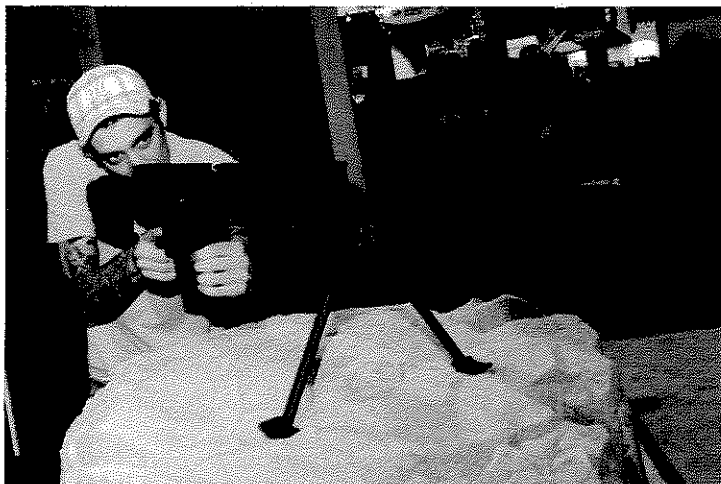


# Sheriffs will not enforce Obama gun control laws; List reasons for defiance

CIVIL LIBERTIES | JANUARY 19, 2013 | BY: ANTHONY JAY BLACKWELL |



A growing number of sheriffs will not enforce President Obama's gun control proposals, should they become law.

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In the past 24 hours, sheriffs in [Arizona](http://reason.com/blog/2013/01/18/arizona-sheriff-wont-cooperate-with-any), [California](http://www.mynews4.com/news/story/El-Dorado-County-Sheriff-D-Agostini-Guns-Biden/7kFZd_mFyky1nLTsJseWnA.csp) and [Colorado](http://kwgn.com/2013/01/18/larimer-county-sheriff-threatens-not-to-enforce-new-gun-laws-9/) have publicly and explicitly stated that they will not enforce proposed federal [gun control](http://www.examiner.com/topic/gun-control) laws sought by President Obama. Speaking directly to the President's Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013 proposals, these sheriffs have made their support of Second Amendment rights unequivocally clear:

- El Dorado County, California Sheriff [John D'Agostini](http://www.examiner.com/topic/sheriff), according to local news station [KRNV](http://www.mynews4.com/news/story/El-Dorado-County-Sheriff-D-Agostini-Guns-Biden/7kFZd_mFyky1nLTsJseWnA.csp) on Jan. 19, 2013 ("The purpose of this letter is to go on record of re-affirming my oath of office and making it clear that I and my staff will never violate [our oath of office] by being pressured into enforcing any unconstitutional provision, law or executive order.");
- Fresno County, California Sheriff Margaret Mims, according to local news station [KFSN](http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=news/local&id=8960103) on Jan. 18, 2013 ("So I have sent a letter to the White House saying I will not enforce any unconstitutional gun control laws.");
- Yavapai, Arizona Sheriff Scott Mascher, according to a Jan. 18, 2013 internal Sheriff memorandum published by media outlet [Reason](http://reason.com/blog/2013/01/18/arizona-sheriff-wont-cooperate-with-any) ("As Sheriff, I refuse to participate or cooperate with any unconstitutional order that will infringe upon our 2nd amendment rights."); and
- Larimer County, Colorado Sheriff Justin Smith, according local television station [KWGN](http://kwgn.com/2013/01/18/larimer-county-sheriff-threatens-not-to-enforce-new-gun-laws-9/), also on Jan. 18, 2013 ("As Sheriff, I will not: Enforce unconstitutional federal laws; Obey unconstitutional laws; Allow others to violate the Constitutional Rights of those in my county.")

This brings the total, *verified* number of sheriffs who have *specifically pledged* not enforce President Obama's proposed federal [gun laws](http://www.examiner.com/topic/gun-laws) to 39. To a person, they consider President Obama's current gun control proposals unconstitutional and an illegal infringement of Second Amendment rights. We provide that [list](http://www.examiner.com/topic/list) to you below. The sheriffs on the list have made their comments *after* the President officially announced his proposals on Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013. This list *does not* include sheriffs who have voiced *general* opposition to gun control or who have made their statements before the President's official Jan. 16, 2013 proposals.

**Note:** We are constantly searching for and updating our list with verifiable "non-enforcement" sheriffs. If you know of other sheriffs in and around your community who should be included here, please add a comment below with an appropriate link for inclusion and credit on the list.

The complete, verified list as of Saturday evening, Jan. 19, 2013, is as follows:

**Oregon sheriffs (9)** (as reported by **Fox News** (<http://nation.foxnews.com/gun-control/2013/01/17/across-heartland-sheriffs-vow-fight-obamas-gun-ban>), online newspaper **OregonLive** ([http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/01/coos\\_curry\\_crook\\_and\\_linn\\_coun.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/01/coos_curry_crook_and_linn_coun.html)), local radio station **KCMB** ([http://pro.kcmb-fm.tritonflex.com/common/more.php?m=15&r=4&item\\_id=30501](http://pro.kcmb-fm.tritonflex.com/common/more.php?m=15&r=4&item_id=30501)), local television station **KMTR** (<http://www.kmtr.com/news/local/story/Douglas-County-Sheriff-opposes-gun-control/6HYBxR6IsU2n2VRQPTGsfq.csp>) and gun rights organization **Oregon Firearms** (<http://oregonfirearms.org/2013/2013g...lmerletter.pdf>);

- Linn County Sheriff Tim Mueller
- Douglas County Sheriff John Hanlin
- Baker County Sheriff Mitchell Southwick
- Josephine County Sheriff Gil Gilbertson
- Crook County Sheriff Jim Hensley
- Coos County Sheriff Craig Zanni
- Curry County Sheriff John Bishop
- Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer
- Washington County Sheriff Pat Garrett

**Colorado sheriffs (4)** (as reported by local television station **KWGN** (<http://kwgn.com/2013/01/18/larimer-county-sheriff-threatens-not-to-enforce-new-gun-laws-9/>), the **El Paso County Sheriff's Official website** (<http://shr.elpasoco.com/>), the **Mesa County Sheriff's Official Facebook page** (<https://www.facebook.com/Mesacountys...40568432620211>) and the **Denver Post** ([http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci\\_22406443/weld-county-sheriff-john-cooke-defiant-obama-gun-violence](http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_22406443/weld-county-sheriff-john-cooke-defiant-obama-gun-violence));

- El Paso County Colorado Sheriff Terry Maketa
- Larimer County Sheriff Justin Smith
- Mesa County Sheriff Stan Hilkey
- Weld County Sheriff John Cooke

**Alabama sheriffs (3)** (as reported by local news station **WHNT** (<http://whnt.com/2013/01/16/madison-sheriff-gun-control-laws-that-violate-constitution-wont-be-enforced/>), gun rights organization **Oath Keepers** (<http://oathkeepers.org/oath/2013/01/...onal-sheriffs/>) and media outlet **Dothanfirst** ([http://dothanfirst.com/fulltext?nxd\\_id=252212](http://dothanfirst.com/fulltext?nxd_id=252212));

- Madison County Sheriff Blake Doring
- Morgan County Sheriff Ana Franklin
- Houston County Sheriff Andy Hughes

**California sheriffs (3)** (according to **The Modesto Bee** (<http://www.modbee.com/2013/01/17/2537626/sheriffs-letter-decries-gun-law.html>), and local news stations **KRNV** ([http://www.mynews4.com/news/story/El-Dorado-County-Sheriff-D-Agostini-Guns-Biden/7kFZd\\_mFyky1nLTsJseWnA.csp](http://www.mynews4.com/news/story/El-Dorado-County-Sheriff-D-Agostini-Guns-Biden/7kFZd_mFyky1nLTsJseWnA.csp)) and **KFSN** (<http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=news/local&id=8960103>);

- El Dorado County Sheriff John D'Agostini
- Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims
- Stanislaus County Sheriff Adam Christianson

**Missouri sheriffs (3)** (as reported on **BeforeItsNews** (<http://beforeitsnews.com/opinion-conservative/2013/01/an-open-letter-sent-to-obama-from-mo-sheriff-charles-heiss-about-2nd-amendment-rights-2562210.html>) and news station **KOAM** (<http://www.koamtv.com/story/20606623...he-white-house>) and **KCTV** (<http://www.kctv5.com/story/20617279/missouri-county-sheriffs-voice-opposition-to-obama-gun-control-efforts>);

- Johnson County Sheriff Charles Heiss
- Lawrence County Sheriff Brad DeLay
- Livingston County Sheriff Steve Cox

**Arizona sheriffs (2)** (according to news outlets **TPM** (<http://livewire.talkingpointsmemo.com/entry/joe-arpai-says-he-may-not-enforce-new>) and **Reason** (<http://reason.com/blog/2013/01/18/arizona-sheriff-wont-cooperate-with-any>);

- Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio
- Yavapai County Sheriff Scott Mascher

**Florida sheriffs (2)** (according to local news station **WPTV** ([http://www.wptv.com/dpp/news/region\\_martin\\_county/stuart/martin-co-sheriff-says-his-department-cant-support-federal-gun-rules](http://www.wptv.com/dpp/news/region_martin_county/stuart/martin-co-sheriff-says-his-department-cant-support-federal-gun-rules)) and Sheriff McKiethen's personal **Facebook** (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Frank...f/198347663515>) page);

- Martin County Sheriff Bill Snyder
- Bay County Florida Sheriff Frank McKiethen

Georgia sheriffs (2) (as reported by the [Cherokee Tribune](http://cherokeetribune.com/pages/full_story/push?article-Gun+Control+%E2%80%94+Sheriff+reaffirms+Second+Amendment+rights%20&id=21444621) ([http://cherokeetribune.com/pages/full\\_story/push?article-Gun+Control+%E2%80%94+Sheriff+reaffirms+Second+Amendment+rights%20&id=21444621](http://cherokeetribune.com/pages/full_story/push?article-Gun+Control+%E2%80%94+Sheriff+reaffirms+Second+Amendment+rights%20&id=21444621)) and [MinnPost Christian Science Monitor](http://www.minnpost.com/christian-sc...ma-gun-control) (<http://www.minnpost.com/christian-sc...ma-gun-control>));

- Cherokee County Sheriff Roger Garrison
- Gilmer County Sheriff Stacy Nicholson

Idaho sheriffs (2) (according to news station [KIFI](http://www.localnews8.com/news/Eastern-Idaho-sheriff-Gun-control-is-out-of-control/-/308662/f8146172/-/d8dvv8/-/index.html) (<http://www.localnews8.com/news/Eastern-Idaho-sheriff-Gun-control-is-out-of-control/-/308662/f8146172/-/d8dvv8/-/index.html>) and newspaper [Idaho Statesman](http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/0...f-says-he.html) (<http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/0...f-says-he.html>));

- Canyon County, Idaho Sheriff Kieran Donahue
- Madison County Sheriff Roy Klingler

Ohio sheriffs (2) (according to radio station [KyPost](http://www.kypost.com/dpp/news/local...1358574726750) (<http://www.kypost.com/dpp/news/local...1358574726750>));

- Boone County Sheriff Michael A. Helmig
- Clermont County Sheriff A.J. Rodenberg

South Carolina sheriffs (2) (according to [The Post and Courier](http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130118/PC16/130119251/1165/sheriff-cannon-says-he-will-ignore-any-gun-control-measures-he-seems-unconstitutional) (<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130118/PC16/130119251/1165/sheriff-cannon-says-he-will-ignore-any-gun-control-measures-he-seems-unconstitutional>) and news station [WYFF](http://m.wyff4.com/news/President-s-gun-control-proposals-spark-reaction-in-Upstate/-/17443906/18160420/-/ymsswj/-/index.html?channelid=9324882#.UPgLYs3chl8.facebook) (<http://m.wyff4.com/news/President-s-gun-control-proposals-spark-reaction-in-Upstate/-/17443906/18160420/-/ymsswj/-/index.html?channelid=9324882#.UPgLYs3chl8.facebook>));

- Charleston County Sheriff Al Cannon
- Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright

Johnson County, Kansas Sheriff Frank Denning, according to the [Kansas City Star](http://www.kansascity.com/2013/01/18...is-highly.html) (<http://www.kansascity.com/2013/01/18...is-highly.html>);

Jackson County, Kentucky Sheriff Denny Peyman, as reported by [NBC News](http://usnews.nbcnews.com/news/2013/01/16/16547387-some-sheriffs-vow-not-to-enforce-obamas-gun-plan-anti-violence-groups-praise-measures?lite) (<http://usnews.nbcnews.com/news/2013/01/16/16547387-some-sheriffs-vow-not-to-enforce-obamas-gun-plan-anti-violence-groups-praise-measures?lite>);

Pine County, Minnesota Sheriff Robin Cole, according to [NewsMax](http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/Gun-Control-Pushback/2013/01/17/idj471825#ixzz2IG0kniw4) (<http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/Gun-Control-Pushback/2013/01/17/idj471825#ixzz2IG0kniw4>);

Humboldt County, Nevada Sheriff Ed Kilgore, as reported by local news station [KRNV](http://www.mynews4.com/news/local/story/Gun-Laws-Ed-Kilgore-Humboldt-Joe-Biden-Letter/LvUbRVkYJUKsIxOLNhdS-g.csp?rss=3298) (<http://www.mynews4.com/news/local/story/Gun-Laws-Ed-Kilgore-Humboldt-Joe-Biden-Letter/LvUbRVkYJUKsIxOLNhdS-g.csp?rss=3298>); and

Smith County, Texas Sheriff Larry Smith, as reported by local news station [KLTV](http://www.kitv.com/story/20608795/smith-county-sheriff-speaks-out-about-gun-control) (<http://www.kitv.com/story/20608795/smith-county-sheriff-speaks-out-about-gun-control>).

UPDATE: On Jan. 19, 2013, [Roosevelt county sheriff Darren Hooker](http://www.examiner.com/article/40th-sheriff-refuses-to-enforce-assault-weapon-ban-obama-gun-control-laws?cid=rss) (<http://www.examiner.com/article/40th-sheriff-refuses-to-enforce-assault-weapon-ban-obama-gun-control-laws?cid=rss>) of New Mexico declared that he will not enforce President Obama's proposed gun control laws or assault weapons ban, according to the [Portales News-Tribune](http://www.pntonline.com/news/sheriffsaysshewonu2019tenforceproposedgunban.html) (<http://www.pntonline.com/news/sheriffsaysshewonu2019tenforceproposedgunban.html>).

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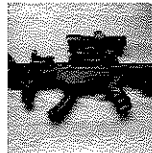
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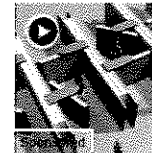
Mother who sued for right to carry a gun at kid's sporting events found murdered (Politics)



Anti-gun crowd can't even get the basics right (Photos) (Politics)



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New security system could protect public from gun violence (Fox News)

[?]



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