

'No ma'am': Letter from U.S. Marine to Dianne Feinstein goes viral

JANUARY 1, 2013 BY MICHELE KIRK 546 COMMENTS



The following **open letter**, written by U.S. Marine **Joshua Boston** and headlined "No ma'am.," was posted in the CNN iReport on Dec. 27 with the included note from the producer and photo. It has struck a nerve with many and is being circulated around social media venues like Twitter and Facebook.

CNN PRODUCER NOTE: joshdb50 was a Marine and was deployed to Afghanistan between the years of 2004 through 2005. Although he is no longer in the military he acknowledges that he owns gun. He says he does not believe the government needs to know what guns he owns because he believes registration would lead to confiscation. He says the laws that are in place for gun control are plenty, and adding more laws will remove a means of defense for people. 'I own the guns I own because I acknowledge mankind's shortcomings instead of pretending like they don't exist. There are evil men in this world and there just may be a time when I need to do the unthinkable to protect me or my family,' he said.

- Jareen, CNN iReport producer

Senator Dianne Feinstein,

I will not register my weapons should this bill be passed, as I do not believe it is the government's right to know what I own. Nor do I think it prudent to tell you what I own so that it may be taken from me by a group of people who enjoy armed protection yet decry me having the same a crime. You ma'am have overstepped a line that is not your domain. I am a Marine Corps Veteran of 8 years, and I will not have some woman who proclaims the evil of an inanimate object, yet carries one, tell me I may not have one.

I am not your subject. I am the man who keeps you free. I am not your servant. I am the person whom you serve. I am not your peasant. I am the flesh and blood of America.

I am the man who fought for my country. I am the man who learned. I am an American. You will not tell me that I must register my semi-automatic AR-15 because of the actions of some evil man.

I will not be disarmed to suit the fear that has been established by the media and your misinformation campaign against the American public.

We, the people, deserve better than you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joshua Boston

Cpl, United States Marine Corps

2004-2012

Sheriff Margaret Mims addresses gun control

Thursday, January 17, 2013

FRESNO, Calif. (KFSN) -- Fresno County's top law enforcer says she's standing with sheriff's across the country- many of whom are coming forward, saying they won't enforce federal gun laws. This comes on the heels of President Obama's new gun violence prevention proposal. 23 executive orders are aimed at gun control.

Sheriff Margaret Mims says there's been a steady increase in concealed carry licenses, ever since the President's re-election in November. In order to handle the demand, the Fresno County Sheriff's Office will now feature online applications on it's website. However, local gun dealers can't keep up with the demand.

Jacob Belemjian says there's a substantial weapons shortage. He manages "The Firing Line" indoor shooting range and gun store in Clovis. He told Action News, "There is not a firearm to be ordered in the distributors are out, the manufacturers are out and they're making guns as fast as they can but customers came in and bought everything that was available to be bought." He also says customers are hoarding ammunition, even buying things they don't need, out of political fear. "People are freaked out that Washington and state government will allow, ban or confiscate... some of their freedoms will be taken away."

Belemjian says a majority of the buyers are first time gun owners, or people who haven't bought weapons in a long time. The President's proposal includes a ban on assault weapons, capping magazine clip capacity, orders to make more federal data available for background checks, and bringing back government research for gun violence.

Mims told Action News she will not enforce any gun control that she sees as unconstitutional, and won't infringe upon the right to bear arms. It's a sentiment that Belemjian echoes. "We don't need any more laws. Laws only work on people who obey the law."

The Sheriff says she does support a few aspects of the President's proposal. She backs the added funding for local law enforcement, especially in schools.

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Fresno County Sheriff Says "No" To "Useless" Gun Control

Jan 18, 2013

By Monty Torres

FRESNO COUNTY, Calif. (KMPH)

Two days after President Obama announced how he wants to fight gun violence in America, Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims let the White House know what she will not do when it comes to gun control in Fresno County.

In a letter released Friday addressed to Vice President Joe Biden, Mims stated that she is a firm believer in the right of "law abiding citizens to own, possess, keep and bear firearms."

Mims also wrote that she will not take firearms from these citizens by enforcing "useless gun control legislation".

Wednesday, President Obama unveiled 23 executive orders and proposed legislation to push what some are calling the most sweeping gun control plan in American history.



Margaret Mims
Sheriff
Fresno County Sheriff's Office

January 18, 2013

Vice President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20501

Dear Mr. Vice President:

As Sheriff of Fresno County, California, I have been elected twice and have sworn an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California. I first raised my right hand and swore that oath over 33 years ago and have continuously worked as a peace officer in Fresno County ever since that day in January, 1980 upholding that oath.

In accordance with the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, I firmly believe that law abiding citizens have the right to own, possess, keep, and bear firearms. I will not take firearms from these citizens and will not turn law abiding citizens into criminals by enforcing useless gun control legislation.

We must not allow the actions of a few cowards who are bent on evil to promote any laws that will infringe upon the constitutional liberties of responsible citizens who have broken no laws.

I cannot and will not stand idly by and allow unconstitutional actions to infringe upon the rights of my law abiding citizens in Fresno County.

Sincerely,

Margaret Mims, Sheriff

Dedicated to Protect & Serve

Law Enforcement Administration Building / 2200 Fresno Street / P.O. Box 1788 / Fresno, California 93717 / (559) 600-8800

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