

Brady Campaign
& Brady Center



To Prevent Gun Violence

The **Real** NRA Annual Report:

FEAR & FANATICISM
in a Year Like No Other

POLICE LINE DO NOT



A Year Like No Other

Since the NRA last met in 2017, America has been awash in gun violence — suffering from a record-breaking number of high profile mass shootings as well as daily murders, unintentional shootings, and suicides that don't receive the same attention.

We have never seen a year like this one.

The Las Vegas massacre at a country music concert was the deadliest mass shooting in all of American history. Then just five weeks later, a deranged shooter who was not allowed to have guns under long-standing federal law, opened fire at a church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. That shooting killed people as they prayed.

And then Parkland. An expelled student, known to be dangerous, went on a shooting rampage, killing 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The Parkland shooting sparked nationwide outrage and renewed energy and passion around the issue of gun violence prevention, this time led by students.

A majority of U.S. teens now fear a shooting could happen at their school, and most parents share their concern, according to a Pew Research poll from April 2018.

A new generation has risen up like never before. With marches, walkouts, voter registration drives, lobby days and attendance at policymakers' town halls, the NRA has been exposed and challenged.

The nation has changed dramatically and the ground has shifted since the NRA's last convention.

In the last year, the NRA's influence has demonstrably waned.

The NRA is:

- reeling from an FBI inquiry into whether it illegally funneled contributions from Russian nationals to the Trump campaign,
- alienating reasonable gun owners anguished about the more than [35,000 Americans killed](#) with guns each year,
- losing business sector support and relationships, and
- dragging down long-time allies in Congress and state legislatures.

Since its last convention, the NRA has worked to thwart life-saving measures like expanding background checks for all gun purchases, outlawing new semi-automatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines, restricting guns on college campuses and enabling "Extreme Risk" Protection Orders (ERPO) to keep guns from people who threaten themselves or others. The NRA has promoted an aggressive guns everywhere agenda, including in 14 states where it has lobbied for allowing carrying of concealed weapons on campuses. It has mounted a heavy lobbying push in Congress to force states to allow non-residents to carry concealed firearms without any necessary background check or safety training. The NRA has worked to eliminate restrictions on silencers, which muffle the sound of gunfire, that have been in effect since 1934 — restrictions that have prevented criminals from hiding their gunfire from law enforcement officers.

In this last year, the NRA has alienated responsible gun owners and legislative allies with its extreme policy agenda, irresponsible rhetoric, and the shocking revelation of its potentially corrupt relationship with Russia.

The NRA has seen its power diminish as it faces a new generation rising up, calling for change to save lives and hold the NRA leaders and lawmakers accountable for blocking action on life-saving gun laws.

Its fanaticism, deceptions, and threats have been condemned by gun owners, including NRA members themselves. Major corporate partners broke ties with the NRA in a mass rejection of its extreme positions and its tainted brand. Courts are rejecting their specious claims that new gun laws violate due process and the Second Amendment. And more and more NRA A-rated politicians are distancing themselves from the NRA's damaged reputation.

And while the NRA outwardly displays patriotism, its leaders' loyalty to the United States is in doubt as revelations bring into question the NRA's secret association with Russian agents of Vladimir Putin.

As the NRA's 147th Annual Meeting in May 2018, begins, the Brady Campaign and Center to Prevent Gun Violence issues:

The Real NRA Annual Report: FEAR & FANATICISM in a Year Like No Other

While NRA leaders use their special way of fomenting fear, nativism, and discord to protect the economic interests of gunmakers, there will be many issues related to guns and gun violence that they will not be discussing.

Brady developed this report to provide Americans with a fuller understanding of the role the NRA plays in promoting dangerous policies and fighting against reasonable gun safety laws. An important note: the NRA pushed for dangerous laws letting any untrained person carry a concealed weapon anywhere, allowing guns on college campuses, and opposed sensible gun laws in states around the country. This report is not long enough to include all such dangerous advocacy.

The NRA has experienced a string of electoral, financial and legislative defeats. This report highlights the timeline of the NRA's activities and chronicles how its influence has rapidly diminished month after month.

Since the NRA's Last Annual Meeting

- **More than 35,000 people** have been killed with guns
- On average, **96 people a day** died from gun violence in America
- **2017 saw the deadliest mass shooting** [in American history](#), along with many other mass shootings
 - The deadliest mass shooting in American history occurred in Las Vegas, followed in close succession by shootings in Sutherland Springs, Texas and Parkland, Florida.
- The FBI opened an investigation into the **NRA accepting illegal campaign contributions** from Russians
- **56 law enforcement officers were killed** in the line of duty since the end of the last NRA Annual Meeting



April 30, 2017:

NRA ends its annual convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

May 2017:



May 12 — [NRA hails the failure of Missouri legislation](#) that would have provided for [Extreme Risk Protection Orders \(ERPO\)](#), which allow family members or police to petition a court to temporarily restrict access to guns by people who present an extreme danger to themselves or others. The Missouri law would also have barred gun possession by domestic abusers.



May 12 — [Kirkersville, Ohio nursing home shooting](#); shooter, with domestic violence and abduction record, kills police chief and two nursing home workers.



May 26 — [NRA backs bill to weaken the authority of federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives \(ATF\)](#). Congressman Rob Bishop (R-UT) introduces the “Lawful Purpose and Self Defense Act” that would rollback ATF’s authority to ban bullets that can pierce protective vests worn by law enforcement, rollback the requirement that to be imported into the U.S, a firearm has to be suitable for sporting purposes, and allow temporary transfers of firearms across state lines, for reasons other than just sport.

June 2017:



June 5 — [Orlando factory shooting](#); gunman shoots and kills five former co-workers before turning the gun on himself.



June 8 — [Eaton Township Weis Markets shooting](#); Pennsylvania shooter kills three co-workers and then himself.



June 14 — [Congressional baseball shooting](#); gunman wounds House Majority Leader Steve Scalise and shoots four others on an Alexandria, Virginia, baseball field where Republican lawmakers were practicing.



June 14 — That same day, while Rep. Scalise is in surgery, a House Committee decides to postpone its hearing on an NRA-backed bill to make it easier to buy [silencers that muffle the sounds of gunshots](#). Although silencers are primarily desired by criminals, the NRA supports this bill under the guise of protecting hearing.



June 14 — [San Francisco UPS shooting](#); employee shoots and kills three co-workers, and injures two others, before killing himself.



June 16 — Gun owner Matt Valentine describes in [an op-ed titled, “The NRA is Pushing Policies that Gun Owners Like Me Don’t Want,”](#) how the organization’s leadership ignores its members, three-quarters of which support sensible gun laws like expanded Brady background checks.



June 28 — NRA’s controversial [new recruitment video, The Clenched Fist of Truth](#), creates backlash among many of its members. *The Washington Post* says that some have interpreted it “as an ad designed to provoke fear, if not incite violence.”

The video says:

- “They use their media to assassinate real news. They use their schools to teach children that their president is another Hitler. ...And then they use their ex-president to endorse ‘the resistance.’
- All to make them march. Make them protest. Make them scream racism and sexism and *xenophobia and homophobia*. To smash windows, burn cars, shut down interstates and airports, bully and terrorize the law-abiding — until the only option left is for the police to do their jobs and stop the madness.
- And when that happens, they’ll use it as an excuse for their outrage. The only way we stop this, the only way we save our country and our freedom, is to fight this violence of lies with the clenched fist of truth.”



June 28 — [Gun owners took issue with the video](#), including NRA life member Eric Eugene Rush who posted on the NRA’s page, “I’m an old white guy and a life member, but this BS is disgusting.” “When you spew crap like this, you don’t speak for me anymore. I try to avoid doing things on the spur of the moment, but I’ll be thinking about canceling my membership.”



June 30 — [Bronx-Lebanon Hospital](#) — a doctor, formerly employed in the New York hospital, kills another doctor and injures six using an AR-15.

July 2017:



July 1 — [Little Rock, Arkansas nightclub shooting](#); shootout injures 28 people, 25 of them shot, as more than 50 bullets are fired.



July 5 — [NRA opposes ERPO](#) law that passed Oregon legislature, and urges members to call on Governor to not sign it.



July 24 — Florida agrees to [pay over \\$1 million](#) in legal fees incurred by Brady and its pro bono lawyers in vindicating doctors' rights to speak truthfully about guns in a lawsuit that overturned an NRA-backed law in Florida.

August 2017:



August 1 — Life-long gun owner Patrick Tomlinson writes an [opinion piece](#) that “as a gun owner and defender of the Second Amendment, I’m here to tell you the NRA has lost its ever-loving mind.”



August 17 — [In a loss for the NRA](#), Oregon’s ERPO bill is law signed into law.



August 17 — [American Bar Association adopts ERPO](#) resolution at annual meeting “urging governments to enact statutes, rules and regulations authorizing courts to issue gun violence restraining orders on those who pose a serious threat to himself/herself or others.”



August 18 — [NRA admonishes the American Bar Association](#) for passing a resolution at its annual convention in support of ERPO/GVROs (Gun Violence Restraining Orders).



August 28 — [Clovis-Carver Public Library shooting](#); a 16-year-old New Mexico shooter kills two people with a handgun and injures four others. His father calls the police minutes after the shooting to report his son had taken his guns. The shooter tells police he “had planned the attack for a while and wanted to shoot the school up and then kill himself.”

September 2017:



September 3 — Referring to the NRA-backed bill rolling back Iowa’s penalties for carrying a gun while intoxicated, Black Hawk County Sheriff Tony Thompson says in a [Des Moines Register article](#) he’s baffled that state legislators recognize the dangers of operating a vehicle or heavy machinery while intoxicated, but not while carrying a firearm. “We know alcohol consumption blurs judgment... We’re looking for people in the state that can carry firearms responsibly, that don’t infringe on the rights of other citizens.”



September 7 — NRA [announces](#) its new lawsuit challenging California regulations that require owners of certain assault weapons to register with the state government.



September 10 — [Plano, Texas shooting; armed with an AR-15 and a 38 caliber revolver](#), a shooter kills eight people, including his ex-wife, and wounds another person before being shot by police.



September 12 — [Hearing held](#) by U.S. House Committee on [NRA-backed bill removing restrictions on silencers and making it harder for ATF to classify ammunition as “armor piercing ammunition.”](#) The hearing, where the NRA had planned to testify, was originally scheduled to occur the day of the Congressional baseball shooting in June, but was postponed.



September 13 — [Freeman High School, Rockford, Washington shooting](#); using an AR-15, a suicidal high school student kills one classmate and injures three others, before the gun jams and a janitor and school resource officer stop him.



September 24 — [Burnette Chapel of Christ, Antioch, Tennessee shooting](#); shooter using two handguns kills one woman outside and then injures seven worshippers inside the chapel. Shooter accidentally shoots himself in chest during struggle with conscientious bystander.

October 2017:



October 1 — [Las Vegas Massacre](#); in the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history, a shooter who had outfitted 12 semi-automatic weapons with [bump stock devices](#) kills 58 concert-goers, and wounds 546, in nine minutes, before killing himself.



October 3 — In the aftermath of the Las Vegas massacre, Speaker Paul Ryan tells reporters he does not know when gun silencer legislation will come up — [a departure from the plan to move it quickly to the floor for a vote](#).



October 4 — [Bump stock ban is proposed](#) by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) to ban the sale and possession of bump stock equipment and other devices that turn a semi-automatic weapon into the functional equivalent of a machine gun.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, (R-KY) responds by saying, “I think it’s particularly inappropriate to politicize an event like this.... And I think it’s premature to be discussing legislative solutions if there are any. In the meantime, our priority is on tax reform, as my colleagues have indicated.”



October 5 — [NRA issued a statement](#). Rather than support action by Congress to ban bump stocks, the NRA urged the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to “review” whether bump stocks comply with federal law. The NRA did urge Congress to “pass National Right-to-Carry reciprocity, which will allow law-abiding Americans to defend themselves and their families from acts of violence.”

November 2017:



November 1 — [Walmart, Thornton, Colorado shooting](#); shooter walks into a store and kills three people with a handgun.



November 5 — [Sutherland Springs, Texas church shooting](#); gunman using an AR-15 kills 26 worshippers, and wounds 20 others, in the deadliest shooting in a house of worship in American history and the deadliest mass shooting in Texas history. In the aftermath, legislators introduce NRA-backed bills to allow guns in houses of worship in Wyoming, Indiana, Virginia and Michigan.





November 7 — Pro gun-reform candidate Ralph Northam wins Virginia Governor’s race, chalking up a major loss for the NRA, beating out the NRA’s candidate, Ed Gillespie. In the critical bellwether state, [Northam ran on expanding background checks and outlawing assault weapons](#). [Other pro gun reform candidates beat out NRA-backed candidates in key races in the state](#).



November 7 — Pro gun-reform candidate Phil Murphy wins New Jersey Governor’s race, defeating a Republican candidate with an A+ rating from the NRA. Murphy pledged to sign [every piece of gun safety legislation](#) that Gov. Chris Christie had vetoed.



November 13-14 — [Rancho Tehama Reserve, California shootings](#); shooter kills 5 people and injures 10 at multiple crime scenes over two days — including an elementary school. One of the dead was a neighbor who sought a protective order after the earlier assault. Shooter was killed by police following a chase.

December 2017:



December 6 — 5th Annual [National Vigil for All Victims of Gun Violence](#) is held to remember victims of gun violence.



December 6 — On the same day, the [U.S. House of Representatives passes NRA-backed](#) concealed carry legislation by a 231-198 vote — making it easier for anyone to carry loaded, hidden guns across state lines anywhere in the nation. The NRA ignores pushback from virtually every major law enforcement organization in the nation opposing this measure as dangerous and not in the interest of public safety.



December 12 — [After the NRA targets former prosecutor](#), Doug Jones, for defeat in Alabama’s special election for U.S. Senate, Jones beats his opponent, Roy Moore.



December 31 — [Copper Canyon Apartment Homes Colorado shooting](#); after reports he was acting in a bizarre fashion and possibly having a “mental breakdown”, a gunman uses an AR-15 to shoot five law enforcement officers. He kills one officer, injures six people and dies in an exchange of gunfire with a SWAT Team.

January 2018:



January 23 — [Marshall County High School shooting, Benton, Kentucky](#); two 15-year-old students are shot to death and some 18 others are wounded when a 15-year-old shooter opened fire in a Kentucky school.



January 26 — [NRA opposes Vermont bills](#) that would mandate the surrender of firearms by those accused of domestic violence, enact universal background checks and provide for Extreme Risk Protection Orders.



January 28 — [Melcroft, Pennsylvania Car Wash shooting](#); a man armed with a semi-automatic rifle, handgun and another rifle kills four people and then shoots himself, dying two days later. The shooting appears to have followed a domestic dispute.

NRA

February 2018:

February 12 — [NRA TV airs new ad](#) featuring right-wing radio host, Grant Stinchfield, wearing a t-shirt labeled “Socialist Tears” and smashes a TV with a sledgehammer.



February 14 — [Parkland, Florida: Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting](#); a 19-year-old former student with an AR-15-style semi-automatic assault weapon kills 17 and wounds more than a dozen students and adults.



February 15 — [Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence](#) releases documents from a Freedom of Information Act request about Acting ATF Director Ronald Turk asking a lobbyist for the NRA and other gun lobby groups for feedback on reducing gun regulations and then incorporating the lobbyist’s language into an internal memo on reversing gun protections. The secret memo, partly written by the gun lobby, focuses on deregulation of the gun industry.



February 16 — A former student’s [plot to cause “mass casualties” at Fair Haven Union High School in Vermont](#) is thwarted when a student reports alarming text messages to police. The would-be shooter tells police he wanted to “exceed the body count from the Virginia Tech shooting.”



February 17 — [Parkland students and survivors rally in Fort Lauderdale](#) — laying the groundwork for the #NeverAgain movement. Senior Emma Gonzalez tells thousands that “Politicians who sit in their gilded House and Senate seats funded by the NRA telling us nothing could have been done to prevent this, we call BS.”



February 20 — Three combat veterans [rally veterans to resign from the NRA and start the #VeteransForGunReform movement](#), saying “for too long, the National Rifle Association has been able to influence politicians and silence debate on common sense and necessary measures to keep our children safe. The organization that once advocated for gun safety now focuses on keeping its funders in business, and its base enthralled, by promoting the proliferation of weapons of war.”



February 21 — NRA Board member [Ted Nugent advances a conspiracy theory](#) that David Hogg, a student at Parkland who has since become an active spokesperson against gun violence, was a paid “crisis actor,” hired by news organizations.



February 22 — In the aftermath of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Florida, senior NRA officials [attack the media and repeatedly call for](#) introducing even more weapons into schools. At the CPAC convention, NRA Executive Vice President and CEO Wayne LaPierre calls for hardening schools with more armed security and promotes the idea of arming teachers as a way to deter future attacks. The proposal to arm teachers is met with outrage by teachers across the nation.



February 22 — NRA spokesperson [Dana Loesch says at CPAC](#): “I’ll say it really slowly so all the people on the platform in the back can hear me loud and clear: many in legacy media love mass shootings,” she said. “Crying white mothers are ratings gold to you.”



February 22 — [President Trump tweets](#): “I will be strongly pushing Comprehensive Background Checks with an emphasis on Mental Health. Raise age to 21 and end sale of Bump Stocks!” Trump said in the tweet. “Congress is in a mood to finally do something on this issue — I hope!”



February 22 — [President Trump says](#) he thinks the NRA would support raising the age to 21. “I don’t think I’ll be going up against them... They’re good people... The NRA is ready to do things. People like to blame them.”



Between February 22 - February 28

Corporations announce they are ending discount relationships for NRA members:

Allied and North American Van Lines	Lockton Affinity Inc.
Avis and Budget Car Rentals (Avis Budget Group)	MetLife Inc.
Best Western	Paramount Rx
Chubb Ltd.	Simplisafe
Delta Air Lines	Starkey Hearing
Enterprise Holdings (Enterprise RentACar)	Symantec Corp
First National Bank of Omaha	TrueCar
Hertz Corporation	United Airlines
	Wyndham Hotels



February 28 — [President Trump speaks with Congressional leaders in a televised White House meeting saying](#) “It’s time that a president stepped up,” and urges Congress to take up gun reform. He speaks in support of comprehensive gun control legislation to expand background checks to weapons purchased at gun shows and on the internet, keep guns from mentally ill individuals, secure schools and place limitations on guns based on age. He implies support for an assault weapons ban and says, “I like taking the guns early,” adding, “take the guns first, go through due process second.”



February 28 — Dick’s Sporting Goods, one of the largest sellers of guns and ammunition in the U.S., [announces plans](#) to immediately end sales of assault-style rifles and high capacity magazines in its stores. Dick’s also announces that it will not sell any guns to customers under the age of 21.



February 28 — [Walmart announces](#) that it will no longer sell firearms or ammunition to people younger than 21. (The company stopped its sale of semi-automatic weapons in 2015.)

March 2018:



March 1 — [Sen. Chuck Schumer and Democratic leaders announce support of legislation encompassing the previously articulated “Brady Three Point Plan”](#) including an assault weapon ban, universal background checks on gun sales, and “extreme risk” laws to remove guns from people in crisis.



March 1 — NRA leaders meet at the White House with President Trump for a second time in less than a week. The President tweets: “Good (Great) meeting in the Oval Office tonight with the NRA!” NRA’s Chris Cox tweets: “I had a great meeting tonight with @realDonaldTrump & @VP. We all want safe schools, [mental health](#) reform and to keep guns away from dangerous people. POTUS & VPOTUS support the [Second Amendment](#), support strong due process and don’t want gun control. #NRA #MAGA.”



March 1 — [Kroger Co](#) announces that its Fred Meyer stores will no longer sell guns to anyone under 21. [L.L. Bean](#) announces that it will no longer sell guns to anyone under 21 and that it does not, and never has, supported the NRA. [REI](#) announces that it is halting future orders of popular brands whose parent company (Vista Outdoors) also makes assault-style rifles. (REI does not sell guns.)



March 4 — [Sen. Lindsey Graham \(R-SC\) calls on President Trump](#): “Propose something, Mr. President... And I think Republicans have an obligation to work with Democrats to make it law if we can... If we don’t take this up and Democrats don’t work with us, we’ll all suffer and we should... most Americans believe we should solve problems that Americans are facing like gun violence.”



March 4 — [NRA airs controversial “Time’s Up” ad](#), attacking the media, Hollywood, athletes, late night hosts, and politicians “who would rather let America burn” for their “hatred”, “sanctimony” and “fake news”, and warns ominously that “your time is running out.”



March 7 — [Florida Legislature passes gun reform legislation](#), which raises the minimum age for sales of guns to 21, includes an Extreme Risk Protection Order, enacts a longer waiting period for gun sales, and bans bump stocks.



March 9 — [NRA A+rated Florida Governor Scott \(R\) signs historic gun reform legislation](#) into law. Hours later, the NRA [files a federal lawsuit](#) challenging the law, claiming that 18-20 year olds have a constitutional right to AR-15s. (The NRA lost a similar legal challenge related to handguns in 2013.)



March 9 — [Yountville, California veterans' home shooting](#); a veteran kills himself and three staff he has held hostage at a Napa treatment home for veterans with PTSD and traumatic brain injury. The shooter is said to be armed with a semi-automatic weapon.



March 11 — President Trump retreats from his promise to break the Washington gridlock around gun violence and to stand up to the NRA. [Trump backs away from his 2.28 call for Congress to raise the minimum age to purchase some guns to 21 years old from 18 years old](#). Instead, Trump announces he wants to provide “rigorous firearms training” to some schoolteachers and endorses a bill to strengthen the federal background check system.



March 14 — [National Student Walkout](#); in an unprecedented display of youth commitment to the gun violence issue, thousands of students demonstrate their anger and fear in more than 2,500 walkouts across the country, one month after school shootings in Parkland, Florida.



March 14 — NRA [posts a video reversing its position](#) on ERPO laws, saying, “We can take action to prevent violence and protect the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans at the same time.” Following the video, the NRA proceeds to oppose ERPO bills in multiple states, including in Tennessee, urging its members on March 30 to oppose Tennessee bills to enact ERPOs, ban bump stocks and increase the minimum age of purchase.



March 19 — Rep. John Yarmuth (D-KY) starts handing out [“F” pins](#) to Congressional colleagues with F ratings from the NRA, saying “I’m so proud of my @NRA rating, I’ll wear it on my chest.”



March 20 — [Great Mills High School](#) shooting, St. Mary’s County, MD; [one student dies](#) after a shooting that leaves another student injured and the teenage gunman dead at the scene.



March 21 — U.S. Senator Doug Jones (D-AL), [in his maiden speech on the Senate floor](#), uses the opportunity to talk about the need for sensible gun laws, including universal background checks, a minimum 3-day waiting period for gun buyers, enacting ERPO laws, increasing the age to 21 for gun sales, a ban on bump stocks, closing the domestic violence “boyfriend loophole” and closing the “Charleston loophole.”



March 22 — [Citigroup, Inc.](#) announces that it will require all its business customers to refrain from selling firearms to anyone who hasn’t passed a background check or is under 21. It also prohibits its customers from selling bump stocks or high-capacity magazines, and says it is reviewing its banking relationships with gun manufacturers.



March 22 — NRATV Spokesperson [Colion Noir](#) rebukes Parkland students: “To all the kids from Parkland getting ready to use your First Amendment (rights) to attack everyone else’s Second Amendment at your march on Saturday, I wish a hero like Blaine Gaskill had been at Marjory Douglas High School last month because your classmates would still be alive, and no one would know your names—because the media would have completely and utterly ignored your story.”



March 24 — [March for Our Lives](#); led by survivors of the Parkland school shooting, hundreds of thousands of students and adults march in Washington, around the country and the world to highlight the urgent need for meaningful gun regulations.





March 30 — Bucking the NRA, [Vermont legislators](#) give final approval to a bill that raises the legal age for buying firearms and expands background checks.

- Vermont Governor Phil Scott (R) issues statement, “As Governor, I have a moral and legal obligation and responsibility to provide for the safety of our citizens. If we are at a point when our kids are afraid to go to school and parents are afraid to put their kids on a bus, who are we?”

April 2018:



April 3 — [YouTube Shooting](#); shooter in San Bruno, California, opens fire with a 9mm handgun and wounds three people before killing herself.



April 6 — [Federal Court rejects NRA’s efforts to challenge Massachusetts’ assault weapons ban](#).



April 6 — Kremlin-linked Russian politician and lifelong NRA member, Alexander Torshin, is among 17 Russian government officials placed under sanctions by the U.S. Treasury Department for “[malign activity around the globe](#)”. Torshin attended five NRA conventions in the United States, including one at which he met Donald Trump Jr. in 2016, according to NPR.



April 10 — [Bank of America Corp. announces](#) it plans to stop lending to manufacturers of assault-style firearms that are sold for non-military use.



April 11 — [NRA admits it has received donations from two dozen people with Russian addresses since 2015](#). Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) questioned the NRA as part of a Congressional investigation into what political organizations Russia may have used to help elect Donald Trump in 2016.



April 11 — NRA joins an organization called “Guns Save Lives” in a [lawsuit](#) challenging an assault weapons ban in an Illinois town.



April 12 — NRA loses effort to stop gun reform legislation in Vermont. NRA A-rated VT [Governor Phil Scott \(R\) signs](#) bills requiring background checks for all private gun sales, raising the gun purchase age to 21, banning bump stocks, and limiting large capacity ammunition magazines. He also signs an ERPO bill and a bill enabling guns to be seized from those arrested for domestic violence.



■ The NRA says “[Scott opted for a full public display to rub salt in the wounds.](#)”



April 18 — [New polling shows](#) a majority of teens in America now fear a shooting will take place at their own school, according to Pew Research. [Harvard Kennedy School poll](#) shows that 77% of likely young American voters say that gun control will be an important issue in determining their vote in 2018.



April 19 — The 2018 [Harvard Public Opinion Project poll](#) of voters ages 18-29 shows 63% of millennial voters — Republican, Democrat and independents combined — expressed unfavorable views of the NRA.



April 20 — [National School Walkout](#); on the anniversary of the 1999 Columbine shooting, students across the nation stand together in protest of ongoing gun violence in their schools and communities, making it clear that they intend to continue pushing for gun reform.



April 21 — [Waffle House shooting](#), Nashville, Tennessee; a gunman opens fire with an AR-15, leaving four dead and four wounded. The suspect, whose Illinois Firearm Owners Identification Card (FOID) was revoked after he unlawfully crossed a White House perimeter, had his guns removed, but his father returned them to him. The gunman was [caught and arrested 34 hours later](#).



April 22 — [NRA opposes a bill expanding California’s ERPO](#) law to include employers, co-workers and employees of a secondary or postsecondary school that the person has attended in the last six months in the list of people who can report a person believed to pose a risk to themselves or others to law enforcement. The NRA falsely claimed that “this kind of law can remove a person’s right without due process.”



April 24 — [Ohio Gov. John Kasich \(R\) recognizes importance of improving background checks and signs](#) an executive order that will improve the state data contributions to the National Instant Criminal Background Check system.



April 25 — [NRA opposes a Delaware safe storage bill](#) to impose a penalty on individuals who fail to safely store guns when it results in unauthorized access by minors or others. The NRA advocates instead for putting the onus on children to “STOP! Don’t Touch” through its [“Eddie Eagle” program](#).



April 26 — [NRA pushes to allow](#) guns in Louisiana schools — pushing bill for concealed carry permit holders visiting a school to bring a concealed firearm into any school, campus or school bus. Another bill also allows volunteers to act as armed security in houses of worship.



April 26 — 34 organizations — [including the Oklahoma State Troopers Association, universities, chambers of commerce, hospitals](#) and the Oklahoma City Thunder — oppose NRA-backed legislation that would allow anyone over 21 without a felony conviction to carry a gun without a permit, training or background check.



April 26 — [NRA fails to repeal](#) Colorado’s ban on high capacity ammunition magazines.



April 26 — [NRA backs lawsuit](#) challenging new California law requiring background checks for ammunition.



April 27 — [NRA applauds defeat](#) of Minnesota ERPO bill and universal background check bill, calling the legislation “anti-gun.”



April 27 — NRA announces that Vice President Mike Pence will be the keynote speaker at its annual conference, the NRA-ILA Leadership Forum. That same day, the [NRA announces that all firearms and firearm accessories](#) will be prohibited by the secret service at specific events.



April 30 — White House announces that [President Trump will also speak at the convention](#) — for the second year in a row.
