

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION  
11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD  
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030



**NRA**

June 29, 2011

The Honorable Nathaniel Williams  
St. Helena Parish Sheriff  
P.O. 1205  
Greensburg, LA 70441

Dear Sheriff Williams,

We have recently received information that you have threatened to jail persons in your parish for possessing semi-automatic rifles in their vehicles and have compared honest, law-abiding citizens to criminals merely on the basis that they possessed or transported in vehicles what you refer to as “assault weapons.”

As you know, Louisiana State law does not specifically prohibit the possession of firearms in vehicles, nor does it regulate semi-automatic rifles—often misclassified as “assault weapons”—differently than any other firearms. Local regulation of the possession and transportation of firearms and ammunition is also generally preempted by state law.

We are writing to inform you that we will be monitoring this situation very closely. We strongly oppose any action that illegitimately denies law-abiding individuals the right to keep and bear arms or subjects them to harassment or intimidation for engaging in legal firearm-related behavior.

Sincerely,

Christopher L. Rager  
Louisiana State Liaison  
National Rifle Association