

## BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR POLK COUNTY, OREGON In the Matter of Supporting Federal and State Constitutional Rights To Keep and Bear Arms

## **RESOLUTION NO. 15-06**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Polk County, Oregon, is sworn to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution states that the "right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed"; and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 27 of the Oregon State Constitution states that the "people shall have the right to bear arms for the defense of themselves, and the State, but Military shall be kept in strict subordination to the civil power;" and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Polk County, Oregon, recognizes that the
first and last protectors of the United States Constitution are the people of the United States, and
that the ability of the people to fulfill that role rests in large part on the peoples' right to bear arms
as stated in the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Oregon; and

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WHEREAS, the criminal misuse of firearms by those in the criminal element is not a reason to deny the Constitutional right to keep and bear arms by law-abiding citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States in *District of Columbia v. Heller* upheld the individual rights to bear arms as protected by the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution with Justice Scalia's opinion stating that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess a firearm unconnected with service in a militia, and to use that firearm for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home. Also, the United States Supreme Court in *McDonald v. Chicago*, invalidated Chicago's handgun ban and held the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution applies to the States; now, therefore:

43 IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT, Polk County opposes any state or federal law that
 44 abridges or is contrary to the provisions of the United States Constitution and state of Oregon
 45 Constitution; and

47 Polk County supports the right of the people to lawfully bear arms as stated in the Second
48 Amendment to the United States Constitution and the Oregon Constitution and opposes any state
49 or federal law that unconstitutionally restricts a citizen's right to bear arms.

Dated: February 11, 2015 at Dallas, Oregon, POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Mike Ainsworth, Chairman Jennifer Wheeler, Commissioner Craig Pope, Commissioner Acknowledged By: Dors Bob Wolfe Sheriff Approved as to Form: Morgan Smith County Counsel