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**VCDL.org**

We know that with  
**2.5 MILLION**  
defensive uses of a firearm  
in this country every year,

**Guns  
SAVE  
Lives**

VCDL.ORG



**Get the word out!**

Go to *VCDL.org* and click  
**VCDL Gear**  
to get yours today

### **Stay Informed About Gun Rights Issues in Virginia**

VCDL's *FREE* Internet mailing list, VA-ALERT, provides timely information about the current Virginia General Assembly session, local issues, and important federal alerts. It is not a discussion list and will not unnecessarily add to the amount of e-mail you receive.

You, your friends, and your family may sign up for VCDL's free VA-ALERT at the link below. If you join VCDL and supply an email address you will automatically be added to the VA-ALERT.

***VCDL.org/VA-ALERT and VCDL.org/JOIN***

### **A Message from Philip Van Cleave, President, VCDL**

The **Virginia Citizens Defense League, Inc.** was originally founded in 1994 as the Northern Virginia Citizens Defense League (NVCDL).

Over the course of four years, the group grew from a handful of five activists to hundreds of members from across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Soon, NVCDL could no longer justify its limited regional focus so in 1998 it incorporated as a new statewide organization known as VCDL.

Today, VCDL is the most effective Gun Rights organization in Virginia, with thousands of members. Politicians routinely monitor our website in hopes of anticipating our next move.

The media uses VCDL for more interviews than any other Gun Rights organization in the state. Our monthly meetings, newsletters, and e-mail alerts assure that all members are kept informed of the latest developments on issues regarding individual liberty.

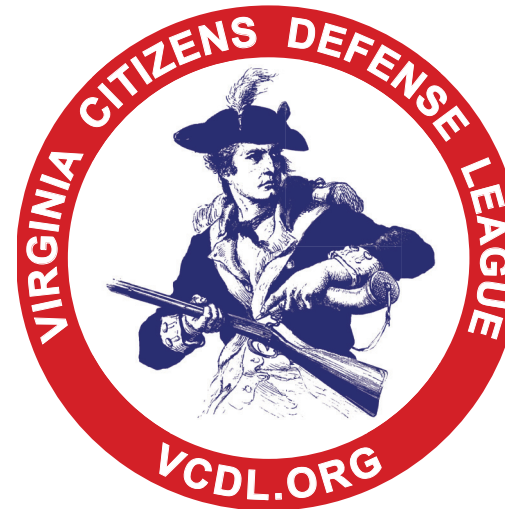
VCDL serves as a watchdog and whistle-blower, making sure that the government does not unlawfully restrict your right to defend yourself and your family. From illegal "No Guns" signs, to activist judges not following the law when issuing concealed handgun permits, VCDL will bring pressure to bear to correct the injustice.

**Action is  
what VCDL is  
all about!**



# **Virginia Citizens Defense League**

***Defending Your Right  
to Defend Yourself***



***Virginia's Premier Grassroots  
Gun Rights Organization***

***• Since 1998 •***

**PO Box 513  
Newington, VA 22122**

**(804) 639-0600 (703) 372-3285  
(757) 271-3705 (540) 446-5783**

***Fight for your rights! Join today at  
VCDL.org/Join  
and follow the VCDL on your favorite  
social media platform at  
Linktree.com/VCDL***



### **What is the Virginia Citizens Defense League?**

The **Virginia Citizens Defense League, Inc. (VCDL)** is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots organization dedicated to advancing the fundamental right of *all* Virginians to keep and bear arms as guaranteed in both the United States and Virginia Constitutions.

*...the right of the people to  
keep and bear arms shall  
not be infringed.*



### **VCDL's Mission and Philosophy**

We of VCDL believe that, in order to win the fight to restore our Gun Rights, we must do two things:

- Go on the offensive
- Make use of our best lobbyist—you, the Voter

VCDL rejects the approach of focusing on a defensive battle until "the time is right". Even if you win 95% of the defensive battles, you still lose 5%. Over time, this war of attrition slowly whittles away our Rights until we have none left.

The time is not going to magically become "right" to introduce pro-gun legislation. We have to **MAKE** the time right, thus we are constantly pushing a pro-rights agenda which involves getting positive legislation before the General Assembly, getting voters to contact their legislators, and hounding *any* locality that violates the law.

Even if we win just 5% of our pro-gun agenda each year, we are advancing our Rights each and every year, instead of losing them little by little.

We rely upon the voters in each legislative district to contact their representatives. Voters are *very* effective lobbyists and their legislators do listen to them!



## VCDL-Political Action Committee (VCDL-PAC)

As a separate tax entity, the VCDL-PAC receives no money from VCDL and runs solely on your generosity. For this reason, contributions are needed for both organizations! Unlike VCDL, the VCDL-PAC can actively work to elect politicians at the state and local levels who support your *Right to Keep and Bear Arms*.

All VCDL-PAC contributions must include the information in red **ALL CAPS** on the membership application. We will not share your personal information except as required by law. Contributions over \$100 aggregate in a calendar year will be published on the State Board of Elections website per campaign finance laws.

## VCDL’s Accomplishments

The *ONLY* organization to get pro-gun bills introduced in every legislative session since 1997 while actively blocking attempts by others to restrict your rights. Do you have a concealed handgun permit in your wallet? It was our actions in 1995 that made that a reality! Here are more highlights:

- 2021:**
- Had a rolling gun-rights rally through Richmond with over one thousand vehicles participating;
  - Continued to fight localities that created local gun-control ordinances;
  - Sued the City of Winchester over their local gun-control ordinance

- 2020:**
- Had the largest gun-rally in the United States on Lobby Day, January 20, with over 50,000 attendees;
  - With anti-gun Democrats in control of the House and Senate, as well as having an anti-gun Democrat Lt. Governor and Governor, some gun control passed, but it was greatly watered down. An attempt to pass a ban on semi-automatic rifles, magazines holding more than 10 rounds, and suppressors was crushed;
  - Awarded the prestigious “*Grassroots Organization of the Year*” at the Gun Rights Policy Conference;
  - Held a protest rally against Alexandria implementing local gun-control per a new law which became effective in July;
  - Fought against other localities (Alexandria, Fairfax County, Fairfax City, Arlington, Falls Church, and more) which were moving to implement local gun-control;
  - Sued the Commonwealth over a new Universal Background Check law that would prohibit those aged 18 to 20 years from being able to purchase a handgun from a private seller. The Court issued a stay on that

- part of the new law, effective until December of 2021. VCDL continued to move forward in the courts to make the stay permanent;
- Sued the Commonwealth to get a stay on the new One Handgun a Month law. The Court declined to do so for lack of standing;
  - Sued the Commonwealth to allow indoor ranges to open during COVID-19 lockdowns. *Safeside Tactical* in Lynchburg, where VCDL filed the case, was granted a stay against the lockdown. Shortly thereafter, indoor ranges in general were allowed to reopen;
  - Got 40 localities to pass a resolution against implementing any local gun-control;
  - Joined *Gun Owners of America* in lawsuit against the federal government’s bump-stock ban

- 2019:**
- Helped with the passage of four pro-gun bills, with two ultimately signed into law;
  - Killed all 39 gun-control bills;
  - Stopped proposed hunting/shooting restrictions in Loudoun County;
  - Stopped attempted gun ban at “*Steppin’ Out*” in Blacksburg

- 2018:**
- Killed all 75 gun-control bills;
  - Worked with Arlington County to speed up issuance of Concealed Handgun Permits (CHPs);
  - Fixed an issue with Greene County not issuing CHPs within the required 45-day timeframe;
  - Worked with Page County to reduce CHP fee

- 2017:**
- Helped with the passage of 16 pro-gun bills, with five signed into law, *even with an anti-gun governor!*;
  - Killed all 34 gun-control bills;
  - Worked with Roanoke Valley Metro to end their “No Guns” policy;
  - Worked with Woodstock and Harrisonburg to fix unlawful restrictions on shooting air guns;
  - Worked with Kilmarnock and Arlington counties to remove unlawful restrictions on firearms in parks;
  - Worked with Franklin, Botetourt, and Roanoke counties to remove unlawful prohibition on the carry of firearms in parades and demonstrations

**For a complete list visit:**  
**VCDL.org/Accomplishments**



## Membership Benefits



## Making a Difference

As a member of Virginia’s premier grassroots Second Amendment organization you will be kept informed about issues affecting your *Right to Keep and Bear Arms* in Virginia. VCDL will provide you with the tools to intelligently communicate with your Delegate or State Senator.



## Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP)

VCDL is affiliated with the CMP making you eligible to purchase surplus firearms and ammunition from the United States government. Visit: *thecmp.org*



## The Defender

Our newsletter, *The Defender*, is published as needed and mailed to members with special legislative alerts that keep you up to date on what VCDL members are doing throughout Virginia to fight for our *Right to Keep and Bear Arms*. It contains information and articles not included in the e-mailed VA-ALERTs.



## Discounts

VCDL members receive discounts at a variety of stores and businesses. Check *VCDL.org/Discounts* for the list.



Get VCDL’s bumper sticker with a 100% positive pro-gun message. The *Guns Save Lives* bumper stickers are available for \$1 to cover postage and handling OR just send a SASE (#10/business size) to the address on the bottom of the attached membership form to get it for **FREE!**

VCDL maintains a website to keep members and other interested parties informed of the latest developments in Virginia regarding our *Right to Keep and Bear Arms*.

## Join or Donate Today at VCDL.org

☐ Join ☐ Renew (Member # \_\_\_\_\_ )

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send important TEXT updates to the number above

Send *The Defender* newsletter: ☐ By Mail / ☐ Electronically

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Recruited by (optional): \_\_\_\_\_  
( Last Name & Member # )

☐ **VCDL-PAC’ CONTRIBUTION [REQUIRED INFO]:**  
**OCCUPATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT LOCATION:** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
( City ) ( State )

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Date                       | / /       |
| Join VCDL (\$25 annually)* | \$        |
| VCDL Contribution*         |           |
| VCDL-PAC Contribution*     |           |
| <b>Total enclosed</b>      | <b>\$</b> |

## Payment Method:

☐ Cash ( In-person only; please do **not** mail cash )

☐ Personal Check

Charge/Debit: ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Card Number ( Contact e-mail & phone required for credit card sales )

/  
Exp. Date

Name as it appears on card ( Please print legibly )

Signature of Cardholder

## Mail your completed application to:

VCDL Membership Processing and Fulfillment Center  
PO Box 77  
Willis, VA 24380

<sup>1</sup> VCDL-PAC is the Virginia Citizens Defense League’s Political Action Committee. See back of this panel for more information on the VCDL-PAC.  
\* Contributions, gifts, and membership dues are not deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes.