

## Bill Hunt on CCW's and the 2nd Amendment

Friends for Fullerton's Future  
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**FFFF:** "Your view on CCW's (carry concealed weapon permits) is different than either of your opponents'. Can you elaborate on that?"

**Hunt:** "Yeah, I'm a straight constitutionalist. Fundamentally, one person having the authority to arbitrarily decide the issue of CCW's is problematic. Primarily because the older sheriffs used it to manipulate contributions. If you issue them sparingly a wink-wink nod-nod, you don't see it publically. But with a little support for the sheriff and a wink-wink nod-nod, you get a CCW and it becomes corrupt. But more than that, fundamentally, its right. When you look at the history and progression of CCW's in this country, we began to give up those rights in the 1960's. We have 39 'Shall Issue' states in this country right now. If you look at the data in states where law abiding citizens are allowed to carry guns, crime goes down significantly. Crooks are just like anyone else, they're playing the odds. If they walk into a room and they don't know who is armed, they know that they have less chance for success. And unless they are crazy – and you can't stop a crazy person anyway – you have less likelihood that they'll cause a problem. So, if it's a fundamental right and it lowers crime, what business ultimately is the sheriff in? The crime fighting business. And in our economy where it's going to be tougher to put [deputies] on the streets because of money, I think we ought to create a citizen's auxiliary. They are armed, paying their fees, going through training, buying products, and they are supporting free enterprise. That's what government is supposed to be doing."

**FFFF:** "Can you outline the overall process that an applicant will need to go through to obtain a CCW under your leadership?"

**Hunt:** "I think you'll find this consistent with the way I think. It's the government's job to inconvenience itself for the service of the People.

Here is the process for a CCW right now: You come in the front door, fill out your application, pay your fees, you get your fingerprints, you do your background check, you take this training that ever body has to have regardless of who you are. Then you are out the backdoor and in two years, you get to do it all again.

Here is what I want to do: It is very costly to go through that process. So if we have someone come in and they are a range owner and they have one of these reciprocal CCW's that's good in thirteen states, and they're in good standing in those states, then I think we need to shorten up that process. We need to verify that the permit is legitimate and have had backgrounds on them, and then do an updated background to make sure there have been no problems in the interim. Then we check their training. If they're proficient, we have our range master check them out. If they're proficient, sign them off. If it's a new person with no current CCW then we need to do the full background check, send them through the full NRA familiarization course, and get them through the process!

Another thing I want to do is waive or substantially reduce fees for those who qualify as low income law abiding citizens. A person who lives in the poorer high-crime neighborhoods who is more likely to be a victim of crime than you or I in our nice neighborhoods cannot afford the expensive fees typically associated with a CCW. I want to partner up with ranges to provide free or substantially reduced training for these people that really do need it.

The program has to be a flexible program and it should not be a one size fits all program. I think it would be more cost effective that way and it would be more of an actual public service which is what we are supposed to be doing anyways. We just need to make sure they have clean a background, are trained properly, and are not prohibited by law from having the CCW.

I believe the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment is all about personal protection. They say when seconds count, the cops are minutes away, and cops rarely break up crimes in progress. In all of my years on patrol, and I was pretty aggressive, I rolled up on maybe two or three calls where the crime was in progress. It just doesn't happen that often."