



2ND RHODE ISLAND Amendment COALITION

By Frank Saccoccio, Treasurer of the Rhode Island 2nd Amendment Coalition

The Rhode Island 2nd Amendment Coalition was founded in January of 2013. It was formed after the tragic events at the Sandy Hook Elementary School. With all the media frenzy, we realized that there would be a strong push for new, overreaching and oppressive firearm legislation. Our initial goal was to quickly unite all the local sportsmen clubs and firearm organizations. We knew that this was going to be a very difficult task but one that was essential if we were going to be successful. Within a few months we were able to unite a majority of the Rhode Island sportsman clubs and other pro Second Amendment organizations.

Both Michael O'Neil and I spent countless hours volunteering our time traveling to and speaking before sportsmen's clubs, firearms stores and other organizations across the state. They were all very receptive and supportive of our efforts. Because of the generosity of so many groups and individuals we were able to hire our own full-time lobbyist. We realized that we were going to need to focus our efforts at the legislative level.

The Second Amendment community came together and worked hard as a united force against the anti-firearm legislative onslaught of 2013 and 2014. We were able to stop all of the overreaching and oppressive legislation from being passed in Rhode Island. Our organization worked closely with NRA lobbyist Darin Goens; Elizabeth Clupny, NRA volunteer lobbyist; the Federated Sportsman Clubs; RI FLO; the Liberty Project; Daria Bruno (DB live fire); and RI Gun Blog. As we traveled across the state of RI, we had the pleasure of meeting a lot of knowledgeable and experienced second amendment patriots. One person in particular that we would like to recognize is Jack Peters. He has over 40 years of experience and wisdom

educating our Senators and Representatives relating to all the financial aspects and benefits of the sporting community. Jack Peters also took the time to educate us on how to effectively testify against the firearm bills.

The National Rifle Association recognized our efforts by naming the Rhode Island 2nd Amendment Coalition as the official NRA State Association for Rhode Island in 2014. Having the backing and full support of the NRA means that we will now be nationally recognized as the RI State Affiliate. Being an NRA affiliate opens the door to new educational and organizational opportunities. We now have additional options

through which we can strengthen our community. In the next few months we will begin to expand our shooting programs, offer classes on firearm safety along with proper handling and storage of firearms. This is not just limited to the guys; we will be expanding our educational efforts through our associates to women and youth organizations in Rhode Island.



We are proud to be at your service and will continue to be vigilant in protecting your Second Amendment rights. We put this message at the end of all of our emails; *Let your voice be heard! Stop being a Spectator in Life!! Remember to "Get Involved" these are your Second Amendment Rights at stake. "All Tyranny needs to gain a foothold is for people of good conscience to remain silent"*

Proudly at your service,
Frank Saccoccio and Michael O'Neil
Rhode Island 2nd Amendment Coalition

For more information or to join the Rhode Island 2nd Amendment Coalition, please visit ri2nd.org