

DV entries are Mr. Verhey.
BH = Bighammer

12/06/06 @1530. Con-call with David Verhey, Acting Assistant Sec'y of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, with assistance from Darcie Brickner of Congressman Tom Davis's office.

Notes of the call transposed from my personal notes of the call.

Darcie calls, intros the call, we chat about Xmas, and DV gives the floor to me. We recap the call 2 weeks ago.

I cover dealing with Paul H., Jan. that we would proceed with the petition after November.

I cover that one of the major issues is the lack of posting (of the prohibition)... At the GW Parkway, you can enter, traverse, go through & past city of Alexandria, and beyond and never once see a sign that you are even on Park property. Now this isn't a major felony, but...could put your security clearance in jeoparBH.

The thrust of what I'd like to do is how can we help move this forward.

DV I've rec'd the barest of materials from NPS so far, read a portion of it, I'm always very candid, I promise I will review the full petition. I would best describe the situation as the train is on the tracks but we haven't arrived at the station yet. What I mean by that is that we are working the case and one of the things I need to do is understand what is requested, yours seems pretty clear from the petition, the 2nd thing is the various things it's going to affect. The third thing is have in depth discussions with law enforcement and find out what their specific concerns are. ...

So probably the best thing I can tell you is that it is an action item, now there's many things going on. No matter what, the petition has an appropriate and timely response and appropriate means not the passage of months and potentially years ...

I'm interested, engaged and moving forward.

BH: It's not a matter of months or years?

DV: I'm not going to promise but I'm a man of my word, but ... I don't think that we're talking a bunch of months.

BH: we don't want irresponsible firearms use, neither do you... we're only carving out defensive use, not recreational, hunting etc... That's why we were so specific in the petition.

DV: Ok, I understand that. ... did the petition include actual scenarios ...?

BH: I delivered some to Mr. Hoffman, but I can tell you that I have a substantial amount of morning reports.

There is another aspect of this, that HR218. and the regulation specifically prohibits off duty law enforcement....

DV: My best guess is that this is a matter of weeks not months.

BH: My friend from PA asks that we be a little more engaged in this...

DV : I wouldn't recommend a weekly call, but you're welcome to call us. I welcome your encouragement, and you're welcome to call at any time.

BH: I'd like to address the LE concerns that might arise.

DV: OK

...we're thinking about the mech. Of that. I have not gone far enough into the process whether or not there'd be public comment that would be contemplated, if that does end up being an approach that would be one avenue. At the end of the day we want to do what's right under the law and for the people of this country.

BH: Can you give me a broad strokes picture of the petition process.

DV: You're entitled to a timely answer or explanation, you haven't rec'd either. It's entirely in OUR court, it's nothing you've done. Everything has been fully briefed.

BH: It sounds like this is going forward, I don't know how many have called, one of the biggest concerns I have is the lack of boundary knowledge, posting. If you think this is going to be a contentious issue, then we would need to address this issue separately.

DV: Right, that's the concern that law abiding citizens want to be concerned with. I gotcha.

BH: Let's get back together then, say after the 1st of the year..

DV: oh indeed and feel free to call me in a couple weeks, and feel free to call in a couple of weeks.

Pleasantries exchanged, call ends.