Gun Free Zone

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We need more background checks, and the statistics prove it! (or not)

Every time I get to argue in Real Life or Social Media with a member of the Opposition about the need to expand Background Checks, I ask them how successful the current scheme has been. They immediately fall into the slogan of "We have stopped two million felons from getting guns!" to which I ask a simple question: Where are the two million prosecutions?

The majority stop in their tracks and can't respond. The quickest and bravest will let you know that prosecution was never the intention of the Brady Act but only to stop Violent Prohibited People from getting guns. When I ask them why there are penalties for the violation of that law, I end up with a face full of insults and blocked.

It is simple: Two million violations of the Brady Act represent two million investigations and prosecutions, right? You have a prohibited person dead to rights by walking into a gun store or gun show (forbidden), very possibly manipulating a gun (also forbidden) and then filling the ATF form 4473 in which they have to lie or if truthful, they are signing the evidence of breaking the law with their own hand. And if a Federal Prosecutor was to save him/herself time, only one count would be issued for the multiple violations and that would entail 10 year in Fed Pen and \$200,000 in fines.

So where are the two million prosecutions? Nowhere. Maybe a Million? Five Hundred thousand perhaps and that would be prosecuting only 25% of the violations? So what are the numbers?

I bumped into the info for 5 years: 2006 to 2010. I knew it was bad, but the reality is absolutely absurd. Here is a summary:

2006: Total denials: 77,233. Referred for prosecution: 172. Guilty Plea or Conviction: 73.

2007: Total denials: 66,817. Referred for prosecution: 196. Guilty Plea or Conviction: 48.

2008: Total denials: 78,906. Referred for prosecution: 147. Guilty Plea or Conviction: 43.

2009: Total denials: 67,324. Referred for prosecution: 140. Guilty Plea or Conviction: 32.

2010: Total denials: 76,142. Referred for prosecution: 62. Guilty Plea or Conviction: 13.

Of the 366,422 denials issued with pride in those five years, they only managed to get 209 convictions. That is 0.05%, half a twentieth of one percent of all denials that ended up with a conviction or a plea of guilty. In the same time frame, the number of people who were wrongfully denied (false positive) was 3,141 or 0.85%. Basically there were 17 times more wrongful denials than successful prosecutions in that time frame.

Basically the Government decided to give a pass to 98.5% of those violating the Brady Act.

But we need more Background Checks.

And it is the NRA and Gun Owners who are the problem.

Kilo Mike Alpha.

Sources: D.O.J. National Criminal Justice Reference Service.

Enforcement of the Brady Act, 2006.

Enforcement of the Brady Act, 2007.

Enforcement of the Brady Act, 2008.

Enforcement of the Brady Act, 2009.

Enforcement of the Brady Act, 2010.

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