

Statement on the United States Supreme Court Ruling on Individual Gun Rights

June 26, 2008

As a longstanding advocate of the rights of gun owners in America, I applaud the Supreme Court's historic decision today confirming what has always been clear in the Constitution: The second amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear firearms.

I also agree with the Supreme Court's conclusion that the DC firearm laws violate this fundamental constitutional right. The District of Columbia should now swiftly move to ensure that its residents' rights under the second amendment are fully protected.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

June 21

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

June 23

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, on the South Portico, the President participated in a photo opportunity with the 2008 Presidential Scholars.

June 24

In the morning, the President had a video teleconference with President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan. Later, he had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to McLean, VA.

In the evening, at a private residence, the President attended a Republican National Committee reception. He then returned to Washington, DC.

The President declared a major disaster in Illinois and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning on June 1.

The President announced his intention to nominate Holly A. Kuzmich to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs at the Department of Education.

The President announced his intention to nominate Christopher M. Marston to be Assistant Secretary for Management at the Department of Education.

The President announced his intention to nominate David D. Pearce to be Ambassador to Algeria.

The President announced his intention to nominate Lyndon L. Olson, Jr., to be a member of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

The President announced his intention to appoint Sambhu N. Banik as a member of the President's Committee for People With Intellectual Disabilities.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the President's Council on Bioethics: Floyd E. Bloom; Benjamin S. Carson, Sr.; Rebecca Susan Dresser; Nicolas Eberstadt; Jean B. Elshtain; Daniel Willett Foster; Michael S. Gazzaniga; Robert Peter George; Alfonso Gomez-Lobo; William Barton Hurlbut; Donald W. Landry; Peter A. Lawler; Paul Rodney McHugh; Gilbert Carl Meilaender, Jr.; Edmund D. Pellegrino; Janet Davison Rowley; Diana J. Schaub; and Carl E. Schneider.

June 25

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda of Japan. He then had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Secretary of the Treasury Henry M. Paulson, Jr., to discuss the economic situation.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Detroit, MI, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Jean Peirce. He then traveled to Livonia, MI.

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President declared a major disaster in Minnesota and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning on June 7 and continuing.

The President declared a major disaster in Missouri and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning on June 1 and continuing.

The President announced his intention to nominate Santanu "Sandy" K. Baruah to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jason J. Fichtner to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security.

The President announced his intention to nominate James A. Williams to be Administrator of the General Services Administration.

June 26

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Camp David, MD. Later, he participated in a welcoming ceremony with Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi.

The President announced that he has nominated Richard A. Anderson to be a member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board.

The President announced that he has nominated Joseph F. Bader to be a member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

The President announced that he has nominated Mark Everett Keenum to be a member of the Farm Credit Administration Board.

The President announced that he has nominated Mary Lucille Jordan to be a member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission.

The President announced that he has nominated Matthew A. Reynolds to be Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs).

The President announced that he has nominated Peter Robert Kann and Michael Meehan to be members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

June 27

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced that he has nominated Thomas A. Betro to be Inspector General at the Department of State.

The President announced that he has nominated Brian H. Hook to be Assistant Secretary of State (International Organization Affairs) and his intentions to designate him Acting.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted June 24

Holly A. Kuzmich,
of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education, vice Terrell Halaska, resigned.

Christopher M. Marston,
of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Management, Department of Education, vice Mitchell C. Clark, resigned.

Lyndon L. Olson, Jr.,
of Texas, to be a member of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2011 (reappointment).

David D. Pearce,
of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

Withdrawn June 24

J. Gregory Copeland,
of Texas, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy, vice David R. Hill,