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.

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 Virginia. 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!

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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'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

Defending Your Right to Defend Yourself

Join or Donate Today at VCDL.org

Date
Join VCDL ($25 annually)*
VCDL Contribution
VCDL-PAC Contribution*
Total enclosed

Employment Location:

Date
Join VCDL ($25 annually)*
VCDL Contribution
VCDL-PAC Contribution*
Total enclosed

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)

E-mail:
Recoated by (optional):

Mail your completed application to:
VCDL Membership Processing Center
PO Box 5752
Fredericksburg, VA 22403

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

VCDL.org/Join

Fight for your rights. Join today!
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 law. Contributions over $100 aggregate in a calendar year will be published on the State Board of Elections website per law.

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 that made that a reality! Here are more highlights:

2017:
- Successfully lobbied the General Assembly to pass a bill to provide protections to someone who inadvertently carries on K-12 school property;
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2018:
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2019:
- Helped with the passage of 4 pro-gun bills, with 2 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

2020:
- 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

2021:
- Helped with the passage of 16 pro-gun bills, with 5 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

2016:
- Instrumental role in getting a new law that expanded the number of states that honor Virginia permits;
- Second-ID and proof-of-citizenship requirements removed for gun purchases for Virginia residents;
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2015:
- Successfully lobbied the General Assembly to pass a bill to provide protections to someone who inadvertently carries on K-12 school property;
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2014:
- Protested Stafford County Sheriff Jett’s attempt to keep VCDL from having a booth at a “National Night Out” event;
- Helped stop the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors from enacting hunting and shooting restrictions;
- Compiled Roanoke City to remove two illegal “No Guns” signs;
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2013:
- Seven pro-gun bills passed, the most important of which protected CHP holder information;
- Obtained a Writ of Mandamus to force the Petersburg City Court Clerk to correctly issue CHPs;
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2012:
- Repealed the fingerprint requirement for CHPs;
- Prevented localities from banning firearms in personal vehicles of employees while at work;
- Prevented gun bans during a declared state of emergency;
- Repealed “One Handgun a Month”;
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

2011:
- Improved the issuance of CHPs;
- Legalized the discharge of air guns on private property in all localities;
- Successfully stopped the Sussex Planning Commission from severely restricting firearm ranges;
- All anti-gun bills neutered or killed

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.

Guns Save Lives

Visit Us Online at VCDL.org

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

Get the word out!

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

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.