

STATEMENT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Gun Regulations

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO, July 27, 2022 – We are painfully aware of the tragic toll that escalating gun violence has on this country, and we agree with the many emails and phone calls we have received from Routt County residents who would like to see common sense actions taken in response to this national tragedy. We are also cognizant of the fact that, regardless of party affiliation, the views of individuals in our community with regard to gun regulations and rights of gun owners differ greatly.

As your elected representatives, we have a duty to the health and safety of the community. We also have an obligation to respect laws and rights outlined by the state and federal governments.

We have spent time with our legal staff reviewing the authorities for local government granted by Colorado SB 21-256 and the recent Supreme Court majority opinion in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* in addition to considering the variety of input provided by our constituents. While the recent change to state law would allow the County to legislatively impose restrictions, the Supreme Court majority opinion likely curtails the viability of any meaningful regulations. In addition, county regulations would apply only to county facilities and/or the unincorporated parts (outside of the municipalities) of the county.

We will continue to research and consider this important issue, and we will inform the public on an ongoing basis. As always, we welcome your input; our contact information is available [online](#).

Contact: ashepherd@co.routt.co.us

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