 8:11 AM  
To: Barbara Quaid  
Subject: Gun Shows

Dear Ms. Quaid,

I'm a tutor of young children. I hear them express fear and am shocked at how much they know about the gun violence in our area and our nation. It's hard to know how to reassure them that they are safe when they go to school, to malls, social events or even going out to play in their front yards.

We owe it to our children and ourselves to create safe environments where guns are not the norm. A first step is not glorifying gun ownership. The Ventura County Fair can make a positive statement in our community, in California and to our nation by stating that the time is past for gun shows.

There are numerous gun shops where those who mis-interpret their 2nd Amendment right can go to legally buy guns. Proper vetting, training and purchase control are best handled there. Let our Fairgrounds be a place where family friendly events occur to celebrate life, not family friendly events that contribute to violence.

Recent polls show that most people in the U.S. are in favor of greater gun control, not less. While there are some legitimate uses for guns, having them in the hands of the general populace is unnecessary and immeasurably harmful. Be part of the community working to limit occurrences like what happened at The Borderline.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Pamela Hazard, City of Ventura resident

PS: Our own Ventura City Council has come out in favor of stronger gun controls in the United States:

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 29, 2018 2:02 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: no more gun shows in VC

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Carole Thompson <[carolethompson1@gmail.com](mailto:carolethompson1@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** November 29, 2018 at 1:29:50 PM PST  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** no more gun shows in VC

Hello, Ms. Quaid, Board Members and all other representatives.

I am a Ventura County resident and taxpayer, and I **strongly oppose gun shows** being held anywhere in Ventura County. My expectation is that you STOP any action that permits guns to be shown, sold, advertised or promoted in any area under your responsibility. I don't want my family members or friends, or strangers to be killed or injured by guns made available here.

I hope to hear that gun show contracts are not being signed or renewed anywhere in Ventura County and that you personally have sent them packing.

Thank you,  
Carole Thompson  
Camarillo, CA

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Friday, November 30, 2018 6:56 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Letter to the Editor

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Thomas Busse <[tjbussesf@gmail.com](mailto:tjbussesf@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** November 28, 2018 at 2:33:42 PM PST  
**To:** [letters@vcstar.com](mailto:letters@vcstar.com)  
**Cc:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org), [jlockwood@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:jlockwood@venturacountyfair.org), [amartinez@vcstar.com](mailto:amartinez@vcstar.com)  
**Subject:** Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

I have followed the Borderline shooting story with great interest from San Francisco. Recalling how 9/11 lead to the passage of the Patriot Act,, it is easy to allow history to repeat itself. In 1993, Woodland Hills resident Gian Luigi Ferri (gunman in the 101 California shooting up here) did not attend Ventura County Fairgrounds "Soldier of Fortune" gunshow, even though that's the literal translation of the word "Ventura." He purchased his weapons in Vegas - at a gunshow on the grounds of the Mandalay Bay, host of the Route 91 harvest festival. I recognized many faces of so-called "grassroots" action against Ventura fairgrounds gun shows who attend public meetings up here. Same with the "Ventura" folks running dark-money Superpac "Indivisible Conejo." Shame on them for taking advantage of tragedy for their turf wars.

Perhaps the fairgrounds should install astroturf.

Thomas J. Busse  
584 Castro Street #388  
San Francisco, CA 94114  
415-244-5072

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Friday, November 30, 2018 9:44 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Fwd:

**From:** William Winfield [mailto:winfield.william@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 30, 2018 9:42 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Fwd:

Dear Barbara:

This email replaces the email I sent on Monday November 28, from my work email which has created the false impression that my employer Schneiders & Associates supports gun shows.

I personally support the gun shows because the description of the shows by opponents falsely stated that individuals could buy and sell guns at the Ventura County gun shows. That is inconsistent with my experience at the gun show I attended in Ventura two years ago where outdoor and gun related merchandise was being sold but not guns or ammunition. It would be a shame for the Fair Board to lose out on this needed revenue when it has no affect direct gun sales or control.

Regards

William E. Winfield



## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Friday, November 30, 2018 2:54 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Put an end to gun shows here

**From:** John Hydar [mailto:jvhydar@att.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 30, 2018 11:46 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Put an end to gun shows here

Dear Ventura County, Fair Board Directors:

I live in the city of Ventura and I ask that you not re-new the contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows, and that you end ALL gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, a state-owned property.

As a taxpayer and resident, I believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition. The advertisement of firearms when viewed by children have a negative impact on their health and well-being. I believe it is your responsibility to find other financial means to support our 31st Agricultural District.

John Hydar

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 02, 2018 6:10 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gun show

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Wendy Popiel <[4birdgirl@gmail.com](mailto:4birdgirl@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** December 1, 2018 at 7:23:39 PM PST  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Gun show

Dear Ms. Quaid,

After having experienced the pain my students have suffered at the Borderline shooting, I am asking you to please consider banning the Gun Show from our county. This is NOT the type of activity we need at our fairgrounds.

Please, consider the influence this has on our children and our community at large.

Many thanks,

Wendy Popiel

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 01, 2018 7:06 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: End gun shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Deborah Millais <[millaydee@gmail.com](mailto:millaydee@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** December 1, 2018 at 5:27:08 PM PST  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** End gun shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds

Ms. Quaid -

I am sure that you are horrified at the number of gun massacres in our country. We must all do everything we can to reduce the number of guns floating around. You in particular can take a very positive step in this direction by ending gun shows at our Ventura County Fairgrounds. Each one of these shows means more guns in our local population. We do not need this. The money is not worth it. How would you feel if a gun that was purchased at one of these shows was used in a mass shooting? Yet that is a distinct possibility.

I understand that there is now a contract in effect that allows for a few more shows. When this contract lapses, the Fair Board must not renew it.

Please take this simple step which is within your power.

Thank you in advance -  
Deborah Millais

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 01, 2018 9:04 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: West Gun Shows

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Lynne Boyle <[lynneb159@gmail.com](mailto:lynneb159@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** December 1, 2018 at 8:32:55 AM PST  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** West Gun Shows

Dear Ventura County,

Fair Board Directors:

I live in Ventura County and I ask that you not re-new the contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows, and that you end ALL gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, a state-owned property. As a taxpayer and resident, I believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition. The advertisement of firearms when viewed by children have a negative impact on their health and well-being. I believe it is your responsibility to find other financial means to support our 31st Agricultural District.

There has been too much sadness from the loss of so many lives from guns. Such gun shows are unregulated on what they sell and who buys guns. Please take a stand!

Thank you,

Lynne Boyle

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 04, 2018 8:15 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please vote to end gun shows at the Ventura fair grounds

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Katherine Larson <[katherine@raiseinspiredkids.com](mailto:katherine@raiseinspiredkids.com)>  
**Date:** December 3, 2018 at 6:32:45 PM PST  
**To:** "[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)" <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** Please vote to end gun shows at the Ventura fair grounds

Hello,

Ventura County recently had a mass murder shooting of our young people. As a life long Ventura citizen and parent to two young adults, who have attended Borderline in the past, I want to show support to our young people by saying our local government will no longer make money off firearm sales at the Ventura fair grounds (or any where else). If private stores want to sell guns that is their prerogative, however, I do not want my government (the VC Fair) making money off guns. This is a fair compromise between gun advocates and antigun folks. By the way. My son is turning 21 next month and he will be getting a gun for his birthday. We are not against guns per se. We want our government out of the gun money.

Thank you,  
Katherine

# Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Fairgrounds  
31st District Agricultural Association - 10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: venturacountyfair.org Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

## **I. Call to Order**

### **Roll Call**

### **Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

The meeting convened at 9:04 a.m., and called to order by President Cornejo.

**Directors present:** President, Leslie Cornejo, Vice President, Leah Lacayo, Michael Bradbury, M. Cecilia Cuevas, Daniel Long, Shanté Morgan-Durisseau and Jim Salzer.

**Absent:** Bonnie Atmore.

**Staff present:** Barbara Quaid, CEO, Vickie Taylor, Accounting/Finance Supervisor, Kim Leach, Exhibits Supervisor, Jason Amelio, Assistant Satellite Wagering Manager, James Lockwood, Marketing and Publicity Manager, Lilia Kenneally, Sales Manager, Luis Juarez, Senior Maintenance and Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary.

**Guests Present:** Lisa Kaye, Brad Starr, Mike Worstell, James Winbigler, Ana Del Rio-Barba, Terri Lisagor, Kevin Gaston, Richard Silbert, Rick Raives, Curtis Popp, Barbara Cortee, Gail Casey, Marian Walluks, James Steele, Laura Vergel, Frank McCarthy, Lance Wierschem, Charles Mourwood, Neil Ingram, Jerry Flinda Thoreter, Julie Diaz-Martinez, Jim Lingrosse, Rachel Cahn, Leslie Purell, Richard Emerson, Troy Corley, Jim Friedman and Christie Weir.

There were no conflicts of interest with any of the Board members that were present.

## **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Cuevas led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. Welcome and Introductions of Guests and Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

Jim Friedman introduced himself as a newly elected City Council official and is the volunteer liaison to the fairgrounds.

## **IV. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with State law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

Due to the long agenda and presentation President Cornejo limited each speaker to three minutes.

Troy Corley: Anti-Gun Show - Asked the fairgrounds to stop hosting gun shows.

Disappointed that the Board has not established a gun show policy yet. She thought it was disrespectful that the Board is discussing the gun show policy in an Ad Hoc Committee where the public cannot attend. She will continue coming to the meetings to voice her opinion until a decision is made.

Ana Del Rio-Barba: Anti-Gun Show - She stated she was the Ventura County Director for the Tri County Education Coalition and explained the purpose of the organization and what the members try to accomplish. They submitted a paper in regards to gun shows and how they impact children and she asked the Board to review and take into consideration its content.

Steve Nash: Anti-Gun Show He gave the Board a handout that had possible alternative revenues in place of gun shows. He commented on Governor Newsom's inauguration speech, Steve Bennett's Board of Supervisors request to the Fair Board and the City of Oxnard's agenda item which was to discuss and determine whether to send a letter to the fairgrounds Board of Directors to cease contracting for gun shows. He asked the Board to not approve contracting for gun shows.

Marian Walluks: Pro Gun Show - She is a long time attendee and vendor at the gun shows. She has attended many board meetings and one thing that concerns her is the flaw in the reasoning that people against the gun shows share. She expressed her opinion on the gun shows and stated gun shows are legal activities and supports continuing with them.

Frank McCarthy: Pro Gun Show – He observed at the last board meetings that almost none of the anti-gun people have actually attended a gun show and understand what goes on. He shared that a recent DOJ said that less than 1% of guns used by criminals were purchased at gun shows. He explained gun culture is nothing new and it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment for this country, not an afterthought. He explained that gun shows have nothing to do with traumatizing children and there is nothing illegal going on at the gun shows.

Kevin Small: Pro Gun Show – Explained the recent DOJ survey that came out and stated that gun show loopholes is a myth and criminals don't go through background checks because they don't get guns legally. The show is a legal way of attaining firearms. He asked the Board to consider contracting the rest of the gun shows through the rest of the year. There are policies written every day by companies and operations don't shut down, so he asks the Board to continue the shows while developing the policy.

Barbara Thorp-Cartee: Anti-Gun Show – Stated that the Board has the power to cease contracting for new gun shows. She expressed her opinion and explained that the California State legislature under local pressure has passed bills related to ceasing contracting of gun shows which she shared where. Encouraged the Board to vote no on contracting more gun shows.

Karen Peters: Anti-Gun Show – She is a volunteer at the Ventura County Chapter of the Brady Campaign. She was present in November when the Board voted to contract for two gun shows in 2019 and wanted to know if those were the only shows that will be

contracted. She thinks that there needs to be more communication and dialogue regarding the gun shows.

Julie Diaz-Martinez: Anti-Gun Show – Explained she is part of a law enforcement and military family who all own guns responsibly and legally. They are against gun shows and explained everyone has a right to own guns but they are trying to raise attention that the fairgrounds is a government owned land and should not hold gun shows. She mentioned Board Supervisor Steve Bennet’s resolution that passed and Pro-Temp Mayor of Oxnard Carmen Ramirez introduced an agenda item. The responsibility of the Board is to not appeal to one small segment and she asked the Board to stop gun shows.

Sheila Smith: Anti-Gun Show – Stated that they have a genuine concern for their community. Commented that we are not taking advantage of the gorgeous location and offered suggestions of alternative ways to generate revenue in place of gun shows. She also suggested looking into grants.

Ron Rambin: Pro Gun Show – Has attended the gun shows for the last fifteen years and really enjoys guns. He goes to see the latest gadgets and trends in weaponry and enjoys shooting. He explained the Board’s mission statement online and he can’t see how the Board can go against it by not contracting a legal show. He would like the Board to honor that charge.

Bruce Boyer: Pro Gun Show – He is candidate for sheriff and has worked and attended the gun shows for the last twenty years. He stated that the gun show isn’t a 2nd amendment issue but a freedom of assembly and explained why. He said that everybody has a right to put in an application for the type of show they would like to see, but should not take away a show that someone else would like to see like the gun show.

Darren Swanick: Pro Gun Show – He is in support of the Crossroads of the West gun show and an advocate for firearm safety. He explained that he uses the gun show as a means to teach people many things regarding firearms. He commented that the gun show is a very emotional discussion but it needs to be dealt with logically.

Lauren Lopez-Berry: Pro Gun Show – She is a family nurse practitioner and doctoral candidate at Duke University and a widow of a war hero. She is in support of the gun shows. It is a legal show and nobody that wants to commit a crime would attend the show they would find a different avenue. She thinks it is morally appalling to infringe on the people’s rights to free assembly, to gun ownership and to free commerce.

## **V. Presentations - None**

## **VI. Approval of Minutes**

### **A. November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting**

Director Cuevas stated that she appreciates everyone’s submissions to the Board packet, whether on time or at the meeting.

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes from the November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting.

Director Bradbury	<del>Approved</del>	Not Approved	
Director Cuevas	(Yes)	(No Vote)	Abstain



Director Long	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer (Second)	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Motion)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

## **VII. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Ms. Taylor gave a detailed explanation of the financials.

Director Cuevas asked where things were at with the 2017 receivables.

CEO Quaid stated that she spoke to Mr. Lieberman and he was meeting with REM Friday and they are supposed to pay at that point. He is on his second letter to Solar City. Everything for the 2018 auction has been paid.

There was discussion as to why these two receivables have not gone to small claims court. President Cornejo stated that CEO Quaid assured that if there is no positive action by these two companies by Friday then they will be taken to small claims.

Director Salzer wanted to go on record that Director Cuevas harasses our CEO and would like to see a censure of that person because she spends too much time talking about the same issues. President Cornejo stated it would be referred to the Executive Committee.

## **VIII. Old Business**

A. City of Ventura, Brad Starr – Surfer's Point Phase II

1. Discussion and possible action regarding Surfer's Point Phase II.

Mr. Starr explained that they would like to wrap up the Surfer's Point project. They had a presentation to show how they can meet the Board's expectations and move forward with a final design. They are looking for acceptance of the infrastructure and geometry for that preliminary design in order to move forward with the final design. The goal is to get funding for the construction projects so the design has to be in place in order to start. The presentation touched on introductions, project history/overview, preferred concept plan, funding sources and timeline.

Director Cuevas asked to put in the MOU a further commitment from the City to continue to drive the funding efforts as it pertains to grant development and acquisition.

Mr. Starr explained that the City would have no other choice but to be the lead on getting the funding. He assured that the City is completely on board and throughout the last several years has made that commitment. He commented on the others organizations who partner in this project and want to see it completed and he reassured that the other City Council members present could speak to that commitment.

Councilwoman Weir stated that on behalf of the Ventura City Council they are committed. This is an extremely complicated and exciting project because their partnership with the fairgrounds has been going on a long time and it has been successful. They are looking at this as an example of sustainability. The opportunity

that the two entities has as a partnership is to make a sustainable project that will sustain nature over a long term. They are looking forward to continuing to partner with their staff, funding and working together. Councilmember Weir brought pictures of the coastline that will be part of the record.

Brian Brennan – He thanked the members of the fairgrounds who participate on the Working Group and stated everyone should be very proud of what is out there for Phase I. He explained that BEACON is a joints powers agency that represents the two counties, Santa Barbara and Ventura, and six coastal cities. He stated they have been committed as a team to move forward and bring back at different points through staff and the Fair Board the different opportunities and decision making. He cautions to not micro-manage too much as they get into the detailed phases only because the amount of time it takes to go back and change the drawings, designs, etc. He understands that the fairgrounds still is a business and has to be managed and that is why this team has come forth to work together to fill the gaps and move forward. He thanked the Board again.

Paul Jenkin – He explained this is the 4<sup>th</sup> Fair Board that has convened under the timeline of this project and appreciated the Board hearing this today. He explained many people love the beach and it is a focal point in the community. The main thing with this new proposal is to improve the amount of parking which is a key issue for the Fair Board as well as the beachgoers; he would like the day use parking to be maximized. There is a lot of people that care about this project and the amount of people that showed up today really says that.

There was a brief discussion regarding any possible concerns with moving forward. President Cornejo explained that because of the good partnerships they have been able to collaborate and come to a point with a project that everyone can agree on.

**MOTION:** To approve acceptance of the preliminary design of the Surfer's Point Phase II project as presented in honor of Ron Murphy.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Bradbury (Motion)	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long (Second)	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

President Cornejo called for a short break at 10:41 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:49 a.m.

## IX. Committee Reports

A. Marketing Committee Meeting January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 – Leah Lacayo, Chair

1. Discussion and possible action regarding budgeting NTE \$15,000 on a professional survey.

Vice President Lacayo stated the committee has talked for several years about doing a survey. At one meeting last year the Board allocated up to \$25,000 but due to financial

circumstances and after further discussion with her committee members Vice President Lacayo was convinced that there is a need for a survey. Therefore, the committee has allocated for up to \$15,000 to go offsite and hire a professional company to provide that service.

Director Morgan-Durisseau stated that when she was appointed to the Board one of the things she advocated for most is to improve communication and feedback from our community. She wanted to determine what our needs are and what we should be doing in terms of our fair. She is very pleased to see that the Board is finally at the stage to actually do a professional survey.

Vice President Lacayo stated that we do a survey online after the Fair every year which has some really good questions but the company will be providing all the information that the committee and staff should be asking. She also explained that the poster contest is set to launch February 1<sup>st</sup> and explained some of the details.

**MOTION:** To approve budgeting \$15,000 for a professional marketing survey.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas (Second)	X		
Director Long	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau (Motion)	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

B. Executive Committee Meeting December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Leslie Cornejo, Chair

1. Discussion and possible action regarding adopting CDFA's Public Records Act Request Policy.

President Cornejo stated that there were two action items that are coming out of the Executive Committee. One is to formalize the Public Records policy which CEO Quaid briefly explained.

**MOTION:** To adopt California Department of Food & Agriculture's Public Records Act Request policy.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury (Second)	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Motion)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

2. Discussion and possible action regarding approving the 20 year lease for the Phoenix Tower International contract.

Ms. Taylor explained that this is the company that leases the two cell towers that are located on the fairgrounds. They lease the property, own the towers and lease the antennas to wireless carriers. The fairgrounds currently has a contract in place where they pay us \$6,500 per month to lease the land. She explained the two different pay schedules that they are proposing.

CEO Quaid explained that there was a map of the location of the cell towers in her CEO report and stated that they are not in locations that prohibits business in any way. It is very difficult to get cell towers and get this source of income because businesses are going elsewhere like the Crown Plaza. She recommended the 20 year lease because it is a lump sum at one time and if anything happens to those cell towers then we already have the money. If the Board approves this then it has to go to DGS for final approval.

There was a full discussion regarding the usage of the money. Paying off the loans for the barn and barn doors is being considered. Ms. Taylor stated that she could create a proposal on the best usage of the money for both options. CEO Quaid would like DGS to approve it first before any time is spent doing that.

Another discussion ensued regarding the two options and there were concerns brought up. After much consideration the Board voted on the one lump sum payment.

**MOTION:** To approve the 20 year lease for the Phoenix Tower International contract as recommended by the Executive Committee.

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Approved (Yes Vote)</b>	<b>Not Approved (No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury (Motion)	X		
Director Cuevas		X	
Director Long	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

Once this goes through DGS and approved, then it will be taken back to the Budget Committee to decide how the funds should be handled and then brought to the full Board for final discussion.

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: 2019 State Rules for California Fairs
- B. Correspondence received on Gun Shows

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-2, and B are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

- A. Agreements
  - 1. Standard Agreements
  - 2. Rental Agreements - Interim
- B. Travel Claims

**MOTION:** To approve items A, 1-2, and B on the consent agenda.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Bradbury (Motion)	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

## **XII. CEO Report**

- Director's need to take their required training course. The link and due dates will be emailed out as soon as the information becomes available. There are some new courses that are being required which will be provided in the information emailed out.

## **XIII. President's Report**

- Appreciates and thanked everyone for their vote on moving forward with the Surfer's Point project. There was a lot of work, time and dedication put in by all partners to make this happen and she is glad to see it come to fruition.

## **XIV. Director's Reports**

Director Bradbury

- Congratulated President Cornejo for her role in moving the Surfer's Point project through.

Director Salzer

- Emphasized the importance of maintenance and infrastructure as far as the fairground's facilities. Public safety is a major concern of his.

Director Long

- Appreciates Director Salzer's comments on infrastructure and hopes we can find a way to fix the roofs.
- Appreciates President Cornejo's comments on Surfer's Point.

Director Morgan-Durisseau

- Thanked the Board for moving forward with the survey.
- To the public, as an appointee to the Board, she takes very seriously her role to the community as well as the needs to the Fair Board.

Vice President Lacayo

- Echoed Director Morgan-Durisseau’s remarks and also takes her role as a Director very seriously and also takes public comments seriously.
- She is here for the good of the fairgrounds and the community.

**XV. Future Agenda Items**

1. Strategic Planning Session

**XVI. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Quaid, CEO Ventura Fairgrounds

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Cornejo, Board President

# Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Ventura County Fairgrounds, 31st District Agricultural Association  
10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: [venturacountyfair.org](http://venturacountyfair.org) Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Derby Club/ Director's Room**

All matters noticed on this agenda may be considered for action. Items listed on the agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Board President. Any item not so noticed will not be considered or discussed. The Board requests your courtesy to **mute your electronic devices and limit usage to note taking.**

**I. Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

Does any Board member have a conflict of interest that should preclude them from participating in discussions about or voting on any matter on today's agenda?

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Welcome and Introduction of Guests & Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

**IV. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with state law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

**V. Presentations**

**VI. Approval of Minutes**

A. January 22, 2019 Board Meeting

**VII. Financial Report**

A. Financials are January expenses and revenues only. Budget is not yet approved therefore we are presenting only January 2019 figures.

**VIII. Old Business**

A. Structure of Minutes

The Executive Committee discussed and recommends staff continue with the same procedure of taking minutes in brevity and Directors will have the opportunity during approval to make any additions and corrections.

B. Fireworks Proposal

**IX. Committee Reports**

A. Executive Committee Meeting February 13, 2019 – Leslie Cornejo, Chair

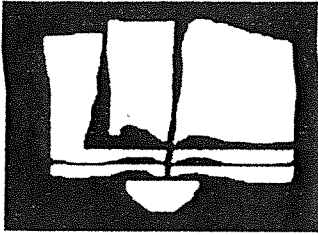
1. Discussion and possible action regarding adopting CDFA's Policies and Procedures

- X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**
- A. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: CDFA Policies Applicable to DAAs
  - B. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: 2019 Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Program Update
  - C. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Pension Liability Update and 2018 STOP Extension
  - D. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Assembly Bill Number 2396: DAA Employee Sharing
  - E. Correspondence received on Gun Shows
- XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-2, are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**
- A. Agreements
    - 1. Standard Agreements
    - 2. Rental Agreements – Interim
- XII. CEO Report**
- XIII. President’s Comments**
- XIV. Future Agenda Items**
- XV. Closed Session:** The Board is authorized to meet in Closed Session with CDFA Legal for the purpose of considering: Pending Litigation—Contract (Gov. Code § 11126(e)(1))
- XVI. Reconvene Into Open Session:** Report of any action taken during Closed Session
- XVII. Adjourn**

**Americans With Disabilities Act**

The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Heidi Ortiz at (805) 648-3376 ext. 106 or sending a written request to that person at the Fairgrounds: 10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001. Although not required, providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.





## Tri-County Education Coalition

San Luis Obispo County • Santa Barbara County • Ventura County

*The Tri-County Education Coalition founded in 1988 by all public school stakeholders prepared this report. The following groups meet, form consensus, and advocate on behalf of students: parents, businesses, classified staff, school boards, administrators, and teachers. There are representatives from San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Meeting three times a year, they work to find consensus on public education topics and legislation upon which they can all agree. Then, before the final state budget is adopted they go to the state capital and advocate with one voice for students.*

## **Gun Shows and Their Impact On Students and Schools**

***There are 6.3 million students in California.***

***Of those, 137,758 live in Ventura County; 69,752 in Santa Barbara County; and 34,733 in San Luis Obispo County.***

### **❖ Premise**

Local communities have a choice to make — do they welcome gun shows into their communities and public facilities, sending a clear message to students that more gun sales are OK with elected officials and the community, or are gun shows not necessary nor allowed in public buildings.

Communities can decide if they want to limit gun sales to regulated businesses, which are known to local law enforcement. TCEC is not advocating for or against gun ownership. This discussion provides information about gun shows in local communities.

## ❖ The Latest News

The BBC reported on December 11, 2018: "This year, 113 people have been killed or injured in school shootings in the United States. That's the sobering finding of a project to count the annual toll of gun attacks in schools. At the beginning of 2018, Education Week, a journal covering education in the US, began to track school shootings - and has since recorded 23 incidents where there were deaths or injuries. With many parts of the US having about 180 school days per year, it means, on average, a shooting once every eight school days.

## ❖ Why host a gun show?

How many locations selling guns is enough for Ventura County? There are already 13 gun shops in Ventura County. Do people need more than 13 places to choose from? Close by there are 10 more in Santa Barbara County and 16 in Northern Los Angeles County and eight in San Luis Obispo County.

## ❖ The Gun Show Loopholes And How California Hoped To Plug Them

Straw sales are when a qualified buyer purchases a weapon for a person who could not buy a gun legally. Just like when someone buys alcohol or tobacco for a minor. This is how the Columbine shooters got their guns, but more on that later.

The seminal school shooting was Columbine in April 1999. The two 17-year old-shooters used four guns to kill 12 and wound 23 of their classmates. Then they shot themselves. All four guns were bought at a local gun show. An 18-year-old friend bought three guns for them. The three students specifically looked for and found an unlicensed seller. The fourth gun was bought at another local gun show and sold to the two shooters.

J.D. Tanner, promoter of the shows said "All I can say is apparently it was all done legally. That makes me have a good feeling." – UC Davis report: 'Inside Gun Shows -- What Goes On When Nobody Is Watching' [https://health.ucdavis.edu/vprp/pdf/Wintemute\\_InsideGunShows.pdf](https://health.ucdavis.edu/vprp/pdf/Wintemute_InsideGunShows.pdf)

“The federal gun show loophole refers to the fact that prohibited purchasers can avoid required background checks by seeking out these unlicensed sellers at gun shows.” according to The Coalition To Stop Gun Violence (CTSGV)

CTSGV noted:

- unlike licensed gun stores, both federally licensed dealers and unlicensed sellers can sell guns at gun shows
- non-licensed gun sellers are not required to conduct instant criminal background checks on all gun buyers, thus opening the door to selling guns to convicted felons, domestic abusers, and juveniles
- at any given Gun Show 25% to 50% of sellers are not licensed dealers
- a federal study found that 10% of guns used in crimes by juveniles were sold either at a gun show or a flea market” – The Coalition To Stop Gun Violence

So using Federal law many sellers can sell guns to anyone underage, without background checks, or waiting period. Anyone. While California law attempts to stop those sales, a UC Davis report found that even with the strictest gun show regulation in the country illegal sales continue.

That same report by Garen J. Wintemute, director of UC Davis' Violence Prevention Research Program, found only 30 percent of gun vendors, both at shows in California and in the other states, were identifiable as licensed retailers.

And the UC Davis 2005-2006 study took a novel approach to see how guns are bought at gun shows — it used first-hand observations.

Even with the strict California gun show regulation on illegal gun show sales, an illegal transaction was actually observed and video-taped. This makes the title of the first referenced UC Davis study hit home — *'Inside Gun Shows - What Goes On When Nobody Is Watching'*.

Is it still possible to buy a gun at a California gun show without going through the proper steps to legally register it? According to the UC Davis report, direct observation says 'yes'.

In California all guns bought at a gun show theoretically must go through a licensed gun dealer and the same requirements for ownership then apply: background check, wait time, age limits. But UC Davis Violence Prevention Research Program (VPRP) found that does not always happen.

VPRP has documented weapons being sold over the counter at California gun shows without following the state's law. Gun shows, even in California, put weapons directly into the hands of people who have not had a background check, a waiting period or even a check on their age. And neither set of rules can stop straw sales.

But even with California's more restrictive gun show law, there are other consequences of promoting and allowing gun shows in our communities.

## Student Sense of Safety and Learning

While there are different aspects of school safety, school shootings have broken students' belief that their school is a safe place.

There are research reports that highlight that 'school climate,' how students emotionally and physically feel about their schools, impacts student health, learning, and success.

'Connectedness' to their school and the entire school staff is a huge component of school climate. How they feel about school safety is another indicator of student outcomes, including graduation and reading levels.

National and California State PTA, the California School Boards Association and other education groups recognize the importance of a safe learning environment in attaining the highest level of student learning and achievement.

National PTA specifically identified that gun-free schools effect day-to-day school climate but supports local decisions about law enforcement carrying guns on campuses. Also National PTA noted that communities could wait for federal legislation or begin taking action locally.

TCEC agrees. There are actions that can be taken locally to stem school violence related to guns. One action communities can take right now is to ban gun shows.

### How Many Actual School Shootings Are Reported In Mainstream Media?

There are many school shooting incidents that are not reported in the national news. The majority of shootings that occurred in K-12 schools did not involve a mass shooter targeting a school but rather involved a student bringing a gun to school. In fact, a 2015 analysis revealed that in 56 percent of school shooting incidents in which the age of the shooter was known, minors perpetrated these incidents, according to AmericanProgress.org

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In a 2013 story in US News and Report: “Another less-publicized shooting happened just last week, in Jackson, Tenn., when a student brought a gun to school and shot a classmate in the leg. Three weeks before that, four teenagers in Fresno, Calif., targeted an athletic trainer at Edison High School, shooting him several times.”

In total, there were at least 24 recorded school shootings in the 2012-13 school year, including the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School where killed 26 children and adults.

The number is up from eight shootings in the 2011-12 school year, and from 12 in 2010-11. In fact, throughout the 1990s and early 2000s, there were never more than nine school shootings in one academic year. But so far, shootings this school year (2013) are on track to exceed last year's total. By Jan. 15, 2013, there had been 14 school shootings in the United States.”

## What Do Advertising And Community Response Contribute

Since the 1990s the California Healthy Kids Survey allows students to anonymously report on many parts of their lives and school experiences. One area tracked is students' use and feelings toward tobacco. Since tobacco advertising and use have been banned on TV, social media, films, and print media, students perception of tobacco has changed dramatically. Students report they understand the dangers and have severely changed their use of tobacco.

There are other studies that link advertising to juvenile buying habits. JULE, the maker of candy flavored vaping products, is under investigation and recently volunteered to change their product based on successful advertising practices aimed at juveniles.

We all know that juveniles are affected by what they see in their homes and in their communities. For example local law enforcement regularly conducts sting operations to root out shops selling tobacco and alcohol to minors. The results are printed and aired. Students hear about it through social media. The message is clear – the community cares about underage smoking and drinking.

A gun show, with its accompanying advertisements pinned to many power poles throughout the community and announcements in local publications and on social media, sends a powerful message to students of what adults and a community believe about guns. We would never tolerate a Tobacco Show especially one that allowed straw buyers and unlicensed sellers.

From Colleen Wixon, Treasure Coast Newspapers wrote a story published four months after the Parkland school shooting:

“And troubling to some is the support they (gun shows) receive, even tacitly, from city and county governments, which lease publicly owned facilities for these shows.”

"A government should not profit from the sale of weapons. There's no reason for the government to be involved in this," Vero Beach resident Robert Galbraith told Indian River County commissioners in March."

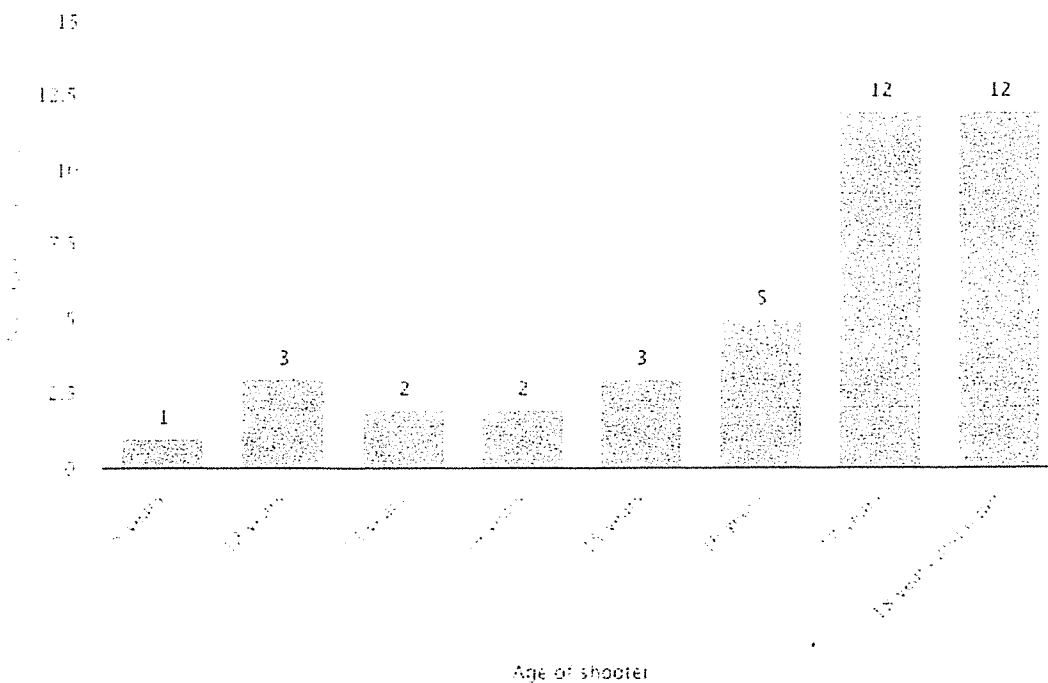
He wanted the county to stop renting the fairgrounds to gun show promoters.

"There are 50 places in the county where you can buy a weapon," Galbraith said. "A government venue should not be one of those places."

Galbraith argued, prohibiting guns from a county facility makes sense. Someone cannot bring a weapon into the County Commission chambers, he said. The rule should be applied to other county facilities.

### Who Are The Shooters And Why Did They Buy Guns

Violence Prevention Research Program produced this chart:



***A federal study found that 10% of guns used in crimes by juveniles were sold either at a gun show or a flea market –  
The Coalition To Stop Gun Violence***

There is a correlation between school shootings and age of shooters. Juveniles commit many shootings as the chart above shows. So why do juveniles have guns? Lots of research points to bullying.

Factors driving gun ownership among juveniles is general fear stemming from threatening environments, exposure to violence, and/or prior victimization experiences. Victimization includes bullying. (Shelley, McGee and Wright 1992; Webster, Gainer and Champion 1993)

### How School Shootings Have Changed School Sites

Students now participate in 'active shooter drills'. These drills are more extreme than a fire drill. They teach students to shelter in place and lower blinds so a shooter cannot find or see them. They involve being prepared to flee the school. They include being prepared to fight back. A weapon on campus, school shootings, mass or not, led to school lock downs, classrooms now being equipped with buckets so students have a place to go to the bathroom. Lucia Mar Unified School District responded to this need after students had to shelter in place during a gun incident. During a gun on campus or shooting incident it can take hours before law enforcement releases the students from lock down.

Police practice live shooter drills on school campuses.

### ❖ Conclusion

Banning gun shows can be a first community action related to gun violence in schools. Local communities have a choice to make — do they support gun shows and the illegal sale of guns and the hype around gun shows, or the controlled sale of weapons at community known and monitored shops. TCEC is not advocating for or against gun ownership. The discussion is about what a local community can do today about dangerous gun sales and what effect community support of gun shows has on impressionable students.



## **Gun Show Alternatives**

- ~ Retail cannabis outlet, both medicinal and recreational;
- ~ Increased gambling activities, maybe partner with tribal interests;
- ~ Outdoor church services and events;
- ~ Soccer stadium;
- ~ Craft beer and local winery events;
- ~ Bake sales and local cuisine and locavore events;
- ~ Yoga-con;
- ~ Fishing show;
- ~ Boating show;
- ~ Chumash and native American/First People events,
- ~ Surfing show;
- ~ Wellness event;
- ~ "Bard on the Beach";
- ~ Reconfigure the stadium and rename it "Sunset Beach Stadium";
- ~ Renewable energy and conservation fairs;
- ~ New business incubation space;
- ~ Gardening/water-wise shows'
- ~ Dance/cheerleading camps;
- ~ Swap meets;
- ~ Festival-type concerts every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, most shows with Mexican or Latin American artists sell out everywhere in Socal. Artists such as Pepe Aguilar, Juanes, Luis Miguel are huge draws. A few shows with stars like them could take the fair over the top. The Fair could accommodate festivals that cater to the Hispanic demographic with music, arts and crafts, and, of course, food and drink (thanks to Carmen Ramirez);
- ~ The fairgrounds should be a mixed use, world class stadium. Interior hallways sport shopping Malls and restaurants. Top of stadium 360 degree privately owned Condos. The stadium could host our own minor league baseball team (the Ventura Dolphins) and our own soccer team, major sporting events like minor league BB games, the Little League World Series, concerts, rallies, races and so much more. An income earning, world-class stadium on the most gorgeous peninsula on the coast (thanks to Dina Pielat).

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Steve Nash  
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VISIT SITE

## Borderline victim's family still wants gun control instead of thoughts and prayers

Tom Kiskien, Ventura County Star Published 8:00 a.m. PT Jan. 19, 2019

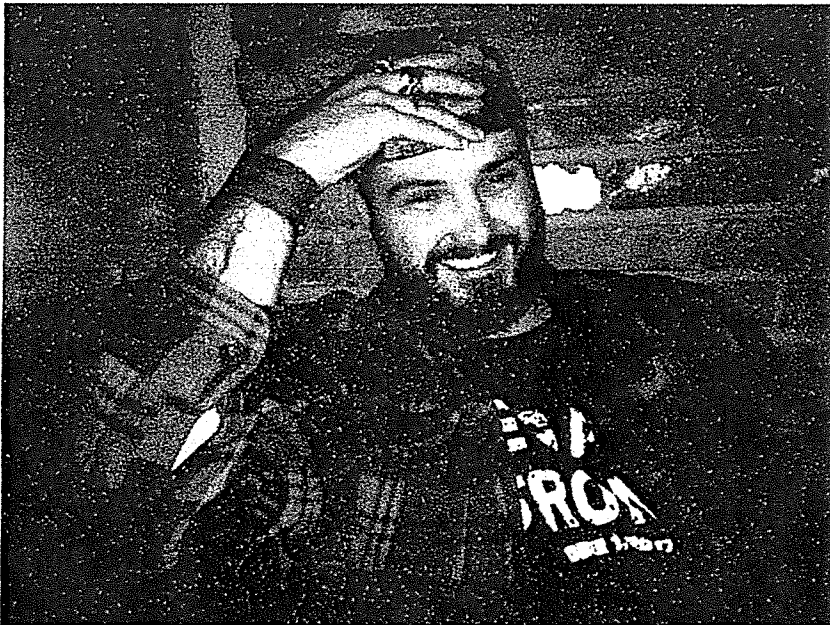
Susan Orfanos flipped through an Eagle Scout scrapbook. Her husband, Marc, looked downward, voice faltering. Together, they told another story about their eldest son, Telemachus.

They smiled one moment, cried the next and swore in rage a beat later. The conversation spun from beard trimmings in the bathroom sink to Tel escaping the Borderline Bar & Grill massacre then returning to help others to the threats that came after Susan made a national plea for gun control.

Sometimes, the cycle repeats itself.

"It's still so surreal," said Marc, assistant track coach at Thousand Oaks High School and a substitute teacher in the Conejo Valley Unified School District. "It's been like nine weeks and it's like no time has passed."

Photo albums marked with post-it notes buried a dining room table. Some of the images will be on display at the wake on Jan. 26, 80 days after [Tel and 12 others died in a mass shooting \(/picture-gallery/entertainment/2018/11/09/thousand-oaks-shooting-victims-identified/1933281002/\)](#) at a Thousand Oaks country bar. Other photos, like the picture of Tel as a baby in a heart-shaped frame, will stay home.



Telemachus Orfanos was killed on Nov. 7 in the shooting at the Borderline Bar & Grill. (Photo: CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

"Some are too hard to share. They're ours," said Susan who works as a project manager for an insurance company. She's 58.

"I feel a lot older now," she said.

The doorbell of their Thousand Oaks home rang. A delivery person dropped off two pizzas, pasta, breadsticks and a salad. All of it comes from neighbors, friends and community members in a torrent of kindness that started with the shooting and means visitors are asked to stay for dinner.

**More:** [Ventura County Sheriff Bill Ayub to focus on healing agency in tragedies' aftermath \(/story/news/local/2019/01/16/ventura-county-sheriff-bill-ayub-wildfires-borderline-aftermath/2483254002/\)](#)

"People don't know what to do," said Susan, offering the pained smile that is her default expression, "so they bring us pizzas."

She turned to the book she made after Tel earned the rank of Eagle Scout. She read aloud the essay on life goals he wrote at age 17. She cried.

"I believe my purpose in life is to mean something to someone besides myself," he wrote.

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### Life Goals

My ambition is to find a job where I can be in the outdoors, preferably on the ocean or a lake. During my scouting career, I have enjoyed the outdoor activities the most. Some of the careers I am interested in are: merchant marine (some kind of bridge position), Coast Guard (boatwain), or a park ranger.

I am planning on attending community college and working part time. I would like transfer to a university such as Cal State Maritime or Kings Point on the East Coast. They are both merchant marine schools. Another alternative would be to join the Coast Guard to get the appropriate training and then attend a special school to get my 3<sup>rd</sup> mate license. After completing my schooling, and after working for some time, my goal is to own my own boat. Then I would have my own boat charter business. Once I retire, I would like to be part of a Big Brother type program and help out kids by taking them sailing and on the ocean.

I believe my purpose in life is to mean something to someone besides myself. I would like to be an independent and outdoors person. Scouting has given me a lot of friendships and introduced me to a lot of activities I may not have ever tried. I also worked at our local summer camp for my first real job and had the opportunity to hold a responsible position.

Some positions I have held in our troop are Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Quartermaster, Troop Guide, Historian, as well as Den Chief in our associated cub scout pack. As mentioned above, I worked as a camp counselor at Camp Three Falls for the summer of 2008. I participate in my Church youth group (GOYA) and serve as an altar boy.

Telemachus Orfanos wrote this essay when he was 17. (Photo: TOM KISKENTHE STAR)

## Going back to the gunfire

Tel, 27 and a Navy veteran who worked days at an Infiniti dealership, spent three nights a week as a Borderline security guard. The day after the mid-term election, he came on an off-duty night as he often did to listen to country songs and hang with friends.

Ian David Long, a 28-year-old former Marine from Newbury Park, entered the bar dressed in black, his face covered with a bandana. He opened fire with a .45 caliber Glock handgun modified to allow it to hold more rounds.

Marc and Susan have been told how their son died, how he made it out of the bar and helped at least one person escape. He may also have made it to the attic where people sought shelter. He went back into the gunfire to help others.

ADVERTISEMENT

He died not only of gunshots but a stab wound in his neck. Susan and Marc were told it's possible he charged Long.

The knowledge doesn't ease their pain. Nothing does.

"We're grateful at what he and some of the others did that night to help others come home... We just wish he had come home," Susan said.

## A shot of Irish whiskey

Tel took care of people. He escorted them to their cars at the Borderline. Sometimes, he went 40 miles out of his way to drive them home early in the morning after the bar closed.

Just days after he died, some 25 Borderline regulars showed up at his family's home, gathered in his bedroom for an impromptu vigil. They toasted him with shots of Jameson whiskey in a ritual that will be repeated at the wake.

**More:** [Borderline Bar & Grill shooting victims fund raises more than \\$2 million \(/story/news/local/communities/conejo-valley/2019/01/03/borderline-victims-fund-raises-millions-donors/2436108002/\)](https://www.fox5losangeles.com/story/news/local/communities/conejo-valley/2019/01/03/borderline-victims-fund-raises-millions-donors/2436108002/)

At his day job at an Infiniti dealership, Tel would counsel customers on how to use the many digital gadgets in their new cars, answering texted questions

long after the purchase.

He could, and did, talk to anyone, flashing a smile and punctuating a corny joke with a high-pitched guffaw.

Tel wasn't perfect. Money vanished from his wallet almost the moment it made it there. He and his parents argued at times about politics, gun control and the cigarettes he smoked.

"I don't want my son to be an angel," Susan said. "I want him to be here driving me freaking crazy."

## 'It does not compute'

Telemachus was named for a character in Homer's poem, the *Odyssey*. His 22-year-old brother, Tymaeus, is a philosophy student and a stabilizing force for his parents. He was named for a dialogue written by Plato though Susan, a "Star Trek" fan, said her first choice was Capt. James Kirk's middle name, Tiberius.

The family moved to Thousand Oaks when Tel was 2 because they thought it was suited to families.

"It's a good place to raise children not a good place to have them die," Susan said.



Telemachus Orfanos (back row, center) posed with his family at his grandfather's 90th birthday. (Photo: CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Susan, Marc and Ty spent a Monday night telling stories about Tel and answering the front door. An event coordinator came to talk about plans for the wake. A friend of Tel's delivered shot glasses bearing his name for the event.

**More:** [Thousand Oaks shooting victim's mother pleads, 'I don't want thoughts. I want gun control' \(/story/news/2018/11/11/thousand-oaks-shooting-mother-pleads-want-gun-control/1966850002/\)](#)

Susan picked up her iPad to watch the video clip she looks at every day, sometimes more than once. In it, Tel is driving with friends, all of them singing a Backstreet Boys tune that became a ritual for the Borderline group. At the end, he aimed a middle finger at the camera in an unmistakable gesture.

"It shows how alive he was," said Susan. "I look at that and I wait for him to walk through the door. It does not compute."

## Scarred by Vegas

He survived tragedy to walk through the door before. He was listening to country singer Jason Aldean at the Route 91 Harvest festival in Las Vegas on Oct. 1, 2017, when gunman Stephen Paddock killed 58 people before shooting himself.

As the bullets flew, Tel and others helped the wounded escape. According to a November story in *The Washington Post*, he and another concertgoer crawled between cars looking for people to help.

Tel used his flannel shirt to make a tourniquet for a victim, *The Post* reported. Shirtless and covered in blood, he helped people survive who may not have and did his best for those he couldn't save,

Afterward, Tel struggled at first. He saw a therapist for post-traumatic stress disorder and told him he was thinking about going back to college. The Borderline became a sanctuary for him and dozens of Vegas survivors. He told friends the words that were posted online after his death.

"We have to live for those that can't," he said.

## 'They are greedy'

The day after the Borderline shooting, a television crew parked in front of the Orfanos home in Thousand Oaks. Susan went to talk to them. Her voice shaking with rage over her son's death, she unleashed the words that went viral.

"I don't want prayers. I don't want thoughts. I want gun control and I hope to God nobody else sends me any more prayers," she said.

The first sign of backlash was posted within hours. "You take away my gun. Boom. Boom," the message said, according to Susan and Marc.

In December, the family and others were sent letters suggesting the tragedy was a fabrication invented to advance a political agenda. The letter was marked with a hashtag, 1000OaksHoax. Susan and Marc gave it to law enforcement.

"This has happened at other events across the country," said Thousand Oaks Police Chief Tim Hagel. "These type of people believe hellacious ... events such as 911 never happened."

If the threats and accusations were intended to quiet the Orfanoses, they failed.

"I'm glad I said that," Susan said of her no-prayers plea, voice vibrating with anger. "My rage has not abated in any shape or form."

She joined the group, Moms Demand Action For Gun Sense in America. She and Marc support the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, the group formed after then-White House Press Secretary Jim Brady was shot during an assassination attempt on Ronald Reagan in March 1981.

Marc Orfanos flew to Washington D.C. early in January to join other family members of gun violence victims and former Arizona Congresswoman Gabby Giffords on the anniversary of the 2011 mass shooting that killed six people. Giffords was shot in the head but survived.

They gathered to push for more laws regulating guns including House Resolution 8, a bill from California Congressman Mike Thompson. It requires background checks on all firearm sales.

The Orfanoses are still figuring out where and how to push. But they want stronger laws against the kind of extended magazine that Long used and allows more shots to be fired without reloading. They support laws prohibiting the device called a bump stock, used by Stephen Paddock to enable guns to shoot more continuously.

They want to fight the influence of the National Rifle Association and other gun rights advocates on lawmakers.

"They are greedy," said Susan of the gun lobbyists, her voice rising. "They are making money off the deaths of our children and family members."

They recite numbers, like the 340 mass shootings that happened in the United States last year, according to the Gun Violence Archive. In the 14 days ending with the Borderline tragedy, 35 people died and 58 were wounded in 14 mass shootings.

"Let's have a little rational thought," said Marc. "What we have now is irrational and hundreds of Americans are dying."

## Getting Tel home

All three members of the Orfanos family see therapists. They struggle to focus, struggle more to sleep at night. They cry daily, sometimes in bursts that last 30 minutes.

They decided to wait to have a wake until the after the holidays. They thought the delay could ease maybe a fraction of the pain. It hasn't. In a way, the passage of time pushes them further from denial and makes the grief more intense.

"Our goal was to get Tel home," said Susan Orfanos, referring to the cremains in the beautiful wooden box decorated with a heart. It sits on a desk in his room.

The wake happens Jan. 26 at a venue the family asked not to be disclosed. About 1,000 people are expected. Susan, Marc and Ty will each talk. They're not sure what they'll say but they know they won't talk about gun control though the issue has become a constant in their lives.

Talking about it would introduce rage into a day they want to focus on their son's life more than his end.

The thing that gets Susan is her son was still figuring out his path to the future. He no longer has that chance.

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 8:56 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Petition to stop GUN SHOWS at VC Fairgrounds  
**Attachments:** Petition to stop GUN SHOWS-2-3-19.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Karen Peters <[kempeters@gmail.com](mailto:kempeters@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** February 4, 2019 at 8:32:02 AM PST  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Cc:** Troy Corley <[troycorley@gmail.com](mailto:troycorley@gmail.com)>, Janet Eckhouse <[janeteckhouse@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janeteckhouse@sbcglobal.net)>  
**Subject:** Petition to stop GUN SHOWS at VC Fairgrounds

Here are NEW signatures on the petition obtained 2/3/19 at a Town Hall in Westlake

To be delivered to Ventura County Fairgrounds Board, Barbara Quaid CEO

State agencies should not promote and profit from the proliferation of guns and ammunition. The state-owned Ventura County Fairgrounds should **stop** renting out its facilities to gun shows.

## SIGN THIS PETITION

### Background

A network of anti-gun activists has asked the Ventura County Fairgrounds board to stop hosting gun shows. We are concerned about the influence that billboard marketing and the gun shows themselves have on our communities. The majority of the fair board does not agree.

It's time for the Ventura County Fairgrounds to stop hosting gun shows. No State agency should promote and profit from the proliferation of firearms.

### Background:

Five gun shows have been hosted every year at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, a state-owned property run by board members appointed by the CA governor. The fairgrounds are owned and managed by a division of the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Each show features hundreds of tables where firearms are bought, sold, and traded. Two are already approved for 2019.

### I agree:

Name	City	Email
Susan Walker	Simi Valley	skatie.larg47@att.net
Lora Novak	Oak Park	lora.novak@sbcglobal.net
Autum Sasala	Newbury Park	autuman.steve@gmail.com
Lauren Dawson	Thousand Oaks	laureng.dawson@icloud.com
Penny Ranan	Oak Park	penny.ranan@gmail.com
Donna Smith	T.O.	donna@storyheads.com
Kate Smith	T.O.	kate@storyheads.com
Nancy Merrick	Ventura	Nancy.Merrick@gmail.com
Linda Ronsko	Newbury Park	toot113@yahoo.com
STEPHANIE EDWARDS	WLV.	stefedwards100@gmail.com
Sandy Bagan	Newbury Park	Sandy.bagan@yahoo.com

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### I agree:

Name	City	Email
COLETTE BAGAN	NEWBURY PARK	COLETTEBAGAN@GMAIL
John Bagan	Newbury Park	JANOSBAGAN@ATTOR
Carol Schmidt	Thousand Oaks	cschmidtphd@gmail.com
Martha Shapiro	Newbury Park	marthashapiro@hotmail.com
Carie Salas	Thousand Oaks	CARIESALAS@yahoo.com
Barbara Madrin	Westlake Vis	barbara_madrin@gmail.com
Shirin Parsavand	Agoura Hills	shirin.parsavand@gmail.com
Connor Keep	Newbury Park	connor-keep414@gmail.com
Keira Pender	Thousand Oaks	keirapender@gmail.com
Caelyn Pender	Thousand Oaks	caelynpender@gmail.com



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### I agree:

#### Name

#### City

#### Email

CHARLES DAVIS	THOUSAND OAKS	SEEDBENOW@gmail.com
Scott Nagatashi	Newbury Park	scottnagatashi@gmail.com
Matthew Xu	Thousand Oaks	mattxu77@gmail.com
Becky Money	Newbury Park	moneybecky@gmail.com
Henry Montalvo	Thousand Oaks	dcvhenry@gmail.com
David S. Smith	T.O.	david@storyhearts.com
Dai Fryer	T.O.	dai@pop-ink.com
BOB FRYER	T.O.	BOB@POP-INK.com

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Doug Broaddus <doug.broaddus@dnbenginc.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 4:48 PM  
**To:** bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org  
**Cc:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun Show Support

Hello!

Just wanted to take a minute to show my support of the Ventura County's gun shows. I live in Orange County and find the Gun Shows at the OC Fairgrounds to be a great service to the People of Orange County. I hope you continue to host the Gun Shows at your Fairgrounds.

Best regards,  
Douglas Broaddus  
Executive Vice President  
DNB Engineering, Inc.



714-870-7781  
714-870-5081 fax  
714-412-4734 cell

**PLEASE NOTE MY NEW EMAIL ADDRESS:**  
[doug.broaddus@dnbenginc.com](mailto:doug.broaddus@dnbenginc.com)

“My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government”

Thomas Jefferson

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Robert Laymon <robtla5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 2:34 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Cc:** lcornejo@venturacountyfair.org  
**Subject:** Ventura Fairgrounds Gun Shows

January 18, 2018

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

I urge you to support the continuation of a full year of Gun Shows at the Fairgrounds in 2019 and in the upcoming years.

I'm a senior citizen, veteran, 20 year Ventura County resident and huge supporter of the shooting sports and, of course, my 2nd Amendment rights. Government facilities, which I fund with my tax dollars, should be open to all without discrimination against one group just because a small minority of activists don't like the activity.

Anything less than your full support of the continued Gun Shows would be unconstitutional and discriminatory.

Thank you.

Robert Laymon  
1723 Santa Paula St.  
Fillmore, CA 93015

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2019 1:01 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Ventura County Gun Show--January 2019 Ad Hoc Committee Board Meeting

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Michael Worstell <[worstellmr@twc.com](mailto:worstellmr@twc.com)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2019 at 6:33:57 PM PST  
**To:** <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: Ventura County Gun Show--January 2019 Ad Hoc Committee Board Meeting

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**From:** Michael Worstell [<mailto:worstell@twc.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 6:16 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Cc:** Jim Winbigler; Kevin Small  
**Subject:** Ventura County Gun Show--January 2019 Ad Hoc Committee Board Meeting

Dear Ms. Quaid,

During the subject meeting, you requested written comments about keeping the Ventura Gun Show open be submitted to you immediately so that they could be considered and I believe included in the meeting. Here are my brief comments and observations:

### Background

1. My name and address are Michael Worstell, 1823 Shaw Court, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362, phone: 805-497-1134, so I have standing and a valid interest in commenting.
2. I have a retired Aerospace company VP; I have an engineering degree, MBA and law degree, so I'm qualified to offer observations; I have attended several of the Ventura Gun Shows over the past 20 years, as well as gun shows in Orange County, and NRA Annual Conventions in Phoenix, Indianapolis, Houston, Nashville, etc., so I'm very familiar with gun shows.
3. I'm a life member of the NRA and the CRPA and I'm a strong advocate of the 1<sup>st</sup> (free speech and freedom of association) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, and gun safety. But, I speak only for myself.
4. Your January 2019 meeting was the first that I attended.

### Comments and Observations

1. I would urge you and your committee to recommend contracting the Ventura Guns Shows for the rest of the year while the County is preparing a Safety Policy/Procedure so that there is a certainty for the small businesses that sell their various products at the shows—not only gun products, but knives, gun safes, safety courses, coins, shoe polish/wax, clothing's, WWII and other war memorabilia, etc. Same businesses count on sales at gun shows, 2) certainty for

Ventura County of the revenue stream, and certainty for the general public in planning their visits.

2. Ventura County wants to prepare a "Safety Policy/Procedure." This Policy/Procedure can go forward without closing down the Ventura Gun Shows; actually, the Gun Shows promote gun safety and education. There are no Ventura Gun Show loopholes where bad guys can purchase guns and kill or injure people. See report below.
3. Please read: <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/suficspi16.pdf> In this very recent DOJ study only 1.13% of prisoners who committed crimes with firearms had obtained them through a retail sale. Less than 0.8% were obtained through all gun shows. This is a report of all states. There really isn't a gun show loophole in CA. If the opposition thinks that there is, please ask them to provide evidence.
4. Like many CA counties, the counties provide county facilities (owned by the tax payers) to legal entities on a rental basis. Gun show lessors who rent them for the gun shows for the community are legal entities, leasing for a legal purpose. These leases have been going on for years. Now, some want to stop the leases because, they said during the January hearing that the tide has turned and gun shows are no longer popular and must be stopped. This is not a valid reason for stopping gun shows. Even if true, just because a large group of people, even a majority, want to stop gun shows that does not make it legal. Remember: at one time slavery was very popular, even a majority believed in it, that does not make it right. Even when a majority wants to do something in the US, the US Constitution and the Republic protects the minority that might be right.
5. Do we have a solution—stopping gun shows, looking for a problem? What are the problems with Ventura Gun Shows—are criminals buying guns and killing or injuring people? If yes, where is the evidence?
6. Ventura County's charter, like other CA counties' charters, authorize legal organizations to rent county facilities (people facilities); gun show lessors are legal organizations, so to proscribe their future leases, without just cause, is illegal. The Del Mar gun show, which was recently closed, is being litigated for the illegal closure. Why should non-gun owners close a gun show, which provided gun education and safety?
7. If Ventura County closes the Ventura Gun Show without cause, I'm sure that gun owners will sue. The USSC 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment protects the right of US personal to own and bear guns—including the right to be educated on guns and the safe handling of guns which is provided at gun shows, including the Ventura County Gun Show.
8. Would you please ask one of the "Orange Shirt" non-gun show advocates if they are paid by a third party to protest the Ventura Gun Show? If they are, then their opposition should be discounted, for they have a financial interest. There were about ten of them. Just ask a simple question.

Thanks for your time in serving on the committee and for your consideration.

Please write or call if additional info is required.

Respectfully,

Michael Worstell  
Phone: 805-497-1134

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Adam Rocke <arocke@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 5:37 PM  
**To:** bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org; Heidi Ortiz; contact@crpa.org  
**Subject:** Stop the gun show ban consideration  
**Attachments:** arocke.vcf

Please share with Leslie Cornejo too. Thank You

**I am pro gun show! OK let's enter my opposition to the gun show ban at the fair grounds.**

We all know arguments and have heard them. There appears to be nothing new. There are zealots on both sides of the issue of banning gun shows. The anti-show people base their arguments solely on the concepts that guns are bad. Hmm, imagine America's part in world wars? Had it not been for weaponry and specifically soldiers with guns and many foreign allied entities who used weapons, they would have been banned years ago by the evil who intended to stop our way of life. The Hitlerian concept is and was to rule the masses, take away their ability to defend themselves in bulk.

Yet, the basis of their opposition is still, there should be no citizen owning guns, point blank. That is regardless of what our founders indicated would save our way of life. They were so very perceptive and could predict for all such years after they passed the Bill of Rights and our 2cd amendment what that amendment would allow for our sovereignty.

Now consider the **Proponent** of our 2cd Amendment rights. Note the Supreme Court for this and the court has yet to rule against a legal, law abiding individual, private citizenry, owning guns. In all of the history of the United States of America, the Supreme Court of our land has not rules against the right to own guns.

That fact to me, should forever settle the fact that the 2cd amendment prevails for all of the USA historically since our independence.

Now the question becomes, how much of our freedom is going to be allowed to be taken away in a concerted effort by the anti-gun folk. They have been picking at our rights for years and years. The banning of simple legal means of obtaining the weapons-guns one would want to own, is once again an affront to our rights as legal USA citizens.

There is no giving in to those who wish to take our right to own a gun. They will never stop using tragedy to deny our rights. There is nothing, absolutely nothing from stopping a nut case or criminal from obtaining a gun and killing people; or in fact, other forms of destructive and deadly implements. It is not even a point to debate. Someone intent of doing harm will find the way. For those of us who support the right to own a gun, we feel that we can perhaps stop evil from happening. And do not for one moment ever think that gun owners do not care about the victims, as a result the horrible people who choose to destroy human lives.

Again, it boils down to, what is the right and legal thing. A gun show incidentally brings in revenue and I suspect it is one of the fair ground's must lucrative endeavors for financial support.

None the less, I am vehement, **do not ban the guns shows**. Take away all that has been argued endlessly; and, think of the law of the land and those inalienable rights given to us as a gift of our forefathers. The laws were

made to assure our protection for our existence as the democratic republic of our nation. Guns shows truly provide us with the means to exercise our ability to exist as free men.

Thank you for your consideration and I apologize for this long wordy support of guns shows in your county. Please do us right, as are our rights.

Sincerely,

Adam Rocke

Tehachapi, CA

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Life is too short for the good; and, too long for the bad.

"Gort, Klaatu Barada Nikto"

God Bless America

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** r\_hoffman@roadrunner.com  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 6:46 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fairgrounds Gun Shows

I am Robert Hoffman, I am a Ventura County resident and a CRPA member

I urge you to consider keeping the Crossroads of the West Gun Show here in Ventura.

The gun show serves as a venue for classes like Eddie Eagle and Project Childsafe, which teach safe responsible firearms ownership.

Gun shows sell everything from apparel, to gear, and to parts, and they are a valuable outlet for local small businesses.

In the history of the Ventura Show, there has never been any incident of illegal or criminal activity

In California, there is no gun show loophole. Any gun purchase made at the show must be conducted through a licensed dealer with a background check and a 10 day waiting period. Firearms are kept separate and out of direct reach of the public.

Banning this show will have no effect on gun violence; the opposition is taking advantage of tragedy to advance their unconstitutional agenda of disarmament.

Gun Show attendees are law-abiding gun owners and are a vital part of the social fabric of Ventura County.

This show brings in vital revenue for the County Fair Grounds as well as revenue to the surrounding community.

I respectfully ask you to vote in favor of the Crossroads Ventura show.



## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Dave <dave@southbayappliance.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 20, 2019 8:31 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun Show

Hi

My name is David W Spears I am a member of the CRPA and a NRA life member  
It is a shame so many people only think about themselves and do not care about  
Other people's feelings, hobbies or rights. Gun shows or guns do not cause any harm to other  
People, only bad people do. There are no illegal activities allowed at guns shows and there  
Is access to firearms training and gun safety for all ages. Children can learn about outdoors  
Sports and gun safety (things they are not taught in school). There are no loopholes to bypass  
Background checks or waiting periods to buy guns at any California gun shows.

I respectfully ask you to vote in favor of the Crossroads Ventura show

Thank You

David W Spears

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Steve Radis <steve.radis@mrsenv.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 21, 2019 6:34 PM  
**To:** bquaid@ventruacountyfair.org  
**Cc:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Crossroads of the West Ventura Gun Show  
**Attachments:** DOJ 2019.pdf

Dear Ventura Fairgrounds Board of Directors:

I want to express my support for continued gun shows at the fairgrounds. While there has been a lot of pressure by anti-Second Amendment activists to stop gun shows at the fairgrounds, many who do not reside in our community, statistics published by the US Department of Justice do not support the assertion that gun shows constitute a significant source of firearms used by criminals.

Attached is a recent study that was published by the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics. This study summarizes the sources and methods that a sample of federal and state prisoners used to obtain the firearms that they used to commit the offense for which they are serving time. While anti-Second Amendment activists assert that gun shows are a major source of firearms that are used in crimes, the DOJ statistics indicate that only 0.8 percent of firearms used in the commission of a crime were obtained at a gun show. Ironically, Flea Markets, another type of event that regularly occurs at the Ventura Fairgrounds, accounts for only a slightly lower incidence at 0.4 percent. Overwhelmingly, the statistics show that guns used in crimes nationwide are obtained from the black market (43.2 percent), family/friends (25.3 percent) and theft (6.4 percent); see Table 5, page 7. Felons obtaining a firearm from a family member or friend is illegal under both federal and state law.

Under current California law all firearms transfers at a gun show must be done through a Federal Firearms Licensee (FFL), and the 0.8 percent of firearms obtained by criminals at gun shows most likely occurred in states other than California that allow face-to-face transfers without a background check. In addition, starting on July 1, 2019, all ammunition purchases that would occur at a Ventura gun show would require purchasers to have a valid permit and background check. Continued gun shows at the fairgrounds do not pose a risk to the community or result in an increase in the availability of firearms in the region.

Best Regards,  
Steve Radis



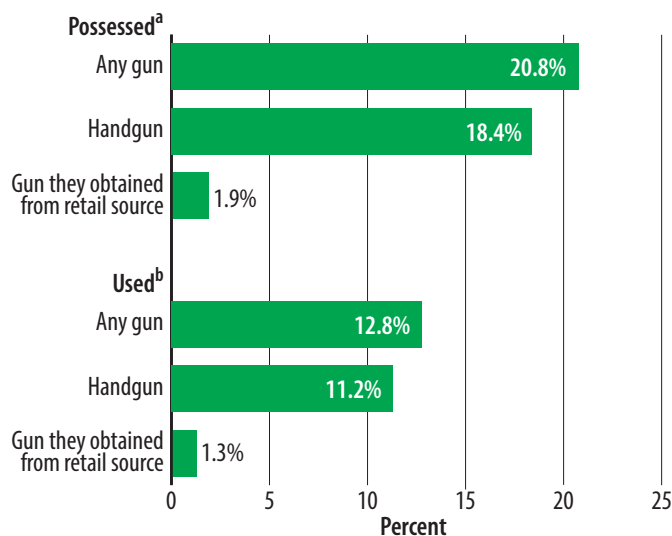
# Source and Use of Firearms Involved in Crimes: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016

Mariel Alper, Ph.D., and Lauren Glaze, *BJS* Statisticians

**B**ased on the 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI), about 1 in 5 (21%) of all state and federal prisoners reported that they had possessed or carried a firearm when they committed the offense for which they were serving time in prison (**figure 1**). More than 1 in 8 (13%) of all prisoners had used a firearm by showing, pointing, or discharging it during the offense for which they were imprisoned. Fewer than 1 in 50 (less than 2%) of all prisoners had obtained a firearm from a retail source and possessed, carried, or used it during the offense for which they were imprisoned.

An estimated 287,400 prisoners had possessed a firearm during their offense. Among these, more than half (56%) had either stolen it (6%), found it at the scene of the crime (7%), or obtained it off the street or from the underground market (43%). Most of the remainder (25%) had obtained it from a family member or friend, or as a gift. Seven percent had purchased it under their own name from a licensed firearm dealer.

**FIGURE 1**  
Percent of all state and federal prisoners who had possessed or used a firearm during their offense, 2016



Note: See appendix table 1 for standard errors.

<sup>a</sup>Includes prisoners who carried or possessed a firearm during the offense.

<sup>b</sup>Includes prisoners who showed, pointed, or discharged a firearm during the offense.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- About 21% of state and 20% of federal prisoners said they possessed a gun during their offense, while 79% of state and 80% of federal prisoners did not.
- About 29% of state and 36% of federal prisoners serving time for a violent offense possessed a gun during the offense.
- About 1.3% of prisoners obtained a gun from a retail source and used it during their offense.
- Handguns were the most common type of firearm possessed by state and federal prisoners (18% each); 11% of all prisoners used a handgun.
- Among prisoners who possessed a gun during their offense, 90% did not obtain it from a retail source.
- Among prisoners who possessed a firearm during their offense, 0.8% obtained it at a gun show.
- About 1 in 5 state and federal prisoners who possessed a firearm during their offense obtained it with the intent to use it during the crime.
- Among state prisoners who possessed a gun during their offense, 27% killed someone with it, another 12% injured someone, 7% fired the gun but did not injure anyone, and 54% did not fire it.
- State prisoners with no military service were more likely to possess a gun during their offense (21%) than prisoners who had served in the military (16%).

Statistics in this report are based on self-reported data collected through face-to-face interviews with a national sample of state and federal prisoners in the 2016 SPI. (See *Methodology*.)

The 2016 SPI data collection was conducted from January through October 2016. The SPI was formerly known as the Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities (SISFCF). The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) has periodically conducted the

survey since the 1970s, with the most recent iteration fielded in 2004. The survey collects information from prisoners on a variety of topics, including firearm possession during the crime for which a prisoner was serving time and how the firearm was used during the crime. It also collects information on the method, source, and process that prisoners used to obtain the firearm. (See appendix 1, *Questions related to firearms in the Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016*.)

## Terms and definitions

- **Firearm** – a weapon that uses gunpowder to shoot a bullet. Primary types are handguns, rifles, and shotguns:<sup>1</sup>
  - **Handgun** – a firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand.
  - **Rifle** – a firearm intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed to use the energy of an explosive to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger.
  - **Shotgun** – a firearm intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed to use the energy of an explosive to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each pull of the trigger.
- **Firearm possession** – carrying or possessing at least one firearm when the offense for which prisoners were serving a sentence was committed.
- **Firearm use** – showing a firearm to or pointing a firearm at anyone or discharging a firearm during the offense for which a prisoner was serving time.
- **Source of the firearm** – from where and how prisoners reported obtaining the firearm they possessed during the crime for which they were imprisoned—
  - **Purchased or traded from a retail source** – includes a gun shop or store, pawn shop, flea market, or gun show.
    - **Gun shop or store** – a business establishment that sells firearms in an open shopping format.
    - **Pawn shop** – a business that offers secured loans to customers, with personal property used as collateral. This personal property is sold to the public if the loan is not repaid.
    - **Flea market** – a market that rents space to individuals to sell or barter merchandise.
    - **Gun show** – a temporary market where licensed dealers and unlicensed sellers can rent tables or booths to sell firearms.
  - **Obtained from an individual** – includes purchasing, trading, renting, or borrowing from a family or friend. Also includes when the firearm was gifted to or purchased for the person.
  - **Off the street or underground market** – illegal sources of firearms that include markets for stolen goods, middlemen for stolen goods, criminals or criminal enterprises, or individuals or groups involved in sales of illegal drugs.
  - **Theft** – includes stealing the firearm during a burglary or from a retail source, family member, friend, or another source.
  - **Other sources** – includes a firearm that a prisoner obtained or found at the location of the crime, including one that belonged to a victim or that someone else brought to the location of the crime. This category also includes sources for which there were few responses, such as for guns bought online, and other sources that did not fit into one of the existing categories. This also includes instances where there was not enough information to categorize the source, such as when a firearm was purchased from an unknown source or obtained from another person by an unknown method.

<sup>1</sup>The definitions of types of firearms in this section were taken from 18 U.S.C. § 921 (2009). They have been edited for length.

## Controlling-offense characteristics

About 29% of state and 36% of federal prisoners serving a sentence for a violent offense in 2016 possessed a firearm during the crime (**table 1**). About a quarter of state (23%) and federal (25%) prisoners serving time for a violent offense used a firearm during the crime. “Firearm use” is defined in this report as showing, pointing, or discharging a firearm during the offense for which a prisoner was serving a sentence.

Among prisoners serving time for homicide, more than 2 in 5 (44%) state prisoners and more than 1 in 3 (36%) federal prisoners had possessed a firearm during

the crime. About 37% of state and 28% of federal prisoners serving time for homicide used a firearm during the homicide.

Among those serving time for robbery, more than 2 in 5 state prisoners (43%) and federal prisoners (46%) possessed a firearm during the offense, and nearly a third of state (31%) and federal (32%) prisoners used a firearm during the robbery. Firearm possession was less common among state prisoners serving a sentence for rape or sexual assault (2%). Less than 1% of state prisoners serving time for rape or sexual assault used a firearm in the commission of their crime.

**TABLE 1**

**Firearm possession and use among state and federal prisoners during the offense for which they were serving time, by type of controlling offense, 2016**

Controlling offense <sup>a</sup>	Estimated number of state prisoners <sup>b</sup>	Percent of state prisoners who—		Estimated number of federal prisoners <sup>b</sup>	Percent of federal prisoners who—	
		Possessed a firearm <sup>b</sup>	Used a firearm <sup>c</sup>		Possessed a firearm <sup>b</sup>	Used a firearm <sup>c</sup>
<b>Total</b>	1,211,200	20.9%	13.9%	170,400	20.0%	5.0%
<b>Violent*</b>	667,300	29.1%	23.0%	20,900	36.2%	25.3%
Homicide <sup>d</sup>	191,400	43.6	37.2	3,800	35.9	28.4
Rape/sexual assault	144,800	2.0	0.8	2,400	:	:
Robbery	149,600	43.3	31.5	10,700	46.3	32.1
Assault	149,400	25.0	20.6	2,900	29.0	18.1
Other violent <sup>e</sup>	32,200	17.0	12.6	1,200	34.1	:
<b>Property</b>	186,100	4.9% †	2.0% †	12,000	2.6% †	:
Burglary	88,100	6.7	3.2	300	:	:
Other property <sup>f</sup>	98,000	3.3	1.0	11,800	2.4	:
<b>Drug</b>	180,800	8.4% †	0.8% †	80,500	12.3% †	0.6% †
Trafficking <sup>g</sup>	130,500	9.4	0.9	72,300	12.9	0.7
Possession	45,900	6.1	:	3,500	:	:
Other/unspecified drug	4,300	:	:	4,700	:	:
<b>Public order</b>	158,300	21.5% †	5.6% †	52,900	30.2%	5.3% †
Weapons <sup>h</sup>	43,800	67.2	15.7	22,200	66.9	11.3
Other public order <sup>i</sup>	114,400	4.0	1.7	30,700	3.6	:
<b>Other</b>	3,900	:	:	1,800	:	:
<b>Unknown</b>	14,900	4.3% †	:	2,200	:	:

Note: See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

\*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level across main categories, and no testing was done on subcategories (e.g., homicide).

:

 Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

<sup>a</sup>See *Methodology* for information on how controlling offense was measured.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes 3.0% of state prisoners and 1.7% of federal prisoners who were missing responses on firearm possession. Includes prisoners who were missing responses on firearm use.

<sup>c</sup>Excludes 3.0% of state prisoners and 1.7% of federal prisoners who were missing responses on firearm possession, and an additional 0.6% of state prisoners and 0.7% of federal prisoners who were missing responses on firearm use.

<sup>d</sup>Includes murder and both negligent and non-negligent manslaughter.

<sup>e</sup>Includes kidnapping, blackmail, extortion, hit-and-run driving with bodily injury, child abuse, and criminal endangerment.

<sup>f</sup>Includes larceny, theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, fraud, stolen property, destruction of property, vandalism, hit-and-run driving with no bodily injury, criminal tampering, trespassing, entering without breaking, and possession of burglary tools.

<sup>g</sup>Includes possession with intent to distribute.

<sup>h</sup>Includes being armed while committing a crime; possession of ammunition, concealed weapons, firearms and explosive devices; selling or trafficking weapons; and other weapons offenses. Among federal prisoners, weapons offense include violations of federal firearms and explosives.

<sup>i</sup>Includes commercialized vice, immigration crimes, DUI, violations of probation/parole, and other public-order offenses.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

State and federal prisoners serving time for a violent offense were much more likely to have possessed a firearm during the offense (29% state, 36% federal) than prisoners serving time for a property (5% state, 3% federal) or drug (8% state, 12% federal) offense. Among prisoners serving time for a public-order offense, about 1 in 5 (21%) state prisoners and nearly 1 in 3 (30%) federal prisoners reported that they possessed a firearm during the crime, and about 1 in 20 reported they had used it. About two-thirds of state and federal prisoners sentenced for a weapons offense said they possessed a firearm during the crime.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>In addition to prisoners serving a sentence in state or federal prison in 2016 who possessed a firearm during the offense, weapons offenses include prisoners who were convicted of trafficking firearms but did not possess them at the time of the offense and prisoners who were convicted of a weapons offense that did not involve a firearm.

## Extent of firearm use among prisoners during the crime

State and federal prisoners in 2016 who had possessed a firearm during their offense were about equally likely to report that they had obtained the firearm with the intent to use it during the offense (19% state, 20% federal) (table 2). However, state prisoners (68%) who possessed a firearm were more than 2.5 times as likely as federal prisoners (26%) who possessed a firearm to have used it during the crime.

Nearly half of state prisoners (46%) serving a sentence for a crime during which they possessed a firearm discharged the firearm when they committed the crime, compared to 12% of federal prisoners. Among state prisoners who possessed a firearm during their offense, 27% killed a victim with the firearm and another 12% injured or shot a victim but did not kill him or her. Federal prisoners who possessed a firearm when they committed their offense were much less likely to have killed (4%) or injured (2%) a victim with the firearm than state prisoners.

**TABLE 2**

**Among state and federal prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were serving time, extent of firearm use, 2016**

Firearm use	State prisoners*	Federal prisoners	State prisoners		Federal prisoners	
			Violent offense*	Non-violent offense <sup>a</sup>	Violent offense*	Non-violent offense <sup>a</sup>
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Obtained firearm because planned to use in controlling offense <sup>b</sup>						
Yes	19.3%	19.7%	17.7%	24.6% †	26.4%	18.0%
No	80.7	80.3	82.3	75.4 †	73.6	82.1
Used firearm <sup>c</sup>						
Discharged	68.0%	25.9% †	81.0%	24.8% †	72.5%	12.9% †
Killed victim	46.5%	11.9% †	55.9%	15.4% †	27.3%	7.5% †
Injured/shot victim but did not kill victim	27.1	4.1 †	35.0	:	16.5	:
Discharged firearm but did not shoot anyone	12.4	2.2 †	14.5	5.3 †	:	:
Did not discharge <sup>d</sup>	7.0	5.6	6.4	9.0	5.7	5.4
Did not use firearm	21.5%	14.0% †	25.2%	9.4% †	45.3%	5.4% †
Estimated number of prisoners who possessed a firearm (with valid data) <sup>e</sup>	32.0%	74.1% †	19.0%	75.2% †	27.5%	87.1% †
	245,400	32,900	187,800	57,000	7,200	25,600

Note: Percentages are based on data reported on firearm possession, use, and controlling offense. Excludes 3.1% of state prisoners and 3.5% of federal prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense and were missing responses on firearm use and 0.3% of state prisoners and 0.7% of federal prisoners who possessed a firearm and were missing a controlling offense. The sum of violent offense and non-violent offense does not equal the total number of state and federal prisoners who possessed a firearm in this table due to an estimated 600 state and 100 federal prisoners whose offense type was unknown. See appendix table 3 for standard errors.

\*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

<sup>a</sup>Includes property, drug, public order, and other non-violent offenses.

<sup>b</sup>Percentages are based on the 246,200 state and 32,600 federal prisoners who reported they carried or possessed a firearm and whether they obtained a firearm to use during the offense.

<sup>c</sup>Includes prisoners who showed a firearm to anyone, pointed a firearm at anyone, or discharged the firearm during the offense.

<sup>d</sup>Includes prisoners who showed or pointed a firearm at anyone during the offense but did not discharge it.

<sup>e</sup>Includes prisoners who reported they carried or possessed a firearm. Excludes prisoners who were missing responses on firearm possession or use. For violent offense and non-violent offense, also excludes prisoners who were missing a controlling offense.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

Among prisoners who possessed a firearm during a violent offense, a large majority of both state (81%) and federal (73%) prisoners used the firearm during the offense, far more than the percentages for non-violent offenders (25% state, 13% federal). More than half (56%) of state prisoners serving time for a violent offense who possessed a firearm during the crime discharged it, compared to fewer than a sixth (15%) of non-violent offenders in state prison who possessed a firearm. Violent offenders (27%) in federal prison who possessed a firearm during the crime were about 3.5 times as likely to discharge it as non-violent offenders (8%). Among state prisoners who had possessed a firearm during their offense, however, non-violent offenders (25%) were more likely than violent offenders (18%) to have planned to use the firearm during the offense.

### Type of firearm possessed by prisoners during offense

Handguns were by far the most common type of firearm possessed or used by prisoners during the crime for which they were sentenced. About 18% of all state and federal prisoners in 2016 reported that they had possessed a handgun during the crime for which they were serving a sentence (table 3). Two percent or fewer possessed a rifle or a shotgun. Twelve percent of state and 5% of federal prisoners used a handgun during their offense. Most state (79%) and federal (80%) prisoners did not possess any type of firearm during the crime for which they were imprisoned.

**TABLE 3**  
**Firearm possession and use among state and federal prisoners during the offense for which they were serving time, by type of firearm, 2016**

Type of firearm	Percent of prisoners who possessed a firearm			Percent of prisoners who used a firearm <sup>a</sup>		
	All prisoners	State*	Federal	All prisoners	State*	Federal
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Firearm <sup>b</sup>	20.8%	20.9%	20.0%	12.8%	13.9%	5.0% †
Handgun	18.4	18.4	18.3	11.2	12.2	4.6
Rifle	1.5	1.4	2.0 †	0.8	0.8	0.4 †
Shotgun	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.1	1.2	0.4 †
No firearm	79.2%	79.1%	80.0%	87.2%	86.1%	95.0%
Estimated number of prisoners (with valid data) <sup>c</sup>	1,378,200	1,208,100	170,100	1,378,200	1,208,100	170,100

Note: Details on type of firearm may not sum to totals because prisoners could report more than one type of firearm. Percentages exclude missing data. Excludes 3.0% of state prisoners and 1.7% of federal prisoners who were missing responses on firearm possession during the offense and an additional 0.3% of state prisoners and 0.2% of federal prisoners who were missing responses on type of firearm. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

\*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

<sup>a</sup>Percentages exclude 0.6% of state prisoners and 0.7% of federal prisoners who were missing responses on firearm use.

<sup>b</sup>Includes prisoners who reported a type of firearm that did not fit into one of the existing categories and those who did not provide enough information to categorize the type of firearm. About 0.1% of state prisoners and 0.2% of federal prisoners reported another type of firearm or did not report enough information to specify the type of firearm.

<sup>c</sup>Excludes prisoners who were missing responses on firearm possession or type of firearm. Counts are weighted to totals from the 2015 National Prisoner Statistics Program; see *Methodology: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (NCJ 252210, BJS web, forthcoming).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.



## Demographic characteristics

Male prisoners were more likely than female prisoners to have possessed a firearm during their crime. About a fifth of male state and federal prisoners serving a sentence in 2016 possessed a firearm during the crime (table 4). Males in state prisons in 2016 were about 2.5 times as likely (22%) as females in state prisons (9%) to have possessed a firearm during the crime for which they were imprisoned. In federal prisons, males (21%) were about three times as likely as females (7%) to have possessed a firearm during their crime. Almost

3 in 10 (29%) black prisoners serving a sentence in state prison in 2016 possessed a firearm during their crime. White (12%) and Hispanic (21%) state prisoners were less likely to have possessed a firearm during their crime. Similarly, white (17%) and Hispanic (13%) federal prisoners serving a sentence in 2016 were less likely to have possessed a firearm during the crime than black (29%) federal prisoners. State prisoners who served in the military were less likely to have possessed a firearm during their crime (16%) than state prisoners who had not served in the military (21%).

**TABLE 4**

**Firearm possession among state and federal prisoners during the offense for which they were serving time, by demographic characteristics, 2016**

Demographic characteristic	State		Federal	
	Number of prisoners	Percent of prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense	Number of prisoners	Percent of prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense
<b>Sex</b>				
Male*	1,124,200	21.8%	159,800	20.9%
Female	87,000	9.5 †	10,600	6.6 †
<b>Race/Hispanic origin<sup>a</sup></b>				
White	383,300	12.4% †	35,400	16.6% †
Black*	401,500	29.4	53,800	29.2
Hispanic	247,200	21.5 †	62,600	12.6 †
American Indian/Alaska Native	17,200	14.8 †	2,800	23.8
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	10,700	22.8	2,600	:
Two or more races	133,100	19.1 †	10,900	29.3
<b>Age at time of survey</b>				
18–24*	123,800	31.7%	8,200	30.1%
25–34	389,100	24.4 †	47,700	27.4
35–44	318,800	19.3 †	58,800	19.0 †
45–54	224,800	14.6 †	36,700	14.1 †
55 or older	154,800	16.0 †	19,000	12.2 †
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married*	168,500	16.7%	36,800	14.4%
Widowed/widowed	34,300	18.3	3,100	21.7
Separated	58,300	12.7 †	9,600	12.8
Divorced	233,300	14.5	30,900	15.2
Never married	715,900	24.8 †	90,000	24.6 †
<b>Education<sup>b</sup></b>				
Less than high school*	750,500	23.1%	94,900	22.7%
High school graduate	273,700	19.6 †	36,500	19.4
Some college	133,900	14.7 †	23,100	18.8
College degree or more	43,600	11.0 †	12,700	6.3 †
<b>Citizenship</b>				
U.S. citizen*	1,156,800	21.0%	127,500	24.2%
Non-U.S. citizen	53,100	18.5	42,400	7.2 †
<b>Military service</b>				
Yes*	95,200	15.6%	9,200	15.9%
No	1,115,900	21.4 †	161,200	20.3

Note: Percentages and counts exclude missing data. Excludes 3.0% of state prisoners and 1.7% of federal prisoners who were missing responses on firearm possession during the offense. Details for counts may not sum to totals due to missing data. See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

\*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

<sup>a</sup>Excludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin, unless specified.

<sup>b</sup>Based on highest year of education completed.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.



In general, the likelihood of state and federal prisoners having possessed a firearm during their crime decreased with age. Firearm possession among state prisoners ages 18 to 24 (32%) in 2016 was more common than among older prisoners. Federal prisoners ages 18 to 24 (30%) were more likely to possess a firearm than those age 35 or older (16%, not shown in table).

The difference in firearm possession between U.S. citizens (21%) and non-citizens (18%) in state prisons in 2016 was not statistically significant. Among federal prisoners serving a sentence in 2016, firearm possession was more than three times as high among U.S. citizens (24%) as non-citizens (7%).

## Method, source, and process used to obtain the firearm

Among prisoners who possessed a firearm when they committed the offense for which they were imprisoned and who reported the source from which they obtained it, the most common source (43%) was off-the-street or the underground market (table 5). Another 7% of state and 5% of federal prisoners stole the firearm, and 7% of state and 8% of federal prisoners reported that they obtained the firearm at the location of the crime.

**TABLE 5**

**Among state and federal prisoners who had possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were serving time, sources and methods used to obtain a firearm, 2016**

Source and method to obtain firearm	All prisoners	State	Federal
<b>Purchased/traded at retail source</b>	10.1%	9.7%	13.7%
Gun shop/store	7.5	7.2	9.6
Pawn shop	1.6	1.5	2.2
Flea market	0.4	:	:
Gun show	0.8	0.8	1.4
<b>Obtained from individual</b>	25.3%	26.0%	20.5%
Purchased/traded from family/friend	8.0	7.9	9.1
Rented/borrowed from family/friend	6.5	7.0	3.0
Gift/purchased for prisoner	10.8	11.2	8.4
<b>Off the street/underground market<sup>a</sup></b>	43.2%	43.2%	42.9%
<b>Theft<sup>b</sup></b>	6.4%	6.6%	4.7%
From burglary	1.5	1.5	:
From retail source	0.2	:	:
From family/friend	1.6	1.8	:
Unspecified theft <sup>c</sup>	3.1	3.3	1.8
<b>Other source</b>	17.4%	17.1%	20.1%
Found at location of crime/victim	6.9	6.7	7.9
Brought by someone else	4.6	4.7	3.6
Other <sup>d</sup>	5.9	5.6	8.5
<b>Multiple sources<sup>e</sup></b>	2.5%	2.6%	2.0%
<b>Estimated number of prisoners who possessed a firearm, excluding prisoners who did not report source<sup>f</sup></b>	256,400	227,100	29,300

Note: Prisoners were asked to report all sources and methods of obtaining any firearm they possessed during the offense, so details may not sum to totals. Each source is included in this table when multiple sources were reported. See *Methodology*. Percentages exclude missing data. Excludes 10.3% of state prisoners and 14.1% of federal prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense and were missing responses on either source or method of obtaining the firearm. These prisoners were excluded either because they did not provide a valid response or they did not receive the questions due to providing an open-ended response to the previous question about type of weapon. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

<sup>a</sup>Illegal sources of firearms that include markets for stolen goods, middlemen for stolen goods, criminals or criminal enterprises, or individuals or groups involved in sales of illegal drugs.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes theft from victim.

<sup>c</sup>Includes theft where the source could not be identified and theft other than from a burglary, retail location, family, or friend.

<sup>d</sup>Included if no source specified in the table was reported. Includes sources that did not fit into one of the existing categories, sources for which there were few responses such as bought online, or if there was not enough information to categorize the source. Examples of other sources include bought from an unknown source or obtained from a friend by an unknown method.

<sup>e</sup>Includes prisoners who reported multiple sources or methods that fit into more than one of the categories. Each reported source is included in the categories above.

<sup>f</sup>Includes prisoners who reported they carried or possessed a firearm and prisoners who reported a source or method.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

Among prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were imprisoned, 7% of state and 10% of federal prisoners serving a sentence in 2016 bought or traded for the firearm from a gun shop or gun store. About 1% bought or traded for the firearm at a gun show. About a quarter (26%) of state prisoners and about a fifth (21%) of federal prisoners obtained a firearm that they possessed during their offense from an individual in a non-retail setting, such as a friend or family member.

Prisoners who reported that they had purchased or traded a firearm at a retail source were asked if they had obtained the firearm from a licensed dealer or private seller. Among prisoners who had possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were serving time, 8% of state and 11% of federal prisoners had purchased it from or traded with a licensed firearm dealer at a retail source (table 6).

Prisoners who reported that they had purchased a firearm from a licensed firearm dealer at a retail source were further asked whether they bought the firearm under their own name and whether they knew a background check was conducted. Among those who had possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were imprisoned, 7% of state and 8% of federal prisoners had purchased it under their own name from a licensed firearm dealer at a retail source, while approximately 1% of state and 2% of federal prisoners had purchased a firearm from a licensed dealer at a retail source but did not purchase it under their own name (not shown in table).

Among all prisoners who purchased or traded a firearm from a licensed firearm dealer at a retail source (8.2%), the majority reported that a background check was conducted (6.7%).

**TABLE 6**

**Among state and federal prisoners who had possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were serving time, processes used to obtain a firearm, 2016**

Process to obtain firearm	All prisoners	State	Federal
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%
<b>Not purchased or traded at retail source</b>	89.9%	90.3%	86.3%
<b>Purchased or traded at retail source<sup>a</sup></b>	10.1%	9.7%	13.7%
Licensed firearm dealer at retail source	8.2	7.9	10.9
Purchased under own name <sup>b</sup>	6.9	6.8	8.4
Background check was reportedly conducted <sup>c</sup>	6.7	6.3	9.4
Private seller at retail source <sup>d</sup>	1.2	1.1	2.3
Unknown <sup>e</sup>	0.7	0.8	:
<b>Estimated number of prisoners who possessed a firearm (with valid data)<sup>f</sup></b>	256,400	227,100	29,300

Note: Percentages exclude missing data. Excludes 10.3% of state prisoners and 14.1% of federal prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense and were missing responses on source or method of obtaining the firearm. See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

<sup>a</sup>Includes prisoners who purchased or traded from a retail source, including a retail store, pawn shop, flea market, or gun show.

<sup>b</sup>Includes prisoners who purchased from a retail source, including a retail store, pawn shop, flea market, or gun show. Excludes prisoners who traded for a firearm from a retail source.

<sup>c</sup>Includes prisoners who purchased from a retail source, including a retail store, pawn shop, flea market, or gun show. Excludes prisoners who traded for a firearm from a retail source and prisoners who reported that a background check was not conducted or who were unaware as to whether one was conducted.

<sup>d</sup>Excludes private sellers other than at a retail source.

<sup>e</sup>Includes prisoners who purchased or traded a firearm from a retail source and were missing responses on whether a firearm was purchased or traded from a licensed firearm dealer or a private seller at a retail source.

<sup>f</sup>Includes prisoners who reported they carried or possessed a firearm and prisoners who reported a source or method.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

## Use and source of firearms among all state and federal prisoners

About 1% of all state and federal prisoners used a firearm during the offense that they obtained from a retail source ([table 7](#)). About 2% of prisoners possessed a firearm that they obtained from a retail source, including a retail store, pawn shop, flea market, or gun show.

Thirteen percent of all state and federal prisoners used a firearm during the offense for which they were serving time in 2016.

**TABLE 7**

**Firearm possession and use among all state and federal prisoners during the offense for which they were serving time, by type of controlling offense and source, 2016**

Controlling offense <sup>a</sup>	Percent of state and federal prisoners who—		Percent of state and federal prisoners who—	
	Possessed a firearm <sup>b</sup>	Possessed a firearm that they obtained from a retail source <sup>c</sup>	Used a firearm <sup>d</sup>	Used a firearm that they obtained from a retail source <sup>e</sup>
<b>Total</b>	20.8%	1.9%	12.8%	1.3%
<b>Violent*</b>	29.3%	2.8%	23.1%	2.3%
Homicide <sup>f</sup>	43.5	5.9	37.0	5.2
Robbery	43.5	1.8	31.5	1.3
<b>Property</b>	4.8% †	0.5% †	1.9% †	:
<b>Drug</b>	9.6% †	1.0% †	0.8% †	0.1% †
<b>Public order</b>	23.6% †	1.7% †	5.5% †	0.6% †

Note: Percentages exclude missing data. Excludes 2.8% of prisoners who were missing responses on firearm possession during the offense and 1.2% of prisoners who had a valid response to firearm possession but were missing a controlling offense. Retail source includes purchasing or trading the firearm from a retail store, pawn shop, flea market, or gun show. Use includes prisoners who showed a firearm to anyone, pointed a firearm at anyone, or discharged a firearm during the controlling offense. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

\*Comparison group.

† Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level across main categories, and no testing was done on subcategories (e.g., homicide).

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

<sup>a</sup>See *Methodology* for more information on how controlling offense was measured.

<sup>b</sup>Includes state and federal prisoners who reported a valid response to firearm possession.

<sup>c</sup>Includes state and federal prisoners who reported a valid response to firearm possession and source.

<sup>d</sup>Includes state and federal prisoners who reported a valid response to firearm possession and use.

<sup>e</sup>Includes state and federal prisoners who reported a valid response to firearm possession, source, and use.

<sup>f</sup>Includes murder and both non-negligent and negligent manslaughter.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

## Methodology

### Survey of Prison Inmates

The findings in this report are primarily based on data collected through the 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI). The SPI is a periodic, cross-sectional survey of the state and sentenced federal prison populations. Its primary objective is to produce national statistics of the state and sentenced federal prison populations across a variety of domains, including—but not limited to—demographic characteristics, current offense and sentence, incident characteristics, firearm possession and sources, criminal history, socioeconomic characteristics, family background, drug and alcohol use and treatment, mental and physical health and treatment, and facility programs and rule violations. RTI International served as BJS's data collection agent for the 2016 SPI under a cooperative agreement (award no. 2011-MU-MU-K070). From January through October 2016, data were collected through face-to-face interviews with prisoners using computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI).

Prior iterations of the SPI were known as the Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities (SISFCF), which was renamed with the 2016 implementation. The first survey of state prisoners was fielded in 1974 and thereafter in 1979, 1986, 1991, 1997, and 2004. The first survey of federal prisoners was fielded in 1991, along with the survey of state prisoners, and since then both surveys have been conducted at the same time using the same questionnaire and administration.

The target population for the 2016 SPI was prisoners ages 18 and older who were held in a state prison or had a sentence to federal prison in the United States during 2016. Similar to prior iterations, the 2016 survey was a stratified two-stage sample design in which prisons were selected in the first stage and prisoners within sampled facilities were selected in the second stage. The SPI sample was selected from a universe of 2,001 unique prisons (1,808 state and 193 federal) that were either enumerated in the 2012 Census of State and Federal Adult Correctional Facilities or had opened between the completion of the census and July 2014 when the SPI sample of prisons was selected. A total of 364 prisons (306 state and 58 federal) participated in the 2016 survey out of the 385 selected (324 state and 61 federal) for interviewing. The first-stage response rate (i.e., the response rate among selected prisons) was 98.4% (98.1% among

state prisons and 100% among federal prisons).<sup>3</sup> A total of 24,848 prisoners participated (20,064 state and 4,784 federal) in the 2016 SPI based on a sample of 37,058 prisoners (30,348 state and 6,710 federal). The second-stage response rate (i.e., the response rate among selected prisoners) was 70.0% (69.3% among state prisoners and 72.8% among federal prisoners).<sup>4</sup>

Responses from interviewed prisoners in the 2016 SPI were weighted to provide national estimates. Each interviewed prisoner was assigned an initial weight corresponding to the inverse of the probability of selection within each sampled prison. A series of adjustment factors were applied to the initial weight to minimize potential bias due to non-response and to provide national estimates.

For more information on the 2016 SPI methodology, see *Methodology: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (NCJ 252210, BJS web, forthcoming).

### Standard errors and tests of significance

When national estimates are derived from a sample, as with the SPI, caution must be used when comparing one estimate to another or when comparing estimates between years. Although one estimate may be larger than another, estimates based on a sample rather than a complete enumeration of the population have some degree of sampling error. The sampling error of an estimate depends on several factors, including the size of the estimate, the number of completed interviews, and the intraclass correlation of the outcome within prisons. When the sampling error around an estimate is taken into account, estimates that appear different may not be statistically different. One measure of the sampling error associated with an estimate is the standard error. The standard error may vary from one estimate to the next. Standard errors in this report were estimated using Taylor Series Linearization to account for the complex design of the SPI in producing the variance estimates.

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<sup>3</sup>A total of 15 prisons (12 state and 3 federal) that were sampled were deemed ineligible for the 2016 SPI. For more information, see *Methodology: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (NCJ 252210, BJS web, forthcoming).

<sup>4</sup>There were 10,661 sampled prisoners who were eligible for the survey but did not participate. Another 1,549 sampled prisoners were deemed ineligible for the survey. For more information, see *Methodology: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (NCJ 252210, BJS web, forthcoming).

Readers may use the estimates and standard errors of the estimates provided in this report to generate a 95% confidence interval around the estimates as a measure of the margin of error. Typically, multiplying the standard error by 1.96 and then adding or subtracting the result from the estimate produces the confidence interval. This interval expresses the range of values with which the true population parameter is expected to fall 95% of the time if the same method is used to select different samples.

For small samples and estimates close to 0%, the use of the standard error to construct the 95% confidence interval may not be reliable. Therefore, caution should be used when interpreting the estimates. Caution should also be used if constructing a 95% confidence interval, which would include zero in these cases, because the estimate may not be distinguishable from zero.

The standard errors have been used to compare estimates of firearm possession during the offense, firearm use during the crime, and type of firearm possessed. They have also been used to compare firearm possession among selected groups of prisoners that have been defined by demographic characteristics and controlling offense. To facilitate the analysis, rather than provide the detailed estimates for every standard error, differences in the estimates for subgroups in the relevant tables in this report have been tested and notated for significance at the 95% level of confidence. Readers should reference the tables for testing on specific findings. Unless otherwise noted, findings described in this report as higher, lower, or different passed a test at the 0.05 level of statistical significance (95% confidence level).

### Measurement of firearm possession and source

The 2016 SPI was restricted to prisoners age 18 or older at the time of the survey. Firearms analyses in this report were restricted to state and federal prisoners who were sentenced or state prisoners who were convicted but were awaiting sentencing. This report excludes prisoners who were awaiting trial (i.e., unconvicted) or a revocation hearing or who were held for other reasons. Unconvicted prisoners, such as those awaiting trial or being held for other reasons like safekeeping or a civil commitment, were excluded from this report because they were not asked questions about firearm possession to protect against self-incrimination. (See appendix 1, *Questions related to firearms in the Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016*.) Of

the estimated 1,421,700 state and federal prisoners in 2016, an estimated 287,400 were armed with a firearm, 1,094,200 were not armed with a firearm, 23,800 did not know or refused to answer the question, and 16,300 were not asked the question because they were not convicted or they stopped the interview before responding to the question.<sup>5</sup>

To determine whether prisoners possessed a firearm at the time of the offense for which they were serving time in prison, respondents were first asked whether they had carried, possessed, or used a weapon when the controlling offense occurred. Respondents could report that they carried, possessed, or used a firearm or another weapon such as a toy or BB gun, knife, other sharp object, or blunt object. Weapons other than firearms, including toy and BB guns, were excluded from this report. Multiple weapons and firearms could be reported by respondents.

Of the respondents who were asked about possessing a firearm during the offense for which they were imprisoned, about 3.0% of state and 1.7% of federal prisoners in 2016 were missing responses on firearm possession. These prisoners were excluded from the analyses in this report. All prisoners who reported they carried, possessed, or used a firearm during the offense were asked whether they had obtained the firearm because they were planning to carry, possess, or use it during the offense. They were also asked whether they showed, pointed, or fired the firearm during the offense. Respondents who reported that they fired the firearm were also asked whether they shot anyone and, if so, whether anyone they shot had died. Of the respondents who possessed a firearm during the offense, about 3.1% of state and 3.5% of federal prisoners in 2016 were missing responses on how they used the firearm. These prisoners were excluded from the analyses in figure 1, tables 1 through 3, and table 7.

To measure the type of firearm possessed by prisoners, respondents were asked whether they had carried, possessed, or used a handgun, rifle, shotgun, or some other type of firearm during the offense for which they were imprisoned. About 0.3% of state prisoners and 0.2% of federal prisoners in 2016 were missing responses on the type of firearm that they possessed. These prisoners, along with prisoners who were missing a response on firearm possession, were excluded from the analyses in table 3.

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<sup>5</sup>The SPI sample was weighted to the state and federal prison populations that were eligible to be sampled in the survey. See *Methodology: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (NCJ 252210, BJS web, forthcoming).



To measure the source and method of obtaining the firearm possessed by prisoners during their crime, two separate questions were asked in the survey. The first question asked how the prisoners obtained the firearm, and multiple responses could be reported in the 2016 SPI. Possible responses included stole it, rented it, borrowed it from or were holding it for somebody, traded something for it, bought it, someone bought it for them, someone gave it as a gift, found it or it was at the location where the offense occurred, it was brought by someone else, or other. If respondents specified an “other” method of obtaining the firearm, then the field interviewers entered the respondents’ answers into a text field. These responses originally reported as “other” were coded to one of the existing response categories if possible.

The second question asked where prisoners obtained the firearm, and multiple responses could be reported in the 2016 SPI. Respondents received this question if they reported that they stole, rented, borrowed from or were holding for somebody, traded something for, or bought the firearm. Possible responses included gun shop or gun store; pawn shop; flea market; gun show; from a victim, family member, or friend; from a fence (a middleman for stolen goods) or underground market; off the street or from a drug dealer; in a burglary; online or the internet; or other. Fewer than 1% of state and federal prisoners reported obtaining a firearm online. These responses were included in table 5 in the “other” category due to the small number of sample cases. If respondents specified an “other” source of obtaining a firearm, then the field interviewers entered the respondents’ answers into a text field. Responses originally reported as “other” were coded to one of the existing response categories if possible.

The responses from these two questions were used to create the source and method categories in figure 1 and tables 5 through 7. Approximately 10.3% of state and 14.1% of federal prisoners in 2016 who possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were serving a sentence were missing responses on source or method of obtaining the firearm. These prisoners were excluded from figure 1 and tables 5 through 7.

Prisoners who reported purchasing or trading a firearm from a retail source (gun shop or gun store, pawn shop, flea market, or gun show) were asked if they purchased or traded it from a licensed firearm dealer or a private seller. Prisoners who reported they purchased a firearm from a retail source were further asked whether they bought the firearm under their own name and whether the seller did a firearm purchase background check before selling them the firearm. About 1% of the respondents who possessed a firearm during the offense purchased or traded it from a retail source and were missing responses on whether they bought the firearm from a licensed dealer or private seller. About 1% of respondents who possessed a firearm during the offense purchased it from a retail source and were missing responses on whether the firearm was purchased under their own name or whether a background check was conducted.

### Measurement of controlling offense

The way controlling offense was measured through the 2016 SPI, and reflected in this report, varies by sentence status and the number of offenses of prisoners:

- For sentenced prisoners and those awaiting sentencing with one offense, that offense is the controlling offense.
- For sentenced prisoners with multiple offenses and sentences, the controlling offense is the one with the longest sentence.
- For sentenced prisoners with multiple offenses and one sentence and those awaiting sentencing with multiple offenses, the controlling offense is the most serious offense. For this report, violent offenses are considered most serious, followed by property, drug, public-order, and all other offenses.

For prisoners who were convicted but awaiting sentencing, the controlling offense is the most serious offense.

## Appendix 1. Questions related to firearms in the Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016

This appendix includes the questions from the 2016 SPI that were used to measure the firearms' constructs in this report. Text that appears in capital letters in the questions was not read out loud to respondents. That text reflects programming instructions for the CAPI instrument, instructions to field interviewers who conducted the interviews, or response options that were not read out loud to respondents but were coded by the field interviewers during the interviews.

### Questions

**CJ39.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED BEING SENTENCED IN CJ1 OR CJ3 OR IF RESPONDENT REPORTED HE/SHE WAS AWAITING SENTENCING IN CJH2A.) Did you carry, possess, or use a weapon when the (INSERT CONTROLLING OFFENSE) occurred?

- YES
- NO (SKIP TO NEXT SECTION)

**CJH1.** How many weapons did you carry, possess, or use when the (INSERT CONTROLLING OFFENSE) occurred?

- ONE
- TWO OR MORE

**CJH2.** What (INSERT “kind of weapon was it?” OR “kinds of weapons were they?”) CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

- FIREARM
- TOY OR BB GUN (INCLUDE FAKE OR REPLICA GUNS)
- KNIFE
- OTHER SHARP OBJECT (SCISSORS, ICE PICK, AX, ETC.)
- BLUNT OBJECT (ROCK, CLUB, BLACKJACK, ETC.)
- ANOTHER WEAPON
  - What kinds of weapons were they?
    - INTERVIEWER: RECORD RESPONSE VERBATIM.

**CJH3.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED “FIREARM” IN CJH2.) How many firearms did you carry, possess, or use when the (INSERT CONTROLLING OFFENSE) occurred?

- ENTER NUMBER OF FIREARMS

**CJH4.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED “FIREARM” IN CJH2.) What (INSERT “type of firearm was it?” OR “types of firearms were they?”) CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

- A HANDGUN
- A RIFLE
- A SHOTGUN
- SOME OTHER TYPE OF FIREARM
  - What type of firearm?
    - INTERVIEWER: RECORD RESPONSE VERBATIM.

**CJH5.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED “FIREARM” IN CJH2.) How did you obtain the (INSERT “firearm” OR “firearms”) that you carried, possessed, or used during the (INSERT CONTROLLING OFFENSE)? Any others? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

- STOLE IT (GO TO CJH6)
- RENTED IT (GO TO CJH6)
- BORROWED FROM OR WAS HOLDING FOR SOMEBODY (GO TO CJH6)
- TRADED SOMETHING FOR IT (GO TO CJH6)
- BOUGHT IT (GO TO CJH6)
- SOMEONE BOUGHT IT FOR ME (GO TO CJH7)
- SOMEONE GAVE IT TO ME AS A GIFT (GO TO CJH9)
- FOUND IT/WAS AT LOCATION WHERE OFFENSE OCCURRED (GO TO CJH9)
- WAS BROUGHT BY SOMEONE ELSE (GO TO CJH9)
- OTHER
  - How did you obtain the firearm that you carried, possessed, or used during the offense?
    - INTERVIEWER: RECORD RESPONSE VERBATIM.

**CJH6.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED “FIREARM” IN CJH2 AND REPORTED IN CJH5 HE/SHE “STOLE IT”, “RENTED IT”, “BORROWED FROM OR WAS HOLDING FOR SOMEBODY”, “TRADED SOMETHING FOR IT”, OR “BOUGHT IT”.) Where did you obtain the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4)? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

- GUN SHOP OR GUN STORE (GO TO CJH6A)
- PAWN SHOP (GO TO CJH6A)
- FLEA MARKET (GO TO CJH6A)
- GUN SHOW (GO TO CJH6A)
- FROM THE VICTIM(S) (GO TO CJH9)
- FROM A FAMILY MEMBER (GO TO CJH9)
- FROM A FRIEND (GO TO CJH9)
- FROM A FENCE/BLACK MARKET SOURCE (GO TO CJH9)
- OFF THE STREET/FROM A DRUG DEALER (GO TO CJH9)
- IN A BURGLARY (GO TO CJH9)
- ONLINE/THE INTERNET (GO TO CJH9)
- OTHER
  - Where did you obtain the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4)?
    - INTERVIEWER: RECORD RESPONSE VERBATIM.

*Continued on next page*

## Appendix 1. Questions related to firearms in the Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016 (continued)

**CJH6a.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED IN CJH6 THAT THE FIREARM WAS FROM A “GUN SHOP OR GUN STORE”, “PAWN SHOP”, “FLEA MARKET”, OR “GUN SHOW”.) When you obtained the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4) was it from a licensed firearm dealer or a private seller?

- LICENSED FIREARM DEALER
- PRIVATE SELLER

**CJH6b.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED IN CJH5 THAT HE/SHE “BOUGHT IT” AND IN CJH6 REPORTED THAT THE FIREARM WAS FROM A “GUN SHOP OR GUN STORE”, “PAWN SHOP”, “FLEA MARKET”, OR “GUN SHOW”.) Did you buy the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4) under your own name?

- YES
- NO
- NO PAPERWORK WAS REQUIRED

**CJH6c.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED IN CJH5 THAT HE/SHE “BOUGHT IT” AND REPORTED IN CJH6 THAT THE FIREARM WAS FROM A “GUN SHOP OR GUN STORE”, “PAWN SHOP”, “FLEA MARKET”, OR “GUN SHOW”.) Did the seller do a firearm purchase background check before selling you the gun?

- YES
- NO

**CJH6d.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED IN CJH5 THAT HE/SHE “BOUGHT IT” AND REPORTED IN CJH6 THAT THE FIREARM WAS FROM A “GUN SHOP OR GUN STORE”, “PAWN SHOP”, “FLEA MARKET”, OR “GUN SHOW”.) Did you buy the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4) directly or did someone else buy it for you?

- INMATE BOUGHT
- SOMEONE ELSE BOUGHT

**CJH7.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED “SOMEONE ELSE BOUGHT IT FOR ME” IN CJH5.) Where did that person obtain the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4)?

- GUN SHOP OR GUN STORE
- PAWN SHOP
- FLEA MARKET
- GUN SHOW
- FROM THE VICTIM(S)
- FROM A FAMILY MEMBER
- FROM A FRIEND
- FROM A FENCE/BLACK MARKET SOURCE

- OFF THE STREET/FROM A DRUG DEALER
- IN A BURGLARY
- ONLINE/THE INTERNET
- OTHER
  - Where did that person obtain the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4)?
    - INTERVIEWER: RECORD RESPONSE VERBATIM.

**CJH8.** (ASK IF RESPONDENT REPORTED “SOMEONE ELSE BOUGHT IT FOR ME” IN CJH5.) Why did someone else obtain the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4) for you? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

- COULD NOT TRAVEL TO WHERE THE SELLER WAS
- NOT ALLOWED BECAUSE TOO YOUNG
- NOT ALLOWED BECAUSE OF CRIMINAL RECORD
- THEY COULD GET IT MORE QUICKLY OR EASILY
- DID NOT WANT TO BE LINKED TO FIREARM PURCHASE
- OTHER
  - Why did someone else obtain the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4) for you?
    - INTERVIEWER: RECORD RESPONSE VERBATIM.

**CJH9.** Did you get the (INSERT TYPE OF FIREARM REPORTED IN CJH4) because you were **planning** to carry, possess, or use it during the (INSERT CONTROLLING OFFENSE)?

- YES
- NO

**CJH10.** Did you show or point (INSERT “the firearm” OR “any of the firearms”) at anyone during the (INSERT CONTROLLING OFFENSE)?

- YES
- NO

**CJH11.** Did you fire (INSERT “the firearm” OR “any of the firearms”) during the (INSERT CONTROLLING OFFENSE)?

- YES
- NO (SKIP TO NEXT SECTION)

**CJH12.** Did you shoot anyone?

- YES
- NO (SKIP TO NEXT SECTION)

**CJH13.** Did anyone you shot die?

- YES
- NO



**APPENDIX TABLE 1**

**Standard errors for figure 1: Percent of all state and federal inmates who had possessed or used a firearm during their offense, 2016**

Characteristic	Possessed	Used
Any gun	0.64%	0.51%
Handgun	0.59	0.46
Gun they obtained from retail source	0.13	0.12

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

**APPENDIX TABLE 2**

**Standard errors for table 1: Firearm possession and use among state and federal prisoners during the offense for which they were serving time, by type of controlling offense, 2016**

Controlling offense	Estimated number of state prisoners	Percent of state prisoners who—		Estimated number of federal prisoners	Percent of federal prisoners who—	
		Possessed a firearm	Used a firearm		Possessed a firearm	Used a firearm
<b>Total</b>	31,100	0.69%	0.57%	8,300	1.76%	0.71%
<b>Violent</b>	22,400	0.90%	0.73%	2,700	2.87%	2.83%
Homicide	10,900	1.16	1.12	700	6.53	4.75
Rape/sexual assault	9,900	0.36	0.22	600	:	:
Robbery	6,700	1.32	1.28	1,600	3.73	3.80
Assault	5,900	1.34	1.24	700	5.15	4.52
Other violent	2,100	2.03	1.73	300	8.42	:
<b>Property</b>	7,800	0.53%	0.32%	2,000	0.83%	:
Burglary	3,900	0.80	0.54	100	:	:
Other property	5,800	0.58	0.33	2,000	0.81	:
<b>Drug</b>	11,400	0.68%	0.20%	5,400	0.87%	0.21%
Trafficking	9,700	0.83	0.24	5,000	0.88	0.21
Possession	3,400	1.06	:	600	:	:
Other/unspecified drug	700	:	:	600	:	:
<b>Public order</b>	8,400	1.35%	0.58%	3,600	3.55%	0.88%
Weapons	3,000	2.02	1.70	2,700	2.02	1.60
Other public order	7,200	0.70	0.42	3,800	0.89	:
<b>Other</b>	600	:	:	300	:	:
<b>Unknown</b>	1,400	1.61%	:	400	:	:

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

### APPENDIX TABLE 3

Standard errors for table 2: Among state and federal prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were serving time, extent of firearm use, 2016

Firearm use	State prisoners	Federal prisoners	State prisoners		Federal prisoners	
			Violent offense	Non-violent offense	Violent offense	Non-violent offense
Obtained firearm because planned to use in controlling offense						
Yes	0.81%	1.57%	0.81%	2.00%	4.01%	1.88%
No	0.81	1.57	0.81	2.00	4.01	1.88
Used firearm	1.11%	1.92%	0.85%	1.83%	3.86%	1.57%
Discharged	1.34%	1.17%	1.36%	1.47%	3.58%	1.14%
Killed victim	1.28	0.75	1.40	:	2.49	:
Injured/shot victim but did not kill victim	0.73	0.55	0.86	0.89	:	:
Discharged firearm but did not shoot anyone	0.47	0.98	0.51	1.17	2.16	1.02
Did not discharge	0.97%	1.60%	1.21%	1.24%	4.99%	0.87%
Did not use firearm	1.11%	1.92%	0.85%	1.83%	3.86%	1.57%
Estimated number of prisoners who possessed a firearm (with valid data)	10,100	3,100	9,200	3,400	1,200	2,200

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

### APPENDIX TABLE 4

Standard errors for table 3: Firearm possession and use among state and federal prisoners during the offense for which they were serving time, by type of firearm, 2016

Type of firearm	Percent of prisoners who possessed a firearm			Percent of prisoners who used a firearm		
	All prisoners	State	Federal	All prisoners	State	Federal
Firearm	0.64	0.69%	1.76%	0.51	0.57%	0.71%
Handgun	0.59	0.64	1.63	0.46	0.51	0.67
Rifle	0.10	0.10	0.28	0.07	0.08	0.13
Shotgun	0.11	0.12	0.22	0.09	0.10	0.09
No firearm	0.64	0.69	1.76	0.51	0.57	0.71
Estimated number of prisoners (with valid data)	32,100	31,000	8,300	32,100	31,000	8,300

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

## APPENDIX TABLE 5

Standard errors for table 4: Firearm possession among state and federal prisoners during the offense for which they were serving time, by demographic characteristics, 2016

Demographic characteristic	State		Federal	
	Number of prisoners	Percent of prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense	Number of prisoners	Percent of prisoners who possessed a firearm during the offense
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	30,700	0.74%	8,200	1.88%
Female	5,200	0.96	1,300	1.00
<b>Race/Hispanic origin</b>				
White	16,500	0.64%	3,900	2.28%
Black	16,200	0.91	5,600	2.02
Hispanic	12,400	1.26	8,000	1.70
American Indian/Alaska Native	2,500	2.94	800	5.18
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1,600	4.69	600	:
Two or more races	5,000	1.19	1,200	3.50
<b>Age at time of survey</b>				
18–24	8,200	1.71%	1,000	5.69%
25–34	13,700	1.00	3,200	2.57
35–44	9,500	0.94	3,400	1.68
45–54	9,100	0.76	2,400	1.68
55 or older	7,700	1.02	2,200	2.02
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married	6,300	1.06%	3,100	1.77%
Widowed/widowed	2,000	2.10	400	5.93
Separated	2,700	1.34	1,200	3.11
Divorced	10,600	0.97	2,200	1.58
Never married	20,100	0.81	5,800	2.10
<b>Education</b>				
Less than high school	21,500	0.83%	6,000	2.18%
High school graduate	8,500	0.88	2,100	1.69
Some college	5,000	0.96	2,000	2.08
College degree or more	2,500	1.43	2,000	1.83
<b>Citizenship</b>				
U.S. citizen	30,000	0.69%	10,700	1.87%
Non-U.S. citizen	3,700	2.04	9,500	1.09
<b>Military service</b>				
Yes	4,800	1.07%	1,200	2.98%
No	28,700	0.72	8,200	1.80

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

## APPENDIX TABLE 6

**Standard errors for table 5: Among state and federal prisoners who had possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were serving time, sources and methods used to obtain a firearm, 2016**

Source and method to obtain firearm	All prisoners	State	Federal
<b>Purchased/traded at retail source</b>	0.66%	0.70%	2.07%
Gun shop/store	0.54	0.56	1.87
Pawn shop	0.27	0.29	0.62
Flea market	0.13	:	:
Gun show	0.16	0.17	0.44
<b>Obtained from individual</b>	0.87%	0.94%	2.02%
Purchased/traded from family/friend	0.59	0.65	1.27
Rented/borrowed from family/friend	0.47	0.52	0.54
Gift/purchased for prisoner	0.69	0.75	1.40
<b>Off the street/underground market</b>	1.07%	1.13%	3.26%
<b>Theft</b>	0.48%	0.53%	0.79%
From burglary	0.22	0.24	:
From retail source	0.07	:	:
From family/friend	0.26	0.29	:
Unspecified theft	0.31	0.34	0.53
<b>Other source</b>	0.78%	0.85%	1.80%
Found at location of crime/victim	0.50	0.53	1.31
Brought by someone else	0.45	0.49	0.87
Other	0.51	0.55	1.40
<b>Multiple sources</b>	0.27%	0.29%	0.50%
<b>Estimated number of prisoners who possessed a firearm, excluding prisoners who did not report source</b>	9,900	9,500	2,800

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

## APPENDIX TABLE 7

**Standard errors for table 6: Among state and federal prisoners who had possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were serving time, processes used to obtain a firearm, 2016**

Process to obtain firearm	All prisoners	State	Federal
<b>Not purchased or traded at retail source</b>	0.66%	0.70%	2.07%
<b>Purchased or traded at retail source</b>	0.66%	0.70%	2.07%
Licensed firearm dealer at retail source	0.60	0.63	2.08
Purchased under own name	0.54	0.57	1.89
Backgroundcheck was reportedly conducted	0.54	0.56	1.93
Private seller at retail source	0.19	0.20	0.63
Unknown	0.21	0.24	:
<b>Estimated number of prisoners who possessed a firearm (with valid data)</b>	9,900	9,500	2,800

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

## APPENDIX TABLE 8

Standard errors for table 7: Firearm possession and use among all state and federal prisoners during the offense for which they were serving time, by type of controlling offense and source, 2016

Controlling offense	Percent of state and federal prisoners who—		Percent of state and federal prisoners who—	
	Possessed a firearm	Possessed a firearm that they obtained from a retail source	Used a firearm	Used a firearm that they obtained from a retail source
Total	0.64%	0.13%	0.51%	0.12%
Violent	0.88%	0.23%	0.72%	0.21%
Homicide	1.14	0.63	1.10	0.62
Robbery	1.25	0.29	1.22	0.25
Property	0.50%	0.15%	0.30%	:
Drug	0.52%	0.17%	0.15%	0.04%
Public order	1.35%	0.27%	0.48%	0.17%

: Not calculated. Too few cases to provide a reliable estimate, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Jeffrey H. Anderson is the director.

This report was written by Mariel Alper and Lauren Glaze of BJS. Mariel Alper conducted statistical analyses. Marcus Berzofsky and John Bunker of RTI International provided statistical review. Danielle Kaeble, Laura Maruschak, Todd Minton, and Stephanie Mueller verified the report. Lauren Glaze was the BJS project manager for the 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates.

Eric Hendrixson and Jill Thomas edited the report. Tina Dorsey and Morgan Young produced the report.

January 2019, NCJ 251776



NCJ251776

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## Info

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**From:** Steve Michalec <1957chevytruck283@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 18, 2019 5:57 PM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** gun shows

I just read the article in the VC Star regarding Oxnard's city council and the Ventura County Board of Supervisors both opposing the Fair Board allowing gun shows at the fairgrounds. I just want to pass on my view as a citizen of Ventura County and express my support for the gun shows. I don't see any reason they shouldn't be held at the fair grounds. They are a great place for legal gun owners to look at and shop for gun / hunting / shooting supplies and I really hope you don't listen to the liberal left who want to take away our gun rights. Thank you!!

Steve Michalec  
resident of Ventura,  
805-256-0811

# Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Fairgrounds  
31st District Agricultural Association - 10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: venturacountyfair.org Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

## **I. Call to Order**

### **Roll Call**

### **Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m., and called to order by President Cornejo.

**Directors present:** President, Leslie Cornejo, Vice President, Leah Lacayo, Bonnie Atmore, Michael Bradbury, M. Cecilia Cuevas, Daniel Long, Shanté Morgan-Durisseau and Jim Salzer.

**Staff present:** Barbara Quaid, CEO, Vickie Taylor, Accounting/Finance Supervisor, Cristian Yopez, Accounting Assistant, Kim Leach, Exhibits Supervisor, James Lockwood, Marketing and Publicity Manager, Lilia Kenneally, Sales Manager, Luis Juarez, Senior Maintenance and Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary.

**Guests Present:** Steve Nash, Karen Peters, Marian Walluks, Christine Vana, Troy Corely, Kevin Small, Janet Eckhouse, Julie Martinez, Darren Swanick and Frank McCarthy.

There were no conflicts of interest with any of the Board members that were present.

## **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Lacayo led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. Welcome and Introductions of Guests and Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

## **IV. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with State law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

President Cornejo allowed each speaker up to three minutes to give their comments.

Steve Nash: Anti-Gun Show – Mr. Nash read a letter from the students of March for Our Lives Ventura County which will be put into the record.

Kevin Small: Pro Gun Show – He would like the Board to continue to contract gun shows. There is a lot that goes into each show and it is linked to a lot of people's livelihoods. The shows can continue while the policy is being developed. He urged the Board to agendize this and contract for more gun shows in 2019.



Karen Peters: Anti-Gun Show – Volunteer with the Brady Campaign Ventura County Chapter. She urges the Board to discontinue contracting for more gun shows. She discussed the bills that are in current legislation. She listed many of the things that are supposed to happen before a gun show takes place and asked the Board to certify to the citizens of Ventura County and to visitors of the fairgrounds that all these laws or regulations are being complied with.

Marian Walluks: Pro Gun Show – Explained that there is a small group that is trying to wear the Board down and make them think that gun shows are illegal. The gun shows are very well organized and very well controlled. It is important for the Board to take control of the situation. She explained that a lot will be lost if there are no more gun shows.

Troy Corley: Anti-Gun Show – She is there to protect the community and that is why this all began. She feels the Board is not up front and transparent because the gun show policy is not back on the Executive Committee agenda where it belongs instead of a two person Ad Hoc Committee. She brought up litigation and explained that anyone can put forth a lawsuit against the Fair Board. She explained all the groups/individuals that are against gun shows and explained that the Board has the opportunity to show the community how much they care by stopping the gun shows.

Janet Eckhouse – Anti-Gun Show – President of the Ventura County Brady Chapter. She discussed gun culture and asked the Board to be the change makers and end gun shows.

Julie Diaz-Martinez: Anti-Gun Show – Against future gun shows at the fairgrounds and is present to ask the Board to stop gun shows. Explained that many political figures are listening to this issue and hearing that people don't want gun shows in their community. Explained the different organizations that passed resolutions explaining they are against gun shows. There needs to be more gun control to prevent the many massacres that are happening.

Darren Swanick: Pro Gun Show – He is in favor of the Crossroads of the West gun shows. He is equally in the community of the people who don't want gun shows but would like to see them continued. People have different opinions and this is a completely legal, compliant show and would like to see the gun shows continued.

Frank McCarthy: Pro Gun Show – California has probably the strictest gun show laws in the country and criminals don't abide by the law. All laws are heavily enforced at the gun shows and there are not any problems. It is very well attended and it is probably beneficial to the fairgrounds.

## V. Presentations - None

## VI. Approval of Minutes

### A. January 22, 2019 Board Meeting

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes from the January 22, 2019 Board Meeting.

Director Bradbury (Motion)	<del>Approved</del>	Not Approved	
<del>Director Cuevas</del> <b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>(Yes X Vote)</b>	<b>(No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Long	X		
Director Atmore			X

Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

## VII. Financial Report

A. Financials are January expenses and revenues only. Budget is not yet approved therefore we are presenting only January 2019 figures.

Mr. Yepez gave a report on the January financials.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the two outstanding receivables from the sponsorship department.

## VIII. Old Business

A. Structure of Minutes

The Executive Committee discussed and recommends staff continue with the same procedure of taking minutes in brevity and Directors will have the opportunity during the approval process to make any additions and corrections.

B. Fireworks Proposal

- Staff received two costs from Zambelli at the direction from the Executive Committee: \$54,000 for all twelve days and \$31,500 for seven nights (Wednesday through Sunday and Friday and Saturday).
- This will be discussed at the Budget Committee where they will make a recommendation to the full Board.

## IX. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee Meeting December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Leslie Cornejo, Chair

1. Discussion and possible action regarding adopting CDFA's Policies and Procedures

- In discussion and with a subject that came up at the last board meeting the committee thought it was important to review policies and procedures and with advice from counsel the committee is recommending to adopt the proposed policies and procedures: Non Discrimination Complaint Procedure, Reasonable Accommodation, Violence, Threats of Violence, Hostility and Bullying, Sexual Harassment Prevention, Pregnancy Discrimination and Pre-Employment Inquiries.

**MOTION:** To adopt California Department of Food & Agriculture's Policies and Procedures.

Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer (Motion)	Approved	Not Approved	
<del>Board Member Name</del>	<del>(Yes Vote)</del>	<del>(No Vote)</del>	<del>Abstain</del>
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
Director Atmore	X		
President Cornejo	X		
Director Brady			
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long	X		

- The committee did discuss board attendance and looked at the board policy and there is a proposed change that will come to the next meeting for a vote. The board does not have the right to remove a Director that is up to the Governor. The reason a Director misses a meeting will be tracked, but the committee felt it wasn't right to be judging the excuses so that is why there is a proposed change.

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: CDFA Policies Applicable to DAA's
- B. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: 2019 Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Program Update
- C. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Pension Liability Update and 2018 STOP Extension
- D. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Assembly Bill Number 2396: DAA Employee Sharing
- E. Correspondence received on Gun Shows

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-2, are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

- A. Agreements
  1. Standard Agreements
  2. Rental Agreements - Interim

**MOTION:** To approve items A, 1-2, on the consent agenda.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Atmore	X		
Director Bradbury (Second)	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Director Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Motion)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

**XII. CEO Report**

- There was nothing further to report.

**XIII. President's Comments**

- Ad Hoc Gun Show Committee will meet in March
- The results when completed will be made public

**XIV. Future Agenda Items**

1. Proposed change to board meeting attendance policy

2. Update on outstanding receivables and sponsorships

The Board took a brief break at 10:11 a.m. Closed session convened at 10:21 a.m.

**XV. Closed Session:** The Board is authorized to meet in Closed Session with CDFA Legal for the purpose of considering: Pending Litigation—Contract (Gov. Code § 11126(e)(1))

**XVI. Reconvene Into Open Session:** Report of any action taken during Closed Session

- The Board reconvened into open session at 11:22 a.m. There was no action taken during closed session.

**XVII. Adjourn**  
The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Quaid, CEO Ventura Fairgrounds

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Cornejo, Board President

# Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Ventura County Fairgrounds, 31st District Agricultural Association  
10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: [venturacountyfair.org](http://venturacountyfair.org) Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Derby Club/ Director's Room**

All matters noticed on this agenda may be considered for action. Items listed on the agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Board President. Any item not so noticed will not be considered or discussed. The Board requests your courtesy to **mute your electronic devices and limit usage to note taking.**

**I. Call to Order**  
**Roll Call**

**Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

Does any Board member have a conflict of interest that should preclude them from participating in discussions about or voting on any matter on today's agenda?

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Welcome and Introduction of Guests & Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

**IV. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with state law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

**V. Presentations**

**VI. Approval of Minutes**

A. February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board Meeting

**VII. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019

B. Statement of Operations 2018

**VIII. Old Business**

A. Discussion and possible action regarding board meeting attendance policy – Executive Committee

B. Sponsorship Update – Marty Lieberman

**IX. Committee Reports**

A. Budget Committee Meeting February 26, 2019 – Cecilia Cuevas, Chair

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2019 budget.

B. Operations Committee Meeting March 5, 2019 – Mike Bradbury, Chair – Informational

C. Marketing Committee Meeting March 5, 2019 – Leah Lacayo, Chair

- D. Livestock Committee Meeting March 5, 2019 – Bonnie Atmore, Chair
  - 1. Discussion and possible action regarding increasing small livestock entry fees.
- E. Ad Hoc Committee Meeting March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Leslie Cornejo

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Letter from the Oxnard City Council
- B. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Implementation of Assembly Bill 1499
- E. Correspondence received on Gun Shows

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-2, are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

- A. Agreements
  - 1. Standard Agreements
  - 2. Rental Agreements – Interim

**XII. CEO Report**

**XIII. President's Comments**

**XIV. Future Agenda Items**

**XV. Adjourn**

**Americans With Disabilities Act**

The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Heidi Ortiz at (805) 648-3376 ext. 106 or sending a written request to that person at the Fairgrounds: 10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001. Although not required, providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

## City Council

300 West Third Street, Fourth Floor  
Oxnard, California 93030  
(805) 385-7430  
Fax (805) 385-7595



Ventura County Fairgrounds Board  
ATTN: President Leslie Cornejo  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Ventura, CA 93001

### **Oxnard City Council Request that the Fairgrounds Board Cease Contracting for New Gun Shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds and Pursue Any Legal or Legislative Remedies Necessary for this Cessation**

Dear President Cornejo:

I am writing today on behalf of the City Council of the City of Oxnard, who on February 19, 2019, took action to support a recommendation requesting the Ventura County Fairgrounds Board of Directors cease contracting for new gun shows at the Fairgrounds. Additionally, we are supportive of both legal and legislative efforts the Fairgrounds Board may pursue needed to implement this cessation.

Unfortunately, the United States has seen more gun violence per person than virtually every other modern industrialized country in the world. The tragic shooting in Thousand Oaks on November 7, 2018, that resulted in the deaths of 12 innocent people occurred just weeks before your Board voted to contract for two new gun shows in 2019. The Oxnard City Council is supportive of your efforts to pursue other types of revenue-enhancing events at the Fairgrounds.

We, as the elected representatives of the City of Oxnard, respectfully request your Board cease contracting for additional gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds and pursue any necessary legal or legislative remedies to accomplish such action.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (805) 890-7088 or [carmen.ramirez@oxnard.org](mailto:carmen.ramirez@oxnard.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carmen Ramirez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a stylized "C" and "R".

Carmen Ramirez  
Mayor Pro Tem

cc: Governor Gavin Newsom  
Ventura County State Delegation

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 10, 2019 9:39 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Democratic Club of Camarillo Requests Cessation of Gun Shows at VC Fairground

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Democratic Club of Camarillo <[demclubofcam@gmail.com](mailto:demclubofcam@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** March 8, 2019 at 12:50:58 PM PST  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject: Democratic Club of Camarillo Requests Cessation of Gun Shows at VC Fairground**

Barbara Quaid, CEO  
Ventura County Fairgrounds Board  
10 W. Harbor Blvd. Ventura, CA 93001

Dear Ms. Quaid,

State agencies should not promote and profit from the proliferation of guns and ammunition. The state-owned Ventura County Fairgrounds should stop renting out its facilities to gun shows. The Democratic Club of Camarillo unanimously voted to request that the Ventura County Fairgrounds Board vote to stop all renting to gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Tiffany P. Lewis  
President  
Democratic Club of Camarillo



## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 8:49 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: 2,882 signers: Stop Gunshows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds petition

**From:** Troy Corley [mailto:petitions@moveon.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 7:58 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** 2,882 signers: Stop Gunshows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds petition

Dear Ventura County Fairgrounds Board,

I started a petition to you titled *Stop Gunshows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds*. So far, the petition has 2,882 total signers.

You can post a response for us to pass along to all petition signers by clicking here:  
[http://petitions.moveon.org/target\\_talkback.html?tt=tt-133352-custom-88210-20290314-GrB0MN](http://petitions.moveon.org/target_talkback.html?tt=tt-133352-custom-88210-20290314-GrB0MN)

The petition states:

"State agencies should not promote and profit from the proliferation of guns and ammunition. The state-owned Ventura County Fairgrounds should stop renting out its facilities to gun shows."

To download a PDF file of all your constituents who have signed the petition, including their addresses, click this link: [http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver\\_pdf.html?job\\_id=2428431&target\\_type=custom&target\\_id=88210](http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver_pdf.html?job_id=2428431&target_type=custom&target_id=88210)

To download a CSV file of all of your constituents who have signed the petition, including their addresses, click this link:  
[http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver\\_pdf.html?job\\_id=2428431&target\\_type=custom&target\\_id=88210&csv=1](http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver_pdf.html?job_id=2428431&target_type=custom&target_id=88210&csv=1)

Thank you.

--Troy Corley

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*If you have any other questions, please email [petitions@moveon.org](mailto:petitions@moveon.org).*

*The links to download the petition as a PDF and to respond to all of your constituents will remain available for the next 14 days.*

*This email was sent through MoveOn's petition website, a free service that allows anyone to set up their own online petition and share it with friends. MoveOn does not endorse the contents of petitions posted on our public petition website. If you don't want to receive further emails updating you on how many people have signed this petition, click here:*

# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Fairgrounds  
31st District Agricultural Association - 10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: venturacountyfair.org Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

## **I. Call to Order**

### **Roll Call**

### **Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m., and called to order by President Cornejo.

**Directors present:** President, Leslie Cornejo, Vice President, Leah Lacayo, Bonnie Atmore, Michael Bradbury, M. Cecilia Cuevas and Daniel Long.

**Absent:** Shanté Morgan-Durisseau and Jim Salzer.

**Staff present:** Barbara Quaid, CEO, Vickie Taylor, Accounting/Finance Supervisor, Cristian Yepez, Accounting Assistant, Kim Leach, Exhibits Supervisor, Jason Amelio, Assistant Satellite Manager, Marty Lieberman, Sponsorships, James Lockwood, Marketing and Publicity Manager, Lilia Kenneally, Sales Manager and Luis Juarez, Senior Maintenance.

**Guests Present:** Steve Nash, Karen Peters, Jim Meyer, Glenn Rowe, Troy Corley, Barbara Cartee, Jeff Nettleton, Marian Walluks, Frank McCarthy, Darren Swanick, Jackson Mirabelli, Cameron Clark and Julie Diaz Martinez.

There were no conflicts of interest with any of the Board members that were present.

## **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Bradbury led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. Welcome and Introductions of Guests and Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

## **IV. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with State law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

President Cornejo allowed each speaker up to three minutes to give their comments.

Jim Meyer: Pro Gun Show – For many years his family has been coming to the county fair and his kids were involved in 4H. They have been to the fairgrounds many more times for the gun shows and would like the Board to consider doing anything they can do to maintain and continue the gun shows.

Glenn Rowe: Pro Gun Show – The daughter of a friend of his was at Borderline and survived, but her friend did not. He also knew other people that were in Vegas that were shot at and he mentioned that for one side of the issue. He has also been a non-gun vendor for over twenty years at the gun show for two different companies. From an inside perspective he has never seen nor heard of any illegal transactions taking place at the gun shows. He agrees there needs to be gun safety in the United States, but closing the gun shows is not the way to do it.

Troy Corley: Anti-Gun Show – A State facility should not profit from the sale of guns and ammunitions. Having gun shows and allowing people to handle guns, allowing children to come in to see guns promotes gun culture. Explained some gun related events that took place since the last board meeting and stated some facts. Currently, there are people from Del Mar in Sacramento taking action on a bill to stop gun shows at state owned fairgrounds in Del Mar.

Steve Nash: Anti-Gun Show – Explained some consequences of gun culture. There are approximately 40,000 people dead every year from guns and spoke about carnage. As community leaders and decision makers the Board has to acknowledge this issue and ban gun shows at the fairgrounds.

Barbara Cartee: Anti-Gun Show – Discussed the Oxnard City Council letter that was in board correspondence and explained that change starts with a series of small local ones. The profit from gun sales on state property is no longer defensible when a public health crisis of gun violence, mortality and morbidity of epidemic proportions is ravaging our nation. Public opinion is shifting in California and asks the Board to stop the gun culture and gun shows.

Jeff Nettleton: Pro Gun Show – Explained he is a retired Deputy Sheriff for this county and he has been around guns his whole life. Guns are used for more good purposes and lawful purposes than they are used for any crime. There are a lot of things in the media who blow it up because of agendas which is fine because everyone has an opinion. However, guns are not only used to kill or to hunt, they are used for other lawful activities. He explained that there are more deaths from automobile accidents. Taking out one thing because it is politically correct or seems to be a hot topic at this point seems a little extreme. A lot of honest people come to the guns shows to learn, to buy things and it is a good profit for the fairgrounds. He wants the Board to consider all things before they make a decision to cancel the gun shows.

Marian Walluks: Pro Gun Show – She is a vendor and attendee at gun shows. She uses guns for all legal activities and she does not ever think about killing people with them. One thing that is predictable is if gun shows are cancelled it will affect the livelihoods of a number of businesses. The Board will also cut into the fairgrounds budget. If there was another event that brought in the same amount of money as the gun show she is sure it would have been done already. Gun shows do not cause the violence that everyone is hearing about and if gun shows are banned it won't stop any of it. It is not guns that kill it is people and she would like the gun shows to continue.

Frank McCarthy: Pro Gun Show – Gun culture has been talked about and it has been in this country for a long time. At all the meetings and hearing people speak he has noticed there

is nothing broken and nothing needs to be fixed here. The gun shows are well organized, safe and legal. Regardless of what certain County Board of Supervisors or other communities are encouraging the Board to do these shows are well attended which means there is plenty of community support for them. He is looking forward to that continued support and seeing the gun shows at the fairgrounds.

Darren Swanick: Pro Gun Show – Explained he is present to show his support for the gun shows. He discussed the first amendment and President Cornejo’s comment regarding going to Cuba and being proud to live in the US because we have the right to speak freely. He discussed a few other gun related facts in other countries.

Jackson Mirabelli – Pro Gun Show – He is in favor of the gun shows and stated it is wrong for a vocal minority to decide to not have a gun show. He had multiple friends at the Borderline shooting and he thinks it is wrong for people to use those deaths to crack down on something relatively loosely related.

Cameron Clark: Pro Gun Show – He heard quite a bit regarding the general sentiment around the gun show issue. Local government should and do have some discretion as to who they allow to access public land. He believes it is a first amendment, freedom of association, issue. Changing culture is completely different than wanting to deny people the use of public land and have the freedom to associate.

Julie Diaz Martinez: Anti-Gun Show – She has come to many meetings and feels it is important to hear from all voices in this community. She comes from both pro-law enforcement and pro military family who are all collectively against the fairgrounds continuing gun shows. She repeated Troy Corley’s fact that more children die from gun violence than cancer. They are asking that their tax dollars not be used to promote gun violence through gun shows. She explained that the majority of California is against gun shows and the proliferation of gun violence. She reiterated that the Fair Board received yet another letter from a City Council asking to stop the gun shows.

**V. Presentations - None**

**VI. Approval of Minutes**

A. February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board Meeting

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes from the February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board Meeting.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Atmore (Second)	X		
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Motion)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

**VII. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Mr. Yepez presented the financials for January and February 2019.

## B. Statement of Operations 2018

Mr. Yepez presented the Statement of Operations for 2018.

## VIII. Old Business

### A. Discussion and possible action regarding board meeting attendance policy – Executive Committee

- This was brought up at the last meeting and CEO Quaid reviewed the Executive Committee's recommendation.
- If a board member is going to be absent it is their responsibility to notify either the CEO or the President.
- There will not be a judgement by the Board, but simply recorded if the Governor ever sees a need to look into a Board member's attendance.
- Director Cuevas read the section in the policy manual regarding board members attendance for understanding and explained the issue is the recording of whether the absence is excused or not for purposes of tracking a resignation by that Director for lack of attendance.
- There was a full discussion and in the minutes it will only say absent whether it is an excused absence or not, but it will be tracked in case the Governor's Office inquiries about it.
- The main purpose is to remedy the fact that we haven't been reporting specifically the absences as said in the policy but we do not want to include any specifics as to health reasons or anything else.

**MOTION:** To refer the board attendance policy back to the Executive Committee to clean up the proposed verbiage.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Atmore (Second)	X		
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Motion)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

### B. Sponsorships Update – Marty Lieberman

- Sponsorships are ahead of last year with \$280,000 and Mr. Lieberman thinks we'll surpass last year.
- REM has paid \$5,000 and the owner promised to deliver another cashier's check for the remaining \$5,000 tomorrow.
- Staff is still talking to Solar City and is working on getting the money before going to small claims court. Mr. Lieberman said things are moving up the chain of command so he is hopeful in getting the money.
- If any Directors know of a potential sponsor they can be referred to our website to look at the sponsorship packages or refer them to Mr. Lieberman.

## IX. Committee Reports

### A. Budget Committee Meeting February 26, 2019 – Cecilia Cuevas, Chair

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2019 budget.

- Director Cuevas explained that the committee went through the budget and staff was able to answer most of the questions that she submitted prior to the meeting.
- It was noted that there will be an increase in parking fees for both interim and fair.
- There are some areas of the budget that Director Cuevas and CEO Quaid will review. Courtesy and credential admissions as well as utilities are among those items.
- Staff and the Budget Committee will continue to look at ways to tighten the budget and possibly find areas to increase revenues.

**MOTION:** To pass the 2019 budget as submitted.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Atmore	X		
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas (Motion)	X		
Director Long	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

B. Operations Committee Meeting March 5, 2019 – Mike Bradbury, Chair – Informational

- The most important matter discussed was reordering the priority of projects.

C. Marketing Committee Meeting March 5, 2019 – Leah Lacayo, Chair

- Staff will be doing more with social media because so many people rely on it.
- There have been funds allocated for the survey. Director Morgan-Durisseau has put a lot of effort in seeing this through and Vice President Lacayo and Director Atmore both commended and thanked her for her work on it. It is an ongoing discussion.

D. Livestock Committee Meeting March 5, 2019 – Bonnie Atmore, Chair

- The online buyer add-on registration update will be more efficient and effective and Director Atmore thanked Ms. Leach for her efforts on getting that up and running by June 1<sup>st</sup>. It will increase the amount of donations to the kids.
- Due to the New Castle outbreak and not allowing any type of bird onto the grounds the Small Livestock Department is going to be doing new educational displays to still allow the kids to participate in something.

**MOTION:** To approve raising the proposed entry fees for Small Livestock.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Atmore (Motion)	X		
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long (Second)	X		
Vice President Lacayo	X		
President Cornejo	X		

E. Ad Hoc Committee Meeting March 14, 2019 – Leslie Cornejo

- The CDFA attorney was unable to attend, but provided a list of items to discuss, which the committee did, and are doing research on these items.
- At this point there is no action but it was stressed at the meeting that there is an urgency to get resolve on this issue for everyone.
- The committee, staff and our attorney is doing their due diligence and researching any issues that are brought up by the public and by the board.
- Legal counsel is going to assist the board on the legal aspects of the policy but the policy will come from input and research from the board.

**X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Letter from the Oxnard City Council
- B. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Implementation of Assembly Bill 1499
- C. Correspondence received on Gun Shows

**XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-2, are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

- A. Agreements
  - 1. Standard Agreements
  - 2. Rental Agreements - Interim

**MOTION:** To approve the consent agenda with items A, 1-2.

Board Member Name	Approved (Yes Vote)	Not Approved (No Vote)	Abstain
Director Atmore (Second)	X		
Director Bradbury	X		
Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Motion)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

**XII. CEO Report**

- Explained that we are always looking for other events to have at the fairgrounds not just in relation to not having the gun shows.
- Commented that Ms. Taylor retired March 1<sup>st</sup> and thanked her for all her hard work and dedication over the years.

**XIII. President's Comments**

- Thanked Lilly for stepping in for Ms. Ortiz and taking minutes.

**XIV. Future Agenda Items**

- 1. Survey report from Director Morgan-Durisseau

**XV. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Quaid, CEO Ventura Fairgrounds

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Cornejo, Board President



# Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Ventura County Fairgrounds, 31st District Agricultural Association  
10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: venturacountyfair.org    Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Derby Club/ Director's Room**

All matters noticed on this agenda may be considered for action. Items listed on the agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Board President. Any item not so noticed will not be considered or discussed. The Board requests your courtesy to **mute your electronic devices and limit usage to note taking.**

**I.     Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

Does any Board member have a conflict of interest that should preclude them from participating in discussions about or voting on any matter on today's agenda?

**II.    Pledge of Allegiance**

**III.   Welcome and Introduction of Guests & Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

**IV.   Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with state law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

**V.     Presentations**

**VI.    Approval of Minutes**

A. March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board Meeting

**VII.   Financial Report**

A. Financials ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019

**VIII.   Old Business**

**IX.    Committee Reports**

A. Ad Hoc Committee for Fair Admissions

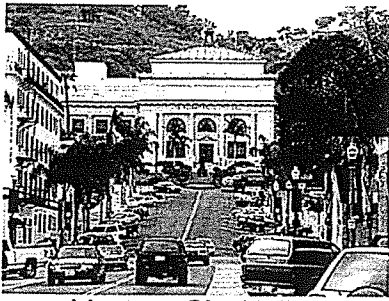
**X.     Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

- A. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Governor Newsom Proclaims State of Emergency
- B. Correspondence received on Gun Shows

- XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-3, and B are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**
- A. Agreements
    - 1. Standard Agreements
    - 2. Rental Agreements – Interim
    - 3. Rental Agreements – Fair
  - B. Travel Claims
- XII. CEO Report**
- XIII. President’s Comments**
- XIV. Future Agenda Items**
- XV. Adjourn**

**Americans With Disabilities Act**

The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Heidi Ortiz at (805) 648-3376 ext. 106 or sending a written request to that person at the Fairgrounds: 10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001. Although not required, providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.



Ventura City Hall

# The L. W. Youngs

1244 Beachmont Street, Ventura, California 93001

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April 8, 2019

Ventura County Fair Board  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Ventura, CA 93001

Dear Board President and Members:

Boy are you in a tough spot, "gun" shows at the fairgrounds or no "gun" shows, losing a decent revenue source and diversity in entertainment, that is what they are, entertainment.

You are in this position because certain folk think State properties should not be used to "glorify" the gun, as one County Supervisor puts it. The thinking is, this action will be another step-in neutering the American Public off the love of the gun. Like neutering folk off booze, golf, cars, watch collecting, etc. If State properties are not fit for "gun" shows what else are they not fit for or should not be fit for?

I can understand how many folks see no need of firearms, they fear them from: ignorance, not interested, if are interested, find it too much trouble to go to an out-of-door range, etc. These folks find it easy to support complicating or destroying someone else's hobby through careless voting such as prop. 63 has.

I see no benefit in disallowing shows on State taxpayer properties, I do see angering more of the silent society. Just because certain County Supervisors owe someone on gun control is no justification. That same supervisor who cannot properly fund the County Museum because it is in Ventura.

I have antique arms and the gun show has offered opportunity to find parts for my antique arms, for example: at one Ventura gun show, my forty-five-year search for a rare and historic Swedish Mauser Saddle Carbine was ended. I was finally able to do a display of Swedish Mausers at the Santa Barbara Historical Arms Show last February. The carbine went through the correct FFL requirements.

I admit I do not like all the AR-15 type hardware at these shows, but unfortunately that is what draws people, the latest and greatest, what they see in video games!

I am 32-year Ventura residents, and I would hate to see our fairgrounds turned into pawn in the antigun gun battle any more than it has been, just because certain folk do not like guns.

Lawrence W. Young

Larry Young — trying to stay Young, but it's not working.

805-658-7633 Home - 805-444-4743 cell

**31st D.A.A.**

**APR 09 2019**

**Ventura County Fairgrounds**

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Leonard Cardosa <cardosa@pacbell.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 04, 2019 9:45 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid; Heidi Ortiz  
**Cc:** Leslie Cornejo  
**Subject:** Gun Shows at Fairgrounds

Board of Directors  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association

Attn.: Barbara Quaid, CEO

Re: Gun Shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds

I have attended a couple of the recent Board of Directors Meetings and was surprised to learn of the movement to stop these public shows.

At the Board of Directors Meeting of Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019, there were several people in attendance wearing orange T-shirts who have banded together to oppose these shows.

After the meeting as I was leaving across the parking lot I overheard a couple of the Orange Shirt People discussing "...what we really want to do is take away all their guns and we're working on that starting with the gun shows here in Ventura..."

The Orange Shirt people have been to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors meeting, with the assistance of Supervisor Steve Bennett. They have also attended Oxnard City Council Meetings.

I believe that is unconstitutional and an infringement on our 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rights.

Our Constitutional Rights are not subject to majority approval and "shall not be infringed".

I have attended and plan to attend future Gun Shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds with other law-abiding citizens.

I would like for you to consider the following as reasons to continue with the Gun Shows.

- The Fairgrounds are open to several different venues and should continue to do so
- There are more drugs at the County Fair than gun shows
- There are more drugs during concerts at the County Fair than gun shows
- There are more people and gang problems at the County Fair than gun shows
- MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Drivers are against the drunk drivers and not the automobile
- Automobiles don't kill
- Spoons don't make people fat
- Pencils don't make people miss-spell
- Knives don't cut and kill people
- Hammers and axes don't kill people
- Guns don't kill – evil people shoot others
- If guns are the issue then why aren't shooting ranges the most dangerous places in America

Most recently US District Judge Roger Benitez, San Diego, has ruled that even "limiting the capacity of ammunition magazines to no more than 10 bullets is an infringement on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Right to Bear Arms".

Thank you for your consideration.

Leonard Cardoso  
7873 Sonoma St  
Ventura, CA 93004  
[cardosa@pacbell.net](mailto:cardosa@pacbell.net)

12148 Alder Grove Street  
Moorpark CA 93021  
March 30, 2019

Ventura County Fairgrounds Board  
10 West Harbor Boulevard  
Ventura CA 93001

Subject: Gun Show

Greetings!

Thank you for the opportunity to speak at your March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. Based on what I heard during this meeting, here are some things I wish you to consider.

In their arguments before the Fairgrounds Board, the "Gun Show Opponents" use national statistics to support their assertions. National statistics include high per-capita gun-death states like Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

The matter before you is local. California has the *third-lowest* per capita gun death rate in the country, behind only New York and Connecticut. This is according to a 2016 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The difference is clear. States like New York, Connecticut and California have good gun laws; states like Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi do not. According to your own research, California gun laws are strictly observed by all gun shows, and by all of their vendors, at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. This has been true for at least the last twenty years. As a result, not one crime has ever been traced back to a Ventura Gun Show firearm transaction.

To be quite clear, I agree with **WHAT** the Gun Show Opponents are trying to achieve. I simply disagree with **HOW** they are trying to achieve it. Banning gun shows from the Ventura County Fairgrounds would not achieve their desired result, but it would deprive the Fairgrounds of much-needed revenue. As far as I know, Gun Show Opponents have made no suggestions as to how the Board may make up the lost revenue.

Like the rest of the United States, California is a constitutional republic. We are governed by laws rather than the whims and pressures of mankind. My sincere hope is that, in its deliberations, the Fairgrounds Board will remember this.

Regards,



Glenn Rowe

Best of luck to all participants  
and spectators!  
Sincerely,  
31st D.A.A.

Thank you!

APR 03 2019

Ventura County Fairgrounds



2033 Euclid Circle  
Camarillo, CA 93010

Ventura County Fair  
Board of Directors  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Ventura, CA 93001

16 March 2019

Dear Board Members,

Rumor has it that there is discussion within your board about the gun show, and there is an agenda item regarding gun show correspondence on your next board agenda. I'd like you to add my letter to the list.

I thought that the decision to keep the gun shows operating at your location was already decided. Is this going to be an on and off issue?

I've written your board before, and you can assume I will continue as long as this is a continuing topic. There are a lot of second amendment supporters in our county, and I'm sure these supporters view the stance of cancelling gun shows as circumventing a law-abiding citizen's constitutional rights by reducing access ... especially when it's based on fear. I am one of those law-abiding citizens.

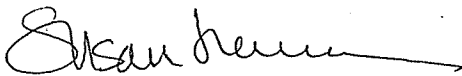
Gun show sales are extremely regulated in this state. If California is not the most regulated state, it certainly has some of the highest regulations in the country. We don't have the "loopholes" you hear about in the talking points on the news. While reducing gun and ammo sales in our county might make people feel like they are doing something to reduce gun deaths ... I don't think you can show that removing lawfully-held gun shows will reduce gun violence.

There is no doubt that gun violence is horrible, and it's a very complicated issue. Those who are intent on breaking the law, will break the law. Focusing on methods to restrict the rights of law-abiding gun owners is short-sighted and will not reduce gun violence. I think energies would be better spent on encouraging citizens to report domestic violence to law enforcement, and for businesses and schools to refer students and employees of concern to mental health services (and law enforcement), so that those who are actually a threat to safety get treatment and are legally restricted from gun ownership.

I'm going to get on the patriotic bandwagon for a moment. I come from a long line of patriots ... descending from Revolutionary War participating Americans. There are other countries that just don't understand why many Americans ferociously defend their 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights. But they are the same people who come to Americans to preserve, gain or regain their own rights. Our founding fathers were adamant about granting our citizens the right to bear arms. I'm just as adamant about protecting that right.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my opinion.

Sincerely,

  
Susan Herrera

31st D.A.A.

MAR 19 2019

Ventura County Fairgrounds



## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 17, 2019 8:27 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: No more Gun Shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Carolyn Lingl <[cdlingl@gmail.com](mailto:cdlingl@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** April 17, 2019 at 8:27:09 AM PDT  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** No more Gun Shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds

Ms Quaid

I am a resident of Camarillo and join many of my fellow residents in voicing our strong feelings that there should be no more gun shows at our Ventura County Fairgrounds. There are plenty of legal gun shops where citizens can buy guns and ammunition, so that we don't need to provide publicly-financed venues for this service. Many locales around California are taking this step, including, now, San Francisco's Gun Palace. Please let's have Ventura County join this list when any currently contracted events are complete.

Thank you.  
Carolyn Lingl  
77 Estaban Dr  
Camarillo Ca

Sent from my iPad

# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Fairgrounds  
31st District Agricultural Association - 10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: venturacountyfair.org Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**

## **I. Call to Order**

### **Roll Call**

### **Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m., and called to order by President Cornejo.

**Directors present:** President, Leslie Cornejo, Vice President, Leah Lacayo, Bonnie Atmore, Michael Bradbury, M. Cecilia Cuevas, Daniel Long, Shanté Morgan-Durisseau and Jim Salzer.

**Staff present:** Barbara Quaid, CEO, Cristian Yopez, Accounting Assistant, Kim Leach, Exhibits Supervisor, Jason Amelio, Assistant Satellite Manager, James Lockwood, Marketing and Publicity Manager, Lilia Kenneally, Sales Manager, Luis Juarez, Senior Maintenance, Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary.

**Guests Present:** Barbara Thorpe-Cartee, Edith Santangelo, Karen Peters, Robert Gregory, Glenn Rowe, Beth Mansfield, Steve Nash, Ken Bolton, Troy Corley, Marian Walluks, Adriene Coulter, Julie Martinez, Carlye Glaser and Sheila Smith.

There were no conflicts of interest with any of the Board members that were present.

## **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Long led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. Welcome and Introductions of Guests and Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

## **IV. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with State law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

President Cornejo allowed each speaker up to three minutes to give their comments.

Barbara Thorpe-Cartee: Anti-Gun Show – She commented on items VII, financial report, and item IX, committee report. Since the last meeting another 58 fairs in California including the Cow Palace have voted to cease contracting for gun shows. She commented on the budget and how the fairgrounds is continuing to operate at a deficit. She explained that the only way the public can access information is by attending the meetings and that is not feasible for everyone. The broader question is the financial health of the fairgrounds and was requesting budgets over a period of time.

Glenn Rowe: Pro Gun Show – Discussed the term “gun culture” and explained that the United States is ruled by law. He explained there has never been a single crime traced back to the gun show and the second amendment states that an individual has the right to own a gun. He supports the rights for people to keep and bear arms and that would include the gun shows. It would deprive the fairgrounds from revenue and also deprive the constituents to be able to come to the fairgrounds and attain something that they enjoy doing.

Edy Santangelo: Anti-Gun Show – She is in opposition to the proliferation of guns in our community. She stated we need to start somewhere to change the attitudes towards guns in our country. She asked to stop gun shows at the fairgrounds. She stated that there are other ways to make up for the loss of revenue if there are no gun shows. Other fair boards have stopped their gun shows and it is time for the Ventura Fair Board to stop theirs.

Beth Mansfield: Anti-Gun Show – Her daughter is a high school sophomore and one of the leaders of the Ventura Chapter of the National Association of Students Against Gun Violence. She couldn’t attend because she is at school signing up students and teachers for a program called Stop the Bleed. She pointed out that the reason her group is hosting this training is so she and her friends might be able to save a life if there is a shooting at her high school. Effective way to reduce mass shootings and gun violence in America is to reduce the easy access to firearms. She is asking the Fair Board to take action to make a safer community by not renewing the contract for the gun shows at our State owned fairgrounds.

Steve Nash: Anti-Gun Show – Read a few excerpts from The Ventura Star article on Gun Magazines. He commented that the Board members are helping to feed the addiction and chaos of gun violence. A moratorium is the least the Board can do until we figure out where we need to go to reverse gun violence.

Marian Walluks: Pro Gun Show – She is in support of gun shows and talked about the process that the Board has been used. She stated that no decision is a decision and this is an unresolved issue. The process being used is irresponsible and not what the Board should be doing. It is not accomplishing anything and it is hurting a lot of small business owners. She asked the Board to consider the process and what it is doing to the people that would like to know where they stand.

Ken Bolton: Pro Gun Show – He is a responsible gun owner and explained that if anyone has attended the gun show knows that the pledge of allegiance is recited. The last sentence says “...and justice for all” and as a gun show owner would it be that way if gun shows were taken away? He explained that Supervisor Bennet has expressed his opposition to the gun shows and he does not represent him. He agrees with both sides that the fact that guns in the wrong hands are dangerous. He emphasized that there are two sides to this issue, but if you recite the pledge of allegiance then believe in it. There is a lot of financial gain to having these events both for the fairgrounds and the community.

Adriene Coulter: Anti-Gun Show – Agree with everyone that says gun owners are responsible people; she was raised by a responsible gun owner and collector. She spent her childhood and many events that sold guns, but times have changed and we need to relook at things. She explained that there are many things Ventura is not doing to prevent gun

violence. She stated that there are 27 gun shows in California at 9 venues and Ventura ties with the Cow Palace with the number of gun shows. She explained that the CDC will be studying gun violence and that it is a disease and the Board are enablers. As a taxpayer, she wants out of this disease and to stop gun shows.

Troy Corley: Anti-Gun Show – She doesn't disagree with her colleagues on all the points they made and actually agrees with someone on the opposition. The Board has failed in their duties by not having a committee that is open to the public. She explained that the public has no idea what is being discussed and the Board is not accountable on an issue that is so important to the community. Explained that the Cow Palace has voted unanimously to stop gun shows and Del Mar has it on hiatus until they review their policy. The Ventura Board could also put this on hiatus and have an open discussion regarding the gun show policy, but the Board chose not to. Stated Californians want stronger and stricter gun laws. Asked the board to show the public what they have been discussing and open the Ad Hoc Committee.

Julie Martinez: Anti-Gun Show – Discussed gun culture. They are not objecting to the right of people to bear arms in this country, but they don't want gun shows to be held at their public fairgrounds. There is less accountability at gun shows. She explained that Del Mar and the Cow Palace have ended gun shows. They are united in solidarity to protect their community and are not the minority. It was brought up that there should be justice for all and she wants to know where the justice is for the ones affected by the mass shootings.

Carlye Glaser: Pro Gun Show – She is a resident, mother and small business owner and she has learned a lot about parliamentary process over the last few months. Spoke to a few points that were mentioned earlier such as the study done by the CDC. Everyone is here to discuss whether State property should be used is exercising their constitutional rights. If government owned property is not used for exercising constitutional rights then what is its purpose.

Sheila Smith: Anti-Gun Shows – She explained that we have a gun problem and some people believe that and some do not. She stated some facts about Mexico and that they receive a lot of their guns from the US and we are causing a problem in other countries. She is not against people having guns but commented that we need to stop the gun shows.

## V. Presentations - None

## VI. Approval of Minutes

### A. March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board Meeting

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes from the March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board Meeting.

President stated now post minutes website	Vice President Lacayo (Motion)	<del>Approved</del>	Not Approved	
	<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>(Yes Vote)</b>	<b>(No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	President Cornejo	X		
	Director Atmore (Second)	X		
	Director Bradbury	X		
	Director Cuevas	X		
	Director Long	X		
	Director Morgan-Durisseau			X
	Jim Salzer			X

Cornejo  
that we  
our  
on our  
starting

with November 2018 for the purpose of transparency.

## **VII. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending March 31, 2019

Mr. Yepez reviewed the financials and the Board did not have any questions.

## **VIII. Old Business – None**

## **IX. Committee Reports**

A. Ad Hoc Committee for Fair Admissions

- The committee examined how we handle fair admissions and looked for ways to increase revenues.
- Reviewed in detail the processes in which credentials fair admission are accounted for as well as courtesy fair admissions.
- Director Cuevas stated that she learned at the last board meeting that through the admission tallies there are 22,000 admissions that account for approximately 10% of our gate so she wanted to know what processes or details there were to support that number of admission tickets.
- Credentials for the most part are given to vendors or sponsors.
- WFA members are counted as a credential and we do not give them anything to come in, but it was discussed that this year they will go to Mr. Lowenstein, Admissions Supervisor, and exchange it for an actual credential so we can track how many there are.
- Director Cuevas stated that they have been able to account for 40% of that total 22,000 so there is a little more work to do to figure out where the other numbers are, but the bulk of those are expected to be sponsorships or contracts.
- Credential admission are given for a service and courtesy admission are given to the staff and Board which are well within the FPPC limit.
- This process has been good and this committee will continue to look at the numbers and report out at a future meeting.

## **X. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**

A. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Governor Newsom Proclaims State of Emergency

B. Correspondence received on Gun Shows

## **XI. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-3, and B are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**

A. Agreements

1. Standard Agreements
2. Rental Agreements - Interim
3. Rental Agreements – Fair

B. Travel Claims

**MOTION:** To approve the consent agenda with items A, 1-3, and B.

Director Atmore ( Motion)	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Not Approved</b>	
<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>(Yes Vote)</b>	<b>(No Vote)</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Director Bradbury	X		

Director Cuevas	X		
Director Long	X		
Director Morgan-Durisseau	X		
Jim Salzer	X		
Vice President Lacayo (Second)	X		
President Cornejo	X		

## **XII. CEO Report**

- She met with Nick Nicora, one of the principals with Spectra, and two concert promoters who were discussing partnering in the concert arena that would be next to the grandstand arena. This was a preliminary meeting. CEO Quaid will keep the board updated if anything comes to fruition.
- Asked the Directors to replace the policy page in front of them that reflects the parking increase change that was approved at the last Board meeting.
- Staff will be announcing grandstand acts tomorrow. Everything is booked except Dia de la Familia.
- 99 days until Fair

## **XIII. President's Comments**

- It takes a lot to put the Fair on and staff is doing more with less so she wanted to let everyone know how much they are appreciated for all the work they are doing to put on the fair.

## **XIV. Future Agenda Items**

1. Gun Shows

## **XV. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ortiz, Executive Secretary

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Quaid, CEO Ventura Fairgrounds

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Cornejo, Board President



**From:** Rob Templeton [mailto:robtempleton9@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 8:51 AM

**To:** Barbara Quaid

**Subject:** The Truth About California Gun Shows

Hi Barbara,

I know there is a board meeting today and it is too late to add anything to the agenda, but I wondered if you could make a copy of the attachment for each of the board members to peruse at their leisure. (Frankly, it would be good for those supporting a ban on our constitutional rights. I don't think most of them have any idea about what a gun show really is). Thank you for considering distribution of the attachment to the board members.

Best regards,

**Rob Templeton**  
**Crossroads of the West**  
**(801) 544-9125**

## The Truth About California Gun Shows

The uninformed anti-gun people perpetuate the idea that gun shows are some sort of free-for-all where anyone can buy anything. Nothing could be further from the truth as gun shows are subject to the same restrictions and regulations as any brick and mortar gun store. Anyone who wishes to purchase a firearm at a gun show must pass a federal background check and wait the mandatory 10 day waiting period. That is to say that THERE ARE NO FIREARMS THAT LEAVE A GUN SHOW. The vast majority of people speaking out against gun shows have never been to a gun show, have no idea what a gun show is all about and repeat incorrect and/or untrue things that they have heard others say.

- All Federal, State, and Local laws are strictly adhered to.
- All firearms purchased at a gun show go through the same strict screening process as if they were purchased at any fully licensed gun store.
- Anyone purchasing a firearm at a gun show must pass a background check run through the Department of Justice. If you don't pass the background check, you will absolutely NOT be able to purchase a firearm. Furthermore, It is a felony for a prohibited person to even ATTEMPT to purchase a firearm at a gun show.
- Anyone purchasing a firearm for the first time must go through a firearms safety course.
- All firearms "purchased" at a gun show must comply with the 10 waiting period. That is to say that THERE ARE NO FIREARMS THAT LEAVE A GUN SHOW.
- Crossroads of the West and the California Department of Justice have weekly communication ensuring that prohibited persons are not selling firearms.
- The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco & Firearms is a regular PARTICIPANT at Crossroads of the West gun shows
- Local law enforcement generally likes gun shows as gun shows provide a defined area for firearm purchases with strict regulation.
- Local law enforcement patrols the show floor throughout the entire weekend.
- Criminals generally avoid gun shows because they are so heavily patrolled by law enforcement. Seems pretty straight forward that criminals do not like to be around law enforcement.

- Crossroads of the West is a family friendly environment run by a family from Utah.
- Firearms are only a small part of what is sold at a gun show. There is also outdoor & survival gear, Jewelry, nylon bags, artwork, self defense items such as stun guns and pepper spray, military apparel, hunting equipment etc. It is much like any "outdoor" show (where they do allow gun sales).
- Hundreds of people, small business owners derive their living from participating in gun shows. This is the way they pay their bills, pay their taxes, and support their family.
- Vendors at gun shows are very vigilant in making sure all laws and rules are followed knowing that any nefarious activity puts their livelihood in jeopardy.
- Banning gun shows will not reduce crime. Banning gun shows may, in fact, increase crime.

# Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Ventura County Fairgrounds, 31st District Agricultural Association  
10 W. Harbor Blvd. - Ventura, CA 93001 - (805) 648-3376  
Website: [venturacountyfair.org](http://venturacountyfair.org) Contact: Barbara Quaid, CEO

**Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Derby Club/ Island View Room**

All matters noticed on this agenda may be considered for action. Items listed on the agenda may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Board President. Any item not so noticed will not be considered or discussed. The Board requests your courtesy to **mute your electronic devices and limit usage to note taking.**

**I. Call to Order**  
**Roll Call**

**Declaration of Recusal or Conflict of Interest**

Does any Board member have a conflict of interest that should preclude them from participating in discussions about or voting on any matter on today's agenda?

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Welcome and Introduction of Guests & Staff**

Invitation for the public to introduce themselves (not mandatory)

**IV. Closed Session:** The Board is authorized to meet in Closed Session with CDFA Legal for the purpose of considering: Pending Litigation—Contract (Gov. Code § 11126(e)(1))

**V. Reconvene Into Open Session:** Report of any action taken during Closed Session

**VI. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda**

In accordance with state law, the Board will not comment or otherwise consider Public Comment matters until and unless such items have been properly noticed for a future meeting.

**VII. Presentations**

**VIII. Approval of Minutes**

A. April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 Board Meeting

**IX. Financial Report**

A. Financials ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**X. Committee Reports**

A. Operations Committee Meeting May 7, 2019 – Mike Bradbury, Chair

B. Marketing Committee Meeting May 7, 2019 – Leah Lacayo, Chair

1. Discussion and possible action regarding 2019 Fair Poster.

C. Livestock Committee Meeting May 7, 2019 – Bonnie Atmore, Chair

D. Gun Show Policy Ad Hoc Committee Meeting May 7, 2019 – Leslie Cornejo, Chair

- XI. New Business (Discussion/Action)**
  - A. Crossroads of the West request for August 24–25, October 26–27 and December 21–22, 2019 Gun Shows
- XII. Board Correspondence – Informational only no action required**
  - A. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Poultry Health Inspections – FY 2019/2020 Fair Season
  - B. Memo from John Quiroz at California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Fairs and Expositions: Implementation of Assembly Bill 1499
  - C. Correspondence received on Gun Shows
- XIII. Consent Agenda: Items hereunder on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not requiring separate discussion and will be enacted in one motion. Individual items A, 1-4, are approved by the vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration.**
  - A. Agreements
    - 1. Standard Agreements
    - 2. Rental Agreements – Interim
    - 3. Rental Agreements – Fair
    - 4. Judging Agreements
- XIV. CEO Report**
- XV. President’s Comments**
- XVI. Future Agenda Items**
- XVII. Adjourn**

**Americans With Disabilities Act**

The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Heidi Ortiz at (805) 648-3376 ext. 106 or sending a written request to that person at the Fairgrounds: 10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001. Although not required, providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

May 2, 2019

*Sent via email*

Dear Ms. Mansfield:

Thank you for your April 23, 2019 email regarding the 31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association (DAA or Ventura Fair), known as the Ventura County Fairgrounds, and its pending policy on gun shows. In your email, you express your hope that the Administration creates a statewide policy prohibiting gun sales on all state fairgrounds; concern that the Ventura Fair is dragging its feet in adopting a gun show policy; and request that staff from the California Department of Food and Agriculture (Department) and the Governor's office attend the next Ventura Fair Board meeting.

While the Department's Fairs and Expositions Branch (Branch) exercises oversight of all 52 DAAs, the Department does not require DAAs to hold or prohibit certain activities on fairgrounds. The cultural diversity of California is vast, and the Department respects the autonomy of each DAA Board, appointed by the Governor, to manage its fairgrounds aligned with the local community's interests. Not all DAA Boards are faced with the same local concerns. For instance, many DAAs have gun shows without community protest. Should there be a statewide directive to prohibit gun sales on fairgrounds, the Department and all DAAs would implement such a policy.

As part of its oversight, the Department provides services to DAAs, including legal counsel. At the time the Board appointed an ad hoc committee, it requested legal counsel's assistance to put together a report for the Board to gather information and provide policy recommendations. The committee has been reviewing and consolidating all public comments from Board meetings and collecting data based on those comments. In addition, constitutional rights and legal implications must be considered.

The Ventura Fair Board is committed to making an informed decision, and I have great confidence in its ability to do so. However, an informed decision takes time to allow a high level of due diligence such a sensitive and legally complex subject demands. Once the committee's report is complete, it will be presented to the Board for its deliberation during a publicly noticed meeting.

Finally, I want to assure you that whenever gun shows are on the Board's agenda, the Ventura Fair notifies the Branch and legal counsel attends the meeting. If the matter is placed on the May meeting agenda, which is within the Board President's discretion, a Branch representative with legal counsel will be in attendance.

Yours truly,

Karen Ross  
Secretary

cc: Leslie Cornejo, President, 31<sup>st</sup> DAA Board of Directors  
Rachael O'Brien, Deputy Secretary for Legislative Affairs



Dear Ventura Fair Grounds 31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association Board,

I am writing today to urge you to vote in support of the Crossroads Of the West Ventura Show.

While you may have been told that banning this gun show will make our community safer, this could not be further from the truth.

Gun shows, and their attendees, are not dangerous. Over a decade of holding gun shows at the Ventura venue proves this.

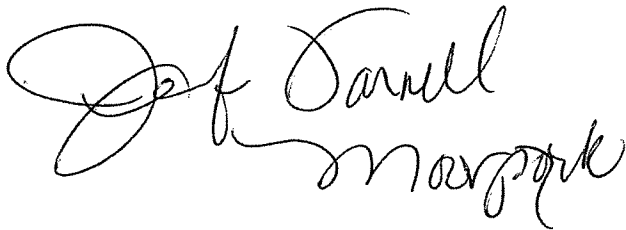
There is a common myth that the "gun show loophole" enables someone to walk into a show, purchase a firearm, and walk out without having conducted a background check. In California, there is *no* such loophole. Any gun purchase made at the show must be conducted through a licensed dealer with a background check and 10 day waiting period. Firearms and ammunition are kept separate and out of direct reach of the public without assistance from the licensed dealer. Safety and security are taken very seriously at this show.

The Ventura Gun Show has a perfect record of complying with California's firearm laws and has no records of violent incidents. Additionally, the gun show often serves as a venue for firearms safety classes and programs, such as Eddie Eagle and Project Childsafe, which help law abiding gun owners keep firearms out of the hands of children and teach responsible firearms ownership. Moreover, gun shows are a safe and family friendly environment where kids can be introduced to shooting sports with the proper safety and supervision.

The Ventura Fair is state property operated by a government body. Any action by a government actor to discriminate against anyone based on the fact that they just don't "like" the content of the speech is a violation of constitutional rights both for the promoter (as noted in the *Cinevision Corp v. City of Burbank* case) and for the thousands of people who attend gun shows to engage in the community of like-minded people and exercise their rights.

As such, I respectfully ask you to vote in favor of the Crossroads of the West Ventura show. Allowing it to close would eliminate a critical source of gun safety programs, materials, and training opportunities, in the Coastal California Area.

Thank you for your consideration,

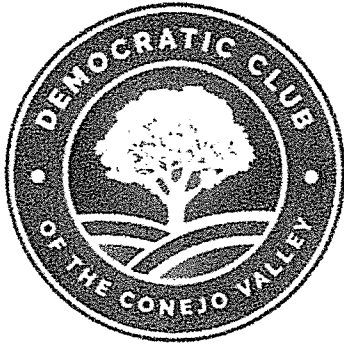
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Danell" with a stylized flourish underneath.

**\* Received 625 copies with signatures \***

Democratic Club of the  
Conejo Valley

P.O. Box 4421  
Thousand Oaks, CA, 91359  
805-380-6825

DCCV.EBoard@gmail.com



5/4/2019

President Leslie Cornejo  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Ventura, CA, 93001

Mayor Rob McCoy  
City of Thousand Oaks  
2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd.  
Thousand Oaks, CA, 91362

Governor Gavin Newsom  
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Chair Ryan Valencia  
Ventura County Democratic Party  
PO Box 1587  
Camarillo, CA 93011

**Enclosure: RESOLUTION Opposing Gun Shows on State Property**

Dear President Cornejo, Mayor McCoy, Governor Newsom, Chair Valencia:

At the February 2019 membership meeting of the Democratic Club of the Conejo Valley the membership voted unanimously in favor of the attached resolution.

If you have any questions about the resolution, our club or anything else please feel free to contact one of us: Club President Henry Montalvo, 310 753 1265, Resolution submitter, Cathy Willott, 805 402 1263, or myself, Bruce Fleck, Club Secretary, 310 600 5214

Respectfully,



Bruce Fleck

*Secretary*  
Democratic Club of the Conejo Valley



Resolution Opposing Gun Shows on State Property:

**WHEREAS**, there is a growing epidemic of mass shootings in California and the United States, including those in Thousand Oaks, Isla Vista, Bakersfield, Seal Beach, Oakland, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, as well as many other cities and towns, with no sign of a decrease in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Democratic Party Platform specifies that we work to deter gun trafficking, "straw purchasing," and illegal guns by identifying, reforming, or shutting down "bad apple" gun dealers in California; and

**WHEREAS**, a large volume of weapons and ammunition is sold at gun shows where despite requiring background checks on all sales, straw purchases often occur;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic Club of the Conejo Valley opposes holding gun shows on property owned by the State of California, especially the Ventura County Fairgrounds;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this resolution be communicated to the City of Thousand Oaks, The 31st District Agricultural Association, Ventura County Fairgrounds Board of Directors, the Governor of California, and the Ventura County Democratic Party.

Submitted by Cathy Willott

Approved by the Democratic Club of the Conejo Valley on 2/11/2019

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, May 20, 2019 4:33 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: San Diego Tribune

**From:** Rob Templeton [mailto:robtempleton9@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 10, 2019 11:34 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** San Diego Tribune

Hi Barbara,  
Could you please share with the board this very well written article? Thanks,

Rob Templeton  
Crossroads of the West  
(801) 544-9125

<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/story/2019-04-10/del-mar-gun-show-support>

# The San Diego Union-Tribune

Commentary: Why Del Mar Gun Show ban is wrong



Crossroads of the West Gun Show customers wait in line for the show to open at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on March 17, 2018.  
Howard Lipin/U-T

## Assemblyman Gloria's bill fails to address gun violence

By CHUCK MICHEL PRESIDENT OF THE CALIFORNIA RIFLE & PISTOL ASSOCIATION

APRIL 10, 2019  
2:34 PM

By banning gun shows, Mr. Gloria is trying to take away a place where law-abiding gun owners gather and exchange ideas, plan politics, learn the law, and discover the joys of shooting sports and the social benefits of firearms owned for self-defense. He's trying to do that by collectively mischaracterizing law-abiding gun owners and Second Amendment supporters to make them seem dangerous and turn them into social pariahs. And he's blatantly mischaracterizing Crossroads of the West — one of the biggest gun shows in California — as a gun-slitting redneck convention where gang members and drug dealers shop.

But to the recently reinvigorated and well-heeled gun-ban lobby, gun shows are part of the evil "gun culture" that needs to be eradicated. Some — like Mr. Gloria — believe if participating in the Second Amendment-guaranteed activities can be made too expensive and inconvenient, and if people can be shamed into not experiencing the joys of shooting and the benefits of owning a gun, the diminishing numbers of those left to fight for those rights can be more easily crushed.

For more than 30 years, Crossroads has been held at the Del Mar Fairgrounds several times a year — all without incident. While there are some firearms on display, only about 15 percent of exhibitors sell firearms or ammo, and it more resembles a swap meet with a heavy law enforcement presence. Collectibles, books, a ton of merchandise (most of which has nothing to do with firearms), gun-safety classes and food are also a large part of this.

Gun-show attendees encourage others to register to vote, discuss facts about the failure of gun control laws, politicians' ulterior motives and the social value of firearms ownership where good guys save far more lives with guns than bad guys take with them. They dispute the false claims and manipulated statistics about firearm misuse used to justify gun bans, share opinions about ways to prevent gun violence, and learn how to best protect their families. In short, they organize and *engage* in the political debate!

Banning safe, legal and fun gun shows where political ideas are exchanged does *nothing* about the real problems. Criminals — and anyone else — can't get guns at gun shows. The background check requirement applies to every single gun sale no matter where the sale takes place. Nor can anyone buy what some mischaracterize as a "high-capacity magazine" or a so-called "assault weapon" because sales of these are already banned in California. And every dealer at any gun show must pass a background check and a rigorous licensing process by the Department of Justice. None of that gets publicized. These facts are all conveniently left out of the fear-mongering speeches against the show.

Ironically, the most recent incident involving a firearm at the Del Mar Fairgrounds happened at a concert into which someone smuggled an illegal gun. With that logic, shouldn't the fairgrounds ban music with violent lyrics that incite violence? No, because we as a people generally believe in the First Amendment. Apparently, Mr. Gloria believes that "gun culture" has no such right to assemble in a public forum like the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

Everyone — including gun owners — wants to prevent gun violence. But gun-show attendees are being discriminated against, blamed for the acts of evil humans, and shamed for recognizing that shooting sports are fun and that a firearm is a valuable tool. That's why groups like the California Rifle & Pistol Association are using the First Amendment to block Mr. Gloria's bill in Sacramento and to get a court order to reverse the Del Mar Fairgrounds' recently passed moratorium on gun shows at the Fairgrounds.

Many more innocent lives could be saved by effectively enforcing existing laws, fixing the incomplete background check database and making sure that the failing government systems already in place actually work properly.

***Michel is a civil rights attorney and is president of the California Rifle & Pistol Association. He can be reached on Twitter at @crpapresident***

## Info

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**From:** Wheat Sandy <fllax@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 18, 2019 5:04 PM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Ventura Gun Shows

To, Ventura County Fair Board.

I write today on behalf of my husband who does not have an email account.

As a life long resident of Ventura county and a long time attendee of the gun shows in Ventura. I want to voice my concern about the gun shows ending. I feel like it's a token few that are against them. I have been going for years as well as thousands of others.

To date there has been no major issues (that we are aware of) that would warrant the closer of these events. It is a shame that a few are trying to end them.

It brings revenue dollars to the fairground and community.

I was at the last gun show and noticed the parking fees are going to be raised. Is this to make up for the money you are going to loose for not having the gun shows?

It seems to me the gun shows bring in the most revenue at this venue and it appears that the surrounding areas are not having issue, why are we? Your going to stop these for a few that don't want it, what about the hundreds that do???

It's not right.

Thanks for your consideration

## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, May 20, 2019 4:18 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Gun Show ban

-----Original Message-----

From: Allen Chinn [mailto:agc32361@icloud.com]  
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 12:05 PM  
To: Barbara Quaid  
Subject: Gun Show ban

Dear Ventura County Fairgrounds Board Members,

I recently attended the protest outside the fairgrounds to demand the banning of gun shows. It was a peaceful protest. Halfway through, one young man came to counter protest across the street from us. He was quiet and spoke to reporters. After the reporters left I witnessed this young man do the "Heil Hitler" gesture to drivers leaving the gun show from Fairgrounds parking lot. It sent chills down my spine. A fellow protester said they also witnessed him flash another white supremacy hand gesture. Older men driving by were giving this young man thumbs up much too his delight.

Later when one of the reporters posted their story on VC Star website I was surprised to find out that this young man was actually a 16-year-old high school student here in Ventura. I wrote to and left messages for the high school staff and the school superintendent. The next day I got a phone call from the principal who said he would talk to the young boy and his parents. I said my biggest concern was that this young man who was going down the wrong path in life. The principal much to my surprise admitted that this boy had a history of impulse control issues.

So I ask you. What do you think might happen when a young immature white supremacist with impulse control issues learns about guns at gun shows? There is an element of the gun culture that is dangerous and is indoctrinating children. You must think about your upcoming vote carefully. Will you vote to continue to create potential young people who are influenced by white supremacists at the fairgrounds? Or, will you vote to ban gun shows from this publicly owned property when, I think most of the local citizens don't want them. Do you want this on your conscience if a young man like the one we witnessed fails to control his impulses and acts on his white supremacist hatred?

I will see you at the next board meeting and ask you this same question.

Sincerely,

Allen Chinn  
Ventura, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Ventura County Fair Board  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Ventura, Ca. 93001

May 20, 2019

Cc: Barbara Quaid

Dear Board Members:

As past President of the Board in 1985, I am well aware of the gun shows that occur on a regular basis at the fairgrounds. Many years have passed and since that time, the gun culture in our country has grown immensely with street shootings, school shootings and domestic shootings occurring on a regular basis. Legislation needs to occur to provide our citizens with a safer environment but that is not your job. Gun culture is prevalent in films, TV, and video games which makes it seem overwhelming to make real change. But I am asking you to consider making a change that will have an impact on our community. By eliminating gun shows at the fairgrounds will not stop the shootings but it will send a message to the public that at this time in history they are not appropriate.

I urge you to be on the right side of history and take a stand against American gun culture. In some small way this may well have a large impact that is incalculable to assess.

Yours in good faith,

Roz McGrath

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 19, 2019 11:20 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gun shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds  
**Attachments:** 2018\_11\_19\_11\_15\_24.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Robert & Janice Fostakowsky <[fostakowskys@gmail.com](mailto:fostakowskys@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** May 19, 2019 at 11:18:48 AM PDT  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** Gun shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds

Dear Ms Quaid,

I am unable to attend the Tuesday meeting of the Ventura County Fair Board but would like to voice my opposition to gun shows at our fair grounds in Ventura County. I am attaching the November 15, 2018 letter sent to you from my husband and I regarding this very important issue. As the board again considers future gun shows, I hope you will count my voice of opposition. I ask the Ventura County Fair Board to follow the example of the Del Mar Fair Board and the Cow Palace Fair Board and discontinue any future gun shows in Ventura County.

Thank you for adding my voice to the discussion on Tuesday morning.

Sincerely,

Janice Fostakowsky  
Camarillo

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Robert & Janice Fostakowsky <[fostakowskys@gmail.com](mailto:fostakowskys@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Gun shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds  
**Date:** November 19, 2018 at 11:22:08 AM PST  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>



November 15, 2018

Dear Ms. Quaid and the Ventura County Fairgrounds Board of Directors,

We write to register our opposition to private gun shows on any public property, specifically the Ventura County Fairgrounds. We ask that you consider our comments as you deliberate future contracts for private gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

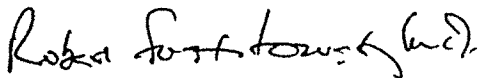
As a pediatrician in Ventura County for more than 40 years and as a registered nurse, we are both committed to the health and safety of our community. Nearly 1600 children die and another 5800 are treated for gunshot wounds in the U.S. every year (AAP, July 2017). It is incumbent on all of us to be proactive and reduce exposure and risk of injury and death in any way we can.

Gun shows at our fairgrounds market and promote their events as "family events". They are advertised on large billboards throughout the county espousing this "family event" agenda. Free admission is offered to children under 12. Gun shows are not for families and certainly not for children.

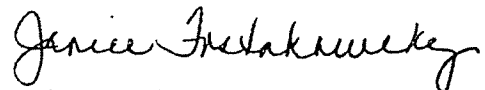
When the report on this issue is made available to you on November 27, please allow it to be made public and circulated for 30-day public review with opportunity for public comment prior to any action by the Fair Board.

No state agency should promote and profit from the proliferation of firearms.

Very sincerely yours,



Robert Fostakowsky, M.D.  
Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics



Janice Fostakowsky, R.N.

Home address: 626 Mesa Drive, Camarillo, CA 93010

## Info

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**From:** John Absmeier <jdapointer@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 16, 2019 7:25 AM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Comments on Gun Show Ban

Dear Ventura County Fair Board Members,

Please do not ban gun shows at our Fairgrounds.

It appears that the Fair Board is purposely stalling a decision in this regard in hopes that the whole issue will just go away since no more shows are scheduled. Please contract for at least two more gun shows this year and more in the future.

The Orange Shirts are funded by George Soros, Bloomberg, and the Brady Brunch. The Fair Board is funded by revenue earned from events held at the Fairgrounds. Gun shows have produced hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years. Last year gun shows contributed over \$100,000 for the Ventura County Fair Grounds. How much money have the Orange Shirts raised for the Fairgrounds?

Let's cut through all of the haze. The Orange Shirts and their allies want to ban our constitutional right to own guns and eliminate the 2nd Amendment of the United States of America. However, they do not raise revenue for the Fair Board. They do not do anything positive for the Fair Board, while gun shows do.

During the last gun show, the Orange Shirts were picketing on the street outside of the show. We respect their 1st Amendment right to do so. However, imagine if all the folks at the gun show were to picket events being held at the Fairgrounds on the basis that the Fair Board was not fair to local, legitimate, licensed businesses. It could have a huge fiscal impact on the Fairground's revenue and the success of future events held there.

Please allow gun shows to continue operating at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Dennis

Union of Concerned Americans

P.O. Box 4086

May 15, 2019

Dear Ventura County Fair Board Directors and Officers,

I have been following the issue of banning gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds for many months and have heard the numerous arguments that are meant to convince you to do just that. As indicated by the following observations, these arguments are really more political rhetoric than reality and do not justify the drastic action they are demanding.

- 1) You should ban gun shows out of respect for those who lost their lives in the Borderline killing and any other deaths that involve a gun.

This is not a valid reason to ban gun shows because the gun shows themselves and the vendors and attendees at these shows did not cause any of those deaths. In addition, it does not show respect for one group when the actions in question completely disrespect the Constitutionally guaranteed rights of several other groups of people who are acting legally and within their rights. If they really wanted to show respect for those who lost their lives, they would be focusing on the mental health issues which are at the heart of most of the Borderline-type events.

- 2) As a taxpayer-funded entity, the Ventura County Fairgrounds should not facilitate the sale of guns and ammunition.

As you all know, the Ventura County Fairgrounds is not a taxpayer-funded entity. It is funded by proceeds from the events held at the Fairgrounds and, in some cases, by the sale of alcohol at these events. The gun shows have for many years, provided a substantial amount of revenue for the Fair Board through event fees and parking and have been trouble-free and conducted within all the applicable laws and rules for this type of event. Simply because a number of anti-gun groups and individuals do not like something that is perfectly legal and supported by many in the community does not mean that their demands should be honored. This is particularly true when those demands will cause the loss of part of the livelihood of a large number of small businesses and will deprive many hard-working and law-abiding citizens and their families of a type of event they clearly enjoy.

If selling guns and ammunition is an immoral act that shouldn't be allowed at the Fairgrounds, then you should closely review the appropriateness of selling alcohol to those who will ultimately get into their vehicles and possibly cause injury or death because of their impaired condition. In addition, your role as an oversight Board for the operation of the Fairgrounds is to run this entity in a fiscally sound and legal manner, not to determine moral or emotional issues for the community.

- 3) Gun shows have a negative affect on young people and support a continuation of the “gun culture” which is the alleged cause of many of our current problems.

Gun shows are very family-oriented events and those of you who have actually attended them know that a large number of the attendees are parents and children of all ages. This is a place for them to learn how to respect guns, how to use them appropriately, and how to participate in a wide range of outdoor activities. In addition, guns and ammunition constitute a small proportion of the total number of items which are sold and displayed at these shows. To say that guns can always be purchased at gun stores overlooks the fact that most of these other items and information are not available at gun stores or in other places in our community. Banning gun shows would deprive many parents of a place to teach their children about gun safety and the many ways to safely enjoy outdoor activities. It would also have a direct negative impact on many small businesses, both at the shows and in the community.

To vilify the concept of a “gun culture” is to completely ignore the great history of our country and the important role that guns played in allowing our forefathers and mothers to survive in often hostile and difficult environments. To say that a continuation of this culture in today’s world is the cause of many of our current problems is to say that anyone who is interested in guns, hunting, target shooting, historic gun collecting and many related areas is automatically a “bad person”. This position is obviously unfounded and ignores many of the real problems in our society such as drug use, mental illness, and criminal activity which play a critical role in most of the shootings that occur.

These are just a few of the arguments that have been put forward to try to convince you that banning gun shows at the Fairgrounds is the only right thing to do. Hopefully you have all been able to see the fallacies in their reasoning and will not be swayed by their heart-tugging stories that have nothing to do with gun shows. Further, I hope that you are not convinced when they say they are not trying to take guns away from lawful owners, but just don’t want them at the Fairgrounds. Gun shows at County Fairgrounds are just the “low-hanging” fruit. When they are done there, they will continue to work to get rid of ALL guns (except those held by themselves, their bodyguards and criminals, of course). This is the true “end game” of the anti-gun and gun control supporters and should be viewed as such.

Please don’t let these vocal, political-based groups convince you to take a completely unjustified action that will not solve the problems they have identified, but will surely add to the Fairground’s ongoing fiscal crisis. In addition, it will cause the loss of support of many actual Ventura County businesspeople, community members, and their families. If you vote to ban gun shows, you will be taking away legitimate rights from hard-working and law-abiding members of the community and their families and you will not solve any of the problems brought forth by the anti-gun activists.

Sincerely,

Marian C. Walluks  
P.O. Box 1437  
Simi Valley, CA 93062

## Info

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**From:** mannyledesma72 <mannyledesma72@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 12, 2019 3:03 PM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Re: Reminder: WOW! Make your Mother Happy with the Gift of Fun.

To: whom might this concern,

Since the Ventura county fair members board decided to support a gun show after all this shooting are happening all around our country, i decided to spot attending and supporting the ventura county fair. On today's date May 12th 2019, I officially request to be removed from your email list.

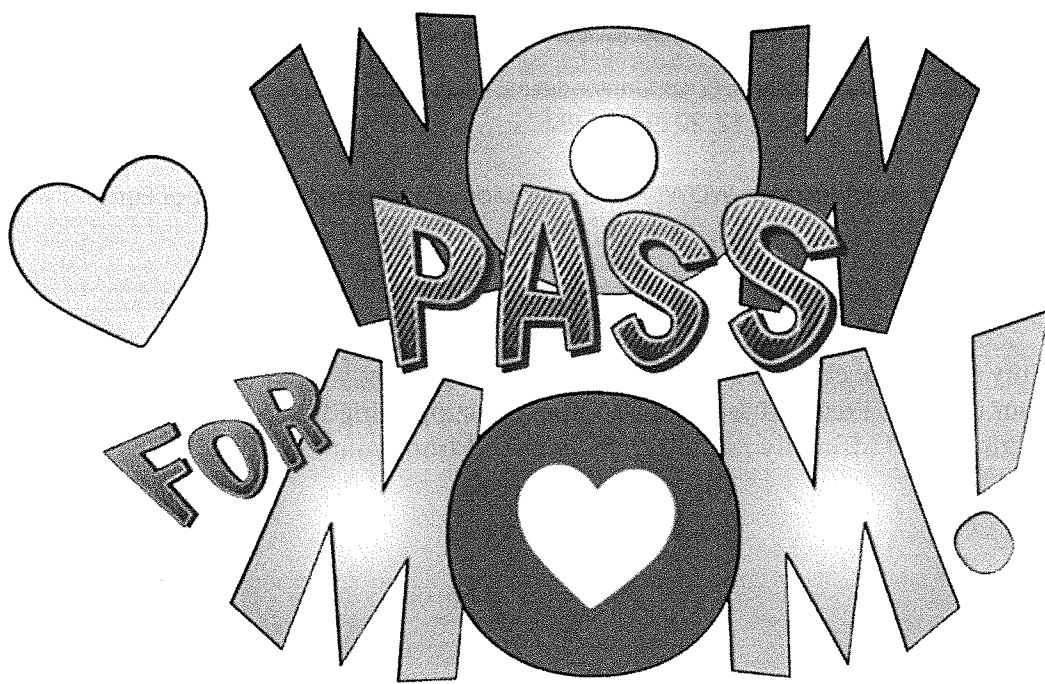
Thank you,  
Jose M Ledesma.

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S8+.

----- Original message -----

From: Ventura County Fair <info@venturacountyfair.org>  
Date: 5/10/19 6:00 PM (GMT-08:00)  
To: mannyledesma72@gmail.com  
Subject: Reminder: WOW! Make your Mother Happy with the Gift of Fun.

**VENTURA COUNTY FAIR**



*On Sale NOW at the 2018 Price*

♥ You can give her fresh flowers which will last a couple days or give the gift of fun and memories that will last forever.

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❖ The WOW Pass is a punch card offering 12 days admissions to the Ventura County Fair. No waiting on lines at the gate, go to the head of the line every day when you purchase a WOW Pass!

❖ Don't wait, the WOW Pass is available online now for the 2018 price of \$36. Order yours now while this offer lasts!



♥ **Happy Mothers' Day!**

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## Info

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**From:** bubba.to@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Monday, May 13, 2019 3:41 PM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Support of the Ventura Fair Gun Shows

To: The Honorable members of the Ventura County Fair Board

From: Mr. Bruce Gregory  
Resident of Ventura County

This communication is in regards to my strong Support of gun shows at the Ventura County Fair Grounds.  
First I would like to point out the Mission statement of the Ventura Fair Board:

*"The mission of the 31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association, otherwise known as the Ventura County Fair is to promote, support, educate, celebrate and **preserve the diverse culture** and traditions of our County and to make certain that the **Ventura County Fairgrounds be an exemplary multi-use community resource.**"*

Second I would like reference the Constitution of the United State, Amendment I:

*"Congress shall make no law respecting and establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or **abridging the freedom of speech**, or of the press; **or the right of the people peaceably to assemble**, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."*

In these previous excerpts, I have highlighted the statements of US law and direction of the Fair Board. By closing the gun shows, it can be argued, is a second amendment question, but just as important, a First Amendment question, as well as a direct contradiction of the mission statement of the Ventura Fair Board.

I highly urge the Ventura Fair Board to continue with gun shows. As has been stated before, is NOT a hazard to the Fair or Community, and is so supported by the community that it is well maintained, requested, and wanted, and a valued revenue stream for the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Thank you for your consideration of my opinions and listed facts.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Gregory

## Info

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**From:** R Tribble <tribco@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 13, 2019 7:32 PM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Future gun shows.

I have attended several gun shows and have found them to always be a very safe environment. I have never witnessed an illegal transaction taking place and the security is excellent with bag checks as you enter and rules regarding prevention of access to firearms and ammunition adhered to stringently.

It is very upsetting to me to hear that you are considering stopping future gun shows. To those of you who have not attended one of these shows I encourage you to do so. I personally feel much safer at them than I do at the regular annual Fair (unfortunately).

Sincerely, Richard T. Ventura County resident



## Info

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**From:** Eddie Byrn <ebyrn@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 14, 2019 10:37 PM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Support for Continuation of Gun Shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds

Board of Directors:

I support and urge you to support the continuation of gun shows held at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Stopping the gun shows is an infringement of free exercise of citizens' rights under the Second Amendment as well as the First Amendment of the US Constitution. Ending the gun shows is also an overreach of a governmental entity by restricting and otherwise impeding the free exercise of legitimate commerce between small businesses and their potential customers who attend the shows.

Please do not entertain any ideas that such commerce could simply be conducted elsewhere. There is no good reason to restrict the central meeting place for exchanges which the gun shows provide and have provided for a good number of years.

Thank you,  
Eddie Byrn  
Moorpark, CA 93021  
805-523-0748

**Barbara Quaid**

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**From:** petenbb@roadrunner.com  
**Sent:** Friday, May 10, 2019 12:22 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Gun Shows at the Fairgrounds  
  
**Importance:** Low

Members of the Board Directors:

It is my understanding that the board is on the verge of eliminating all Gun Show events from using the County Fairgrounds. This would be a great moral mistake.

The county fairgrounds are an asset meant to be used by all the residents of Ventura County and it is your duty to protect that right for everyone. If you let a shrill minority of moralistic do-gooders decide Fair Ground policy for Ventura Co. residents, you will have abdicated your duty and should immediately resign. Denying one group of Americans their use of a community asset because they like firearms and the Constitution, is un-American and anti-democratic. What other currently un-popular events will be next? Fossil fuel burning car shows or car racing? Eliminate the 4-H clubs from showing their animals because the chickens are kept in cages? You know it will just be the beginning.

This will only be the beginning of this fight. Now do the right thing.

Regards,

Pete Cooke  
Simi Valley

## Barbara Quaid

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**From:** sheilas45@roadrunner.com  
**Sent:** Friday, May 10, 2019 10:50 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Cc:** sheilas45@roadrunner.com  
**Subject:** 50th Aniversary of Woodstock, instead of Gun Show

Dear VC Fair Board,  
Aug 17th in the 50th Aniversary of Woodstock and would be a great party event for the VC Fairgrounds. I am thinking the VC Fair Board (maybe Jim Salzar) might have some contacts with promoters to have a 50th Aniversary for a Woodstock on the West Coast, which could bring in thousands of dollars for your bank account. We have lots of local bands and small businesses (Salzar's, etc) that could, also profit from such an event. Hope you can make contact with some promoters? I think it is a good source of revenue instead of selling guns!

Sheila Smith  
Camarillo Ca 93010

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Robert Gregory <nickeygreg@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 14, 2019 2:25 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Gun shows

This is to support the Ventura county fair continuing its contract for the gun shows. There have been many contributing on both sides of the issue. At a recent Gun Show, the ratio of attendees to demonstrators indicated that the small, vocal minority of the local population, are those wanting to impose their culture on others.

Please keep the gun shows for those willing to pay for their rights

Thank you

Robert H. Gregory MSMT (ASCP)  
Oak View, California 93022

## Info

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**From:** jcjbill@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 09, 2019 10:05 AM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** future gun shows

To Whom It May Concern,  
I want to be able to attend gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds in the future.  
John Billinger  
Simi Valley

## Info

---

**From:** bethlynam22@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 09, 2019 10:24 AM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Future Gun Shows in Ventura

Gentlemen and Ladies,

I want to be able to attend gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds in the future.

Beth Lynam

Newbury Park

Sent from my iPad

## Info

---

**From:** fthaajeditor@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 09, 2019 10:15 AM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** The Future of Gun Shows in Ventura

To Whom It May Concern,  
I want to be able to attend gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds in the future.  
Jill Billinger  
Simi Valley

## Info

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**From:** howitzers1@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 09, 2019 9:30 AM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Gun Shows

To the Ventura County Fair Board:

I strongly support the continuation of gun shows at the Ventura Fairgrounds. It is a vocal minority that opposes these gun shows on philosophical grounds, and not because the gun shows are conducted improperly or have any negative effect on the people of Ventura County.

I strongly support 2nd Amendment rights and encourage the Board to do so, as well.

Ed Mann  
2589 Carpenter Street  
Thousand Oaks, CA  
805-368-4014



## Info

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**From:** david burris <dukebu58@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 6:15 PM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Future gun shows

To whom it may concern, I very much enjoy going to the gun shows you have held at the fairgrounds. But it has come to my attention that the one held last weekend might be the last. It would be a little bit of an inconvenience to travel for future shows and pay parking, admissions fees and taxes to other cities but I believe that is all your going to accomplish. I would much rather spend my hard earned money in the city I live in for a hobby I very much enjoy, target shooting at the gun range and ammo reloading. Please don't punish all the law abiding citizens who attend and very much enjoy these shows. Thank you

Sent from my iPad

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 07, 2019 2:06 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Gun Show Moratorium

**From:** Steven Nash [mailto:mrswn@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 7, 2019 9:26 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Gun Show Moratorium

Please include these comments to the Board of Directors as part of their May 28, 2019 meeting agenda packet.

At our May 4 gun show protest we had our worthy opponents drive by in their pick-ups and when they got to the stop sign at Figueroa and Harbor they blasted their air horns and floored their accelerators to push out clouds of diesel exhaust, thinking it a great way to get our attention. Of course, they would not do this while there was a police presence. One-fingered salutes and finger guns pointed our way were also heavily employed. It was also observed that after we dispersed, a lone individual on the opposite corner threw the "Heil, Hitler" salute to cars exiting the parking lot.

These "good people", who have the emotional level and maturity of 12-year old boys, were among the gun show attendees. Under any sort of mental health screening, their obvious anger issues would preclude them from purchasing firearms and yet this Board thinks there's no problem with continuing the sales of firearms on public property to these troubled individuals.

When do we say "Enough"? Are we really any safer the more arms, ammo and ancillary gear we allow to be sold to troubled individuals with anger management issues? Placing a moratorium on gun shows at our Fairgrounds is the least we can do until we can figure out where we need to go to reverse gun violence and end gun ownership for "red-flagged" individuals.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Steve Nash  
Oxnard, CA

## Info

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**From:** Scott Semel <scottsemel1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 11:41 AM  
**To:** Info  
**Subject:** Gun Shows in Ventura - please keep

I have learned that Ventura County may stop holding gun shows at the Ventura County Fair grounds, and I am upset about that. Ownership and possessions of firearms is enshrined in the US Constitution and is a basic right all Americans have. Law abiding citizens are not the cause of gun problems, and eliminating guns and gun shows will not prevent evil people from obtaining guns nor from using them. To protect ourselves, good citizens need, and are entitled to, access to information and supplies for their firearms. Gun shows provide both. Having just attended this weekend's show at the fair grounds, I can attest to how kind and polite everyone was. No crazy, wild-eyed, evil actors were in attendance. Families, law enforcement officers, and concerned citizens were.

I urge you to continue allowing gun shows at the fair grounds and elsewhere in Ventura County.

Respectfully,  
Scott Semel

--

*Scott Semel*  
818-538-9321

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 27, 2019 10:23 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mike Powers

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Kevin <[eltomatobob@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eltomatobob@sbcglobal.net)>  
**Date:** April 27, 2019 at 9:54:54 AM PDT  
**To:** [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
**Subject:** Mike Powers

Ms. Quaid,

I am writing to ask you to not just ignore the request of Mike Powers, Steve Bennett, Linda Parks and John Zaragoza to ban gun shows at the fairgrounds, but to respond with a public "NO" and "don't tell me how to do my job".

Those people are grandstanding for their own political gain, playing on myth and fear. They have no facts to show the gun shows at the fairgrounds have ever been responsible for anything horrific or illegal, but are using the horrific Borderline massacre to further their careers, and I find that detestable.

I have been to a number of fairground events, with and without my family, and including gun shows. I have found all of them to be a safe and pleasant event. I have found that all of the vendors selling firearms comply with all federal and state laws, with some even refusing business if they didn't feel comfortable.

It is my hope that you do not follow the political "correct" (which I believe to be incorrect) path and honor the request of these fear mongering politicians. Banning these shows will do nothing to control or ease felonious crime in the county, but it will reduce the venues for small businesses, most of which have nothing to do with firearms, except they sell in the same building. I also expect lawsuits following a ban, which is a big waste of all of our tax dollars.

What will be the next request? Ban car shows because they display gas guzzling machines from the past? Shut down races because of environmental impact? Ban concerts because someone drank too much after an event? Some of this is joke, but I really don't put much past a politician in advancing to the next level.

Thank you,  
Kevin Lewis

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2019 2:02 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Fairgrounds gunshow

**From:** Mike [mailto:2001sscamaro@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2019 12:26 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** RE: Fairgrounds gunshow

Hello Barbara,

I know there is a tough decision headed your direction on whether to cancel all gun shows at the fair grounds. When making this decision, I hope you understand that the gun show, and the Borderline Shooting, have nothing to do with each other even though the Ventura County Board of Supervisors is using that as an excuse to ask you to cancel them. Regardless of having gun shows, there are still some ill willed, mentally unstable people in the world.

There are no other nearby gun shows that i am aware of. Being a frequent visitor at the many events held at the fairgrounds, I feel this would leave a bad taste in my mouth about how the fairgrounds are being ran and the decisions they make. As Simi Valley Councilmember, Mike Judge stated, "Whenever you put a hindrance in the way of someone who wants to participate in a shooting sport, competition, or anything like that, it's a violation of the Second Amendment." Perhaps this is why many of the cities in the county do not want to take a stand on either side of this issue.

Please consider my words when making this decision for the fairground with the board members.

Sincerely,

Mike Underwood  
Camarillo, CA

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2019 5:02 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: please stop hosting gun shows at Ventura County fairgrounds

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** k burkhardt <[kim.burkhardt@gmail.com](mailto:kim.burkhardt@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** April 25, 2019 at 10:30:45 PM PDT  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** please stop hosting gun shows at Ventura County fairgrounds

Hello Barbara and the Ventura County Fair Board!

I live in Westlake Village, and I'm emailing to ask that the Fair Board decline to renew its contract with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows, and to stop hosting any other gun shows with any other vendors. I grew up here in Ventura County in Thousand Oaks, and have always known Thousand Oaks and the Ventura County to be a quiet, safe, and peaceful place that is great for families. With the recent events involving gun violence in Ventura County, I believe that you should end all gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. As a taxpayer and resident, I believe that no state agency should promote or profit from the proliferation of firearms and ammunition. Ending the gun shows would also show our residents in Ventura County (and people outside of the county as well) that the Ventura County fairgrounds and its management still believes that families and personal safety are a priority, above any economic gains. Beyond the general public-health concerns, studies have shown that advertisements for firearms are detrimental to the well-being of the children who see them. We also should not continue to contribute to the ongoing issues of gun violence, and ending the gun shows at the fairgrounds would help with that. You should make it your responsibility to replace these gun shows with other events that will support our 31st Agricultural District. Thank you very much for your consideration!

Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Kim Burkhardt

[kim.burkhardt@gmail.com](mailto:kim.burkhardt@gmail.com)

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2019 5:52 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Upcoming meeting on Ventura fairground gun shows

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mel Beckman <[mel@beckman.org](mailto:mel@beckman.org)>  
**Date:** April 23, 2019 at 4:38:29 PM PDT  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** Upcoming meeting on Ventura fairground gun shows

Dear Ms. Quaid,

As CEO of the Ventura County Fairgrounds, I kindly ask that you distribute this email to the following Fairground Board Members prior to the impending gun show meeting, as their email addresses are not listed on the Fairgrounds' website:

- President: Leslie Cornejo
- Vice President: Leah Lacayo
- Bonnie Atmore
- Michael Bradbury
- M. Cecilia Cuevas
- Dan Long
- Shanté Morgan-Durisseau
- Jim Salzer

My name is Mel Beckman. I own a small business based in Santa Barbara, maintaining fiber optic communications lines and computer networks. I own, and am trained in using, firearms for self defense. I have been following the discussions within Ventura County about ending the recurring Crossroads gun show based at the Fairgrounds, and am very concerned that the County might shut down this very useful and profitable venue for small businesses that sell firearms, accessories, and training.

I believe some who argue for closing the Fairgrounds are concerned about the so-called "gun show loophole", which they fear provides an unrestricted way for criminals to buy guns without background checks, or obtain machine guns, or parts to make semi-automatic rifles into fully-automatic machine guns. Here are three facts that show why this fear is unfounded:

1. Every firearm purchase requires that the buyer complete a Federal form that is submitted to the ATF for a background check—even when purchased at a gun show—before they can receive their purchase.

2. 2. Anyone who has been convicted of a felony of any kind CANNOT purchase or possess firearms legally.
3. 3. Fully-automatic weapons have been banned for citizens in the United States since 1935, those restrictions were tightened in 1986. This is a fundamental difference between military weapons and civilian weapons.

There is no loophole in federal law that exempts gun show transactions from any other firearms laws. That means the Federal Firearms Licensee (FFL) must either run a background check on every buyer via the Federal NICS database, or confirm that they have passed a background check by examining a county-issued concealed carry permit or other government-issued purchase permit. There are no exceptions to these federal requirements.

Statistics show that gun shows are not a common source of guns used by criminals, as you can verify from this very current Department of Justice survey:

<https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/suficspi16.pdf>

After asking 287,000 prisoners in 2016 where they got the gun they used, 90 percent of them “did not obtain it from a retail source” and less than one percent obtained it from a gun show.

Half of them obtained their firearm from the “underground” market, while just six percent said they stole it. The survey reports that “most of the remainder had obtained it from a family member or a friend, or as a gift. Seven percent had purchased it under their own name from a licensed firearm dealer.” In the small number of guns purchased by criminals from an FFL, none were yet considered felons, and thus the purchase was legal.

On the other hand, Ventura County’s own sales tax records (based on the sub-permit registration required for every gun show a seller attends) that gun shows are a useful source of defensive firearms for tens of thousands of law-abiding citizens.

The Ventura County gun shows serve other valuable purposes in our County. Gun show operators are extremely safety conscious, and provide the public with free education about gun safety. Legal gun owners stop hundreds of thousands of crimes a year throughout America, according the Centers for Disease Control, just by deterring criminals. Undoubtedly gun owners have ended or prevented even mass shootings.

I ask the Fairgrounds board to seriously consider the lives saved lives from gun violence by lawful — and trained — gun owners. Many of whom purchase guns legally at gun shows.

-mel beckman

2025 Entrada Drive

Oxnard CA

805-604-0041

-mel beckman



## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 3:00 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Ventura county gun show

**From:** christopher slagowski [mailto:slagowskic@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 2:46 PM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Ventura county gun show

To whom it my concern:

I'm a 34 yr resident of ventura... I heard that your board my shut down the gun show... i fully disagree with this, and consider it a wrong move for our community... I'm not sure how long you or this board has been here, but your group isn't doing what's good for our community and its income because of that show... this should be a vote before your board takes it upon its self to make that choice for ventura!!

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 1:36 PM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Ban on gun shows

-----Original Message-----

From: Linda Warren [mailto:lwarren2@roadrunner.com]  
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 1:08 PM  
To: Barbara Quaid  
Subject: Ban on gun shows

Hi,

I was unable to attend this morning's meeting, but I wanted to communicate my thoughts on this. Living in Camarillo, I know that several in our community were personally touched by the Las Vegas shooting — some injured, some not, but in either case, changed forever. We often forget that survivors live with this for the rest of their lives. I personally know of one young man who has been severely impacted by his horrendous experience at the concert in Las Vegas. These same individuals who were at the Las Vegas concert got together to form a support group. They encouraged each other to keep their love of music going by attending the dances at the Borderline in Thousand Oaks. Of course, as you know, at least two survivors of the Las Vegas shooting, were also at the Bordeline shooting, one perishing.

Gun shows continue to be a weak link in gun control. Until which time the regulations are improved to safeguard us, I urge you to BAN these shows, especially since our area has already suffered enough trauma.

Enough is enough.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Linda Warren  
1902 La Ramada Dr.  
Camarillo, CA 93012

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 11:42 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Stop Promoting Gun Culture

**From:** Beth Mansfield [mailto:bethmansfield@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 9:56 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Stop Promoting Gun Culture

Ms. Quaid: I spoke today at the Fair Board meeting regarding gun shows. My daughter is a high school sophomore and is one of the leaders of the Ventura chapter of the National Association of Students Against Gun Violence. She was at school during the meeting and couldn't come speak because today she's signing up students and teachers for a program called Stop The Bleed. It's a first aid class that teaches how to help control bleeding after a mass casualty event, like a school shooting. It is taught by the trauma team from VCMC.

I did not speak up to boast about my daughter's activism but rather to point out that the reason her group is hosting this training — it's so she and her friends might be able to save a life if there's a shooting on her high school campus.

How is it OK that we have normalized active shooter drills, lockdowns and Stop the Bleed training for our kids? We have all been conditioned to think this is normal. It's not normal or healthy. The most effective way to reduce mass shootings and gun violence in America is to **reduce the easy access to firearms**.

I'm not asking anyone to give up their guns. What I am asking is that you and Fair Board members show the students in Ventura County that you will take action to make a safer community by not renewing the contract for gun shows at our State-owned Fairgrounds.

I have asked both Governor Newsom and State Senator Hanna Beth Jackson to support a ban on gun shows at *all* State-owned properties, like our Fairgrounds. But until they create new legislation, this Fair Board can make the decision to stop normalizing America's deadly gun culture. If the Del Mar Fair and the Cow Palace in San Francisco (both State-owned properties) can take a stand, **why can't you?**

Do you really want to be remembered as the Fair Board who said it was too hard and potentially too litigious to stop hosting gun shows? Our kids deserve to be kids, not trauma specialists trying to keep their classmates from bleeding out.

Please stand up for our students and say no to gun shows at Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Thank you,  
Beth Mansfield  
Ventura  
805/223-0278

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 11:41 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Crossroads of the West Gunshow

**From:** Mr Old Fashioned [mailto:darrens@mroldfashioned.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 10:01 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Cc:** darren swanick  
**Subject:** Crossroads of the West Gunshow

Hello,  
I'm writing in support of the Crossroads of the West gunshow at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

I'm sure your hearing many emotional arguments and figures. Over the last few months I've tried to make sense of the varied statistics and realized a person can manipulate any number to say anything.

To claim 10's of millions of responsible firearm owners are responsible for the 10,000 murders committed in 2017 (FBI crime stat) in a population of 327,000,000 people is as disingenuous as to say all car owners are responsible for the 40,000 auto deaths in the same year.

The only reason to stop allowing gun shows is because some people dont like them. Some people don't like anything, so should we stop all things?

Of course not, so please do not take away this thing that 10's of thousands of Ventura County residents enjoy,safely and harming none, just because some people don't like it.

Thank you

Darren Swanick

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 11:41 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** FW: Gun show

**From:** Chris Sherburne [mailto:chris.sherburne@tbuworldwide.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 9:30 AM  
**To:** Barbara Quaid  
**Subject:** Gun show

Dear Honorable Board of Directors,

We are writing to you in response to the attempt to close the gun show at the Ventura fairgrounds. The gun shows are family friendly events where parents bring children as an outing and opportunity to learn about and purchase all kinds of clothing and equipment for outdoor sports as hunting, fishing, boating, etc. There is also a variety of supplies for emergency preparedness and self-sufficiency including medical supplies, first aid kits, water purification, solar equipment, etc. A variety of self-defense products apart from guns is also available. The gun shows are a helpful venue for small family businesses such as ours. We sell emergency supplies.

In this increasingly dangerous world, the U.S. Constitution guarantees that our rights to defend ourselves will not be infringed. The Gun-free zones are where the murderers go to kill!

Closing the gun show is not the solution to school shootings and other crimes. Making it so people can't get guns legally won't keep criminals from getting them.

Plenty of people use guns for recreation, and guns are very much needed for self-defense. Please don't let a few vocal antagonists take away the rights of the majority.

Crossroads of the West takes great care to ensure a safe environment for all—checking to make sure there are no loaded weapons present and urging all gun vendors to comply with all laws.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Chris, Trudy, Neriell and Shamar Sherburne

## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Monday, May 13, 2019 10:25 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: 2,923 signers: Stop Gunshows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds petition

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Troy Corley <[petitions@moveon.org](mailto:petitions@moveon.org)>  
**Date:** May 12, 2019 at 5:52:06 PM PDT  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** 2,923 signers: Stop Gunshows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds petition

Dear Ventura County Fairgrounds Board,

I started a petition to you titled *Stop Gunshows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds*. So far, the petition has 2,923 total signers.

You can post a response for us to pass along to all petition signers by clicking here:  
[http://petitions.moveon.org/target\\_talkback.html?tt=tt-133352-custom-88210-20290512-1WKQm9](http://petitions.moveon.org/target_talkback.html?tt=tt-133352-custom-88210-20290512-1WKQm9)

The petition states:

"State agencies should not promote and profit from the proliferation of guns and ammunition. The state-owned Ventura County Fairgrounds should stop renting out its facilities to gun shows."

To download a PDF file of all your constituents who have signed the petition, including their addresses, click this link:

[http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver\\_pdf.html?job\\_id=2452576&target\\_type=custom&target\\_id=88210](http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver_pdf.html?job_id=2452576&target_type=custom&target_id=88210)

To download a CSV file of all of your constituents who have signed the petition, including their addresses, click this link:

[http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver\\_pdf.html?job\\_id=2452576&target\\_type=custom&target\\_id=88210&csv=1](http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver_pdf.html?job_id=2452576&target_type=custom&target_id=88210&csv=1)

Thank you.

--Troy Corley

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*If you have any other questions, please email [petitions@moveon.org](mailto:petitions@moveon.org).*

*The links to download the petition as a PDF and to respond to all of your constituents will remain available for the next 14 days.*

*This email was sent through MoveOn's petition website, a free service that allows anyone to set up their own online petition and share it with friends. MoveOn does not endorse the contents of petitions posted on our public petition website. If you don't want to receive further emails updating you on how many people have signed this petition, click here:*

*[http://petitions.moveon.org/delivery\\_unsub.html?e=SwWuVMJF4uhRAEP3wS8Bi2JxdWFpZEB2ZW50dXJhY291bnR5ZmFpci5vcmc-&petition\\_id=133352](http://petitions.moveon.org/delivery_unsub.html?e=SwWuVMJF4uhRAEP3wS8Bi2JxdWFpZEB2ZW50dXJhY291bnR5ZmFpci5vcmc-&petition_id=133352).*

31<sup>ST</sup> DAA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
May 28, 2019

1 (Whereupon, the meeting was called to order, roll call was taken, and other board  
2 business was conducted.)

3 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We will go to gun show policy Ad Hoc Committee meeting. I  
4 was not in attendance. I was out of the country, so Leah will give that report.

5 VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Well, we're getting very close to -- we are still gathering  
6 information, and just so you know, every time you submit a written statement about the  
7 pros or the cons, we, because we're very transparent, review all those comments and  
8 make sure that we are doing our due diligence in answering all of the questions that come  
9 to the public.

10 Now we are faced with this really difficult decision. We expect to have a policy -- a report  
11 and a policy for the June 27th meeting. We decided to have a special meeting to discuss  
12 this. This will not be on our regular board meeting agenda.

13 And I really appreciate our counsel, who comes from Sacramento and has worked very  
14 closely with us and given us some really good advice, and I think that about concludes my  
15 report.

16 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yeah. And the other thing that will come out is that we do  
17 anticipate that the report will be done prior to that meeting so that the board members and  
18 the public will be able to see the report, so it's not gonna just be thrown in cold on that  
19 meeting of that morning, so everyone will be able to come in and be able to see all the  
20 work that's been done, which is a huge amount of work. I fully do appreciate all the work  
21 that the counsel has given us to assist us through this process.

22 Move on to item 11, and Barbara has -- this is the -- a request.

23 Barbara, if you can begin the discussion.

24 CEO QUAID: So at this time staff is asking the board to consider contracting the next  
25 three gun shows. The contract will be -- the contract will have the conditions of the Ad  
26 Hoc Committee findings, but at this point I would like the board to consider contracting



1 through the end of 2019.

2 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. At this -- and at this point I do want to not ask for a  
3 motion. This is the relevant point for public comment, so we will take public comment on  
4 this issue.

5 Everyone will be given two minutes to make their point. We have about 30, a little over  
6 30, so we're holding the public comment to about an hour, and then we'll look for a motion  
7 and a discussion by board, so we'd like to go ahead and begin -- begin the discussion.

8 CEO QUAID: Okay. Our first skipper -- skipper -- speaker is Carlyle (sic) Glaser  
9 followed by Allen Chinn.

10 CARLYE GLASER: Hi. Good morning. My name is Carlye Glaser. I am a Ventura  
11 County resident, mother, and small business owner.

12 Per the CDC, alcohol contributes to 88,000 deaths annually in the United States from  
13 causes including liver disease and overdose. It is the third leading cause of preventable  
14 death behind tobacco and obesity.

15 For perspective, firearm deaths referenced rank seventh, fewer than motor vehicle deaths.  
16 The fairgrounds not only hosts events where alcohol is served but actively sells and profits  
17 from alcoholic beverage sales at events from the fair to the Harvest Festival.

18 We teach children in our schools to be aware and see the signs of alcohol abuse. It's  
19 considered a drug, and the DARE classes start as young as kindergarten and first grade to  
20 teach children of the dangers of alcohol.

21 Now, I'm not trying to keep anyone from drinking or take anyone's alcohol. There are  
22 many bars and liquor stores in town where people can go and get anything that they would  
23 like to drink. I just don't think that the state should profit from the sale of alcohol. Would  
24 you like to feel personally responsible for contributing to a Ventura County cocktail culture

1 and alcohol-related deaths?

2 Now, as you listen, you may see that my logic is flawed. We do live in a free country  
3 where we are individually responsible for our own choices and our own actions. With that  
4 being said, I would like to ask you to renew the contract for Crossroads gun shows and  
5 that you treat the Second Amendment with as much respect as the Twenty-First. Thank  
6 you.

7 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

8 Allen Chinn followed by Michael Werstell.

9 ALLEN CHINN: Good morning, board members. I'm Allen Chinn from the City of  
10 Ventura. I recently attended the peaceful protest outside the fairgrounds to demand the  
11 banning of show gun -- of gun shows, and I want to tell you about something that  
12 happened that greatly disturbed me.

13 Halfway through the protest, one young man came to counterprotest across the street from  
14 us. He was quiet and spoke to the reporters. But after the reporters left, I witnessed this  
15 same young man do the Heil Hitler gesture to drivers leaving the gun show from the  
16 fairgrounds parking lot. It gave me chills. I saw older men driving by giving this young  
17 man thumb's up, much to his delight.

18 Later, when one of the reporters posted their story on the VC Star web site, I found out that  
19 this young man is a sixteen-year-old high school student here in Ventura. I immediately  
20 wrote to and left messages for the staff at his high school, and the next day I got a phone  
21 call from the boy's principal who said he would talk to him and his parents. I said my  
22 biggest concern was that this young man was going down the wrong path in life. The  
23 principal agreed, and much to my surprise, volunteered that the boy in question had a  
24 history of impulse control issues.

1 So I ask you, what do you think might happen when a young, immature, white supremacist  
2 with impulse control issues learns about using guns at a gun show? There appears to be  
3 an element of the gun culture that is dangerous, and it is indoctrinating children, so please  
4 think about your upcoming vote carefully.

5 Will you vote to ban gun shows from this publicly-owned property when I believe most of  
6 the local citizens don't want them, or if you support the gun shows, do you want it on your  
7 conscience if a young man, like the one we witnessed at your gun show, failed to control  
8 his impulses and acts on his white supremacist hatred here in Ventura County?

9 I know I wouldn't want to take that chance during this current era of out-of-control gun  
10 violence. Thank you.

11 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

12 Michael Werstell followed by Michael Cervantes.

13 MICHAEL WERSTELL: My name is Michael Werstell. I live in Thousand Oaks for over  
14 50 years. I've attended several of the gun shows in different cities, including the Ventura,  
15 and I'm a gun owner, and I am here to request that you support the application for the  
16 continuation of the gun shows.

17 Gun shows are very beneficial to society, in my view, in that they provide people that like  
18 guns the opportunity to share their support with other people. They have the opportunity  
19 to train people that do not know guns to be better handlers of guns and to educate their  
20 children to become gun owners, which I think is -- makes the county safer as opposed to  
21 less so.

22 I think most people that don't like guns -- I say "most" not "all" -- recognize that we do have  
23 a constitutional right to own and bear guns and to do that in a safe way requires training,  
24 and one way of getting training is at gun shows. And if we're gonna make a change to the

1 guidelines of gun shows, then I would advocate including additional training, additional  
2 education on how to handle guns.

3 Appreciate you listening to me, and there's more to say but not within two minutes. Thank  
4 you very much.

5 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

6 Michael Cervantes followed by Karen Peters.

7 MICHAEL CERVANTES: Yes, good morning. My name's Michael Cervantes. I was  
8 born in Ventura, raised in Oxnard. I am 70 years old. I'm still going to the fair.

9 Many months ago I gave the -- the board members the statement on gun violence from the  
10 Veterans for Peace Organization. I hope copies were made and you all have been able to  
11 read that document, that statement.

12 And so what I'd like to say now is that -- well -- he -- the gentleman just before me has  
13 stated that training needs to be given as far as this gun -- gun thing that people like to  
14 handle all the time.

15 Well, I'm a Vietnam war veteran, and I was trained how to use semi-automatic weapon, the  
16 M-16, and we were trained to kill people with it. And many, many more U.S. citizens,  
17 Oxnard citizens, Ventura citizens, Ventura County citizens were trained to kill with those  
18 weapons, kill with assault weapons.

19 And so what has happened right now, as far as the dynamics of this pro and con argument  
20 that's going on now that you should decide on, is that -- it looks to me like you've already  
21 given favor to the gun proponents here for the last five and six months that I've seen. I've  
22 been here a little bit longer with your meetings.

23 And so now it seems like as far as being equal to this discussion with the community here,  
24 to be equal with all sides, to have balance, it should -- it should now appear that maybe a

1 moratorium or a cessation of these gun shows be -- be shown so that there's equality in  
2 this discussion the community's bringing to you.

3 Five and six months of having favor shown to the gun proponents? Now how about  
4 adding five or six months in favor of the -- the advocates who do not -- who no longer want  
5 these guns.

6 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Cervantes, your time is up.

7 Karen Peters followed by Sheila Smith, I think.

8 KAREN PETERS: Good morning. I'm Karen Peters. I live in Thousand Oaks. I'm a  
9 retired bank vice president.

10 I had the opportunity a couple of years ago to attend a seminar on gun violence and public  
11 health in Washington, D.C. It was put on by the American Public Health Association and  
12 Johns Hopkins. I paid for this myself, by the way.

13 The primary presenter was David Webster, director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun  
14 Policy and Research. There were presentations on shootings, criminal, accidental,  
15 suicide, the whole range of possibilities. They were all backed up by scientific studies, not  
16 opinions of individuals.

17 One of the many presentations was about the higher rates of firearm ownership being  
18 strongly associated with higher rates of overall suicide and firearm suicide. Their  
19 conclusion was that the fact that firearms in the home imposed a suicide risk above and  
20 beyond the baseline risk and helped explain why year after year several thousand more  
21 Americans die by suicide in states with higher-than-average per household firearm  
22 ownership compared with states with lower-than-average firearm ownership. Another one  
23 of the conclusions was values and social norms need to change. One way to implement  
24 that is to not participate in providing firearms to the community.

1 Gun shows -- gun shows clearly encourage the gun culture and facilitate children's access  
2 to firearms. The time has come to not be party to this amoral activity, so no more gun  
3 shows at the fairgrounds.

4 And by the way, I don't see how you can vote on the rest of the year gun shows when you  
5 don't have your policy yet.

6 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Ms. Peters.

7 Sheila Smith? I think that's right. Sheila -- pardon me?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sheila is not (inaudible).

9 CEO QUAID: Okay. Robert Wenzel followed by Richard Emerson.

10 ROBERT WENZEL: Hi. My name is Robert Wenzel from Ventura, and we're all in this  
11 building, and there's no smoking policy. How come? I think we all can appreciate that  
12 it's a public safety and a public health concern. That kind of makes sense.

13 So I was thinking about that, and I was thinking we are not permitted to smoke in here.

14 It's not a healthy thing. And I think likewise, consistent with, like, how things operate in  
15 the Ventura school district, they don't allow tobacco on their campus and they don't allow  
16 firearms on their campus. It just kind of a, I think, common sense consideration for the  
17 people that use those buildings and walk on that property.

18 Likewise, I think it's not unreasonable as a policy, not as a monumental Second  
19 Amendment slam but just as a general policy, it makes sense for a state-owned property to  
20 have a policy not unlike those that we live with and seem to have common ground and  
21 agreement are good for all of us.

22 I -- I think sometimes we can find ourselves going down following a red herring and kind of  
23 making these things seem like they're huge deals, but I think it's kind of -- it's not that. It's  
24 just why do you -- I think guns shouldn't be permitted in a state-owned property. Thank

1       you.

2       CEO QUAID: Thank you.

3       Richard Emerson? Richard Emerson followed by Steve Nash.

4       RICHARD EMERSON: Good morning to all of you. My name is Richard Emerson. I'm  
5       a CRP member and a resident of Goleta. I'm a retired engineer who worked for --

6       CEO QUAID: Mr. Emerson, can you speak into the microphone, please?

7       RICHARD EMERSON: I thought I had it up high enough. There we go.

8       CEO QUAID: Thank you.

9       RICHARD EMERSON: All right. I've been a retired engineer or a retired engineer with  
10       32 years in the defense industry, and I was in the Navy for 11 years. I've been attending  
11       these gun shows since the early 1990s, and I'd like you to maintain the Crossroads of the  
12       West gun show.

13       The reason we're even here today is because people in attendance who oppose firearms,  
14       either as a part of a big organization or a local organization, and they seem to think that  
15       this gun show at this facility, a multi-use facility, somehow is a threat to public safety.

16       We need to reinforce that this gun show is a safe, traditional part of the county's diverse  
17       culture and that it does not threaten community safety and should not be closed because  
18       of emotional response by some to evil individuals who are not part of this gun show  
19       community.

20       Opposition here today, they're gonna use sound bites and talking points to support their  
21       claim such as banning this gun show is going to make us safer. Banning the gun show  
22       will not make us safer, just as keeping the gun show will not make us less safe.

23       The gun show has no documented incidents of illegal or criminal activity. The gun show is  
24       attended by law-abiding citizens of our community, and it's naïve to think that there are

1 bad apples, there are bad apples, but that's not the norm just like anywhere else.

2 Gun shows here sell more than guns. They have clothing, scopes, aftermarket parts, and  
3 yes, cheaper bulk ammunition. I bought my first gun safe as a result of finding a vendor  
4 from Simi Valley who was at this gun show.

5 Supposedly there's a gun show loophole. Well, there is no gun show loophole here.

6 That would be in violation of the state firearms laws --

7 CEO QUAID: Mr. Emerson, your time is up. Thank you.

8 RICHARD EMERSON: Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I'm gonna ask -- I'm gonna ask that people hold applause just  
11 because I want to keep the speakers going, so. . .

12 CEO QUAID: Steve Nash followed by Marian Walluks.

13 STEVE NASH: Thank you. And good morning, board members. I submitted a couple  
14 of documents, and I hope you had a chance to look at them. I'm getting kind of tired of  
15 writing them. I'm sure you're getting tired of reading them.

16 Our basic -- well, we only have one proposition, and that is the inappropriateness of gun  
17 sales on public property.

18 UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: Speak up.

19 STEVE NASH: Okay, I'm sorry.

20 UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: Yeah, just a little closer.

21 STEVE NASH: So um --

22 UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: That's better.

23 STEVE NASH: Yeah, that makes a big difference.

24 I want to focus on the incidents that happen to our protest at the corner of Figueroa and



1 Harbor on May 4th during the gun show where we had individuals obviously who were  
2 opposed to us. They would drive by in their pickups, step on the accelerator, throw a  
3 cloud of diesel exhaust in our faces, you know, burn rubber, and just, you know, really  
4 exhibit a form of toxic masculinity that I know the women up on the dais are, you know, all  
5 too familiar with.

6 Here today we had a couple of incidents of -- of -- of, you know, verbal threats, and they're  
7 always directed towards women. They aren't directed towards me, you know for obvious  
8 reasons.

9 So we can see that there are very fine people on both sides, but we're not the ones trying  
10 to intimidate the other side. We want this to be fact based, that, you know, to be a  
11 fact-based decision, that generally the people of Ventura County do not want to have gun  
12 shows on the fairgrounds.

13 I would love to have everybody identify exactly where they live so that we can see who  
14 lives in Ventura County and who resides outside of Ventura County, and that should also  
15 be a focus and a determinative of your decision.

16 Thank you. My time is up.

17 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

18 Marian Walluks followed by Glen Rowe.

19 MARIAN WALLUKS: Good morning. I'm Marian Walluks from Simi Valley, and the day  
20 we've all been waiting for is finally here. One thing that I'd like to comment on is the  
21 proposal right now is to continue with the three contracts, but it also leaves open this  
22 uncertainty that we've all been experiencing relative to the Ad Hoc Committee: Yes,  
23 they'll be there, but what kind of restrictions will that committee put on? Again, we can't  
24 even comment on it because we don't know what those will be, so that's uncertainty.

1 The other thing I'd like to remind you of, and I -- it's like preaching to the choir, but the  
2 board of directors of this fair is responsible for having things be legal and having them be  
3 financially sound.

4 Beyond that, you are not called on to be the moral arbitrators for the community. You are  
5 here to run the fairgrounds in a proper manner, but that's going a bit far, so don't let them  
6 tell you that this is your role because it's not.

7 Also, it was mentioned that the gun shows do not cause the problems -- did not cause and  
8 do not cause the problems that are being identified and banning the gun shows or  
9 completely taking away anything that has to do with guns will not solve the problems.

10 Let's -- let's not be too -- too thinking that anything we do relative to the gun shows is going  
11 to change everything. It's not.

12 Also, remember that this is not just about gun shows. It is about guns and about  
13 unarming our populace. An unarmed populace is a controllable populace. That's, you  
14 know, you're saying "What's the end game?" Please remember what the end game is,  
15 and that's to take away guns.

16 And the other point to remember, just as with your fair, if the people don't like the fair they  
17 won't come.

18 (Recording stopped.)

19 CEO QUAID: Your time is up.

20 MARIAN WALLUKS: Thank you.

21 CEO QUAID: Glen Rowe followed by David Kimes.

22 GLEN ROWE: Is that gonna work?

23 CEO QUAID: Maybe raise it a little bit.

24 GLEN ROWE: A little bit more. How about that now?

1 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Perfect.

2 GLEN ROWE: Okay. Okay. Thanks for the opportunity to speak to you again.

3 I really want to focus today on some far-ranging consequences about your decision on gun  
4 shows. Should you decide to ban gun shows from the fairgrounds, you're gonna be  
5 setting a significant precedent and one that I'm afraid may, in fact, endanger the future,  
6 actually, of the fairgrounds and the fair board.

7 What I'm talking about here is that there are other people who are watching. There are  
8 other org --

9 (Recording stopped.)

10 GLEN ROWE: -- defense fund, Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses, People for the  
11 Ethical Treatment of Animals, and a group called Showing Animals Respect and Kindness.  
12 Just like gun shows, animal-based events are falling out of public favor. Should these  
13 politically-active groups see that this board will, in fact, bow to social pressure, you can be  
14 sure that they will be here in large quantity, okay. They will be talking about that state  
15 property should not be used to promote animal exploitation. They will speak at your  
16 meetings, they're gonna write letters, they're gonna petition the government, and they're  
17 gonna hold numerous protests.

18 They will not be known as professional or courteous as the gun show opponents behind  
19 me, and they have -- they have been very professional and very courteous. They will  
20 point to the rapid increase in horse racing deaths, 26 at Santa Anita since Christmas.

21 They will utilize videos of animals being maimed and killed in racing and rodeo events.

22 It's really not going to matter that the actual horse racing doesn't take place here. They  
23 will be able to maintain and prove that the derby club provides significant financial  
24 incentive and supporting to horse racing. It doesn't matter that the fairgrounds only hosts

1 one rodeo per year. They will loudly and publicly insist that even one rodeo is too many,  
2 especially if it's produced by Cotton Rosser and the Flying U.

3 It doesn't matter that dog shows at the Ventura County fairgrounds are tightly regulated  
4 and patrolled. They will maintain that the dog show culture, there's that term again, is  
5 inherently cruel to man's best friend.

6 My sincere hope is that you will remember this as you are deliberating. Look and see who  
7 else is watching and what is likely to happen --

8 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Rowe.

9 David Kimes --

10 (Applause.)

11 CEO QUAID: -- followed by Glen Griswold.

12 DAVID KIMES: Hello. My name's David Kimes, 1980 Olympian in the shooting sports,  
13 two-time world record, world champion in shooting, and coach for the Navy Safe Harbor  
14 Wounded Warriors. In fact, I was here at Port Hueneme just this last week and a half  
15 coaching a Navy Safe Harbor Wounded Warriors headed for the Warrior Games in Florida  
16 next month.

17 While opposed to this gun show, those opposed to the gun show say banning it will make  
18 us safer when, in fact, banning the show will actually deprive the Ventura community of  
19 vital safety training opportunities as gun shows are a major outlet for firearm safety training  
20 and materials. The gun show also serves a venue for classes like Eddie the Eagle and  
21 Project Child Safe which teaches safe, responsible, firearm ownership.

22 Fact: All of the kids who are taught shooting before the age of 15, none of them have  
23 become mass killers, none.

24 In 1982, Kennesaw, Georgia, passed a law requiring heads of households to keep at least

1 one firearm in the house. The residential burglary dropped 89 percent in Kennesaw, and  
2 still today, the violent crime rate in Kennesaw is 85 percent lower than the national  
3 average.

4 As you know, gun shows sell much more, we talked about that, more than guns,  
5 everything from normal apparel, camping gear, parts and accessories that's also sold at  
6 those shows. They provide a valuable outlet for the small businesses to showcase and  
7 demonstrate their full range of goods to the community. I think that's a big one.

8 Fact: There are no gun show loopholes as anti-freedom and anti-gun proponents claim.  
9 Nothing could be further from the truth. Any gun purchase made at the show must be  
10 conducted through a licensed dealer with a background check and waiting period. I know  
11 someone who worked for the ATF. He indicated that ATF is not only there with a table  
12 and forms and so on and also ATF is at gun shows in undercover capability.

13 And finally, this is what I received from the chairperson of the Orange County fairgrounds  
14 in reply to my email early last year, quote (reading): It's my desire to keep the gun shows  
15 since -- keep the gun shows since from everything I know, they are law-abiding and  
16 without incident and, of course, a good source of revenue to the fairgrounds, unquote.  
17 And I like the one-liner just under her signature block (reading): Doing what's right not  
18 what's popular.

19 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Kimes. Your time is up.

20 DAVID KIMES: Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 CEO QUAID: Glen Griswold followed by Ron Dincau.

23 GLEN GRISWOLD: Good morning. I'm a Camarillo resident. However, my family's  
24 been in this county for a hundred and twenty-eight years. My great-grandfather

1 homesteaded over by Fillmore in November 16th, 1891. He actually came to this area  
2 just after the Civil War, so I don't know if there's anybody that represents families who  
3 have been here longer than the William Shields Company --

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We don't care.

5 GLEN GRISWOLD: -- that family has, but if not, we were probably neighbors like  
6 Samuel -- Bill Grimes, all those people in Fillmore that families have been around a long  
7 time, which I've had the pleasure of knowing.

8 My great-grandfather was a Ventura County supervisor in 1911. His picture's on the  
9 fourth floor up there with all the other supervisors of history of the county. He was also  
10 the commissioner of highways as the State of California, built the first road from Ventura to  
11 Carpinteria, which included the -- the boardwalk going out into the ocean around the  
12 railroad, so we've been around a while.

13 My great-grandfather taught me when I was seven years old how to shoot out on the ranch  
14 in Fillmore, and from that it probably saved my life because I spent 26 years or 26 months  
15 of my younger days as a combat Marine in Vietnam. I was a scout sniper, and I saved a  
16 lot of Marines lives because I knew what I was doing with a firearm. I've since been a  
17 reserve deputy with L.A. County for 37 years, and I have deployed my weapon at times to  
18 save people's lives.

19 My two sons, my younger sons both have their college degrees in gunsmithing, and they  
20 have a gunsmithing manufacturing site in the City of Ventura, and they started their  
21 business and were able to get going by being able to show their products at the fair -- at  
22 the gun show only because that was an inexpensive way to show what their skills are, and  
23 10 years later now they have a thriving business that does very well and is  
24 world-renowned.

1 So with that I just want to say one last thing is that there's a commonality with everyone  
2 here. No one here, I believe, enjoys gun violence whatsoever, no one here, that, I think,  
3 we all have that in common. To me the root cause is parenting and mental health.

4 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Griswold.

5 Ron Dincau --

6 (Applause.)

7 CEO QUAID: -- followed by Sandi Henderson

8 Ron, maybe I'm saying the last name wrong, D-i-n-c-a-u?

9 (No audible response.)

10 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Anybody named Ron? No?

11 UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: Maybe they left.

12 CEO QUAID: Okay. Sandi Henderson followed by Jerome Clifford.

13 SANDI HENDERSON: Good morning. I'm from Oxnard, so I am a local Ventura County  
14 resident. I am here to put forth to the board that they continue with the gun shows on  
15 multiple levels.

16 The first level is the economic level. With the fair in arrears as much as it is, the gun show  
17 is the source of revenue and it is the source of legal revenue and it is a source of sane  
18 revenue.

19 There have been no incidents at the gun shows. There are no guns sold or traded or  
20 taken away from the gun show. That's the first. So if the fair board wants to continue, we  
21 do see the deficit that they're running under, that is one major thing to consider.

22 The other thing to consider is the fact that more than likely if you refuse to renew gun  
23 shows, there will be some legal action taken by, you know, possibly NRA, CRPA, or  
24 somebody else. I'm not threatening any legal action, and I'm not saying I know this for a

1 fact. I'm saying "more than likely". So bear that in mind: Can the fair board afford the  
2 legal costs of potential lawsuits regarding taking away one of our freedoms.

3 On the second level, I want to talk about the people who are here against the gun shows.  
4 Many of them do not believe in a citizen's right to own a gun, and this is step one in taking  
5 away our Second Amendment rights.

6 And what happens when you take away the right to own and possess a firearm? Take a  
7 look at Germany where six million of my people were killed. The government took away  
8 all the guns first. Take a look at Venezuela where guns were taken away. Same -- same  
9 thing occurred, the people are oppressed. Thank you.

10 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Ms. Henderson.

11 I'm gonna try one more time for Ron Dincau, in case he was out of the room Ron?

12 (No audible response.)

13 CEO QUAID: No? Okay. Jerome Clifford followed by Kathy Murphy.

14 JEROME CLIFFORD: Good morning. My name is Jerry Clifford. I'm from Camarillo,  
15 and first of all, I want to thank you very much for your public service on this board. It's  
16 very important to -- as you support the community.

17 It seems to me there are three major issues that will inform your decision today. There's  
18 definitely the legal liability issue. Then there's the financial responsibility issue, and finally  
19 there's a moral leadership issue, and I think all three are important for you.

20 Legal liability, I don't think we would be taking any new steps. I think that the Cow Palace  
21 and Delmar have already showed us that -- that the legal liabilities are not the main issue.  
22 I do think it's a financial issue, though, but we don't want to use the intimidation -- the fear  
23 of a lawsuit to intimidate us into taking the actions that we need to take.

24 On the fiscal issues I want to commend Vice Chair Lacayo and Mr. Bradbury for looking at



1 new sources of income for the board and for the fairgrounds because I think this is critical  
2 and you want to find the type of opportunities in our community which would be family  
3 friendly and be the type of things that would be safe for a community.

4 Finally there's the moral and ethical leadership position that I think are very important for  
5 us. We know that there is a gun culture in the United States and that gun culture has led  
6 to gun violence in the United States. We can't change the psychology of people. We  
7 can't change mental illness issues, even though we work at it, the way people -- the brains  
8 work, that's still very important, but gun violence, if you have a gun and you have mental  
9 issue, even a momentarily -- momentary one, you have problems.

10 So we've seen it at the Borderline in Ventura County, so I would encourage you not to  
11 continue the gun violence, the gun culture, by voting no for any additional gun shows.

12 Thank you.

13 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Clifford.

14 Kathy Murphy followed by Richard Mercer.

15 KATHY MURPHY: Hello. I'm Kathy Murphy, and I'm from San Diego.

16 UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: Can you bring that up? We can't hear you.

17 KATHY MURPHY: Can you hear?

18 CEO QUAID: No. Just pull it straight close to your mouth. Yeah, there you go.

19 KATHY MURPHY: How's that?

20 CEO QUAID: No.

21 UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: Better.

22 KATHY MURPHY: Like that?

23 CEO QUAID: Yes, perfect.

24 UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: There you go.

1 KATHY MURPHY: I'm not touching it.

2 I'm Kathy Murphy. I'm from San Diego. I'm here not to give an opinion because I don't  
3 think that's appropriate from people who are outside the county. I'm here to clarify  
4 something because I've come to previous board meetings.

5 I got involved with your group because I have a friend in Ventura who talked to me about  
6 our shirts. I want to clarify that I've heard at meetings and I've been in these board  
7 reports today the letters that we are highly funded nationally, that this -- our group has  
8 money.

9 We have absolutely no money from any outside group. Our group began in San Diego  
10 about, oh, a year ago in March. This one began a year ago in May, totally separately. I  
11 bring the shirts because my friend saw ours and said we'll try that.

12 I am upset because too often people say "That group is funded by George Soros". I hear  
13 that all the time, and I want to clarify to everybody in this room: We have absolutely no  
14 funding. I have never gotten a penny from George Soros.

15 The shirts were done by our group. Somebody funded the first hundred. We don't sell  
16 them. If somebody wants to make a donation, generally it's 10 bucks. I don't know, and  
17 then we order the next one. It's important to me that -- that the people on this board  
18 understand that, that we are not paid in any manner by anyone.

19 The California Rifle and Pistol Association are the official California affiliate of the National  
20 Rifle Association. They speak here. They speak, and they are paid highly. Their  
21 attorneys are paid highly.

22 I just would like that you give every bit as much attention to the residents of Ventura  
23 County that you give to the people from the California Rifle and Pistol and those from out  
24 of state. I have no opinion. I just -- I'm here to say we're not funded by anyone. Thank

1       you.

2       CEO QUAID: Thank you, Ms. Mercer (sic) -- Ms. Mercer, I'm sorry.

3       UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: Murphy.

4       CEO QUAID: Ms. Murphy.

5       Richard Mercer followed by Troy Corley.

6       (Pause in proceeding.)

7       RICHARD MERCER: Good morning. I want to address two issues. The first one I'll be  
8       brief --

9       CEO QUAID: Can't hear you.

10      PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Closer to the mic, please.

11      RICHARD MERCER: Excuse me?

12      CEO QUAID: Perfect. Thank you.

13      RICHARD MERCER: The first issue, I'll be brief on, it's the idea of the gun show in itself.  
14      California gun shows are really aren't gun shows anymore. If you were to come to one of  
15      our shows, you'd be hard-pressed to find guns. I mean, they're made up of probably 80,  
16      85 percent of people like me who don't sell guns.

17      Now having said that, I -- this whole conversation's evolved into a pro-gun/anti-gun, same  
18      thing it was at the first meeting. Nobody's addressing the personal side of it, which I want  
19      to address at this point.

20      I represent the 85 percent who don't sell guns. I need this show desperately. I make  
21      eleven hundred and eighty-five dollars a month on Social Security. It does not, needless  
22      to say, support me. There's an elderly couple who sells peanuts and beef jerky -- by the  
23      way, the best beef jerky you'll ever find -- that desperately need this show.

24      And it's true, I mean, you do a gun show in Arizona, which I do a number, Mesa, Arizona,

1 200 tables, probably a 175 tables have guns. They're real gun shows, in other words.  
2 This is -- this whole emotional debate of pro-gun/anti-gun, it doesn't address the personal  
3 side. I represent the personal side. The people just -- I -- the only reason I stay in  
4 California, I need Kaiser medical, and you don't exist on 1,185. I need this gun show. It's  
5 the best show that I do, and I represent the personal side. It's -- it's not a pro-gun. It's a  
6 method of making money, and I desperately need that, and there's a lot of people like me,  
7 and I hope you will consider this.

8 I mean, try to remove the politics from the side and look at it from a personal side. That's  
9 basically what I wanted to address today because I'm not hearing anybody else address it.  
10 Thank you.

11 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Mercer.

12 Troy Corley followed by Rob Templeton.

13 TROY CORLEY: Hi. I'm from Oxnard, as you know, and a couple of things: One, I  
14 don't see how you can actually consider a vote on three more contracts for 2019 when you  
15 have not established a solid policy for gun shows, which the state gives you the rules and  
16 the means to do so. It is under your purview to do that, and a meeting of one person is  
17 not a committee, I'm sorry.

18 The counsel is outside. He's there to advise you. They are not there to shape policy, so  
19 once again, why it would've been better if you continued with a three-person executive  
20 committee in front of the public instead of behind closed doors.

21 Meanwhile, there are many health issues. If you did not see the VC Star article that  
22 appeared on Sunday, it included a copy of a coalition letter that was sent out to the fair  
23 board citing complete call to action regarding health issues with -- in regards to what  
24 happens at gun shows, including information from the violence prevention program at UC

1 Davis, which wrote (reading): Inside gun shows, what goes on when nobody thinks  
2 nobody's watching, and that includes Ventura's gun shows.

3 And I will tell you, if you're concerned about health and educating the public, I will let you  
4 know that one of the things -- some of the things that are sold at the gun shows include  
5 manuals and kits for converting conventional weapons into machine guns, for making  
6 silencers, for making and using explosive devices, and for shooting down an airplane; also  
7 includes kits and manuals on instructions on how to make 3D-printed ghost guns, which  
8 cannot be traced. They are not detected by metal detectors.

9 And if, indeed, these folks at the California Rifle and Pistol Association care about  
10 education, they don't. They represent Crossroads. The president of CRPA is a lawyer  
11 who represents Crossroads of the West. They are Crossroads -- not Crossroads, but  
12 CRPA's on record of being very upset that Gavin Newsom, our governor, has tripled the  
13 funding for gun violence prevention in this state. They've publicly come out against that.  
14 They're also against the City of Morgan Hill saying that residents who own guns must  
15 report within 48 hours of when they have knowledge that their gun has been stolen. They  
16 filed a lawsuit. This is not caring about the health and well-being of our communities.  
17 Thank you.

18 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Ms. Corley.

19 Rob Templeton followed by Katie Yant.

20 ROB TEMPLETON: I have a carefully timed three-minute speech that I had to pare down.  
21 I thought we had three minutes.

22 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

23 ROB TEMPLETON: I'm from Utah.

24 UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: Speak --

1 ROB TEMPLETON: I'm from Utah. They wanted to hear where we were from. I'm from  
2 Utah trying to bring tens of thousands of dollars to California from Utah. There are people  
3 here who will say how great gun shows are, and there are others who will say how terrible  
4 gun shows are.

5 What it really boils down to is there's not a single, logical, or fact-based reason to ban gun  
6 shows. If you take emotion away from both sides and look at the facts, the answer is very  
7 clear. We've given all the factual information we can give, of which there is a lot. We've  
8 explained that all local, state, and federal laws are followed. We communicate with the  
9 California Department of Justice on a weekly basis.

10 Gun shows are subject to all the same regulations as brick and mortar gun stores.

11 Anyone wishing to purchase a firearm must pass a federal background check. Anyone  
12 wishing to purchase a firearm must wait for ten days before they take possession of the  
13 firearm as California law dictates.

14 There's law enforcement at all of our gun shows. No crimes have been linked to gun  
15 shows. The ATF actually participates in many of our gun shows.

16 The above-listed items are many of the legal reasons why gun shows should be permitted  
17 to continue. In addition to the legal reasons, there are several moral reasons to allow the  
18 gun shows to continue.

19 There seems to be some who think Crossroads is a huge corporation -- a huge corporate  
20 company when, in fact, it's just a family business. I have three daughters. One  
21 daughter's getting married in two weeks. One daughter, my middle daughter, is a  
22 competitive ice skater. And my youngest daughter plays competitive soccer. Gun shows  
23 are how I support my family. Gun shows are what allow my daughters to participate in the  
24 activities they love. Gun shows are how I pay for groceries and a mortgage.

1 Gun shows are not only the way I support my family, but gun shows are the way hundreds  
2 of our vendors support their families. Banning gun shows at the Ventura County  
3 Fairgrounds would take away hundreds of people's livelihoods.

4 Some people insist that they don't have a problem with the guns, just that the State  
5 shouldn't profit from the sale of guns. Why not? Why shouldn't the State profit from the  
6 sale of legally-purchased firearms? Because it offends you?

7 My rights don't end where your feelings begin. This is America. Land of the free. We  
8 don't ban things because a couple of dozen people don't like them.

9 CEO QUAID: Thank you Mr. Templeton.

10 ROB TEMPLETON: That's an awful slippery slope. What's next on the list --

11 CEO QUAID: Your time is up. Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 CEO QUAID: Katie Yant followed by Nelson Buss.

14 KATIE YANT: Good morning, or is it good afternoon yet?

15 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Move closer to the mic.

16 KATIE YANT: Can you hear me? Okay.

17 I'm a resident of Newbury Park, which is technically Thousand Oaks, and everyone knows  
18 what has happened in Thousand Oaks. I'm not from Utah. I'm local.

19 I oppose gun shows on State-owned land. I wanted to share a personal story. When I  
20 was 19, I was working at a restaurant that was held up by an armed man. It was a  
21 sawed-off shotgun. He pointed it directly at me and told me to get on the ground from  
22 maybe five feet away. I saw my life flash before my eyes, and I prayed to God I wasn't  
23 gonna be killed. Well, I survived, and I know this is one of the subjects -- we have several  
24 subjects going on here, but this is one subject that's real in our community.

1        Anyway, I went on to have three children, who would not be here today if I had died, so I  
2        just wanted to say that piece of reality in our society.

3        (Applause.)

4        CEO QUAID: Katie Yant?

5        PRESIDENT CORNEJO: I'm sorry, who's next?

6        CEO QUAID: Nelson Buss.

7        NELSON BUSS: Hi, board. My name is Nelson Buss. I'm a resident of Thousand  
8        Oaks, California. I've only been here 30 years. I want to talk to you too. I've got three  
9        daughters as well. Five years ago, May 23rd, Isla Vista shooting happened.

10       UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: Speak to us, sir.

11       NELSON BUSS: Victoria (sic) Weiss was killed at that. She used to play water polo  
12       against my daughter. Two years ago on St. Patrick's Day my daughter was at The Oaks  
13       Mall when a gentleman walked in and shot his wife to death and then shot himself. My  
14       daughter was trapped at the mall for two hours in a storeroom waiting for her mother or me  
15       to come get her.

16       Last year in November, my friend Brad Hynes' business was shot. Twelve people were  
17       killed at the Borderline. He lost his business. He lost his friends. I lost people I played  
18       softball with and did charity work with.

19       These things are happening in our community, and a gun show out there may be a source  
20       of livelihood for you, but all I know is that it's something that supports instruments of  
21       death and we're endorsing merchants of death out there when we do that.

22       I know somebody said something about alcohol and alcohol sales. Alcohol makes people  
23       dance better and drive worse. We got Uber now, so hopefully they can behave  
24       themselves and not drive home.



1 But I run the Thousand Oaks Chili Cook-off, if any are familiar with it. That's been going  
2 on for 43 years. This year I was told that I had to have an active shooter plan in place for  
3 the first time ever. I had to tell people who were volunteers that they were gonna have to  
4 get up on the stage and direct people out and possibly defense of their lives so that we  
5 wouldn't have to plead chaos if somebody decided to shoot up my event.

6 It's a one-hundred-percent charity event. We're raising money for local community things,  
7 and I had to tell people that were volunteering for it that "You might die this time, and so  
8 we have to have a plan in place".

9 So I appreciate the fact that there's a lot of people here who love their guns and love all  
10 these things, but what I would appreciate is if my government, my public land, my tax  
11 dollars didn't go to supporting it because I'm very frustrated with it at this point. Thank you  
12 for your time.

13 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Buss.

14 (Applause.)

15 CEO QUAID: Emmanuel Cortez followed by Gordon Groomer, I think it's Groomer.

16 EMMANUEL CORTEZ: Good morning, everybody. Board, people on both sides of this  
17 debate.

18 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Move closer to the mic.

19 EMMANUEL CORTEZ: I'm 29 -- I'm 29 years old. I'm an Oxnard resident. I'm here  
20 today because I wanna see gun shows continue. I don't wanna ban gun shows. I don't  
21 wanna ban the beer festival. I want everyone to enjoy themselves.

22 I want to go with the notion that -- a notion that many of you know, to agree to disagree. I  
23 agree that we shouldn't let tragedies like the Thousand Oaks shooting happen ever. I  
24 want to honor the memories of those who passed, and Ron Helus, the Sheriff who passed

1 as well, but I want to educate those who never been to a gun show.

2 I lost my father when I was 15. Oxnard's a very rough place sometimes. You know, it's  
3 easy to get in trouble. It's a small town. When I was 23 I went to my first gun show, and  
4 since then, that's my venue. I stay out of trouble, and I have taught many of my younger  
5 cousins to come out and educate them and give them venues so that they stay out of  
6 trouble.

7 And you know, I -- I see people -- I'm proud because this is the first meeting I attend, and I  
8 see people on both sides of this debate, people that I've known and respect. I don't  
9 wanna alienate anybody. I don't wanna threaten anybody. I want to educate. I'd like  
10 those who've never been to a gun show to attend a gun show. That is all. Thank you.

11 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

12 Gordon Groomer followed by Carl John Christie.

13 (No audible response.)

14 CEO QUAID: Gordon?

15 (No audible response.)

16 CEO QUAID: No? Okay. Carl John Christie followed by Beth Mansfield.

17 CARL JOHN CHRISTIE: Can you hear me? Can you hear me?

18 CEO QUAID: Pull it closer to you.

19 CARL JOHN CHRISTIE: Can you hear me? How about now?

20 CEO QUAID: That's good.

21 CARL JOHN CHRISTIE: My name's Carl John Christie. My family's been here in  
22 Ventura since the late 1890s. I was gonna talk about a lot of things other people here  
23 were talking about, but I'm gonna go off the point.

24 Should we stop car shows here at the fair because people are run over by cars, not only

1 accidentally but on purpose?

2 I spent over 50 years either in law enforcement, corrections, or security. My last job was  
3 21 years with the Ventura Unified School District as a campus security officer. The idea  
4 that kids are out there ready to kill each other is completely off. There's some individuals  
5 that do exist that will cause problems for others, but that has nothing to do with society  
6 over the millennia. There's really no way you're gonna stop somebody who really is  
7 gonna wanna hurt somebody and doesn't care what happens.

8 I think the gun show, it offers an opportunity for people to buy equipment and get things  
9 they need. If they don't get it here, they're gonna get it somewhere else. I mean, you  
10 can buy it in town, but this also gives our community a chance to get a little more money  
11 for the county fairgrounds here, and I appreciate your time for listening to me. Thank you.

12 CEO QUAID: Thank you.

13 One more time I'm gonna try Ron Dincau and/or Gordon Groomer, either one?

14 (No audible response.)

15 CEO QUAID: Nope? Okay. Beth Mansfield followed by Leanna Brand.

16 BETH MANSFIELD: Good morning. My name's Beth Mansfield. I'm from Ventura,  
17 California. I've lived here for more than 25 years. I hope you've all read the letter and  
18 the call to action that we submitted. It was a coalition of gun control advocates and  
19 concerned citizens like myself. In it we used facts and hard data to help you understand  
20 the gravity of what easy access to guns allows: Pervasive gun culture, community  
21 impact -- community-wide impact.

22 But I'd like to take my time today to say please don't allow gun shows to continue prior to  
23 having a policy in place. I have one daughter, a sophomore in high school, who's been  
24 participating in lockdown drills and preparing with active shooter drills since preschool.

1 She's also been trained how to stop bleeding during a mass shooting because she doesn't  
2 believe school shootings will stop any time soon. Again, she's a trauma expert. She is a  
3 sophomore.

4 Since she's in class right now I'll read a statement from my daughter, Grace, a leader in  
5 the Ventura chapter of the National Association of Students Against Gun Violence.

6 (Reading): Holding gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds shows just how  
7 careless adults have become with their children's safety and the safety of the community.  
8 Gun shows perpetuate a culture in which having a weapon designed for military use and of  
9 ending dozens of lives in seconds is normal or necessary.

10 Following the Borderline shooting, it's disrespectful and callous to hold these events which  
11 glorify guns despite Ventura County's youth having shown how much we oppose their  
12 ability to rip apart classrooms and families and are confident that we are safe at school.

13 I'm ashamed that gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds have been allowed to  
14 continue in light of all the children who've died due to the inability of adults to take decisive  
15 action on gun control. Again, that's from my daughter, Grace Mansfield, who is 15 years  
16 old and a sophomore.

17 I implore you, please don't allow guns and ammo -- ammunition to be sold here on the  
18 fairgrounds. I don't have a backup daughter. I have one child. She's it. I'm asking you  
19 to help ensure her safety and the safety of all the Tri-County students. Thank you.

20 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Ms. Mansfield.

21 Leanna Brand followed by Kevin Small.

22 LEANNA BRAND: Hi. My name is Leanna Brand, and I'm with Simi Valley Indivisible,  
23 and I'm representing about 60 of our members from Simi Valley who are opposed to the  
24 gun shows. I'm also a church choir director in Newbury Park, and I'd like to just say a

1 couple of things about the fact that these people have talked about it's legal to buy guns.

2 Yes.

3 We have new legislation by this new administration which has allowed people who are  
4 mentally ill to still buy guns. The child in Newbury Park that had a legal gun had  
5 well-documented emotional problems, and he shot up the Borderline and killed 12 people.  
6 I'm a church choir director in Newbury Park and every day -- every Sunday I get up at a  
7 podium in front of 600 people and lead the singing, and two weeks ago we had to have an  
8 active shooter training and I had to get up in front of my children's choir and tell them  
9 where they should run and where they should go when there's an active shooter in our  
10 church, in the Catholic church.

11 We also host every Saturday a homeless shelter and dinner, and let me just say from  
12 experience, there are a very large number of mentally-ill people who show up for church  
13 on Sunday morning when I'm standing up there in front of the group.

14 And any one of them is allowed to buy a gun, and the easiest place for them to get a gun  
15 is -- is at one of these gun shows. I know there's, you know, there's still the waiting period  
16 and all of that kind of stuff, but these people are out to make money, and they will try to  
17 give a gun to whoever wants to buy it.

18 And I'm here to tell you that in our community, we have suffered enough with the  
19 Borderline killing and with our children having to go through active shooter training and me  
20 having to make sure that we have the -- the five FBI agents at our church, that one of them  
21 is ushering that weekend so that he can help when this happens.

22 So I beg of you, please, at least give it a rest until the end of the year. We -- this  
23 community has gone through an awful lot, and we just really need to not have these gun  
24 shows for a little while, please. At least until we can change the law so mentally-ill people

1 can't buy a gun. Thank you.

2 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Ms. Brand.

3 (Applause.)

4 CEO QUAID: Kevin Small followed by Anita Evans.

5 KEVIN SMALL: Good morning. My name is Kevin Small. I'm gonna ask that you do  
6 contract the rest of the shows for the year and continue to contract them for hopefully  
7 many years after that.

8 What the previous speaker, you know, didn't -- didn't talk about is the fact that every  
9 person who purchases a firearm legally at these shows does have to pass a background  
10 check, so it's not necessarily the vendors who are deciding. It's Department of Justice  
11 who is deciding this.

12 As far as the policy is concerned, I really wanted to narrow the scope of this conversation.  
13 I know that we end up every month coming in here having a national debate, but what  
14 we're really here to decide is what your policy is going to be for this fairgrounds. I would  
15 ask that you allow firearms to be brought to this fairground in that policy. Taking the  
16 firearms away from the show is essentially taking the show away from here.

17 And as far as continuing for the rest of the year without a policy, California has the most  
18 stringent regulations in the nation when it comes to these shows, and Crossroads of the  
19 West abides by everything that any agency has put forth, and they've done it without any  
20 incidences. I think that's important to consider here.

21 I do see a way that you can continue these gun shows while you're trying to craft the  
22 policy, and it's to do it the same way that you've been doing it, again, without any instance.  
23 So I mean, I would be hard-pressed to find a lot of happy people if Google or Apple  
24 terminated their services while they decided to write a new policy. I think the same

1 standards should be held here. It's fully within your power to create this policy while  
2 allowing gun shows to continue. Thank you.

3 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Small.

4 (Applause.)

5 CEO QUAID: Anita (sic) Evans followed by David Wyers.

6 ANITRA EVANS: Good morning. My name is Anitra Evans. I'm from Thousand Oaks.  
7 I, too, represent the personal side. I'm a professor at Moorpark College. Three of my  
8 students were at Borderline. Two of them were murdered, and one was injured. I  
9 believe our tax dollars should not be supporting merchants of death. Please reconsider  
10 your vote today. Thank you.

11 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Ms. Evans.

12 David Wyers followed by Brandt Jackson.

13 DAVID WYERS: Hello. I'm David Wyers. I live in Camarillo 42 years, and I recently  
14 closed my business because of a bad knee that went bad, but I want to commend the  
15 board on an excellent choice for the poster for this year's fair. I thought it was excellent.  
16 My position is that gun shows should be definitely allowed on the State fairgrounds. First  
17 reason is the firearms are a legal activity. Gun safety I learned from my dad. He told me  
18 to always point the gun in a safe direction and also treat a gun as if it were loaded. I'm  
19 afraid that these days children, a lot of them, are denied that -- like, that kind of guidance  
20 from their parents, and the gun shows are an excellent source and the gun clubs are an  
21 excellent source, that the clubs do promote themselves at the gun shows, and a lot of the  
22 interest, history, and safety is learned through these clubs and through the organizations to  
23 promote gun safety, and the classes are advertised and offered at the gun shows. Thank  
24 you very much.

1 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Wyers.

2 Brandt Jackson followed by Richard Moore.

3 BRANDT JACKSON: Hello. My name is Brandt Jackson. This is probably the third  
4 meeting I've come to. I'm 72 years old, lived here all my life, and I have guns. I have a  
5 gun safe I keep everything in, and I think we should keep up with the gun shows.

6 You know, when I came in here I hear things that get away from the actual gun show, and  
7 it's news to me that all of a sudden all this violence is tied to the gun show.

8 Before coming here I called the police department and the county sheriff and I asked them  
9 about incidents that correlated with the gun show, and they said there was nothing that  
10 they knew of but that I should check with the security staff that actually does gun shows  
11 and takes care of the grounds. And I've been going to gun shows since in the '90s, and  
12 there hasn't been one problem.

13 I hear all this -- this talk about the violence that's -- the merchants of death and all this  
14 stuff. If I could tell you -- I mean, the list -- if you go to a gun show, you're gonna see  
15 jerky, jewelry, glassware, coins, toys, earplugs. There's so many things I got down here, I  
16 don't have time enough to go through them.

17 The thing that gets me is that every time there's a shooting, okay, every time there's a  
18 shooting, they want to take my guns. I'm a legal gun owner, so they want to come get my  
19 guns. If somebody hits -- are drunk driving and they kill some people on the highway,  
20 they don't go after the good licensed drivers, do we? This is kind of nuts.

21 I just don't understand what the -- will we all sleep better because there's no more gun  
22 shows in Ventura? I don't think so. I think there's -- we gotta look at the people. It's still  
23 people that pick up the guns and do the gun violence. We gotta do something about that.

24 Thanks.



1 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Jackson.

2 (Applause.)

3 CEO QUAID: Richard Moore followed by Adriene Coulter.

4 RICHARD MOORE: Hello. My name's Richard Moore. I'm a retired.

5 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: A little closer.

6 RICHARD MOORE: Really?

7 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yeah.

8 RICHARD MOORE: Okay. My name's Richard Moore. I'm a retired science teacher.

9 I'm also a Vietnam veteran; okay? My dad drilled out gun barrels before World War II.

10 Then eventually they let him get in the Navy and take care of fire control. He continued to  
11 build rifles in our garage. This was a normal thing.

12 In high schools they used to have gun clubs. Now, the whole point was to teach safety. I

13 want you to continue having these gun shows at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, and I  
14 know you're not getting any tax dollars to do it, which some people don't understand.

15 So our church, we all support and have weapons. The term "wrought of iron" really  
16 means having something to protect your flock, which a staff, a sword, or a rifle now  
17 represent, so there's nothing wrong with this. It's a defensive mechanism; okay?

18 And anybody who joins the military, they know they're gonna go kill somebody. That's the  
19 point. You don't just shoot them. You stab them, you beat them with the butt of the rifle.

20 You were trained to do this, but that's the military. So for protecting our home, we need to  
21 have weapons. I urge you to keep the gun shows in the fair.

22 Now, the fairs are great. I used to go to the Pomona County Fairgrounds all the time.

23 You get to see a variety of things that are out there, a whole slew of things. The easiest  
24 place to get a gun is a gun store, but the fair offers a variety of things, and I can see

1 magazines, gun loading equipment, oils, all kinds of things. There's all kinds of unique  
2 things at a fair.

3 So keep the gun shows at the county fair. They're great. I don't wanna have to go to Las  
4 Vegas or all the way down to Costa Mesa. I live in Simi Valley. I want to come up here.  
5 This is a great place to have a gun show; okay? Please keep the gun shows at the  
6 county fair.

7 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Mr. Moore.

8 Adriene Coulter --

9 (Applause.)

10 CEO QUAID: -- followed by Jerry Gambrel

11 ADRIENE COULTER: My name is Adriene Coulter. I'm here from Ventura. I was  
12 raised in Santa Barbara, and I spent my childhood at gun shows. I think I talked about  
13 this last time. I am well familiar with gun culture. I walk down the aisles and look at the  
14 words on bumper stickers and T-shirts, and it was racist, and it was misogynist, and it was  
15 violent towards people that disagreed with having guns or people who were liberals or  
16 people that might touch your fence, lots of threats on T-shirts and bumper stickers.  
17 I was amongst the people that were protesting on the sidewalk over the last gun show, and  
18 yeah, there were a lot of people that put thumbs down, which was polite, that was great,  
19 people who flipped us off, that's fine, used to that.

20 But for the first time in many rallies that I have been to, it was the first time that people  
21 went like this to me (demonstrated). Only at a gun show would people pretend to shoot  
22 you, only at a gun show would people do white supremacy symbols to us, and only at gun  
23 shows was there a kid protesting on the other side giving Heil Hitler salutes to people  
24 leaving the gun show to much applause.

1 That's the culture that I'm talking about in gun shows, and that's the culture that has the  
2 people behind me and their audience snickering every time a woman comes up here to  
3 talk about how worried she is about her children. This is a hostile, toxic culture that gun  
4 shows (audio stopped) whatever, but the people here in Ventura are asking you to stop  
5 doing this.

6 CEO QUAID: Thank you, Ms. Coulter.

7 Jerry Gambral.

8 (Applause.)

9 JERRY GAMBRAL: My name is Jerry Gambral. I live in Oxnard, and I've been in this  
10 area for 33 years. I am a California native. I started shooting when I was 12 years old.  
11 I took my hunter safety class, and I started hunting with my father.

12 I will not declare how many guns I have, but I have a few, and I know how to use them,  
13 and I know how to take care of them. I am a member of the NRA, the California Rifle and  
14 Pistol Association, and a couple of other organizations, and none of their culture is for the  
15 type of things that was just described here, pointing a finger like a gun, that is not -- that's  
16 none of their culture. This is brought on by people who are not even probably allowed to  
17 have a gun in their possession for different reasons.

18 And the fellow who shot up the Borderline down there, he was not supposed to have guns.  
19 He was legally barred from owning a gun, yet he had one. Just because you stop -- try to  
20 stop people from getting guns, they always get them. You go down -- go down into South  
21 L A. Every other car down there has got illegal guns in it or the people who have the guns  
22 should not have them.

23 That was not the culture that I was brought up in, and it is not the culture that I like to see  
24 that we have here in the State of California at this time.

1 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you, Mr. Gambral.

2 I believe that's the last public comment that we have on this issue. I was gonna ask again  
3 for the two that are missing.

4 CEO QUAID: Ron Dincau or Gordon Groomer?

5 (No audible response.)

6 CEO QUAID: Okay.

7 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. So at this point we'll close public comment on the issue.  
8 We have a recommendation by staff to approve three gun shows as listed by date in Item  
9 11 on our agenda. In order to have comment by or discussion by the board, I would like  
10 to entertain a motion to that.

11 I understand Leah has a motion.

12 VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: I -- I'd like to make a motion to continue with three  
13 additional gun shows with a provision in the contract with conditions that should this fair  
14 board, at the June 27th meeting, decide not to have any further gun shows, that we would,  
15 at that point, terminate the contract. That's what that means. And I think --  
16 Is there a second?

17 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Is there a second?

18 DIRECTOR ATMORE: Second.

19 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Second. Okay. You had a comment about it or --

20 VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Yes. I would just like to say, as a fair board member, we  
21 are appointed by the governor of this state. There is no state legislation at this point that  
22 bans gun shows, and we, as a fair board, have a fiduciary responsibility to oversee these  
23 grounds, to make sure that they're sound, they're safe, and in my opinion, this goes along  
24 with those lines.

1       Until the State decides to do something, I think we need to continue with our gun shows.

2       We have a precedent of doing this, and that's all I have to say.

3       PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Any other questions or discussion? Jim?

4       DIRECTOR SALZER: I'd like to make a comment.

5       PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Please.

6       DIRECTOR SALZER: Do we have a first and second?

7       UNIDENTIFIED DIRECTOR: Can't hear you, Jim.

8       PRESIDENT CORNEJO: We've got a first and second, so you're welcome.

9       DIRECTOR SALZER: Testing, hello.

10      PRESIDENT CORNEJO: There you go.

11      DIRECTOR SALZER: So as a business person --

12      PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Closer.

13      DIRECTOR SALZER: -- I would like to see the gun show at least guaranteed that August  
14      because they have to ramp up, they have to have agreements in place, they have to  
15      actually conduct business, and yet we're -- we're just gonna cancel the show in August. I  
16      don't like that personally.

17      PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. Anyone else?

18      DIRECTOR CUEVAS: Can I ask how this particular motion was represented to staff?

19      PRESIDENT CORNEJO: It was staff representing it to --

20      DIRECTOR CUEVAS: I'm sorry. I misspoke.

21      What's the basis of staff's recommendation to the board?

22      CEO QUAID: Well, the basis of my recommendation is 30 years of gun shows. We've  
23      had no issues here with gun shows whatsoever. I've spoken to the Highway Patrol. I've  
24      spoken to Ventura P.D. and Ventura Sheriff's office, and there has not been any violent

1 crimes that have been associated with a gun that's been purchased here at the  
2 fairgrounds.

3 We have gun shows here, but in each of the cities in the County of Ventura, there are  
4 numerous gun brick and mortar stores. Those will continue. Even if we stop our gun  
5 shows, those will continue.

6 I feel that we have a legal responsibility to put a show on that is legal. There is nothing  
7 illegal about our gun shows, and the -- that was the basis of my recommendation to the  
8 board.

9 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Mike?

10 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: I understand that part of the reason for your recommendation  
11 is also legal counsel's advice regarding liability; is that correct?

12 CEO QUAID: I'm sorry, Mike, I didn't hear you.

13 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: And part of your recommendation is also based on legal  
14 counsel's advice regarding potential liability?

15 CEO QUAID: Well, that's part of the recommendation, but the recommendation that I  
16 made was based on my years here at the fairgrounds and my dealings with two or three  
17 gun show providers and knowing what the outcome of those shows have been and having  
18 attended most of them myself, whether I'm in the office or whether I'm at the gun show, I  
19 see the people that come and go, and I don't see people leaving with guns.

20 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Any comments, other comments before we vote?  
22 Yes, Dan?

23 DIRECTOR LONG: Just to address a couple of things. I got appointed by Governor  
24 Brown in 2012, several of us did, and I went to a gun show then, and I've gone to several

1 gun shows since.

2 And to me, as far as my fiduciary responsibility, I do -- I have noticed that the gun show  
3 attendance and the amount of buildings that they use have gone down considerably since  
4 several years ago, so I think that's something for us to think about in the future that, you  
5 know, we are stewards of this fairgrounds and as times and things change, we adapt. We  
6 stopped the fair parade last year because the people coming out had diminished quite a bit  
7 from years in the past.

8 So I do think that Governor Brown appointed all of us -- all of us that are sitting here today,  
9 and he did tell the Cow Palace directors that they should decide what they should or  
10 should not -- what to have at their own facility, and I think it's different for every county,  
11 every jurisdiction.

12 So things, I think, are changing, so I just wanna kind of put that into the record as well that,  
13 you know, there are other reasons for us to consider whether we have or do not have gun  
14 shows in the future.

15 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes, Cecilia?

16 DIRECTOR CUEVAS: There was a comment made by one of the speakers about, you  
17 know, we're here as fiduciaries and all of us know, as board members, that we are, in fact,  
18 fiduciary -- fiduciarly responsibility for the fairgrounds.

19 We've been told this morning that we have to act on the best -- for the best outlook for the  
20 fairgrounds itself, but I also agree with Director Long that times are changing, and I, for  
21 one, am not willing to also set aside my fiduciary responsibility and only think of what's  
22 legal because I, too, as a human being and as a person who has been equally appointed  
23 to this fair board in its -- in its responsible care and stewardship also have a responsibility  
24 as a human to hear the thoughts, wishes, and messages of our constituent base, which is

1 the entire County of Ventura.

2 So I'm gonna ask our fellow board members to not only think legally but also morally on  
3 this issue, and we have that right and that responsibility as human beings to act in a moral  
4 way in conducting the business of the fairgrounds, not just a legal way.

5 And yes, more likely than not we're gonna be threatened or told that we may bring -- that  
6 our actions may, in fact, result in legal peril for the board or in fiscal peril for the board or at  
7 the fairgrounds itself, but we're -- we're more than just a legal representative, we're more  
8 than just a fiduciary representative.

9 We were selected as leadership for the county, as leaders for the county in all facets that  
10 we bring, both ethically, morally, and spiritually, so I'd ask that the board consider who they  
11 are in that regard as well in terms of their leadership for this county as they place their vote  
12 on this issue.

13 (Applause.)

14 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Anybody else? Bonnie?

15 DIRECTOR ATMORE: I think Leah was first.

16 VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Who me?

17 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes.

18 VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Oh, I was just going to say that this group, in particular, is  
19 putting a lot of pressure on a non-legislative body. I think for us, we are protecting the  
20 fairgrounds, and I think it's up to others to go and approach your legislators if you feel that  
21 this is the direction you want to go in. It is not in our purview to make those kinds of  
22 decisions. We're just trying to do what's best for us here.

23 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Bonnie?

24 DIRECTOR ATMORE: You took my comments right out of my mouth. I think it's



1 important we've had the civic engagement we've had for over a year, and I don't want that  
2 to be lost on us as a community. And part of what we can do to serve all of you is to  
3 provide avenues of opportunity where you can make a difference, you can have a change  
4 in a legal way, and that legislative process is something that does need to be addressed,  
5 and I don't want any of us to leave this room today without thinking about that. There are  
6 always other options, and you have to find the best option to help you with what success  
7 looks like to you.

8 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Anyone else? I think most of the board has had a chance to  
9 speak? Anyone else? Cecilia?

10 DIRECTOR CUEVAS: If I can just make one last comment.

11 With respect to the leadership of this state and the direction that this state has been going  
12 through, we have elected a new governor that shares in the view or opposition of gun  
13 culture for the state, as well as the previous governor, so you're right, legislation is  
14 important, and there are avenues to seek out representation that -- that mirrors your views  
15 as a -- as a constituent, and I think the State of California has already done that.

16 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Anyone else on the board with a question, clarification,  
17 comment, argument?

18 (No audible response.)

19 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Okay. Well, then, we will have the vote; okay?

20 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ORTIZ: Director Atmore?

21 DIRECTOR ATMORE: Yes.

22 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ORTIZ: Director Bradbury?

23 DIRECTOR BRADBURY: Yes.

24 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ORTIZ: Director Cuevas?

1 DIRECTOR CUEVAS: No.

2 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ORTIZ: Director Long?

3 DIRECTOR Long: No.

4 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ORTIZ: Director Morgan-Durisseau?

5 DIRECTOR MORGAN-DURISSEAU: No.

6 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ORTIZ: Director Salzer?

7 DIRECTOR SALZER: Yes.

8 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ORTIZ: Vice President Lacayo?

9 VICE PRESIDENT LACAYO: Yes.

10 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT ORTIZ: And President Cornejo?

11 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Yes.

12 Five to three, motion carries.

13 Let's move on to the -- on in our agenda.

14 Did you have -- pardon me?

15 CEO QUAID: Can I make one comment before everyone gets up to leave?

16 It was very obvious what my recommendation was to the board, but I want all of you to  
17 know, especially the gentleman in the black shirt back there that was talking about the  
18 losses that his family was involved in, that I thank you and we -- we all want the same  
19 thing, and I appreciate you being here today. I know it was very difficult for you, so thank  
20 you.

21 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 PRESIDENT CORNEJO: Let's move on to board correspondence.

24 (Thereupon, this item of board business was adjourned.)



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

June 10, 2019

Ira Sharp, Co-Founder  
NeverAgainCA  
[irasharp@me.com](mailto:irasharp@me.com)

*Transmitted via E-Mail*

Dear Mr. Sharp:

Thank you for Never Again CA's May 21, 2019 letter regarding the 31st District Agricultural Association (DAA or Ventura Fair), known as the Ventura County Fairgrounds, and its pending policy on gun shows. In your letter, you request that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (Department) implement a policy at the Ventura Fair to stop contracting for gun shows.

While the Department's Fairs and Expositions Branch exercises oversight of all 52 DAAs, the Department does not formulate policy for DAAs regarding what events and activities should be held or prohibited on fairgrounds. The cultural diversity of California is vast, and the Department respects the autonomy of each DAA Board, appointed by the Governor, to manage its fairgrounds aligned with the local community's interests. Not all DAA Boards are faced with the same local concerns. For instance, many DAAs have gun shows without community protest. Should there be a statewide directive to prohibit gun sales on fairgrounds, the Department and the DAAs, including Ventura Fair, would implement such a policy.

At its May 28, 2019 Board meeting, the Ventura Fair Board approved contracting with the gun show promoter for three more events through 2019 conditioned on the Board's pending policy decision. If the Board ultimately prohibits gun shows, the contracts will be cancelled. If the Board imposes specific requirements for its gun shows, then the gun show promoter will have to comply.

The Ventura Fair's gun show committee has been working diligently on an informational report with recommendations to the Board by reviewing and consolidating all public comments from Board meetings and collecting data based on those comments. In addition, constitutional rights and legal implications must be considered.

The committee's report will be presented at a special Board meeting on June 27, 2019 at the Ventura Fair. The report is expected to be completed prior to this meeting and available for public review on the Ventura Fair website.

Yours truly,

Karen Ross  
Secretary

cc: Leslie Cornejo, President, 31<sup>st</sup> DAA Board of Directors  
Rachael O'Brien, Deputy Secretary for Legislation



## Heidi Ortiz

---

**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 13, 2019 8:41 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gun control from local communities

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Michael Cervantes <[mikecervantes@roadrunner.com](mailto:mikecervantes@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** June 12, 2019 at 7:22:31 PM PDT  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** Gun control from local communities

Dear Ms. Quaid,

Please check this url and Santa Barbara's concern about gun violence.

<https://www.independent.com/2019/06/10/americas-gun-violence-war/> Reform is all around us. Michael Cervantes, member, Veterans for Peace

---

Total Control Panel

To: [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)  
From: [mikecervantes@roadrunner.com](mailto:mikecervantes@roadrunner.com)

Message Score: 1  
My Spam Blocking Level: High

High (60): Pass  
Medium (75): Pass  
Low (90): Pass

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# America's Gun Violence War

The War Happening Within Our Borders

## BOLD ACTION VS. THOUGHTS & PRAYERS



“Thoughts and prayers don’t stop shootings...we have to work to build a less violent generation in a country founded on violence,” stated David Hogg, a survivor of the Parkland School shooting, during a recent speech at UCSB. Tragically the number of deaths from firearms has increased to 40,000 a year. Citizens of America, there is virtually a war happening within our country. Metal detectors, armed guards in churches and shopping malls, and lockdowns at every school — what has happened to our nation? We are no longer the land of the free when we don’t feel safe in our homes, schools, churches, and on the streets.

David Hogg correctly stated that we are a country founded on violence. The Revolutionary War and the Civil War were necessary, but must they remain harbingers of America’s future? Consider two countries, Australia and New Zealand, whose citizens did not respond to a mass shooting by buying more guns. They quickly understood that stricter gun laws were essential. Why are Americans more violent? The 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment in itself does not encourage violence.

Madison inserted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment into the Bill of Rights, *not* with the purpose of an individual right to own a firearm, as the *new* interpretation states, but for the purpose of arming the citizenry in case of an attack, as there was no standing army at that time.

Read it thoughtfully and carefully: “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.”

However, even with the present interpretation, we may focus on the first three words: “A well-regulated.” Therefore we are able to pass sensible gun violence prevention laws.

The debate in Australia and developments in subsequent years shows how a country can successfully deal with gun violence. In Port Arthur, Tasmania, 35 people were murdered and 18 were wounded by an assailant with a semiautomatic rifle. The public outcry brought together Australia’s political parties from the right and the left to take major action. Sadly, in comparison with Australia, the U.S. Congress has done nothing.

Within months the Australian government “banned automatic and semiautomatic firearms, adopted new licensing requirements, established a national firearms registry, and instituted a 28-day waiting period for gun purchases,” according to The Atlantic. There was widespread opposition at the time to the legislation. But gun control proponents pointed out that most gun-related killings are not perpetrated by people with criminal or psychiatric records.

The government also bought and destroyed more than 600,000 civilian-owned firearms, in a national gun buyback that cost half a billion dollars and was funded by raising taxes. The entire action took just months to implement.

In the 17 years before these laws were passed, 13 mass shootings occurred in Australia. Since 1996, there have been none. In addition the country experienced a two-thirds decline in the overall rate of firearm deaths.

In comparison, the 32 students killed slaughtered at Virginia Tech and 20 first grade children mowed down at Sandy Hook have brought zero response from the United States Congress. Parents in tears pleading for universal background checks and a ban on assault weapons and large capacity magazines did not move Congress to take a single action toward reasonable gun violence prevention.

On Saturday, June 15, from 8 a.m. to noon at Santa Barbara’s Earl Warren Showgrounds, the Coalition Against Gun Violence and the city Police Department have organized their fifth anonymous gun buyback. In the past four gun buybacks, almost 1,200 firearms were collected in exchange for Smart & Final gift cards.

This is the second year the City of Santa Barbara has contributed \$10,000 to the buyback. Hopefully the importance of a gun buyback will encourage the County of Santa Barbara, every city in the county, and perhaps some businesses to contribute to the buyback in 2020.

Do gun buybacks make a difference? They have in Australia. At the coalition's first gun buyback press conference, a member of the press asked, "What would you consider a success?" Immediately Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley said, "One gun. One gun could save a life."

Mass shootings and suicides don't seem to encourage Americans to speak out or take action. As you read this, how many degrees of separation are you from knowing a relative, friend, or neighbor who was killed by a gun? We are all touched by gun violence.

For more information or to contribute to this year's gun buyback, please visit [sbcoalition.org](http://sbcoalition.org) or [crowdrise.com](http://crowdrise.com).

*Toni Wellen chairs the Coalition Against Gun Violence.*





## Heidi Ortiz

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**From:** Barbara Quaid  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 13, 2019 8:40 AM  
**To:** Heidi Ortiz  
**Subject:** Fwd: Gun shows

Barbara (Sent from my iPhone)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Susan Orfanos <[orfanos@verizon.net](mailto:orfanos@verizon.net)>  
**Date:** June 12, 2019 at 9:06:52 PM PDT  
**To:** Barbara Quaid <[bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)>  
**Subject:** Gun shows

My name is Susan Orfanos. My son Telemachus was shot and killed in the Borderline mass shooting on November 7, 2018. My husband and I, along with Tel's younger brother continue to struggle every hour with the murder of our son. There is no way to convey the intense shock, grief and rage that he was killed at the age of 27. We will never know what he would have been. We know what we have lost. What everyone has lost.

And why? Because someone that wanted to cause great pain was able to have a gun and ILLEGAL AMMUNITION went into that bar. On college night. When young people were having a fun evening. Where my son was just spending time with friends. He was a security guard there but wasn't working that night. Just waiting for his paycheck.

Gun shows reinforce the MYTH that guns make you safer. That guns make you tougher. They promote a culture of guns. And they add to the masses of guns already in our communities. There are more guns than citizens in the US. THIS community. You can read all the studies that confirm that it is the EASY ACCESS to guns that result in the almost 40,000 deaths by gun violence every year. Almost 100 a day in this country.

We have lived in Thousand Oaks since just before Tel's 2 nd birthday. 26 years. Thousand Oaks has been a wonderful city in which to raise children. But it is now the city in which my son was killed. I do NOT want the fairgrounds and this city to profit from guns and ammunition. STOP the gun shows. If you do not then YOU are responsible for gun violence deaths in this community. YOU can stop this. YOU can mitigate those 40,000 deaths. YOU can send one more child home to his family. Even just ONE.

Telemachus had the courage to go back into that bar that night to help others. To stop the shooter. With nothing. Do you have the courage to stand up to the NRA and those that would profit by these deaths and say ENOUGH? Prove to this grieving mother that you have the courage to say ENOUGH?

As a tax paying citizen in Ventura county I do NOT want gun shows at my local fairgrounds. Say NO MORE. Say ENOUGH.

Susan Orfanos

Sent from my iPad

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To: [bquaid@venturacountyfair.org](mailto:bquaid@venturacountyfair.org)

Message Score: 1

High (60): Pass

From: [orfanos@verizon.net](mailto:orfanos@verizon.net)

My Spam Blocking Level: High

Medium (75): Pass

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