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Promoting and protecting the Bill of Rights,
especially the Second Amendment

April 2022 – Volume 3, Issue 4

In Support of Freedom

DeSantis Soft Peddles Constitutional Carry Again!

Last month, I shared the news that the RINOs in Tallahassee had run out the clock on pro-2A bills for another year. Well, there is still a glimmer of hope for Constitutional Carry in Florida, but it's a longshot as our governor has always been lukewarm when it comes to Second Amendment rights. For whatever, he has consistently said he's for this or against that, but he has never been forceful in standing for the right of the people to keep and bear arms without infringement. He gives the impression he's all for gun rights, and that he's trying, but he's not trying at all.

In his March 29th press conference about calling the legislature into special session to come up with a compliant congressional map for Florida, DeSantis left the door open for other issues to be addressed as well. He said, "I would love to have property insurance, I would love to have data privacy, I would love to have constitutional carry, there's a lot of great things. But you know, we just went through a legislative session where they failed to deliver on some of those priorities. I will ask the legislative leaders, is there something that you can get across the finish line? And, I will encourage them to do that."

At least DeSantis mentioned constitutional carry, but it seems unlikely the legislature will get constitutional carry to his desk during the special session. The special session will run from noon on April 19th through no later than 11:59 p.m. on April 22nd. I believe there will be sufficient difficulty and stalling on the congressional map issue to prevent consideration of the other issues. However, this does present us with an opportunity to get to work calling, writing, emailing, and visiting our elected legislators, including the Governor. We have a couple weeks to bombard them, and voice our desire to see constitutional carry enacted now.

We need to insist the "Republican" super-majority do its job all the way around. Address the congressional map quickly, get on to the other issues, and make constitutional carry the highest priority. Start with the [Governor](#) and urge him to be more vociferous and demanding about getting

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constitutional carry to his desk. The so-called "Free State of Florida" is poised to be in the bottom half of states to enact constitutional carry; if it ever does. What a shame!

The Coming Thing...

In the short-lived (much to my chagrin) 90's TV show *The Adventures of Brisco County Jr.*, one of the recurring themes was Brisco's captivation with "The Coming Thing" – a sort of haunting feeling that something big was coming just around the bend. If he could just get a glimpse of the unknown future, he could be better prepared. The show was a weird cross between steampunk and the Lone Ranger much like the mid-60's TV show, *The Wild, Wild West*. Both shows were fixated around the effects of technology ahead of its time.

I, much like Brisco County Jr., struggle with what the future will bring. Will we go the way of Venezuela; will we be thrown into civil war or otherwise become balkanized? While they are certainly possibilities, they are too far around the bend to be seen clearly today. However, I do see one thing coming, given the incessant calls for more electric vehicles to solve the world's "climate change crisis." Electric vehicle owners, currently enjoying the drug-dealer specials of tax breaks, subsidized charging, and special traffic lanes, will soon meet the reality of the true cost of operation. Heaven-forbid your Tesla battery retains 70% of its charging capacity longer than 8 years or 100/120/150K miles depending on the model. Trust me, they've done the math. They're not going to be giving away many free batteries. Then, there are the standard exclusions and other things that could void the warranty.

Right now, it is estimated that about 2-3% of US vehicles are electric, but when EV numbers approach some magic threshold, or they outnumber fossil fueled vehicles, the demand for electricity will increase, and when the power companies, like the oil companies before them, have vehicular customers over the proverbial "barrel," they will charge what the market will bear. Here is where I believe things will get interesting. "They" will institute different (higher) rates for EV charging as opposed to regular household use. They will do this by requiring separately metered connections to collect their "gas tax" from EV owners, and to be able to switch off charging stations to meet demand during peak hours, or heat/cold wave induced brownouts. This is simply done through regulation of charging station installations via building codes and ordinances. Just as off-road diesel has a special dye in it to distinguish it from regular, more highly taxed, diesel, your EV will be programmed to only accept charging from "authorized" (read more highly taxed) connections and/or provide a record of how it was charged.

I'm sure something like this is around the bend; just because vehicles are electric, doesn't mean the need for roads, traffic lights, bridges and other infrastructure goes away. New infrastructure is needed, and old infrastructure needs to be maintained or upgraded. Check back with me in a few years to see if I saw "The Coming Thing."

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