

# 2023 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (SB-2)

## THE "BAN CONCEALED CARRY EVERYWHERE" BILL



[Legislature's page on SB 2](#), including full text and history

**BOTTOM LINE:** Took effect January 1, 2024. Was found **UNENFORCEABLE** due to federal court injunctions. It will likely be overturned through the appeal process and be **DEEMED UNCONSTITUTIONAL**. [May v. Bonta](#) appears to be the contender suit for challenging SB-2; further info regarding court cases will be posted as necessary. Two separate injunctions have been granted. You are responsible for your safety. Concealed always means concealed!

SB-2 of 2023 is California's promised "**make guns illegal everywhere**" reaction bill to the *Bruen* Supreme Court decision. It is highly unconstitutional and blatantly violates *Bruen*, *Heller*, and *McDonald*. It is the sore-loser Democratic Governor Newsom & Attorney General Bonta and legislators engaging in tyrannical and childish politics because they don't like the Supreme Court's decision on June 23, 2022. The bill totally ignores the Supreme Court's ruling that California's unconstitutional ultra-leftist extremist should not make the state "sensitive places."

Do not despair, this bill is simply a rabidly totalitarian Marxist one-party legislature and gun-hating governor & attorney general attempting to checkmate the U.S. Supreme Court. Fortunately for us, the Supreme Court is highly unlikely to accept such an obvious attempt to corrupt their high court decision. Bills like this that go too far are a perfect way for the overreaching infringements to be rendered unconstitutional. Far left governor Newsom & attorney general Bonta and legislators should be educated enough to appreciate that the rate at which concealed carry license holders commit crimes is extremely low, with multiple studies showing that license holders are among the most law-abiding and scrutinized citizens in California and throughout the United States.

The bill almost certainly will rapidly be subject to an injunction that will place most, if not all of it, on hold. Until the injunction is lifted (assuming that it isn't deemed unconstitutional by the courts), old California laws apply. The bill is blatantly unconstitutional under *Bruen* and again, barring republic-destroying political shenanigans in the federal court system, it will be invalidated taking its wild gun free zone restrictions with it forever.

Even if SB-2 should somehow go into effect, remember that your right to self-defense is a natural right; one that cannot be taken away by legislative fiat. The state of California at this point is illegitimate regarding crime control/gun control and you have scant moral duty to obey an unconstitutional violation of your constitutional rights. Just don't get caught carrying (if you carry illegally, you do so at your own risk). Is your safety more important than obeying an unconstitutional, tyrannical law? This is a decision that every person must make themselves.

***Should you still apply for a permit? ABSOLUTELY.*** Police are far more likely to grant you leeway if you have an CCW or LTC than if you don't. Having a CCW or LTC, is better to have the license and await the positive legal challenges.

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On January 1, 2024, state law prohibits possession of legally concealed firearms in certain locations (actual practice and the nebulous or a sheriff's/chief's restrictions notwithstanding). For instance, bars are technically "gun free zones" in California, and a licensee may lose their CCW or LTC if found carrying in one. This bill applies the force of law to many places that sheriff's/chief's place off-limits and add new places. The bill is so broad it basically prohibits concealed carry except on public streets and sidewalks or private property where the owner specifically allows it, never mind "no gun" signs. The list includes:

- All public buildings and permitted public events.
- All areas under control of an airport authority (public airports)
- Public transportation and certain private transportation
- Bars and restaurants
- Daycares and childcare facilities
- Playgrounds and parks
- State parks and land under the control of Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- Gaming establishments
- Stadiums, libraries, amusement parks, and museums
- Churches and houses of worship
- Banks and their parking lots
- All private commercial property without specific permission of the property owner

Under existing law, the required course of training for an applicant is no more than 16 hours and covers firearm safety and laws regarding the permissible use of a firearm.

This bill would change the training requirement to be no less than 16 hours in length and would add additional subjects to the training course.

For license renewal applicants, the course of training may be any course acceptable to the licensing authority, shall be no less than eight hours. No course of training shall be required for any person certified by the licensing authority as a trainer for purposes of this section, in order for that person to renew a license issued pursuant to this chapter.

**AS OF THIS WRITING THE ABOVE PROHIBITIONS & CHANGES ARE NOT IN EFFECT.**

[Follow this link for the restrictions that are currently in place.](#)

Don't despair! Apply for your CCW anyway. Barring a total collapse into totalitarianism this law will be struck down. You are responsible for your own safety as it's clear the state has no respect for the rule of law, wants you disarmed, and will not protect you. Make your dispositions accordingly.

# Debunking the Myth of "Concealed-Carry

## Debunking the Myth of "Concealed-Carry Killers"

Amy Swearer & Cooper Conway Heritage Foundation

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. **The Violence Policy Center claim falls apart when even the slightest bit of scrutiny is applied to it.**
2. **Americans defend themselves with their firearms between 500,000 and 3 million times every year.**
3. **Concealed-carry permit holders have intervened to stop many scenarios that likely would have turned into mass killings but for their actions.**



The Violence Policy Center—a gun control advocacy group—released a study last month [it wrongly claims shows](#) that “too many concealed-carry permit holders are a direct threat to public safety.”

That claim rests on an analysis of a database documenting “non-self-defense incidents,” which the organization says proves that “allowing random people to carry guns endangers public safety.”

On its face, that claim is contrary to [the wealth of data](#) indicating that concealed-carry permit holders are one of the most law-abiding populations in the nation.

Moreover, concealed-carry permit holders are not “random people,” but individuals with the government’s affirmative approval to carry a concealed firearm in public places after having completed a series of steps required by the government.

It’s hardly surprising, then, that the Violence Policy Center claim falls apart when even the slightest bit of scrutiny is applied to it.

Not only is the claim based on a grossly misleading characterization of what the database actually captures, but the numbers from the database flatly contradict the Violence Policy Center’s claim that America’s 18 million concealed-carry permit holders represent a serious risk to public safety.

That’s particularly true in light of the role permit holders play in actively protecting themselves and the public from violent crime.

### **The Study Grossly Mischaracterizes the Data**

Beyond the immediately suspect nature of the Violence Policy Center’s claims, the database erroneously includes many deaths that are not attributable to the misuse of a concealed-carry permit.

The anti-gun group defines “non-self-defense incident” to include virtually any fatality involving a concealed-carry permit holder, including ones that do not remotely resemble the type of intentional homicide evoked by the Violence Policy Center’s strong claims about public safety.

For example, roughly 40% of the deaths (534 of 1,335) are suicides. While tragic, firearm suicides are not what a term like “concealed-carry killer” brings to mind.

Moreover, analysis of the remaining “non-self-defense” deaths also belies the group’s use of the term.

The Violence Policy Center includes many fatalities where the shooter’s concealed-carry permit was irrelevant because he or she did not carry a concealed weapon in public while perpetrating the crime.

For example, the database includes a Nov. 11, 2008, death where a permit holder fatally shot her husband in their own backyard, and a June 12, 2012, death where the permit holder fatally shot his wife while she slept in their own bedroom.

Had their respective states never issued a concealed-carry permit to a single person, these shooters still would have been in lawful possession of these firearms inside their own homes.

Also of dubious inclusion are at least 10 cases that involve someone other than the permit holder using the permit holder’s firearm, and a number of cases where the individual’s permit either should have been suspended or was actually suspended under state law at the time of the death.

Finally, despite the Violence Policy Center’s claim that it only analyzed non-self-defense shootings, in 72 of the 801 homicide deaths included in the database, the shooter’s claim of self-defense is still pending in court.

In other words, the anti-gun group has preemptively convicted those parties before a jury has had the opportunity to determine whether they acted in lawful self-defense.

### **The Data Paints a Different Picture**

As a result of the report, the Violence Policy Center’s legislative director stated that “concealed-carry killers continue to claim innocent lives at a shocking pace.”

The only shocking thing about the pace of crimes committed by concealed-carry permit holders is just how slow it is compared with the statistical expectation.

According to the data, America’s 18 million concealed-carry permit holders accounted for 801 firearm-related homicides over a 15-year span, which amounts to roughly 0.7% of all firearm-related homicides during that time.

That percentage drops even lower if any of the defendants in the 72 cases still pending in court are determined to have acted in lawful self-defense.

Since 2007, when the Violence Policy Center started tracking these concealed-carry permit holder deaths, there has been a 304% increase in the number of Americans with a concealed-carry permit.

At the same time, the national violent crime and homicide rates in 2018 were actually lower than they were in 2007, and [substantially lower](#) than their historical highs in the early 1990s, when far fewer Americans had concealed-carry permits.

Similarly, despite the anti-gun group’s claim that concealed-carry permit holders represent a severe danger to law enforcement officers, the data indicates that they are accountable for a disproportionately small number of law enforcement deaths.

The FBI recorded 608 law enforcement officers who were killed in “felonious acts” between 2007 and 2018. According to the Violence Policy Center, 18 concealed-carry permit holders killed 23 law enforcement officers during that time.

That accounts for roughly 3.7% of law enforcement officer felonious deaths, even though concealed-carry permit holders account for 5.5% of the population.

Just as with non-law enforcement deaths, many of the cases the Violence Policy Center includes [as law enforcement officer deaths](#) involve scenarios where the killer’s status as a permit holder played no role in the crime.

In fact, by our count, only 10 of the 24 law enforcement officer deaths between 2007 and the time of publication involved permit holders actually carrying concealable firearms in public places.

For example, the database includes the case of Ryan Schlesinger, who in November 2018 used a rifle from inside his own home to kill an officer in Tucson, Arizona, serving him with an arrest warrant.

The concealed-carry permit was not only completely irrelevant in that situation—one does not need a concealed-carry permit to lawfully possess a rifle inside one’s home, nor is a rifle a “concealed carry” weapon—but Schlesinger was prohibited under state law from possessing firearms.

Even if his permit was, through some technicality, still “valid” under state law, the permit would have been [automatically suspended](#) upon his arrest for a felony.

### **Concealed-Carry Permit Holders Regularly Save Lives**

As we have [often noted](#), Americans defend themselves with their firearms between 500,000 and 3 million times every year.

It’s unclear how many of these defensive gun uses involve concealed-carry permit holders carrying in public places, but our own records show that concealed-carry permit holders can and do save lives.

Consider the following recent examples:

- **Sept. 27, Redding, California:** A concealed-carry permit holder helped [stop a kidnapping](#) after it became clear to him that another customer at a gas station was holding a woman against her will. The man had kidnapped the woman earlier in the evening, and the permit holder, noticing the woman’s clear distress, confronted the man and held him at gunpoint until police arrived.
- **Sept. 19, Miami-Dade County, Florida:** An [armed good Samaritan](#) with a handgun concealed in her purse intervened to stop a brutal robbery and assault occurring outside a Popeyes restaurant. The woman drew her weapon and fired at a man who was pummeling a helpless victim lying on the concrete, sending the attacker fleeing.
- **Sept. 3, Coshocton County, Ohio:** A concealed-carry permit holder [stopped a knife-wielding man](#) who was threatening customers and employees at a McDonald’s fast-food restaurant. The Coshocton County Sheriff’s Office later posted on Facebook: “Due to the heroic actions of [the permit holder], deputies were able to take the suspect into custody without injury or loss of life.”

Moreover, concealed-carry permit holders have intervened to stop many scenarios that likely would have turned into mass killings but for their actions.

For example, on Feb. 13, a permit holder in Colonial Heights, Tennessee, was [deemed a “hero”](#) by local police after he prevented a deadly encounter at a dentist’s office from turning much worse.

In the end, the Violence Policy Center’s database does nothing more than confirm that concealed-carry permit holders are, on the whole, incredibly law-abiding, and that allowing more Americans to exercise their constitutional right in more places does not result in a serious threat to public safety.

*This piece originally appeared in The Daily Signal*

# 12 Defensive Gun Uses - Show That Armed Citizens Make Communities Safer

Amy Swearer Heritage Foundation

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. These residents say they will soon start conducting “legal, armed community patrols” on a regular basis.
2. In 2021, the most comprehensive study ever conducted on the issue concluded that roughly 1.6 million defensive gun uses occur in the United States every year.
3. While most communities won’t feel the need to organize armed citizen patrols, they should nonetheless embrace their fellow citizens who choose to.



As the nation continues to reel from historic violent crime spikes, many [gun control](#) activists turn reflexively to the same “[bumper sticker slogan](#)” policy “solutions” that fail to address real problems while often undermining the Second Amendment rights of peaceable citizens.

Last week, some Hartford, Connecticut, residents [made headlines for taking a different approach](#). Instead of demanding that their fellow citizens abandon their rights to armed [self-defense](#), they announced that they would henceforth start exercising those rights in a public manner to enhance community safety.

These residents say they will soon start conducting “legal, armed community patrols” on a regular basis, with the goal of preventing gun violence in a [city experiencing homicide totals](#) not seen in several decades. Organizers told reporters that patrol members will be trained to calmly de-escalate situations when possible and emphasized that they won’t openly [carry firearms](#) once a new state law prohibiting the practice goes into effect.

The Hartford Police Department, to its credit, has indicated that these community patrols won’t face pushback from officers “as long as they are operating within the law,” acknowledging that these citizens “have Second Amendment rights like the rest of us.”

While some will certainly consider the residents’ decision to be controversial, the reality is that the [right to keep and bear arms](#), whether exercised individually or collectively, has always played an important role in protecting life, liberty, and property—and it continues to do so today.

Almost every major study has found that Americans use their firearms in self-defense between [500,000 and 3 million times](#) annually, as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has acknowledged. In 2021, the most comprehensive study ever conducted on the issue concluded that [roughly 1.6 million defensive gun uses](#) occur in the United States every year.

For this reason, [The Daily Signal](#) publishes a monthly article highlighting some of the previous month’s many news stories on defensive gun use that you may have missed—or that might not have made it to the national spotlight

in the first place. ([Read other accounts here](#) from past months and years. You also may follow [@DailyDGU](#) on X, formerly Twitter, for daily highlights of defensive gun uses.)

The examples below represent only a small portion of the news stories on defensive gun use that we found in August. You may explore more using The Heritage Foundation's interactive [Defensive Gun Use Database](#). (The Daily Signal is Heritage's multimedia news organization.)

- **Aug. 1, Cocoa, Florida:** When a man began violently assaulting his ex-girlfriend in a parking lot near a youth football practice, a coach [attempted to intervene](#). The man—a [convicted felon](#)—grabbed a revolver from his car and shot at the coach, who had his own gun and returned fire until the man fled. Police are still searching for the suspect. The coach sustained a minor graze wound but wasn't seriously injured.
- **Aug. 4, Clovis, New Mexico:** A woman [fatally shot her ex-boyfriend](#) after he broke into her home. The ex-boyfriend had been accused multiple times of trespassing on the property, and the woman had begun the process of obtaining a restraining order against him.
- **Aug. 7, Salem, Indiana:** Police say that a man drove his car through the lawn at a home belonging to his ex-girlfriend's parents, assaulted her father, pinned him to the ground, and pointed a gun at his head. The victim's wife saw the altercation, came outside with her own gun, and [fatally shot her husband's assailant](#). The assailant had a lengthy criminal history, but it's unclear why he targeted the couple.
- **Aug. 10, Farmington, Missouri:** A woman fatally shot her husband [after he threatened to kill her](#) during an "alcohol-fueled rage" then went to find his gun. The woman believed her husband would carry out his threats because he had already served an eight-year prison sentence for domestic assault. Fortunately, she was able to get to her gun before he could get to his.
- **Aug. 12, Chicago, Illinois:** An armed man and woman approached a rideshare driver as he dropped off a passenger, stole his cell phone, and then fired shots at him. The driver, however, [had a concealed carry permit](#) and drew his own gun and returned fire, striking and injuring both robbers. The driver wasn't injured.
- **Aug. 14, Centerville, Texas:** A man began aggressively approaching customers at a local smokehouse then entered the restaurant's restroom and assaulted an elderly man until he lay unconscious on the floor. When another patron tried to intervene, the assailant began assaulting him, as well. Fortunately, this [patron was legally armed](#) and was able to shoot and wound the man in self-defense. The assailant was arrested and charged with several criminal offenses.
- **Aug. 15, Tulsa, Oklahoma:** A homeowner [fatally shot a man](#) whom he found vandalizing his air conditioner unit after the vandal charged at him despite warnings to stop.
- **Aug. 18, Seminole County, Florida:** A man was sitting on his porch with his dog when a "bear alert device" activated and he saw a black bear about 8 to 10 feet away from him. The man tried to scare the bear away by yelling, but it charged at him and his dog, so [he shot it three times](#) until it fled. State wildlife officials ultimately euthanized the injured bear and took her cubs to a rehabilitation center with plans to release them back into the wild later this year.
- **Aug. 23, Maine, New York:** Two intruders (at least one of whom was armed) broke into a home only to be confronted by the homeowner, who [exchanged gunfire](#) with one of them. One suspect was shot and wounded during the exchange while the other suspect fled. The homeowner wasn't injured, despite having at least eight rounds fired at him.
- **Aug. 25, Somerville, Alabama:** A man and woman were allegedly burglarizing a home when an [armed neighbor confronted](#) them and detained them at gunpoint until police arrived. The pair now face unspecified criminal charges.

- **Aug. 28, Jackson, Michigan:** A townhouse resident heard her neighbors having a loud argument, knocked on their adjoining wall, and asked them to quiet down. Instead of quieting down, a male neighbor angrily [emerged from the home armed](#) with a knife and began shattering the woman’s windows. She shot and injured him as he tried to force his way into her residence.
- **Aug. 30, Butler, Pennsylvania:** An armed [resident shot and wounded](#) an intoxicated intruder who broke into his basement. The resident initially ordered the intruder to put his hands on a nearby washing machine, but the man kept advancing toward him even after he fired a warning shot. The suspect was already wanted by local law enforcement for unspecified reasons and now faces an additional felony burglary charge.

As these defensive gun uses demonstrate, lawful gun owners are more than capable of exercising their Second Amendment rights in a responsible manner, and on the whole, they make their communities safer by helping to stop violent threats.

While most communities won’t feel the need to organize armed citizen patrols, they should nonetheless embrace their fellow citizens who choose to individually exercise their right to keep and bear arms.

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