

## **WRPA Participates in Historic Supreme Court Case**

The United States Supreme Court will be holding oral arguments in 2008 regarding a challenge to the unconstitutional gun ban in the District of Columbia. In March 2007, the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit overturned the ban as a violation of the Second Amendment, ruling that “the phrase ‘the right of the people,’ when read intratextually and in light of Supreme Court precedent, leads us to conclude that the right in question is individual.”

The WRPA and dozens of other state associations are participating in the case, *District of Columbia v. Heller*, through an *amicus curiae* (“friend of the court”) brief. The NRA is also participating through its own brief.

A three-judge panel of the Court of Appeals (*Parker v. District of Columbia*, 478 F.3d 370) voted 2-1 to reverse a decision of the US District Court.

The District of Columbia has petitioned the Supreme Court to overturn the Court of Appeals. The District of Columbia argues “The text and history of the Second Amendment conclusively refute the notion that it entitles individuals to have guns for their own private purposes. Instead, it protects the possession and use of guns only in service of an organized militia.”