

From: [Cody Driscoll](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)
Subject: amendment to chapter 225
Date: Sunday, April 16, 2023 2:23:39 PM

I'm just shocked to see that saint paul will be considering disarming law-abiding citizens, instead of increasing penalties for firearm thefts this is the problem with this city.

I can say if anyone I care about gets hurt because they cannot protect themselves because they will not have a loaded legal firearm I will launch a multi million dollar lawsuit against the city and anyone personally that voted or supported this. In a long as I can make it law proceeding.

So in my own home I cannot have a loaded gun so what should I do when someone kicks in my door with gun? Should I say hey wait a second I have to unlock everything?

The crime in this city is getting out of control and me a person following all of the laws cannot defend myself?

What business would move to Saint Paul with the punish the people that follow the law and give the criminals a free pass? I know I would never, I have always considered just outside of the Saint Paul city for any business I would be starting.

The mindset behind laws like this are killing this city. Punish the theft not the people try to just stay alive in this city. This is unbelievable.

Thank you for your time

Cody Driscoll

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From: [Nancy Baker](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Nancy Baker's written testimony for April 26 City Council mtg.
Date: Friday, April 14, 2023 2:21:51 PM
Attachments: [St. Paul Gun Violence Amendment 4.14.23.pdf](#)

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of Ward 3, I wish to submit written testimony in anticipation of the April 26 City Council meeting, in support of Ordinance 23-22, Version 1, a proposed amendment of the Legislative Code relating to weapons.

Thank you, in advance, for providing this document to Council Members.

Sincerely,
Nancy J. Baker MD
baker024@umn.edu
612 590-8151 (voicemail and text)

1064 Cleveland Ave. South
St. Paul, MN 55116

April 14, 2023

St. Paul City Council
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Council Members,

I write to you at this time as a resident of Ward 3 to urge your support of Ordinance 23-22, Version 1, a proposed amendment to Chapter 225 of the Legislative Code relating to weapons, submitted by Councilors Noecker, Prince and Yang.

I am a retired Family Physician and spent four decades of my professional career providing acute, chronic, maternity and preventive care to women and children, adolescents, adults, and elders in St. Paul and Minneapolis. I am also a Past President of the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians, an organization committed to doing what it can to minimize the adverse effects of gun violence on the mental and physical health of all Minnesotans.

As you know, each year, guns in Minnesota contribute to scores of unnecessary deaths due to interpersonal violence and suicide. There are not only the primary victims who die from gun violence; there are secondary victims who incur severe emotional trauma and adverse mental health sequelae. Over the years, I've cared for many young and old victims of gun violence.

Including language in the proposed amendment that requires gun owners to use locking devices, and to secure firearms unloaded and without ammunition, will make it more difficult for guns to be used irresponsibly to inflict harm. By placing time and space between those considering suicide by firearm, and keeping guns inaccessible to children, adults and thieves who should be denied access to them, we have an opportunity to save lives. We must be diligent in our efforts to arrest the current epidemic of gun violence in Minnesota.

Please approve the Ordinance 23-22, Version 1 amendment to Chapter 225.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Baker MD

Nancy J. Baker MD
Assistant Professor, Retired
Department of Family Medicine & Community Health
University of Minnesota

Past President
Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians

From: [N. Wunrow](#)
To: [Melvin Carter](#); [#CI-StPaul_Ward7](#)
Cc: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Axel Henry](#)
Subject: Ord 23-22
Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 1:51:11 PM

Dear Councilmember Prince and Mayor Carter,

As a resident and homeowner of Ward 7, I am contacting you today to ask you to oppose amending Chapter 225 of the Legislative Code relating to weapons. Ordinances like this only further restrict law-abiding citizens from protecting ourselves in our own homes.

During the riots and mass property damage of the summer of 2020 I was greatly concerned with the complete disregard for laws and social norms, because there was looting and cars being set on fire within blocks of our home, and I feared what may happen if the chaos spilled into the neighborhoods.

Last summer we had two separate incidents where mentally ill individuals were violent in our neighborhood. One mentally ill person damaged my neighbor's property and a second mentally ill person tried breaking into another neighbor's home. During these months my wife and I limited when our children could play outside and made sure we knew where our children were at all times, even in our own backyard.

We have a severely limited police force in the Twin Cities and crime is up and you want us to lock up the only method I have of stopping someone who wants to harm my family?

I understand that Ordinances like this are meant to keep children safe, but if that's the case, then pass legislation that encourages firearm safety courses and proper firearm handling. If you have children, you know that simply saying they shouldn't play with matches doesn't always work, which is why we as parents need to educate them on the dangers and consequences of playing with matches. Just like playing with a firearm can be dangerous.

As my father taught me, I continue to teach my three daughters that firearms are to be respected, not feared.

I ask that the City Council focuses on investing in gun safety, not gun control. Enforce existing laws on criminals who use a firearm to commit a crime.

Some of us don't have the luxury of private security or police escorts, please don't restrict our means of protection.

For all these common sense reasons, I ask that you do not infringe on the rights of the law-abiding residents of St. Paul.

Thank you for your service!

Nathan

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[Nathan Wunrow](#)

St. Paul, Minnesota



Mayor Carter
St. Paul City Council

April 16th, 2023

Mr. Mayor and Councilmembers,

The Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus is Minnesota's largest state-based advocacy organization protecting the right to keep and bear arms. In that capacity, we advocate for the safe and legal use of firearms, and strong public safety policies surrounding the possession and use of firearms. As an organization dedicated to protecting the Second Amendment rights of citizens in Minnesota, we are writing to express our deep concern and opposition to the proposed amendments to Section 225.01 and Section 225.06 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code.

The proposed ordinance, which seeks to regulate the storage of firearms, violates both Minnesota Statute 471.633 and the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. We urge the City of St. Paul to reconsider this ordinance and refrain from infringing upon the rights of law-abiding gun owners.

If the city moves forward with this ordinance, we are prepared to challenge it in court.

1. Violation of Minnesota Statutes 471.633

MN Statute 471.633 preempts local governments from regulating firearms, ammunition, or their respective components, with two narrow exceptions. The proposed ordinance falls outside the scope of these exceptions, as it attempts to regulate firearm storage rather than discharge and creates new regulations not covered by state law. The proposed ordinance is, therefore, inconsistent with MN Statute 471.633 and would be considered void.

The City of St. Paul cannot circumvent the Minnesota legislature's preemption on firearm regulations by attempting to redefine a regulation on the storage of firearms as a regulation on the discharge of firearms. Doing so is a disingenuous attempt to bypass the clear legislative intent of MN Statute 471.633, which seeks to maintain consistent statewide regulation of firearms and prevent a patchwork of conflicting local regulations. The storage of firearms and the discharge of firearms are distinct concepts, and attempting to conflate the two would undermine the state's preemption law and lead to confusion and potential infringement on the rights of peaceable gun owners.

The City of St. Paul must respect the boundaries set by state law and focus on addressing the root causes of gun violence rather than adopting ordinances that encroach upon the rights of responsible gun owners and conflict with the state's preemption statute.



2. Violation of Second Amendment Rights

The proposed ordinance also infringes upon the Second Amendment rights of visitors to St. Paul and the city's residents. The U.S. Supreme Court, in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), held that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess a firearm for self-defense within the home. Requiring individuals to secure their firearms with a locking device and store ammunition separately, as proposed in the ordinance, would render firearms inaccessible or inoperable in emergencies. This directly conflicts with the Heller decision, which explicitly rejected a Washington D.C. ordinance that required firearms to be *"disassembled or bound by a trigger lock at all times, rendering it inoperable."*

The proposed ordinance restricts the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens and fails to address the real issue of criminal misuse of firearms. It would penalize responsible gun owners without addressing the root causes of gun violence. Furthermore, even if the city were to adopt this proposal, enforcing this ordinance would likely necessitate allowing law enforcement or other government agents to search homes and vehicles, which raises significant privacy concerns and potential civil liberties violations. Moreover, such enforcement would disproportionately affect communities with increased police contacts, including economically disadvantaged and BIPOC communities, further exacerbating existing inequalities and tensions in these areas.

As a Second Amendment advocacy organization, we cannot stand idly by while the City of St. Paul attempts to infringe upon the rights of law-abiding gun owners. We remain committed to protecting the rights of Minnesota gun owners and will take any necessary legal action to do so. We strongly urge the City of St. Paul to reconsider the proposed ordinance and to respect the Second Amendment rights of its residents and guests.

Please let us know if you have any questions or require further information on this matter.

In Liberty,

Rob Doar
Senior Vice President
Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus

From: [Rob Doar](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Cc: [Bryan Strawser](#); [Lyndsey Olson](#)
Subject: Written Testimony on Ord 23-22
Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 3:07:34 PM
Attachments: [MN Gun Owners Caucus - Written Testimony - 4-19-2023.pdf](#)

Please see the attached.

Thank you.

Rob Doar
SVP - MN Gun Owners Caucus