

Historical Background of the Centerville Public Shooting Range

One-Page Summary for Court Hearing

Origin and Purpose (1969)

- In 1969, the City of Centerville formally planned and developed a public recreation facility.
- The facility was intended to serve residents of Davis County and surrounding communities.
- The stated purpose included hunter safety education, marksmanship training, competitive shooting, and safe public shooting.
- From inception, the range was documented as a supervised public safety and community recreation facility.

City Ownership and Oversight

- The City of Centerville owned the property on which the range was developed.
- The facility was designated to be open to the general public without discrimination.
- Operational oversight was conducted by the Centerville Small Arms Association with City authorization.

Formal Government Approval

- On November 24, 1969, the Mayor of Centerville formally requested assistance from the Weber Basin Civilian Conservation Center.
- On December 9, 1969, the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation approved the project.
- The project was explicitly approved as a community recreation project, not a private use.
- Approval required City involvement in planning, materials, and ongoing oversight.

Planned Infrastructure and Safety Measures

- Construction and maintenance of the access road with erosion control and drainage.
- Installation of controlled access gates.
- Development of defined firing lines, target pits, and bullet impact berms.
- Creation of parking areas, firebreak widening, and safety buffer zones.

Key Historical Conclusions

- The shooting range was lawfully established through formal City action and federal approval in 1969.
- The facility was intended to operate as a long-term public recreational and safety resource.
- The range's location, access, and use remain consistent with its original documented purpose for over 50 years.