

00;00;19;23 - 00;00;40;28

Stephen Gutowski

All right. Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to another episode of the Weekly Reload Podcast. I'm your host, Stephen Gutowski. I'm a CNN contributor and founder of theReload.com where you can head over today if you want to sign up for our free weekly newsletter to keep up to date with what's going on with guns in America from a sober, serious perspective that focuses on hard news and analysis.

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Stephen Gutowski

This week, we are talking about a new ATF reform that was driven in part by a big, long lasting, years-long legal fight with, the group that we're actually going to be talking to, one of the representatives today and Gun Owners of America and the Gun Owners Foundation. We have a board member of both of those, groups with us, Sam Paredes, who's also the executive director of, Gun Owners of California.

00;01;09;11 - 00;01;11;14

Stephen Gutowski

Welcome back to the show, Sam.

00;01;11;17 - 00;01;14;16

Sam Paredes

Stephen, it's always a pleasure and an honor to be with you.

00;01;14;18 - 00;01;22;23

Stephen Gutowski

Absolutely. I appreciate you coming on. Can you tell people just a little bit more about yourself and, goer as well? Before we get started here?

00;01;22;26 - 00;01;55;07

Sam Paredes

Sure. Gun Owners of America and and Gun Owners of California. We are actually the oldest pro-gun political action committee in the country. In 1975, when the political action committee guidelines and statutes were passed in Congress in California, our founder chairman, Senator H. Richardson, who was a member of the board of directors of NRA, went to them and said, hey, I want to start one of these new political action committees to fight back, because in California, they're trying to ban handguns.

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Sam Paredes

And they said, sure, go right ahead. So Gun Owners of California started, and within a year, Gun Owners of America grew. We knew we needed a national presence on this. We focused on lobbying. We focused on elections. And now more than ever, we're focusing on on litigation. But, we've been doing this fight. I've been involved since 1980, so I've been doing it for a long time.

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Sam Paredes

But, all of those years of traveling in the trenches in the mud are starting to pay off. And now, more than ever, we have to work harder than we ever have in order to keep the ball moving forward in the in the restoration of our Second Amendment rights. So I live in California. I grew up in East LA.

00;02;41;22 - 00;03;07;09

Sam Paredes

I live up in the foothills here of mountain foothills. Where, it's it's absolutely beautiful. And people who would come and and be with us would say, well, yeah, I understand why some people don't leave California, but, we we love it here. We love the fight. People need to understand that what happens in California, it's it's it's like an infection.

00:03:07:09 - 00:03:24:07

Sam Paredes

And we're trying to prevent it from spreading to other states, but, but we also work, on nationally because everything that happens on a national basis affects California. And ultimately, we will win. That's the the down and dirty.

00:03:24:09 - 00:03:47:09

Stephen Gutowski

All right. Well, and, this week we are going to be focusing on that litigation side of, what you guys do because you it seems at least that you've had some success here with this, ATF policy regarding, what are called Brady permits and, the ATF reverse course on how it interprets what qualifies as a so-called Brady permit.

00:03:47:12 - 00:04:03:05

Stephen Gutowski

And that seems to have occurred because of, legal case that you guys had been, fighting with the ATF for the last five years, both in Michigan and in Alabama. Right.

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Sam Paredes

00:04:04:20 - 00:04:26:22

Stephen Gutowski

So and so, yeah. Well, so just to to start off here. So let's first let's go over what a Brady permit is because I don't think a lot of people know what this even this concept means because you know lots of people know what a gun carry permit is and you know, or a permit to purchase a gun, you know, some states have that requirement.

00:04:26:24 - 00:04:42:21

Stephen Gutowski

But most people, I don't think, understand what, maybe I've never heard of a Brady permit. And they even they might. They might even have one that qualifies as a Brady primitive. Not necessarily. No. So can you just give us a background on what is a Brady permit?

00:04:42:23 - 00:04:44:00

Sam Paredes

What? So what.

00:04:44:07 - 00:04:45:06

Stephen Gutowski

Don't talking about here.

00:04:45:09 - 00:05:21:08

Sam Paredes

Under the Brady Act. The the the Brady alternative to background checks. Everybody who purchases a firearm, firearms, ammunition and concealed carry weapon permits are the only things that the next system is supposed to do background checks on. And so when you buy a gun, the background check is done. The states can, can ping, the NICs system on some ammunition issues and, and, and to get a CCW, you have to go through the NICs.

00:05:21:11 - 00:05:50:15

Sam Paredes

So, you get the background check of background checks when you, when you, when the, the feds approve. Now, the FBI maintains the, the database, the ATF is the one who kind of administers things and sets the policies. And so, the Brady Alternative said that if you have a concealed carry weapons permit, you are not required to go through another background check when you buy a gun.

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Sam Paredes

First of all, it is assumed that you have already purchased the gun and that you have already gone through the background check. But the fact that you've gone through a CCW, NICs check, is, is something that is constantly reviewed. If there's an issue, you become prohibited. It's easy for the federal government to contact the state and say, hey, this person is not prohibited.

00;06;12;15 - 00;06;57;09

Sam Paredes

They need to, to be dealt with. So it was a streamlining of the process then that made sense. You know, if you have a gun, you have a CCW. You are already constantly monitored as to your legal status. So that's what the, the, the Brady, alternative did for, for CCW holders across the country. Now, right about five years ago, we had to file a lawsuit in Michigan and Alabama because, gentleman name, Donald Roberts went to the gun store and tried to buy a gun and showed his CCW, and the gun store would not accept that they wanted him to go through the background check.

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Sam Paredes

That doesn't mean he doesn't fill out the the registration forms 4473. And so it's the background check that was not required. And so he was not allowed to buy the gun without that. So we filed the lawsuit in support of, of his challenges against the system.

00;07;14;20 - 00;07;40;28

Stephen Gutowski

Okay. So essentially a Brady permit is, any kind of permit that allows you to forego the background check when you go to, to purchase a firearm. And just to give a little bit of clarification, I guess, from the ATF's website, here are the three requirements for a permit that's issued like a gun carry a state gun.

00;07;40;28 - 00;08;05;07

Stephen Gutowski

Carry permit or concealed carry permit, for it to qualify as a Brady permit, they say on the website. One, the permit must allow the non licensee, which is just, you know, the person who's not the gun dealer to possess or acquire a firearm. Two the permit must have been issued not more than five years earlier by the state in which the transfer is take place.

00;08;05;09 - 00;08;31;23

Stephen Gutowski

And three state law must provide that. The permit was to be issued only after an authorized government official verified that the information available to such official does not indicate that it would be a violation of the law for the non licensee to possess a firearm. Basically, the third point is just that the the concealed carry permit you get has to check and see if you're a prohibited person or not before you can, before you're issued the permit.

00;08;31;29 - 00;09;02;10

Stephen Gutowski

So, you know, there's a pretty, straightforward requirements, at least according to ATF's website. And they certainly sound like requirements that would, make every gun carry permit, a Brady permit, or at least they, they ought to. And so it sounds here. But obviously, if you look at the chart the ATF puts out, even now, even after they've added a number of states, thanks to, I think, in large part the lawsuit that you guys filed.

00;09;02;12 - 00;09;26;19

Stephen Gutowski

It's still not all 50 states. It's still not all every gun carry permit on there for. And it's not clear to me why that is. But anyway so go let's let's go through five years ago, under the first Trump administration, I guess at the time, you guys filed the suit in Michigan. What, what has been the legal argument on the other side or at what?

00;09;26;22 - 00;09;35;03

Stephen Gutowski

What are the two arguments or what were you guys arguing, in this case? And then what was the ATF responding with?

00;09;35;05 - 00;10;15;29

Sam Paredes

Well, the ATF after, they changed their position with regards to the Brady permits? They argue to me, nonsensically, that everybody has to constantly be, background checked and, and that, some states don't have sufficient, check systems and, and all kinds of gobbledygook. And, and basically it was a part of the ATF's overall anti Second Amendment position, making it more difficult in every way possible for people to be able to avail themselves of firearms.

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Sam Paredes

It it boils down to that we we in our lawsuit, we quoted the law, we we quoted the statutes, we quoted, you know what the process was and how it was working and why it should be the law of the land. And ultimately, we were victorious in and on these issues in Michigan and Alabama. So they were the first two states to allow for the Brady, the Brady permit to be their, their, their background check.

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Sam Paredes

Now, today we got an announcement, Joy just announced that, other states, including Alabama, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Puerto Rico and Wisconsin have been added to the list of people who, of states where where people live, they show their CCW their Brady permit, will be able to circumvent the additional background check. Now, mind you, people need to understand that when you do a CCW, this this is a live database.

00;11;15;12 - 00;11;37;08

Sam Paredes

They constantly check to see if anybody on the database is has committed a crime or some violation of the law. And, and has become disqualified. And they don't just sit there with that information. They communicate it to the states. So this is a very real and live thing that is going on. I don't particularly think it's it's constitutional, but it is what it is.

00;11;37;10 - 00;12;04;15

Sam Paredes

And so we, we we said, hey, listen, this is the law. You guys changed it on a whim. It's time to change it back now, Stephen, as you pointed out, this should be the law of the land in all 50 states. But it's not. Therefore, our our legal challenges are going to continue as we spread to get this, the the provisions applicable in all 50 states.

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Sam Paredes

Now, as you can imagine, you know, you have 50 states. It's like herding cats. Every one of them has different laws and different requirements for concealed carry weapons permits and different background checks. Here in California, you get the super duper extra special, rectal examination background check within the state, as well as the next check, before you're allowed to get a concealed carry weapons permit.

00;12;35;08 - 00;13;01;16

Sam Paredes

And some states have, additional and different requirement. They have statutes that, that, that overlap, the laws. And even if the, the, the federal law is clarified, there's still many steps that we have to go through in order to, to break that down, open and make this applicable to all of 50 states. And in many cases, it's a state by state basis.

00;13;01;19 - 00;13;15;26

Stephen Gutowski

So do you know how many states now have, at least one Brady permit qualifying? Last I looked when I wrote about this

early in the week, I think it was about 30 states. So is that, you're saying and.

00;13;15;28 - 00;13;22;13

Sam Paredes

No, I, I believe you're correct. I think it's about 30 states. Where this.

00;13;22;13 - 00;13;34;19

Stephen Gutowski

Is, but it wasn't just, I guess, initially it seemed like it was just Michigan and and Alabama that had been added. But, you know, it seems like it was more than just those two states. Was these, 5 or 6 others as well?

00;13;34;27 - 00;13;59;12

Sam Paredes

That's correct. That's correct. And as more and more states, realize that, ATF has changed their position on, on this issue, more and more of them are working through the process of, of, making it happen in, in their states. We have a lot of great states who are super pro-gun, and, and they have things that they have to go through, procedures.

00;13;59;12 - 00;14;18;29

Sam Paredes

They have to go through legislative procedures in order to, to make these things happen. So it yeah, I wish we could just go like that. And and it was done, which is the way it should be. But it's not so until it is that we're going to keep fighting in every state that we can to, to make sure that the Brady check qualifies.

00;14;18;29 - 00;14;30;24

Sam Paredes

If we get that done in California, the rest of the other states will fall in line. So we're we're actively, working to, to make that happen.

00;14;30;26 - 00;14;56;05

Stephen Gutowski

Okay. And so it sounds like in this, these this Michigan suit, for instance, that you guys are arguing that Michigan's law and the way that it processes its permits already meets the standards under federal law for it to be a Brady permit, because it I guess, can you get a little more into detail about exactly.

00;14;56;07 - 00;15;17;29

Stephen Gutowski

It's what the hang up is here. Like, it sounds like ATF or the DOJ was arguing that, you know, some states don't recheck their permit holders frequently enough for them to be comfortable with for them to qualify under the Brady Act. Is that more or less the the hang up or.

00;15;18;05 - 00;15;34;15

Sam Paredes

That is that is part of the hang up. And that's why some of these things need to be addressed. Legislatively in each of the states, the guidelines put out by the ATF say that the, the permits cannot last for more than what it it say five years.

00;15;34;15 - 00;15;43;04

Stephen Gutowski

As you write years. Is that another part of it that basically if some of these states issue permits that last longer than five years, they won't qualify.

00;15;43;06 - 00;16;08;29

Sam Paredes

And there are a lot of constitutional carry states that that issue permits so that, their, their residents who don't require a permit in their own state will have the ability either for reciprocity in states that, that, accept, the permits from, from that

those particular states and, some of them I think will qualify them for the, for the Brady permit.

00;16;08;29 - 00;16;30;22

Sam Paredes

But you're correct. Some of them issue permits, like here in California, they are only valid for two years. In California they are constantly checking and updating the CCW list for for fine to fine disqualified people. But that's not the case in in a lot of other states. So like I said, it's kind of a mishmash.

00;16;30;24 - 00;17;00;27

Sam Paredes

Some states don't require a renewal of the permit. And that has to be addressed because there has to be a renewal ability so that the, ATF understands that, that a background check on a state basis is being conducted. Because the NICs, system checks, federal violations and violations in other states and doesn't do the deep dive into necessarily into violations of state law, which which could be disqualifying.

00;17;00;27 - 00;17;03;29

Stephen Gutowski

So because that's an issue that comes up and it's.

00;17;04;01 - 00;17;05;00

Sam Paredes

Like.

00;17;05;03 - 00;17;29;08

Stephen Gutowski

So again, I think that's an issue that also comes up in some reciprocity arguments. Right. Like what there's this is one of the reasons that you're you'll sometimes hear blue states not wanting to give reciprocity to to other states. You're more states with more restrictive gun carry laws not wanting to give reciprocity. Other states, I think, for instance, Virginia and Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania stopped recognizing the Virginia permit.

00;17;29;08 - 00;17;53;28

Stephen Gutowski

And one of the reasons was this idea that the, the the Virginia state, like, criminal record system isn't quite queryable 24 hours a day or something. You know, this is one of the reasons, obviously, as you mentioned, 50 different states, 50 different policies on how, you know, law enforcement recordkeeping works and things of that nature.

00;17;53;28 - 00;18;14;13

Stephen Gutowski

And so, I mean, it sounds like that's one of the, I guess, disputes here, but but, in Geo's point of view, from Joe's position view point of view, all 50, concealed carry permits that exists now ought to qualify as Brady permits. Or do you see.

00;18;14;13 - 00;18;34;26

Sam Paredes

Any that is on position that the Brady alternative should include, all CCW holders nationwide? Period. That's the way it should be if you follow the law. I don't particularly like the law, but that is what the law is. And if it's there, you better follow it or we're going to come and challenge you on that. You're absolutely correct about reciprocity.

00;18;35;00 - 00;18;56;14

Sam Paredes

Reciprocity has become almost a political football. You know, one state gets mad at another state for whatever reason. And and they they take away reciprocity or they change their rules. And what business does one state have to say that another state doesn't do a good enough job to, to, to do background checks and stuff? That's really none of their businesses.

00;18;56;14 - 00;19;25;01

Sam Paredes

No, no, we believe that, a CCW permit should be treated like a driver's license. It is, after all, a constitutional right, not a privilege that you're granted by a driver's license. But driver's licenses are approved and accepted in all 50 states and all territories of the United States. CCW should be treated exactly the same way. And, and, we're fighting very hard, to, to make that happen.

00;19;25;07 - 00;19;52;22

Sam Paredes

So, people need to understand that the wish and the desire is to get all 50 states included in this thing, and, and we are, are fighting through the political mire, in order to, to achieve that goal. But it is something it is a full time job to fight for this and and an expensive job because when you, you file lawsuits and you it, it costs a lot of money to do that.

00;19;52;22 - 00;20;19;16

Sam Paredes

So we, we try to pick and choose the in priority the states where we would have the most impact that would open up the dam for additional states if we're successful in, in one particular state. So it's it's a dynamic situation that takes a lot of wisdom and a lot of research. And a lot of good consultation with our pro constitutional attorneys.

00;20;19;18 - 00;20;56;14

Stephen Gutowski

And, yeah, I mean, I'm just looking at the actual Brady Act language right now, and it's literally just exactly the same as with the ATF posts on the website. And so all it really requires is that, that, that some of these permit allows them to possess firearms, that it's not older than five years. You know, it's not it wasn't issued more than five years ago and that it's only issued after, a authorized government official verified that the applicant wasn't a prohibited person.

00;20;56;16 - 00;21;20;04

Stephen Gutowski

So, you know, I mean, it sounds like I guess the ATF is interpreting on top of that extra requirements because, yeah, it's hard to imagine that any concealed carry permit in the country wouldn't already meet those three requirements other than, I guess, as you mentioned, some do last longer than five years. But but, that's interesting.

00;21;20;04 - 00;21;47;06

Stephen Gutowski

But so I guess, you've got the ATF to change course at least partially on this. They haven't. And if you go and look at their website now, they have a whole chart where they outline and it's also, you know, as the the text reveals, it's not just concealed carry permits, obviously. That's what we're talking about because it's the most common kind of permit most, gun owners would have that would qualify under this.

00;21;47;06 - 00;22;28;04

Stephen Gutowski

But you can also have like state, you know, permit to purchase, you know, some states require a permit to purchase and that can, it seems, would qualify, as a Brady permit as well. Or, you know, Foid cards might be another one in a few states that would potentially qualify as, Brady alternatives, to. So, but if you look through, you know, like none of California's different firearms licenses, whether it's carry or, or, entertainment firearms permits, for instance, is another one that California has.

00;22;28;07 - 00;22;52;03

Stephen Gutowski

None of them qualify, you know, not in Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware. There's so a lot of states, DC, like my DC carry permit, does not qualify as a Brady permit for whatever reason. I mean, they do they do give some reasons here. Like, for instance, and I guess this can be part of the hang up, right?

00;22;52;03 - 00;23;26;15

Stephen Gutowski

Is that, Well, just use DC as an example. They, the ATF writes the prohibited person disqualifies for the issuance of this permit. Do not include all federal prohibited. DC privilege, not include the federal firearm prohibited refer persons adjudicated as mentally defectives or those convicted of a qualifying misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. They're claiming that you can get a DC concealed carry permit without, you know, if you have a domestic violence misdemeanor conviction or you've been adjudicated, mentally defective.

00:23:26;21 - 00:23:44;22

Stephen Gutowski

I find that highly questionable. But they, you know, they they're giving some of these reasons. And, I guess some of them deal with state laws, not completely mirroring, federal prohibited persons lists. Is that an issue you guys are working on, or.

00:23:44;24 - 00:24:23;11

Sam Paredes

Absolutely. It is. Basically the the ATF's change in position has opened the door for us to go. It's now our job to go and challenge, all of the states that are not complying with, with the policy of the ATF with regarding the Brady alternative, the Brady permits, it's our job to go and, and, and force these other states to, change their positions, challenge the fact that they have everything in place, they qualify and they're not, complying with it with is a violation that we believe of, of, federal statutes and regulations.

00:24:23;13 - 00:24:48;22

Sam Paredes

And so it's our job now to go and challenge those things. And it's, but the ATF, this was Steven. This was huge that they changed this position. It like I said, it, it pretty much opened the damn doors and the water started to flow out in a trickle. And it's going to come in a torrent and break the rest of the dam down.

00:24:48;24 - 00:25:09;20

Sam Paredes

If we do our job, we're not going to stand here and not take advantage of the new position from the ATF. We're going to go ahead and challenge, more and more states, if we're not complying with this. And yes, it is a matrix. It is a, a whirlpool of, various laws, and perspectives from the states.

00:25:09;20 - 00:25:35;12

Sam Paredes

Some of the states are just fighting and kicking and screaming and don't want to do it. And that's, when we will challenge them in court and force them to comply with the law. It's it's it's pretty much that simple. It is now a political as well as judicial fight that we have to be engaged in in order to, to, restore Brady permits for the Brady alternative.

00:25:35;12 - 00:26:06;26

Sam Paredes

For background checks nationwide. It is not an easy job, man, but but we're taking advantage of the progress that we have made. We went with two states. Now we have, you know, five other states. And and we're going to keep adding to that list as much as possible. It's not going to happen overnight because some of the resolutions are going to have to, require a legislative change in the particular states, in order to avoid a lawsuit.

00:26:06;28 - 00:26:39;20

Sam Paredes

And, you know, not all legislatures are, are, in session all year long, like they are here in, in California the all year long, they're, they're in session. They could deal with these issues all year long. Many states have legislature that meet in session only two months, one year and one month the next year. And so we have to, we'll file lawsuits and put them in a position to where they're going to have to address these issues when their legislative sessions do come, into effect.

00:26:39;22 - 00:26:55;10



Sam Paredes

And, and that's, that's the, the job that we have to do. We would like I said, I wish we could snap our fingers and make it happen, but it takes a lot more work than, than just saying, hey, ATF has changed. Everybody come on with us. Comply.

00;26;55;12 - 00;27;27;01

Stephen Gutowski

So. Right. Yeah. And I guess, for instance, California, where ATF gives us the reason that they don't recognize the concealed carry license as a Brady permit is just that California state law requires a background check, regardless of whether you have a on on firearms transfers, regardless of whether you have a concealed carry license. And, the ATF is claiming here that you have to follow the stricter of the two standards.

00;27;27;04 - 00;27;31;20

Stephen Gutowski

So, you know, that's that's interesting.

00;27;31;22 - 00;27;55;07

Sam Paredes

Stephen, we need to let people know that, you know, the new background check system was supposed to be a system that all 50 states could use. It's supposed to check all of them, the the, the prohibited, and be able to report to the states. Almost immediately. In most cases, within a couple of minutes, the background check is conducted and they pass the next system.

00;27;55;10 - 00;28;19;14

Sam Paredes

There are and there's a compact for that. There are several states, like California and a handful of other states that do not want to be a part of that system. So they want to conduct their own background check, and then they are permitted to access the NICs system for additional information before, you know, they they will issue a permit.

00;28;19;16 - 00;28;41;03

Sam Paredes

And that creates that creates a problem because it's not the same playing field for all 50 states. So it, it the states themselves, whether they choose to, to work with the Brady NICs system or if they choose to have their own special, system, it, you know, it creates complications.

00;28;41;06 - 00;29;05;16

Stephen Gutowski

Yeah, yeah. And, following up on this, as ATF communicated to you guys exactly why they changed their mind. Because it seems like looking through their public statements on this and looking at, for instance, the the website where they detail, these Brady permits, they don't say what why they changed the position on Michigan, in particular, right.

00;29;05;21 - 00;29;32;20

Stephen Gutowski

Where you had a lawsuit. They just happen. It just says that, their purchase, purchase, carry, possess or transfer license and license to conceal carry are both now Brady permits. They don't give an explanation one way or the other. Their press release on this just said, that they issued an updated guidance, on a FFL obligations under the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act.

00;29;32;20 - 00;30;01;10

Stephen Gutowski

So, they don't. And then there's the court filings in, you know, imply that the change is based off of, the fact that President Trump has ordered a review of various executive branch, firearms policy positions. And, obviously the change to the policy came after that, these filings that they had in your case, but they don't.

00;30;01;13 - 00;30;08;22

Stephen Gutowski

Has there been any actual explanation of why the ATF reasoning has changed here? Have they said, I can't find anything.

00;30;08;25 - 00;30;49;14

Sam Paredes

So let me explain the dynamic here. When President Trump issued his executive order on the preservation of the Second Amendment, it changed everything. You know, there were concerns about, attorney General Pam Bondi being pro-gun enough, but she's a loyal follower of the president, has implemented his desires in a very big way. We have very few complaints about anything that the Department of Justice, the ATF and the FBI have been doing to help restore, uncover, things that have been going on that that should not be going on, rulings, you know, or rules from the ATF are all being reviewed.

00;30;49;19 - 00;31;15;13

Sam Paredes

They told us that they were going to review all of the legal cases and see if they needed to change their their position. Gun Owners of America has submitted a list of, of of issues that we hope the DOJ and the ATF and the FBI will review. It appears that they are, addressing some of the issues, and we hope that and more issues will be, addressed.

00;31;15;15 - 00;31;40;09

Sam Paredes

It's a situation where we're not getting, you know, a, a press release from the DOJ saying we are we did this for the rest to restore gun rights. We are just happy that we're getting the restoration. And and it's still, you know, don't let look a gift horse in the mouth. We wish they would say some things in order to to, put all of the other states on notice.

00;31;40;12 - 00;32;13;00

Sam Paredes

But, they, they've just been doing the work and, they've been responding to the press that we've made, they've stuck to the, the commitments that they've made in reviewing all of the legal cases that they are involved in. They have put holds and asks, appellate courts and, and Scotus to, hold off on, on reviewing particular cases because they are reevaluating the federal position on, on the particular issues that are being challenged in the courts.

00;32;13;02 - 00;32;39;12

Sam Paredes

That's a good thing. That's a good thing. And, there were some cases where we don't want the, federal government to, to come in, too, because, we have cases in good courts. We're going to get great rulings, final results that will have impacts nationwide. It will prevent future administrations from being able to to, change the law of the land.

00;32;39;14 - 00;33;06;21

Sam Paredes

But there are many, many cases where, ATF changing their position will will help us, you know, overcome a lot of the, the anti-gun things that are on the books, whether the rules, whether they're statutes, or and perspective. So it is, again, a very complicated issue. We are happy that the administration, has a very clear focus on the Second Amendment, the civil Rights Division with Army.

00;33;06;21 - 00;33;27;27

Sam Paredes

Dillon, putting the country on notice that that, they are going to investigate violations of civil rights, in particular with regards to the Second Amendment in in counties across the country, they've already announced that they are challenging in the Los Angeles sheriff's deputies department because it takes two years to get a permit and it costs thousands of dollars.

00;33;27;29 - 00;33;43;14

Sam Paredes

Their they're looking at other counties in the state of California. And that's going to translate across the country. And, the focus on the restoration of the Second Amendment by the, administration is very good to see.

00;33;43;16 - 00;34;06;25

Stephen Gutowski

Right. So you're happy with what the ATF has done here, but they haven't actually explained the logic behind why they changed their minds. It does appear to be due to this review, because they put that in several filings in the case that they were reviewing this and that, you know, they may change their mind. And then now they have changed their mind, but they but as far as we know publicly, we don't have a articulation of why why they changed.

00;34;06;25 - 00;34;31;00

Sam Paredes

And so, yeah, Steven, we're happy with what they've done by and large right now there is so much more to do. And and let me tell you, we are not, a apologists for the ATF and for DOJ and the administration. We are still working every, every way we can to challenge rules that are still on the books that they have not addressed.

00;34;31;03 - 00;34;53;00

Sam Paredes

It is not slowing down our, our, approach and our, our, our fight in the courts and in legislatures and in the Congress, especially right now with suppressors and speakers and spaces and, and reciprocity. We're not we're not laying down and saying, hey, we've got friends and there's nothing for us to do. Let them do their job.

00;34;53;00 - 00;35;19;18

Sam Paredes

No, we are there to encourage them to, to, to recommend, to suggest, and sometimes to challenge them in courts if they, you know, don't act quickly enough in order to kind of light a fire under them and make them pay attention. So this is not a, you know, let's say Kumbaya around the campfire situation. It's still, a major fight.

00;35;19;20 - 00;35;22;12

Sam Paredes

And, and we're trying to get them to focus.

00;35;22;15 - 00;35;46;26

Stephen Gutowski

Okay. But for now, with this case, at least, it seems like there's no need for the case to move forward. Right. Because the ATF has done what you wanted it, at least in Michigan and Alabama. Now you're saying they may file new suits down the line, potentially, depending on the circumstances in each of these remaining, I guess, about 20 states that still have where their their permits don't qualify as, as pretty alternatives.

00;35;46;29 - 00;35;50;01

Stephen Gutowski

But but you are happy with the direction things are headed.

00;35;50;03 - 00;36;12;10

Sam Paredes

Yes. We are happy with the direction. And we are going to continue to pursue every opportunity that we have to to spread, you know, the Brady permit issue to all 50 states. We're not going to stop. There's there's no compromise. There's nothing that we're going to give up. There's nothing we're willing to to trade in order to make this happen.

00;36;12;12 - 00;36;24;07

Sam Paredes

The again, we've been given an opportunity, and now it's our job to take advantage of that opportunity to to further freedom and liberty across the country.

00:36:24;09 - 00:36:45;10

Stephen Gutowski

All right, well, look, I appreciate you coming on to explain this, this issue. I think it doesn't, it's something that that is kind of an almost an undercover thing. People don't really understand that in most states, you can use your concealed carry permit, to, as a bypass for the, the next check that you do and buying guns.

00:36:45;12 - 00:37:13;28

Stephen Gutowski

Because as you mentioned earlier, you already go through that process when you get the concealed carry permit, to begin with. But, but yeah. And that is, you know, a significant development to see what's now I think was about 6 or 7 states added to this list of, Brady permit states. So, yeah, I appreciate you coming on and explaining the details of this to us.

00:37:13;28 - 00:37:40;00

Stephen Gutowski

And, and, and discussing, you know, your legal strategy over there at Goa, for, for this issue. And we'll have to love to have you on again. Perhaps when, maybe the next one of these cases, gets filed or there's more movement on this. But in the meantime, you can tell people to want to keep up with you and go to, where they can do that.

00:37:40;02 - 00:37:59;06

Sam Paredes

Sure. First of all, Steven, thank you for bringing this issue up. It is very complicated. It's nuanced. It's it's, it's a big deal, and not a whole lot of people are talking about it, but, people need to understand, at least get a little more understanding of how the system works. And what it is that we're trying to do.

00:37:59;08 - 00:38:22;05

Sam Paredes

So if you want to be a part of the fight, we'd like to invite you to join Gun Owners of America. You can go to [Gun owners.org](http://Gunowners.org), become a member. You get, newsletters and updates as to what's happening on a, on a regular basis. We don't crush you with needless stuff. We we we give you the information you need to be able to know how to fight and when to fight and who to fight.

00:38:22;07 - 00:38:52;02

Sam Paredes

So, we invite people from all over the country and remember that what happens in California either affects or infects the rest of the country. So we're fighting hard here at Gun Owners of California, [gun owners. KGW.com](http://gunowners.KGW.com), if you live in another state and you want to fight with in the Belly of the beast, where a lot of this gobbledygook is happening, we invite you to support Gun owners California as we work diligently in the most difficult of all states to restore the Second Amendment.

00:38:52;02 - 00:39:02;06

Sam Paredes

And Steven, I want to thank you for the opportunity to to talk about this issue, these issues and look forward to doing it again, because there's a lot more coming.

00:39:02;08 - 00:39:07;24

Stephen Gutowski

Yeah, absolutely. All right. Well, that's all we've got for you guys this week. We will see you again real soon.