

December 6, 2004

Mr. John Hugya
P.O. Box 780
Johnstown, PA 15907-0780

Dear John,

Thank you for taking the time to discuss the issue of changing the regulations regarding concealed carry of firearms in National Parks. The Johnstown Rifle and Pistol Club appreciates your and Congressman Murtha's efforts on our, and all citizens', behalf.

As I mentioned in our telephone call, what we would like to have changed is for the National Park Service to simply recognize and assimilate the legal authority of concealed carry permits (and any reciprocity agreements pursuant to that state's law) of the states within which individual parks and facilities reside. Naturally, parks in states like Maryland, New York and New Jersey, which have much more stringent concealed carry laws, would be minimally affected since their concealed carry laws are virtually non-existent and they have no concealed carry reciprocity agreements with other states.

I also briefly explained to you the Virginia Citizen's Defense League, with 3400 members (<http://www.vcdl.org/>), is pursuing the same issue on a similar front. They have officially petitioned Interior Secretary Norton to amend 36CFR2.4 to provide for simplifying Federal regulation of firearms on public lands. I have enclosed a copy of their document which elaborates on their request and the legal basis for their petition. As the Legislative Affairs Representative for the Johnstown Rifle and Pistol Club I have registered our club as a participant in this petition

I hope this additional information is useful to you in clarifying our goals for simplifying National Park Service firearm regulations while providing citizens the means to lawfully exercise their individual Second Amendment rights without arbitrary geographic boundaries. If I can provide any additional information or clarification of our proposal please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Rick *****
Johnstown Rifle and Pistol Club