



# G.C.L.A. NEWS

The Newsletter of the Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance

April - June 2019

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Steve Marx  
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John Zeman  
Secretary

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Gene Dultz  
Newsletter Chairman

Member's meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM at the American Legion Post (Goff Moll) #101 2721 Collier Ave. Brentwood, MO just west of the Schnucks Store at the intersection of Brentwood Blvd and Manchester Rd. (see map on page 7)

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## President's Corner

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The 2019 Gun Rights Rally is history. Tuesday April 16th was the day to be in the capitol rotunda in Jefferson City. There was a good crowd of over 120 gathered, to help make a difference in this year's legislation for our gun rights.

GCLA had a table passing out "Guns Save Lives" buttons, "NRA MOM" buttons and fresh printouts of bills that deserve passing. Chris Brown put together the printout which contained two House bills, HB641 & HB643, for support of concealed carry on public transportation, and Senate bill SB039 for the same.

Representative Ron Hicks, Representative Adam Schnelting and Senator Bob Onder deserve a load shout out for supporting our gun rights here in Missouri. With these bills is Campus Carry Bill HB575, sponsored by Representative Dean Dohrman, which passed the House on April 2nd. We need to tell our Senators to get behind the House bill and get it passed.

The main element to all these bills is the language, "CCW Holders only"! This is the only way these have a chance of passing both chambers and being signed into law.

The lineup of speakers at the rally was inspiring. What impressed me most was the lineup of Senators and Representatives that took time to address the large group. It's certainly gratifying that to know we are an important factor in good legislation getting passed.

It was nice to once again meet members of our sister groups from over the state. A real treat to once again to meet Shelia, a past president of WMSA from the Kansas City area. This was a great day to support Missouri gun rights! See you at the next one .

Have fun! Get active!  
Steve Marx  
President, GCLA

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## GCLA's Purpose

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GCLA's purpose is to preserve and protect the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America by:

- Monitoring and acting on pending legislation at the local, state, and federal level.
- Encouraging voter registration and participation in the political process.
- Promoting public and personal safety, education and training, and the defense of the nation.

GCLA holds a monthly members' meeting which often features a guest speaker, the fielding of open questions, sharing of news and information, and intelligent discussion.

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## What “Unsigning” the Arms Trade Treaty Means for American Gun Owners

Friday, May 3, 2019

Last Friday, President Trump took the historic step of ordering the “unsigning” of the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty during his address to the NRA-ILA’s Leadership Forum. President Trump’s action effectively withdraws the United States from the most comprehensive effort towards international gun control.

Much of the intervening coverage on the ATT has focused on how the treaty did or did not constrain U.S. arms sales abroad, but many average law-abiding gun owners may be questioning how the treaty could or couldn’t have affected them.

NRA’s complaints regarding the treaty have always been based on its potential effect on law-abiding American gun owners. Those complaints have focused on the treaty’s requirements for end-use verification, its sometimes-unintelligible vagueness, its ability to be amended without the consensus of all parties, and its proponents repeated refusals to clarify that it has no effect on the possession of small arms by civilians in the United States.

The treaty urges record keeping of end users, directing importing countries to provide information to an exporting country regarding arms transfers, including “end use or end user documentation” for a “minimum of ten years.” Each country is to “take measures, pursuant to its national laws, to regulate brokering taking place under its jurisdiction for conventional arms.” Data kept on the end users of imported firearms is a de-facto registry of law-abiding firearms owners, which is a violation of federal law. Even worse, the ATT could be construed to require such a registry to be made available to foreign governments.

The vagueness of the treaty and its ease of being “amended” is best exemplified by actions that took place at a conference on the treaty last year. At that conference, proponents of the treaty “welcome[d]” several living documents into the ATT. While seemingly innocuous on its face, this change incorporated the International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) into the ATT.

Falsely described as established “international standards” or “international norms” that “provide clear, practical and comprehensive guidance to practitioners and policymakers on fundamental aspects of small arms and light weapons control”, the ISACS are in reality a series of six standards developed by the UN for states to use in implementing their global disarmament agenda. Series 3 – Legislative and Regulatory – and its Module 3.30, “National Regulation of Civilian Access to Small Arms and Light Weapons,” is the most alarming of all the ISACS.

Purporting to set the standards for “National Regulation of Civilian Access to Small Arms and Light Weapons,” Module 3.30 creates a means to almost entirely limit civilian access to small arms under the guise of International Humanitarian Law, International Human Rights Law, and Gender Based Violence. Highlights include, but are not limited to; a ban on civilian

possession of “military” style arms – no automatic weapons or magazines with over a 10 round capacity, ballistic recordings, different risk classifications on types of firearms (i.e. calibers over .45 are an intolerable risk to public safety and semi-auto handguns and rifles are high risk), licensing and registration of all firearms, training and storage restrictions, waiting periods, 20-year record retention requirements of sellers, age limits and requiring a demonstrated need to possess a firearm, with self-defense not being one of them.

While incorporation by reference of the ISACS into the ATT was alarming, it was also not entirely unpredictable. As with every anti-firearm UN initiative, concern must never lie entirely with what is in it now, but with what it will become and how it will be used by a future U.S. administration, especially one seeking international justification for a gun control agenda.

Perhaps the easiest way to understand the future danger the ATT posed to U.S. gun owners is the complete refusal by proponents of the treaty to limit its application to civilian arms. NRA and other opponents of the treaty repeatedly asked for a carve-out in the treaty, yet those requests were flatly denied. If the treaty’s proponents had no intention of limiting American gun ownership, why resist such a limitation to the text of the treaty?

Instead, the treaty included language in its preamble that treaty parties be “mindful of the legitimate trade and lawful ownership, and use of certain conventional arms for recreational, cultural, historical, and sporting activities, where such trade, ownership and use are permitted or protected by law.” A careful read will show that the use of arms for individual and collective defense is notably missing from this statement, and the statement creates no limitation and is really only an aspirational provision.

While never ratified by the United States Senate, even unsigned treaties can be dangerous when they attempt to bind the United States to refrain from any act that would defeat the “object and purpose” of the treaty. This type of vague policy statement is typical of the many intentionally unclear provisions of the ATT that we have repeatedly warned could be used by future administrations or foreign bureaucrats to restrict the rights of law-abiding American gun owners.

In fact, the ATT was drafted with the express purpose of allowing future foreign officials to be able to amend the treaty without the agreement of the United States. By requiring only 3/4 of the treaty signatories to create an amendment to the treaty, the future danger of the treaty to American gun owners was effectively limitless.

Please join us in thanking President Trump for protecting our firearms freedoms by removing any obligation of the United States to be bound by the “object and purpose” of the Arms Trade Treaty.

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# Judges Matter: Contrasting Court Decisions Demonstrate Importance of Judiciary to Second Amendment Rights

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President Trump's nomination of conservative judges may well be his most important legacy.

Here, "conservative" does not refer to political ideology. It means a legal philosophy that seeks fidelity to the Constitution's original meaning and the plain text of our laws.

This contrasts with "progressive" jurisprudence that treats legal texts not as enduring constraints, but as springboards to policies or outcomes judges think best for present times.

Two recent judicial decisions illustrate the difference in these approaches and what is at stake for gun owners.

The first is *Soto v. Bushmaster*, which concerned whether the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA) blocked a lawsuit to hold the manufacturer of the gun used in the terrible crimes in Newtown, Conn. responsible for the murders.

The essence of the PLCAA is that gun makers and sellers who follow the laws governing their businesses should not be held responsible for the criminal misuse of their products by third persons.

This general principle applies without controversy to the manufacturers and dealers of other lawful products. Auto makers, for example, are not liable for damages caused by drunk drivers.

Yet anti-gun activists and politicians in the 1990s launched a highly-coordinated effort to sue the gun industry for the acts of armed criminals. Whether they won or lost didn't really matter. The point was to force the industry to go bankrupt defending the suits or to extract settlement agreements under which the companies would "voluntarily" adopt the same sorts of gun controls the activists had been unsuccessful in enacting into law.

Fortunately, the PLCAA ended this abusive litigation in 2005.

Or so it seemed.

The PLCAA was not intended to protect bad actors. It therefore excludes, among others, those who violate a law "applicable to the sale or marketing of the [firearm or ammunition]" in a way that causes the plaintiff's injuries. An example would be if a licensed firearm dealer sold a gun to a violent felon without running the mandatory background check, and the felon then used that gun to commit a crime.

In the case of the Newtown crimes, however, the perpetrator didn't buy the gun. His mother did, and the parties involved in

the sale followed all applicable laws governing the manufacture, distribution and sale of the rifle.

Nevertheless, the plaintiffs still contend the sale was illegal because, so they argue, the rifle's manufacturer violated a Connecticut law against fraudulent advertising, which led the killer to choose that gun over other firearms his mother kept in the house, making the attack more deadly.

This outlandish advertising theory was not only a first of its kind end-run around the PLCAA, it was the first time the Connecticut advertising law had been applied to a gun case or even to any personal injury case. Even left-leaning legal commentators have characterized it as a long shot.

But the argument was good enough for the Connecticut Supreme Court to allow the case to go forward, effectively sentencing the manufacturer to crushing legal expenses and allowing the media to uncritically parrot claims that it intentionally marketed its guns to mass murderers.

In contrast, a case from California, of all places, provides a bracing counterpoint to Connecticut's judicial activism. In *Duncan v. Becerra*, federal Judge Roger T. Benitez held that California's ban on magazines that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition violated the Second Amendment.

Judge Benitez relied on a very straightforward reading of *District of Columbia v. Heller* and the Second Amendment's protection of arms in common use by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes. He also rejected the idea that the Second Amendment must somehow yield to modernity. "Individual liberty and freedom are not outmoded concepts," he declared.

The opinion additionally criticized the California law for "turning the Constitution upside down" by revoking a grandfather clause that protected lawful magazine owners. The Constitution, it noted, emphasizes individual liberty, not government convenience. And in what may have been a first for a judicial opinion, Judge Benitez began his opinion by highlighting several instances in which law-abiding citizens used standard capacity magazines to protect themselves against violence attacks.

Two cases, two different outcomes, pointing the way to two possible futures for gun owners. This starkly demonstrates the importance of President Trump's judicial nominees, as well as the importance of him being able to make them beyond 2020 .

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## Missouri Annual Gun Rights Rally - 2020

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Please make plans to join us in the Capitol Building in Jefferson City on Tuesday – April 7th, 2020 – 10 A.M. to NOON for the Annual Gun Rights Rally Day.

Join us! Come spend the morning at the capitol to help save our guns and protect our rights.

The anti-gun crowd is always working hard to ban guns and restrict our gun rights.

Your attendance at the rally is critical. Only a strong turnout can help make the difference. Law-abiding gun owners are not the problem. Our rights are not what is wrong.

Be there! Bring others! Tell your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers.

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## Illinois Committee Passes Bill to Increase Cost of FOID 1000

.On May 21st, the Illinois state House Judiciary Committee voted 12-7 to pass House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 1966. While it has not yet been scheduled for further action, the House may take it up at any time. HA 1 to SB 1966 would impose various gun control schemes in Illinois, such as criminalizing private transfers and increasing the cost and red tape for a FOID card.

House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 1966, sponsored by Representative Kathleen Willis (D-77), would:

- Criminalize private transfers, with violations being punished as a Class 4 felony.
- Require the recipient of a firearm gifted by a family member to call into Illinois State Police within 60 days to run a background check on themselves, even though they must already hold a FOID.
- Allow for the indefinite delay of firearm transfers. Currently, federal law allows a licensed firearm dealer (FFL) to release a firearm after three business days if they have not received any additional correspondence after receiving a “delay” when conducting the initial background check for a firearm transfer. This safeguard prevents the potential shutdown of sales via endless delays and allows law-abiding individuals to take possession of a firearm in a timely manner.
- Mandate FOID applicants submit fingerprints, including for renewals, which would not add anything of investigative value.
- Increase FOID processing time from one calendar month to thirty business days, which can span more than six weeks.
- Reduce the duration of the FOID from ten years to five while also increasing the application fee from \$10 to \$50, resulting in a 1000% increase in the cost to maintain a FOID for the same amount of time.
- Require FOID applicants pay all costs for fingerprinting and processing the background check, totaling around \$150 on top of the application fee.
- Allow courts to direct law-enforcement to seize firearms from those who have their FOID revoked.
- Prohibit those with a revoked FOID from transferring firearms to someone in the same household, which would create confusion in determining the owner of the firearms and would take away the right to self-defense from individuals due to the alleged actions of someone else in their household.
- Require the owner of the seized firearms to petition the court to have them transferred to a third party

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## Drawing Winners

The most recent GCLA drawing was held at our members’ meeting on Tuesday May 7th, 2019.

Matt Smith of Arnold, MO (shown on the left in the picture with GCLA Director Don Childers) was the winner of the first prize, a CZ P-07 9mm Handgun with Convertible Omega Trigger System, (3) 15 Rd Mags, Streamlight TLR-3 Tactical Light, Custom Holster.

The second prize, a Henry US Survival Rifle .22 LR with (4) 8 Round Mags, 100 Rounds .22 LR., was won by Chip Bridgeman of The Woodlands, TX.

The next GCLA-PAC drawing will be at our members’ meeting on Tuesday November 5th, 2019. First prize is a Sig Sauer P365 9MM Pistol with Textured-polymer grip, Striker-fired trigger, Two 10 round magazines. Second prize is a Diamondback .380 Pistol which is a micro compact .380 semi-automatic pistol made entirely in the USA.

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## Missouri HB 643, Self-Defense on Public Transit

House Bill 643, which would allow law-abiding citizens to carry firearms for self-defense on public transit, has been passed out of the Missouri state House General Laws Committee.

Ayes (6): Chipman, Christofanelli, Fitzwater, Houx, Miller and Sommer

Noes (2): Unsicker and Washington

Absent (2): Bondon and Runions

House Bill 643, sponsored by Representative Adam Schmelting (R-104), is a companion to Senate Bill 39. These important self-defense bills would remove the prohibition on law-abiding citizens with a concealed carry permit from carrying firearms for

self-defense on public transit property and in vehicles. In addition, they would also allow law-abiding citizens to transport unloaded or non-functioning firearms on buses. These bills would repeal an arbitrary “gun-free zone” that does nothing to hinder criminals while leaving law-abiding citizens defenseless. They would ensure that citizens with varying commutes throughout their day and of various economic means are able to exercise their Second Amendment rights and defend themselves.

UPDATE: Despite our efforts and the importance of this bill our legislature failed to bring it to the floor for a vote.

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## Annual Membership Renewal

All current members of GCLA should have received their renewal letter in the mail. If you haven't done so already, please return the renewal form for 2019 & your annual dues in the return envelope. Your membership is vital to the success of GCLA in the pursuit of our primary goal, fighting for your Second Amendment Rights.



### GCLA Gun Show Schedule

Show times are generally 9am To 5pm for Sat. And 9am to 3pm on Sun.  
When a show has a Friday date it will be open from 4pm to 8pm

May 3-5 Olympic Athletic Event Ctr., 49 Lawrence St., St. Charles

May 4,5 Belle-Clair Expo Center, Belleville Il. \*

May 18,19 Pacific Eagle's Hall, 707 Congress, Pacific

May 31 - June 1,2 Machinist Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd

June 22,23 Belle-Clair Expo Center, Belleville Il. \*

July 6,7 St. Charles Convention Center

August 24,25 Belle-Clair Expo Center, Belleville Il. \*

August ?? Cabela's & Bass Pro Shop \*\*

September 20-22 Machinist Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd

Sept. 20-22 Olympic Athletic Event Ctr., 49 Lawrence St., St. Charles

October 5,6 Belle-Clair Expo Center, Belleville Il. \*

October 12,13 Pacific Eagle's Hall, 707 Congress, Pacific

October 18-20 Arnold Eagle's Hall, Arnold

November 30 - December 1 St. Charles Convention Center

December 14,15 Pacific Eagle's Hall, 707 Congress, Pacific

\* indicates GCLA will **not** have a table at this show

\*\* indicates NRA Membership Recruiting table only

**Any Member Who Would Like To Work At A Gun Show**

**Please Call:**

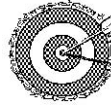
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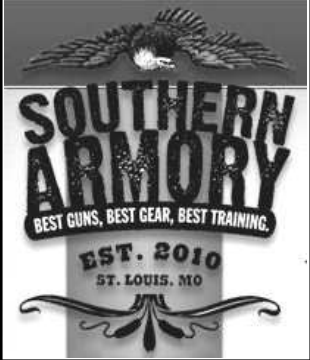
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## Associate Membership

GCLA will send a free annual Associate Membership including "GCLA NEWS" to any active duty service member from Missouri. Here is how this free annual membership works:

- Be full-time active military duty.
- Be a current or former Missouri resident and register Missouri as your state of residence.
- Be recommended by a current GCLA Regular Member, or request your free annual Associate Membership in writing.

If you qualify or know of someone that qualifies please fill out an application from the back of the "GCLA NEWS".

*Instead of a membership dues check please send a signed note or pledge that you/they are active duty military and a current or former Missouri resident & register Missouri as your/their state of residence.*



## Have you joined MSSA?

MSSA is the Missouri Sport Shooting Association. MSSA seeks to support and promote the shooting sports in Missouri, and to encourage participation. Are you participating?

See <http://www.missourisportshooting.org>

### MSSA Mission Statement

The mission of the MSSA is to protect and preserve the shooting sports at the state level. MSSA will promote and improve the shooting sports by sponsoring marksmanship training and competitions throughout the state of Missouri.



## GCLA is an NRA Recruiter

Don't forget that GCLA is also an NRA recruiter. Help your organization and renew your annual, two year or three year membership through GCLA. We can do the annual membership for a discounted rate and give you a new hat to boot.

If you are not an NRA member and you want to become one, we can also do that.

GCLA earns money through commissions for every new member and renewal application that we send in to the NRA. This is a good deal for both you and GCLA



## GCLA-PAC

Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance has a Political Action Committee. This PAC allows GCLA to support the Missouri candidates that believe in our gun rights. The PAC needs funding to be effective and we need to start preparing now for the 2020 elections.

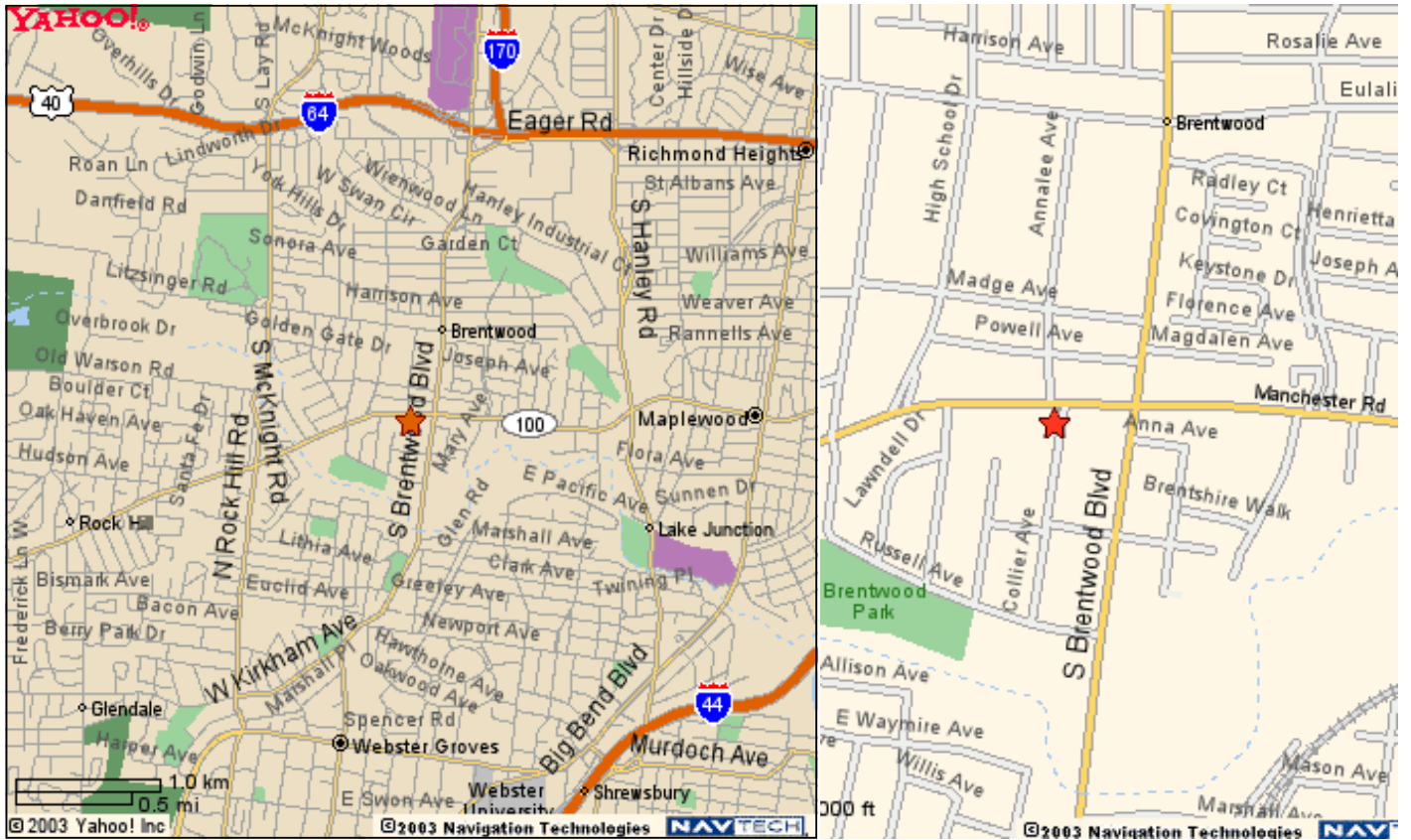
**Send donations to GCLA-PAC, P.O. Box 440280, St. Louis, MO 63144**

NOTICE: All proceeds from our current Gun Drawing are going to the GCLA PAC. The prizes are: The next GCLA-PAC drawing will be at our members' meeting on Tuesday November 5th, 2019. First prize is a Sig Sauer P365 9MM Pistol with Textured-polymer grip, Striker-fired trigger, Two 10 round magazines. Second prize is a Diamondback .380 Pistol, which is a micro compact semi-auto made entirely in the USA. The drawing is scheduled to be held at our members' meeting on Tuesday November 5th, 2019.



Member meetings location - American Legion Post (Goff Moll) #101 at 2721 Collier Ave. Brentwood, MO  
 just west of the Schnucks Store at the intersection of Brentwood Blvd and Manchester Rd.

**Member's meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM.**



----- cut or tear here ----- Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

GATEWAY CIVIL LIBERTIES ALLIANCE  
 P.O. Box 440280  
 Brentwood, MO 63144

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues are \$24.00 per calendar year (first year can be pro-rated).

Membership: \$24.00 [ ] Donation: \$\_\_\_\_\_ [ ]

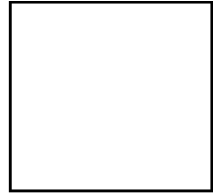
NRA Member: Y / N If an NRA annual member, your expiration date: / / .

MSSA Member: Y / N Sponsor (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

We are particularly interested in your comments.



**Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance**  
P.O. Box 440280  
St. Louis, MO 63144



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