

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Bill of Rights is the collective name for the first ten amendments to the United States Constitution and serve as limitations on government to protect the natural rights of liberty, property and personal freedom; and

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment to the 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"; and

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment is considered the palladium of liberty and the safeguard of the first law of nature, that is, the right of self-defense; and

WHEREAS, in the District of Columbia v. Heller (2008), the Supreme Court ruled that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess a firearm, unconnected to service in a militia, and to use that arm for lawful purposes, such as self-defense; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court in McDonald v. Chicago (2010) affirmed that the right of an individual to "keep and bear arms" is protected by the Second Amendment and, as incorporated by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, it applies to the states; and

WHEREAS, current events have caused our community grave concerns over the preservation and protection of our natural rights, freedoms and specifically the right to bear arms; and

WHEREAS, the Constitutionally protected activities of law-abiding citizens deserve the support and respect of our institutions so that citizens need not live in fear of the criminalization of activities long considered natural and traditional; and

WHEREAS, in order to underscore these unalienable rights, to stand as an example of Constitutional respect and to make a testament to community, citizens and representatives at all levels; and

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment is the paramount right in the Bill of Rights because it defends all the others.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Board of Stevens County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim **April 2, 2013**, as

Second Amendment Appreciation Day

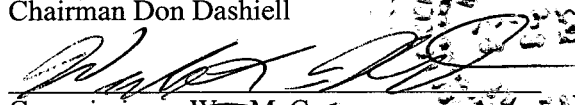
in the County of Stevens and proclaim that the Second Amendment is a natural and constitutional part of our law and society. We affirm the individual citizen as the first and last line of defense of life, liberty and property.

Passed by the Board of Stevens County Commissioners meeting in regular session at Colville, Washington, by the following vote, then signed by its membership and attested to by its Clerk in authorization of such passage the 4th day of March, 2013.

3 YEA; 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; and 0 ABSENT

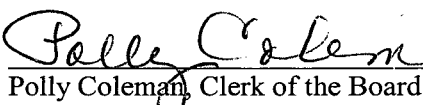
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF STEVENS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Chairman Don Dashiell


Commissioner Wes McCart


Commissioner Steve Parker

ATTEST:


Polly Coleman, Clerk of the Board

