

Caitlin Taylor  
Windham  
LD 2283

I have spent two years continuing to navigate the escape of a very violent and manipulative man's abuse. On April 24th it will be two years since I filed my protection order, where he was present in the Portland Cumberland County court house and chased me up to the second floor stomping aggressively. His actions have caused me and my children, currently 3 and 11 years old, to have lifelong trauma. He also murdered my dog, Jada. He has not been held accountable in any area of the court, between family court and criminal court. He was given a deferred disposition in criminal court after pleading guilty to one DV assault charge, even with substantial evidence of many other horrific crimes and assaults. He has tried to bury me financially and continues to do so. He is now failing drug tests, in family court matters, where criminal court refuses to enforce the "contract" of his deferred disposition. The only way my daughters and I are able to feel somewhat safe still is the fact that I am able to possess a firearm for protection. I have been told that right is being questioned today and I plead with you all to reconsider. Criminals do not care about following these laws, they will still carry dangerous weapons regardless. Please do not take away my right to protect myself and my children, it is all we have left.