

*"no longer"*

*"national guard / police force"*

*"privilege at government discretion"*

*"no longer a problem"*

*"except poor, minorities, & residents of public housing, New York City, Washington, D.C., etc."*

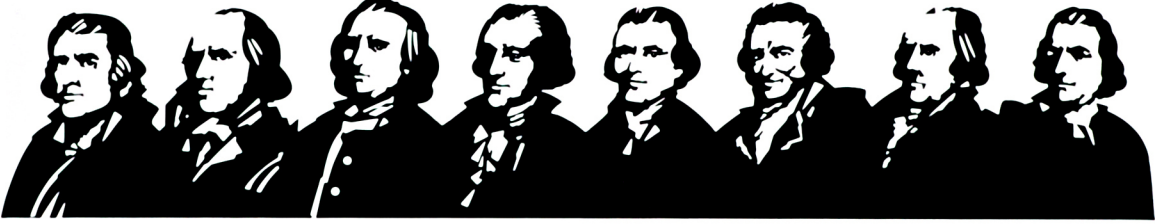
*"after waiting for government/police approval"*

*"except hand arms, cheap arms, ugly arms, self-loading arms, & military-looking arms"*

**"A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."**

— Bill of Rights, Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Before anyone edits the Bill of Rights, the authors would like a word with you:



"No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms."

THOMAS JEFFERSON

"Arms in the hands of citizens may be used at individual discretion... in private self-defense."

JOHN ADAMS

"[The Constitution preserves] the advantage of being armed which Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation... [where] the governments are afraid to trust the people with arms."

JAMES MADISON

"...arms discourage and keep the invader and plunderer in awe, and preserve order in the world as well as property.... Horrid mischief would ensue were [the law-abiding] deprived of the use of them."

THOMAS PAINE

"Laws that forbid the carrying of arms... disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes... Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants; they serve rather to encourage than to prevent homicides, for an unarmed man may be attacked with greater confidence than an armed man."

THOMAS JEFFERSON, quoting Cesare Beccaria

"A militia, when properly formed, are in fact the people themselves... and include all men capable of bearing arms... To preserve liberty it is essential that the whole body of the people always possess arms and be taught alike... how to use them."

RICHARD HENRY LEE

"The Constitution shall never be construed to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms."

SAMUEL ADAMS

"I ask, sir, what is the militia? It is the whole people... To disarm the people is the best and most effectual way to enslave them..."

GEORGE MASON