

From: Rick *****
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 3:36 PM
To: suzy_soroka@santorum.senate.gov
Subject: re: National Park Concealed Carry phone conversation

Attachments: Murtha Natl Park CCW Ban letter.doc;
MurthaNatlParkReply.jpg; Trib Natl Park Editorial.doc; G.and.A1.jpg;
G.and.A.2.jpg; G.and.A.3.jpg

6/16/05

Hi Suzy,

Thank you for taking the time to listen to the explanation of our group's goal. I had left a phone message September 23rd last year with Eddie Brant but never received a return call. I understand the issue we discussed is somewhat difficult to detail briefly but I hope you got the gist of what we hope to accomplish.

Essentially, the Virginia Citizens Defense League and the Johnstown Rifle and Pistol Club, with cooperation from many national and state gun-rights groups representing nearly two million voters, has submitted a Petition For Rule Making to officials of the Interior Department. This Petition is viewable online at http://www.vcdl.org/new/Petition_for_Rulemaking.pdf . Our goal is simple. We want Federal regulation 36CFR 2.4 to be amended to assimilate state laws regarding lawful concealed carry. Currently, if you possess a handgun it must be unloaded, rendered inoperable and locked inaccessible prior to entry of any taxpayer-owned Park Service property.

I complained about this restriction of my Constitutional rights to Congressman John Murtha last year and he completely agrees with our request and that the regulation should be amended. Our coalition has subsequently garnered the support of Senator Conrad Burns (Chair, Senate Interior Subcommittee), Senator George Allen, and Reps. Virgil Goode and Marilyn Musgrave. The Johnstown Rifle and Pistol Club has also submitted a resolution to the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs asking for that organization's intervention. The PFSC membership exceeds 340,000 members statewide. Unfortunately, officials at the Interior Department have refused to respond to either me or officials at the VCDL to date.

The NRA is also quietly working in the background to assist with this issue and increase Congressional support, and the July 2005 issue of Guns and Ammo magazine has printed an article in support as well. They, too, have found the Interior Department officials to be evasive on the issue.

I have enclosed for your review these documents: my original letter to Congressman Murtha and his reply, a copy of an editorial the Johnstown Tribune-Democrat printed in our support and the G&A article.

Our coalition would greatly appreciate it if Senator Santorum could contact Interior Secretary Norton and ask her to please respond to the VCDL Petition For Rule Making and do whatever he can to help us restore citizens' rights on National Park properties. We want this regulation to be amended to assimilate state laws regarding lawful concealed carry of

handguns for personal protection as they currently permit within the National Park system.

Thanks for your help with this matter. I can be contacted at any time for additional information or explanation.

Rick *****
Johnstown Rifle and Pistol Club