

**Hunting/Fishing Bill
Vote YES
to Proposition 6**

By Johnny Kirby

The state of Texas is asking us to vote November 3 to approve Proposition 6. The proposed Constitutional Amendment will guarantee a citizen's right to hunt and fish in Texas.

In July, the House passed the proposed amendment by a vote of 111 to 1. Senate approval came in June. Voters in November will be asked to modify the Texas constitution to recognize "The right of the people to hunt and fish and harvest wildlife subject to laws that promote wildlife conservation." Eighteen other states have approved similar measures.

The amendment would not trump existing rules and ordinances banning discharging guns within city limits. Also, most of the existing hunting and fishing regulations in Texas will remain in effect. This amendment is simply to protect sportsmen's rights. Since turnout on these amendments is usually low at the polls, we should all take the time to go and vote YES on Proposition 6 in November.

Operation Choke Point

By Johnny Kirby

In the last few hunting guides, we have tried to inform the readers of some important government actions that you might be interested in.

Previously, we reported on the "Fast and Furious" operation where our government supplied 2,000 guns and ammunition to drug dealers and other bad guys in Mexico. We know that didn't turn out very well.

Now, we have another operation launched in 2013 by none other than our Justice Department under the direction of our then Attorney General, Eric Holder. This was presented as a way to reduce fraud by "choking" certain business' access to banks and other financial services. The Justice Department says it has no interest in pursuing legal industries, but the program has come under fire by members of Congress for blocking many legal but politically unpopular business owners like firearms and ammunition sellers from the financial sector. This operation "Choke Point" as it is referred to, is just another attempt by the Justice Department and the Obama administration to interfere with our hunting and shooting sports.

In a congressional hearing on March 24, 2015, Representative Sean Duffy R-Wis. called operation "Choke Point" the greatest overreach by the Federal Government that no one is talking about. Several investigations are ongoing into high officials of the FDIC including Chairman Martin Gruenberg. These regulations may not hurt big box stores like Wal-Mart and Academy but choke small gun and ammo sellers by blocking them from payment processors. I am constantly surprised the lengths that our current government

officials will go to promote their anti gun and ammo agenda. Some of these programs are bordering on illegal. The problem is that if members of Congress find wrongdoing and choose to bring charges against high-ranking officials, the president will invoke an executive pardon as he did with Eric Holder on the "Fast and Furious" debacle.

I just heard a report on television that two people have been charged with murder in the death of Border Patrol Agent Bryan Terry, who was killed 3 years ago from one of the guns that was part of the "Fast and Furious" weapons that our government supplied to the

Mexican drug cartels. Hopefully, this will help bring some closure to this botched operation. Unfortunately, none of our government officials including Eric Holder will ever be held responsible for this tragedy.

Game Warden

Field Notes

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports.

You Missed a Spot

Two San Augustine County game wardens apprehended two men for road hunting with a spotlight near Sam Rayburn Lake. When the wardens inspected the men's truck, they saw the truck bed had been

power washed clean, but the men missed a tiny spot of blood and hair. When the wardens pointed out this evidence, the men confessed they'd killed a deer a few days earlier. Both men face charges of hunting from a public road, possession of deer in closed season and unlawful carry of a handgun.

Won't See You Later,

Alligator

After a Shelby County game warden received a call about a five-foot alligator that had been shot on the Attoyac River, he contacted a gas company located near the river, hoping someone who worked there had seen something. An employee said he saw some people by the

river a few days earlier and gave a description of the people and their vehicle, which the warden found a few days later at a local hunting lease. After running a vehicle check, the warden found the owner on Facebook, and the gas company employee positively identified him as one of the people he had seen near the river. The warden went to the suspect's house, and the suspect confessed his friend shot the alligator with a .20-gauge shotgun. After calling his friend to come over and verify what happened, the cooperative shooter arrived at the house a little while later. The warden filed multiple cases, and civil restitution is pending.

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