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OK2A

PO Box 257

Drumright, OK 74030

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Make Oklahoma an Open Carry State

To the House of Representatives and the Senate of the State of Oklahoma:

1. Every individual has the right and responsibility to defend their self against unjustified threats of death or serious bodily injury.
2. The Constitution of the United States guarantees the right of individuals to keep and bear arms.
3. Criminals are not deterred by rules, regulations, and laws forbidding the possession of weapons. A man bent on mass murder will not be stopped by a rule forbidding him to have a gun.
4. It is well known that the requirement to conceal a handgun for the purpose of protecting self, friends, and family can be difficult especially in Oklahoma with our extreme heat since a person will usually have to wear a jacket to properly conceal a handgun and to avoid "printing."
5. The requirement to conceal a handgun can make it difficult to draw the weapon should the life of the carrier or the life of someone else be in danger.
6. A criminal will not open carry a weapon because he does not want to draw attention to himself. We believe that a citizen openly carrying a handgun lawfully will be a deterrent for crime.
7. Ten states including Arizona, Alaska, Idaho, Kentucky, Montana, New Mexico, South Dakota, Virginia, Vermont, and Wyoming all allow open carry of handguns without a license. Twelve states including Connecticut, Indiana, Iowa, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Utah, and Tennessee allow open carry of handguns with a license. In fact, Oklahoma is one of only SIX states in the entire United States that completely bans open carry of handguns.
8. In these states, Open carry is very common and it does not alarm law enforcement or other citizens.

For the foregoing reasons, we, the undersigned residents of the State of Oklahoma, affirm and assert that all citizens who may lawfully purchase a handgun be allowed to carry openly in public in the State of Oklahoma except for those places prohibited by law. We also call for state preemption of all handgun laws concerning open carry in Oklahoma.

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