



DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Justice Building - Roseburg, Oregon 97470 - (541) 440-4450

JOHN HANLIN
SHERIFF

January 15, 2013

Vice President Joe Biden
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20501

Dear Mr. Vice President,

I am Sheriff John Hanlin, the elected Sheriff of Douglas County, Oregon. I have served in the Douglas County Sheriff's Office for 24 years. I am currently in my second term as Sheriff. As Sheriff, I am entrusted with the responsibility of providing for the peace and safety of my county's citizens. I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith...faith that I will uphold my oath of office and maintain a strong understanding of my fundamental duty to serve mankind; safeguard lives and property; and to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of The United States and the rights of the people in this county. These are duties that I and the men and women of my Office take great pride and honor in being responsible for.

This letter serves two purposes. First, to make a formal request that you NOT tamper with or attempt to amend the 2nd Amendment. Gun control is NOT the answer to preventing heinous crimes like school shootings. Any actions against, or in disregard for our U.S. Constitution and 2nd Amendment rights by the current administration would be irresponsible and an indisputable insult to the American people.

I fully agree with the statement made by Linn County Sheriff Tim Mueller in a recent letter he sent you. He stated, "In the wake of recent criminal events, politicians are attempting to exploit the deaths of innocent victims by advocating for laws that would prevent honest, law abiding Americans from possessing certain firearms and ammunition magazines. We are Americans. We must not allow, nor shall we tolerate, the actions of criminals, no matter how heinous the crimes, to prompt politicians to enact laws that will infringe upon the liberties of responsible citizens who have broken no laws."

The United States Supreme Court has ruled that when a Sheriff chooses to enforce an unconstitutional directive, he is violating his Constitutional Oath. I will NOT violate my Constitutional Oath. Therefore, the second purpose of this letter is to make notification that any federal regulation enacted by Congress or by executive order of the President offending the Constitutional rights of my citizens shall not be enforced by me or by my deputies, nor will I permit the enforcement of any unconstitutional regulations or orders by federal officers within the borders of Douglas County Oregon.

In conclusion, it is my position as Sheriff of Douglas County, Oregon that I will refuse to participate in, nor tolerate enforcement actions against citizens that are deemed unconstitutional.

Respectfully,


Sheriff John Hanlin
Douglas County Oregon