

January 15, 2015

[www.wisconsinforce.org](http://www.wisconsinforce.org) is our official web address. Old addresses will work, and you will see a longer address at the site, but please use and promote [www.wisconsinforce.org](http://www.wisconsinforce.org). If you are still seeing the old website, please refresh your screen, and it will bring you to the new site. You do not need to login to use the site. In the future, we hope to allow you access to a members only area, where we hope to offer many benefits through a members only tab.

On the site you can register to attend the Annual Meeting and other events at the Wisconsin FORCE / NRA Annual Convention on February 6-8!



The NRA America's Rifle Challenge (ARC), presented by Daniel Defense, is a recreational, training event designed to develop modern shooting skills with general purpose rifles, such as the AR-15. ARC events are designed for shooters of all skill levels and can be conducted on almost any center-fire range in the country. Attendees will learn safe firearm handling skills with their personal firearms and gear while having fun in an athletic shooting environment.

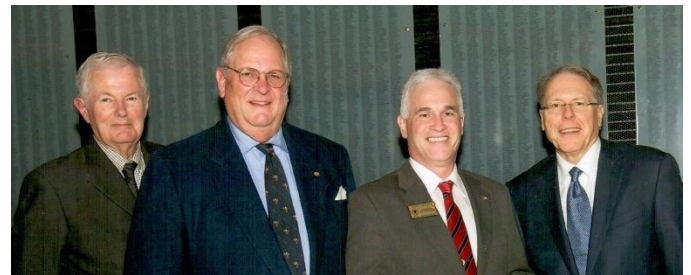
The NRA America's Rifle Challenge Guidebook provides a starting point **to help clubs and ranges develop** their own ARC events while reaching new shooters and encouraging existing members to continue to show their support with this new and exciting activity (Wisconsin FORCE will help promote member club events on our website, contact [jeff@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:jeff@wisconsinforce.org)). Modify the information within the guidebook to fit your individual range facility. Instructional information for the shooters comes through the training material produced by NRA Training Department.

Participants all over the country will attend ARC events to obtain education and training on their modern general-purpose rifles. It is essential that the standards, program objectives, and agenda formats contained in this guidebook be followed as closely as possible to ensure national program conformity. For questions regarding hosting an ARC event, please go to <http://arc.nra.org/> or contact the NRA Training Department at [NRA-ARC@nrahq.org](mailto:NRA-ARC@nrahq.org) or call (703) 267-1500; option 5.

## Congratulations to Senior Field Rep. Scott Taetsch

Congratulations to Senior Field Rep. Scott Taetsch who received a special award from the NRA for 10 years of exceptional service as Field Operations Representative for the State of Wisconsin. Scott is the longest serving Rep in memory and continues to serve us well. Make sure to congratulate Scott at the State Convention, any one of our great Friends of NRA events, or when you see him next.

Pictured NRA 1st VP A. Cors, Pres., J. Porter, Scott Taetsch, W. LaPierre



## Attend the Central Wisconsin Gun Collectors Association Gun Show this weekend in Fond du Lac

For complete information please [Click Here](#) Stop in and see Wisconsin FORCE at the front table and pick up a \* free chamber flag or pocket constitution while they last. On your way in and out you will see our Juniors; check out their raffle and brass sale!

### 2015 Wisconsin FORCE Annual CMP Garand Raffle

**All proceeds go to Wisconsin FORCE Junior Service Rifle Team!**

**Garand** raffle is sponsored by the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP). The winner will comply with CMP M1 rifle procedures. Drawing to be held February 7, 2015 at the NRA/WF State Convention. You need not be present to win. ALL FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS APPLY! Must be 18 years of age to win. Pick up at the gun show or contact Dave 920-851-8625 [holubdave@yahoo.com](mailto:holubdave@yahoo.com).



**Pick up your 223/556 brass** at the Central Wisconsin Gun Collectors Association gun show this weekend in Fond du Lac. The Wisconsin FORCE Juniors are selling the brass used at our annual Armed Forces Camps (Poolee Program). This brass has been commercially reloaded 4 times and is still in great shape. The proceeds will help the Junior program to continue to grow. Purchase at the show or contact [juniors@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:juniors@wisconsinforce.org).

## From the Executive Director

As a member of the NRA's Clubs & Associations committee, I regularly attend NRA Board meetings and many of the other standing committees. Having just gotten home from the January meetings, I am excited by having some insight on many of the great changes and new programs that are in the works (see AR at your club on page 1). As we all saw during the elections, the NRA is an effective organization that we are proud to be a part of. Many of the great ads that they ran were not political ads, but who we Are (NRA members). Look for exciting changes and upgrades in many areas of the NRA. This month's picture is Wisconsin FORCE life member, NRA Board member, and New York Rifle and Pistol Association Board member Joe DeBergalis. Joe has been an asset for Wisconsin even before becoming a life member. Joe and I worked as the lead in the national effort on behalf of NRA State Associations to file an Amicus Brief in favor of McDonald v. Chicago. Joe is a part of the great new things happening at the NRA.



Shooters, some of them Club Board members, occasionally make comments about other shooters or disciplines that are actually anti-shooting (never "their" type of shooting). Support of all disciplines, including plinking and programs for new firearm owners, is critical. There are actually lawsuits in other states against clubs/ranges specifically targeting semi-automatics, because the sound of their shooting is scarier than bolt and lever action rifles. I have had gun owners and gun club board members actually speak in agreement who, when asked, admit to not owning the firearm in question. First of all, watch a video of some of our great bolt action rifle shooters such as Boot's Obermeyer run a bolt gun. Many of the "Bolt" guys say they don't like gas guns because they are too slow. Watch some of the cowboy action matches. Not only can they make the lever actions fly, but watch them with a double barreled shotgun. As we discuss in our range seminars, no matter what is being used, all rounds must impact the backstop.

While working on my laptop last week between NRA meetings, I received a phone call. During that call my laptop went to screensaver which shows pictures of the Wisconsin FORCE Juniors at Camp Perry. Watching it made me realize how much the Junior program has come back and just how great it is having them active and visible at the Nationals.

I want to personally thank Jerry Stevens for his years as Small-Bore Coordinator. Jerry took the position at my request (arm twisting) and has served us well. Jerry is devoted to the future. He also volunteers in many ways, such as with the Friends of NRA and with two great junior programs that meet weekly.

2015 should be another big year for Wisconsin FORCE. You should already be proud of what we are doing. Our growth continues to serve our members, the NRA, and every "Good Guy" in Wisconsin and the Nation by supporting freedom. If you can help, please let me know.

Donations are greatly needed and appreciated. These donations allow us to expand our service in the best way to keep us moving forward. See you at the range, Teach Freedom – Jeff

## Wisconsin FORCE in Madison – 2015

Wisconsin FORCE is already working in a variety of areas (rule changes, bills, etc.) for 2015. Your support is needed now to help us continue to be a FORCE in Madison. Look for details and call to action alerts in future Triggers and QuickShots. Please use the donation form on the last page to help out.

# NRA-ILA

INSTITUTE for LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The NRA-ILA web site has great information on gun laws! [Click Here!](#) to access this resource.



**Wisconsin  
NRA-ILA**  
Representative  
John  
Commerford



Have a great time while supporting our shooting heritage! Special Items available ONLY at your local Friends of NRA event!

For dates, locations and information, [CLICK HERE!](#)

Make sure to check the event flier for special deals!

**This Month's Highlighted Item - Annie Oakley Replica Target Set**

We all know Annie. One of her special accomplishments was her heartshot targets. Framed in 13"H x 20"W espresso walnut and

double matted in cream with dark brown accents, is a replica of the heart-shot target, a .22 long rifle bullet and casing fired from Annie's pistol by NRA directors and headquarters staff, photo of Annie and a brief historical note complete this tribute to the Wild West's Queen of hearts. Made exclusively for *Friends of NRA*.



**Naturally, large donations are greatly appreciated, but if your finances will not allow, a simple \$5 or \$10 donation is appreciated. Thanks to all of our members that have stepped up and supported Wisconsin FORCE with their generous donations.**

# The Sound of Freedom is heard here!

## Education, Training, Safety, & Marksmanship

### On the Range - Jeff Nass

2015 should be a great year for you and your club! Ammunition supplies are loosening up, and we have a huge influx of new shooters, many of who are enthusiastic about shooting. It is critical that these new shooters have a quality experience at the range so they understand our freedoms and also to ensure that your club remains an asset to your community for many generations to come. Membership and match fees should truly reflect club costs. New members understand that it costs money to shoot. If your dues reflect the purchase of a couple boxes of ammunition, is that a responsible way to support your club? Some clubs have other avenues to raise income which allow a smaller membership fee, while maintaining the club (banquets, raffles, daily or round fee, etc.). Having money for upgrades, expansion, and having a war chest for emergencies is part of being responsible and also helps ensure the future of your club!

**Not for Profit, doesn't mean, Not Prepared!** For Range and Club issues contact Jeff at [jeff@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:jeff@wisconsinforce.org) / 920-687-0505

1. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
2. Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
3. Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.
4. Always treat a firearm as if it were loaded.



**Wisconsin FORCE**, has representation on several committees and with regular and consistent contact, continues to work with the DNR to help improve hunting opportunities, upgrade public ranges, and properly allocate Pittman-Robertson funds. The only way to be effective is to be involved.

**Please use the donation form on the last page to help with our continued work on this and other matters.**

### Wisconsin, Iowa, and Michigan see first experimental teal season as success

MADISON – In 2014, Wisconsin, Iowa and Michigan were given authority by the US Fish and Wildlife Service to implement an early teal duck hunting season, with an initial experimental period lasting three years. - [Read Full Article](#)



### Wisconsin's Deer Management Assistance Program now accepting applications for 2015

MADISON – Conservation-minded landowners and land managers throughout Wisconsin are reminded of an opportunity to play a key role in deer and habitat management through the Deer Management Assistance Program. [Read Full Article](#)

### Hunters register 4,220 turkeys in 2014 fall hunt; spring permit levels set

MADISON – According to preliminary harvest data, Wisconsin wild turkey hunters registered 4,220 birds during the fall 2014 wild turkey season, a slight decrease from 4,633 turkeys registered during the 2013 fall season. - [Read Full Article](#)



## Federal Appellate Court Rules -- EPA Cannot Regulate Content of Ammunition; Dismisses Anti-hunting Groups' Lawsuit Seeking to Ban Traditional Ammunition -- NSSF -- December 23, 2014



NEWTOWN, Conn. - The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia today upheld the dismissal of the latest lawsuit brought by anti-hunting groups petitioning the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to issue regulations banning traditional ammunition with lead components. The refusal by the EPA to consider the petition was challenged by the anti-hunting petitioners in federal court in 2013. Traditional ammunition represents 95 percent of the U.S. market and is the staple ammunition for target shooters, hunters and law enforcement, with more than 14 billion rounds sold annually.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), the trade association for the firearms and ammunition industry, joined the lawsuit on the side of the EPA to ensure that interests of industry and hunters were properly represented. *continued on page 7 .....*



## Restrictions By Businesses And Property Owners

### Can a business or property owner limit or prohibit the carrying of concealed weapons on its premises?

Yes. The law permits certain owners and occupants of property to prohibit persons from carrying a concealed firearm in or on the property. A person may be subject to a Class B forfeiture if he or she carries a firearm on the property after being notified not to remain on the property or remain with a specific type of firearm. In the latter case, a property owner can prohibit a person from possessing a specific type of firearm on their property or any firearm. Wis. Stat. § 943.13(1m)(b).

In addition, property owners generally possess the right to exclude others from their property. While the specific provisions below only reference prohibiting the possession of firearms, property owners may also prohibit or restrict the possession of other weapons on their property. Violations of such restrictions may also constitute a Class B forfeiture under Wis. Stat § 943.13(1m)(b). Therefore, the language quoted below, while only mentioning firearms, applies with equal force to other weapons.

Also see NOTICE OF REFUSAL OF RIGHT TO CARRY CONCEALED for details on the type of notice required.

**Residences:** It is unlawful for anyone to enter or remain at a residence that the person does not own or occupy after the owner of the residence, if he or she has not leased it to another person, or the occupant of the residence, has notified the person not to enter or remain at the residence while carrying a firearm or with that type of firearm. Residence with respect to a single-family residence includes the residence building and the parcel of land upon which the residence building is located. If a residence is not a single-family residence, residence does not include any common area of the building in which the residence is located or any common areas on the rest of the parcel of land upon which the residence building is located. Wis. Stat § 943.13(1m)(c)1.

**Condos/Apartments:** It is unlawful for anyone to enter or remain in the common area in a building, or on the grounds of a building, that is a residence that is not a single-family residence if the actor does not own the residence or does not occupy any part of the residence and if the owner of the residence has notified the actor not to remain in the common area or on the grounds while carrying a firearm or with that type of firearm. This provision does not apply to a part of the grounds that is used for parking if the firearm is in a vehicle driven or parked in that part. Wis. Stat. § 943.13(1m)(c)1m.

**Nonresidential building and grounds of a nonresidential building:** It is unlawful for any person to enter or remain in any part of a nonresidential building, grounds of a nonresidential building, or land that the person does not own or occupy after the owner of the building, grounds, or land, if that part of the building, grounds, or land has not been leased to another person, or the occupant of that part of the building, grounds, or land has notified the person not to enter or remain in that part of the building, grounds, or land while carrying a firearm. This provision does not apply to a part of a building, grounds, or land occupied by the state or by a local unit of government; to a privately or publicly owned building on the grounds of a university or college; or to the grounds of or land owned or occupied by a university or college. In addition, if the firearm is in a vehicle driven or parked in a parking facility, this provision does not apply to any part of a building, grounds, or land used as a parking facility. The law specifies that nonresidential building includes a nursing home, a community-based residential facility, a residential care apartment complex, an adult family home, and a hospice. Wis. Stat. § 943.13(1m)(c)2 and § 943.13(1e)(cm).

**Land:** It is unlawful for any person to enter or remain in any part of land that the person does not own or occupy after the owner of the land, if that part of the land has not been leased to another person, or the occupant of that part of the land has notified the person not to enter or remain in that part of the land while carrying a firearm. This provision does not apply to a part of land occupied by the state or by a local unit of government; to a privately or publicly owned building on the grounds of a university or college; or to the grounds of or land owned or occupied by a university or college. In addition, if the firearm is in a vehicle driven or parked in a parking facility, this provision does not apply to any part of land used as a parking facility. Wis. Stat. § 943.13(1m)(c)2 and § 943.13(1e)(cm).

**Special events (e.g. sporting events, concerts, etc):** It is unlawful for any person to enter or remain at a special event if the organizers of the special event have notified the actor not to remain at the special event while carrying a firearm or with that type of firearm. The provision does not apply if the firearm is in a vehicle driven or parked in the parking facility, to any part of the special event grounds or building that is used as a parking facility. The law defines special event as an event that is open to the public, is for a duration of not more than three weeks, and either has designated entrances to and from the event that are locked when the event is closed or requires an admission. Wis. Stat. § 943.13(1m)(c)3.

**Private university or college:** It is unlawful for any person to enter or remain in any privately or publicly owned buildings on the grounds of a university or college, if the university or college has notified the actor not to enter or remain in the building while carrying a firearm or with that type of firearm. The provision does not apply to a person who leases residential or business premises in the building or, if the firearm is in a vehicle driven or parked in the parking facility, to any part of the building used as a parking facility. In order to give notice under the above provisions, other than the provision relating to single family residences, an owner or occupant must post a sign notifying persons of the restriction. If an owner or occupant of a building or part of a building is permitted to post a sign to notify that carrying of firearms is prohibited in the building or part of the building, the owner or occupant must post a sign that is located in a prominent place near all of the entrances of the part of the building to which the restriction applies and it must be posted so that any individual entering the building must be reasonably expected to see the sign. If grounds of a building or land are posted, as described above, the owner or occupant must post a sign that is located in a prominent place near all probable access points to the grounds or

*continued on page 7 .....*

# 2015 NRA/Wisconsin FORCE State Convention

Join us and fellow PATRIOTS for the  
9<sup>th</sup> Annual Wisconsin

## STATE CONVENTION

February 6, 7, & 8, 2015

Mountain Bay Banquet & Conference Center  
(Dale's Weston Lanes)

5902 Schofield Avenue, Weston, WI 54476

For discount on lodging, use Group Code: NRA  
Phone 715-355-9955

**FREE Seminars!**

**Space is limited, register soon.**

**Register On-line**

[www.wisconsinforce.org](http://www.wisconsinforce.org)

**or fill out the form and mail or fax.**

You will receive a reply email with instructions on  
making payment if you are attending the banquet.



**WISCONSIN  
FORCE**

Wisconsin Firearm Owners, Ranges, Clubs, & Educators, Inc.



**Previous Guests Include:**

**Scott Walker**

Governor State of Wisconsin

**David Keene**

Past President NRA

**Kayne Robinson**

Past President NRA

**Chad Franklin**

NRA Central Region Director

**Buster Bachhuber**

NRA Board of Director

**...look for invited guests soon!**

[www.wisconsinforce.org](http://www.wisconsinforce.org)

**Questions/Comments:**

- NRA Senior Field Representative Scott Taetsch  
E-mail: [staetsch@nrahq.org](mailto:staetsch@nrahq.org)
- Wisconsin FORCE Executive Director Jeff Nass  
Ph. 920-687-0505  
E-mail: [jeff@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:jeff@wisconsinforce.org)

*Sponsored in part by*

**Central Wisconsin Gun Collectors Association**

**and Wisconsin Trapshooting Association**



Due to overwhelming interest and limited space, register today!

# NRA/Wisconsin FORCE STATE CONVENTION

Registration is required and limited for all events! **DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, FEB 3**

DISCOUNTED **NRA** membership and special **Wisconsin FORCE** memberships will be available!

No video or audio recording allowed without expressed written permission.

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!** or wait & register on-line, email [jeff@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:jeff@wisconsinforce.org) to hold a spot

Name (if using credit card, name on card)

Email Address

Address, City, State, Zip Code (if using credit card, address on card.)

Phone Number

Registration is **REQUIRED** in order to have enough packets for all attendees.

Qty YES! I/we will be attending the following events:

	Friday	Feb. 6	4 pm	Meet and Greet!	FREE
			7 pm	State Fund Committee Meeting, voting <b>AND</b> non voting representatives – <b>RESTRICTED</b>	N/A
	Saturday	Feb. 7	8 am	Funding the Future - <b>Friends of NRA</b> workshop.	FREE
			10 am	<b>Wisconsin FORCE</b> CMP Service Rifle Juniors Board of Directors Meeting	FREE
			10:30 am	<b>Wisconsin FORCE</b> CMP Service Rifle Team Meeting	FREE
			1 pm	<b>Wisconsin FORCE</b> Annual Meeting: OPEN to ALL: Includes updates from ILA, Wisconsin DNR, Friends of NRA, and open forum. <b>Wisconsin FORCE MEMBER</b> _____	FREE
↓	Registration Below		5-10 pm	Annual State Appreciation/Awards Banquet	<b>BELOW</b>
	Sunday	Feb. 8	9 am	Fundraising & Grants in the 21st Century: On-Line Workshop for Volunteers & Grant Applicants	FREE

Qty YES! I/we will attend the banquet. **You must pre-register, including payment, to reserve.**

	Saturday	Feb. 7	5-10 pm	Annual State Appreciation/Awards Banquet Tickets are *\$50.00 each, OPEN to all! <b>LIMITED SEATING!</b>	\$ .00
				Raffle Packets:\$200 worth for \$100 or \$700 worth for \$300 (Deadline Feb. 4, 2014)	\$ .00
<b>*NRA Field Support Team/Friends of NRA Committee Members ONLY!</b>					<b>Total Due</b> \$ .00

Refund will be issued at banquet registration or receive \$60 worth of Friends Raffle Tickets instead of refund.

\_\_\_ I am a Committee Member. Committee Name & Number (WI-??)\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ I want the raffle tickets.

Each Committee Member MUST have their own registration form. Only one Committee Member refund or raffle ticket pak per registration form.

\_\_\_ Enclosed is my check, payable to: Annual Awards Banquet for the Total Due.

\_\_\_ Charge my Credit Card for Total Due: \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_ Discover

Charge Card Number

Exp. Date Month / Year

Security Code

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Reserve a table of 8 in the name of: \_\_\_\_\_ MUST include registration forms for **ALL** 8 at the table with this form.

**Mail to:** NRA/WF State Conv., PO Box 130, Seymour, WI 54165-0130

or Fax: 715-873-3361 (Most secure for charge card purchase)

**Event and raffle tickets ordered on this form will be available at the door the night of the event!**

Questions/Comments:

Wisconsin FORCE Executive Director

Jeff Nass

Ph. 920-687-0505

email: [jeff@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:jeff@wisconsinforce.org)

[www.wisconsinforce.org](http://www.wisconsinforce.org)

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[www.friendsofnra.org](http://www.friendsofnra.org)

**Wisconsin Department of Justice --** Information from [www.doj.state.wi.us/](http://www.doj.state.wi.us/)



*continued from page 4.....* land to which the restriction applies and any individual entering the grounds or land can be reasonably expected to see the sign. Finally, organizers of a special event may post the special event by posting a sign that is located in a prominent place near all of the entrances to the special event and any individual attending the special event can be reasonably expected to see the sign. Wis. Stat § 943.13(1m)(c)5.

**If a private business or property owner allows the carrying of concealed weapons and someone is injured or killed as a result of a license holder using the weapon, is the employer or property owner legally liable?**

Generally no. However, there may be circumstances where such liability may exist and a discussion of such situations is beyond the scope of this brief legal summary.

**The law provides:** A person who does not prohibit an individual from carrying a concealed weapon on property that the person owns or occupies is immune from any liability arising from his or her decision. Wis. Stat. § 175.60(21)(b).

**An employer** who does not prohibit one or more employees from carrying a concealed weapon is immune from any liability arising from that decision. Wis. Stat § 175.60(21)(c).

**A person providing a firearms training course** in good faith is immune from liability from any act or omission related to the course if the course is one of the courses.

**Federal Appellate Court Rules**

*continued from page 3 .....* The U.S. District Court for the District of

Columbia ruled that the EPA had properly dismissed the petition filed under the Toxic Substances Control Act. The petitioners appealed that ruling to the U.S. Court of Appeals, which heard the case in late October. EPA has consistently denied repeated attempts by anti-hunting groups led by the extremist Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) to have the agency ban traditional ammunition, and the court had dismissed an earlier case brought by CBD seeking the same relief. The latest suit simply added more parties. "This latest iteration of a frivolous lawsuit is essentially the same as those dismissed earlier and equally without merit," said Lawrence G. Keane, NSSF senior vice president and general counsel. "We are pleased the Court of Appeals considered the legal merits in case and has now ruled that Congress has not given the EPA the authority to regulate ammunition, putting an end to efforts by anti-hunting zealots to end America's hunting heritage." CBD's serial petitioning of EPA and its repeated lawsuits are intended to begin shutting down hunting and the shooting sports in America by banning the ammunition that millions of hunters and target shooters choose to use safely and responsibly. "There is quite simply no sound science that shows the use of traditional ammunition has harmed wildlife populations or that it presents a health risk to humans who consume game taken with such ammunition," said Keane. "Banning traditional ammunition would cost tens of thousands of jobs in America and destroy wildlife conservation that is funded in part by an 11 percent excise tax on the sale of ammunition. The protection and management of wildlife is properly handled by the professional biologists in the state fish and game agencies, as it has been for over a hundred years."

In addition to NSSF, the National Rifle Association, Safari Club International and the Association of Battery Recyclers intervened in the case. Organizations that joined CBD in its lawsuit were the Cascades Raptor Center of Oregon, the Loon Lake Loon Association of Washington, Preserve Our Wildlife of Florida, Tennessee Ornithological Society, Trumpeter Swan Society and Western Nebraska Resources Council.

[Access the Court Decision.](#) [Learn more about traditional ammunition.](#)

**The Army decided it would not consider Beretta USA's M9A3 for the Modular Handgun System program.** -- Photo courtesy of Beretta USA Military.com Jan 09, 2015 by Matthew Cox

U.S. Army weapons officials will not evaluate an improved version of the service's Cold War-era 9mm pistol, choosing instead to search for a more modern soldier sidearm. In early December, Beretta USA, the maker of the U.S. military's M9 pistol for 30 years, submitted its modernized M9A3 as a possible alternative to the Army's Modular Handgun System program -- an effort to replace the M9 with a more powerful, state-of-the-art pistol. The improved M9 features new sights, a rail for mounting lights and accessories, better ergonomics and improved reliability, Beretta USA officials said. But by late December, it was all over for Beretta's engineering change proposal for the M9. The Army's Configuration Control Board decided not to evaluate the M9A3, according to a source familiar with the decision.



The move clears the way for the Army to release a pending request for proposal that will launch the MHS competition. Program Executive Office Soldier would not comment for this story until Army Public Affairs has approved a statement, PEO Soldier spokesman Doug Graham said Thursday night. The Army began working with the small arms industry on MHS in early 2013, but the joint effort has been in the works for more than five years. If successful, it would result in the Defense Department buying nearly 500,000 new pistols during a period of significant defense-spending reductions. Current plans call for the Army to purchase more than 280,000 handguns from a single vendor, with delivery of the first new handgun systems scheduled for 2017, according to PEO Soldier officials.

*continued on page 8 .....*

**The Army** *continued from page 7* ..... The Army also plans to buy approximately 7,000 sub-compact versions of the handgun. The other military services participating in the MHS program may order an additional 212,000 systems above the Army quantity. The effort is set to cost at least \$350 million and potentially millions more if it results in the selection of a new pistol caliber. Beretta USA officials said they have not received official notification of the Army's decision. "Obviously, they didn't take a whole lot of time on this," said Gabriele De Plano, vice president of military marketing and sales for Beretta USA, reacting to the news of the Army's pre-Christmas decision after the M9A3's December 10 unveiling. Army officials "didn't ask a single question; didn't ask for a single sample" for evaluation, De Plano said. The Army maintains that the M9 design does not meet the MHS requirement. Soldiers have complained of reliability issues with the M9. One problem has to do with the M9's slide-mounted safety. During malfunction drills, the shooter often engages the lever-style safety by accident, Army weapons officials say. The M9A3's "over-center safety lever" can be configured to act as a de-cocker, a change that eliminates the accidental safety activation, De Plano said. As part of the joint requirement process for MHS, Army weapons officials did a "very thorough cost-benefit analysis" that supported the effort, Army weapons officials said. The old fleet of M9s is costing the Army more to replace and repair than to buy a new service pistol, officials said. The M9A3 is not a perfect pistol, De Plano says, but the Army should at least evaluate it. The M9 pistol can be "improved for hundreds of millions less than a new MHS pistol," De Plano said. "We can sell them this new pistol for less than the M9 pistol." Beretta currently has an open contract for M9s that the Army awarded in September 2012 for up to 100,000 pistols. Deliveries of about 20,000 have been scheduled, leaving 80,000 that could be ordered in the M9A3 configuration for less than the cost of the current M9, De Plano said. "Why not do a dual-path like they have done in other cases," De Plano said. The Army was determined to do just that when it set out to search for a replacement for the M4 carbine. The service launched a competition to evaluate commercially available carbines while, at the same time, it evaluated improvements to the M4. In the end, the service scrapped the competition and ended up adopting the M4A1 version used by special operations forces. "They could explore this," said De Plano, by ordering 10 M9A3s. "What's the downside?"



Your support is needed now! Wisconsin FORCE and the NRA are working diligently to protect your rights! Wisconsin FORCE has a continuous eye on Madison. The NRA is watching Washington and Madison, working with Wisconsin FORCE.

Please help in the battle and support Wisconsin FORCE by making a donation.

Yes, count me in with my donation of  \$20  \$50  \$100  \$200  \$500  \$1000  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Wisconsin FORCE or charge my credit card.

Mail to: Wisconsin FORCE, PO Box 130, Seymour WI 54165-0130

VISA  Master  Disc. # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CVV Code from back of card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Address City State Zip

[www.wisconsinforce.org](http://www.wisconsinforce.org)

This email was sent by [membership@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:membership@wisconsinforce.org)  
 Email [membership@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:membership@wisconsinforce.org) to update profile/email address or to be removed.  
 Wisconsin FORCE, PO Box 130, Seymour, WI 54165-0130