



## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER  
130 W. CONGRESS, TUCSON, AZ 85701-1317  
(520) 740-8661 FAX (520) 740-8171

C. H. HUCKELBERRY  
County Administrator

October 30, 2003

Chris W. Cox, Executive Director  
NRA-Institute for Legislative Action  
11250 Waples Mill Road  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Re: **Your Letter Dated October 20, 2003 Regarding Preservation of and Expanded Shooting Range Facilities in Arizona**

Dear Mr. Cox:

We have asked our Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department to include in a potential May 2004 bond issue, additional funding to expand and preserve the options available to shooting enthusiasts and hunters. The bond issue would provide for these options in at least two different ways: first, the direct funding of an expanded and fully functional shooting range on Houghton Road, as well as the possibility of purchasing the Desert Trails Gun Club and Training Facility; and further, the purchase of open space, which in itself will preserve hunting options since you so correctly pointed out that urban sprawl and development is the single largest threat to hunters and those who desire access to safe and affordable shooting facilities.

Pima County does not, has not, and will not attempt to regulate hunting on County lands. We have formally indicated that such is and has been the job of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. They have been doing an admirable job in this area. One of our purposes in advancing open space acquisition is to ensure that hunters and shooting enthusiasts continue to have a place to safely and reasonably practice their sport and interest.

We very much appreciate your letter. The Board of Supervisors has expressed support of shooting and hunting enthusiasts in the County, and we expect they will continue to do so in the future.

Sincerely,

  
Sharon Bronson, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

  
C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

SB/CHH/jj

c: The Honorable Members of the Pima County Board of Supervisors  
John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator - Public Works  
Mike Hein, Deputy County Administrator for Community and Economic Development  
Rafael Payan, Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Director  
Jim Barry, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator  
Thomas Moulton, Leased Asset and Promotion Manager

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

**INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD

FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030



**NRA**

Office of the Executive Director  
**CHRIS W. COX**

October 20, 2003

Mr. Chuck Huckleberry, County Administrator  
County Administration Bldg.  
130 W. Congress  
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Dear Mr. Huckleberry:

I write in support of the Arizona Shooting Range Coalition and its goal to preserve and expand shooting range facilities in Arizona.

The State of Arizona has a rich hunting and shooting heritage, one that the NRA and the ASRC aim to protect. Due to growing metropolitan areas and the rapidly expanding urban centers it is becoming increasingly difficult for citizens to find safe and accessible facilities where they can enjoy the shooting sports. In 1997 the County recognized the importance of an accessible shooting range for the thousands of shooting and hunting enthusiasts that reside in Pima County. As you know, voters approved a 1997 bond proposal that included funding for the initial developmental stages of a range near the County fairgrounds. The bond proposal has funded the design process and the initial construction phase that will begin shortly, but more funds are needed to complete the project.

On behalf of the National Rifle Association and tens of thousands of NRA members living in Arizona, I respectfully request that you strongly consider the need for additional funds to complete this project. With an estimated two million dollars Pima County can accomplish the goal set forth by its residents six years ago and create an accessible and safe shooting range facility that will serve the County for years to come. It is of the utmost importance that these funds be included in the County's bond proposal package that will be presented to voters in May 2004.

It is my hope that the officials of Pima County will do their part to help serve their residents with well managed facilities to accommodate the thousands of residents that enjoy hunting and shooting on a regular basis. If there is anything we at the NRA can do to help with this matter, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Chris W. Cox  
Executive Director

NRA-Institute for Legislative Action

CC: Sharron Bronson  
Ray Carroll  
Richard Elias  
Ramon Valadez  
Ann Day