

Roberta DiMezza

From: Providence FOP <providencefop3@providencefop.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 2:03 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Suppressor legislation written testimony 2024-H7570
Attachments: Suppressors.pdf; House bill 2024-H7570.pdf

Please accept our attached written testimony in reference to the Suppressor legislation 2024-H7570.

Respectfully Submitted
Michael Imondi
President
Providence Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #3

Suppressors

Frank Moody

I am a retired Providence Police Officer.

Served for forty-three years with the Providence Police Department.

I am a certified Firearms Instructor.

I currently work for a defense Firearms Company.

I have trained local, State and Federal members of Law Enforcement in the care maintenance and use of firearms.

In addition I have trained internationally with Military and Law Enforcements Teams throughout the World.

On the morning of February 10, 2022 I had been at a barricade incident at 25 Denison St. in the City of Providence.

A subject who was heavily armed had pointed a firearm at his son and daughter. They had exited along with two children.

At 0615 that morning without warning the subject began shooting at members of the Providence Police Department stationed outside his residence.

At some point when I observed the muzzle of the subjects weapon I returned fire with my Department issued Colt AR15.

The muzzle report of the weapon gives a noise detonation of 165 decibels. Along with other officers and the subject firing numerous weapons in close proximity I was exposed to unsuppressed gunfire for fifteen minutes.

Had my weapon and other officer's weapons been suppressed, the sound of muzzle detonation would have been at 135 to 140 Decibels.

OSHA has published reports on safety that deem 165 decibels as permanent damage to hearing with one gunshot. I along with other officers were exposed to over three hundred gunshots.

A suppressor does not silence a weapon. It brings the report down to below damage to hearing levels.

The most significance is that an officer will know when a suspect is shooting and when other officers are firing. If the Weapons of the officer are suppressed it is a different report.

I have used Surefire Suppressors in the United States in training.

I have also used the Surefire products suppressors in Thailand, Tunisia and Kazakhstan.

Those Countries Military and Law Enforcement Agencies use suppressors to protect the hearing of the Police Officers and Soldiers.

We need to allow all police officers using Shoulder fired weapons to use suppressors to protect their hearing but also the hearing of civilians.

There is case law from Irvine <California where officers used unsuppressed weapons in a hostage rescue at a Supermarket.

The civilians sued the police for hearing loss. The civilians won the case.

I have suffered direct and permanent hearing loss as a result of the incident February 10,2022. I have hearing aids. The City of Providence paid for hearing aids.

The cost was \$7000.00.

Unfortunately, now that I have retired the City of Providence no longer

will pay for my hearing loss and the subsequent new hearing aids that I will need in 2026.

Very Respectfully,

Frank Moody