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NRA-PVF

2010 Missouri Candidate Questionnaire

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To find further information on Missouri's firearm laws,
please visit www.NRAILA.org and click on the "Gun Laws" feature located in the menu.

1. Do you agree that the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees an individual right to keep and bear arms that applies to all Americans, regardless of where they live in the United States?

- a. Yes.
 b. No.

2. Considering current Missouri state firearm laws, do you support any additional restrictive state legislation regulating the sale, use, or possession of firearms or ammunition?

- a. Yes, I support additional restrictive state legislation regulating firearms and ammunition.
 b. Yes, I support additional restrictive state legislation regulating firearms. Please explain: _____
 c. Yes, I support additional restrictive state legislation regulating ammunition. Please explain: _____
 d. No, current state firearm laws are sufficient.
 e. No, current state firearm laws should be improved to benefit law-abiding gun owners and sportsmen in Missouri.

3. Do you support state legislation banning the lawful manufacture, private possession, ownership, purchase, sale and/or transfer of any firearms?

- a. Yes, for all firearms. Please specify type of restrictions: _____
 b. Yes, for all handguns. Please specify type of restrictions: _____
 c. Yes, for some firearms. Please specify types of firearms/restrictions: _____
 d. No, I oppose banning the lawful manufacture, private possession, ownership, purchase, sale and/or transfer of any firearm.

4. Federal law requires federally licensed firearms dealers to keep records of the make, model, caliber, and serial number of all firearms sold, as well as information on all purchasers of firearms. Firearms dealers are required to make the information available to law enforcement for legitimate criminal investigations. However, Federal law also prohibits the creation of a centralized registry of firearms or firearms owners. Would you support state legislation that would prohibit the creation of centralized state registry of firearms and/or their owners?

- a. Yes, I would prohibit registries of firearms and/or their owners.
 b. Yes, I would prohibit registries for some firearms. Please specify: _____
 c. No, I support firearm and gun owner registration.

5. **Do you support the state licensing* of individuals who own, possess, and use firearms?** * Licensing, as used here, refers to state legislation requiring firearm owners to obtain a license from a governmental official or agency to own and possess a firearm; as a general rule, firearm owner licensing laws require fingerprinting, photographing and a background investigation of the applicant.

- a. Yes, for owners of all firearms.
- b. Yes, for owners of all handguns.
- c. Yes, for owners of some firearms. Please specify: _____
- d. No, I oppose state licensing of firearm owners.

6. In 1994, Congress imposed a 10-year ban on the manufacture, for sale to private individuals, of various semi-automatic* firearms it termed "assault weapons," and of ammunition magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition, which primarily affected handguns designed for self-defense. Congress' subsequent study of the ban, as well as state and local law enforcement agency reports, showed that contrary to the ban's supporters' claims, the guns and magazines had never been used in more than about 1%-2% of violent crime. Since the ban expired in 2004, the numbers of these firearms and magazines have risen to all-time highs and violent crime has fallen to a 35-year low. **Would you support state legislation restricting the private possession, ownership, purchase, sale, and/or transfer of semi-automatic firearms and magazines?**

* Semi-automatic firearms have been commonly used for hunting, target shooting, and self-defense since their introduction in the late 1800s. All semi-automatics fire only one shot when the trigger is pulled. They are not fully-automatic machine guns, which have been strictly regulated under federal law since 1934.

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation for semi-automatic firearms only.
- b. Yes, I would support such legislation for magazines only.
- c. Yes, I would support such legislation for semi-automatic firearms and magazines
- d. No, I would oppose such legislation.

7. Federal law requires all federally-licensed firearms dealers to conduct a criminal records check prior to the sale of any firearm, whether the sale occurs at their retail store or at a gun show. Access to the FBI-run telephone-based "instant check" system is limited to licensed dealers only. Under federal law, individuals who only occasionally sell firearms from their personal collections are not "engaged in the business" of selling firearms, and are therefore (1) not required to be licensed; (2) not required to conduct records checks prior to transferring firearms, and (3) not permitted to access the records check system used by licensed dealers. Although less than 1% of guns used in crimes are purchased at gun shows (U. S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Statistics), gun control advocates aim to ban firearms sales at gun shows by occasional sellers and private collectors, or require that any transactions involving their legal property be conducted through a licensed dealer. **Would you support legislation restricting firearms sales by occasional sellers and private collectors at gun shows?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation. Please explain: _____
- b. No, I would oppose such legislation.

8. **Would you support legislation restricting or regulating the private sale or transfer of firearms between individuals and family members?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation. Please explain: _____
- b. No, I would oppose such legislation.

9. In 2007, the Missouri General Assembly passed and Governor Blunt signed "Castle Doctrine" legislation (SB 62) into law, which allows a person the right to use deadly force to protect himself or herself and others within a home. **Would you support strengthening Missouri's "Castle Doctrine" laws so that: (1) a person would have the right to meet force with force to protect himself/herself and family members regardless of their location, and (2) a "duty to retreat" would no longer exist in any place a person may lawfully be outside the home?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation.
- b. No, I would oppose such legislation. Please explain: _____

10. Among the forty-seven states that issue concealed carry permits, Missouri is the only state to require that an applicant be at least 23 years of age. A vast majority of states (38) require that an applicant be at least 21 years of age in order to apply for a concealed carry permit. **Would you support legislation that would lower Missouri's concealed carry application age to 21 years and older?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation.
- b. No, I would oppose such legislation. Please explain: _____

11. Recently, several states have considered legislation prohibiting the sale of more than one firearm per individual in any 30-day period (one-gun-a-month). There is no evidence proving that limiting the number of firearms a law-abiding citizen can purchase has lowered violent crime rates. As a result, one legislature recently repealed its law (South Carolina), while another has lessened its scope (Virginia). **Would you support legislation prohibiting an individual who has undergone a criminal background check from purchasing more than one firearm per month?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation. Please explain: _____
- b. Yes, I would support such legislation if it were limited to only handguns.
- c. No, I would oppose such legislation.

12. In the United States, the number of privately owned firearms has doubled in the last 35 years, and reached an all-time high. Meanwhile, according to the National Center for Health Statistics, the firearm accident death rate has decreased 88 percent, to an all-time low. This trend is due in part to NRA firearm safety training programs used by tens of thousands of NRA Certified Instructors, schools, civic groups, and law enforcement agencies. Nevertheless, several states have recently considered legislation to require that locking devices be placed on firearms kept in the home. A lock severely limits the ability to use a firearm for self-defense purposes and potentially increases the risk of a firearm accident. **Would you support legislation requiring locking devices (safes, trigger locks, cable locks, lock boxes, etc.) or other locking procedures for firearms stored in the home?**

- a. Yes.
- b. No.
- c. No, I would not support such legislation and would instead support a resolution encouraging Missouri public schools to adopt NRA's Eddie Eagle GunSafe® program as part of its curriculum.

13. Anti-gun groups are promoting legislation that would require ammunition manufacturers to serialize each cartridge by imprinting a unique serial number on the case and the base of the bullet. The ammunition would then be registered to the purchaser at the time of sale and information about the purchaser would be maintained by the seller or forwarded to the state for entry into a state centralized database. The possession or sale of ammunition that does not include a serial number would be prohibited. **Would you support legislation requiring ammunition manufacturers to serialize/encode ammunition before it could be sold in Missouri?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation for all ammunition.
- b. Yes, I would support such legislation for handgun ammunition.
- c. No, I would oppose such legislation.

14. Some states are considering legislation mandating all firearms sold be equipped with "user ID" or "personalized" technology, also known as "smart" guns. "Smart" guns are intended to prevent a firearm from being fired by someone other than the owner. However, so-called "smart" gun technology is currently not available and experts agree may not be in production and safety tested for several years, if at all. **Would you support legislation mandating only "smart" guns be sold in Missouri?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation.
- b. No, I would oppose such legislation.

15. Recently, some employers have extended their "gun-free" workplace rules to employees' private, locked vehicles in parking lots. Such policies effectively disarm law-abiding citizens, including concealed weapon license holders, from the time they leave their house in the morning, while running errands on their lunch break, to their return home in the evening. **Would you support "Worker Protection" legislation that would allow law-abiding citizens to keep lawfully transported firearms locked in their personal vehicles while parked on publicly accessible, privately owned parking lots?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation.
- b. No, I would oppose such legislation. Please explain: _____

16. NRA believes a person with a permit to carry a concealed firearm should be able to carry that firearm concealed anywhere he or she has a legal right to be, except in certain "sterile" high-security locations. Assuming each classification of individuals listed below possessed a concealed handgun permit recognized by the state, **who do you believe should legally be allowed to carry a concealed handgun on state college and university campuses?**

- a. All law-abiding persons, including visitors, faculty, staff and students.
- b. Visitors, faculty, staff and some students. Please explain: _____
- c. Faculty, staff and students.
- d. Visitors, faculty, and staff.
- e. Faculty and staff.
- f. Each college or university should determine the policy for its campus.
- g. No one should be allowed to carry a concealed handgun on state college and university campuses.

16. Many .50 caliber firearms are used in big game hunting and target competition, and the .50 caliber BMG cartridge has been used for nearly 100 years. **Would you support legislation prohibiting the ownership and/or sale of any .50 caliber firearm or ammunition**

in Missouri?

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation.
 b. No, I would oppose such legislation.

17. In 2008, the Missouri General Assembly passed range protection legislation (HB 2034) to further protect shooting ranges from baseless and reckless attacks from gun-ban advocates. **Would you support legislation to broaden this provision to include protections from similar actions initiated by state and/or local government entities?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation.
 b. No, I think Missouri's range protection law is fine as is.
 c. No, I would oppose such legislation and think range protection should be repealed.

18. **Which of the following best describes your attitude toward hunting?**

- a. Hunting is a valuable tool for wildlife management, a positive use of natural resources, and an American tradition that teaches young people responsibility and respect for the outdoors.
 b. Hunting should be banned.
 c. Other. Please explain: _____

19. Under the Pittman-Robertson Act, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers a program in which an excise tax is levied on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment. These monies are then apportioned between the fifty (50) fish and wildlife departments based on hunter license sales and state population. **Would you support legislation requiring the Missouri Department of Conservation to spend these dollars on projects or programs that directly benefit hunters and shooters who paid the excise tax?**

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation.
 b. No, I would oppose such legislation. Please explain: _____

20. The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) recently targeted Missouri for furthering its anti-hunting and anti-dog ownership agenda by attempting to impose incremental burdens on hunters who own intact dogs. Meanwhile, HSUS works toward the goal of a complete hunting ban. HSUS' CEO, Wayne Pacelle, is on record stating:

- "Our goal is to get sport hunting in the same category as cock fighting and dog fighting. Our opponents say hunting is a tradition. We say traditions can change."
- "We are going to use the ballot box and the democratic process to stop all hunting in the United States... We will take it species by species until all hunting is stopped in California. Then we will take it state by state."
- "We have no problems with the extinction of domestic animals. They are creations of human selective breeding."

Knowing HSUS' ultimate goals are to stop all forms of hunting across the country and to end sporting dog ownership, **would you oppose deceptively titled "Puppy Mill" bills that punish responsible dog owners and sporting kennels?**

- a. Yes, I would oppose deceptively titled "Puppy Mill" legislation.
 b. No, I would support such legislation.

21. In 2007, Missouri enacted the Hunting Heritage Protection Act (SB 225), to prohibit the use of Taxpayer Increment Financing (TIF) for development in the 100 year floodplains along the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, and to prohibit localities from enacting local ordinances that ban hunting or firearms discharge in these areas. The purpose of this legislation, which passed the legislature unanimously and was strongly advocated by NRA, was to protect critical hunting and wildlife habitat for current and future generations of hunters and sportsmen. **Do you support the Hunting Heritage Protection Act, which protects critical hunting habitat in Missouri?**

- a. Yes, I support the Hunting Heritage Protection Act.
 b. No, I do not support the Hunting Heritage Protection Act and think it should be repealed.

22. A number of states have passed constitutional amendments recognizing the citizens' right to hunt and fish in an effort to protect these essential American traditions from relentless attacks by animal "rights" activists. Missouri's population is changing in a way that is threatening the future of the right to hunt and fish. In order to protect this important heritage from unreasonable regulations and

prohibitions, would you support a meaningful constitutional amendment protecting the Right to Hunt and Fish in the future stating: "The citizens of Missouri have a right to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife, including the use of traditional means and methods, subject only to regulations as prescribed by a conservation commission to promote sound wildlife conservation and management. Public hunting and fishing shall be a preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife. Nothing herein shall be construed to modify any provision of common law or statutes relating to trespass or property rights?"

- a. Yes. I would support a truly meaningful Right to Hunt and Fish amendment in Missouri.
 b. No. Please explain: _____

23. In 2007, the "Hunting Heritage Protection Area Act" was signed into law to protect Missouri's critical wildlife habitat and sport shooting areas within the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers 100-year flood plain by prohibiting both TIF development projects and the ability of localities to enact any ordinance that restricts hunting and lawful discharge within the protected areas. Missouri still has thousands of acres of public hunting lands that still need protecting. In recent years, several states have protected public hunting lands with "No-Net-Loss" legislation. This legislation requires that if an area currently open to public hunting is closed to hunting, the same number of acres of public land must be opened to hunting elsewhere. In other words, it guarantees that there will never be fewer acres of public land open to public hunting than exists today. Would you further protect Missouri's hunting lands by supporting "No-Net-Loss" legislation in Missouri?

- a. Yes, I would support such legislation.
 b. No, I would oppose such legislation. Please explain: _____

24. Are you a member of the National Rifle Association or any other firearm/shooting sports/sportsmen's organization? Your response to this question will not affect your grade.

- a. Yes - NRA Membership #: 000020013621 other organization(s): NATIONAL SKEET SHOOTING ASSN
 b. No. WESTERN MISSOURIA SHOOTERS ALLIANCE

25. (For non-incumbents) Have you ever run for or held state or local elective office?

- a. Yes. Please specify run for STATE REP (96) + COUNTY COMMISSIONER (98)
 b. No.

Please use the rest of this page for any additional comments. If your campaign has released a position paper on firearms issues, please feel free to include it as well. Thank you for your time and consideration.

I have been an NRA member since 1967, and shoot skeet competitively. I also hunt deer + civil war reenact. I believe that self-defense is a natural right and that firearms are the most effective means of doing so.

-AUTHORIZATION-

This signature attests that the above information accurately represents the views of the candidate.

Candidate's Signature [Signature] Date 7/17/10