



HAWAII RIFLE ASSOCIATION

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HAWAII RIFLE ASSOCIATION FILES AMICUS BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF U.S. DISTRICT COURT RULING ON SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHT TO SELF-DEFENSE IN PUBLIC

*A Panel at Trial Held that the Right to Bear Arms Must
Guarantee Some Right to Self-Defense in Public*

HONOLULU, HAWAII (November 19, 2018) – The Hawaii Rifle Association (“HRA”) joins others today in filing an amicus brief supporting the Second Amendment’s right to bear arms for self-defense in public.

The brief was filed with the U.S. District Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in the case of *Young v. State of Hawaii, et. al.* Young filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii when his application for a handgun permit for the purpose of self-defense was denied twice.

At the U.S. District Court level, a majority of the three-judge panel held that the Second Amendment encompasses a right to carry firearms openly in public for self-defense. The State of Hawaii filed an appeal for a re-hearing *en banc*. HRA files this amicus brief in opposition of the state’s appeal, and in support of upholding the decision of the majority.

Hawaii Revised Statute section 134-9 (“HRS 134-9”) empowers the chief of police to grant permits for concealed or open carry if the applicant has shown sufficient reason to fear injury to themselves or their property. HRS 134-9 has been utilized to routinely and arbitrarily deny the right to open or concealed carry of firearms in public regardless of the reasons provided, limiting permits only to the self-defense in the home. Currently, there is no review or appeal of any denial.

HRA President, Harvey Gerwig, states “HRA recognizes that the need for self-defense is not always confined to the home--the Second Amendment guarantees the right to bear arms. Unfortunately, HRS 134-9 has been used to effectively block our citizens’ Second Amendment rights. The decision by the U.S. District Court panel moves Hawaii in the right direction.”

ABOUT HAWAII RIFLE ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Hawaii Rifle Association is to protect [its members’] Second Amendment Right to Keep and Bear Arms, and protect Hawaii’s hunting and shooting traditions. The HRA is affiliated with the National Rifle Association and works to protect Hawaii’s local rights to keep and bear arms, primarily at the state and local level.

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