



MSA Members

To all members,

We have received a threat to either drop our lawsuits, which we were forced to file to stop the attacks on Rick and our businesses, or a group will show up to carry rebel flags and picket retail stores, which Rick and his family hold shares in, this weekend. These stores have nothing to do with the MSA or mounted shooting, nor do the personal attacks that have been waged against Rick. They have threatened to publicly defame Rick again and disrupt business at stores in three cities and try to get press coverage of the display. This is blackmail and it is a crime. They have already contacted the corporate office to make the threat known to the company.

Needless to say, Rick is very upset that his family has been dragged into his personal fight for vindication. Like most of us, he is protective of his family and he has been embarrassed greatly by the phone call to the company. Since serving cease and desist letters, which have largely been ignored, Rick's attorney has also received harassing phone calls and death threats. There seems to be no end to the extent in which haters will go to for their selfish agendas.

Going after someone's family for a personal vendetta shows a lack of integrity and makes our whole sport look bad. The MSA has a policy, which does not allow personal attacks by its members against any mounted shooter, regardless of their affiliation and we are the only association with such a policy. The CMSA has gone public with our lawsuit against them in an attempt to draw sympathy for trying to destroy Rick and our businesses.

Rick has done everything he could over the past three and a half years to help mounted shooting, with no hope of ever profiting from his efforts. His reward has been to be ruthlessly and relentlessly attacked. Those who wish to disrupt any business that dares offer fairness and transparency in mounted shooting have gone

to great lengths to drag him through the mud, including hiring a private investigator to dig up dirt and using false reports to defame and humiliate him. He has provided the largest payouts in the history of the sport, making him the most generous sponsor the sport has ever seen, only to have mounted shooters sit on the sideline and predict how long he can afford to keep it up. Rather than rally behind an association that for fifteen years has been determined to offer fairness to the mounted shooting community, that community has never stood up for fair treatment of any of the owners of the MSA during its fifteen-year history.

It is not a question of how long Rick is able to support mounted shooting, the question is how long do the competitors expect him to do so, while he is abused for his efforts. I will no longer allow Rick to be a punching bag for the entertainment of mounted shooters. I cannot imagine anyone who could put up with the constant bullying for as long as he has.

Going after his family is the last straw. It brings me great sadness to know that the sport of mounted shooting will never achieve the greatness we envisioned. I have asked him to shut down operations and walk away from a sport that has treated him like dirt. He is a proud man and is not accustomed to failure. I reminded him and I will tell you all that he has not failed. Just like Thomas Edison, he has proven that it cannot be done. He has repeatedly stated that he will support you as long as you want him. It has become painfully clear that he is not wanted and in the end, it will be the sport that pays the price for not supporting organizations, like the MSA, who have supported the competitor **without any profit agenda**. The haters will celebrate this decision and consider it a victory. I assure you that this will not elevate their worthiness as human beings in any way. While Rick has helped me to make my feelings clear to you, I assure you that he is not speaking for me, but I am standing up to speak for him.

We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Ann Pihl

Mounted Shooters of America

PO Box 446

Cave Creek, AZ 85327