

## Laura Loomer “Red-flagged”

Laura Loomer made a name for herself as a conservative investigative journalist and ran for Congress in 2020, but her controversial style of openly confronting Democratic politicians and operatives made her a big target for “deplatforming.” Loomer was banned from Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, PayPal, Venmo, GoFundMe, Uber, and Lyft, and Chase Bank once shut down her online banking. But it is what recently happened to her that should send chills down the spines of Second Amendment supporters.

Loomer went public on January 19 on her website, loomered.com, that she “was placed in the Federal National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) and I have been prohibited from ever owning or even touching a firearm.” Loomer explains that she believes it was the FBI who put her on this list and it stems from her confronting former FBI director James Comey at a book signing. Loomer wrote, “I had my 2nd Amendment Rights stripped due to my political views and activism. Given that the FBI is the only organization that can put you in the NICS database, I have reason to believe that I’ve been targeted by the FBI.” Loomer also explained how dire this is, since she is regularly targeted for harassment by Antifa and other far-left lunatics, and she is now unarmed and not able to properly defend herself.

Loomer wrote that what happened to her is just a foreshadowing of what is to come for anyone in this country with conservative leanings. Loomer warned others that just “as conservative Americans are being banned from social media, banned from banking, and placed on No-Fly lists across the country right now, the next step is to designate them as ‘domestic terrorists’ and strip them of their gun rights.”

She is currently raising money on her website, where supporters can donate to help her raise the funds necessary to challenge her placement on the list and fight back against this dangerous, precedent-setting move.

## Freshman Republican Carries at the Capitol

A woman elected to Congress in the 2020 election is a fierce advocate of the Second Amendment and is not ashamed to wear her views on her sleeve. Lauren Boebert first made national news in 2019 when she confronted Democratic presidential candidate Beto O’Rourke at a town hall meeting in Colorado. Boebert, who owns several restaurants in Rifle, Colorado, told then-candidate O’Rourke, “I was one of the gun owning Americans who heard you speak regarding your ‘Hell yes I’m going to take your AR-15s and AK-47s.’ Well, I’m here to say hell no you’re not!” The spunky little mother of four did not stop there, and used her newfound fame to catapult herself into a run for Congress against an incumbent Republican, which she won in a political upset. Now Boebert is already turning heads only days into her first term in Congress, owing to her insistence on carrying a handgun in the nation’s capital. Boebert’s Twitter account features a cover photo with a handgun in a holster attached to her waist. Boebert posted a video clip in a January 3 tweet that featured her carrying her gun around D.C. with the following text: “Let me tell you why I WILL carry my Glock to Congress. Government does NOT get to tell me or my constituents how we are allowed to keep our families safe. I promise to always stand strong for our 2nd Amendment rights.”

Boebert unabashedly explains in the video that she “will carry her firearm in D.C. and in Congress.” She then goes on to explain that as a woman who is only five feet tall and 100 pounds, she carries for defensive purposes, especially considering the high crime rate in the city. Boebert also explained that she previously allowed the waitresses in her employ to open carry for defensive reasons as well. Her video then featured her confrontation with Beto O’Rourke and concluded with her stating that she will continue to stand up for her constituents’ gun rights.

The video quickly went viral, with over 26,000 retweets! It’s an understatement to say the leftists were furious over her outspoken approach. Left-wing news sites

quickly rushed to smear her and imply that what she was planning to do was contrary to applicable law. Journalists even contacted Washington’s Metropolitan Chief of Police Robert Contee for his views, and he responded that his department was reaching “out to the congresswoman’s office to make sure that she is aware what the laws of the District of Columbia are, what the restrictions are.”

Boebert bristled at Contee’s words on an appearance on *Fox & Friends*, where she was quick to explain that she already is familiar with the laws and is in compliance with the applicable rules. “I have gone through the concealed carry courses that Washington, D.C., requires to obtain a concealed carry permit, and I think it’s very interesting that he wants to ensure that I understand Washington, D.C., firearm laws.... Maybe I should make a video announcing that I plan to drive a car in Washington, D.C., and then the chief of police will say that he’s going to inform me of Washington, D.C., traffic laws. Is this what he does with everyone who comes to the District of Columbia and for each and every person? I don’t think so.”

The controversy for Boebert didn’t end there: Fallout from the January 6 incident at the Capitol Building resulted in new draconian security measures, including a requirement for members of Congress to go through a metal detector. Vox reported on January 13 that normally everyone entering the Capitol goes through security screenings, but lawmakers have previously been able to bypass the screening. Now, members of Congress and their staff must go through security screening before entering the House chamber. There was an outcry among Republicans about the measure, while Democrats supported it.

The metal detectors did not phase Boebert, who got through the increased screening and tweeted out, “I am legally permitted to carry my firearm in Washington, D.C. and within the Capitol complex. Metal detectors outside of the House would not have stopped the violence we saw last week.” ■

— PATRICK KREY