

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



Office of the Executive Director
CHRIS W. COX

April 25, 2012

The Honorable Dean Heller
361-A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Heller:

I'm writing to express the National Rifle Association's appreciation for your principled opposition to the nomination of Clark County District Judge Elissa Cadish for Federal District Court.

As you know, Judge Cadish stated on a 2008 questionnaire her belief that individual citizens do not have a constitutional right to keep and bear arms. While she has more recently tried to backtrack from that statement, her "new" position is of little comfort to gun owners.

The U.S. Supreme Court held in *District of Columbia v. Heller* and in *McDonald v. City of Chicago* that the Second Amendment guarantees the fundamental, individual right to keep and bear arms for all law-abiding Americans. In so holding, the Court made clear that this right is not created by our Constitution – it is a pre-existing right guaranteed by our Constitution.

For Judge Cadish to state that an individual Second Amendment right only exists in the wake of the *Heller* decision makes clear her belief that the Supreme Court created this right. That is not the position of the National Rifle Association, nor does it represent the views of America's 100 million gun owners.

Again, the NRA appreciates your strong and principled opposition to Judge Cadish's nomination based on her lack of support for our fundamental, individual right to keep and bear arms.

Sincerely,

Chris W. Cox