

Budd, Rouzer's Insane Gun Votes

Letter to the Editor, [Brunswick Beacon](#), 06.30.22

What should we think when Congressmen [Ted Budd](#) and David Rouzer blame mass shootings on "[mental health issues](#)" after [voting](#) to give guns back to "a person who has been adjudicated as a mental defective?"

In [March 2021](#), a shooter in an armored vest used a semi-automatic AR-15 with a [30-round magazine](#) to kill 10 people in a Colorado supermarket. One of them was the proverbial "good guy with a gun", 11-year police veteran [Eric Talley](#), who engaged the shooter with his service revolver but was outgunned by the assault weapon the perpetrator bought just six days before. The killer was adjudicated "[mentally incompetent to stand trial.](#)"

Budd and Rouzer have stubbornly voted against expanded background checks, including [H.R.8](#), the [Bipartisan Background Check Act](#), in [2019](#) and again in [2021](#). Rouzer [claimed](#) it would be "more productive to address the root causes" of gun violence, noting that the Colorado perpetrator was "mentally disturbed."

Last month, after two 18-year-olds with AR-15's shot 50 people in Buffalo, NY and Uvalde, Texas, killing 31, Rouzer once again [blamed](#) "troubled" individuals "filled with evil."

Budd, a gun-shop owner and senate candidate, agrees, blaming mass gun murders on the "[mentally disturbed.](#)"

So, why on Earth did Budd and Rouzer make it "easier" for them to get guns? After the Sandy Hook Elementary school massacre of 20 children and 6 adults, President Obama [enacted a regulation](#) that blocked people with severe mental health problems from buying firearms. Ten days after Trump became president, Rouzer co-sponsored [H.J.Res.40](#), nullifying the regulation, thus allowing "[mentally incapable](#)" people to freely purchase guns. Budd voted for it, too. It was one of the [first bills signed by Trump](#).

So, the next time Budd or Rouzer blame mass killings on the "mentally disturbed" ask yourself this: "Who's more disturbed, the mentally ill or the politicians who gave them back their guns?"

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