

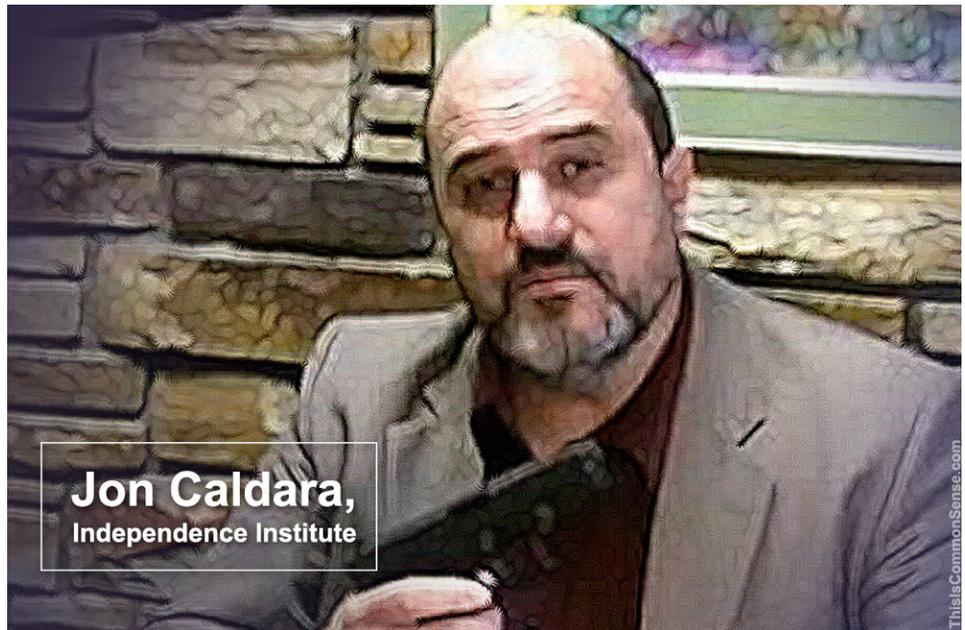
## Resisting Registration

January 8, 2019

Jon Caldara won't register his guns. He also won't remain silent about his refusal.

He has lots of company in Boulder, Colorado, with respect to the former, if not the latter, form of resistance — his unwillingness to compromise his right to bear arms.

The town recently began requiring owners of "assault weapons" to either ditch them or register them with the Boulder police. Owners choosing registration must submit to



Jon Caldara,  
Independence Institute

*Sometimes the power-grabbers succeed and sometimes they don't. But everywhere, most voters oppose such shenanigans.*

background checks "to ensure that the weapon holder is legally able to be in possession of the firearm." If you pass, you get certificates acknowledging rightful ownership.

But if you lose the certificates, apparently you lose your ownership rights.

The city defines an "assault weapon" as a "semi-automatic center-fire rifle" or a

"semi-automatic center-fire pistol" with various characteristics. In short, the target is "ugly guns," as foes of gun control sometimes put it. ("Non-assault" weapon: papier-mâché weapon.)

Many Boulder citizens are quietly refusing to comply with the mandates. They "see this as a registry," according to Lesley Hollywood, executive director of Rally for Our Rights.

Caldara, head of the Independence Institute, is speaking out despite the risk. Why? Because "somebody has to. . . . In this town that spouts tolerance for alternative lifestyles . . . when it comes to a lifestyle they don't like, there is no tolerance . . . Tolerance means tolerating things you dislike, that you find scary."

This idea goes even deeper than tolerance, though. It's about "freedom" and "rights."

There is nothing frightening about Mr. Caldara's unregistered guns, but much to fear from Boulder officials assaulting his rights.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.