

*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. --Amendment II, US Constitution*



*The right of no person to keep and bear arms in defense of his home, person and property, or in aid of the civil power when thereto legally summoned, shall be called to question; . . . --Article II, § 13, Colorado Constitution*

*The Voice for Firearm Rights in the Pikes Peak Region*

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## **If they can't beat us at the polls or in the legislature, they'll try to beat us in the courts**

How many times have anti-gun individuals and organizations, including city governments, turned to the courts to further their anti-gun agenda? Denver's law suit over the preemption of local firearm laws and shall issue concealed carry comes to mind. The legislature enacted laws to protect lawful gun owners and the City and County of Denver didn't like the law, so they sued the state. Denver district court overturned much of the preemption statutes, upholding others, and Denver appealed to the Colorado Supreme Court, which also found in favor of Denver on most of the issues.

Most judges are appointed for life. This allows liberal administrations to "stack the court" with liberal judges and we will pay the price for many years (another reason to elect conservatives).

In Colorado, we do have a means to remove judges. Judges must stand for retention periodically. Voters can vote to remove a judge or to retain a judge. To help voters make a decision, the Colorado State Legislature established "Commissions on Judicial Performance."

Commissions on Judicial Performance were created in 1988 by the Colorado General Assembly for the purpose of providing voters with fair, responsible, and constructive evaluations of trial and appellate judges and justices seeking retention in general elections. The results of the evaluations also provide judges with information that can be used to improve their professional skills as judicial officers. There is one State Commission on Judicial Performance and one commission in each of the 22 judicial districts. The Chief Justice, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House appoint state and local commission members. Each commission is a ten-member body comprised of four attorneys and six non-attorneys.

The State Commission on Judicial Performance developed evaluation techniques for district and county judges, justices of the supreme court, and judges of the court of appeals. According to statute, those criteria include the following: integrity; knowledge and understanding of substantive, procedural and evidentiary law; communication skills; preparation; attentiveness and control over judicial proceedings; and sentencing practices.

Local commissions review the district and county judges in their respective districts. Surveys are completed by a random sample of attorneys and non-attorneys who have appeared before the judge. The commissions also review relevant

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **October 11: PPFC Meeting**
- **October 18: PPFC Board Meeting**
- **November 24 - 25: Prospectors Sertoma Gun Show at Phil Long Events Center**

### **PPFC Officers**

President..... Dane Nowels  
V President. Bob Heinrich  
Secretary ...Amy Mullaney  
Treasurer ...Bernie Herpin  
Membership Dan Wandell  
Programs Leigh Ann Shriver  
Legislative.....Doug Davis  
Publicity .....Harry Dierks  
Fund Raising..Bob Balink  
Social .....Pat Smelser  
Chaplain ..... Rich Hilton  
Sgt-at-Arms...Doug Davis  
Gun Shows.Marc Hament  
PPFC PAC ... Paul Paradis

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COLORADO SPRINGS CO 80935-7253

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

**WWW.PPFC.ORG**

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**Next PPFC Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 11, 2007**  
**VFW Post 4051**  
**430 E Pikes Peak Ave**  
**Colorado Springs CO**  
**7:00 - 9:00 P.M.**

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docket and sentencing statistics, conduct a personal interview with the judge, make unannounced court observations, and conduct public hearings. The State Commission reviews the supreme court justices and the court of appeals judges. Attorneys and trial court judges complete surveys; the state commission reviews opinions and conducts an interview with the justice or judge.

Each evaluation includes a narrative profile with the recommendation stated as "retain," "do not retain," or "no opinion."

At our October 11, 2007, meeting, Jane Howell, Executive Director of the Judicial Performance Review Commission, will speak to us on the review process. This is an important topic for those of us concerned about our gun rights.

### **PPFC Forms a Small Donor Committee**

To help us support pro-gun candidates, we have established a political Small Donor Committee (SDC). A small donor committee has the advantage that the amount that we can donate to a candidate is greater than what we can do with our PAC. As the name implies, the maximum that you can give to our SDC is \$50 per calendar year. We are asking our members to try to meet the \$50 contribution this year and next. You can give as little as \$5 or \$10 at a time. Time is running out for this year's donations. If you haven't already donated, please consider making a donation as soon as possible. As of October 1, we have received \$772. We will have SDC donation forms at our PPFC meetings or you can mail your donation (make check payable to PPFC SDC) to:

PPFC SDC  
PO Box 76521  
Colorado Springs, CO 80970-6521

### **Colorado Springs Friends of NRA Event**

The 12th annual Colorado Springs *Friends of NRA* dinner and fundraiser was held on Friday, September 21st, at Mr. Bigg's Event Center. We raised nearly \$6,000 for the NRA Foundation. Many thanks for all who attended and to the PPFC for their support. The 13th annual event will be held on September 26, 2008, also at Mr. Biggs. If you would like to serve on the FNRA Committee or help with the dinner, please call Richard Gandolf, Chairman, 310-6414.

### **PPFC Annual Holiday Dinner**

We will hold our annual PPFC holiday dinner on Thursday, December 13, 2007, starting at 6:30pm, at our normal meeting location. Please put this date on your calendar. More details will be in the next newsletter!

**www.ppfc.org**