Defending Your Right to Defend Yourself

Open carry is legal in Virginia in most places with or without a Concealed Handgun Permit (CHP).

Concealed carry requires, with a few exceptions, a CHP.

However, some restrictions may apply. See reverse.

Virginia Citizens Defense League, Inc.

PO Box 513 • Newington, VA 22122

804-639-0600 • 703-372-3285
757-271-3705 • 540-446-5783

vcdl.org

For free legislative updates: **vcdl.org/va-alert**

Effective: July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Places where carry is prohibited in Virginia

CC = concealed carry OC = open carry

- Federal facilities (buildings) (18 USC 930)
- Many federal agency lands (various federal regulations)
- National Forests: OC prohibited except where hunting is allowed (4VAC15-40-60)
- Virginia Executive Branch offices: OC (policy), CC (1VAC30-105)
- General Assembly Buildings except for CHP holders (Joint Rules Committee rule)
- In some localities, carry of certain firearms is prohibited (CHP holders exempt) (see link at bottom) (§18.2-287.4)
- Land owned or managed by the Dept of Game & Inland Fisheries: OC prohibited except where hunting is allowed (4VAC15-40-60)
- Buggs Island (4VAC15-40-140)
- Hog Island Wildlife Management Area (4VAC15-40-120)
- Most public colleges and universities (see link at bottom)
- Courthouses (§18.2-283.1)
- Detention Facilities (§15.2-915)
- K-12 school grounds (CHP holders exempted for CC <u>while in a vehicle</u>) (§18.2-308.1)
- K-12 school buses (§18.2-308.1)
- Property used exclusively for K-12 school-sponsored functions (§18.2-308.1)
- Air carrier airport terminal buildings (§18.2-287.01)
- Places of worship while a meeting for religious purposes is being held "without good and sufficient reason" (§18.2-283)
- Restaurants & clubs: CC prohibited while consuming alcoholic beverages (§18.2-308.012.B)
- Private property when prohibited by owner (§18.2-308.01.C & trespass violation)

For details & updates, see: vcdl.org/CarryInfo

GUNS SAVE LIVES

2.5 Million Defensive Uses Each Year

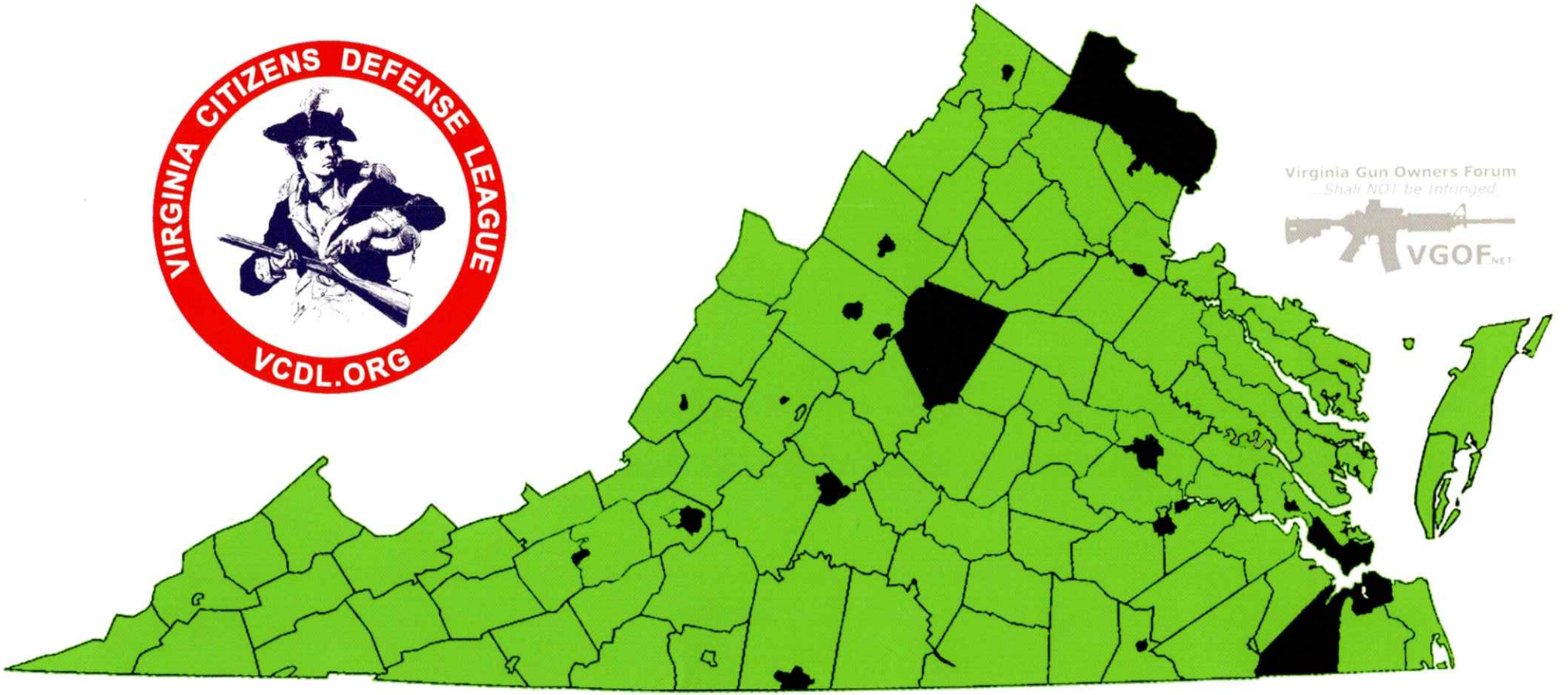
vcdl.org

Virginia Citizens Defense League, Inc • P.O. Box 513 - Newington, VA 22122 • (804) 639-0600

Mark Stern
2
1-25-20

Second Amendment Sanctuaries

01/08/2020 **[91 counties / 12 cities / 22 towns]**



94% of Virginia localities say

"No More Gun Control"

What is the Virginia Citizens Defense League?

The ***Virginia Citizens Defense League, Inc. (VCDL)*** is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots organization dedicated to advancing the fundamental right of all Virginians to keep and bear arms as guaranteed in the United States and Virginia Constitutions.

VCDL's Philosophy

VCDL believes that to win the fight to restore our Gun Rights, we have to:

- go on the offensive
- make use of the best lobbyist – you, the voter

VCDL rejects the approach of focusing on a defensive battle until "the time is right". Even if you win 95% of the defensive battles, you lose 5%. Over time, this defensive war of attrition slowly whittles away our Rights until we have none.

The time isn't going to magically become right to introduce pro-gun legislation. Instead, WE have to make the time right. And we do that by constantly pushing a pro-gun agenda – getting pro-gun legislation before the General Assembly, getting voters to contact their legislators, and hounding any locality that violates the law.

Even if we win only 5% of our pro-gun agenda each year, we are advancing our Rights each and every year, instead of losing them bit-by-bit.

VCDL doesn't have a paid lobbyist. Instead, we rely upon the voters in each legislative district to contact their legislators. Voters are very effective lobbyists to whom legislators do listen.

Stay informed on Gun Rights issues in Virginia

VCDL's FREE Internet mailing list, **VA-ALERT**, provides timely information about the current Virginia General Assembly session, local issues, and important federal alerts. It is not a discussion list and will not unnecessarily add to the amount of email you receive.

If you join VCDL and supply an email, you will be added to **VA-ALERT**. Or, you, your friends, and family may sign up for VCDL's free **VA-ALERT** at:

VCDL.org/VA-ALERT

A message from Philip Van Cleave, President

The **Virginia Citizens Defense League, Inc.** was originally founded in 1994 as the Northern Virginia Citizens Defense League (NVCDL).

Over the course of four years, the group grew from a handful of five activists to hundreds of members from across the Commonwealth of Virginia. NVCDL could no longer justify its regional focus and so in 1998, incorporated as a new, statewide organization known as VCDL.

Today, VCDL is the most aggressive gun rights organization in Virginia with thousands of members. Politicians routinely monitor our web site in hopes of anticipating our next move. Our monthly meetings, newsletter, and email alerts, assure that all members are kept informed of the latest issues regarding individual liberty.

VCDL serves as a watchdog and whistle-blower, making sure that the government doesn't unlawfully restrict your right to defend yourself and your family. From illegal 'no guns' signs to activist judges not following the law when issuing concealed handgun permits, VCDL will bring pressure to bear to correct the problem.

Action is what VCDL is about!

Join us in the fight for YOUR freedom!

Virginia Citizens Defense League, Inc.

VCDL

Virginia's Premier Grassroots Gun Rights Organization!

Affiliated with the Civilian Marksmanship Program

CMP
Civilian Marksmanship Program

P.O. Box 513
Newington, VA 22122

804-639-0600 • 703-372-3285
757-271-3705 • 540-446-5783

membership@VCDL.org

Tear along dotted line

VCDL.org
Join or Donate TODAY!

☐ Join or Renew (membership#_____)
☐ **PAC Contributor** (Information in **CAPS** required)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP:_____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

EMPLOYER: _____

CITY AND STATE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

_____

Date:	
Join VCDL ($25 annual)	$
VCDL Contribution:	$
VCDL-PAC Contribution:	$
Total Enclosed:	$

Method of payment

_____ Cash (Do not send cash through the mail.)
_____ Check (Make payable to **VCDL**)
_____ Charge/Debit: _____ MasterCard _____ Visa

_____
Credit Card Number (contact email / phone must be provided for credit card sales)

Expiration Date: _____

_____
Name as it appears on the card (please print legibly)

_____
Signature of Card Holder

Make checks payable to "VCDL" and mail to:

VCDL Membership Processing Center
P.O. Box 5752
Fredericksburg, VA 22403

Contributions, gifts, or membership dues are not deductible for Federal income tax purposes. (rev. 9/16 – Q27)

Show ID / Date / Volunteer Member #

VCDL-Political Action Committee (PAC)

As a separate tax entity, the VCDL-PAC receives no money from VCDL and runs solely on your generosity. For this reason contributions are needed for both organizations! Unlike VCDL, the VCDL-PAC can actively work to elect politicians at the state and local level who support your Right to Keep and Bear Arms.

All VCDL-PAC contributions must contain the information identified in all CAPS and CANNOT be accepted without these details. We will not share your information except as required by law.

VCDL Accomplishments

The ONLY organization to get pro-gun bills introduced in every legislative session since 1997 while actively blocking attempts by others to restrict your rights. Here are some of the highlights:

2016

- Instrumental in getting a new law that will also expand the number of states that honor Virginia permits
- Successfully killed the Attorney General's attempt to reduce reciprocity by almost 84%
- Second ID requirement and the proof of citizenship requirements removed for gun purchases
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2015

- Successfully lobbied the General Assembly to pass a bill to provide protections to someone who inadvertently carries on K-12 school property
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2014

- Successfully lobbied the General Assembly to pass a bill clarifying existing law that a CHP is not needed when transporting a loaded handgun in a closed glove box, console or other closed compartment or container. The bill was vetoed by Governor McAuliffe
- Protested Stafford County Sheriff Jett's attempt to keep VCDL from having a booth at a National Night Out event
- Helped stop the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors from enacting hunting and shooting restrictions
- Compelled Roanoke City to remove two illegal "no guns" signs
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2013

- Seven pro-gun bills passed, the most important of which protected CHP holder information from public access
- Helped defeat a proposed BATFE rule that would make it harder to get NFA items
- Got a Writ of Mandamus issued against the Petersburg City Court Clerk and forced her to follow the law by 1) issuing permits through the mail and 2) only charging $50
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2012

- Repealed the local fingerprint requirement for all CHP applicants
- Prevented localities from banning firearms in personal vehicles while at work
- Prevented localities from requiring extraneous info on CHP applications
- Prevented gun bans during a declared state of emergency
- Repealed Virginia's One Handgun a Month rationing scheme
- CHP added to the voter ID list for elections
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2011

- Improved the issuance of new, renewal, and replacement CHPs
- Legalized discharge of air guns on private property in all localities as long as reasonable care is taken to keep the projectile on the property
- Spoke at Freedom of Information Act Council meeting in Richmond in favor of protecting CHP holder information from dissemination
- Successfully fought off attempts by the Sussex Planning Commission to severely restrict ranges in Sussex County
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

For a more complete list see:
VCDL.org/Accomplishments

Benefits of Membership

Making a Difference You can be a member of Virginia's premier grassroots 2nd Amendment organization. You will be kept informed on the Right to Keep and Bear Arms in Virginia, and provided the tools to intelligently communicate with your Delegate or State Senator.

Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) VCDL is affiliated with the CMP making you eligible to purchase surplus firearms and ammunition from the U.S. government. Visit thecmp.org.

The Defender Our newsletter is published as needed and mailed to members, with special legislative alerts that keep you up to date on what VCDL members are doing throughout Virginia to fight for our Right to Keep and Bear Arms. It contains information and articles not included in the emailed VA-ALERTS.

Discounts VCDL members receive discounts at a variety of stores and businesses. A list can be found on the website at VCDL.org/Discounts.

Get VCDL's bumper sticker with a 100% positive pro-gun message. The Guns Save Lives bumper stickers are available for $1.00 each to cover postage and handling ***OR*** just send us a SASE (#10/business size) to the address on the bottom of the attached membership form to get it for ***FREE!***

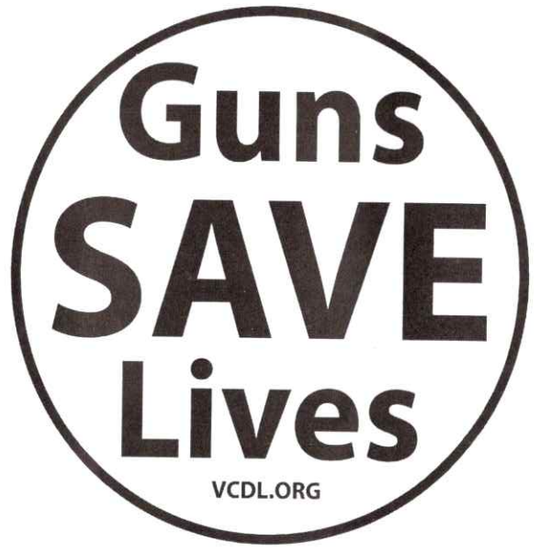
VCDL maintains a web site to keep members and other interested parties informed of the latest developments in Virginia regarding our Right to Keep and Bear Arms.

Visit: **VCDL.org**

Because we know that with

2.5 MILLION

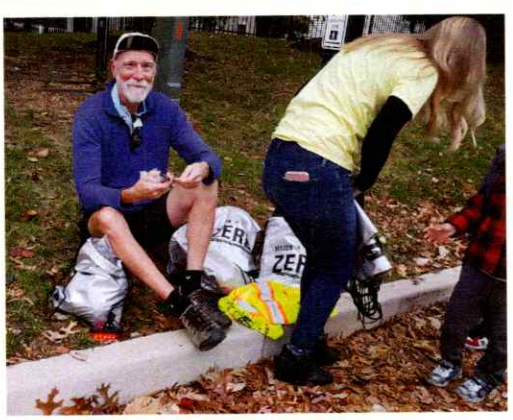
defensive uses of a firearm in this country every year:



Get the word out!

Buy / Use / Wear VCDL gear!
Go to VCDL.org and click on 'VCDL Gear'

PARTNERS



- City of Alexandria Transportation and Environmental Services Department (T&ES)
- City of Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)
- Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS)
- Alexandria Police Department (APD)
- Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee
- DC Bicycle Advisory Council

- Charles Barrett Elementary School Parent Teacher Association
- Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology Parent Teacher Association
- Douglas MacArthur Elementary School Parent Teacher Association
- James K. Polk Elementary School Parent Teacher Association
- Matthew Maury Elementary School Parent Teacher Association
- Mount Vernon Community School Parent Teacher Association
- Samuel Tucker Elementary School Parent Teacher Association
- St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School Fifth Grade Girl Scouts
- Townes at Cameron Parke Homeowners Association

- Conte's Bike Shop
- Phoenix Bikes
- Spokes, Etc. Bicycles
- VéloCity Bicycle Cooperative

- Affordable Housing Development Corporation
- Alexandria Families for Safe Streets
- Alexandria Spokeswomen
- AlexRenew & RiverRenew
- Casa Chirilagua
- Community Lodgings
- Coalition for Smarter Growth
- Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling
- Four Mile Run Conservatory
- Friends of the Mount Vernon Trail
- Washington Area Bicyclist Association

BUILT INTERNAL CAPACITY

- Became a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization with a diverse board.
- Increased the number of BPAC members by 43% (to 33 active volunteers).

PROMOTED INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER CHANGES

- Advocated for expeditious implementation of Safe Routes to School Walk audit recommendations, which led to design of interim curb extensions.
- Partnered with others in the region to recommend safety improvements on the George Washington Memorial Parkway.
- Measured over 21 miles of trails and shared use paths in Alexandria.

EDUCATION

- Published letters to the editor to help Alexandria residents understand the benefits of proven infrastructure measures.

ADVOCACY

- Led successful advocacy efforts to increase Leading Pedestrian Interval installations, which reduce risk to people walking by up to 60%.
- Advocated for the safety of people who walk as an objective for the City's scooter pilot program.
- Helped Seminary Hill residents collect over 1,200 Alexandrians' signatures for a safer Seminary Road.

PROMOTED WALKING AND BIKING ACROSS ALEXANDRIA AND THE REGION

- Piloted a Community Partners Program that provided 45 low-income residents with Capital Bikeshare memberships.
- Initiated a Bike Mentoring program that helped 35 people become bike commuters or learn where they can ride with their families.
- Conducted a regional Bicycling Summit with partners in Arlington and Washington, D.C. to address cross-jurisdictional issues.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Provided walking and biking information at City- and community-sponsored events, including Operation Illumination, Bike to Work Day, Earth Day, Metro Shutdown Open House, Del Ray's Well Ray festival, and Senior Services' Senior Health and Fitness Fair.

THEMED RIDES

- Organized eight themed bike rides, including our first African-American History ride, a Murals ride, and a Waterways ride.

PROMOTED WALKING AND BIKING AMONG ALEXANDRIA YOUTH

- Promoted Walk to School and Bike to School events.
- Helped develop ACPS' Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program Plan.
- Helped expand ACPS' SRTS programs to include the "Port City Alexandria Pedestrian" curriculum for 2nd grade students.
- Provided a $3,000 grant to ACPS' SRTS program, from the I-395 Community Grant Program administered by Transurban.

BIKES IN THE SCHOOLS

- Contributed over 200 volunteer hours to ACPS walking and biking programs, including assisting PE teachers who taught bicycle safety to more than 1,800 students.
- Coordinated a Bike Giveaway program for more than 40 ACPS students who completed ACPS bicycle safety and skill classes.

BIKE RODEOS

- Conducted eight bike rodeos, fun-filled events that provided more than 330 youth with bike riding safety and skill lessons.
- Helped prepare two Traffic Gardens, miniature towns with small-sized streets where children learn about roadways and safety.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

200

PROMOTED WALKING AND BIKING AMONG ALEXANDRIA YOUTH

Contributed over 200 volunteer hours to ACPS walking and biking programs, including assisting PE teachers who taught bicycle safety to more than 1,800 students.

45

PROMOTED WALKING AND BIKING ACROSS ALEXANDRIA AND THE REGION

Piloted a Community Partners Program that provided 45 low-income residents with Capital Bikeshare memberships.

1,200

PROMOTED INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER CHANGES

Helped Seminary Hill residents collect over 1,200 Alexandrians' signatures for a safer Seminary Road.

501 (C)(3)

BUILT INTERNAL CAPACITY

Became a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization with a diverse board.

WHO WE ARE

The Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization that promotes walking and biking, and infrastructure and policy changes that create a safe, accessible, and livable city for all. EIN 83-4483835.

We welcome and encourage participation in our activities. Please attend one of our monthly meetings, like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, join our Google Group, or contact us at alexandriabpac@gmail.com.

OUR VISION

The City of Alexandria has a safe and connected network of streets, trails, and related facilities that are filled with people walking and biking.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- We believe that to create inclusive and safe active transportation, we must be honest, strategic, thoughtful, and respectful of all people in Alexandria.
- We believe in proven, fact-based solutions that enable all people to walk and bike safely.
- We believe that walking and biking are enjoyable, practical, and healthy modes of transportation and recreation that result in a more livable community.
- We believe that to effect change city-wide, we must diversify our membership and create opportunities for members to meaningfully engage in our work.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

ALEXANDRIA BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PROMOTING A SAFE, ACCESSIBLE, AND EQUITABLE CITY FOR ALL

More broadly, I want to thank the 30 government, non-profit and other organizations, listed on the back page of our report, and the many more individuals that we have worked with in 2019, for their tireless efforts. Together we make a difference.

Looking ahead, we ask for your advice and feedback on new challenge areas and/or new partnerships that we might pursue in 2020 and beyond.

We also ask that you continue to strongly support both policies and infrastructure investments that make Alexandria a welcoming place for people of all ages and abilities to walk and bike.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jim Durham,

Chair, Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

2
1-25-20

January 25, 2020

Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennet Parker and City Council members,

My name is Jim Durham, Chair of the Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). I live on Fort Williams Pkwy in Alexandria.

2019 was our first year as a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization. I am here to share our first Annual Report with highlights of our efforts promoting walking and biking.

We are 35 volunteers actively engaged in activities that promote walking and biking; volunteering is a necessary step to becoming a BPAC member.

We are particularly proud of our Youth Program. 2019 marked the culmination of a four-year effort to establish strong Safe Routes to School programs in every ACPS elementary and middle school. Starting with pilot efforts in just two schools in 2016, we partnered with Alexandria Public Schools, school administrtors and teachers, PTAs and Alexandria police establish strong SRTS program at 16 schools 16 schools in 2019-2020. The SRTS program includes movement-based pedestrian safety classes for 2nd grade students and Bicycling in the Schools classes for 3rd grade students. In 2019, BPAC contributed over 200 volunteer hours to these programs, including assisting ACPS PE teachers who taught bicycle safety to more than 1,800 students.

Within our Adult program, BPAC piloted a Bikeshare community partners program that provided 45 low-income residents with Capital Bikeshare memberships. We partnered with Four Mile Run Conservatory to apply for a grant that enabled us to establish partnerships with organizations interested in offering subsidized bike share memberships to their communities. We want to thank Casa Chirilagua, Community Lodgings, the Alexandria's Department of Community and Human Services, and the Alexandria Housing Development Corporation (AHDC) for partnering with us so we could provide training, helmets and Bikeshare memberships to interested members of their communities.

Justin Carl, RiverRenew Program Advisor, said that based on the archaeological study, there are no recorded resources in the proposed Outfall 001 construction staging area. Monitoring will be conducted during construction to mitigate for any unrecorded archaeological resources.

Ms. Whitlatch asked if the monitoring included in the easements along the Waterfront Tunnel alignment will be permanent.

Mr. Carl explained that the monitoring is temporary for during construction.

Kathy Dismukes asked if the costs associated with obtaining the easements were factored into the current capital cost estimate for the Program.

Mr. Carl confirmed that current capital costs for the Program include easement costs.

Erik Olson asked if there would be on-site treatment for groundwater at the construction sites.

Mr. Carl confirmed that there would be on-site water treatment.

Ron LaFond asked how air quality will be monitored at construction sites.

Amber Ahles, RiverRenew Environmental Specialist, explained that on-site continuous air monitoring systems in accordance with City regulations would be installed.

Mr. Hillner asked if there was a plan should any road damage occur from construction vehicles.

Mr. Carl explained that damage to roads from construction vehicles is not anticipated as the roads are designed for truck loads. RiverRenew will coordinate with the City to make any repairs, if needed.

Mr. Olson asked how frequently the excavated soil will be tested.

Ms. Ahles indicated the excavated soil will be tested based on the standards and requirements set by the landfill that will receive the material. As excavation approaches the area impacted by lead, more frequent testing will occur.

Ms. Dismukes asked if there was a plan in place for emergencies at construction sites.

Mr. Carl indicated the design-builder is responsible to develop site specific health and safety plans.

Ms. Whitlatch asked if the noise on construction sites would be detrimental to the community.

Mr. Carl explained that noise will be continuously monitored throughout construction to maintain levels within limitations established by the City of Alexandria. In addition, a noise and vibrations special will be required at each construction site to monitor levels and adjust activities as necessary.

Other discussion points:

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.
This is the final meeting for this RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group. A new Stakeholder Advisory Group will be formed during the construction phase of the Program.

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This group presumably would operate similarly to the advisory group AlexRenew created and ran during the tunnel-route selection process. According to advisory group members I have spoken with, the group did not provide meaningful input to AlexRenew; rather they felt their primary purpose was to be cheerleaders for the tunnel.

In effect, AlexRenew, which is playing a role comparable to a property developer, such as EYA, has proposed to create a citizen group it would control, to monitor tunnel construction activities. That would comparable to asking the fox to guard the hen house. We know what happens to the chickens in such a situation.

Council should not let that happen! Instead, Council should expand the Ad Hoc Group's responsibilities to include monitoring all impacts of the tunnel project on the waterfront and its residents and businesses. The members of the Ad Hoc group know what issues will arise and how they should be resolved.

In order to be effective and credible, any group monitoring the tunnel project must be completely independent of Alex Renew. Please make that happen!

Thank you for your time today – I welcome your questions.

2
1-25-20

A statement by Bert Ely to the Alexandria City Council regarding the sewer-tunnel project

January 25, 2020

Mr. Mayor and members of Council, I am Bert Ely and I live at 200 South Pitt. Although I am a member of the City's Ad Hoc Monitoring Group for Waterfront Construction, I am speaking to you only for myself and not on behalf of any other member of the Monitoring Group or any organization.

As you know, the Ad Hoc group has provided valuable public input into the various development projects along the waterfront, notably the construction of the Hotel Indigo and Robinson Landing.

The Group's members, through their monthly meetings and frequent email exchanges and conversations, have heard the concerns and complaints of nearby residents and businesses about these projects and have tried to help resolve the inevitable frictions that arise when large-scale construction activities take place within a densely populated community.

The group has not always been successful, especially with regard solving the ongoing problem of construction-worker parking violations, but I believe the city and its residents have benefited from the Monitoring Group's activities. I hope you agree.

Although redevelopment of Robinson Terminal North has been stalled, we have monitored conditions there, too, especially the concerns of nearby residents about the deterioration of the buildings there and development plans for the property, which currently are stalled.

Although not anticipated when the Monitoring Group was formed, another major waterfront project is in the offing – the sewer-tunnel. While the tunnel will run under the river bed, it will have major landside effects that could create even more problems along the waterfront, notably the construction of two sewer diversion facilities, at the bottom of Pendleton Street and at the south end of South Royal.

The construction impacts on nearby residents and businesses will be the same – heavy truck traffic, construction worker parking violations, dirt, noise, rodents, and other issues related to all major construction projects. Additionally, while we hope the actual tunneling will not create any problems above ground, that is not an absolute certainty.

Perhaps anticipating that problems will arise, AlexRenew has proposed creating a new stakeholder advisory group that "will be formed during the construction phase of the [tunnel project]" – please see the attached page.

https://www.alexandriava.gov/tes/info/default.aspx?id=103393

Project Goals and Objectives

The goals of the Seminary Road Complete Streets project are to:

- Improve safety and accessibility for all users
- Improve facilities for people who walk, bike, ride transit or drive cars
- Implement previously adopted plans, policies, and study recommendations

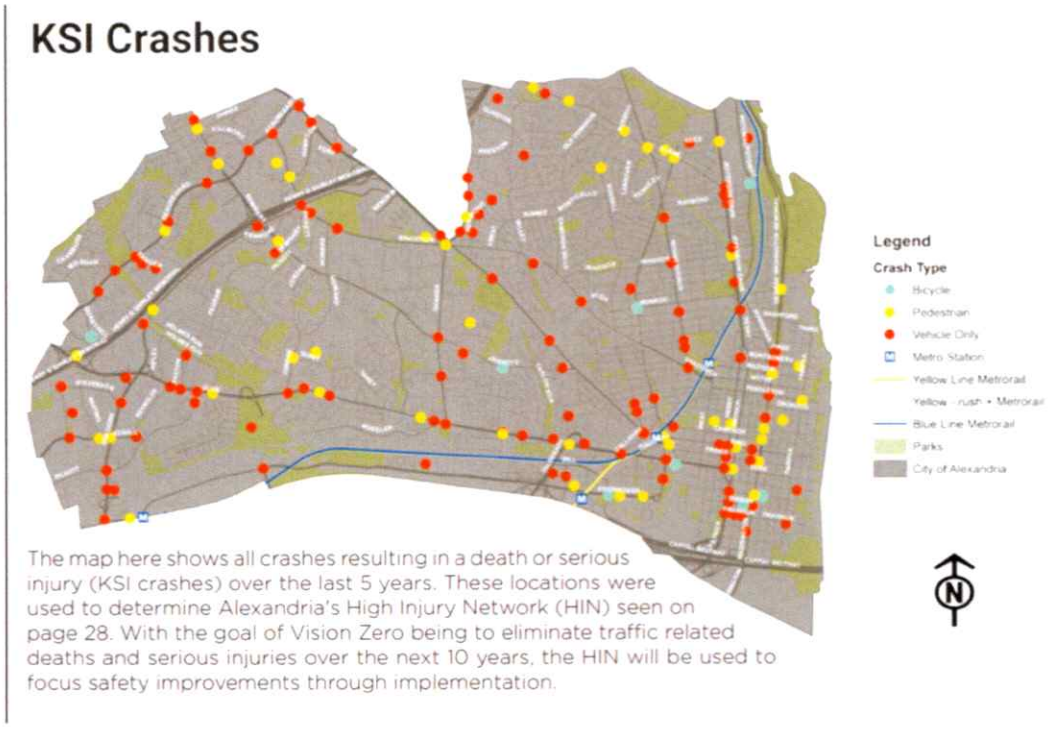
Objectives:

- Eliminate serious injuries and fatalities on the corridor
- Improve safety and accessibility for all roadway users by upgrading curb ramps and sidewalks
- Provide continuous, safe, and comfortable places for people to walk
- Introduce safer pedestrian crossings for residents, transit users, and all others walking the corridor
- Where excess roadway capacity exists, identify ways to meet the goals set forth in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan, Vision Zero Plan, Transportation Master Plan, Environmental Action Plan, and the Central Alexandria Traffic Study
- Serve vehicle traffic with a roadway design that minimizes delay at intersections, and encourages speed limit compliance.

Thanks for the info Yon. I have one follow up question - which might be the source of people's agitation. The linked power-point summary has this line in it:

Data analysis conducted through the Vision Zero Action Plan also showed that Seminary Road was a corridor with a high number of KSI (killed or seriously injured) crashes.

There is a link in that line that points to the Vision Zero Action Plan which has this slide:



The slide shows that Seminary is not "a corridor with a high number of KSI", but rather Seminary by the hospital and west of 395 is a *section* with high KSI. The character of that section of Seminary and the rest (from the hospital East) are completely different and the data is significantly different as well (with the only KSI incident at the intersection with Quaker).

What I've heard from people is that this mis-characterization which could give the city reason to change the layout of Seminary is a main cause of angst. Would it be possible to have T&ES take a more nuanced look at Seminary Road and perhaps make a summary statement that more accurately reflects the reality?

Thanks,

Mark

[Quoted text hidden]

Gmail

Mark Shiffer <mshiffer@gmail.com>

RE: Special Meeting of the Seminary Hill Assn.

Yon Lambert <Yon.Lambert@alexandriava.gov> Sun, Aug 12, 2018 at 12:49 PM
To: Mark Shiffer <mshiffer@gmail.com>
Cc: "Nrjennings@comcast.net" <Nrjennings@comcast.net>, City Council <CityCouncil@alexandriava.gov>, City Council Aides <CityCouncilAides@alexandriava.gov>, Mark Jinks <Mark.Jinks@alexandriava.gov>, Emily Baker <Emily.Baker@alexandriava.gov>, Jack Sullivan <jack.sullivan9@verizon.net>, "Flemming, Carter" <carterflemming@gmail.com>, ", Doug Craig" <dcraig48@comcast.net>, Jill Hoffman <jilldc77@gmail.com>, "dkuhns10@gmail.com" <dkuhns10@gmail.com>, "dawson.inc@comcast.net" <dawson.inc@comcast.net>, Hillary Orr <Hillary.Orr@alexandriava.gov>, Darren Buck <Darren.Buck@alexandriava.gov>

Dear Mr. Shiffer,

Thank you for your follow up question. Our Vision Zero Action Plan identified Seminary Road as part of a high-KSI crash network. And while there have been a number of crashes along the corridor, it is correct that few on the eastern part of the corridor have resulted in serious injury. It is important to note, however, that existing KSI data was not the sole criteria for determining focus corridors. We conducted a robust public outreach campaign to gather feedback on where safety problems may exist within the City that may not reveal themselves in the data. And we received a number of public comments about perceptions of safety along Seminary Road - about the speeds, the lack of safe crossings for the half-mile between Quaker Lane and St. Stephen's Road, and a mismatch between the street design and the residential neighborhood character.

Safety isn't solely a problem where many crashes occur. Safety is also a problem where people choose to drive across the street because of a lack of safe crossing opportunities or a missing sidewalk, and our Vision Zero Action Plan would have been significantly compromised if we relied solely on data, and did not also listen to people telling us of perceived safety issues and potentially foreseeable problems.

Thank you,

Yon

Yon Lambert, AICP | Director, Dept. of Transportation & Environmental Services

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From: Mark Shiffer [mailto:mshiffer@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 6, 2018 7:05 PM
To: Yon Lambert <Yon.Lambert@alexandriava.gov>
Cc: Nrjennings@comcast.net; City Council <CityCouncil@alexandriava.gov>; City Council Aides <CityCouncilAides@alexandriava.gov>; Mark Jinks <Mark.Jinks@alexandriava.gov>; Emily Baker <Emily.Baker@alexandriava.gov>; Jack Sullivan <jack.sullivan9@verizon.net>; Flemming, Carter <carterflemming@gmail.com>; , Doug Craig <dcraig48@comcast.net>; CCPCA Events Listserv <ccpca_events@googlegroups.com>; Jill Hoffman <jilldc77@gmail.com>; dkuhns10@gmail.com; dawson.inc@comcast.net
Subject: Re: Special Meeting of the Seminary Hill Assn.

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HIGH KSI CRASH NETWORK

The data showed the most damaging crashes were geographically distributed throughout the whole of Alexandria. However, Old Town, the West End, and Fairlington have a high density of KSI crashes compared to other areas. At the street level, traffic corridors that have higher numbers of KSI crashes include Duke Street, George Washington Parkway, West Glebe Road, and Jefferson Davis Highway. Higher speed crashes occur throughout the City, though the West End has a higher rate of speed-involved crashes that resulted in a death or serious injury. This geographic distribution has resulted in the High KSI crash network seen below.

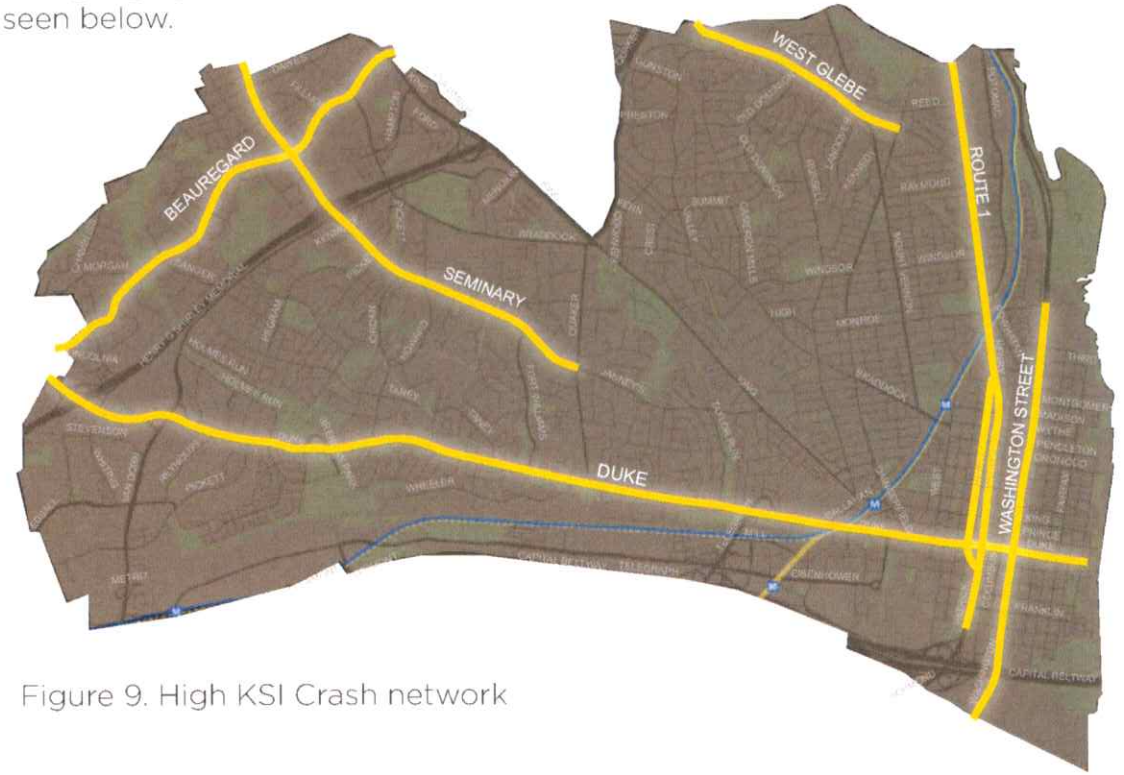
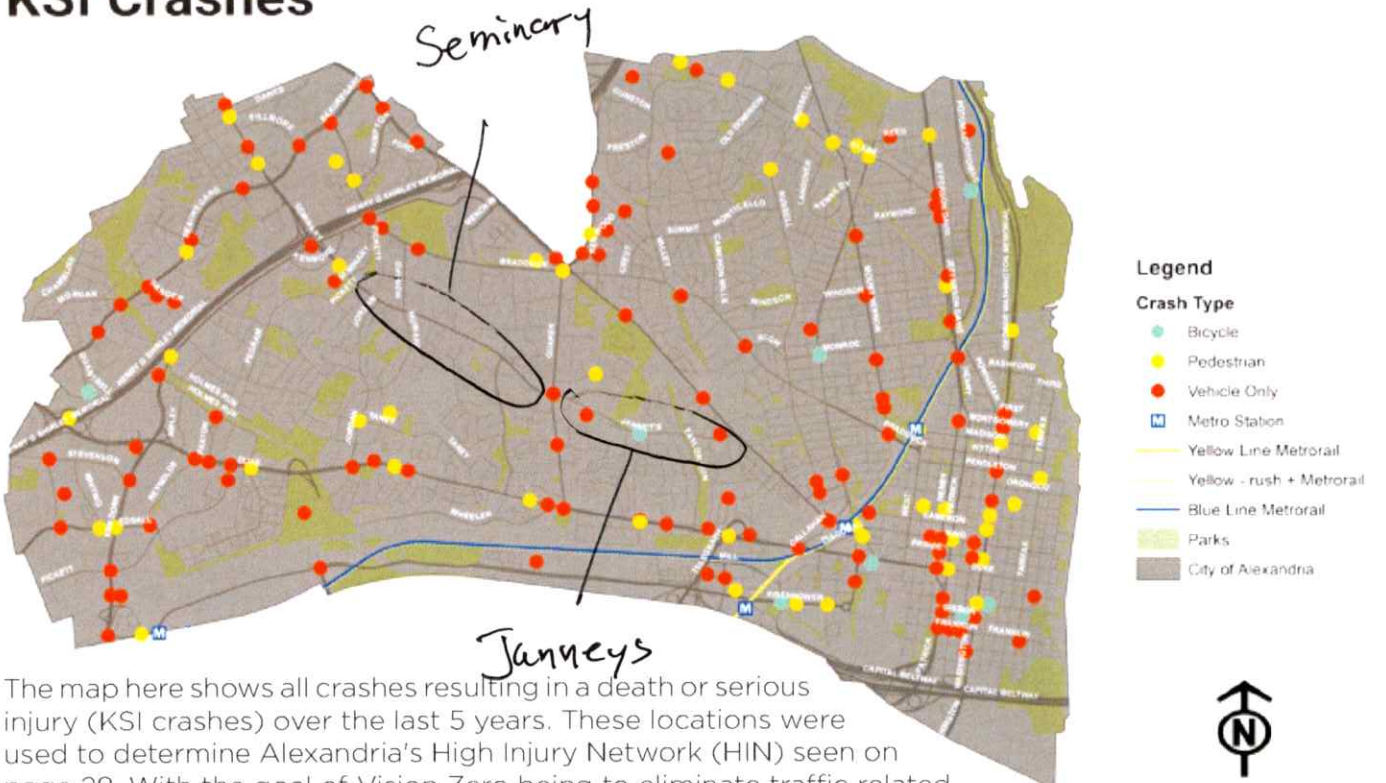


Figure 9. High KSI Crash network

2 CRASH LOCATIONS

One key component of traffic safety is the perception of safety in the street. This has an effect on the public's confidence to use alternate modes of transportation like walking, biking, or transit to reach their destinations. The following maps show the reported issues of people walking (pedestrians), people biking (bicyclists), and people driving (vehicle only) compared to actual crashes over the last 5 years. The areas in which there are more comments than actual crashes will require further examination to determine the nature and cause of these comments as well as potential actions that would improve safety. For a more detailed view of high-crash locations visit the Vision Zero Dashboard.

KSI Crashes



The map here shows all crashes resulting in a death or serious injury (KSI crashes) over the last 5 years. These locations were used to determine Alexandria's High Injury Network (HIN) seen on page 28. With the goal of Vision Zero being to eliminate traffic related deaths and serious injuries over the next 10 years, the HIN will be used to focus safety improvements through implementation.

Mark Shaffer 2
1-25-20

Seminary Road
Complete Streets Project

Phase 1 - Public Comment Summary

Introduction and Purpose

Seminary Road was identified in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Chapter of the Transportation Master Plan for potential improvements to ensure the safety, mobility, and accessibility for all roadway users. Data analysis conducted through the Vision Zero Action Plan also showed that Seminary Road was a corridor with a high number of KSI (killed or seriously injured) crashes. False

Since the reduction of the speed limit on Seminary (from Quaker to Library Lanes) in 2016, data has shown that crashes have been reduced. However, to sustain this benefit, the roadway design must reflect the posted speed limit as well as encourage and better accommodate people walking, biking, driving, and riding transit.

Nonsensical Conclusion

Project Process

The project will have a roughly six-month process. As shown in the diagram below, the process began with an information gathering and data analysis phase, during which the City has held several input opportunities for interested members of the public. The second phase will feature development of potential design concepts, and drafting of recommendations with opportunities for the public to provide input. This will follow with the selection and design of a concept to be presented to the public later in the summer or early Fall 2018. Final design and implementation will follow to enable paving to move forward and short-term recommendations to be implemented.

Outreach efforts

Public input has been gathered from a variety of sources, which are described below, but also presented in Appendix A. Comments and feedback received about Seminary Road through all of these efforts are being considered and used as part of this Complete Streets project process.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Chapter of the Transportation Master Plan

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Chapter of the Transportation Master Plan (Ped/Bike Master Plan) was updated starting in 2014 and adopted by Council in 2016. As part of this outreach process,

The Hold My Guns Story

The suicide of a family friend was the catalyst for founding Hold My Guns (HMG). She was 18.

After her death, heartbroken friends and family asked me, a youth rifle league volunteer instructor and certified Range Safety Officer (RSO), what can be done to help support gun owners and their family members during acute bouts of depression. Over half of the suicides in the United States utilize a firearm. Taking a break from firearms during a mental health crisis seems wise, yet it's not as simple as it sounds.

It was important to me that the solution was not only a practical option, but also **one that protected the individual's Second Amendment rights**. In that vein, the solution needed to be **voluntary**, and one that empowered people to seek the help they needed before private situations escalated into public ones.

Envisioning a storage and educational program that can be offered with uniformity in gun shops across the U.S., I reached to my friend, Genevieve Jones. Genevieve is a fellow RSO and instructor, helps to run The Gun Collective, and is an advocate for mental health awareness. Together, Genevieve and I began to present the idea for HMG to members of the gun community, locally and online, and were amazed at the support we received. Even more amazing, when we discussed the concept with people in the mental health community, we found the same encouragement and support.

With all this support behind us, we started a fundraising effort to create the legal organization and raised over $5,000 in donations. We used this seed funding to form a non-profit, and cover the legal review for our policies and procedures. With our legal team, led by Joshua Prince, we worked diligently to develop a process that will allow people from all over the country to manage their personal crises while also preserve their freedoms.

This project has grown quickly through the support and encouragement we've received from so many friends in the firearms industry. Thank you for being part of our team!

How Does it Work?

Individuals looking to store their firearms and ammunition may find HMG Storage Partner locations through the Hold My Guns referral service website, as well as through local community resources.

The storage transaction is conducted with the same professionalism as any other transaction. It is *never* assumed that the gun owner is struggling with a mental health crisis. It may be that they are choosing to store their firearm to prevent access by another member of their household or theft while away on vacation or deployment. Regardless of the reason, off-site storage provides a voluntary, non-legislative answer to help prevent suicide, accidental shootings, and theft.

The owner of the firearm fills out a waiver of liability as well as a storage agreement. This agreement, following consignment regulations, includes a description of the firearm. As with all gun shop transactions, the confidentiality of the information is ensured by the FFL. While the firearm is possessed by the FFL, ownership is not transferred. When the owner comes to retrieve their firearm, the FFL verifies their identity with their state-issued ID. Once the requisite paperwork is complete and the background check is performed to confirm that they are lawfully allowed to repossess the firearm, the firearm is returned to its owner.

"A voluntary, non-legislative answer to help prevent suicide, accidental shootings, and theft."

Sarah Joy Albrecht Genevieve Jones

Community and Education

HMG Storage Partners have a unique opportunity to position themselves as a trusted community resource that cares about the safety and protection of their customers. By offering storage services for customers experiencing a mental health crisis or other personal need, they demonstrate that **there is no division between freedom, safety, and compassion**.

Furthermore, partnering gun shops will be provided opportunities to offer educational classes and events. These programs will include topics such as firearms safety, gunshot wound first aid, mental health awareness, re-acclimating after military service, financial repair classes, job fairs, and weekly group support for first responders and families with loved ones who are deployed. Becoming a hub for community resources, HMG Storage Partners will enjoy increased foot traffic, customer retention, and recognition for embodying a mature, responsible, liberty-based lifestyle.

Get Involved

Hold My Guns' time has come. Instead of merely reacting to legislators, media, and anti-rights groups, **we have an opportunity to proactively address the prevention of suicide, accidental shootings, and theft practically and on our own terms**.

With your tax-deductible donation to Hold My Guns, you can help sponsor:

- Hold My Guns awareness campaigns to educate individuals and boost public awareness about suicide prevention and benefits of off-site storage.
- Educational programs to be offered through HMG Storage Partners.
- Business improvement opportunities to partnering gun shops such as grants towards larger firearms storage safes or classroom remodeling.

In addition, contact us if you are interested in signing on as an HMG Storage Partner.

Words from Our Supporters

"Suicide is a demon that plagues our military and I have stared it in the face myself on several occasions. I am a Marine combat veteran and have lost friends to suicide. I know a huge role in someone not getting help is a fear of losing their guns. I wished this organization had been around 5 years ago for a good friend of mine and then maybe he would not have lost his right to own a gun. Now that he has gotten the help that he needed he is unfortunately left with no firearm for self-protection." - **Tim Kelly, Owner of Apache Solutions LLC, FFL Owner**

"As a mental health provider, I feel that any initiative that will allow patients to have friends, family, or an FFL to hold onto guns during times of crisis would be life-saving. Many patients have acute suicidal ideation and are high-risk, but can improve with treatment and return to their normal functioning. These patients might be reluctant to give up their firearms to those they do not trust due to their identity or their careers. I have treated veterans and law-enforcement officers in this situation. Offering these folks a safe option and removing the stigma of seeking help will save lives." - **Psychiatrist**

"Hold My Guns is doing work that should have been done long ago. Years back, I was unexpectedly fired from my job. Because I had dealt with depression in the past, I had the foresight to call my buddy and have him hold on to my guns until I had a clearer mind and a better read on the situation I was in. Some people don't have that ability, whether because of lack of social support, or because their local laws simply do not allow it. Giving people (and their friends, family, and healthcare providers) an option to handle their firearms during a time of crisis that leaves them in control can remove a huge barrier to getting the help that they need, without having the fear of not being able to get their firearms back." - **Spencer P.**

"Let's take care of our community and make programs like Hold My Guns available for those in need." - **Chad Haymon, PrizeGunner.com, FFL Owner**

HMG Board

Sarah Joy Albrecht - Founder, President

Genevieve Jones - Co-founder, Vice President

Kent Hower - Treasurer

Matthew Blank

Timothy Knight

Jeff Edwards

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HOLD MY GUNS

FREEDOM • SAFETY • COMPASSION

Hold My Guns' mission is to connect responsible firearm owners with voluntary, private off-site storage options, through our national network of partnering gun shops and FFLs, during times of mental health crisis or personal need.

To be human is to go through ups-and-downs in life. We believe that times of hardship should be met with an outpouring of compassion and camaraderie, not fear-mongering and abrogation of constitutional rights.

Hold My Guns