

#### REDNECK REVOLT

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS communication@redneckrevolt.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Redneck Revolt Organizes Community Defense Against Racism and Fascism

### **About Redneck Revolt**

Redneck Revolt is a national network of community defense projects from a broad spread of political, religious, and cultural backgrounds. It is a pro-worker, anti-racist organization that focuses on working class liberation from the oppressive systems which dominate our lives. In states where it is legal to practice armed community defense, many branches choose to become John Brown Gun Clubs, training ourselves and our communities in defense and mutual aid. Founded in June 2016, by several members of previous similar community defense formations in Kansas and Colorado, Redneck Revolt currently has 45+ branches in 30+ states. More information can be found at www.redneckrevolt.org.

# **Political Ideology**

Redneck Revolt members come from a variety of ideological backgrounds -- libertarians, humanists, anarchists, republicans, communists, and independents. Many people nationwide have become politicized for the first time over the last several years, and are now seeking ways to get involved and protect vulnerable members of their community and keep them safe. Redneck Revolt stands ready to work with anyone who recognizes the urgency of building community defense networks, and can work and learn in the process.

### **Diversity**

Redneck Revolt has very diverse membership across the working class. Redneck Revolt believes that real working class solidarity will come from working alongside each other in person and in our everyday lives, not in the sterile conversations of privilege in college classrooms, or in the phony hand-wringing of politicians pretending to care about jobs, healthcare, and education.

### **Goals and Strategies**

Redneck Revolt operates with a dual power strategy towards two main goals:

- Directly countering the growth of white supremacist and reactionary organizing in working class communities.
- Build, strengthen and support community defense initiatives and programs in targeted and marginalized communities.

Redneck Revolt focuses on counter-recruitment of other working class people against white supremacist and white nationalist organizations, through direct outreach in places where working class folks are already being targeted by white nationalist recruitment, such as gun shows and events, cattle shows, flea markets, state fairs, etc.

### **Community Defense**

In a climate of increasing violence and conflict against immigrants, people of color, trans and queer folk, violence against places of worship (synagogues, mosques, holy temples), community centers, and reproductive health facilities, Redneck Revolt believes that a stance of defensive action is increasingly necessary. Network members have no desire to engage with anyone in armed conflict unless they aggressively target our communities; again, we believe in community defense only when called for by extreme circumstances. All of our members undergo mandatory firearms safety training courses. Redneck Revolt also views community defense as a broader initiative to ensure security in our communities, which encompasses access to food, shelter, safety, and health. Redneck Revolt branches in many states are building survival programs including farm food plots, exchange stores, clothing drives, defense training, disaster assistance -- as well as defensive action in situations where community defense against reactionary violence is needed.

#### Firearms Use

Firearms are an important focus within Redneck Revolt, because network members feel that the current threats to marginalized folks in our communities are deadly serious, and community responses and defense strategies should be as well. Redneck Revolt stands for the right of every community to defend itself from those who would exploit or oppress them, as well as the empowerment of all individuals who wish to participate in the defense of their communities with the knowledge and equipment to do so. To this end, nearly all Redneck Revolt branches offer free firearms training, or work to connect community members to affordable training resources.

Redneck Revolt does not see themselves as the first ones to arm themselves, but rather have picked up arms as a reaction to increasing violence and threats against members of their communities. The current political environment has seen armed militias intimidating people as they go into their mosques to pray, violent white nationalists attacking people in the street, Nazis openly calling for genocide all across the country, and political wavering around whether white nationalism is a defensible political ideology. Redneck Revolt members recognize how real the threats of violence have become because of the friends and loved ones they've already lost, and they organize in community defense as both an obligation and a commitment to defend each other.

###

More information can be found at: www.redneckrevolt.org