

# How a Hard-Charging Lawyer Helped Fuel a Civil War Inside the NRA

An ugly public fight inside the National Rifle Association has led to an exodus of high-level officials and warring accusations of financial impropriety. At the center of the fray is Brewer, a brash lawyer who has drawn ethics complaints and has a reputation for escalating disputes into pricey legal battles, according to a report in *The Washington Post*.

William Brewer III emerged as a top counselor to NRA chief executive Wayne LaPierre and a victor – for now, at least – in a civil war that he helped set in motion and that is ripping apart the powerful gun lobby, write the *Post*'s **Carol D. Leonnig** and **Tom Hamburger**.

They explain:

“Several NRA veterans accuse Brewer of instigating an almost Shakespearean feud to protect his bottom line and growing influence. According to internal board correspondence, his small law firm billed \$24 million in fees in 13 months – leading top NRA board members to demand early this year that the organization stop paying until they could review the bills.”

**Read the *Post* article.**