

The Constitution and the Bill of Rights are not simply outmoded, archaic concepts to be disregarded in a cavalier fashion or, as is currently the case, seen as obstacles to be overcome. They are pillars that need to be defended and nourished with water 'or' the blood of patriots.

Despite the constant barrage of attacks, the fact of the matter is that our Constitution and the Bill of Rights means that the power of government is limited. The hard-fought victory in the PA House and Senate on Constitutional Carry is one example of how FOAC-ILLEA is fighting for Freedom. [Yes, we know that Gov. Wolf vetoed this legislation](#) and that we fell short of a veto override, but **we WILL be back.**

Another key point is the Point of Contact status for Firearm Background Checks – PICS – here in PA. The PSP has been operating this POC in parallel with the National Instant Check system since 1998. PA is one of 13 POC states in the US. We have 'opposed' this system since its inception for many reasons;

1. the violation of citizens' rights (background check fees)
2. the intrusion into citizens' privacy (Record of Sale / Registration of guns & gun owners)
3. the reliability/consistency of operation of PICS
4. the lack of accountability of operators of PICS
5. many, many more issues

FOAC-ILLEA has filed suit, two weeks ago, to have the courts examine the operation of PICS/PSP for compliance with PA Statutory Law. This has been a LONG time coming for 'all' the wrong reasons. **This is in addition to our Preemption lawsuits** against Pittsburgh and Harrisburg that are winding their way through the courts. To Donate to these worthy causes please go to this website: www.foac-illea.org.

To Progressives, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights are obstacles to be overcome, not pillars of American society that must be defended. To Progressives, the 2nd Amendment is simply a wrong idea, long discredited, that should either be ignored, re-defined as meaningless, or removed from the body of law. They do not believe in natural law or individual rights. The 2nd Amendment is simply a political inconvenience. Progressives generally view the State as God. Right is anything that advances Progressivism. The concept that an openly armed person is a provocation to attack appears to flow from a simple premise on the left: A person doing something a leftist does not like is a provocation to attack them. It is part of the broader philosophical abandonment of the rule of law.

Radio and TV personality Dan Bongino put it this way: ***Conservatives think leftists are people with bad ideas; Leftists think Conservatives are bad people.*** This manifests itself in many forms such as the PA State Police PICS unit, the FBI and a host of other agencies operating outside the normal channels of legitimate elected government.

The 2nd Amendment limits government power. The belief in natural law, that the 2nd Amendment is based on, defies, and is in direct contradiction, to the theory of Progressivism. The idea that people have a right and the ability, to rule themselves is treated by Progressives as absurd.

Part of this attitude toward the open carry of weapons by people other than government agents comes from the Left's worship of government as God. A private person openly carrying a firearm is a direct and obvious statement of individualism. The Left hates the idea of limits on government. For that reason, gun control is in Progressivism's DNA. Defining open carry of weapons as a legal provocation is Orwellian word manipulation.

As we continue to suffer from the rise in crime, on many fronts, (the [Philadelphia violent crime with firearms](#) to the [continued losses on preemption](#)) to the assault on law enforcement through [defunding and humiliating them](#); the rejection of what defines us as a people is beginning to be rejected by average citizens.

The resurgence of Constitutionals and belief in natural rights and natural law is the result of hard fought and bitter experience over the last century. Over and over again, various iterations of Progressives have taken over governments and instituted their theories, backed by the absolute power of the state. **They have uniformly ended in failure, often spectacular failure.**

[Firearms Owners Against Crime – Institute for Legal, Legislative, Educational Action](#) are the primary advocates for Castle Doctrine (2002-2010) and other responsible public policy, including participating in the writing of PA's current LTCF law, and the protection of individual constitutional freedom protecting legislative initiatives for the last 28 years.