



G.C.L.A. NEWS

The Newsletter of the Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance

July - September 2023

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Steve Marx
President

Mark Luther
Vice President

John Zeman
Secretary

Gene Dultz
Treasurer

Gene Dultz
Newsletter Chairman

NEW MEETING LOCATION

Members' meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Gateway Gun Club
13547 Missouri Bottom
Road
Bridgeton, MO 63044.
Off Exit #9 ,141 (Earth
City Expwy) from 370
(see map on page 7)

President's Corner

The 2024 Missouri state elections for Governor and state wide offices are starting to form a pool of candidates. GCLA has been fortunate to have Bill Eigel and Jay Ashcroft speak at our monthly members' meetings. This has been a great way to see where they stand on Missouri Second Amendment rights as well on other directions they will steer on running the state. There will be other speakers at our monthly members' meetings, watch for notices.

The anti-gun groups are still pushing their nitwittery. The Moms Demand Gun Sense had a march on a Sunday morning a few weeks ago. I wanted to poke them in the eye, by standing on the side of their route with my "GUNS SAVE LIVES" 3'x4' sign and two GCLA orange "GUNS SAVE LIVES" buttons on my NRA cap. When the group walked by me the looks were priceless. They appeared to be in distress, like a vampire exposed to sun light. I wished them good morning with a pleasant smile.

The nincompoops never stop. We must double our resolve and never tire .

Have fun! Get active!

Steve Marx
President, GCLA

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RESERVE THE DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Gateway - St. Louis Friends of NRA Dinner and Auction

Saturday, January 27th, 2024 - .

SYBERG'S WESTPORT

located at 2430 Old Dorsett Rd, Maryland Heights, MO

For information contact Matt Ludwig

Phone: 314-853-4424 or Email: mattludwig72@gmail.com

GCLA's Purpose

GCLA's purpose is to preserve and protect the 2nd 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.

Senator William C. (Bill) Eigel at our June 1st meeting

Senator William C. (Bill) Eigel, who is running for Missouri Governor in 2024, was the speaker at our members' meeting on June 1st. He did a 15-minute background intro and overview of issues.

He then did over 30 minutes of Q&A covering a variety of

topics and issues.

Senator Eigel did talk about the 2nd Amendment and its importance.

At this time he is running against Jay Ashcroft & Mike Kehoe.

Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft at our August 3rd meeting

Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft, who is running for Missouri Governor in 2024, was the speaker at our members' meeting on August 3rd. Jay did a 25-minute background intro and overview of issues

Jay stated that the 2nd Amendment is an endowed right and how we need to fight for our freedoms.

He then did over 40 minutes of Q&A covering a variety of topics and issues.

At this time he is running against Bill Eigel & Mike Kehoe, and democrat Crystal Clay.

Tell Congress to DEFUND and REPEAL the ATF's new UBC rule

The ATF just published their new rule to essentially create backdoor Universal Background Registration Checks.

It's just as egregious as we've come to expect from a rogue executive branch that flat out hates gun owners and the Constitution.

The rule would require a Federal Firearm License (FFL) and a background check on ANY firearm transaction where the ATF deems that any kind of "profit" is made.

It's beyond chilling that the ATF is virtually OUTLAWING private firearm transactions to ensure the government gets its hands on your personal information and transaction records for their illegal gun registry.

Right now, lawyers are combing through the ATF's new rule and preparing a lawsuit to defend your God-given rights.

But Congress can't sit idly by while rogue ATF bureaucrats usurp their legislative power.

That's why we need YOU to call on them to DEFUND this rule during the appropriations process and use the Congressional Review Act to REPEAL it as soon as possible.

The official version of the rule is even very draconian: "Even a single firearm transaction, or offer to engage in a transaction... may be sufficient to require a license."

If you sell just ONE FIREARM and the ATF decides that your motivation was to earn a profit, you could be facing 5 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

As you read further, it doesn't get any better...

- The rule spends four pages listing what you cannot do before

providing a convenient catch-all sentence warning that the list they just gave is "not exhaustive."

- It also states that the rule is "unlikely" to cover selling your gun to an immediate family member – but leaves open the possibility that ATF could change their mind. Very reassuring!

- If you take good care of your firearms so they look "new," or they're still in the original packaging, the ATF will automatically assume you're reselling them for a profit.

- But don't worry, the ATF will grant exceptions for firearms you sell in order to obtain additional firearms that they deem are "valuable, desirable, or useful" enough for a personal collection. Unless of course, the ATF simply decides that your firearms aren't "collectable" – or that you had some intention of earning a profit. You can see how this rule would be ripe for abuse, giving the ATF the ability to come after almost anyone who conducts a private firearm transaction.

The Biden Administration's latest offensive against the Second Amendment is taking the form of a pincer movement.

On the one hand, they're trying to close off private purchases by forcing virtually any American who wants to buy a firearm to go through a federally licensed dealer.

But at the same time, they're using their "zero-tolerance" policy to deliberately put as many of these federally licensed firearm dealers out of business as possible.

Pretty soon, it will be difficult to purchase a firearm anywhere...

...Which is EXACTLY what they want.

It's critical that gun owners band together and hold the line here.

Grassroots Spotlight: NRA 2A Day at Bow and Barrel

The Bow and Barrel Sportsmen Center in St. Robert, MO hosted an NRA 2A Day in June that allowed the community to get the answers they needed to protect their Second Amendment rights in Missouri. During this flagship NRA-ILA Grassroots Event, the NRA-ILA Grassroots Missouri Field Coordinator was able to speak with many NRA members, supporters, and CCW students at the range, as well as with many members of our United States Army about the work the NRA is doing in the Show Me State. A huge thank

you to the team at The Bow and Barrel Sportsmen Center, St. Robert's premier gun store that offers the community a state-of-the-art indoor range, an outdoor archery range, a service center, a restaurant, and firearm training courses. The NRA-ILA is immensely grateful to have businesses like this with us in the fight to promote and protect the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding gun owners throughout the great state of Missouri.

Missouri: Attorney General Slams St. Louis Mayor's Unconstitutional Gun Control Proposals

On August 22nd, St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones announced plans to introduce a proposal to ban so called "military grade assault weapons," to prevent the sale of firearms to minors, and to take action on "ghost guns." Her announcement was met with a quick response from the state's top law enforcement official, Attorney General Andrew Bailey.

In his letter to the Mayor, AG Bailey vowed to "resist any effort to infringe on the right of the people of Missouri to keep

and bear arms." He went on to write, "It is my hope that you will reverse course and use existing law to combat the crime plaguing your city, rather than choosing to target the rights of law-abiding Missourians. In other words, I encourage you to go after criminals, not guns. As the Attorney General for the State of Missouri, I will discharge my duties under the Constitution and resist any effort to infringe on the right of the people of Missouri to keep and bear arms."

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Liberty Safe Scandal & What It Taught Gun Owners

- **Liberty Safe Controversy:** Liberty Safe shared a safe combination with the FBI without a subpoena, drawing comparisons to Apple's refusal to do the same.
- **Policy & Legal Action:** After public backlash, Liberty Safe now requires subpoenas for combinations. However, they face a probe by Missouri's Attorney General for potential deception.
- **Built-in Vulnerability:** AmmoLand News found most digital safes have hard-coded backup (2) codes, making them potentially vulnerable regardless of manufacturer policies.

Liberty Safe has been at the center of controversy since turning over the combination to a customer's safe without a court subpoena. The customer was accused of participating in the J6 protest at the U.S. Capitol. The FBI had a search warrant, but Liberty Safes was not required to turn over the combination to law enforcement.

"On August 30, 2023, Liberty Safe was contacted by the FBI requesting the access code to the safe of an individual for whom they had a warrant to search their property. Our company protocol is to provide access codes to law enforcement if a warrant grants them access to a property. After receiving the request, we received proof of the valid warrant, and only then did we provide them with an access code. Liberty Safe had no knowledge of any of the details surrounding the investigation at the time," the company wrote on social media as the backlash grew.

Liberty Safes received extreme backlash over giving out a customer's combination to law enforcement authorities. Apple was in a similar situation after the FBI requested access to a terrorist's iPhone. The tech giant handled the situation differently and refused to turn over access to the phone, citing its customer privacy policy.

Liberty Safes changed its policy after the internet uproar. The company said it would require a subpoena before handing any combinations over to law enforcement. This move isn't enough for some, like Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey, who has opened a probe into the company for potential deception.

"In an era where the federal government weaponizes our national security apparatus against political opponents, the last thing we need is for a private company to sell out its fellow Americans under pressure from federal bureaucrats,"

Bailey said. "I am using every tool at my disposal to protect the rights of all Missourians. That's why my office is opening this investigation to ensure Liberty Safe is not deceiving its customers in its terms of service."

The company now provides a website where customers can remove the backup locking code from the Liberty Safe data. Many question why the company doesn't ship out safes without a backup code. AmmoLand News contacted several experienced locksmiths and safe experts and discovered that the codes are hard coded into the digital locking mechanisms, meaning they cannot be removed.

AmmoLand News was informed that almost all safe manufacturers use locking mechanisms from one of a few companies. That revelation means that the vulnerability of a built-in backup code isn't limited to Liberty Safes. It means that almost all digital safes have the same flaw. It also means that just because your manufacturer doesn't keep the codes or deletes the code from their system, the danger is removed.

The actual lock manufacturers still have the backup codes. Going to a mechanical lock is the only way to be truly safe. If you must use a digital locking mechanism, the best way to keep your belongings safe is to acquire a new digital lock and have a locksmith install it on your safe. That could be costly, so another cheaper solution, albeit imperfect, is to remove the serial number from your safe and destroy any paperwork containing the serial number. However, the latter is not ideal if you purchased the safe directly from the manufacturer.

"The only way to guarantee no one will get access to your safe combo from the safe manufacturer is to remove the serial numbers from your safe and your paperwork. Change the factory code yourself or hire a locksmith to do it," said Tony Simon, a 30-year locksmith and founder of Diversity Shoot. "I also suggest safes with a mechanical dial over an electronic safe. Mechanical safes only use one combination. I suggest you change it yourself or hire a locksmith to change it for you."

With an overbearing government and a need for security, gun owners must take security seriously. If safe company does not maintain a list of override codes it does not mean a government agent or criminal could not get the override code .

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GOP senators aim to block Biden from pulling a Grisham

With Joe Biden establishing a White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention and New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham's attempt to unilaterally suspend the right to carry through a declared public health emergency on "gun violence" still fresh in their minds, a group of GOP Senate and House members are moving to head off any similar move from the president and his anti-gun administration.

Sen. Mike Braun of Indiana and more than a dozen of his colleagues have introduced the "Protecting the Right to Keep and Bear Arms Act of 2023", which Braun says would end the threat of using a declared state of emergency to infringe on the right to keep and bear arms. The legislation would prohibit the president, a designee, or the Secretary of Health and Human Services from "declaring an emergency pursuant to the National Emergencies Act or major disaster pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act in order to impose gun control," as well as barring government officials from prohibiting the manufacture sale, or

transfer of firearms or ammunition during a declared disaster or emergency.

As Fox News reports, companion legislation has been introduced in the House as well, with Rep. Michael Cloud serving as the main sponsor.

This should be popular enough to pass the House as well. It's absolutely critical that gun owners and Second Amendment supporters contact their senators and representatives and urge them to get behind the Protecting the Right to Keep and Bear Arms Act of 2023. At the very least every member of Congress should be made to go on the record in support or opposition to the kind of unconstitutional carry ban imposed by Grisham. If Democrats want to support an action that's not only a violation of our Second Amendment rights but incredibly unpopular across the political spectrum, then let's shine a spotlight on their eagerness to infringe on our fundamental right to armed self-defense.

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MY THOUGHTS ON FIVE DECADES OF HUNTING AND SHOOTING

By GCLA Member Joe Kessler

I have been using scopes on firearms for fifty years. Optical sights are far superior to any other sights available at present. Without excellent optics you will not be able to bring out the full potential of your firearm.

After decades of observing a few thousand scope and rifle combination that hunters use I've come to the conclusion that most of them are over scoped. Many would be better off with less power and more field of view.

Varmint hunting and target shooting is a different story. The majority of hunters today use scopes on their rifles. Scopes also make hunting safer.

Safety is our number one concern. Never, never use a scoped rifle in place of binoculars. Looking for game or to count points on a deer's head might prove to be another hunter. Binoculars are not only a very important part of a hunters gear but also fun to use.

Always buy a quality scope. Failure of a cheap scope could ruin your hunt of a lifetime. In optics you usually get what you pay for. In a quality scope, it's not what you see; it's what you don't see. Make sure your scope has plenty of eye relief. Eye relief is the distance your eye is from the rear "Eyepiece" of the scope.

I have witnessed many with cuts on their eyebrows or nose from crawling too close. I can attest to this myself. When a scope slams into your head it will get your attention.

Some hunters insist on using see-through mounts on their hunting rifles. Anyone who uses this type of mount does not have full confidence in scopes. Make your choice of rifle caliber that will best cover the range of animals you may be hunting and different conditions you may expect to encounter. No scope and rifle combination will be perfect for all situations.

When each hunter chooses a rifle it is a compromise. When he chooses a caliber it is a compromise. When he chooses a

scope it is a compromise. Remember, there is no perfect choice when it comes to selecting your "Hunting Rig".

Nine out of ten times your first shot will be your best shot and possibly your only shot. Putting your shot through the lungs may be the best shot you can make.

Powerful calibers and high power scopes are no substitute for sloppy shooting. Excessive recoil is something to avoid if possible. Recoil takes the fun out of shooting.

No matter how accurate a rifle is it's no good if it isn't "Sighted In". Using a tripod and sandbags are an excellent way to do this. Also use ear and eye protection. Most older shooters have hearing problems today because decades ago they suffered ear damage not having hearing protection.

Remember when hunting learn to use a "Rest" when shooting if possible. It will also help ensure clean quick kills. Use the side of a tree, backpack or shooting sticks etc. Pass up running shots at game. Also pass up shots through thick brush. Look for an opening if possible. Bullets are not designed to shoot through brush. Do our best to avoid wounding an animal by being careless. Better to pass up the shot.

Be very careful in making sure where your bullet will impact. Once the trigger is pulled you can't call your bullet back. Concentrate where your crosshairs are the split second your shot goes off. If you don't there is not any way you'll know where your shot went. It may also keep you from flinching.

I suggest using a scoped twenty-two rim fire as much as possible through out the year. If anyone likes to shoot it's hard to beat the twenty-two rim fire. We need to practice, practice and practice. The longer we hunt the more we will respect and admire the game we pursue.

One last thing about scopes: Scopes are not just for "OLD EYES", they are for "ALL EYES".

*THINK SAFETY FIRST
LIFE IS SHORT ENJOY YOUR SPORT.*

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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 2023 & 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 9 a.m. To 5 p.m. for Sat.
and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sun.

When a show has a Friday date it will be open from
4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

July 8,9 St. Charles Convention Center

July 29,30 Pacific Eagles Hall, Pacific MO

August 26,27 Belle-Clair Expo Center, Belleville Il. *

Sept 29-Oct 1 MACA, Arnold Eagles Hall, Arnold MO

October 6-8 The Big St. Charles Gun Show, St. Charles MO

October 20-22 StL Athletic Center, Fenton MO

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

December 8-10 The Big St. Charles Gun Show, St. Charles MO

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

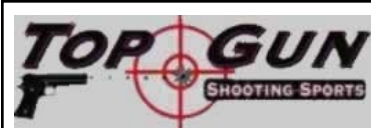
** indicates NRAMembership Recruiting table only

Any Member Who Would Like To Work At A Gun Show

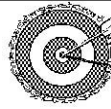
Please Call:

Don Childers 314-288-8881





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(314) 821-3999 DAVID J. HART
Concealed Carry Classes (president)
Buy, Sell, Trade and Consignments



518 MADISON STREET
ST. CHARLES, MO 63301
kirkwoodoutfittersinc.com
Guns, Ammo, Knives and Collectables



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.

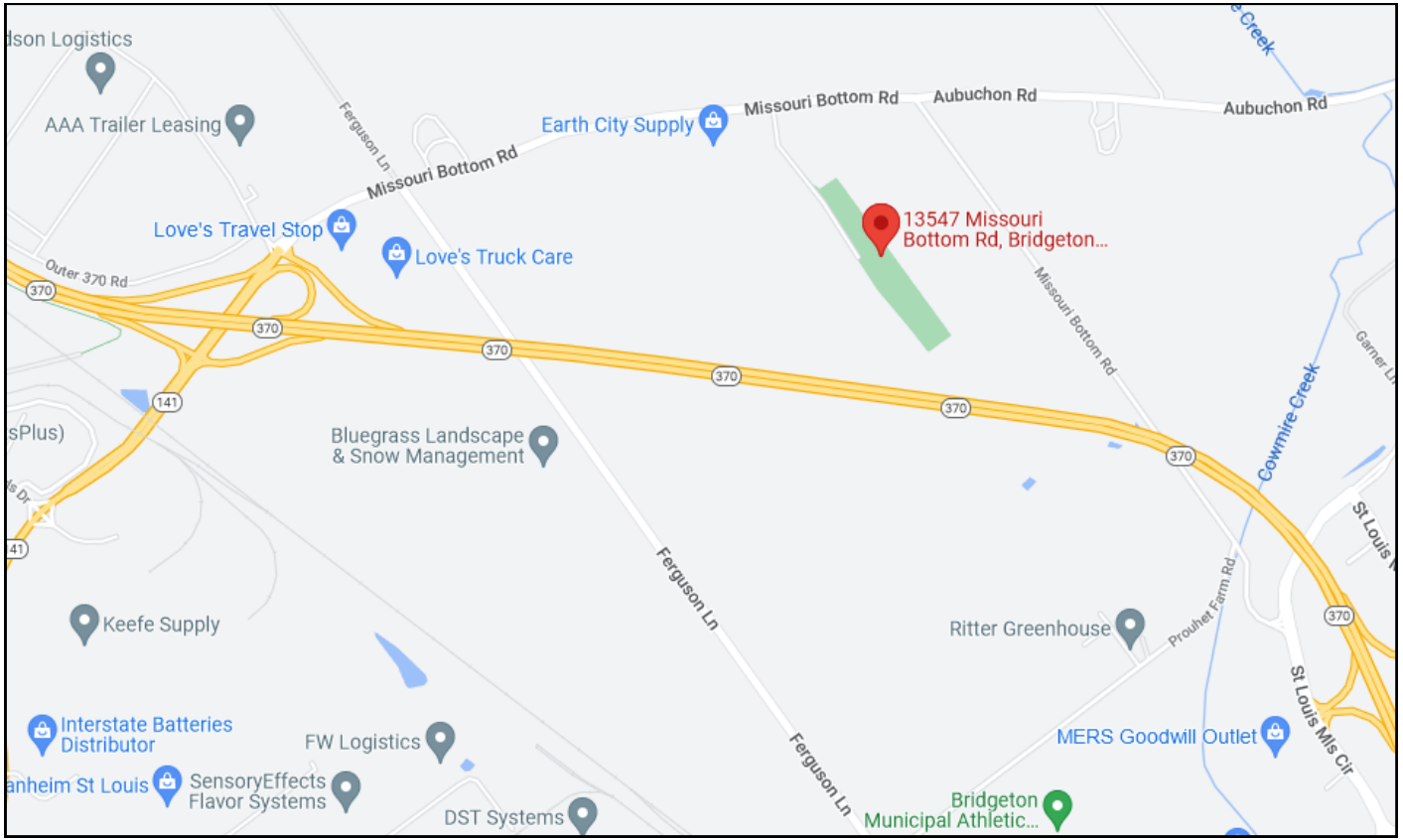
GCLA-PAC

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 2024 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 for our next drawing are: First prize is a S&W M&P Shield Plus 9mm Pistol w/10lb Trigger, 3.1" barrel, 10 round magazine. Second prize is a Caldwell Shooting Supplies E-Max Electronic Hearing Protection. There are only 250 tickets. The drawing will be held at the members' meeting on Thursday November 2nd, 2023.

**Meeting location - Gateway Gun Club .13547 Missouri Bottom Road,
Bridgeton, MO 63044.
Member meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00PM.**



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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date: _____

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: _____

Annual: Adult Membership Dues are \$24.00. Youth (under 16) Membership dues are \$10.00.

First year membership can be pro-rated.

Membership: \$24.00 [] \$10.00 [] Donation: \$ _____ []

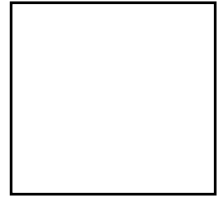
NRA Member: Y / N If an NRA annual member, your expiration date: / / .

MSSA Member: Y / N Sponsor (optional): _____

We are particularly interested in your comments.



Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance
P.O. Box 440280
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Postmaster: Time Sensitive Material Enclosed



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