

PRESS RELEASE:
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An Unprecedented Coalition of Like-Minded Organizations jointly file *Amici* Brief with the PA Supreme Court

On October 21st, 2022, a coalition of like-minded organizations filed a [joint *Amici Curiae* Brief with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court](#) that was brilliantly penned by [Attorney Joshua Prince Esq.](#) This brief was in support of Appellee (Jonathan Barris) and in the opposition to Appellant's (Stroud Township) appeal from the [May 28th, 2021, Decision and Order of the Commonwealth Court Docket No. 671 C.D. 2020.](#)

This coalition, led by [Firearms Owners Against Crime-Institute for Legal, Legislative, and Educational Action](#), consists of [The Allegheny Country Sportsmen's League](#), [The Beaver County Conservation and Sportsmen's League](#), [Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania](#), and [The USCCA Legal Defense Foundation](#).

The summary of argument states that:

As this Court may affirm on any legal grounds, consistent with the constitutional avoidance doctrine, this Court should affirm the Commonwealth Court's decision on the grounds of the express firearm preemption provided by 18 Pa.C.S. § 6120, or alternatively, based upon the field preemption of the Uniform Firearms Act and other related statutory provisions. In the alternative, this Court should affirm, pursuant to the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution or alternatively, find that Stroud Township's Ordinance is violative of Article 1, Section 26 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, vagueness doctrine, or the rule of lenity.

The *Amici* also adopt and cite arguments made by another *Amicus Brief* filed by [Firearms Policy Coalition](#); further exhibiting unprecedented cooperation between various organizations that represent nearly 1-million-gun owners, and sportsmen.

Attorney Joshua Prince Esq. avers:

1. Agreement with and Adoption of Firearm Policy Coalition, *et al's Amicus* Brief;
2. The PA Supreme Court Can Affirm The Commonwealth Court's Decision On Any Legal Grounds And Consistent With the Constitutional Avoidance Doctrine, Should Affirm On The Basis Of Preemption;
3. In The Alternative, Stroud Township's Regulation Of Shooting Ranges Is Unconstitutional, Pursuant To The Second Amendment To The United States Constitution;
4. In the Alternative, Stroud Township's Ordinance Is Violative Of Article 1, Section 26 Of The Pennsylvania Constitution; and,
5. In the Alternative, Stroud Township's Ordinance Is Void For Vagueness And Violative Of The Rule Of Lenity.

Firearms Owners Against Crime-Institute for Legal, Legislative, and Educational Action, The Allegheny Country Sportsmen's League, The Beaver County Conservation and Sportsmen's League, Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania, and The USCCA Legal Defense Foundation all agree that we must fight to prevent "bad precedent" from being established by the deep pockets of anti-gun organizations and local politicians that act above the laws of the Commonwealth to limit and infringe upon the rights of Pennsylvanians.

Pennsylvania Title 18, Section 6120(a) states:

No county, municipality or township may in any manner regulate the lawful ownership, possession, transfer or transportation of firearms, ammunition or ammunition components when carried or transported for purposes not prohibited by the laws of this Commonwealth.

The 2nd Amendment of the U.S. Constitution states:

A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Article 1 Section 21 of the PA Constitution states:

The right of the citizens to bear arms in defense of themselves and the State shall not be questioned.

Article 1 Section 25 of the PA Constitution states:

To guard against transgressions of the high powers which we have delegated, we declare that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government and shall forever remain inviolate.

Article 1 Section 25 of the PA Constitution states:

Neither the Commonwealth nor any political subdivision thereof shall deny to any person the enjoyment of any civil right, nor discriminate against any person in the exercise of any civil right.

FOAC-ILLEA would like to thank our fellow liberty minded organizations for their support in funding this *Amici Curiae Brief*, and give special recognition to the late Tony Rich, for his help in raising the final capital needed to fund the Brief.

END

Firearms Owners Against Crime – Institute for Legal, Legislative and Educational Action is a non-partisan, non-profit corporation organized pursuant to section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code for the purposes of developing and advocating for legislation, regulations, and government programs to improve safety, protect citizens, stimulate sportsmen's activities and safe legal firearm ownership; conducting and publicizing research into the positions of elected officials concerning these issues; providing legal defense of firearms and sportsmen's related issues; and educating the public on safe and legal firearm ownership, and constitutional issues relating thereto.

Allegheny County Sportsmen's League is a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation, whose mission is to promote and foster, conservation of wildlife and natural resources, advance hunting and fishing, and to defend and protect, the Constitutions of the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, especially the Second Amendment and Article 1, Section 21, respectively.

Beaver County Sportsmen's Conservation League is a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation, whose mission is to promote and foster, conservation of wildlife and natural resources, advance hunting and fishing, and to defend and protect, the Constitutions of the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, especially the Second Amendment and Article 1, Section 21, respectively.

Unified Sportsmen of PA is a non-profit, incorporated sportsmen group. Based on the Pennsylvania Constitution, the USPA's purpose is to support fishing, hunting, shooting, and trapping, as well as, promoting conservation and natural resources.

USCCA Legal Defense Foundation exists to provide legal defense funding and grants to gun owners to assist with legal costs. The foundation helps responsible gun owners fight unmeritorious prosecution and unconstitutional administrative actions like emergency risk protection order, improper gun confiscation and unfounded concealed carry permit revocation. Essential to our mission is an individuals' right to self-defense and due process guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States.