



THE FIREARMS RESEARCH CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Supporting Original Groundbreaking Research and Scholarship on Firearms

In the United States, there is an ongoing debate over the 2nd Amendment, criminal violence, and the relationship our country has with firearms. Discussions of such topics are frequently siloed, with little cross-disciplinary work. For example, legal scholars work in separation from historians or social scientists. Journalists, without access to subject-matter expertise, are often left to interpret complicated information themselves. As a result, discourse on the vast array of firearms-related subjects suffers, both in tone and accuracy.

The Firearms Research Center (FRC), which is housed in the University of Wyoming College of Law, was launched to establish more voices in the firearms discussion, create a pipeline of graduates prepared to serve as firearms lawyers, and act as a reliable, non-partisan resource for firearms-related information. By bringing together scholars from a wide range of academic disciplines and experts without traditional academic backgrounds, the Center's aim is to foster a broad discourse and produce meaningful change in how firearms are discussed and understood.

Under the leadership of leading firearms scholars and experts, FRC will conduct groundbreaking research for peer review and will be an online hub for firearms related data, research, and firearms related law. FRC will serve as a resource for academics, practitioners, lawmakers, members of the media, and the public on the uses and roles of firearms in society – both past and present.

For academia, the FRC will offer continuing legal education, cross-functional scholarly workshops, courses, and symposia to further firearm education and thoughtful conversations around firearms use across the country.

For students, FRC will offer a community where scholars and established experts can cultivate knowledge within a collaborative community of support. Through hands-on learning experiences, research opportunities, and placement opportunities for students to ensure employment after graduation. The University of Wyoming College of Law will become the premier law school for practitioners who serve the legal needs of all those who produce, employ, own, and regulate firearms.

In the community, the Center plans to offer an array of public events and educational resources. It will emphasize firearms education, including facilitating access to gun safety materials, as a means to encourage dialogue and create a broader understanding of the role of firearms in American society.

“Under the leadership of the country's top firearms scholars and experts, the Firearms Research Center is a trusted nexus where all stakeholders – regardless of profession or politics – have a voice.”

-George A. Mocsary, Co-Founder and Director of FRC



THE FIREARMS RESEARCH CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Firearms Research Center Leadership

GEORGE A. MOCSARY

Co-Founder and Director

Mocsary, co-founder and Director of the Firearms Research Center and professor at the University of Wyoming College of Law, is a coauthor of *Firearms Law and the Second Amendment: Regulation, Rights, and Policy*, the first law school casebook in the field. His scholarship has been cited by Justice Samuel A. Alito, the Illinois Supreme Court, and other federal courts. He is frequently quoted about firearms law in the popular press, including the *New York Times* and *The Economist*.



George A. Mocsary, Co-Founder and Director of FRC



Ashley Hlebinsky, Co-Founder and Senior Fellow

ASHLEY HLEBINSKY

Co-Founder and Senior Fellow

Hlebinsky, co-founder and Senior Fellow of the Firearms Research Center, is one of the foremost authorities on firearms history and material culture in the United States. For a decade, she was Curator in charge of one of the largest firearms museums in the country and served as Project Director on the museum's full-scale multimillion dollar renovation. Presently, Hlebinsky serves as a museum consultant, speaker, writer, expert witness, and television host and producer.

DAVID B. KOPEL

Senior Fellow

Kopel, Senior Fellow at the Firearms Research Center, is a professor at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. He is a coauthor with Mocsary of *Firearms Law and the Second Amendment*. Kopel has written more than 100 law review articles and a dozen books on the Second Amendment. His work has been cited by five U.S. Supreme Court justices and dozens of state supreme courts and federal appellate courts. Kopel has written and been quoted in over a thousand newspaper and magazine articles.



David B. Kopel, Senior Fellow



THE FIREARMS RESEARCH CENTER
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

IN THE NEWS

New Gun Research Center Funded by Firearms Executives Aims to Diversify Debate

"The University of Wyoming's law school has launched a new center for gun research funded in part by executives from the firearms industry, which its founders say will bring new viewpoints to the field of study. While Second Amendment advocates have funded academic studies and research before, the new Firearms Research Center at the University of Wyoming is the first venture of its kind at an academic institution in recent decades, according to gun researchers."

- Cameron McWhirter and Zusha Elinson, The Wall Street Journal, January 29, 2023

University of Wyoming launches center dedicated to non-partisan firearms research

"The center will support original research on topics involving firearms, and engage a broad array of firearm-relevant topics and stakeholders, in ways that produce knowledge. It is a place where someone can just go and get raw information about firearms-related topics."

- Friday Otuya, Wyoming Public Radio, January 20, 2023

Firearms Research Center Launches at University of Wyoming College of Law

"The center was established to bring more voices to the firearms discussion, create a pipeline for law school graduates prepared to serve as firearms attorneys, and act as a reliable, nonpartisan resource for firearms-related information and research."

- F. Riehl, Ammoland, January 20, 2023

University of Wyoming "Pulls Trigger," Launches Firearms Research Center

"The Firearms Research Center will serve as a resource for academics, practitioners, lawmakers, members of the media, and the public on the uses and roles firearms play in society — both past and present."

- Andrew Rossi, Big Horn Radio Network, January 19, 2023

University of Wyoming College of Law launches Firearms Research Center

"The world of academia has largely ignored specific areas of study involving firearms. There's hardly a place prospective students can turn to to study the Second Amendment, firearms, and related topics outside the realm of politics."

- John Petrolino, Bearing Arms, January 17, 2023



THE FIREARMS RESEARCH CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

LEADERS IN THE NEWS

"To have credibility, we have to welcome all voices. It's important for this to be an ongoing conversation, not just when a tragedy happens."

- George Mocsary, The Wall Street Journal, January 30, 2023

"We are starting the center to fill a need. There is also a lot of misinformation and misunderstanding out there about the field. The discourse on what is truly a vast array of firearms-related subjects and stakeholders is narrowed down to just a few. So the industry, lawyers in the field, regulators, hunters, law enforcement, military, just to name a few, their voices go ignored. Journalists, politicians, and others regularly make false incorrect statements about all things firearms and their regulation.."

- George Mocsary, The Wall Street Journal, January 30, 2023

"The FRC will be dedicated to supporting original groundbreaking research involving firearms. Subject areas will include law, history, technology, social sciences, economic development and recreation."

- Ashley Hlebinsky, US Concealed Carry Association, April 27, 2022

"The infrequency of unintentional shootings makes the odds of paying out a claim so low that insurance companies "just don't care," George Mocsary, a law professor at the University of Wyoming, told the Trace earlier this year after San Jose passed its law."

- George Mocsary, Politico, June 7, 2022

"Striker fire and split receivers do not make a firearm more or less lethal than others available on the market. Because this terminology is flawed and inaccurate, this is misleading. These policies and proposed changes can have unintended consequences for everyone. It is interesting and important to understand that these things can affect both sides. Criminalizing those who would otherwise be considered innocent but also opening the door for loopholes, litigation, and worst of all continued violence."

- Ashley Hlebinsky, Testimony to United State Senate, May 7, 2022

"We see ourselves as educators of history that can talk from a more informed place and speak from a place of understanding, from the history perspective to even the function perspective of the firearm to make their own conclusion."

- Ashley Hlebinsky, Wyoming Public Radio, May 7, 2022

"Proponents of gun rights and some conservative justices say lower courts have been engaged in lawless resistance to the protections afforded under the Second Amendment by sustaining unconstitutional gun-control laws. 'The lower courts have, generally speaking, been defying Heller,' said George Mocsary, a law professor at the University of Wyoming."

- George Mocsary, The New York Times, December 2, 2019

"It is easy to say that if there are no firearms in the room, no one will be shot. But a more nuanced analysis will consider that there are 300,000,000 guns in the country, that our borders are porous, and that there are plenty of substitutes for firearms. Even if one believes that these considerations are less relevant to the question of reducing accidents by minors, one must also consider the negative effects of a gun ban or wide-scale firearm confiscation."

- George Mocsary, NBC News, February 28, 2021






THE FIREARMS RESEARCH CENTER
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

FOR MORE
INFORMATION

WEBSITE:

 www.firearmsresearchcenter.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:

-  Twitter: @uwyo_firearms
-  Facebook: @firearmsresearch
-  Instagram: @firearmsresearch
-  YouTube: @firearmsresearch

CONTACT:

 www.firearmsresearchcenter.org
 FRC@uwyo.edu

PRESS RELATIONS:

 Ryan Matthew Mahoney
 Ryan@ParlayLLC.com
 985.956.2016

