



## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER  
130 W. CONGRESS, TUCSON, AZ 85701-1317  
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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 October 20, 2003 Letter Regarding Desert Trails Gun Club and Training Facility**

Dear Mr. Cox:

Pima County values the many and varied shooting enthusiasts who reside in our state. We absolutely understand the need to provide safe and efficient shooting facilities for our residents to enjoy. We have and will continue to act to preserve the shooting options available to Pima County residents.

Regarding the Desert Trails Gun Club, we believe it has a place in providing comprehensive shooting and training facilities that, when coupled with our future Houghton Road facility, will provide an ideal combination of meeting the needs of all shooting enthusiasts as well as training that is necessary to ensure the safe handling and operation of firearms.

We have requested and will hopefully be receiving soon, a County appraisal of the value of the Desert Trails Gun Club and Training Facility with the intent of possibly purchasing the facility to operate in tandem with our Houghton Road facility.

Thank you for your input in this matter.

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.

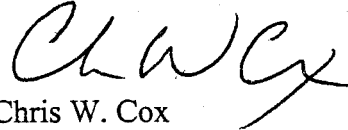
It has come to our attention that a private shooting range facility is facing closure. The Desert Trails Gun Club and Training Facilities serves as a safe and accessible shooting site for thousands of Pima County residents, including more than 600 individual and family memberships. This facility has served both the State and the County by acting as a training site for groups such as the Pima County Adult Probation, U.S. Customs, Veterans Administration Hospital police, and others. The classrooms have been used to carry out Arizona Certified CCW training and the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Hunter Education classes.

The County has an opportunity to prevent the closure of this facility and help continue the service that Desert Trails Gun Club has been providing to the thousands of shooting enthusiasts that reside within Pima County. Due to urban sprawl and development the more than 20,000 licensed hunters across the County are finding it increasingly difficult to access safe and affordable shooting facilities. If Desert Trails Gun Club and Training Facilities is not purchased by a buyer with the intent to continue the operation of the shooting range facility, the residents of Pima County will lose a valuable resource that thousands have come to rely on to fulfill their shooting needs.

On behalf of the National Rifle Association and tens of thousands of NRA members living in Arizona, I respectfully request that Pima County consider the purchase of Desert Trails Guns Club and Shooting Facilities with the purpose of keeping it open. Through private contracting the maintenance of this facility would be of little or no cost to the County and could continue to preserve the rich hunting and shooting heritage that Arizonans have grown to love.

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 shooting and hunting on a regular basis. To that end, if there is anything we at the NRA can do to help, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ch W Cox", written in a cursive style.

Chris W. Cox  
Executive Director  
NRA-Institute for Legislative Action

CC: Sharon Bronson  
Ray Carrol  
Richard Elias  
Ramon Valadez  
Ann Day