



CONNECTICUT CARRY, INC

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Senator Meyer hosts anti-gun rally in Guilford

Illegally waves a BB gun 'Assault weapon' around

Guilford, Connecticut, January 13th, 2013:

Senator Ed Meyer hosted an anti-gun rally disguised as a 'gun violence forum' at the First Congregational Church in Guilford Connecticut. The rally started with a representative of the church's 'peace committee' citing information that was blatantly false such as:

- It is constitutional to ban firearms.
- The Second Amendment is about militias and therefore does not apply to individuals.
- America is somehow more violent than other countries.
- Modern sporting rifles are a main culprit of the violent crime.
- Violence is on the rise in America.

These anti-rights talking points are clearly false and have been disproven in such works as "More Guns, Less Crime" by John Lott, and by simply looking at FBI crime data which is released annually and is freely available to the public on their website. Violent crime has been on a steady decline for decades, regardless of the sales of these types of firearms and the overwhelming spread of more lenient laws that allow more citizens across the nation to carry firearms in public. The Federal Assault Weapons Ban of 1994 did nothing to change crime statistics or provide for public safety, nor did it prevent such heinous acts as the Columbine massacre or the North Hollywood shootout, although it did hinder the response to the North Hollywood incident.

Senator Meyer went on to tell people erroneously that his bill won't affect most of them and that there have been no cases of self defense with a firearm in Connecticut. Senator Meyer had no sufficient answer for the gentlemen from Madison who stood up and recounted his experience as a child when a violent criminal tried to break into his home and his sister protected him with a semi-automatic shotgun without needing to fire a single shot, thankfully. Senator Meyer did not want to hear from Connecticut Carry President Rich Burgess about the [estimated 1.5 – 2.5 million](#) uses of firearms in self defense each year. The

NRA keeps an archive of such stories on their 'Armed Citizen' [website](#). Indeed, there are [82 such incidents](#) in Connecticut alone, and this is likely a tiny portion of the actual events.

Senator Ed Meyer would not call on Connecticut Carry Rich Burgess who was ready and willing to ask why Senator Meyer would bother with such a bill when the DC v Heller case(s) so clearly outlined that it would be unconstitutional to ban guns in 'common use' like all of the guns Senator Meyer proposes to ban. The Supreme Court also ruled that citizens could not be required by law to store their firearms where they would be inaccessible to them. Senator Meyer claims to have consulted with an attorney about these issues but obviously did not consult with an appropriate attorney that understood our current legal landscape.

Senator Meyer then went on to introduce a guest he had invited, Retired Police Officer Pat Leary, who pulled out a facsimile of an AR 15, which he identified as a 'BB gun' and stated it was 'not loaded'. He then proceeded to wave it around the room as he described why he thought the laws should be changed to ban that type of firearm.

Connecticut Carry President Rich Burgess contacted the Guilford Police Department about the incident and described that this is a clear violation of Connecticut General Statute Sec. 53-206." Carrying of dangerous weapons prohibited". The situation is under investigation by the Guilford Police Department. Retired Officer Pat Leary demonstrated another thing: How archaic and completely ridiculous our laws in this state are and how most police officers do not know or understand those laws.

Senator Ed Meyer also came out of the church carrying the same BB gun and admitted to not knowing the law. We expect the Guilford Police Department will also investigate his actions, as they confirmed in front of us that the church did not have knowledge of this dangerous and unlawful stunt.

- More information on this issue can be found on <http://ctcarry.com>.
- NRA-ILA's Armed Citizen: <http://www.nraila.org/gun-laws/armed-citizen.aspx>
- Self defense incidents in Connecticut: <http://www.nraila.org/gun-laws/armed-citizen.aspx?s=&st=10471&pageNum=1>
- DC v Heller: <http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/07-290.ZS.html>
- Defensive Gun Use numbers: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles/165476.pdf>

Connecticut Carry is dedicated to advancing and protecting the fundamental civil rights of the men and women of Connecticut to keep and bear arms for defense of themselves and the state as guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Connecticut.

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