

Don't Read This if You Can't Stand the TRUTH

By the JPFO Liberty Crew

It hurts to learn that your best friend has betrayed you. But if it was happening, you'd want to know, wouldn't you?

Your "best friend," if you're a gun owner, is supposed to be the Republican Party. But your friend is doing you dirty.

Republican betrayal of gun owners isn't new, unfortunately. From the Brady Law to special prosecutors for "gun crimes," powerful Republicans have quietly supported everything they've claimed to oppose.

But now there's an even deeper betrayal — and a political scandal that deserves to dwarf Watergate or Iran-Contra.

Powerful Republicans are deliberately helping the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) cover up abuses of good, patriotic Americans.

For decades, American gun owners and gun makers have complained about brutal, arbitrary prosecutions by the ATF. Politicians of both parties have been aware of the problem since at least 1982, when Congress recommended curbing ATF abuses.

Congress's response? To give the ATF more power and more of your hard-earned money to destroy gun owners' lives.

Earlier this year, with the dogged assistance of American gun-maker Len Savage of Historic Arms, LLC, JPFO began publishing irrefutable evidence of something gun owners had long suspected: that the ATF was simply "making it up as they went along." That is, ATF "experts" were defining ordinary semi-automatic rifles as "illegal machine guns" based mainly on whim and politics, not on facts. (See Internet links below for evidence.)

They were then using these made-up judgments to send hundreds, even thousands, of completely innocent American gun owners to prison! Keep in mind: the ATF's lack of standards means that literally *anyone* who owns a semi-automatic rifle could be a target for prosecution and imprisonment.

As the evidence emerged, concerned gun owners began contacting their congressional representatives requesting copies of the ATF Firearms Technology Branch's (FTB) firearms-testing procedure manual. No such manual exists. In an honest world, the ATF would have been forced to admit that decades of prosecutions were based on nothing except whatever the agents could get away with at the time.

The FTB has refused to release its manual to the Congressional Research Service. Note: It's not admitting the truth — that there is no manual, that there are no standards. It's just saying it won't release it. And the Department of Justice (under which the ATF now operates) is backing up its underlings.

Congressman James Sensenbrenner, Chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary, is scrambling to give the FTB time so that it can hurriedly write some sort of fake manual - anything! - to show the public on the day that knowledge of this travesty becomes widespread.

Unintended consequences

If the standards for testing firearms have only now been written, then literally thousands of previous gun owner convictions will become suspect. The Department of Justice fears (accurately) that there will be a wave of retrials or even complete exonerations for imprisoned gun owners when the public discovers this fetid coverup.

In the meantime, the "leaders" of the Republican Party are actually trying to prevent you and me from learning what their agents are doing to us.

Why? Why would our "friends" treat us this way? What do these powerful Republicans gain by tolerating — and now covering up — ATF abuses of American gun owners?

And an even more important question is: What are patriotic Second Amendment supporters going to do when they finally wake up and discover that their "best friend" is no friend at all?

For more background information and references, see: www.jpfo.org/batfearticles.htm

For a copy of JPFO's "BATFE Fails the Test" footage of BATFE testing procedures, see: www.jpfo.org/batfevideo.htm

Thank these sponsors for this column:

• **Fred's** — Military M-14 Stocks & Accessories

• **Fulton Armory** — Precision M1 Garand, M14, M1 Carbine

& AR15 Weapon Systems

• **Concealed Carry Magazine** — www.concealedcarrymag.com

(262) 677-8877

• **JPFO members & supporters**

www.jpfo.org • (262)-673-9745 • (800) 869-1884

J.P.F.O. • P.O. Box 270143 • Hartford, WI 53027

Copyright 2005, by Aaron Zelman. Permission is granted to reproduce this article in full, provided that JPFO contact information, website and phone number are included.

