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Ladies, Gents,

I attended the meeting of the Orange County Board of supervisors today...

Last Friday Mrs. Hutchens (the person appointed as Sheriff by three of five supervisors of the county) called the board and requested a verbal addition to the agenda for today's meeting. This addition was her oral report regarding her revocation of several hundred concealed carry permits. The people subject to this revocation did not break the law in any way. Mrs. Hutchens changed the definition of what is a good cause by her opinion. 40% of the then current permits did not meet the adjusted standard and are now pending "evaluation". The only reason I knew about this agenda item was that Supervisor Norby sent out e-mails to all CCW holders that subscribed to his newsletter, urging them to be present at the meeting.

I was told by two of the other attending CCW holders that deputies singled out at least one person wearing the OCCCW button on his shirt and frisked him down before he was allowed to enter the board meeting room. This shows how much trust Mrs. Hutchens has in her constituents.

Mrs. Hutchens did not have any conclusive written documents to back her report up and read from notes from her folder.

She is still set on revoking several hundred CCWs. As before she has failed to provide a reasonable explanation why she is so intent on doing this. Instead she claims that she is just following the law.

The law for her is part of a letter that an Attorney General wrote in 1977... the statements therein are not even a legal opinion This is just part of a letter that was written regarding an unrelated subject.

That's like saying that most articles in gun magazines in 1977 praised, let's say the Smith and Wesson Model 66 as an outstanding sidearm for cops -- and insisting on carrying one today for just this reason. By the way -- Mrs. Hutchens is carrying a Glock on her duty belt -- despite a protective detail, if I'm not totally off.

Her main concern previously -- I guess since it would have opened the OCSD up for lawsuits -- was the fact that a revoked CCW leaves a nasty mark on a person's DOJ record. This is the record that street cops will access to check a person's ID through the onboard terminal in their patrol cruiser. If a CCW is revoked, it will show up as just that: a revoked permission to carry a concealed firearm. If this traffic stop happens somewhere outside Orange County where the

cops are not familiar with the things that have transpired here - a routine traffic stop can take an ugly and humiliating turn very quickly.

To address this issue Mrs. Hutchens has the following approach. Holders of legitimately issued permits that do not meet her revised standards will receive a letter asking for additional documentation of a good cause. If her good cause threshold is not met, the person will receive a second letter giving them the option to have the permit revoked or agreeing to a pre-term expiration.

In other words: We will have to give her permission for early expiration, otherwise we will have a blemish on our DOJ record. This is not really a choice - this is blackmail!

Another thing she is doing is placing restrictions on the CCW's - such as validity only while executing the function that established the good cause. This means that the person that has the permit has to prove to the street cop that he or she is in fact "on the job" - this by itself can prove to be difficult.

Ladies, Gents, this is not acceptable by a long shot. You can probably tell by the tone of this post that I'm deeply frustrated. Am I giving up?

Absolutely not!

There is some good news to be had: The question whether or not she has the authority to change the expiration date still remains to be answered. Supervisor Norby drew an analogy that the DMV can revoke a Driver's License, given that the holder did something severely wrong to warrant losing his privilege to drive -- but the DMV cannot change the expiration date. Comparable to the duration of a contract, the expiration date is set upon issuing the license.

The legal counsel of the board did not know of any precedence regarding expiration dates of licenses in general. This is something that will be investigated and researched until the next BOS meeting on January 27. Mrs. Hutchens was proven wrong in her interpretation of the law before -- which leaves room for hope

Supervisor Norby also voiced his frustration with the issue. He is one of the two "good guys" who voted against her. He sees that Mrs. Hutchens is dragging this issue out until she has worn down the resistance of the population. We had upwards of 200 people at the meeting in November when this issue was first publicly discussed. 62 were able to stay until the afternoon and were willing to step up to the podium and voice their opinion.

Today -- specifically due to the short notice from Mrs. Hutchens -- we were only seven speakers on our behalf. Two gentlemen had to leave before we reached this point on the agenda and did not get a chance to speak. I just started a new

job last year and the number of vacation days it lower than it was early in 2008 – Supervisor Norby has a point! I view Mrs. Hutchens approach as extremely dishonest.

The people of this county did not elect this person, she was appointed by .001% of the population. She is ignoring the voices of the people as well as the concerns of the supervisors that made the mistake of appointing her.

Just before Christmas she said to the supervisors that regarding the CCW issue they might have reached a point where they would have to *respectfully* agree to disagree on the CCW issue. If she had any respect for the people of Orange County, she would listen and act according to the needs of the people. There is nothing respectful about her actions.

Mrs. Hutchens seems to be completely detached from the needs of the people that she took an oath to protect.

Our local resources are exhausted --

Help us out and send your complaints to the governor!

Here is the address:

Governor's Office:

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-445-2841
Fax: 916-558-3160 (new number)