

New Jersey Firearm Owners Syndicate  
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## **New Jersey Firearm Owners Syndicate Statement on Denial of Cert in Snope and Ocean State Tactical**

**Atlantic Highlands, NJ June 2, 2025** ---- Statement on behalf of New Jersey Firearm Owners Syndicate

While many of us in the Second Amendment Community were both shocked and disappointed in today's denial of certiorari by the Supreme Court of *Snope v Brown and Ocean State Tactical et al v Rhode Island*, the court gives us hope. In it's denial, Justice Kavanaugh writes:

"In short, under this Court's precedents, the Fourth Circuit's decision is questionable. Although the Court today denies certiorari, a denial of certiorari does not mean that the Court agrees with a lower-court decision or that the issue is not worthy of review. The AR-15 issue was recently decided by the First Circuit and is currently being considered by several other Courts of Appeals...Opinions from other Courts of Appeals should assist this Court's ultimate decisionmaking on the AR-15 issue. Additional petitions for certiorari will likely be before this Court shortly and, in my view, this Court should and presumably will address the AR-15 issue soon, in the next Term or two."

The votes are seemingly there to find on the merits in favor of the Second Amendment. However it has been made clear the court wants a circuit split before granting certiorari. The case now best poised to create that split and cover both the bans of firearms and features as well as magazine capacity are the consolidated cases now before the Third Circuit, including *Cheeseman v Platkin*,

so named for Plaintiff Mark Cheeseman, founder and President of New Jersey Firearm Owners Syndicate. Pro-second Amendment districts simply don't have bans to challenge to create a split, and entrenched anti-Second Amendment districts consistently find against the Right to Keep and Bear Arms. The makeup of the 3rd circuit, especially en banc, gives favor to the Second Amendment Right to Keep and Bear Arms, even if not in totality. Therefore a win, even a modest one, can prove to be the tipping point of the scales. Cheeseman v Platkin may be the most important 2A case percolating through the system since Bruen.

Oral arguments before the Third Circuit are scheduled for June 30, 2025. We eagerly await these proceedings, and encourage everyone to support the organizations, such as Firearms Policy Coalition, litigating these cases.

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