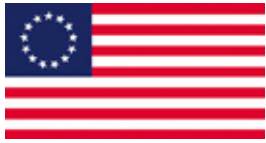


WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT
TO DEFEND YOURSELF.
COMPLIMENTARY. TAKE ONE.

GUNNews



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE
PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE, INC. VOLUME 32, NUMBER 7 JULY 2025
AFFILIATED WITH ILLINOIS GUN RIGHTS ALLIANCE, JPFO, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES AND OTHERS



Oliver grabbed the top shooter at the NRA Day Family Fun Shoot on May 20, organized by the State Line Rifle Association. For more, turn to page 14.



NOTHING SELLS GUNS LIKE MOB VIOLENCE

(GSL) - Call it the Summer of Love, 2025 Edition. The orgy of mob violence and looting in large cities across America has not gone unnoticed. Thanks to X and non-traditional media, Americans see the images of violent mobs damaging and destroying property, beating people and viciously attacking local, state and federal law enforcement in an orgy of violence.

Normal people see that violence. At the same time they recognize how gun ownership will help them protect their families from lawless bad guys. So off to gun shops they go to vote with their wallets.

Gun stores will no doubt welcome the influx of new customers, largely these normal Americans who suddenly want

to join the gun owner fraternity/sorority.

There, these everyday people will experience gun control rules and regulations first hand. Thanks to the anarchy and violence perpetrated by those "mostly peaceful" protesters, they'll persevere through the paperwork and waiting

Continued on page 19.

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July 2025

- **Quincy:** Last Wednesday: **June 25**, July 30, August 27
Eagles Club, 3737 N. Fifth Street, Quincy
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: **June 29**, July 27, No August Meeting (Labor Day)
American Legion Post 1198, 1631 Western Ave. Chicago Heights
Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.
- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **July 7**, August 4, No Sept. Meeting (Labor Day)
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **July 1**, August 5, September 2
Pontiac Sportsman's Club, 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **July 2**, August 6, September 3
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion *(Program at 6:45pm)*
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **July 3**, August 7, September 4
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6:30ish.
- **Danville:** Second Monday **July 14**, August 11, September 8
Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **July 9**, August 12, September 10
Prairie House Tavern, 2710 Main St., Buffalo Grove
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6pm-ish.
- **Mattoon:** Second Thursday: **July 10**, August 13, September 11
The American Legion Post 88, 1903 Maple Ave, Mattoon
- **LaSalle County:** Third Thursday: **July 17**, August 21, September 18
Jamie's Outpost, 602 Clark St., Utica

Dinner, conversation, exhibits at 6 p.m. Program starts at 7 p.m.
Come on out and join us. Good food, good fun and good friends.
Dinner is optional but we encourage attendees to eat to support the venue.

Meetings are free and open to all.

Our meetings and our members...



‘Sheriff Mendrick for Governor’
Sheriff Jim Mendrick at the Decatur GSL meeting in June. He’s running for the Republican nomination for the Governor’s race. While we can’t make endorsements, we can say that Mr. Mendrick has been unafraid to stake out strongly pro-gun positions knowing the mainstream media and Dems would attack him.



John Boch & the NRA-ILA’s Fritz Fitzgerald in Pontiac.



LaSalle County State’s Attorney Joe Navarro at our LaSalle County meeting at the end of May.



At our Quincy meeting, the Adams County Sheriff’s Office brought some of their kit.

Winners...



You never know what you’re going to find in Decatur. Here are some vintage cap guns from the early 20th Century.



Notice anything unusual about this Oglesby custom Ruger Single-Action Pistol? Yes, it shoots. Very well, in fact.



Self-defense super attorney Dave McDermott (r) with GSL’s John Boch.

IL HAS ‘STAND YOUR GROUND’

Not by statute but by Illinois Supreme Court precedent in Hammond v. People...

by John Boch
In the January 2025 issue of GunNews, we featured a front-page story touting Illinois’ status as “Stand Your Ground” (SYG) state. SYG basically means if you’re a innocent person in a place you have a legal right to be, you have no duty to retreat from a violent attack. Famed self-defense attorney Dave McDermott talked at length about it at our Peoria GSL meeting in December 2024.

A whole lot of folks scratched their heads in disbelief. Attorneys contacted us asking us to cite some case law. Instructors reached out and asked if it’s true. Yes it’s true.

We have that citation now. It’s a 1902 Illinois Supreme Court case that’s still good law. The case is Hammond v. People.

Here’s the relevant section of the decision.

The ancient doctrine of the common law that the right of self-defense did not arise until every effort to escape, even to retreating until an impassable wall or something

of that nature had been reached, has been supplanted in America by the doctrine that a man, if unlawfully assaulted in a place where he has a right to be, and put in danger, real or reasonably apparent, of losing his life or receiving great bodily harm, is not required to endeavor to escape from his assailant, but may stand his ground and repel force with force, even to the taking of the life of his assailant, if necessary or in good reason apparently necessary for the preservation of his own life or to protect himself from receiving great bodily harm. (2 Wharton on Crim. Law, sec. 1019; Baird v. United States, 158 U. S. 550.) The word “escape,” as a verb, according to Mr. Webster, may mean “to flee from;” “to get out of the way of;” “to hasten away,” etc.; and as a noun, “the act of fleeing from danger,” etc. It is not necessary to the right of self-defense that the party having otherwise the right to exercise it cannot “escape” the danger by fleeing from an assailant.

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To register, or for more information, visit
GSLDefenseTraining.com



DEAR READER:

Thank you for picking up this issue of *GunNews Magazine*. We're proud of our monthly journal and hope it helps you to become a better-informed citizen and gun owner. If you like the content and want to get more each month, please join! We'll mail you a copy each month and you can enjoy other benefits of membership!

Our content can help you steer clear of violent criminals. It can help you avoid jail in post-use-of-force interactions with police, prosecutors, judges and jurors. Other content will help you weather adversity and emergencies to help keep your family safe and prepared.

Come out and join us at our meetings, too. You'll meet some great people, potentially make some new, high-quality friends and learn new things. We'll leave you educated, entertained and energized for our never-ending fight in this state to defend your right to defend yourself. Plus we have monthly gun drawings at our meetings.

In this issue we've detailed some of the great presentations from outstanding featured speakers sharing valuable information. Some are inspirational,

others educational, and some are both. But they happen regularly at our events. Come join us. You'll be glad you did if you're a first-time visitor or someone rejoining us. The meetings are only getting better and better.

Join our family using the application on the back page of *GunNews*, online at our GunsSaveLife.com website, or drop off your membership check at a meeting (where you'll get two free gun drawing tickets for each year you join or renew!). We need you in this fight alongside the rest of our family.

Membership in GSL is just \$40 annually. Your membership allows us to continue our work at the local and state level defending your right to defend yourself in addition to bringing you and thousands of others *GunNews* each month.

Freedom isn't a spectator sport. Come join our family. Help us continue to get proven results defending your right to defend yourself.

Sincerely,

Guns Save Life

THE SECOND AMENDMENT



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Live Free USA's **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SEMINAR**

**Saturday, August 9th 1-3p.m.
Cabela's in Hammond, IN**

**Learn to use radio communications
in the outdoors and during emergencies...**

- Learn use & limitations of FRS & GMRS radios, channels, etc.
- Learn how to comply with FCC rules when using handheld radios
- Learn how to get a free, no test GMRS license from the FCC
- Learn proper radio use & protocols

We will give away a free Baofeng radio!

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AmericanSurvivor.org



Can't make it to a meeting? Still want to win a gun?
Tickets are available!

You can't make it to a meeting, but you want a chance to win a gun for as little as \$4? Here's your chance!
And yes, we've had several mail-in ticket winners in the past few months.

Indicate how many tickets you want for the gun you want (and city of drawing). Tickets are \$5 or 5 for \$20. Or 25 (plus a bonus) for \$100.

GSL's Treasurer Joanne Chandler will electronically notify the Regional Directors of the mail-in tickets sold for their meetings so they can get them into the drawing. If you're late, we'll return your check.

**Attn: Drawings
Guns Save Life
PO Box 8
Clinton, IL 61727**

GSL Monthly Gun Lineup!

Here are a few of the drawing guns!

**Chicagoland Northwest July: Shield Plus
with Optic 9mm**

**Pontiac July: Henry Classic Lever .22
Pontiac August: Glock 42
Pontiac Sept: Tisas 1911A1 Tanker .45**

**Sangamon July: S&W Model 659 9mm
Sangamon August: CZ P10 9mm**

**Decatur July: Bond Arms DT47 President
Trump .45/.410 derringers... single gun!
Decatur August: Ruger 10/22 TALO**

**Mattoon July: Ruger EC9s
Mattoon August: Benelli Nova 20ga pump**

**Chicagoland June: Taurus TX22 (Guns &
Ammo Handgun of the year 2019)
Chicagoland July: Ruger Security 380`
Chicagoland Sept: Ruger LCP II**

Executive Director's Report

Thank you to US Dept. of Justice! Dem troubles mount...

by John Boch

GSL Executive Director

What a difference a month makes. Last month I put out an SOS to the US Department of Justice. I asked for help from the new Second Amendment Task Force within the US Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division

And on Friday before Father's Day, they answered with a blockbuster 34-page "friend of the court" brief to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals telling them that the Second Amendment is not a second class right and that they, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, better not screw up their opinion.

Holy cow. Thank you Harmeet Dhillon and your compatriots at the 2A Task Force.

Meanwhile in Illinois, we're facing new gun control. Senate Bill 8 passed, mandating that everyone lock up their safety if anyone not legally able to have guns is around. That includes non-FOID holding family members, guests, even burglars and other criminals. Apparently the General Assembly didn't get the memo from the *Heller* decision.

And HB850 allows for "confidential" clear and present danger reports against gun owners. You'll lose your FOID & CCW if one of these is filed against you and, get this, you will not be able to confront your accuser at the full hearing roughly ten days later. You won't even be allowed to see the complaint. Note how Democrats in Springfield (and Washington) scream for due process for illegals but turn a blind eye for gun owners.

Largely impotent Republicans in the General Assembly threatened lawsuits. Democrats championing gun control just laughed. Unless the Republicans are bringing their checkbooks, there probably won't be any lawsuits.

Especially when the US Supreme Court declined to hear the *Snope*

and *Ocean State Tactical* gun and magazine ban cases, respectively. Justice Kavanaugh posted a note saying in so many words, "Hey sorry. We're kinda busy right now. We'll presumably take this on in a couple of years. Maybe."

Translation to lower court judges and politicians: you can do whatever you want and it won't be reversed by SCOTUS for at least a couple of years.

Democrat troubles.

Last month, I wrote how what has become the party of gun control - the radical Democrats - keep stepping into cowpies at the national level. They continue to scratch their asses (referring to the animal, not the anatomical part, although I suppose either would work) trying to woo voters. Well, things haven't gotten any better.

Their efforts to disarm the little people in America aren't going over well. Especially when people see the civil unrest and violent mobs in bigger cities. If cops can't protect government buildings how are they going to protect you, your home and your family?

Not only that but we've all watched Dems backing illegals over Americans while demonizing the police at every turn. Why you would almost think Dems love illegals as voters and hate the police and law and order.

Here in Illinois, we're spending billions on illegals when we have homeless veterans and endless violent gang crime on Chicago streets as well as other smaller urban centers.

If JB Pritzker continues down this path, Illinois will lose badly-needed federal grant money. That won't help our streets stay safer. Especially when Pritzker and Chicago's moron mayor call for "resistance" to federal law enforcement rounding up bad guy illegals and shipping them home.



Meanwhile, the far left's "No Kings" effort to facilitate a color revolution in America was largely a bust. It featured a lot of old, white hippie re-treads, "dreamers" and a few younger social misfits, darn few of which support your right to keep and bear arms. Those who do support gun rights in some fashion do so to arm themselves for "revolution." Fortunately, for those folks, Hollywood and rap videos provide excellent at-home training in how to use guns. (*That's sarcasm for the sarcastically-challenged.*)



Meanwhile on Flag Day, normal people, both young and old, and of all races and national origins flooded Washington D.C. for the massive Army parade that dripped with American patriotism and pride (and no, not the gay sort of pride).



On top of all that, we saw more Democrat political violence, including assassinations of one if not two Democrat state reps in Tim Walz's

Minnesota. The suspect turns out to be a radical Gov. Walz had appointed to a four-year term in state government. The motive? The radical didn't like the more moderate votes his fellow Democrats took - especially pulling aid for illegals.

David Hogg's Gun Control Group 'March for Our Lives' Lays Off Majority of Full-Time Staff

By Mike LaChance Apr. 1, 2025



And Democrats "unelected" soy boy Vice-Chair David Hogg. Hogg, who never spent a day in a gym in his life, still proved too masculine for the Democrat party's leadership. Don't feel bad for him. He's using the Dems' fundraising list to raise money for his PAC (which pays him a nice, six-figure salary).

Wrapping up.

While the Land of Lincoln increasingly becomes a hellhole thanks to poor public policy, radical gun control and judges who ignore the rule of law on the Second Amendment, help has arrived. Our thanks to the Trump administration.

Yes, we've got the US Department of Justice on our side now.

And Harmeet Dhillon, the new head of the Civil Rights Division therein, posted the truth about "No Kings" day on X: "**No Kings**" day is July 4.

Amen. Speaking of which, have a Happy Independence Day and stay safe.



Office of the Governor
JB Pritzker

SB8 & HB850 on governor's desk

(GSL) - The SB8 "Lock up your safety" bill requires all guns to be locked up or rendered inoperable if anyone in the household doesn't have a FOID card. It also applies to visitors, repair people, and... burglars. Assumes "negligent" storage for violations, allowing victims of criminals using those stolen firearms to sue the original gun owner.

It also has a provision that non-residents cannot bring into the state more than one PICA "regulated" firearm, per person, or they can be charged. Even though the PICA law allows for "regulated" firearms to be possessed for under 24 hours for those passing through the state.

House Bill 850, when signed into law, will allow for "confidential" so-called "clear and present danger" reports to be filed against gun owners. Absent a court order to reveal who filed the report (unlikely to happen), the respondent (gun owner) won't be allowed to confront or question his or her accuser at the formal hearing after the guns are seized and FOID and CCW are revoked. What's more, the gun owner *won't even be allowed to review the report as filed.*

It also expands who may file these to include anyone working in the Department of Human Services, law enforcement and school administrators. Civil immunity is also afforded to those filing these reports, along with staff at the Illinois State Police. Translation, even if wrongfully accused by malicious actors, it'll be very difficult bordering on impossible to hold them accountable.

Some are asking people to call the governor to ask him to veto the bills. Talk about wishful thinking and a waste of life's energy. That has as much likelihood of success as trying to urinate into a hurricane-force wind and not getting covered in urine.



Guns Save Life is proud to announce our "Life Membership" for those who wish to show an exemplary level of support towards Guns Save Life and our mission defending your right to defend yourself.

The new "Life Membership" is available for \$1000, and for those aged 65 and over, it's available at half-price, \$500.

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TO DEFEND YOURSELF.**

Guns Save Life's LIFE MEMBERSHIP!

Be among the third 100 individuals to step up and help us defend your right to defend yourself with a life membership to Guns Save Life.

To sign up for this new Life Membership option, fill out the form on the back page of this issue of *GunNews* and send it in today.

Elections have consequences: DOJ's Civil Rights Division goes to bat for IL gun owners!

US Justice Dept. sides with IL gun owners in PICA lawsuit appeal

"The Second Amendment is not treated as a second-class right"

(GSL) - Did you ever think you would see the day when the US Department of Justice filed an amicus curiae brief with the federal Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals siding with gun owners and the right to keep and bear arms?

Trump's Department of Justice did just that on the Friday before Father's Day. It came down squarely on the side of the four lawsuits consolidated under the *Barnett* name challenging the ban on America's favorite rifle in the Land of Lincoln.

At the top of the list of US attorneys: Assistant Attorney General Harmeet Dhillon, the DOJ's Civil Rights Division head.

The 34 page "friend of the court" brief, which carries a lot of weight since it represents the United States Government's official position on the case, argues that Pritzker's gun and magazine ban is patently unconstitutional. It urges the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals to side with Judge James McGlynn's decision striking down most of the "Protect Illinois Communities Act" as unconstitutional.



From the second paragraph of the brief:

This case poses important questions about the scope of the Second Amendment's protections. The United States has strong interests in ensuring that these important questions are correctly resolved; that the Second Amendment is not treated as a second-class right; and that law-abiding Americans in this Circuit are not deprived of the full opportunity to enjoy the exercise of their Second Amendment rights. [Emphasis added.]

The balance of the filing continues with

the same decisive, powerful language, offering full-throated support for owning commonly held rifles and the magazines that feed them. Like this:

Three years ago, the Supreme Court issued a landmark decision meant to break a habit developed by some States of treating the Second Amendment as "a second-class right, subject to an entirely different body of rules than the other" constitutional rights. New York State Rifle & Pistol Ass'n v. Bruen.

Regrettably, not every State got the message. Just a few months after Bruen, Illinois outlawed some of the most commonly used rifles and magazines in America via a so-called "assault weapons" ban. In doing so, Illinois violated the Supreme Court's clear directive that States cannot prohibit arms that are "in common use" by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes.

Time will tell on how much weight the judges of the Seventh give to the DOJ filing. For now at least it's a good sign for our side.



Clean the barf off your face Mr. Mayor.

Chicago Mayor Brandon rages against deportations and calls ICE a 'disease'

Chicago (Gateway Pundit) - Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson has urged people to rise up against the "disease" of immigration enforcement.

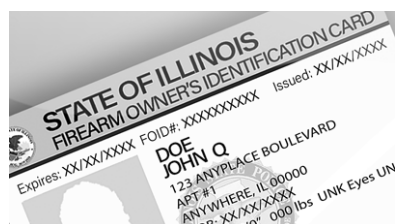
According to the Chicago Sun-Times, Johnson was asked during a public meeting on Wednesday about whether he would be joining protests against the Trump administration's policy of mass deportations.

"This is a necessary fight for all of us to be able to push back," Johnson said.

"Whether we use the courts or whether we continue to protest and raise our voices, dissent matters in this moment."

"It's a war on our culture. It's a war on our democracy. It's a war on our humanity."

"I am counting on all of Chicago to resist in this moment because, whatever particular vulnerable group is being targeted today, another group will be next."



Yet nobody's going to jail or getting fired...

Audit finds ISP noncompliance with FOID rules

(The Center Square) - Illinois State Police did not comply with the requirements of the Firearm Owner's Identification Card Act, according to an Illinois Auditor General report for the two years ending June 30, 2024.

Alongside not depositing FOID funds into the right accounts, of FOID cards tested, 5% of FOID card holders were not notified within 180 days of their card expiring, a repeat finding. The report also said ISP didn't maintain adequate controls over reporting and monitoring state property.

Madigan sentenced to 7+ years for corruption

(The Center Square) - Longtime former Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan was sentenced to 90 months in prison on Friday for his February conviction on 10 corruption-related counts.

U.S. District Judge John Robert "Jack" Blakey delivered the sentence late Friday afternoon, which includes a \$2.5 million fine and three years of supervised release after he serves his prison term.



IL's mass transit concealed carry ban at 7th Circuit

(The Center Square) - Whether a federal district judge was right to declare the state's ban on carrying concealed firearms on mass transit as unconstitutional is up to an appeals court.

The case *Schoenthal v. Raoul*, filed in 2022, challenges Illinois' concealed carry law that carves out places like mass transit where people licensed to carry concealed firearms are prohibited from carrying. In August 2024, a Northern District of Illinois federal judge sided with plaintiffs, saying the law violates the Second Amendment.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

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JULY 12 PATRIOT SHOOT! 10am - 2pm

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Come join a growing, ever-improving club, with three independent ranges and permissive rules which allow shooters to practice from holsters, double-taps, movement and so forth. Centrally located on Route 10, six miles east of Clinton, IL (15423 State Highway 10). Great people and a warm atmosphere. Facilities include *three* ranges, clubhouse, a *real* publicly-accessible restroom and more. **Dues are currently \$70/year plus two work days (\$45 each on deposit, prepayment required). Over 65 dues are \$55 and no workdays.**

Download an application at dewittcountysc.com or by mailing a request to DCSC, PO Box 322, Clinton, IL 61727.





More powerful than you think: The Precinct Committeeman

By Carla Simmert

Illinois Freedom Alliance
Across Illinois, thousands of precinct committeemen (PCs) positions are vacant leaving local residents in those precincts without a voice in their party.

While these aren't high-profile positions, but they are crucial to building strong communities and a responsive, energized political party - a party that reflects your values, dreams and aspirations.



Stepping into one of these roles puts you at the center of the local efforts of your political party, and allows you a direct voice in shaping the direction of your local county.

The PC's job

You connect voters and the party, supporting candidates, registering voters, recruiting poll watchers and election judges along with helping to turn out the vote. In suburban Cook County, the position's called Township Committeeman, and in the City of Chicago, it's known as Ward Committeeman. They're all the same.

What do PCs actually do?

The role is flexible and can be shaped by your strengths and your community's needs. You won't be doing it alone. The Illinois Freedom Alliance provides training, tools, and mentorship to help you succeed.

Think of it like a toolbox—you pick the tools that work best in your area, and you'll have support and training from the Illinois Freedom Alliance every step of the way.

There's no one-size-fits-all plan—you choose your path, and we'll help guide the way.

Why it matters

If we want to replace some of those elected officials supporting poor public policies we must start with the Precinct Committeemen.

For gun owners, filling these seats with active, informed pro-gun PCs, the party becomes more:

- Reflective of local values including gun rights
- Supportive of strong candidates who support gun rights.
- Transparent and accountable
- And, effective in growing a voter turnout.

Be the leadership we need! Contact the IFA to learn how you can slide into a PC position to defend the Constitution, promote educational freedom, advance job growth, and support efficient, accountable government.

The best part? You don't have to wait until 2026 to make a difference. Contact your County Chairman and ask for an appointment as a Precinct Committeeman. This is a great way to start the work today—meeting voters, organizing outreach, helping your county party connect with the grassroots, and serving your precinct in all the same ways an elected PC does.

The only difference is that appointed PCs do not have voting power in electing the County Chairman or State Central Committeeman. But you still get a seat at the table.

All it takes is 10 valid signatures from voters in your precinct to get on the ballot. Once elected, you become the official representative for your neighborhood and gain a voice in shaping the future of your party.

Contact Carla Simmert, Precinct Strategy Director at 309-377-1776 or email Patriots@IllinoisFreedomAlliance.us

Be sure to ask about our Operation Precinct Power Contest too! It's a wonderful opportunity for you and your organization to win a parade float!



At the Illinois Freedom Alliance, we help people get involved and make a difference in local government. We fight and work for free and fair elections. We help pro-freedom, pro-gun and pro-America first groups and organizations network together and share resources. We also educate and empower people through our educational programs online and in person. And we host seminars with great speakers too. Visit our website for more information.

Contact the Illinois Freedom Alliance (www.illinoisfreedomalliance.us) or call 309-377-1776).

IllinoisFreedomAlliance.us



Summertime edition

Enjoying the Great Outdoors

by Ken Frey

(GSL) - As another hunting season is in the books I trust you had a good one with memories to last a lifetime.

Quite a few readers now turn to fishing, hiking and other hobbies to fill the need to be in The Great Outdoors, which is also a classic movie to share with the family.

Hiking is great for cardio and fitness to get in better shape or just stay in shape. Just as beneficial you can re-center your mind and body with the peace and tranquility of nature. Take along someone you enjoy spending time with and it's far better on all counts. Just make sure you put on the insect repellent and maybe some sunscreen.

Fishing can do the same, only with less cardio.

Some of you big spending adrenaline junkies might even venture to charter a boat for some fishing on one of the Great Lakes while other mere mortals like me tend to fish the smaller rivers and creeks to relax.

I like to wade the creeks when the weather turns hot, it's quite refreshing especially when you can find a swimming hole.

The fish are smaller but there are lunkers lurking around where the creeks flow into larger rivers.

Wading up the creek from the mouth a

few hundred yards might net you some nice surprises too! A doe with her fawn, a family of raccoons looking for clams or an elusive Blue Heron!

If you have hip waders, you can stop almost any time for a quickie snack or pack a lunch and make an afternoon of it.

No live bait is needed, just a small spinner bait or soft plastic grub is all that is required. I keep mine in the trunk along with an ultra-lite rod and reel. And a pair of hiking boots. You never know when you'll come across a great place and time to go hiking or fishing.

When casting, I usually practice catch and release but when making an afternoon of it, I save a couple for eating. I find a nice spot by the creek's edge, making a small fire to cook up some Rock Bass or Bluegill. My son and I have done this many times. It's the best fish you'll ever eat!

Every time I cross a small bridge, I wonder if it's a good spot to stop and wet a line?

Fishin' a creek puts me in a different mind set. It's quiet and peaceful. The tree lined banks allow dappled sunlight to filter down transporting me into a different time. Again, it's almost therapeutic as it calms the soul and refreshed the mind.

Just last week I found a nice little new spot I want to try out. Right now it's calling my name!

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In regione caecorum rex est luscus

In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is King
by Desiderius Erasmus, a GSL member

We ran out of coffins

This past Memorial Day I was thinking about those who didn't come home. We're talking big numbers, really big. About 407,000 in World War II. For Korea, it was 36,574; but we also had some 7,500 Missing in Action. And I'll bet my bottom dollar that a bunch of those missing actually died in North Korean and Chinese prisoner of war camps. Korea and Vietnam were called "conflicts" not wars, by that was no comfort for the 58,220 who died in Vietnam, which had its share of additional missing in action too. Both are the reason we fly the POW-MIA flag today.

Then we get to wars the kids have heard about. It would take too long to list deaths around the world during the Cold War, which certainly wasn't "cold" for those who died. Lebanon, Gulf War, Mogadishu, Iraq War, Afghanistan. And they won't be the last.

For every war, military staffs — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines — make estimates on what will be needed for the fight. How many divisions? Fighter squadrons? How many tanks are we going to need? Fuel? Ammunition? Aircraft carriers? Heavy bombers? Food? These estimates are critical, because of the military axiom: "Losers fight the last war late. Winners fight the next war early." Robert E. Lee fought the American Civil War the same way Napoleon would have fifty years before; he lost. Ulysses Grant fought it as the first Industrial Revolution War — trains, telegraphs, ironclad sail-less ships, huge armaments works, repeating firearms; he won.

Never, ever, ever, bet your bottom dollar that these estimates will turn out to actually be accurate projections. Because on Desert Storm, when the firing finally stopped, we were really, really low on chow. How low? Low enough to start wandering through abandoned Iraqi bunkers looking for canned goods, figuring if the can hadn't been tampered, it was probably OK to open — and as I'm here writing today, it must have been fine (Although when I found two live cobras hissing at me in a bunker, I stopped searching!) But the craziest thing was that General Norm "Stormin' Norman" Schwartzkopf put out an imperial edict that EVERY soldier in theater would get at least one hot meal per day. So the debate began; what constitutes a "hot meal"? Which ended up as a hard-boiled egg and a hot cup of coffee! You get that, and you've had your hot meal, so write your Congressman if you don't like it.

But all of that pales in comparison to what happened with the US Army in Europe during World War II. It had to do with anticipating casualties, specifically deaths. In combat, outside of accidents or illness, there are two death categories, Killed in Action or Died of Wounds, although it doesn't mean a hill of

beans which one if it's you. Killed in Action means you died before they got you to a medical facility; if you expire after docs have started working on you, you Died of Wounds. It's a Purple Heart to your family either way.

But the estimates at the beginning of WWII of anticipated dead were low. How low? Well the War Department, at the beginning of the war, put out an imperial edict that you had to be at least nineteen years old to be deployed overseas in any service. Yes, there were young folks who fudged their age, or clerks who put an incorrect birth year on an enlistment form. But official policy to go overseas was 19. Until it wasn't. Because actual losses were higher. That hit a breaking point in October 1944, and on November 1, the War Department authorized the shipment of infantry and armored replacements overseas whowere younger than nineteen years old. That meant that "The Crusade in Europe" was about to become "The Boys Crusade."

The low estimates on anticipated casualties also affected something else — coffins. In Europe, we didn't have enough. Let me put it in perspective. In the last eleven months of World War II, in just little old Company B of the 39th Infantry Regiment in the 9th Infantry Division, there were five times as many soldiers killed as died in the entire 3rd Armored Division on Desert Storm. So what did we do? Well, we temporarily buried our fallen in Europe in interim military cemeteries in places like France, Belgium and the Netherlands. And since we didn't have enough coffins, we buried the boys in mattress covers.

After the war, we fixed the situation, opening each grave and reburying the bodies in proper wooden coffins. Then, depending on the family's wishes, those coffins were interred in permanent US military cemeteries in Europe, or returned to Hometown, USA. To keep a record of those transfers, graves registration personnel would cut a small section of each mattress cover, pencil in the soldiers name and service number, and forward those fragments up the chain of command.

Where did those little cloth squares

end up? I found dozens in what are termed Individual Deceased Personnel Files (IDPF), in the National Personnel Records Center and National Archives at St. Louis. I saw them; I touched them; I held them. The dark reddish-brown dots on many are blood stains from the soldier buried inside eighty years ago. The swatches haven't been washed, because you don't wash something that when you hold it, your hands start to shake and what goes through your mind is that you just might be touching an American version of the Shroud of Turin.



Chicago's bathroom stalls & bullet holes

by John Coyne

The right to carry firearms is enshrined in our Constitution, specifically protected under the Second Amendment.

With this right comes the obligation to exercise it with care and caution. The law has little tolerance for negligent discharges and neither do I.

By following the four fundamental gun safety rules we can prevent virtually all "accidents." Negligence, on the other hand, falls squarely on the person holding the gun.

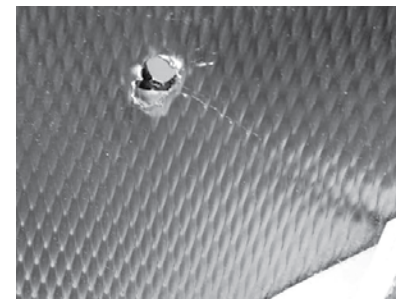
While the four basic rules may vary, here are four based on the NRA's teachings.

1. Always keep your muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
2. Always keep your finger off the trigger until you're ready to fire.
3. Always keep your firearms unloaded unless they are in use or in service.
4. Know your target and what's beyond it. (And this one applies to staple guns on the range as well.)

Not handling firearms, outside of a life-and-death situation, while you're tired, intoxicated or distracted is a good rule of thumb to avoid negligent and/or unintended discharges.

That brings me to an unusual discovery I made last night. When I stopped by one of Illinois' rare tollway oasis to use the facilities — you know, the ones with the "No Guns" signs on the doors — I made

a discovery. No, I didn't find someone's lost Krugerrands or a dead body. I did however notice a bullet hole in the restroom stall wall.



I was genuinely shocked — shocked I tell you. I'd never seen that in a bathroom before, especially one in a "No Guns" location. Part of me wondered how that could possibly happen. The other part of me wanted to research if any shootings had happened there recently (post-goo-gling: none reported).

Looking back, I don't know why I was so shocked. Chicago is, after all, the nation's largest open-air shooting gallery.

Back to the main point. If you're a good guy, practice the fundamental gun safety rules. Don't hang out with bad people and that goes double for bad boys and girls who don't practice good gun safety.

While it would be nice if the criminal element would follow gun safety rules, rule-following never has been their strong suit. Act accordingly.



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Gun-rights 'grifter'? Activist accused of exploiting 2A supporters for profit

[Editor: This is a long, well-researched and well-written piece on the Dorr Brothers' antics in multiple states. Here are some excerpts. Google "TheBlaze.com: Dorr Brothers" for the whole story.]

(Blaze) - "Arrogant." "Dishonest." "A plague upon our state's gun owners."

Aaron Dorr, the face of more than a dozen interconnected gun-rights groups across the country, has inspired some harsh descriptors from influential gun enthusiasts who theoretically should be on his side. But according to these critics, Dorr is actually a bully with few legislative accomplishments to his name, prompting some to claim he is a grifter who capitalizes on the good-faith donations of hardworking, trusting gun owners for his own gain...

While a "no compromise" pledge from a well-connected group may compel Republicans in red states like Alabama to remain committed to the right to bear arms, that approach in deep-blue states like Illinois and New York is more puzzling. As John Boch of Guns Save Life in Illinois told Blaze News, support for gun control far outweighs the support for gun rights in the Illinois state capital.

"Frankly, we could have 100 lobbyists in Springfield," Boch said. "We could have 1,000. And when it comes to the gun issue, we don't have the votes to stop anything. It's just the sad reality of life on the ground here..."

Blaze News was curious to know why Dorr's groups would demand a hardline, "no compromise" stance from pro-2A politicians in Democrat strongholds since doing so makes any progress on the issue even less likely than it already is. Dorr did not respond to our question on the subject...

John Boch of Guns Save Life said he had heard about Dorr and his groups' "shenanigans in other states where they fundraise the heck out of everything and don't really do anything." However, those "shenanigans" hit closer to home after Boch obtained a four-page fundraising letter from WYGO-affiliate Illinois Firearms Association, signed by Dorr, asking recipients to make a donation to help "mobilize as many gun owners as possible" against a gun-control bill in Illinois pushed by Democrats.

"I think they're just siphoning off money from well-meaning gun owners who don't know any better," Boch explained.

"Just out of the blue, they rolled into Illinois," Boch claimed. "And here they are, sending out these letters. And they send out the same letter every month, every 30 days."



The Illinois Firearms Association world headquarters... a UPS Store in Peoria.

After doing some investigating, Boch learned that the address for Illinois Firearms Association listed on the letter is actually a private mailbox inside a UPS store in Peoria. Boch doubts that Dorr and his associates in Illinois Firearms Association have made strong connections with any Illinois state lawmakers.

"I've never seen anything of them actually being in Springfield," Boch said. "I'm going to say it didn't happen, but nobody's ever told me that they've seen them in person in Springfield."

Blaze News heard similar stories that Dorr rarely visits the states whose lawmakers he claims to lobby on behalf of gun owners. In fact, Iowa state Rep. Matt Windschitl (R-Harrison), a strong gun-rights proponent, took to the floor of the chamber in 2017 and excoriated Dorr and other leaders of Iowa Gun Owners, yet another WYGO-affiliated group, for failing to attend legislative sessions when a major gun-rights bill was under consideration...

'Exploit a lot of people and take a lot of money'

Cognizant that activists who agree on the substance of an issue may disagree vehemently on the best ways to advocate for it, Blaze News asked the critics whether they viewed Aaron Dorr as an effective lobbyist for gun rights, even if his methods do not suit their personal taste.

Boch of Illinois gave the most succinct reply: "Hell no..."

"They are one of these people, if it's not a perfect bill, they're going to be adamantly opposed to it, and they're going to crucify anybody that supports it," Boch claimed.

Because your feet are important

Review: Rocky's new 'Mountain Combat Waterproof Military Boot'

by John Boch (GSL) - I've been learning a lot about strength training, fitness, mobility, flexibility and more over the last 19 months. For one of my latest teachable moments, my latest trainer looked at my cross-training shoes. Smiling politely, she strongly suggested I pick up some new ones. Like yesterday.

"Why?" I asked. "It's not like they're dirty."

She had me take one off and showed me how the shoe had lost its support. No wonder it was so comfortable!

Just like a good, stiff nylon belt serves as the foundation for your carry rig, keeping everything snugly and securely against your body for concealment, good footwear gets you off on the right foot in your daily living. (Lousy pun intended.)

Worth repeating: Your footwear and its support of your feet serves as the foundation of your body chain that goes all the way up to your neck and head. Lousy shoes or well-worn, non-supportive shoes can lead to increased risk of injury as well as slip and fall accidents. Unsupportive shoes will also contribute to knee, hip, back, shoulder and neck pain too. Who would have thought?

Enter Rocky. I've steered away from their products for close to twenty years now after a bad experience with defective sole material. They've since remedied that and they offered to send me something in their modern lineup for me to reassess my feelings towards their company's products.

That's where I picked out a new product of theirs with a multitude of masculine buzzwords in the model name. "Rocky Mountain Combat Waterproof Military Boot." (\$162 online at Rocky's website. Unknown street price.) The only thing missing in the name was "tactical." They run true to the stated size and width, something I'm always a little worried about ordering boots without trying them on first.

After a month of wearing them, I give them two big thumbs up and here's a bunch of reasons why.

First and foremost, despite all the hot-button words in the model name, these don't scream "I'm carrying" when you're dressed like a regular person. Not at all, especially compared to the uniform-style black leather boots I've worn for years.

I've been tweaking my wardrobe lately to look a lot less like I stepped out of a 5.11 catalog. Instead, I want to look more... harmless. I even wear jeans now and then these days, albeit they're LA Police Gear

jeans, along with non-cargo pants. These boots complement that "not a gun person" look which is extra useful in non-permissive environments.



What else? These Rockys are comfortable, of course. I can also attest they're waterproof after I stepped into a stupid deep puddle in a parking lot after a rainstorm. I uttered an expletive expecting soggy socks but my foot remained dry. Not only that but I've noticed that through some sort of magic, the boots must breathe because my feet haven't gotten damp from perspiration, even when hiking or exerting myself in mildly warm weather. But then again, we haven't had any 95 degree days with 98% humidity yet.

The sole provides outstanding traction and slip resistance. They say this is a hiking/mountain type boot and the "sticky" soles perform well even on slippery, uneven surfaces. I do a lot more walking/hiking now (cardio) and these boots easily beat my previous hiking boots on all counts. Running, walking, hiking and biking: these Rockys do it all with grace and sure-footed stability. Okay, I didn't run any 5Ks, but I've run through the rain a few times now that I have better cardio and my asthma is under control. No matter the surface or activity, you can traverse with confidence in these "hiking boots."

They are also among the lightest boots I've owned, yet they provide very good support where it counts. They provide the sort of support my trainer looks for in footwear.

I recognize that a bill and a half plus for a pair of good boots is real money. But these Rockys are real boots and should last you at least a couple of years of heavy use before they get a little too "broken in" and need replaced to maintain support for your feet.

If it's time for you to start shopping for a new pair of boots that actually support your footies, I'd sincerely give these a look at a store that sells Rocky products or take my word for it and take the plunge ordering online. I'm pretty sure you'll like them either way.

Join Guns Save Life today.



Membership application on back page of GunNews

When democracy turns to tyranny...



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Bring your family for a day of gunfire, drug use, carjackings and homeless encampments!

A DAY IN CHICAGO: Teens shot on sidewalks, cars stolen in front of cops, downtown paralyzed for a protest that already happened

Chicago (SubX.News) — On June 12, 2025, Chicago descended deeper into dysfunction, as residents across the South and West Sides endured another day of gunfire, brazen theft, and public drug use — while city officials blocked off downtown during rush hour for a protest that had already fizzled out.

In what has become a daily routine, bullets flew early and often.

The city teetered between farce and tragedy, with violent crime on the South and West Sides, public breakdowns in the transit system, and a city-sponsored stage show downtown for out-of-town activists and protest tourists. While teenagers were shot, cars were stolen in broad daylight, and addicts collapsed on sidewalks, Michigan Avenue was shut down not for security — but for spectacle...

But while neighborhoods were bleeding, downtown Chicago came to a standstill — not because of violence, but because of political theater...

Salt trucks were being positioned across Michigan Avenue and other bridge access points, effectively shutting down the heart of the Loop during peak commuter hours.

City Hall justified the lockdown as a precaution against expected protests tied to aggressive ICE raids in Los Angeles earlier in the week...

Mayor Brandon Johnson on Wednesday called on Chicagoans to “rise up in this moment” against Trump’s mass deportation effort...

Police remained deployed downtown while crime flourished nearby.

At 7:22 p.m., a man had his Dodge Durango stolen near 328 South Wabash. A blue Dodge Charger acted as a trail vehicle. Minutes later, another vehicle was jacked out of a hotel parking lot at 11 West 26th Street.

“There’s a whole bunch of cops all around here... criminals could care less.”

A few blocks north, at Clark and Lake, couches were

spotted lining the sidewalk — not for furniture sales or removal, but as seating for an active drug corner, where users and dealers moved freely, with no response from law enforcement or city services.

Further south, in the Ruble and Canalport corridor, the city’s tent encampments continued their expansion. Just before 8 p.m., new tents and tarps were seen being erected along the street. At 8:02 p.m., people were openly using drugs — some slumped over, others pacing erratically.

There was no patrol, no intervention, no outreach.

The area resembled a forgotten zone in a city that refuses to admit collapse.

While the mayor’s office says a summer plan is in place, there’s no evidence of it on the ground...

Meanwhile, young men bled on sidewalks, drivers lost their vehicles in front of police, and addicts smoked fentanyl in downtown’s tourist district.

18-year-old’s homicide ‘Exceptionally Cleared’ by police

FAFO: 18-minute crime spree ends with Daone Feazell shot dead by his *fourth* intended victim

Chicago (UK Daily Mail) - A teenage armed robber was shot dead when he tried to mug a man minutes after stealing a car at gunpoint and two women’s purses.

Daone Feazell, 18, was gunned down in Humboldt Park, on Chicago’s West Side, at 10.48pm on Tuesday, ending a brief but violent crime spree.

He was shot after approaching a man unloading his car on the 1400 block of North Artesian Avenue, brandishing a gun and demanding his property.

The 36-year-old would-be victim quickly pulled out his own gun and shot Feazell several times in the chest and head, Chicago Police said.

Feazell, who goes by ‘Da-One Noremorse’ online but is not gang-affiliated, was rushed to Stroger Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.



Daone Feazell working on his dance moves at a gas station.

The man who shot him used his legally registered firearm and also held a concealed carry permit, police said. He was not injured.

Feazell’s crime spree began just 18 minutes earlier when he robbed a man on the corner of Fulton and Kilpatrick in Austin and stole his grey 2025 Toyota Corolla.

Then at 10.43pm he pulled up alongside two women, both 27, walking on the 2500 block of West Haddon in Humboldt Park.

He jumped out of the stolen car and robbed them at gunpoint of their purses, phones, and wallets, before fleeing in the Corolla.

But his third time was not a charm and within five minutes he was lying on the ground in a pool of blood.

Police found the women’s stolen property inside the Corolla, which was confirmed to be the same one he carjacked earlier, they wrote in the report.

Feazell’s grandmother Vanessa Horton said ‘He was a good kid - as far as I knew him. All he did was play videos games, he wasn’t into gangs or nothing.

‘I don’t know what happened.’

Some ‘critics’ want to abolish both police and prisons, too

Cook County’s new prosecutor defends tougher pre-trial detention policy

Chicago (WTTW) - At her swearing-in ceremony six months ago, Cook County State’s Attorney Eileen O’Neill Burke promised a tougher approach to tackling violent crime.

Key to that approach has been asking her prosecutors to seek pretrial detention for more suspects — especially those charged with felony firearm cases and other violent crimes.

Since Burke took office, the population of Cook County

Jail has grown from around 5,200 at the end of predecessor Kim Foxx’s term to just under 5,800 now.

But critics say violent crime was already trending down in the city and the country — and question the need for Burke’s tougher approach to crime...

Burke noted that there are currently “40 to 50 people that are charged with murder or attempted murder on electronic monitoring.”

“Those are not appropriate charges for electronic monitoring,” Burke said. “My job is to make sure that people who are a danger to the public, we do everything we can to detain them. If someone is not a danger to the public we are not asking for detention. If someone is carrying a machine gun or a gun with a switch converting it into an automatic weapon, they present a danger to the public and in those cases we seek detention.”



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A man who doesn't forsake his beliefs on guns and gun rights for the little people just because Dems and the mainstream media will attack him relentlessly for his support

Sheriff James Mendrick joins us in Decatur

Republican political candidates vary in the depth of their support for gun rights for us little people. Some talk a good game at election time then get soft post-election. Others offer full-throated support and back it up with actions, before and after elections. Sheriff Jim Mendrick has already proven himself one of those who will not retreat from his pro-gun beliefs just because of withering media and Democrat criticism for it.

Mendrick currently serves as the DuPage County Sheriff. It's Illinois' second largest county behind Cook County. It's a huge operation. Sheriff Mendrick spoke about his work running all of the divisions of the office while simultaneously building new programs for his guests at the jail.



Sheriff James Mendrick. He turns inmates into taxpayers with his jail's model rehab, education and vocational training program.

Known as "Sheriff Hug-A-Thug" to people who thought they were smarter than everyone else in the room, Mendrick synthesized a program offering drug rehab, education and vocational training to those in custody. Basically, he works to make inmates employable upon release, especially in the trades, turning them into productive taxpaying members of the community. It's worked better than anyone imagined and has dropped his recidivism rate from 75% to 18%. And that's with 80% coming in as substance abusers and 60% coming from Cook County (because DuPage County's where the money's at).

When it comes to guns, the good sheriff was among the very first to reject Pritzker's gun and magazine ban, saying his department would not make arrests for PICA violations. He said that repeatedly, in public, and endured a whirlwind of scorn from the leftists not only in DuPage County, but from Cook County and of course the mainstream media. Yet he didn't back down. He's also a huge fan of good men and women packing heat in public.



Sheriff Mendrick in Decatur.

Talking campaign stuff during question and answer, he didn't think it was a certainty that JB Pritzker would run for governor again if he thought he had a path to win the Dem nomination for the 2028 Presidential race. He's also working to leverage relationships built through people he's met in the jail to help him in this campaign.

Either way, he's the only Republican in the race at the moment. He's well known in his part of the state and even critics generally respect the work he's done to lower recidivism rates while working with the other agencies in his county to provide better services for each of them.

He also noted how the so-called "SAFE-T" Act - otherwise known as No Cash Bail - and other misguided "criminal justice reform" laws have done nothing but embolden criminals by allowing them to commit crimes with a fewer consequences.

The sheriff will join us at our LaSalle County meeting on June 19th (Juneteenth!) to meet another contingent of GSL members.

Death exposes incompetence, indifference in Cook Co. Sheriff's Office

AR-pistol toting suspect in death of CPD officer had six warrants, including one from July 2024

by Paul Vallas (X) - According to the Chicago Tribune, the person arrested in the tragic death of Officer Krystal Rivera allegedly pointed a rifle at Officer Rivera and other officers during a pursuit, which led to the incident that tragically led to her death.

Rucker had 6 WARRANTS and a revoked FOID card due to domestic battery charges. He had an arrest warrant with Cook County since July of 2024. Why didn't the Sheriff make this arrest?

This is the public safety crisis former Clerk of the Courts Iris Martinez warned county leaders like Toni Preckwinkle about as Sheriff Tom Dart has let almost 40,000 warrants go unserved!



The late Krystal Rivera. RIP.

These warrants put CPD officers lives in grave danger, who come across these individuals at traffic or investigatory stops and do not know the person they are approaching has an arrest warrant.

CBS Chicago reports that the Sheriff's office has let 75% of orders of protec-

tion go unserved. Has any reporter asked why he does not serve the warrants and orders of protection?

How many lives of victims of violence and first responders do we have to lose before the leaders at Cook County will do their jobs?

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Bulletproof House of Worship Safety Conference

LESSONS LEARNED, Part II

Heroes and Habits

by John Boch

(GSL) - The first-ever Bulletproof House of Worship Safety Conference organized featuring Lt. Col. David Grossman took place in late April in Mt. Vernon. Well over 400 attended, drinking from a firehose of information and experiences from multiple outstanding speakers. By the end of the three days of presentations, attendees walked away emotionally spent and awash with live-saving information and contacts.

Looking back myself, and having talked with a number of our GSL family who attended from our regional meeting locations, it was a superlative training experience. I can't recommend it enough. I've probably attended upwards of forty or fifty training seminars and schools over the years, learning everything from practical techniques to mindset and tactics. This was among the top three ranking right up there with Massad Ayoob's Lethal Force Institute (yeah, I'm dating myself... it's known as "MAG" now I believe) and the Polite Society conferences organized by Tom Givens. High praise from a training veteran.

Last month we covered some of the speakers and the over-arching takeaways. This month we're going to talk heroes and habits.

Carl Chinn - Growing church violence & New Life Church Tragedy

Carl Chinn from the New Life Church in Colorado spoke first. He offered various statistics showing that violent incidents at churches are growing. More lives are lost to violence in churches and church functions than in schools.

He then gave his first-person account of the 2007 murder spree that took place at his church. In short, they had a good safety team, but by the end of the second Sunday service, many had left early. They had four remaining when a rifle-wielding madman threw smoke grenades on one side of the church's entrance as a distraction. He then drove to the other parking lot on the opposite side of the massive complex and opened fire on people leaving services with their families.

Tragically he killed several even before he entered the building.

Security-wise, they weren't prepared. Two of the four on the team left their guns in their cars. Chinn himself carried a Keltec .32 ACP. "It's a great gun for small snakes or really big spiders," he joked. For lunatics killing people with an AR? Not so much.



Carl Chinn.

Using a support pillar as a barricade, he prepared to engage with his spider gun before the killer could make it into the sanctuary where hundreds remained. Meanwhile Jeanne Assam, working just her third weekend on the team, engaged the killer from

a side door and ended the attack with her Beretta 92. If Jeanne and Carl had failed to stop the killer, he would have had free reign in the sanctuary full of 700 or so to slaughter as many as possible.

Since then Chinn has launched the Faith Based Security Network to provide resources, training and intelligence for church security people nationwide and beyond.

Chinn closed with this: "The evildoer can take your life. He can't take your eternity."

During a break I asked if he still carried that .32 ACP. He laughed. "Not as my primary, no." Good to see he's learned.

Greg Stevens: The grandfather/old man cop

A guy who genuinely loved his job and the people he served, Greg worked 40 years, 3 months and 6 days before he retired as a Garland, Texas cop. America needs more like Greg Stevens, who stopped the first ISIS attack on American soil in May 2015. By himself. With his Glock .45 pistol and a single magazine of ammo. Against a pair of armor-clad, AK-toting jihadists.

On that fateful day, Greg worked security at a service entrance to a public facility hosting a "Draw the Prophet Mohammed" event. Police half expected there might be trouble. Organizers hired a bunch of off-duty cops to work the event and the department also brought in extra people. Everyone there that day was all kitted up with their AR-15 rifles on their person. Except Greg. "I wasn't AR-certified," he chuckled.

So here he is parked under a tree for shade keeping cars from entering the service drive, along with an unarmed security guard.

A four-door sedan rolled past the entrance and stopped, he told us. It had deeply tinted windows and when the occupants didn't roll down a window to ask directions or do anything, Greg said the hair on his neck began to stand up. "Something's not right."

As the unarmed security guy began to approach the car, the passenger door opened half-way. Mr. Security squealed and ran for the border like his hair was on fire. When Greg looked back at the car, he saw a boot-clad foot on the pavement - and the muzzle of an AK.

"I don't even remember drawing my gun but we know who shot the best," Stephen remarked with a wicked grin.

"I knew it was on when I saw that muzzle." Stevens had drawn his Glock .45 caliber sidearm. The passenger emerged, clad in body armor, with that rifle, maybe 40 or 50 feet from Greg who engaged from behind his squad car.

Greg put down the passenger, and by then the driver had emerged and began shooting at Greg. Greg turned his attention to him and shot him down as well.

Looking back at the passenger, Stevens said he saw the guy squirming around and reaching for his throat. Their intelligence suggested that suicide vests were a potential threat. "So I finished him off before he could

blow us up."



After that, Greg noticed the driver trying to prop himself up. Knowing he had two or three rounds left, Stevens ended the threat of suicide bomb detonation with some anchor shots on the driver.

At that point, he reloaded and began to advance on the car to check for additional threats.

By then, unbeknownst to Stevens, the SWAT team and everyone else came running up. But Greg didn't see or hear them from the adrenaline dump and the noise of the gunfire in both directions. Eventually he noticed them and they pulled him back and took it from there.

What makes Greg Stevens, a guy who had 37 years on the department at that time, special? Did he rise to the occasion by himself?

"I let the young kids fight with suspects, but I took every last opportunity the department gave us to practice with my pistol." Every time the department would make ammo available to practice on their own time, every time they opened the range up for training or practice, Greg said he made it a point to avail himself to those opportunities.

He didn't rise to the occasion as some think they will do in a critical moment. He defaulted to his training which was very good and comprehensive. Years of classes, practice and dedication to defensive pistolcraft paid off that fateful day. Not many people can say they took out two armor-clad bad guys with rifles with only a sidearm and a single magazine.



Greg received the Presidential Medal of Valor for his courageous and superlative work that fateful day. And he still worked another three plus years before retiring. He loved his job and the people he served that much.

Dangerous old man.

Jack Wilson was 72-years-old the day a lunatic walked into his church in White Settlement, Texas. Wearing a trench coat, a woman's wig and looking more than a little odd, the church safety team volunteers had their eyes on the odd duck from before he even entered the facility.

Yes, they made a number of mistakes that day, and have since learned from them. But this is how it went down.

Jack, owing to his age and years of service, was one of the leaders of the church safety group. They had a number of volunteer members, including one man who sat a couple of rows back from Mr. Trench Coat.

Jack and a couple of other security team members lingered at the rear of the sanctuary in the general area of the Trench Coat guy.

Midway through the service, Mr. Trench Coat rose up, opened his coat and raised a shotgun. He pointed at one of the ushers from about 10-12 feet.

The security guy two rows behind the now-killer rose and started his draw.

On this day, the safety team guy wore a brand new pistol he'd never fired. It had been a gift from his daughter, along with a brand new leather holster in which to carry it.

The leather was stiff and didn't want to surrender the gun, delaying the draw, making it agonizingly slow. The killer, seeing the other man attempting to draw, turned his attention and his muzzle towards the good guy. He shot the security team member dead with a blast of buckshot from maybe 15 feet.

In this case, the volunteer lost his life because he hadn't practiced his technique drawing and firing the brand new gun/holster combination before counting on it to save his life.

The killer then turned and shot the usher before he advanced down the aisle towards the pastor up front.

Now first, a little about Jack Wilson. He had a range in his back yard and he loved to practice shooting his pistols. His favorite drill involved a paper plate stapled to a backer board at 15 yards - 45 feet.

Each time he shot, he would use his timer and draw and shoot that paper plate. From concealment. In under two seconds.

He did this a lot... like hundreds of times each and every month for fifteen plus years. "I just loved the drill."

Draw, from concealment, and score a plate-sized hit at 45 feet in under two seconds. Over and over.

That Sunday morning, as the sanctuary descended into pandemonium, Jack Wilson draw his pistol after seeing his friend the usher take a shotgun wound in the chest. He no doubt saw the second shot from the killer break as he brought his gun up to engage. He then fired on the killer who was briskly walking towards the front of the worship hall. When Jack's shot broke, the bad guy was 46 feet away. 46 feet. Sound familiar?



Jack Smith drilled the killer in the head - *through his ear hole*. That's John Wick stuff right there, only in real life. And that single shot ended the horrific incident.

Jack Smith didn't rise to the occasion. He defaulted to his training and practice.

Those are the lessons here. You're not going to rise to the occasion. You'll default to whatever training you've had. Seek out good training. Practice with your gear. Practice not until you get it right, but practice until you *can't* get it *wrong*.

Reformed felons & mental health 'issues': GET YOUR GUN RIGHTS RESTORED!

by John Boch

Did you pick up a felony in your youth and have always wanted to get your gun rights restored so you can protect yourself, your family and other innocent life - legally?

Believe it or not, you can do so in Illinois. Moreover, the first two rounds of the process won't cost you much out of pocket - about \$10 to be exact.

The law in Illinois states that if you're a reformed felon, the state *must* restore your firearm rights after twenty years (post-incarceration if there was any prison time involved) *unless* you're a danger to yourself or the community.

For non-violent felonies, without any subsequent police encounters, the process usually goes smoothly.



For "violent" felonies, you can still get your gun rights restored, but you better have a stellar twenty-plus years since the conviction(s) in question. I know one fellow who caught a pair of armed robbery convictions from his misguided teen years. He's gone on to become a pillar of the community, doing volunteer work, raising a family, running a successful business and building friendships with some outstanding people in the community. He got his rights restored and he's got a carry license now too. Although he admits some cops scratch their heads and wonder how he pulled it off - in Cook County, no less. (Spoiler alert: it took three or four court appearances and close to \$10,000 in legal fees).

It typically takes a few months to two years to accomplish the appeals process once it has begun. Once it's completed, you will not only be issued a FOID card, but you'll be eligible to apply for and receive an Illinois carry license as well.

What you need...

Now, as a reformed felon, you have to have remained clear of arrests and convictions for twenty years. Don't have twenty years yet? Sorry, you need to wait. You'll need good references - not family members but pillars of the community. A decent work history and volunteer activities also weigh strongly in your favor as well.

You begin by filling out a FOID application. Play it straight answering questions. Yes, your application will be rejected, BUT the rejection will come with a written process for appealing. Fill out the paperwork and submit everything *exactly as requested*.

Now, ISP is not going to be in a big hurry to process your appeal and they're unlikely to just roll over and grant the appeal on the first round of letters back and forth.

At this point you should contact the **National Rifle Association Institute for Legislative Action's Fritz Fitzgerald**. (fritz.fitzgerald@yahoo.com or 708 560-3130.)

Yes, that NRA. Unlike the government, they're here to help you. You can speak with him about your case and where you're at on your appeal. If you fall within the parameters for gun rights restoration and you've done the preliminaries as ISP demands, he'll use his contacts in the Illinois State Police to help move the process along for you.

Fair warning: Claiming "I didn't do it" or "I was railroaded" will *negatively impact your application for rights restoration*.

If the first round of appeals fails and Mr. Fitzgerald is unable to move the ISP to revisit your case, you may have to hire an attorney and file a motion in Circuit Court. Don't panic though. The law is pretty clear cut. Unless the state can put on a meaningful claim - *with evidence* - that you're a danger to yourself or the community, the judge's hands are pretty much tied to order ISP to restore your gun rights.

This is how you do get your gun rights restored.

We'll be the first to say that the gun laws in Illinois are quite restrictive compared to our neighboring states (none of which have Chicago-style crime, for the record). However, the Land of Lincoln also has one of the better gun rights restoration provisions of any state. Some states have essentially no hope for reformed felons to get their gun rights restored. In Illinois, it just takes time.

MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTALS.

So you had a bad day that was made worse by an involuntary, 72-hour mental health committal. Or perhaps you were sweet-talked into foolishly admitting yourself into an in-patient mental health treatment or screening program. Either will gain you a revocation of your FOID and carry license in the Land of Lincoln and *at least* five years in purgatory when it comes to gun rights.

Ordinarily you need five years, a boatload of reference letters and a hard-to-find psych evaluation that you're no longer a danger to yourself or others for ISP to even consider reissuing your a FOID card... after they mull things over for a year or more.

If you weren't found to be a danger to yourself or others during that initial visit, you should initiate an application for a FOID card and go through the appeals process they will send you along with your "rejection" letter. Contact Fritz Fitzgerald (fritz.fitzgerald@yahoo.com or 708 560-3130.) and he can help you navigate the process and expedite your reinstatement by ISP in less than five years. He's also got a number of mental health professionals who will do those "evaluations" to assess your current condition and sign off if they believe you're not a danger to yourself or others. Sure, it's going to cost you roughly a couple thousand for the mental health evaluation, but what's it worth to be able to defend your family while remaining on the right side of the law?

Obviously there are no guarantees as everyone's case is different, but Mr. Fitzgerald has a proven record of helping good people get their gun rights restored. We support his endeavors as well.



Coming soon to Illinois?

NY State AG Letitia James investigating law enforcement agencies & officers for 'official misconduct' for working with ICE

(NY Post) - State Attorney General Letitia James is conducting a misconduct probe of a New York local law enforcement agency helping the Trump administration crack down on illegal immigration, The Post has learned.

The AG's office asked Oswego County Sheriff Don Hilton for documents outlining any cooperation between local law enforcement officials and federal agencies, including Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, Customs and Border Protection and Homeland Security...

Sources familiar with the letter told The Post more counties will likely be targeted in the coming days by James but insiders said no other counties will receive letters similar in scope to Oswego.



Deadly force is warranted against those deploying devices that may cause death or great bodily harm

ATF: Fireworks used against people become 'destructive devices'

(GSL) - Rioters sometimes think they are clever, using fireworks as weapons against crowds or police. "They're just common fireworks," they claim. In reality they're too smart by half.

Common fireworks deployed against people are destructive devices per the BATF. That means federal felonies, to say nothing of the risk of death or great bodily injury from those "common fireworks" shells.

As such, resorting to deadly force to stop the continued deployment of fireworks mortars or similar devices that create an imminent threat of death or great bodily injury is warranted. Even in Illinois.

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Are 'Reduced Recoil' defensive pistol loads more prone to malfunctions?



by John Boch

[Editor's note: You can read the whole story with more gory details at Shooting News Weekly online.]

(GSL) - When it comes to the gun that you carry to save your life, you want perfect reliability. While nothing's perfect, we work hard to minimize potential points of failure.

Some folks want greater controllability of their defensive sidearm for a host of reasons. Instead of learning better fundamentals of grip and stance, they opt for "buying" skill sets in a box. They see ammo branded as "Low Recoil" and their eyes light up. They crack a smile and think, "That's the ticket!"

They buy some, stuff it into their magazines and go on about their lives thinking they're making their gun more controllable. More likely, judging from my experience with Federal .45ACP "Low Recoil" ammo, they may be introducing points of failure into their system.

The folks at **Ammunition to Go** sent me a whole passel of ammo a while back to do some testing. For the record, the speed and efficiency in fulfilling the order from the company rivaled Amazon Prime which I consider the closest thing to the gold standard today. In fact, I was so impressed with them, I placed follow-up personal orders on my own. A couple of times I ordered from Ammunition to Go and Amazon within minutes of one another just as a bonus test. Ammo to Go beat Amazon Prime by a day. Both times. Even with the extra hoops Illinois residents have to endure to have freedom pills delivered to our doorsteps.



One of a few areas I wanted to explore was whether reduced recoil loads impact the reliability of defensive pistols. With that in mind, I selected some of Federal's "Light Recoil" .45ACP 165gr. JHP defensive loads.

Why .45? Because I was packing a Colt 1911 at the time. I'll be the first to admit I'm not nearly as fluent in .45 compared to my beloved 9mm.

I had malfunctions from the first magazine of a slicked up, full-size Colt 1911A1 .45 ACP and it wasn't pretty. This from a gun with a history of digesting hundreds upon hundreds of rounds - anything and everything without any malfunctions. Hence why I carried it.

It didn't like the Federal Premium "Low Recoil" rounds though. Over the course of about 75 "low recoil" Federal rounds, I had at least five malfunctions - or about a 6.66% failure rate. I think God was trying to tell me something that day, and probably our readers as well.



Sure, this shouldn't be an indictment of every "low recoil" offering for semi-auto pistols, but caveat emptor: nothing comes for free.

When you select ammunition for defensive use, you want rounds that work as flawlessly as possible with your gun, not ammunition that introduces potential failures into your load-out.

My advice as a nearly 30-year instructor and shooting aficionado: When loading your defensive-use magazines, think long and hard before you introduce low recoil rounds into your semi-auto pistol system. And if you do decide you would like to dip your toe into the low recoil waters, spend the coin to fire a good 100 to 200 of those rounds in your carry gun to ensure they run flawlessly in both the gun and your magazines.

Frankly, you should always test your gun with whatever personal defense ammunition you intend to carry to make sure ammo, gun and magazines are compatible. Do it for at least 50 or 100 rounds, minimum. Some combinations just don't work reliably for whatever reason, while similar loads from other makers will run just perfectly.

So happy shooting. And avoid those "low recoil" loads or any other untested defensive loads until and unless they've proven themselves reliable in your defensive handgun and its magazines.

State Line Rifle Association loves NRA Day Family Fun Shoots

by Glenn Garamoni

(State Line Rifle Association) - Kids are the future of the shooting sports, and our uniquely American gun culture. This photo depicts the fun we have while learning about gun safety, marksmanship, and gaining a new appreciation for our 2nd Amendment, at our NRA Day Family Fun Shoots. State Line Rifle Association has been conducting these events for more than 20 years, and while all are welcome, the program is geared towards new shooters: women and youth especially.



All/of our firing line personnel are NRA Certified Instructors/range safety officers, and/or USCCA instructors. Our program

begins with a short gun safety lecture, followed by live fire at the range for several hours. All firearms and ammunition are provided. We offer one-on-one instruction with handguns of various calibers, 22 rifles, trap shooting, and muzzleloaders.



Our next Family Fun Shoot event will be on September 20, 2025. Come out and join us! Bring your wives, husbands, and kids. The Boy Scouts will be there to cook a delicious lunch. You can register at www.statelinerifle.com, or for questions you are welcome to call: Glenn Garamoni, 847-812-2175

i'm old enough to remember when



they did try that in a small town

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Think he rode the extra short bus as a child?

Sheriff commends armed homeowner's decisive action against axe-wielding home intruder

Uriah, AL (WALA) - In the Eureka Landing community early this morning, a homeowner discharged a firearm in an act of self-defense against a home invader who was armed with an axe, according to the Monroe County sheriff.

Deputies responded to the home shortly after 2:30 a.m., Sheriff Tom Boatwright said. They found the wounded suspect behind the residence.

According to the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, a resident contacted law enforcement to report that an individual had broken into the home armed with an axe. The homeowner shot the invader, striking the suspect once in the torso, officials said.

"We commend the quick response of our deputies and the homeowner's decision to defend themselves and their loved ones," Boatwright stated.



Taxpayer relief shots delivered

Armed citizen, police stop rampaging thug after he shot a cop

Muskegan Heights, MI (GSL) - Like a good neighbor, a gun owner is there. This past week, an armed good Samaritan engaged habitual armed criminal Torrance Spears Jr. not long after Spears shot and wounded a police officer in Muskegan Heights, Michigan.

Before additional police arrived, the good guy with a gun punched a hole in Mr. Spears in an exchange of gunfire. Minutes later, cops showed up and found the suspect in an alley licking his wounds. When he raised his gun towards the officers, they opened fire putting an end to the would-be cop killer's rampage and deleting him from the gene pool.

Mom shoots armed, convicted child molester off her 12YO daughter

Indianapolis (GSL/SNW) - Imagine walking into your hotel room to see a sketchy looking adult male tearing the clothes off your 12-year-old daughter. Especially if you noticed a gun laying near Mr. Creepy. What would you do?



Pervy Mr. Bruce Pierce.

Enter Bruce Pierce. After a pair of child sex convictions in 2016, he had since rejoined society. As a registered sex offender Mr. Pierce was supposed to behave. However, Pierce just couldn't help himself. Cops say he tried forcing himself on a 12-year-old girl in a hotel room when he had a moment alone with her. Fortunately, as he tore her tank top off, mom returned and saw the criminal act in progress.

She shot Pierce, repeatedly, sending a clear and unambiguous message: "Leave my daughter alone!" It's interesting how a command to stop has a lot more urgency for its recipient when accompanied by hot lead projectiles striking soft tissue.

Plenty to learn from here, folks. Don't allow sketchy folks near your children, alone or otherwise. Don't allow anyone who hasn't earned your total and complete trust anywhere near your pre-teen kids, even if they're a former President of the United States.



PROTECTED BY GOD AND A GUN: Trio beats hasty retreat under fire

Hollywood Hills, CA (GSL/SNW) - A trio of masked young scholars broke into a multi-million dollar home in the Hollywood Hills near Los Angeles on the last Thursday evening in May. A sign on the property warned that, "This house is protected by God and a gun. Screw around and you'll meet both," should have offered the young scholars a clue to pick another house. But to be fair, they probably couldn't read.

Anyway, the trio forced their way in around 10:30 and not fifteen seconds after making entry, they had poked the bear and the bear opened fire. All three of the felons fled in great haste, without leaving any blood trails.



Spoiler alert: They are 142% more likely to be convicted of crime, 45% more likely to be gang members... and those numbers were from before 2018!

STUDY: Undocumented Immigrants, U.S. Citizens, and Convicted Criminals in AZ

by John Lott
February 10, 2018 via
Social Science Research
Network

Abstract

Using newly released detailed data on all prisoners who entered the Arizona state prison from January 1985 through June 2017, we are able to separate non-U.S. citizens by whether they are illegal or legal residents. Unlike other studies, these data do not rely on self-reporting of criminal backgrounds. **Undocumented immigrants are at least 142% more**

likely to be convicted of a crime than other Arizonans. They also tend to **commit more serious crimes** and serve 10.5% longer sentences, more likely to be classified as dangerous, and **45% more likely to be gang members than U.S. citizens.**

Young convicts are especially likely to be undocumented immigrants. While undocumented immigrants from 15 to 35 years of age make up slightly over two percent of the Arizona population, they make up about eight percent of the prison population. Even

after adjusting for the fact that young people commit crime at higher rates, young undocumented immigrants commit crime at twice the rate of young U.S. citizens. These undocumented immigrants also tend to commit more serious crimes.

If undocumented immigrants committed crime nationally as they do in Arizona, in 2016 they would have been responsible for over 1,000 more murders, 5,200 rapes, 8,900 robberies, 25,300 aggravated assaults, and 26,900 burglaries.

Trump doubles down on mass deportations from Chicago and other large cities to help make our streets and neighborhoods safer

by Donald Trump
(June 15 7:43pm via Truth Social) - Our Nation's ICE Officers have shown incredible strength, determination, and courage as they facilitate a very important mission, the largest Mass Deportation Operation of Illegal Aliens in History. Every day, the Brave Men and Women of ICE are subjected to violence, harassment, and even threats from Radical Democrat Politicians, but nothing will stop us from executing our mission, and fulfilling our Mandate to the American People. ICE Officers are herewith ordered, by notice of this TRUTH, to do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.



In order to achieve this, we must expand efforts to detain and deport Illegal Aliens in America's largest Cities, such as Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York, where Millions upon Millions of Illegal Aliens reside. These, and other such Cities, are the core of the Democrat Power Center, where they use Illegal Aliens to expand their Voter Base, cheat in Elections, and grow the Welfare

State, robbing good paying Jobs and Benefits from Hardworking American Citizens. These Radical Left Democrats are sick of mind, hate our Country, and actually want to destroy our Inner Cities — And they are doing a good job of it! There is something wrong with them. That is why they believe in Open Borders, Transgender for Everybody, and Men playing in Women's Sports — And that is why I want ICE, Border Patrol, and our Great and Patriotic Law Enforcement Officers, to FOCUS on our crime ridden and deadly Inner Cities, and those places where Sanctuary Cities play such a big role. You don't hear about Sanctuary Cities in our Heartland!

I want our Brave ICE Officers to know that REAL Americans are cheering you on every day. The American People want our Cities, Schools, and Communities to be SAFE and FREE from Illegal Alien Crime, Conflict, and Chaos. That's why I have directed my entire Administration to put every resource possible behind this effort, and reverse the tide of Mass Destruction Migration that has turned once Idyllic Towns into scenes of Third World Dystopia. Our Federal Government will continue to be focused on the REMIGRATION of Aliens to the places from where they came, and preventing the admission of ANYONE who undermines the domestic tranquility of the United States.

To ICE, FBI, DEA, ATF, the Patriots at Pentagon and the State Department, you have my unwavering support. Now go, GET THE JOB DONE! DJT

Thank you to President Trump & the DOJ

Elections have consequences, folks. And we all owe Donald Trump and his team for outstanding work defending and protecting our Second Amendment rights.

The DOJ's amicus curiae "friend of the court" brief submitted on our behalf at the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals stands as a game-changer. This is the second or third time the DOJ has come out in support of gun rights for everyday Americans in about as many months.

Why is this notable? Because it's effectively never happened before in the past fifty plus years. And do you think if Kamala had won this past election that the DOJ would advocate for gun owners? Hardly.

So thank you Donald Trump, Pam Bondi, Harmeet Dhillon and John Sauer. And thank you to all of the attorneys who crafted this masterpiece that no doubt has Kwame Raoul agitated.

The case for military parades

(Ace of Spades HQ) - There is growing opposition to this weekend's Army Birthday Parade...ordered by President Trump. Apparently because he ordered it, his opposition is finding all kinds of excuses to complain about it. It costs too much, it disrupts soldiers' holiday weekend, it's really about Trump as it is his birthday too. Hogwash.

These people are wrong.

Here's why.

America needs this parade and frankly it needs more of them. Today's military is drawn from a remarkably small percentage of the American public. Only about 1% of Americans are currently serving and only about 6% identify as Veterans. The result of this is an America that does not identify with the military, cannot understand what it does, and, sadly, many just don't care. Whatever they need to know about the military, Hollywood will teach them. Parades can change this. It is an opportunity for thousands of citizens to see what an artillery piece looks like, what a tank sounds like, and what an MRAP looks like in the street. It allows citizens to see soldiers marching, looking sharp and standing tall. America meet your Army.

It is a training opportunity. The President gave an order. It will be carried out. Staffs begin planning. Units are alerted to begin preparations to participate. They will need to plan for travel, shipping of the vehicles, feeding, housing, and care of the troops. They will need to plan for



time to set up, rehearse, and inspect. They will need spare parts for maintenance, special training for specific units, and leaders need time to check each soldier involved. In short, deploying to a parade in Washington DC (or anywhere else) is not that different from deploying to, say, the National Training Center for a month of training. It is just another mission to accomplish.

Further, it isn't an excessive cost. The troops are going to be doing many of these things anyway, whether on their Post or in the field. They will still get paid. They will still eat. They will still have a place to sleep. Leaders will still be checking their soldiers. Maintenance expenses are factored into annual training forecasts. The only real delta in the budget is travel and that isn't a huge cost, given the payoff. In short, the majority of the budget for the parade is sunk cost.

But there is a huge upside. Yes, troops will bitch about this stuff. It will be a couple of weeks of hurry up and wait. Multiple inspections,

spot corrections, last minute changes, and boredom. But when the marching begins, most troops stand a bit straighter and take pride in their units. The soldiers I knew who did a major parade like this were in the DC parade after Desert Storm. All of them told me it was a real pain in the butt. But they also said that afterwards they were very glad to be a part of it. "Sir, it was a huge party!" Children coming up and giving a soldier a bouquet of flowers, strangers shaking their hands, hundreds of civilians saying thank you, and best of all, they never had to buy their own drinks.

Lastly, a parade is a huge recruiting event. When I commanded a Recruiting Company, any time I could get some equipment into a high school or a local civic event, I did so. The results were always positive and some were incredible.

America needs to renew its acquaintance with its soldiers. And soldiers need to see who it is they are fighting for. We cannot let this bond be broken.

Right-Wing Extremists



Portnoy on the DC assassination of couple working at Israeli embassy by Chicago radical

by David Portnoy

(X) - A domestic terrorist went hunting Jews last night in Wash DC open firing outside a Jewish event killing two Jews. The terrorist Elias Rodriguez yelled "Free Palestine" as he got arrested.

This type of tragedy is the natural progression of events when the morons running our colleges, far left politicians, and hate merchants on social media continue to normalize and seemingly encourage anti-Semitism in this country. The least surprising part about this tragedy is that the killer hated America long before the conflict in the Middle East. He was an active member of the Party for Socialism

& Liberation and the People's Congress of Resistance. He was a serial agitator as so many of the Free Palestine movement are.

For them this isn't just about the war in Gaza. This is about hating America and our way of life. And the more that anti-Semitism is normalized in this country the more it emboldens these lunatics to commit these heinous acts.

The bottom line is that nobody in this country should be intimidated or fear for their safety because of their religion but here we are.

One view on the insurrection violence...

Insurrectionist Democrats plan another summer of Blue City riots

by John Nolte

The last time the federal government demanded Democrats obey the law and relinquish their cheap and exploited labor, they launched the Civil War. This time, it looks like they intend to burn down their own cities.

I'm fine with that.

I don't live there.

Insurrectionist Democrats choosing to

burn their own cities rather than obey federal law is not my problem, nor is it an American problem... It is solely a Democrat-run city problem. If you voted for Karen Bass and are watching in horror as your city burns ... again ... all I can say is that "Karma" is pronounced "LOL."

[Editor: What about those of us normal people who (still) live in deep blue cities and states?]

GunNews Magazine

The monthly journal of
Guns Save Life

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Letters, including complaints or commendations, to the Editor are welcome. Please, limit your letter to 200 words. We reserve the right to edit or refuse publication of any submission. Anonymous letters are discouraged. Guest columns of 400 words are also welcome on timely issues, particularly those related to firearms, self-defense or similar topics. Letters and guest columns may be sent electronically to: jboch@gunssavelife.com.

Or you can mail your letter to: Guns Save Life, PO Box 51, Savoy, Illinois 61874



Our thanks goes out to Oleg Volk for his continued permission to use his creative work to help us in our gun rights advocacy work. You can see more of them at his websites:

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Let us Help you Uphold your 2nd Amendment Right



by Paul Markel
(Shooting News Weekly) -
"Well, I have a gun, so I think I'm ready." Such was the response of one gentleman during a group conversation a few months ago regarding the potential for civil unrest, a la the summer of 2020 when America's cities were burned in a "mostly peaceful" manner. And now, as we've seen over the last week, history seems to be repeating.

Sadly, that's not the first time I have heard such a comment from a "reasonable" person. There seems to be a common thread flowing through reasonable and respectable people that by purchasing and then owning a gun or two will dissuade those who would come to their neighborhoods to loot and riot.

Everyone Will Have a Gun

The cold, hard fact is that whether we're discussing a street attack, a home invasion, or a full-blown riot situation, the bad guys are going to be armed, too. They don't fill out Form 4473's. They steal guns, barter narcotics for them, or simply purchase them on the black market... Another ugly reality is that the looters are counting on you owning guns, because one of their missions is going to be to overwhelm your neighborhood and steal them along with whatever else you may own.

Good-hearted, respectable people need to stop deluding themselves with the idea that career criminals are afraid of the sight of a gun.



Kyle Rittenhouse's Kenosha self-defense

Kyle Rittenhouse was holding an AR-15 rifle and before he was forced to press the trigger, a mob harassed, chased, and attacked him. That mob certainly saw his gun. The bet that they lost was that he would be afraid to press the trigger.

Why would they have thought that? Simple. A large percentage of the good people of America don't want to fire a gun at another person. Criminal vermin are betting on that fact - or at least the built-in hesitation that moral people have. Bad guys don't possess morality and can't conceive of others being burdened by it.

It's cliché to say, "If you own a gun, you need to be mentally prepared to use it." Nonetheless that statement is the absolute truth. Far too many people seem to operate under the false premise that looters, rioters, and other criminals will see a gun in a good guy's (or gal's) hands and run away scared while requiring a change of undergarments.



The average criminal has had it explained this way before...

Almost every career criminal has had guns pointed at them by police innumerable times. Many have even been shot and lived to tell about it...

Mindset, Tactics, and Skill

During 2024, Student of the Gun University has held numerous training courses to address skill with handguns, shotguns, and rifles. In each and every class, we have had students relate how they invited a friend or relative to join them, only to be told "I think I'm pretty good" or "I know how to shoot."

That's the Dunning-Kruger effect in all its glory. For those uninitiated, the Dunning-Kruger Effect occurs when a person's lack of knowledge and skill in a certain area causes them to overestimate their own competence...

It might be easy to assume that the average gangbanger or rioter has never taken professional firearms training. There's something they absolutely do have; experience with violence and no

compunction about using it to get what they want. Career criminals have been attacking rivals and victimizing citizens all their lives.

Forget criminals' training, experience committing violence, and organization. Another hard cold reality is that the average rioter or looter is going to be younger and in better physical condition than the average suburban homeowner. They also tend to come in packs.

"That's why I have a gun, because my attacker will be younger, faster, and stronger." Cool story, bro. But you already told me that you don't have training and your plan is to point your gun at them. Remember, they will have guns, too and they will have numbers on their side.

Mindset

I saved "Mindset" for last, not because it's least important, but because it deserves its own section. Mindset is what determines every choice you make. Your mindset determines whether or not you take the time to attend training and prepare your mind and body versus just buying a gun. Your mindset determines whether or not you will try to bluff the vermin who have descended on your neighborhood by pointing a gun in their general direction.

Mindset is a intangible and critical thing that you can't order from Amazon or pick up at the local gun shop. Mindset isn't automatic, nor are you born with it. Mindset must be developed over time with dedicated effort and determined application.

The positive news is this; as an American citizen, you have the unique opportunity to make the decision to attend training, get realistic and practical experience, and develop the fighting mindset you need to survive in the gravest extreme. As Geddy Lee once opined in song, "If you choose not to decide, you still have made a choice."

Choose wisely. Your life and the lives of those you love may very well depend on it.

Clyde Caceres: 'We don't shoot enough!'

(GSL) - At Guns Save Life, pretty much all of our members have carry license. Many if not most of us carry on a regular basis, save for some who work in "gun free" zones. Even then, our members often have a safety rescue tool in their car.

Clyde Caceres, one of the early people who started a new company called Crimson Trace back in the day, and a trainer who has trained with the very best, spoke to the audience about the importance of practice and training.

Not practicing except every five years for a qualification doesn't prepare you for a deadly force encounter with a bad actor. Neither does "ritualistic" shooting where you stand on a square range, fire a shot and look for your hit.

In a real world confrontation, you'll be under stress. The lighting will be poor (bad guys prefer working in low light). You won't be able to see your hits and everything happens so fast.

To improve your survivability, you need to learn to move off the "X" or axis of the attack, and to fire and make hits from more than just a traditional isosceles shooting stance.



Clyde Caceres.

Mr. Caceres brought receipts for all of the above in a report on officer involved shootings in New York City over 16 years. 1700+ incidents to learn from.

While most of NYPD's shootings occurred at paty-cake distance (six feet or less), NYPD's finest still only made hits less than 40% of the time. Yes, their triggers sucked because of

the city's craptastic, gun-hating government leaders, but still. It probably won't surprise you that hits fell to single digit percentages beyond room-length distances.

"Train!" he implored folks. "Don't just shoot" when you go to the range. Practice close-in shooting. If you have a chance to shoot or train in low-light, take it!

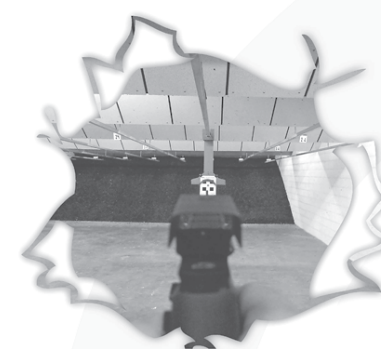
Why train in low light? 77% of NYPD's officer-involved shootings took place in low-light, no light or similar conditions.

While public ranges often have rules prohibiting drawing or holstering loaded guns, double-taps or other rapid fire, you can still practice. Move half-a-step off the "X". Break tunnel vision after firing. Shoot from awkward positions. Practice support hand-only shooting. Induce malfunctions and clear them. All of the above will increase your survivability in a gun battle.

And increasing our survivability is why we carry, is it not?

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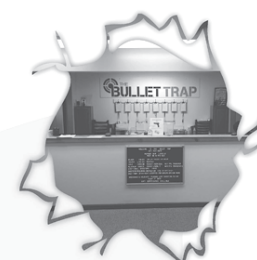
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Has PICA solved anything?

by Damon Williams
GSL Member

(GSL) - I know I'm preaching to the choir, but the idiocy of the Protect Illinois Communities Act still angers me. In a world where guns like America's favorite rifle, the AR-15, protect families and children, PICA has encumbered our right to protect our families.

It is now obvious that the radicals running Springfield don't support your right to defend your family with guns. They hate the fact that gun owners continue to boldly defy their authoritarianism. Not only that, but they aren't too keen on groups like Guns Save Life that remind people and politicians alike of the fact that something like 98.44% of FOID holders declined to register their regulated guns.

So, these gun-hating radicals continue their animus-driven jihad against the little people who own guns. They introduce and pass bills to harass current gun owners and discourage new ones. Of course, you can bet a dozen donuts that the loudest voices for gun control measures all have guns to protect *their* families. Ditto for the media personalities that decry gun ownership for good people. The Hollywood types might not have their own guns but that's because they can afford armed bodyguards to protect them.

The January 2023 enactment of the Protect Illinois Communities Act was a draconian shock to firearms owners. Lord Pritzker took beaming pride in signing the law to stop the sale of "Weapons of War on our streets."

But did he and his fellow troglodytes in the General Assembly keep these guns off the streets? Hardly. Discounting how gang members and violent felons (but I repeat myself) have completely disregarded laws in general and gun control in particular, let's look at it analytically. Spoiler alert: The market has adapted to laws like PICA and similar edicts in other states.

The AR-15: Typically .223 caliber with detachable magazine and semi-auto action.

A non-PICA-regulated alternative? The Mini-14. Same cartridge, detachable mags and semi-auto action.

The AK-47 variant: Commonly chambered in 7.62X39. Detachable magazine. Semi-auto action.

Non-regulated PICA legal alternatives? Chinese or Soviet SKS: Same cartridge & caliber, accepts detachable magazines or stripper clips, semiauto action.

We could go down the list for more ad nauseam. Here's another one: The Springfield M1A is regulated under PICA. Order it with a muzzle brake instead of a flash suppressor and it's unregulated and ISP-approved. Same everything... just a muzzle brake instead of a flash suppressor. Sure, you can't buy standard capacity mags in Illinois, but if you travel out of state, keep your trunk locked because those little suckers can sometimes hitch a ride home with you.

Gun bans are feel-good political theater. Otherwise known as idiocy.

I know one gent who changed his go-to rifle for bad guy group therapy from the AR to the M1A with a muzzle brake. So he's using a far more potent, bigger-caliber round

as the end result of adapting to conform with PICA. This way he can now shoot through the first guy and have that same bullet take down the second and maybe even a third baddie if they stack up nicely as they attack him or his family. Ain't PICA great?

As for the ban on firearms chambered in .50 BMG? No problem. Buy the .416 Barrett. A necked-down and shortened derivative of the .50 BMG with an effective range and ballistics *superior* to that of the .50 BMG. To Pritzker and his pals: Good job, morons.

Sure, PICA has removed features that make gun control advocates piddle themselves in the day (and wet their beds at night), the law has no significant effect on the actual function of a firearm other than to make them slightly less user friendly for the less-abled among us.

Banning these identified features like pistol grips, flash suppressors and collapsible stocks on a firearms doesn't have any positive effect on crime either. Other than to disarm those who aren't inclined to commit crimes in the first place. Which means criminals feel more brazen to do criminal things.

Unfortunately for the do-gooders running Springfield, most people aren't stupid. They see the violent crime everywhere. Savvy Americans know that the only thing that stops bad people with evil in their hearts is a good person with a gun.

Passing laws like the "No Cash Bail" Act and other soft-on-crime "criminal justice reform" laws don't make prudent people feel safe and secure. Defunding the police doesn't make normal people feel warm and fuzzy. Neither does early release of really bad people from prison. These things make ordinary, prudent people feel like they need to tool up to defend themselves and their families since the state's not inclined to do so.



Rep. Bob Morgan celebrates Pritzker signing PICA with some Moms Demand Action harpies.

That's where gun-hating Illinois Democrats shoot themselves in the foot. If the people running our state got tough on crime and criminals, non-gun owners wouldn't feel the need to go out and buy guns. Casual gun owners who bought a gun at some point for self-defense wouldn't feel a need to keep their guns around. And in the end, fewer guns sold would mean fewer gun stores, fewer ranges, and fewer opportunities to pass down the fun and excitement of shooting sports to young people.

Sometimes it's good to be thankful for slow-witted elected officials.

NOTHING SELLS GUNS LIKE MOB VIOLENCE

Continued from cover.

periods to buy their first gun(s) and take them home.

After all, nothing sells guns like people seeing their local police unable or unwilling to curtail rioting, looting, mob violence and general civil disorder.

People nationwide know that when seconds count, the cops might not be there, especially if they can't begin to protect the community as a whole.

If "just call 911" doesn't work, that's a pretty helpless feeling from those who don't own the great equalizer.

While Moms Demand Action claim that people never use guns defensively, the American people know that's a lie. They know the only thing that stops bad people with evil in their hearts is a good guy with a gun.

And Americans have heard the "mostly peaceful" riot propaganda before and know it's

B.S. When your local police department tries to gaslight residents that nothing's happening when residents can see the plumes of smoke, even formerly mainstream Democrats can read the tea leaves. Even those who don't really like guns will decide they want one.

Guns save lives. Do you have yours? Your family is counting on you to help keep them safe.

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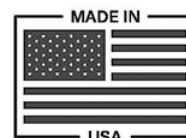
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Armed defense of a third-party

Remember, it's not your circus and they aren't your monkeys

by John Boch

(GSL/SNW) - Nothing good happens after using violence in a case of self-defense... other than living to see another day. Unfortunately, I've been there and done that and have the bills, the dashcam video, and the therapist notes to show for it.

Real life isn't like Hollywood. In the real world, the good guy doesn't walk off into the sunset with the pretty woman to live happily ever after. Far from it. For those already married (like me), your spouse might not even support your use of force in self-defense. See how that makes you feel.

In this world, following a deadly force incident, not only may the good guy receive physical injuries, but mental fallout as well. That's where a good therapist can make a world of difference, but many, if not most people fail to avail themselves to that treatment. And PTSD just keeps simmering in the background, eating away at them for years.



Those are the *better* outcomes to using righteous force. Even if you use force to counter criminal violence, you may still end up dead or crippled for life. If you live, you may well be arrested, strip-searched, and thrown in jail with a bunch of ne'er-do-wells. You could be sued by the criminal or his or her next-of-kin.

Those who use lethal force in self-defense frequently experience sleep disturbances (that's a nice way of saying "nightmares"), PTSD and can suffer the Mark of Cain where folks look at them very differently after the incident.

Then, as an added bonus, you may also suffer depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, sexual dysfunction, and other health effects from the stress. You may turn to food, recreational or pharmaceutical drugs, or alcohol to cope.

You may be stripped of your guns while police investigate the case. All that while, at the same time, the criminal's kinfolk may seek retribution from you or your now-disarmed family.

As I mentioned above, your spouse may be critical of your decision to use force in self-defense. Ditto for friends and family. You may even lose some "friends" and you might even lose your job. Or get a divorce. The financial implications can be staggering, especially if you don't have a legal coverage insurance policy.

Understanding some of the above life-changing risks of using deadly force, you can and should think really hard before intervening in an issue that doesn't involve you or your family. Yes, your gut instinct might be charge in like a white knight. But it's far better to assess the situation and first ask yourself, "Is this my circus and are these my monkeys?"

Slow down, find cover, and evaluate things dispassionately. Force yourself to break tunnel vision (and auditory exclusion) to take in what else is happening around you.



Make sure truly life-threatening exigent circumstances exist. Would an average anti-gun Suzy Soccermom believe that the victim is truly under threat of death or great bodily injury? Suzy's gonna be on the jury if things go sideways, not your firearms instructor or your shooting buddies.

Given all the potential downside, why would anyone risk all that for someone we don't know? Why?

In short, because we're just not wired to stand by and let some lunatic mow down kids on a playground around us. Or watch a child abduction and fail to intervene. We're not going to let some monster stab a woman to death at the checkout at Walmart. We're certainly not going to let some violent criminal hurt our family members or people we care about. Defending the defenseless is the moral and ethical thing to do.

We carry our guns because it's better to face the aftermath of thwarting a violent attack that to forfeit our self-defense and ending up dead. No one at my funeral will say, "It's too bad John didn't have his gun that day."

We carry our guns because if we didn't out of laziness and something terrible happened to our spouse or our children... that would be a terrible, crippling burden to bear for the rest of our lives.

While you almost certainly bear no legal responsibility to act, some of us believe you have an moral and ethical responsibility to act **if** you can do so while minimizing the danger to yourself and your family. At the same time I'll be the first to admit not everyone feels that way. I generally don't run with those sorts of folks, but not everyone is blessed with my circle of sheepdog friends.

The bottom line: Just because you've got a gun on your hip or in your purse doesn't make you a junior policeman or crimstopper. Your gun is and always should be the *last* resort solution. Use your situational awareness to avoid conflict and trouble. De-escalate wherever possible. Trust me, it'll save you a lot of aggravation, money, time, and heartburn.

RADIO UPDATE: Mobile radios, good antennas make for better, more distant comms

by John Boch

I'll be honest: Having a means of reaching your family and close friends if cellular service fails provides priceless peace of mind on many levels. I'm not there with everyone yet, but they are coming onboard left and right, sharing that peace of mind.

A couple of months ago I wrote about Baofeng UV-5R dual-band walkie-talkies for both recreational and emergency use. After Roger B.'s great presentation for Live Free USA on emergency radio communications, I dove in head first. After all, at that time I couldn't communicate across town without cell-phones to check on family, much less across the county to reach friends.

It's been a learning experience and then some. I've gone from a complete neophyte with nothing to a novice, with some mistakes along the way. Here are some important lessons, some I learned the hard way.

*** Decent hand-held (HT) radios with better antennas are excellent for "local" communications** - as in a mile or three HT-to-HT, depending on terrain. Get the Baofeng UV-5R or 5RM in "packages" with the ~18" "whip" antennas to maximize range, along with an extra battery, programming cable and a shoulder mic/speaker. About \$60-70 for a pair in that package.

These radios can also reach repeaters while outdoors or using external antennas mounted on your vehicle with a reliable 5-10+ mile range, depending on a host of variables. Unfortunately, walkie-talkie output just doesn't have the wattage/horsepower to reach most repeaters twenty-plus miles away. For local use though, they are great.



My kids now have the radio bug because I let them venture more than two houses

away to visit neighborhood kiddos if they have a handheld radio (Baofeng BF-888s - roughly \$10 each. Simple, kid-friendly yet fully programmable via computer). They're also great for bike rides in case Twin B gets too far out in front. With dead-nuts reliability for a mile plus, they have plenty of range. We use an FRS channel with a subaudible tone to block malicious interference from kids playing with blister-pack FRS radios and the occasional construction crew.

*** Better antennas make all the difference.** I started with a respectable mobile antenna. I switched to a Midland dedicated GMRS antenna (Midland MXTA26 - \$60 plus a \$30 magnetic mount base) and easily *doubled* my range transmitting and receiving - and then some. Case in point: I can now talk through a repeater in Dwight from the north end of Bloomington-Normal (just shy of 50 miles). Previously, I struggled to communicate to it from Pontiac (20ish miles).

* I dipped my toe into the repeater world with a Retevis RT-97 unit. While I love my Retevis mobile radio, the repeater was a defective trainwreck and I'd avoid it.

Since then I found a deal on a "blemished" B-Tech 50 watt GMRS repeater and love it. Fair warning: Repeaters are like boats... as in a money pit. LMR-400 antenna cabling isn't cheap, neither is a telescoping mast, the \$120 high gain antenna, the lightning arrestor and grounding rod, more cabling, mast hardware, connectors and special tape to waterproof connections, time to put it all together and more.

Weighing all that against gaining the ability to communicate with good friends and family made it something approaching worthwhile. It's also proven very educational for the kids. They think it's pretty cool to use a radio to talk to dad or friends ten or twenty miles away. Or in one case, all the way to Pontiac where grandma lives (a very optimal time and place on a good day).

With a roughly 40' mast and an 8' high-gain antenna, I'm getting between 16 and 25 miles of reliable range, depending on the direction's topographic land features using my mobile radio with that Midland antenna. It covers a big part of McLean County. I can raise the mast another 6-7 feet (which would prob-

ably get another few miles of range), but it would be much less capable of handling heavy winds in a storm. If you're a GSL member, I'm more than happy to share the frequency and tones if you've got your FCC GMRS license.

*** Mobile units are a must for tens or scores of miles of reliable comms.** I know buying an HT radio is a big first step for some. And putting in a mobile radio into the car might be a bridge too far. I get that. But that walkie-talkie won't get you reliable comms halfway across the average suburb radio-to-radio. They won't get you twenty miles to a repeater, much less sixty to the best repeaters. That mobile radio with a good antenna will do all of the above, with ease.

You can do a portable mobile radio installation as I have by using a magnetic-mount antenna, and a cigarette lighter plug for power. You can install/remove your radio in under two minutes that way or transfer it to another vehicle.



At this point I recommend the 25-watt Retevis RT-95 as a great entry-level unit. It's "unlockable" meaning you can unlock it and transmit on whatever frequencies you program (ahem, where it's legal to do so, of course). At about \$129, it's affordable too. The included antenna kind of sucks. Get the Midland MXTA26. Yeah, the antenna and portable mag mount will set you back another \$90ish, but you'll *double* your comms range and then some.

Consider an external speaker (\$15ish) if you don't have 18-year-old ears. While you might hear the radio just fine on a nice day, hearing it at highway speeds in a heavy rainstorm? You're gonna need a better speaker.

Want to skip entry level and jump into the deep end? Get a 40- or 50-watt mobile to further extend your reach (mid-\$200s and up). Just make sure any radios you're considering are "unlockable" before you order so you can use other frequencies where legal.

Overpriced, vulnerable to disruption, and continual fees

RAPID RADIOS: TAKE A PASS, SAVE A BUNDLE

by John Boch

Rapid Radios is a new company that's spending *big* bucks on advertising promoting their product. They advertise them as walkie-talkies with unlimited range (always with an asterisk), and that will work when your cell phone may not.

As you might imagine, all that advertising isn't cheap and the units sell for as much as \$400 per "radio." Plus potentially an additional \$50 per year after the first year in connection fees. Ouch.

Rapid
R A D I O S

What are they? First, traditional "radios" these aren't. They rely on cell towers to communicate. And in emergencies, if the cellular services or the Internet are down or degraded, your Rapid Radio communications likely will face similar service issues.

If you recall Nextel's annoying "Direct Connect" feature from the 1990s, Rapid Radios use PoC - or Push-to-talk over Cellular to communicate. A more technical explanation: It uses the narrowband LTE part of the cellular bands and still requires a great

deal of complex infrastructure working perfectly in order to communicate with fellow Rapid Radio users. If any aspect of that infrastructure fails or gets overloaded, you're likely SOL to reach your buddies with their crazy expensive Rapid Radios.



My advice: take a pass and save a bundle.

Pro-tip: If you want a "Rapid Radio"-like feature, download and install Zello on your smartphone. For \$8 per month per user (the first two weeks are free), you'll get essentially the same functions and features without the \$400 price tag, subsequent annual fees and the second piece of gear to lug around.

Slick talking salesmen wanting a big commission aren't going to like my advice on RRs and Zello, but I work for you, not them. And my recommendations, unlike theirs, aren't for sale.

Sullivan Gun Club

2025 Events... Mark your Calendar! All open to public.



Bowling Pin Shoots

Reminder: Kids shoot free!

Jun 7, July 12, Aug 9, Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1

subject to weather-related cancellations



Rimfire Shoots

Reminder: Kids shoot free!

Jun 21, July 26, Aug 23, Sep 20, Oct 18, Nov 15

subject to weather-related cancellations

Trap Shooting every Friday night

Open 6pm - Derby at 7pm

Matches start at 9a.m.

\$10 per firearm. Kids free.

Sign-in and warm up starting at 8a.m.

All dates are subject to the weather.

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Calendar

GUN SHOWS...



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August 16 & 17: Crown Point Gun Show, Lake County Fairgrounds, Crown Point, IN. Central IN Gun Shows. (765) 855-3836.

GUN CLUBS

Foosland Sportsman's Club
Shooting opportunities open to the public at the Foosland Sportsman's Club.
Second Tuesdays: 6p Tuesday night trap shoots
Fourth Saturday: Trapshoot starting at 10 AM. All open to the public.
Second Sunday: Annie Shoot/.22 steel plate shoot.
DeWitt County Sportsman's Club
Breakfast, Returns in October... 1st & 3rd Sundays 8:30am.
July 12: Patriot Shoot.
Sullivan Gun Club LLC.
Every Friday night: Trap shooting under the lights. Open at 6p, Derby starts at 7pm.
Oak Park Sportsmen's Club.
Falling steel match First Mondays starting at 4:30pm.

Springfield Tactical Shooters Indoor Gun Range in Curran, IL.
Thursdays: Weekly USPSA tactical matches at 5pm. Open to all.
Crete Gun Club.
Monthly meetings at 7pm on the First Monday. 1962 W. Exchange, Crete, IL. Open to all. Contact Howard Kaye at fxt1984@gmail.com or 708 921-6768.

State Line Rifle.
Monthly meetings at 7pm on the Fourth Tuesday each month. American Legion, 111 E. Main Street, Round Lake Park, IL 60073

Prairie State Tactical.
All shoots 5-7:30p unless otherwise noted.
July 1: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)
July 8: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms
July 15: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms
July 22: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)
July 29: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms
Aug 5: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)
For more info, visit prairiestatetactical.com.



FRIENDS OF NRA...
July 19: Illini Country at Arcola Best Western in Arcola.
August 2: Two Rivers at Rushville Fitness and Community Center in Rushville, IL.
August 9: South Central IL at Doubletree in Mt. Vernon.
August 18: Tri-State at The Pink Tavern in Lomax.
August 30: East Central Illinois at Doubletree in Bloomington
For more info, visit FriendsOfNRA.org.



I have questions about Salt Lake City

(AreaOcho.com) - A man was shot and killed at the leftist rally in Salt Lake City yesterday, and you practically need a program to figure out what happened. Let me explain:
Arturo Gamboa was at the rally with an AR15 in a backpack. Someone spotted the end of the stock sticking out, and figured out what it was. The man, Sam Hernandez began yelling that the man had a gun in his backpack as he was trying to wrestle it away from him.

A video posted by Jan-Michael Paul on Reddit shows Hernandez saying loudly, "This is a rifle right here," and then flagging down nearby police: "Hey! This guy, I just grabbed this from this guy. He's right there!"

An armed man who was part of an Antifa security team fired a handgun three times at Gamboa, striking and killing Arthur Folasah Ah Loo, a 39-year-old man who was participating in the march, as well as hitting and wounding Gamboa. (Great security there.)

Gamboa was arrested and booked into the Salt Lake County jail on suspicion of murder — although investigators admit that he did not fire his weapon.

Comments and Questions
If any of my readers know more, please chime in. As far as I know, open and concealed carry are both legal in Utah. If that is the case, Gamboa didn't break the law, unless they try to say that he was brandishing or something. It seems to me that he should be able to get him a decent lawyer and beat this, even though it will cost him some bucks.

An arresting officer alleged in a probable cause statement that Gamboa acted with "a depraved indifference to human life" and his conduct led to Ah Loo's death. Salt Lake County prosecutors ultimately will decide what charges, if any, Gamboa will face. He is currently being held in jail without bail and had not been formally charged as of Sunday afternoon.



Arturo Gamboa, member of the "security team" at the SLC "No Kings" event.

The press is screaming that Hernandez is a hero because he wrestled the gun away from Gamboa, but even the police say that Gamboa never fired a shot. The people whose guns needed to be wrestled away were the so-called peacekeepers. In fact, it appears as though Gamboa was also part of the self-described security team and this was a "friendly fire" incident.

The more important thing to note is that there are armed Antifa members embedded in the crowds at these protests. This situation is a powder keg just waiting for a spark. The left is preparing to kill as many people as it takes to make their revolution a success.

Things are going to get messy.

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Where did this kid learn left-wing hate?

FBI thwarts 14-year-old's plans for mass murder

Kelso, Washington (GSL/SNW) - The FBI has interrupted what they say is a 14-year-old teen's detailed plot to use a poison gas bomb at a movie theater at Three Rivers Mall in Kelso, Washington to initiate a murder spree. His plan: use the panic that would ensue from a chlorine gas attack to drive patrons into a "fatal funnel" kill zone where he'd then open fire. The Bureau has arrested the would-be mass murderer and he's now being held.

While little is known about the suspect, given the description of the juvenile perp as possessing "nihilistic violent extremist ideology," it would seem he was a hard left radical.



Should have been a DGU

Illegal alien launches Molotov cocktail attack at pro-Israel prayer vigil

Boulder Colorado (GSL) - It's hard to keep throwing Molotov cocktails at women and children when you've taken several sucking chest wounds from a handgun. That's what should have happened Sunday in Boulder, Colorado. If there was ever an incident that should have been a defensive gun use was instead a ghastly terror attack that went on for a number of minutes.

Instead of a good guy stopping the attack cold, gun control won thanks to the "gun free" campus. A paucity of good guys with guns allowed a man identified by the FBI as an illegal alien Egyptian named Mohamed Soliman to attack a pro-Israel prayer vigil and rally with a series of Molotov cocktails.



School shooting 'survivor' outed as fake

(SNW) - The embarrassing exposure of a gun control activist's tale about a school shooting in rural Pennsylvania — which never happened — illustrates just how far anti-gun fanatics will go in their crusade to disarm America, the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms said.



Breathe easy... crime solved in NY State
NY AG comes down hard on Walmart over toy gun sales
(NRA-ILA) - Now [NY Attorney General Letitia James] is using her office's resources to go after Walmart. The offense? The retail giant has an online store that sells toy guns, and a few third-party resellers, apparently, allowed for the purchase and shipment into New York of toy guns that are not, in the AG's opinion, lame enough to comply with NY law.



Didn't like the results of first election...

Dems re-vote David Hogg out of leadership

(Epoch Times) - Members of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) have voted 294-99 to overturn the Feb. 1 election of vice chairs David Hogg and Pennsylvania State Rep. Malcom Kenyatta, authorizing new elections in the coming days.

The previous election was called into question by Democratic Party Oklahoma representative and attorney Kalyn Free, who said its structure made it "mathematically impossible" for a woman to win.

But Obama and gun control supporters say it never happens outside of America...

Lunatic murders ten in Austrian school massacre

Graz, Austria (Reuters) - A former pupil killed 10 people and himself at a secondary school in Austria's second city, Graz, on Tuesday in the worst school shooting in Austria's modern history.

Interior Minister Gerhard Karner said six of those killed at the school were female and three were male, without giving any details of their ages. Graz Hospital later confirmed the death of a 10th person.



NBC News: 'Far left online ecosystem' promoting violence at 'protests'

(NBC News) - It was approaching nightfall in Los Angeles on Sunday when black-clad demonstrators began to torch a row of self-driving Waymo taxis. Within minutes, videos of the fiery scenes began to pop up on social media.

"MORE. MORE AND MORE AND MORE," a group known as Unity of Fields posted on X, along with a video of the flaming vehicles.

The post wasn't an anomaly. Since the start of the demonstrations against immigration raids in Los Angeles, the Unity of Fields X account has been pumping out messages urging people to wreak havoc in the streets and "give 'em hell."

It's part of a far-left online ecosystem that has proliferated in recent years, experts say. Some of the groups behind the accounts express contempt for peaceful resistance and glorify acts of violence — and even murders, like those of the United-Healthcare CEO and two Israeli Embassy staffers.

The leftist networks tend to be different from right-wing groups in that they are typically decentralized with no leadership structures. But they can be highly adept at using social media, and some have been working hard to amplify and celebrate the acts of violent

protesters in Los Angeles.

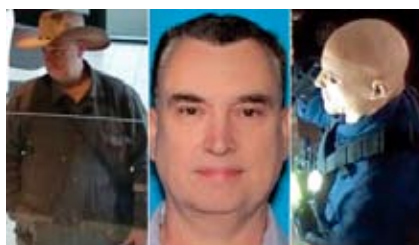
"Whether they directly threw a Molotov cocktail is actually not as essential as the ecosystem of encouragement and coordination they have created," said Joel Finkelstein, a co-founder of the Network Contagion Research Institute, a nonpartisan group that tracks online extremism.

The unrest in Los Angeles follows a pattern that has played out in numerous cities over the past five years in which protests that break out remain mostly peaceful during the day, but at night agitators engage in fiery clashes with police...

"What we found in our research is there are groups that were attempting to exploit the situation, oftentimes after dark, and their coordination was somewhat sophisticated," said Alex Goldenberg, a senior adviser to the Network Contagion Research Institute.

That involved demonstrators' surveilling police movements and sharing tips about making the most destructive Molotov cocktails, Goldenberg said.

"They were trying to exploit an already volatile situation in an attempt to provoke violent clashes with police, create viral moments to inflame tensions and draw in others through emotional triggers," he said.



Murderous leftist unhappy with 'moderate' Dems

Minnesota political assassin nabbed

Minneapolis (FoxNews) - Vance Boelter, the suspect accused of shooting two Minnesota state lawmakers, killing one and her husband, was captured on Sunday, multiple law enforcement sources confirmed to Fox News.

Boelter, 57, was captured in Sibley County after a two-day manhunt. He allegedly killed former Minnesota House Speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband, Mark, early Saturday morning at their Brooklyn Park home in Minneapolis. He also allegedly shot State Sen. John Hoffman, also a Democrat, and his wife, Yvette, in their nearby Champlin home in a related attack.

The Sibley County Sheriff's Office told Fox News that Boelter "verbally" identified himself to authorities searching for him in the area on Sunday evening.

Chicago leftist murders two Israeli embassy staffers

Washington, DC (AP) - The man accused of fatally shooting two staff members of the Israeli Embassy in Washington as they left an event at a Jewish museum told police after his arrest, "I did it for Palestine, I did it for Gaza," federal authorities said Thursday in announcing criminal charges.

Elias Rodriguez, 31, of Chicago, shouted "Free Palestine" as he was led away after his arrest and told police that he was the one who "did it," according to charging documents that provided chilling new details of a Wednesday night attack that killed an American woman and Israeli man who were set to become engaged.

Authorities described the slayings as a targeted act of terror.





Civil Unrest, Inc.

How America learned to spot manufactured mayhem

by Doug Ross

The latest *Truth Over News* podcast outlines the origin story of the Los Angeles anti-ICE riots.

What we're witnessing isn't protest; it's warfare by other means, complete with pre-printed signs, strategically placed weapons, and political air cover from the very officials sworn to protect

public safety.

With 40 million illegal immigrants in the country, foreign flags raised in burning American cities, and Democrats openly cheering for violence, we've crossed from civil unrest into something far more dangerous.

The tools exist to deal with this—the same ones used

to destroy January 6th participants. The question isn't capability; it's will. America's survival may depend on whether that will materializes before the next switch gets flipped.

The era of treating coordinated political violence as spontaneous protest must end now.



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