

Image courtesy Oleg Volk.

CRIME DROPS AS MORE AMERICANS PACK HEAT

by John Lott (ZeroHedge) - Alessandra Coote was walking on a trail with her 2-year-old daughter and dog two-and-a-half years ago when a man began yelling at her and threatened to kill her dog. When the petite single mom made it back to her Utah home, she decided she needed a firearm for protection.

A few months later, while living in what she described as a "shady part of town," a homeless man threatened her. After that encounter, she began regularly carrying a firearm under Utah's Constitutional Carry law.



Coote, who just graduated this spring from the University of Utah, says carrying the gun has given her the confidence to feel safe in public. "It's been life-changing," she told RealClearInvestigations (RCI). Although she has never had to draw or fire the weapon, she has faced a threatening individual when she was armed, but stopped the attack by merely letting the man know she was carrying.

Coote is part of a growing trend of strapped Americans. A new survey of 1,000 general election voters conducted last month

Continued on page 15.

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Rich Goodall, President
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July 2026

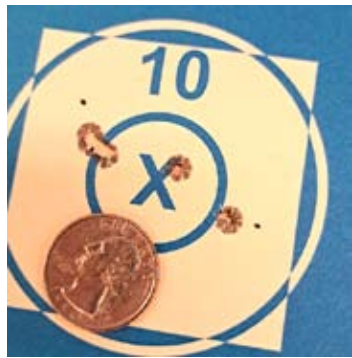
- **Quincy:** Last Wednesday: **June 24**, July 29
Eagles Club, 3737 N. Fifth Street, Quincy
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: **NEW LOCATION! June 28**, July 25
Main Street Exchange Pizza Bar, 25346 S. Dixie Highway, Crete
Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.
- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **July 6**, August 3
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **July 7**, August 4
Pontiac Sportsman's Club, 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **July 1**, August 5
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion (*Program at 6:45pm*)
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **July 2**, August 6
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6:30ish.
- **Danville:** Second Monday **July 13**, August 10
Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **July 8**, August 12
Prairie House Tavern, 2710 Main St., Buffalo Grove
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6pm-ish.
- **Mattoon:** Second Thursday: **July 9**, August 13
The American Legion Post 88, 1903 Maple Ave, Mattoon
- **LaSalle County:** Third Thursday: **July 16**, August 20
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 venues.

Meetings are free and open to all.



John Thomposon, Director of the Vermilion County 911 Center and candidate for the Vermilion County Sheriff speaks at GSL in Danville. See page 9.



Yeah, it's a good target. Except it is a five-shot group shot under time at a competition. At 600 yards. A third of a mile away. That was the topic in Springfield.



Josh Witkowski in Springfield at SCHEELS hours after the Spring legislation session adjourned.



Rep. Brad Halbrook in Decatur delivering a legislative recap.



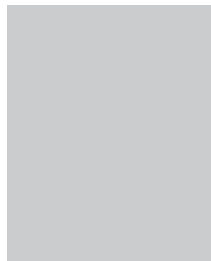
Keith Phippen in Mattoon with prep supplies.



At the LaSalle County meeting. John Boch with Crystal Loughran and Glenn Pratt. Also, on the left, is the new legislative aide to Congressman Darin LaHood.



Norm won a K-frame revolver in Peoria. Congrats!



Gun books were the tech time in Decatur. Not all had text under the cover.



Rich win a Springfield Armory Browning clone. A classic!



Bruce has a new Glock!



Save this photo of Terry with a non-custom shotgun... She won this defensive shotgun in Danville.

Vandermyde seeking three-year term on NRA Board

Fellow Patriots and NRA Voting Members,

The NRA is at a crossroads. For years it drifted — weakened by scandal, mismanagement, and timid leadership while our enemies worked relentlessly to destroy the Second Amendment.



I stepped up and was elected to a one-year term on the NRA Board in 2026 after filling a vacancy. Now I'm in the fight for a full three-year term because the work to restore the NRA to its rightful place as the most powerful, uncompromising force for freedom is far from finished.

We are righting the ship. We are cleaning house. We are rebuilding the powerhouse our rights desperately need. But we cannot afford half-measures or more years of weakness. The battles ahead are too critical.

That's why I'm calling on every committed NRA member to act right now.

Sign my petition today to get me on the ballot for a full term. I need just under 300 signatures. With your help — and by forwarding this to every gun owner and freedom fighter in your network — we can smash that number and put another proven fighter for our rights back on the Board.

This is your chance to strike back. To demand real leadership. To help forge an NRA that doesn't apologize, doesn't compromise, and doesn't back down.

Sign. Share. Fight with me.

The future of the NRA — and our God-given rights — depends on what we do today.

Todd Vandermyde
NRA Board Candidate for a Full Term



Scan for petition website.



June GunNews failing to land in mailboxes... we know

We've received multiple reports from subscribers that the June 2026 issue of GunNews has not yet arrived in mailboxes. You're not alone, and this isn't the first time.

A longtime subscriber in the Glen Ellyn/Lombard area wrote:

"Hi John, first time writer, couple year subscriber. I'm in Glen Ellyn/Lombard area. I know, quite often the paper takes forever to get here. I'm wondering if the June in print is out for delivery yet? Thanks, Mike. Best wishes and keep up the great work."

Our pallet of papers gets bulk-mailed at the Peoria post office. This "mysterious delay" to our publication's distribution first happened before the "most popular president ever" was elected (cough).

Occasionally GunNews seems to "age" in a corner for weeks while someone cos-plays hero for the left's resistance. Then it appears in mailboxes four, six or even ten weeks later. Coincidence? Nah.

Maybe it was the 8-year-old girl on the cover posing with her shotgun and her turkey. We will say that past images of kids with guns really seems to trigger those special snowflakes who are extra-sensitive to microaggressions.

We're working on solutions, but in the meantime, the full-color digital edition is available right now, on our website. It's packed with hard-hitting coverage you won't find in the legacy media: defensive gun uses, the real costs of Illinois' failed criminal justice policies, updates on our rights under attack, training tips, and more.

Again, you can download the June issue at the Guns Save Life website.

If your copy is late, you're not alone. And if you haven't joined yet, now's the perfect time — your support helps us fight these battles on every front, including delivering the truth despite the obstacles.

Thank you for your patience and continued membership. We'll keep you posted on the print delivery.





Join Guns Save Life. Get the truth that keeps you alive.

In Illinois today, the politicians in Springfield and Chicago have made one thing crystal clear: they will disarm you, tie the hands of law enforcement, and release violent predators back into your neighborhoods while calling it “compassion.” The SAFE-T Act turns armed home invaders who shoot people into revolving-door guests. Chicago’s gang-driven chaos spills into the suburbs. “Violence interrupters” with long criminal records get taxpayer money while honest citizens get lectured about “gun violence.”

You will not find this truth in the legacy media. They bury it, spin it, or ignore it.

GunNews delivers it raw, every month.

This issue alone arms you with what you actually need to know:

- Crime is dropping while *more* Americans legally carry — documented by John Lott and national data.
- A powerful “Paper vs. Gun” story of a Texas woman who survived a home invasion because she had a firearm, not a piece of paper from a judge.
- Defensive gun uses outnumber criminal gun uses by more than 5-to-1.
- Real training: situational awareness that saves lives, educator CCW classes that turn teachers into prepared defenders, and John Murphy’s “Just Get Home” doctrine.
- The fight to restore the NRA to a true powerhouse — and how

you can help put proven fighters on the Board.

- Unflinching coverage of PICA, FOID, the legislative battlefield, and the predators the system keeps releasing.

This isn’t entertainment. It’s intelligence. It’s the monthly briefing that arms your mind so you can better arm and protect your family.

When you join Guns Save Life, you don’t just receive *GunNews*. You join a statewide network of patriots who train together, stand together, and fight together. You support the law-suits, the lobbying, the public education, and the grassroots muscle that has thwarted bad bills and kept the pressure on.

The wolves are organized. The politicians are relentless. The media is complicit.

You don’t have to face it alone and uninformed.

Join today. Get *GunNews* in your mailbox every month (when the USPS isn’t burying our pallets). Arm your mind with the truth. Arm your body with training and carry. Arm your family with the knowledge that can help them avoid becoming a victim... or a statistic.

Stay dangerous. Stay free. Join the Guns Save Life family. See the back page for a membership form... or drop by one of our monthly meetings and get two free gun drawing tickets for every year you sign up.

Thanks to Macon County Judge Lindsey Shelton...

Macon County repeat home invader (who shot someone!) walks free under SAFE-T Act

by John Boch

(GSL) - Garold Leggions, 35, of Decatur, stands accused of a spree of armed home invasions. He allegedly forced his way into multiple apartments, threatened victims with a gun, fired shots, and struck one man in the leg with a bullet. This wasn’t his first rodeo. Police arrested him while he was already wanted for failing to appear on a prior residential burglary charge.



Judge Lindsey Shelton (now Craycraft)

This case perfectly illustrates why Guns Save Life has fought relentlessly against the SAFE-T Act and cashless bail policies pushed by Pritzker and the Chicago machine. It prioritizes criminals over victims, releasing predators back into the community with little more than a monitoring bracelet they can likely defeat.

Macon County court records reveal a career criminal with multiple prior arrests and convictions for burglaries, felon in possession of a firearm, and related offenses stretching back years. This is exactly the kind of repeat violent offender the system should keep locked up — especially one who escalates to shooting innocent people in their own homes.



Garold Leggions.

Yet after initially ruling that Leggions posed a real and present threat to the community and ordering him detained, Judge Lindsey A. Shelton (now Craycraft) flipped and granted him pretrial release under Illinois’ SAFE-T Act. No cash bail required.

Judge Shelton doesn’t live in the Decatur neighborhoods where Leggions and his ilk prey on residents. She resides in a massive five-bedroom, four-bath, 6,400 square foot home in upscale Forsyth — valued well over a half-million dollars. Far removed from the consequences of her high-minded, elitist decisions, she doesn’t have to worry about a three-time home invader kicking in *her* door at 2 a.m. Decatur families do.



Illinois families deserve better. Armed home invasion should carry real consequences, not a revolving door. Repeat offenders who shoot people shouldn’t get do-overs because a judge follows flawed laws written by out-of-touch politicians.

Join Guns Save Life — train, carry, and stay vigilant. Because in Illinois today, the courts won’t protect you. Your life, your family, your home. Defend them.

GunNews distribution hubs

Would you be able to distribute bundles or partial bundles of *GunNews* to sporting goods shops, local gun shops or other interested venues as part of your regular travels? If so, stop by these locations to grab some to share with others to continue to help GSL’s public education mission.

Springfield (New Address!): Glisson Heating and Air, 1531 W. Jefferson in Springfield. There may be limited availability to get them. Call Dave Walbaum at 217 341-6297 or Joel Gain at 217 632-3267.

Dwight: Rick’s Automotive in Dwight.

Chicagoland: Nick Klementzos in Lockport. Text or call: 708 476-0276.

Rantoul: Corky’s Storage on south end of Rantoul. Unit #67. Call or text John Boch (217 649-3702) or Warren Drake (217 898-9602) for the lock combination.

Decatur: Rat’s Whole Place motorcycle repair in Decatur.

Bloomington: John Boch. 2208 Patriot’s Pointe, Bloomington. Call or text first. 217 649-3702.



WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

Guns Save Life’s LIFE MEMBERSHIP!

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.

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.



Summer's here! Enjoy safely.

Executive Director's Report
by John Boch



Legislative Update

The Illinois General Assembly has finally crawled back into their holes until after the election. Hallelujah and pass the ammunition. They'll slither out for three pathetic lame-duck mini-sessions — November, December, and a frantic few days in January — where, with zero accountability, they'll try to ram through whatever unconstitutional garbage their donors and handlers demand. Stay frosty.

These sessions are where the real damage happens while everyone's distracted by Christmas lights and bowl games.

Litigation Update

We've got a fresh FOID challenge on the board: *Laurent v. Kelly*. It hits both 2nd and 14th Amendment angles hard. William Kirk likes the suit. He's not exactly doing cartwheels over federal court filing (as opposed to filing it in state court), but let's be honest — the Illinois Supreme Court has punted on FOID cases so many times they've earned frequent-flier miles. State court would've just been another "see you never" delay.

Still no peep from the 7th Circuit on our gun and magazine ban smackdown. Shocking, I know. About as surprising as a Chicago politician getting arrested for corruption.

And don't hold your breath on SCOTUS grabbing any of the five pending 2A cases before they bail for summer break. Optimism is in short supply.

NRA Annual Meeting

In actual good news, the NRA is bringing its Annual Meetings back to Indianapolis in 2029 and 2031!

If you've never been, fix that. Every gun owner should make the pilgrimage at least once. It's part gun show, part rock concert, part family reunion for patriots. You'll see more freedom in one weekend than Chicago saw in the last Century.

Racism in New Jersey CCW Denials

Racism is alive, well, and thriving in deep-blue states — especially when it comes to letting law-abiding citizens carry guns.

In New Jersey, Black applicants get denied at ten times the rate of others statewide. In Ocean County? Fifty times higher. That's not a "disparity." That's a flashing neon sign. Imagine how much worse it was before the courts forced them to go quasi-shall-issue. Apparently equal protection under the law only applies when it's convenient.

Chicago (and its spreading cancer)

Chicago's "youth" continue perfecting the art of the takeover — carjackings, smash-and-grabs, and general mayhem that's now exporting nicely to Naperville, Joliet, Springfield, Aurora, and beyond.

These aren't "kids being kids." These are organized, brazen crimes by gangs and teens who've figured out the system protects them far better than it protects you. The message from Illinois politicians is loud and clear: your safety is optional, their reelection is mandatory.

Springfield: Where even Abe Lincoln would say "What the hell happened?"

Our state capital looked like a dumpster fire during IGOLD. Turns out that wasn't a one-off — it's the new normal.

I recently dragged the family down to Springfield to return some magazines at SCHEELS and do the whole touristy Lincoln thing with my girlfriend and the boys. You know, history, inspiration, the whole "Land of Lincoln" thing.

What we got instead was a live-action episode of *Cops: Mental Health Edition*. Or maybe *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest: The Great Escape*.



At the Old State Capitol, we were greeted by a 30-something gentleman passed out cold on the sidewalk. Could've been sleeping off a chemical vacation or just winning the mental illness lottery — hard to tell. He eventually shuffled off like a zombie with a hangover. Glad he didn't play violent panhandler.

Then, on the street by Lincoln's actual home, another character was pacing up and down the block, having a full-on argument with himself. Who knows. Maybe he lost his tin foil hat. Nobody made eye contact. Smart move. The last thing you want is to become the main character in his personal episode of *Unhinged & Unmedicated*.

Top that off with a third genius on MacArthur Boulevard standing smack in the middle of traffic a few blocks from Mission BBQ, losing an argument with the voices in his head — and looking extremely upset about it. Like the drivers ahead of us, we gingerly navigated around him like it was a game of *Frogger*. Good times. And that doesn't count a half-dozen "homeless" bums and winos downtown near the Children's Discovery Museum.

Yes, downtown Springfield has become an adventure and not in a good way.

Forty years ago when I lived in Springfield, the cops and politicians wouldn't have tolerated this circus for five minutes. They'd have scooped these folks up, gotten them help or locked them up, and kept the city from becoming an open-air asylum.

In Lincoln's time they would have gotten some hickory shampoo - if they were lucky.

So what changed?

Progressive "compassion," defund-the-police nonsense, and a revolving-door justice system that treats public safety like an optional suggestion. The same brilliant minds who disarm law-abiding citizens have turned our streets into a combination homeless shelter, drug den, and lunatic promenade.

Meanwhile, they expect all of us to feel safe without the tools to protect ourselves or our families.

Welcome to JB Pritzker's utopia. Where only he and the politically connected have guns and private security. The rest of us little people have to navigate life as sheep among wolves.

Yes, summer's here. Enjoy it safely. Avoid Chicago if at all possible.

Arm up, train hard, and stay dangerous. Because the "leadership" in this state sure isn't going to protect you.

Stay vigilant, Illinois. And enjoy your summer safely.

Civil Liberties? What's that?

Utterly Flocked: "We-don't-track-people"-firm now deploys nationwide network of warrantless pedestrian-tracking cameras

(ZeroHedge) - Flock Safety, the Atlanta-based private surveillance firm, insists its cameras are not tracking people. Yet its own systems, training materials, and expanding product line tell a different story - one of a rapidly growing, warrantless mass surveillance infrastructure that logs vehicle movements, follows pedestrians with AI, and feeds data-hungry police departments across the country.



A new investigative report highlights how Flock's network - now encompassing tens of thousands of cameras - enables police to reconstruct months of travel history for any vehicle with a few clicks, no warrant required. Security researchers and activists are pushing back, mapping the devices and exposing security lapses that leave feeds openly accessible online.

DeFlock and the scale of the panopticon

In Boulder, Colorado, activist Will Freeman operates DeFlock.org, which has mapped over 88,000 Flock cameras nationwide. The app reveals camera locations and orientations, underscoring how pervasive the network has become in public spaces. Flock's license plate readers snap time-stamped photos of every passing vehicle, allowing historical queries spanning up to 30 days.

As security researcher Benn Jordan noted, plotting that data on a map effectively places a month-long GPS tracker on your car. Jordan, who previously discovered dozens of Flock cameras streaming publicly, described AI-driven features that zoom in and follow individuals - whether persons of interest or random passersby, Atlanta News First reports.

As we've previously reported on the battle brewing between mass surveillance tech and individual liberty, tools sold for "public

safety" quietly erode Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable searches.

Company denials vs. Training videos and hardware reality

Flock's Chief Communications Officer Josh Thomas claims the company aids in solving around 700,000 crimes annually. He disputes "tracking" characterizations, arguing the system captures discrete points in time rather than continuous monitoring.

However, Flock's own webinars contradict this:

"The example of tracking that vehicle from location to location," a Flock webinar instructor said.

"And you're able to track your suspect's movements," another webinar showed.

In one training video, a police officer described using Flock cameras to follow a suspect across state lines: "And we were able to track him all the way over to another state, in Kentucky."



Flock's "Condor" camera

Tracking pedestrians too...

Flock's Condor cameras go further: These pan-tilt-zoom units use AI to detect and automatically follow human movement. When confronted, Thomas maintained the company does not track people, attributing features like "Guardian Mode" to mere object detection rather than persistent tracking. Yet demonstrations show the cameras panning and tilting in real-time to keep subjects in frame.

Critics like Jordan suggest the pedestrian-tracking hardware emerged conveniently after earlier denials that Flock only captured license plates.

Security nightmares and misuse

Jordan and collaborators found over 70 Condor cameras streaming openly online without passwords.

He published the video on YouTube along with 404 Media.



"I watched a man leave his house in the morning. I watched a woman jogging alone on a forest trail in Georgia," Jordan said.

Thomas said the exposure was an accident caused by Verizon sending the wrong SIM cards with public IP addresses on roughly 60-70 devices, which were fixed once discovered. Verizon did not respond to requests for comment.

Police officers nationwide have been arrested for using Flock cameras to stalk former partners and love interests. Freeman and Jordan warn that human nature makes such misuse inevitable in a system logging everyone's movements by default. Thomas pointed to audit logs and accountability measures, but activists argue the architecture itself invites overreach.

The "Safety" trade-off and pushback

Flock touts its role in preventing mass violence and solving crimes, with Thomas positioning the company on the side of those "fighting to stop" such threats. Yet more than two dozen cities, including Denver, have canceled contracts amid privacy concerns and questions over data access.

Freeman, demonstrating DeFlock's route-planning feature that avoids camera-dense paths (turning a quick 1.7-mile trip into a 14-minute detour), argues the default of logging all citizens - not just suspects - is the core problem. He plans to keep "tracking the trackers" in the absence of oversight.

This saga fits a familiar pattern of privatized surveillance creep: Companies like Flock build the infrastructure, police query it with minimal friction, and civil liberties erode under the banner of security. As similar systems proliferate, the question remains whether Americans are willing to accept a perpetual digital dragnet in exchange for promised safety.

Guns Save Life
is back on Facebook



VIOLENCE INTERRUPTERS: More “disruptors” than saviors in Chicago’s failed anti-violence programs

Chicago (GSL) - Chicago’s “violence interrupter” programs, like the once-heralded CeaseFire (now part of Cure Violence), promise to deploy “credible messengers” — often former gang members — to talk potential shooters off the ledge and reduce gun violence. Taxpayers pour millions into these initiatives, betting that street-savvy ex-offenders will succeed where police and prisons supposedly fail. Reality tells a different story: far too many of these “interrupters” turn out to be active participants in the very violence they’re paid to stop.



Gregory Sherman, 19 time felon, recovering from shooting himself in the butt.

Another interrupter, while employed as a school crossing guard, was caught selling stolen guns — the very tools these programs claim to demonize. Multiple cases involve interrupters carrying illegal firearms while on bail for prior gun charges. In one sweep, three anti-violence workers faced felony gun violations. One was accused of shooting at two people.

Federal probes have repeatedly uncovered gang ties among CeaseFire staff. In 2017, violence interrupter Francisco “Smokey” Sanchez was charged as part of a major Gangster Two-Six Nation gang takedown. Earlier, program director Tio Hardiman faced domestic violence charges. Police have long warned that some interrupters slip back into criminal activity, with tips about ongoing offenses surfacing regularly.

These scandals are compounded by opaque funding structures. Anti-violence groups are often paid through state funding routed to NGOs and nonprofit intermediaries. This setup deliberately limits transparency on how grants are spent, shielding operations from direct public scrutiny. Taxpayers foot the bill but struggle to hold anyone accountable when money vanishes into overhead, questionable hires, or outright misuse.

Investigations have uncovered funding discrepancies, weak oversight, and a billion-dollar anti-violence industry in Chicago with far too little accountability.

The pattern exposes the fundamental flaw: these programs romanticize “lived experience” from the streets while ignoring that the small cohort of repeat violent offenders drives most of Chicago’s carnage. Handing them salaries, credibility, and access to vulnerable communities — often with minimal vetting — is a high-risk gamble that frequently fails. Evaluations of CeaseFire showed modest localized reductions in some sites, but overall city violence remains stubbornly high, and scandals erode public trust.

Contrast this with law-abiding armed citizens. Defensive gun uses number in the hundreds of thousands annually nationwide, frequently preventing crimes without shots fired. Responsible gun owners pass background checks, train regularly, and respect the law. Yet Illinois politicians obsess over restricting them via PICA-style bans while recycling failed interrupter models and soft-on-crime policies.

Chicago’s experience proves the point: “paper” solutions and feel-good programs don’t interrupt violence — they often enable it, especially when shielded by opaque NGO funding pipelines. Real public safety demands prosecuting violent recidivists, supporting proactive policing, and empowering citizens to defend themselves. Until policymakers prioritize locking up the wolves instead of hiring them as shepherds — and demand real transparency in how our tax dollars are spent — Chicago’s streets will continue bleeding.

The recent high-profile embarrassment of Jamari Edwards, a CeaseFire violence interrupter sentenced to 22 years in federal prison for a brazen carjacking spree in West Englewood in August 2022. Edwards and accomplices targeted multiple victims at gunpoint, including a Dunkin’ Donuts drive-thru stickup. One victim was shot. Court records confirmed Edwards’ role with CeaseFire and another group focused on “anger management” for at-risk youth. Days or weeks after such hires, the “reformed” credentials often prove paper-thin.

This isn’t an isolated incident. Chicago’s interrupter programs have a well-documented habit of hiring individuals with extensive criminal histories who quickly revert to form. One nine-time felon working as an anti-violence worker — already out on bail for battering an Illinois State Trooper — accidentally shot himself in the ass at a Bucktown gas station while adjusting his unsecured handgun in his waistband. Gregory Sherman then lied to police about the incident. Darwin Award material, funded by taxpayers.

Here’s just a few of the “interrupters” arrested in Chicagoland

(GSL) - Here’s a tightened compilation from “interrupters” arrested in Chicago...

- Jamari Edwards (CeaseFire): 22 years federal prison for 2022 West Englewood carjacking spree, including a Dunkin’ drive-thru shooting.
- Francisco “Smokey” Sanchez (CeaseFire): 2017 arrest in Gangster Two-Six Nation gang takedown, felon in possession.
- Gregory Sherman, 19-time felon anti-violence worker: Shot himself in the ass at Bucktown gas station while on bail for battering a State Trooper; lied to police. Three anti-violence workers (2021): Felony gun charges while on bail; one accused of shooting at two people.
- Michael Nash (peacekeeper): Armed robbery and witness intimidation in Woodlawn.
- Kellen McMiller (peacekeeper): Linked to fatal Mag Mile Louis Vuitton crash-and-grab; photographed with Gov. Pritzker.
- Tyrone Muhammad (convicted murderer, interrupter): Felon caught with loaded gun in 2025; charges dropped after political intervention.
- Tio Hardiman (CeaseFire director): Domestic violence arrests.

Additional cases: interrupters selling guns as crossing guards, carrying illegal firearms on bail. Programs use opaque NGO funding with minimal vetting, leading to repeated taxpayer-funded failures.

IL GA ‘Spring Session’ gun legislation wrap-up

by John Boch (GSL) - The Illinois General Assembly wrapped up its Spring Session on June 1, 2026. In a state with Democratic majorities and a history of aggressive gun control under Gov. JB Pritzker, gun rights advocates achieved a solid defensive win as several high-profile anti-gun bills failed to advance before adjournment.



Key gun control proposals stalled in the final weeks. Most notably, HB 4471—the so-called “Glock ban”—died without a full vote. We braced ourselves for this one to pass, but it ran out of steam at the last minute.

Other measures, such as ammunition serialization proposals (e.g., HB 4414), or further tightening of FOID and PICA rules, also failed to reach the finish line. Strong opposition from the nation’s premier gun rights organization, the National Rifle Association (NRA) along with the Illinois Federation for Outdoor Resources (IFOR), the Illinois State Rifle Association (ISRA), Guns Save Life (GSL) and other groups combined with partisan gridlock and competing priorities like the state budget, left these bills on the cutting room floor.

Importantly, this was not sine die adjournment. Lawmakers will return for three lame-duck sessions after the November 2026 election: “Veto” sessions (one in November, one in December) and the traditional short session in early January before the new legislature is sworn in on the second Wednesday in January. These bills could—and probably will—resurface during those periods.

On the positive side for hunters, lawmakers passed a modernization of deer hunting regulations. Senate Bill 2756 (with companion HB 4504) updates the Illinois Wildlife Code to allow straight-walled centerfire rifles with a maximum capacity of three rounds (magazine plus chamber) for deer hunting. This replaces the prior single-shot restriction for rifles.

Provisions allow permanent plugs or modifications for higher-capacity firearms. Sportsmen’s groups, including IFOR, praised the change for aligning Illinois with neighboring states, boosting hunter success and safety with modern options like the .350 Legend while preserving conservation limits. Gov. Pritzker is expected to sign it.

Overall, the Spring Session was a holding pattern on gun control—no sweeping new restrictions passed, offering temporary relief amid ongoing PICA legal challenges. Hunters gained a practical win. NRA, GSL, IFOR, ISRA and other pro-gun organizations will continue monitoring developments closely heading into the post-election sessions.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

DeWitt County Sportsman’s Club

Clinton, IL



HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Free memberships to active duty LEOs

>>>> Memberships Available. <<<<

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.





Republicans Control Everything — So Why Is the SAVE Act Still DOA?

Grow a spine, boys

by Nancy Hayes

A poll by McLaughlin & Associates delivers a brutal reality check: **87% of Americans demand proof of U.S. citizenship to register to vote, and 86% insist only American citizens should vote in American elections.** Yet the SAVE Act (Safe-guard American Voter Eligibility) — passed by the House and stalled in the Senate — remains buried under excuses.

Why does this matter to gun owners? Because non-citizens voting directly threatens your Second Amendment rights.

Every illegal or non-citizen ballot helps elect anti-gun politicians who push PICA-style confiscation, red flag laws, ammo serialization, and “assault weapon” bans.

They dilute the voice of law-abiding American citizens who understand that armed self-defense is a cornerstone of freedom. One citizen, one vote — or we lose our guns to imported voters who never cared about the Constitution.

Senator Mike Lee nailed it: elected Democrats oppose the SAVE Act because they want non-citizens influencing elections.

Rep. Chip Roy added: “Secure elections are a key cornerstone for any representative government... without them, we won’t have a country.”

The SAVE Act requires documentary proof of citizenship for federal voter registration, forces states to purge non-citizens from rolls using DHS and SSA databases, lets citizens sue negligent election officials, and penalizes those who register non-citizens.

Republicans hold the House, Senate, and White House. Yet they hide behind their own 60-vote filibuster rule and unelected Parliamentarian Elizabeth MacDonough (a Harry Reid holdover). Vice-President JD Vance can override her. Thune can fire her. There’s zero excuse for this weakness when our gun rights are on the line.

Illinois gun owners: Non-citizen voting is election interference that endangers your ability to defend your family. Demand action.

Call Senate Majority Leader John Thune at 1-866-850-3855 — tell him to fire the Parliamentarian and pass the SAVE Act.

Call the White House at 202-456-1111 and demand VP Vance override the road-blocks.

No more excuses. Secure elections.

Secure gun rights. One citizen, one vote — or watch Illinois-style tyranny spread nationwide.

Let’s make it happen.

At the Illinois Freedom Alliance, 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

New Chicago fires police chief after he was busted pawning evidence guns

New Chicago, IN (CBS News) - Leaders of New Chicago, Indiana, have voted to terminate their police chief, who is accused of selling a gun that was evidence in an investigation to a pawn shop.



Earl Mayo was arrested on May 24 and is now charged with seven felonies. The New Chicago Police Commission met Monday night and voted to terminate his employment and elect a new temporary police chief.

Town attorney Lloyd Mullen said the entire community is still shocked by the

news, because they trusted Chief Mayo.

“Officer, Chief Mayo, was a person I personally liked and thought he was doing a good job,” Mullen said.

The New Chicago Police Department was operating out of the River Forest School Corporation in Hobart. Since it was a school, Mullen said no guns were allowed inside, so Officer Mayo kept them.

“Officer Mayo was allowed to take them home and store them in his own safe,” he said.

How many guns he kept is still being investigated by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms, Tobacco and Explosives. Court documents say a couple weeks ago a Lake County, Indiana, sheriff’s police commander received a firearm trace request for a gun related to an upcoming criminal trial. It turned out the gun had been sold to a pawn shop in Hobart.

Pritzker’s pathetic 2% humiliation

(GSL) - Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker is reportedly despondent after a new national poll delivered the devastating news that only 2% of Democratic voters want him anywhere near the 2028 presidential nomination.



JB Pritzker’s very sad.

That’s right — the billionaire trust-fund kid who’s spent years treating Illinois like his personal playground just got reminded that the rest of America isn’t interested in his champagne socialism or his bottomless wallet. In the Center Square Voters’ Voice Poll conducted June 1-4, Kamala Harris led with 27%,

Gavin Newsom took 14%, and even Pete Buttigieg and AOC smoked the Illinois embarrassment. Pritzker tied with Kentucky’s Andy Beshear at a pathetic 2%.

While normal people in Illinois struggle with sky-high taxes, failing schools, record crime, and businesses fleeing his failed state, Pritzker’s been jet-setting around the country auditioning for president — blasting Trump, whining about “bigotry,” and pretending he’s some kind of national savior.

Spoiler alert, Governor: Your own state can’t wait to get rid of you, and the country wants even less to do with you. Maybe stick to raising taxes on the little guys you claim to champion. The 2028 field just isn’t ready for another out-of-touch billionaire pretending to be “for the people.”

Natural selection in politics is brutal — and Pritzker just got bodied.

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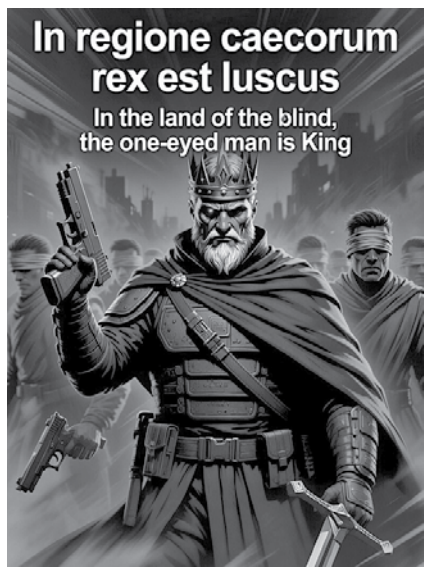
In regione caecorum rex est luscus

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

Friends don't let friends commit Youicide

Every so often my better half, and our pooch, grab a rental car and drive out to northern Virginia to visit her sisters (my wife's, not the dog's). It's 765 miles, door-to-door, so I have a lot of time to think, until the dog barks because he wants to take a leak.

On a recent trip, I started thinking about all the crazy things that people are screaming from sea to shining sea. Unhinged rants. And I came up with a brand new word for the English language, "Youicide." I know it's a new word, because when I went to Mr. Google and typed it in, nothing came up. Not a peep. So then I went to several Artificial Intelligence websites. And again, zip, nada, zero. So, drumroll...thanks to GSL, here it is. And what, you may ask, is "Youicide"?



observer concluded that this "hatred is so intense that it impairs people's judgment." And impair is defined as "to grow worse; to deteriorate."

Signs of "Youicide" can be observed, ranging from verbal expressions of intense hostility, overt acts of aggression (like trashing someone's car or yard), and even to lethal violence against anyone or anything the person with "Youicide" now hates. You know it when you hear: "Johnny never used words like these before. His parents didn't raise him this way. He's stopped going to church. What's wrong with him?"



What's wrong is that "Johnny" killed all those values inside himself, because he stopped listening to his family and loved ones, and started believing third parties who don't give damn about him, and only view "Johnny" as another useful idiot. And while communism's founding fathers, Karl Marx and Vladimir Lenin, may not have actually use the term "useful idiot," they certainly believed in the mechanism, and in the fact that a **person with "Youicide" is now a useful idiot.**

There are many, many ramifications of "Youicide." Public threats of violence can lead to arrest and prosecution. Freedom of Speech may cover some speech, but many people with a lethal dose of "Youicide" will find serious ramifications down the line. But internal strife (angst) is even worse. Sometimes on vacations we head to our favorite spot overlooking the ocean near my wife's home. There's often a 95-year-old guy from New Hampshire or Vermont escaping the winter. Had a successful law practice until he retired, and appears to have no financial problems. Shuffles around with his walker when the temperature isn't so hot.

For the last ten years, he has obviously suffered from "Youicide." He cannot go twenty seconds without raising his voice in an obvious Derangement Syndrome. X did this. X is going to do that. X is a Nazi. You can see his blood pressure rising. Spittle starts coming out of his mouth as fast as his words. He wasn't born this way. He wasn't raised this way, or no law firm would have ever hired him. He has killed any values he had. While some beachgoers move to another area, he attracts like-minded folks who agree, which eggs him on. These leering third parties don't care about him. Maybe they just want to see an old geezer stroke out. So they can have his pool chair.

His choice of committing "Youicide" is making what should be his peaceful sunset years merely a prolonged, hateful, stress-producing, "rantfest." He is already dead inside, and just waiting to die on the outside. But there is a cure. Just follow the words of good old Smokey The Bear: "Only You Can Prevent Youicide".

It stems from the word "suicide." Which is the act of intentionally causing one's own death. Suicide is a sad word. Some suicides are impulsive acts driven by stress, perhaps serious financial problems, or from academic difficulties. Suicides can occur from human relationship problems. However, in many cases, we simply don't know what caused a person to "go over the edge," unless there is a note, or previous conversations overheard. I've read that suicide is the tenth-leading cause of death worldwide. Whatever the number is, suicide is a physical act and if "successful" ends in the actual death of the individual.

"Youicide" is along the same line, but it is not the physical death of a person. While I am not a physician, or a psychiatrist, or a psychologist, I know "Youicide" when I see and hear it. **I define "Youicide" as the voluntary "killing," of an individual's own set of core values, caused by a third party, who often does not have that individual's best interests at heart.** Most often, the third party is another person, although we may find in the future that Artificial Intelligence can accomplish the same thing. The person with "Youicide" kills their own values and with that, their ability to reason or think logically.

I do not believe that we currently have any blood test, x-ray or MRI that show "Youicide." But we do know its symptoms when we see or hear them. You don't have to be a doc or a shrink to see who has a really bad case of "Youicide." On the good side, "Youicide" can be reversed, although that can be quite difficult.

"Youicide" often seems to be displayed by someone who appears to be deranged, in that they attribute every ill in the world to one specific person, or group of people. Thirty years ago, some people, who were probably suffering from "Youicide," blamed former President Bill Clinton for every single societal ill, and thus began Clinton Derangement Syndrome. Today, Bill Clinton is long gone, but has been replaced with Trump Derangement Syndrome. Both caused, and continue to cause, irrational behavior and extreme negative reactions. In fact, more than one



5.06:1

WHY WE CARRY: Defensive Gun Uses outnumber criminal gun uses 5 to 1

by John Lott

(Crime Research) - The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) estimates there were approximately 330,000 violent victimizations involving a firearm in 2021. That same year there were estimated 1.67 million defensive gun uses. That is defensive gun uses are 5.06 times more than firearms used in crime.



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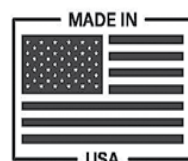
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John Thompson: A seasoned lawman ready to lead Vermilion County

At the recent Guns Save Life (GSL) meeting in Danville, John Thompson, the Republican candidate for Vermilion County Sheriff and current Director of the Vermilion County 911 Center, made a strong impression. A 19-year veteran of the Danville Police Department who rose through the ranks from patrol officer to commander before retiring and taking on his current role, Thompson joined GSL and delivered a frank, no-nonsense discussion about the challenges facing Danville and the broader county. He outlined his vision for the future, emphasizing proactive leadership, community partnerships, and a commitment to public safety if elected sheriff.

Thompson spoke candidly about rising crime concerns, the need for better resource allocation, and building stronger ties between law enforcement and residents. His background as a former EMT, corrections officer, and firefighter gives him a well-rounded perspective on emergency response and public service. He stressed fiscal responsibility—drawing from his experience managing budgets at the 911 center—to ensure taxpayers get the most effective policing possible without waste. Attendees appreciated his straightforward style and deep local knowledge.

Shot in the line of duty
When asked about personal experiences on the job, Thompson opened up about the harrowing night in May 2014 when he was shot three times by an armed robber. Around 5:30 p.m. on May 30, while on patrol in Danville, Thompson approached a suspicious individual in the 200 block of Kentucky Street.

Thompson said he recognized the man as the perp, and the perp knew that Thompson knew. Instead of running, he let the officer roll up on him then opened fire, striking him three times. Thompson, having lost use of his gun hand, transferred his gun to his support and got a shot off, but he missed the fleeing felon. The perp was later caught and will be getting out in roughly forty years from today.



John Thompson with our Danville Regional Director Jack Land.

His injuries were serious but non-life-threatening; he was hospitalized and eventually recovered. The incident highlighted the constant dangers officers face, even in routine encounters. Thompson used the story to underscore the importance of vigilance, training, and community support for law enforcement.

Despite the trauma, Thompson remains deeply supportive of his colleagues, particularly praising the current generation of female officers. "They are scrappy and don't mind a fight," he said. He highlighted how they serve as a powerful force multiplier, especially when responding to victims of sex crimes—both children and adults—bringing empathy, professionalism, and effectiveness that builds trust in sensitive situations.

Thompson also had high praise for local gun owners,

whom he has seen step up time and again. After dicey calls, he's noticed armed citizens had discreetly positioned themselves nearby—not brandishing weapons or getting in the way, but simply standing watch, ready to assist if needed, especially when suspects resist arrest or when officers are outnumbered. "They're there for the officer," he noted. This mutual respect between law-abiding gun owners and police exemplifies the kind of community partnership he wants to strengthen as sheriff.



Thompson's remarks at the GSL meeting reinforced his reputation as a battle-tested leader with firsthand experience of both the risks and rewards of policing. His plans focus on professional training, community engagement, smart budgeting, and leveraging the supportive spirit of Vermilion County residents. For those seeking a sheriff who understands the streets, values preparedness, and prioritizes safety, John Thompson stands out as a strong choice in the upcoming election. His story—from surviving a near-fatal ambush to advocating for officers and armed citizens alike—embodies resilience and dedication to service. We can't make endorsements, but if we could...

Clyde Caceres on Situational Awareness:

Don't be a victim... Master situational awareness

At the June 11th Guns Save Life meeting in Mattoon, Clyde Caceres dropped some hard truths on situational awareness that every armed citizen needs to hear. No fluff, no participation trophies—just cold reality from someone who's seen what happens when sheep wander into the wolf's playground.

Caceres recounted taking his son to San Francisco back in the late '90s and witnessing the infamous "Bush Man" in action at Fisherman's Wharf. This mentally ill character would crouch behind a giant potted plant like some deranged urban ambush predator. As tourists strolled by, he'd explode out, shaking the foliage and screaming. Big, tough-looking guys? They'd throw their hands up like startled schoolgirls, completely caught off guard. Families laughed it off as a "game." Caceres watched the spectacle from a restaurant for an hour. Verdict? Damn near everyone had zero situational awareness. They were glued to their maps, cameras, or daydreams—easy prey if that "bush" had been holding a blade instead.

Don't be that person.
Caceres hammered home the mental and emotional side: How prepared are you to flip the switch from polite society to righteous, no-quarter brutality when the predator strikes?

It's not about being paranoid—it's about staying switched on to your surroundings so you don't have to make that transition from nice, kind person to savage violence and end up a headline. Or worse yet, allow yourself or your family members to be fleeced or slaughtered and end up a different sort of headline.

He referenced lessons from church security incidents. He began with the tragic case from a church in Texas, where a volunteer on the safety team stood up like John Wayne to confront a shotgun-wielding lunatic but couldn't clear his holster. That gear failure and his poor tactics cost him his life.

Contrast that with the reaction of 72-year-old Jack Wilson in the same incident. One of his favorite drills in his backyard range was draw and fire on a paper plate at 15 yards in 1.5 seconds or less. When the threat at his church rose and killed two people, then walked briskly towards the pastor, Jack Wilson brought up his gun amidst the chaos

and drilled the moving perp at 46 feet... *in the ear hole!* Jack didn't rise to the occasion, he defaulted to his practiced skill sets (learned through training from long ago).

The takeaway? Your mind and your gear better be squared away, or Darwin gets another volunteer.

Training isn't optional. Watch real-world shooting videos—not for entertainment, but to critique the tactics (or lack thereof) and dissect the mistakes. Tunnel vision, poor cover use, failure to scan, fumbling draws. Learn so you don't repeat them in a similar, real-life scenario.



Clyde Caceres.

Audience members chimed in with gold: Trust your intuition. If someone's behavior is outside the baseline of normal—agitated/intoxicated/mentally ill, casing the joint, witness checks, ignoring personal space, loitering without a sense of purpose—put eyes on them and create distance or barriers. Better paranoid than perforated.

A recent Tennessee training grad reinforced the fundamentals: Former military instructors at his course preached "Slow is smooth, smooth is fast." Rushing leads to fumbles, misses, and funerals. Master the basics until they're automatic. Then you can think about tactics instead of how to run your gun and gear.

Bottom line from Mattoon: Complacency kills. In a world full of threats—from street predators to worse—your best defense is put down distractions (that magic glowing box we all live with) and keep your eyes up, mind sharp, gear ready, and have the will to act. Get trained from reputable schools, because skills and tactics make a huge difference. Stay aware. Live to fight another day.

Guns Save Life. Because in the end, sheep get slaughtered and the prepared survive.

Tom Meneffe: CERAKOTE

Tom Meneffe joined Guns Save Life in Peoria recently to talk about one of the best upgrades you can give your firearms: Cerakote ceramic coating. If you're tired of rust eating away at your investment or want a custom look that actually performs, this is worth paying attention to.

Cerakote is a thin-film ceramic coating that delivers serious protection. It excels at blocking rust and corrosion—far better than traditional bluing or even some other modern finishes. In independent salt spray tests (ASTM B117), Cerakote has lasted over 2,000 hours before showing initial corrosion, dramatically outperforming bluing, stainless, and many competitors.

Durability is another huge upside. The coating is extremely hard and scratch-resistant, standing up to heavy use, recoil, holstering, and rough

handling without chipping or wearing off quickly. Many users report it reduces the need for exterior oiling, acts as a lubricant retainer, and even fills microscopic imperfections for smoother operation.

Customization is where Cerakote really shines. It comes in dozens of colors and finishes—solids, camo patterns, metallics, you name it. You can give your carry gun a low-profile matte black, your competition pistol a bold two-tone, or your hunting rifle something that blends into the terrain. It looks great and stays looking great.

Best of all, Tom (an FFL) made it clear this is a straightforward process with no nonsense. Drop your gun off, and when it's done you pick it up. No waiting periods, no extra background check hurdles. He also handles more than guns: tools, knives, and even certain plastics can get the treatment,

opening up possibilities for your whole kit.



For self-defense and everyday carry folks, Cerakote means your firearm stays reliable longer in real-world conditions. For collectors and hobbyists, it's a way to personalize and protect at the same time. Low maintenance, high performance, and eye-catching results—what's not to like? Prices are very reasonable as well.

You can catch up with him on Facebook (PrecisionProductsandCoatings) or at ppcoatings@yahoo.com.





Chicago gang-driven chaos: Automatic gunfire erupts at Ford City Mall sideshow — One dead, criminals run wild

Is this the wild, wild West?

WILD WILD CHICAGO

Chicago (GSL) - Early Saturday, June 13, 2026, a "sideshow" car stunt party in the Ford City Mall parking lot on Chicago's Southwest Side turned deadly — again. A thug in black opened fire with fully automatic bursts from an illegally converted pistol, killing 21-year-old Martin Isaac Cantu Murillo of South Bend, Indiana.

Murillo was standing in the 7600 block of South Cicero around 2:50 a.m. when bullets struck him in the head. Police recovered 25 shell casings. The shooter fled in a red SUV. No arrests. Social media videos captured the chaos: crowds cheering donut-spinning cars near the Ross store before rapid machine-gun fire sent everyone running for their lives.

As Second City Cop and other local observers have repeatedly documented, these aren't random "youth gatherings." They are often gang-driven operations — organized via social media, fueled by rivalries, and packed with armed thugs who treat public spaces like their personal battle-

grounds. This isn't "gun violence." It's gang violence, plain and simple. The guns are just the tools criminals use while soft-on-crime prosecutors and politicians look the other way.



This Ford City murder is part of a dangerous statewide surge in "teen takeovers," "teen surges," and illegal street parties. What begins as reckless stunt driving, fireworks, and loitering quickly explodes into fights, property destruction, injuries, and death. Chicago sees them constantly — Loop, beaches, parking lots — with dozens of arrests, officers struck by vehicles, and multiple shootings. But

they're not confined to the city. Suburbs like Naperville, Glen Ellyn, and others report the same chaos, as do downstate communities. Gangs and wannabe gangsters spread the virus, turning once-safe malls, intersections, and parks into free-fire zones.

While Illinois politicians waste time pushing PICA, red flag laws, and "assault weapon" bans that only disarm law-abiding citizens, gangbangers run wild with machine pistols they acquire with zero consequences. Revolving-door "justice," catch-and-release policies, and failure to hold parents or participants accountable have created this nightmare.

This is the predictable result of prioritizing criminals over citizens and crime without consequences. It's time for real enforcement, parental accountability, and an end to the excuse-making. Law-abiding gun owners aren't the problem — gang members with illegal full-auto guns and a political class that protects them are.

ATF gun buy goes sideways

Chicago (GSL) - In the tense shadows of Chicago's south suburbs, a months-long ATF gun trafficking probe reached a heart-pounding climax when suspects turned a routine buy into a brazen ambush on federal agents.

Tevin Curlee, known as "TC," now faces federal charges for unlawfully possessing and transferring a machine gun. Agents had been tracking him since April, purchasing firearms from him twice in June. But nothing prepared them for the betrayal on June 9.



TC at buy/bust and jail.

It started innocently enough. On June 3, outside a Crestwood business, Curlee allegedly sold an undercover agent a firearm fitted with a machine gun conversion device for \$1,600. "Ain't goin' lie," he bragged, "I got five more of them."

The stakes escalated with a third deal: eight guns for \$8,700. Two undercover ATF agents and an informant picked up Curlee in Crestwood and drove to Country Club Hills, hearts racing as they waited for the delivery. Thirty minutes later, a Dodge Dart rolled up carrying six suspects—four masked in balaclavas.

Tension ignited. Amif Fagan and Demond Edwards approached the undercover vehicle, drawing handguns. Another suspect leveled a firearm directly at the agents. Guns were pointed. An agent drew his weapon and shouted for them to drop theirs.

Then chaos erupted. An ATF response team roared in with lights flashing. Seeing the agents under fire, they opened up. Fagan was struck in the head and arm.

Edwards fled, fought officers, and was shot after snarling, "I'm not going back to jail." The driver, Cashonn Toney, smashed into an ATF vehicle in a desperate escape attempt before being captured.

Curlee is charged for the confirmed machine gun sale, though officials say more were trafficked. A separate probe into the officer-involved shooting continues. The incident underscores the ever-present danger in Chicago-area gun trafficking rings.



Welcome to Chicago 'Justice'

Chicago Airbag theft epidemic rages on: 1,200 crimes, 1 arrest, no prosecutions

Chicago (GSL) - Chicago is experiencing a massive surge in airbag thefts, with over 1,200 reported incidents in the first four months of 2026 alone — compared to just 70 total cases from 2023 through 2025. Thieves target Hondas parked on residential streets in neighborhoods like Lake View, Lincoln Park, Logan Square, and Humboldt Park, smashing windows and ripping out airbags in seconds to sell on the black market for a few hundred dollars each.

Victims like special education teacher Maeve Priestley describe the crimes as deeply violating. Many face long repair delays, \$1,000 insurance deductibles, and backordered parts. Despite the explosion in cases, Chicago Police have made only one arrest — involving a car lot theft — and that suspect received a deferred prosecution deal. Nearly 60% of cases have already been suspended, often within weeks, with police citing a lack of video or forensic evidence.

Former high-ranking CPD official Anthony Riccio says criminals have noticed police aren't prioritizing the problem.



I guarantee you they have armed security

Chicago White Sox embrace gun control for the little people

(Breitbart) - The Chicago White Sox used an X post to proclaim their support for Mike Bloomberg-affiliated Everytown for Gun Safety, one of the most prominent groups in the gun control lobby.



Gang violence: 13-year-old opens up on crowd of kids, wounding four

Chicago (GSL) - A 13-year-old boy turned a chaotic gathering of over 100 teens and preteens into terror Saturday night in Bronzeville.

Near 47th and Martin Luther King Drive, fights erupted, kids jumped on cars, and fireworks exploded as police tried to disperse the crowd. At 9:39 p.m., the young suspect drew a handgun and sprayed bullets into the group of children.

Four boys were hit: an 11-year-old in the leg, two 13-year-olds, and a 14-year-old. All survived in good condition.

It's a devastating lament for a city where 13-year-old gangbangers wield deadly guns and shoot into crowds of kids barely out of elementary school. The shooter was arrested 20 minutes later and faces juvenile charges including aggravated battery with a firearm.

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'Gun Violence' awareness month? How about 'Armed Self-Defense Awareness' month?

(GSL/CCRKBA) - While the gun prohibition lobby spends June pushing "Gun Violence Awareness Month," the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms (CCRKBA) has a better idea: Let's also recognize "Armed Self-Defense Awareness Month."

Every year, thousands of law-abiding Americans use firearms to protect themselves, their families, and innocent bystanders from violent criminals. Yet these heroic acts are almost universally ignored by the anti-gun crowd and their media allies.

"Not once have we heard a peep from the gun ban crowd when a legally-armed private citizen intervenes to save lives," said CCRKBA Chairman

Alan Gottlieb. High-profile examples include an armed citizen stopping a would-be mass shooting at an Indiana mall, a good guy with a gun at a Missouri Price Chopper, a retired Marine teaming with a Massachusetts state trooper to neutralize a gunman in Cambridge, and a Seattle citizen who halted a fleeing killer. These stories disappear faster than facts at a gun-control press conference.

The term "gun violence" itself is a deliberate linguistic trick. Guns don't think, hate, or pull their own triggers. We don't hear about "knife violence" after subway stabbings or "car violence" from drunk-driving fatalities. Only firearms get demonized to shift blame from the criminal to the tool.

The Crime Prevention Research Center has documented armed citizens stopping mass public shootings and countless other defensive gun uses. Legally armed Americans make a real, positive difference in public safety every day.

Instead of inflating statistics by lumping suicides with criminal violence, let's place responsibility where it belongs—on violent offenders. Next June, perhaps governors will issue proclamations honoring armed self-defense, media will report accurately, and gun owners can proudly wear the message that the right to keep and bear arms is the ultimate violence-prevention tool.



These wins belong to the broader pro-2A community

A FAR more balanced view of IL gun rights wins in the Spring legislative session

by John Boch

(GSL) - In the wake of the Illinois General Assembly's adjournment on May 31, gun owners can breathe easier. Several aggressive anti-gun measures — including the so-called "Glock Ban" (HB 4471), the RIFL Act, ammunition serialization proposals (HB 4414), and overly broad polling place restrictions — all failed to advance.

As I wrote at Guns Save Life's website on the day the General Assembly adjourned in our post "Illinois Gun Owners Dodge Another Round of Radical Gun Control," Illinois gun owners successfully dodged another round of radical gun control efforts. I highlighted how the ammo serialization bill, which would have imposed burdensome tracking and taxes on handgun ammunition, quietly failed to pass, along with the de facto Glock ban and the RIFL Act. I stressed the importance of sustained engagement, noting that this outcome shows what's possible when pro-gun voices stay involved both publicly and privately, while warning that the fight continues into the fall veto session.

Meanwhile, the Illinois Review article "Freedom Held the Line: How ISRA Delivered Major Victories for Illinois Gun Owners in 2026" frames these successes almost exclusively through ISRA's efforts. It reads as if Richard Pearson, the long-time ISRA Executive Director (or one of his ghostwriters) wrote it.

While ISRA's longtime lobbyist Eddie Sullivan was actively engaged, he wasn't alone. The IFOR lobbyist Josh Witkowski worked right alongside him. In some cases, Witkowski took the lead.

What's more, the NRA-ILA's John Weber represented the nation's TRUE premier gun rights organization. NRA's membership in Illinois dwarfs that of the ISRA to put it mildly. Furthermore Guns Save Life also contributed through monitoring legislation, engaging lawmakers, and mobilizing grassroots support. Guns Save Life has been especially effective with its monthly *GunNews* and local chapter network, keeping members informed and activated with monthly meetings in ten cities across the Land of Lincoln.

Yes, this advocacy and grassroots coordination also includes Illinois Carry's forums as well as State Line Rifle Association. Along with assorted Facebook groups including IGOT and others.

Gently put, ISRA's attempt to claim near-complete credit in that Illinois Review story feels more than a bit overstated. It underplays completely ignores the genuinely collaborative nature of Second Amendment advocacy in Illinois. It is a team effort rather than a single dominant player.

These wins belonged to the broader pro-2A community — multiple organizations, lobbyists, and dedicated activists working together in a tough political environment. Exaggerating any one group's role risks unnecessary division when the focus should remain on protecting rights for all Illinois gun owners. Sustained success will require continued cooperation, not competition for the spotlight.

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We support restoring gun rights for reformed felons

(GSL) - We at Guns Save Life have long supported restoring firearm rights to reformed felons. Why? Because it's far easier to catch a felony conviction in modern America than most people realize. Non-violent offenses, regulatory paperwork mistakes, and overly broad statutes have turned the "felon" label into something far removed from the violent criminals most folks have in mind when they think "felon."

A couple of months ago, America's radical left went into full meltdown mode because the DOJ restored gun rights to roughly two dozen individuals including one critics are breathlessly calling a "fake elector." Never mind that this person was already pardoned by Trump. If he's pardoned, how exactly is he still a prohibited person?

Here's the reality: federal law has always allowed prohibited persons to petition for restoration of their rights. Politicians have played games with funding this process to effectively shut down gun rights restoration.

Since when do we decide justice is too costly? We don't shut down public defenders just because they're expensive and sometimes help guilty people walk. Justice isn't supposed to have a price tag.

GSL has consistently opposed the ever-expanding "prohibited person" category. America has watered down the meaning of "felony" to include all sorts of silly, low-level offenses that have nothing to do with vio-

lence or public safety.

Do you need some examples?



- In Texas, it is a felony to own more than 4 sex toys (chapter 43).
- In Utah, it is a felony to go whale hunting in a rented boat, just in case they stock the Great Salt Lake with whales.
- In Montana, it is a felony for a wife to open her husband's mail.
- In Florida, it is a felony to access WiFi without permission.
- In Alaska, it is a felony to wake a bear for a picture.
- In Georgia, it is a felony to allow your chickens to cross the street.
- In California, it is a felony to set a mouse-trap without a hunting license.
- in Tennessee, it is felony to share your Netflix password.

Responsible, reformed citizens who have paid their debt to society deserve a second chance — including the fundamental right to self-defense.



Murder charges dropped against dad who thwarted daughter's abduction by child rapist

Lonoke County, Arkansas (GSL) - In a resounding victory for parental rights, self-defense, and common sense, all murder charges have been dismissed against Aaron Spencer, the Republican nominee for Lonoke County Sheriff in Arkansas. Spencer, a devoted father and U.S. Army Airborne veteran, took decisive action to protect his teenage daughter from a predator the system had already failed to contain.



Aaron Spencer at home.

The nightmare began on October 8, 2024. Spencer and his wife awoke around 1 a.m. to find their then-13-year-old daughter missing from their home. Spencer's dog had been barking, alerting them. Suspecting the worst, Spencer immediately called 911 to report her missing. He had good reason to fear foul play: Michael Fosler, a 67-year-old man already facing 43 felony charges—including rape, sexual assault of a minor, sexual indecency with a child, possession of child abuse imagery, and internet stalking of a child—had been grooming and abusing his daughter for roughly a year. Fosler was out on a relatively low \$5,000–\$50,000 bond with a no-contact order that clearly meant nothing to him.

Spencer located his daughter in the passenger seat of Fosler's truck. He forced the vehicle off the road. According to court documents and Spencer's statements, an altercation ensued. Fosler allegedly lunged at him, saying "fuck you." Spencer, armed with a Glock 19, fired multiple shots, striking Fosler in the chest, arms, and abdomen. He then pistol-whipped the predator before calling 911 again to report the shooting. Fosler died at the scene. Spencer has never denied taking these actions—he did what any protective father would do when authorities had already let a child rapist walk free to strike again.

Prosecutors charged Spencer with second-degree murder and a firearm enhancement, arguing he should have simply called the police during the pursuit and trusted the same system that released Fosler on bond. They even tried to paint Spencer as having planned the confrontation. Spencer pleaded not guilty, maintaining his actions were pure defense of his child.

The case imploded on June 4, 2026. Special Circuit Court Judge Ralph Wilson Jr. dismissed the charges with prejudice—meaning they cannot be refiled—after ruling that law enforcement's mishandling of evidence was "so egregious" it violated

Spencer's right to a fair trial. Specifically, the Lonoke County Sheriff's Office lost or destroyed a dash camera memory card from Fosler's truck that may have captured the entire incident. The court found improper labeling, storage, and preservation of this critical evidence. Spencer's defense team highlighted this as potentially a cover-up or gross incompetence by the very agency whose incumbent sheriff Spencer defeated in the primary.

Spencer, 36 or 37 years old, has no prior law enforcement experience but brings something far more valuable: real-world experience protecting the innocent when government fails. A proud Army veteran raised on faith, hard work, and love of country, he turned his family's horror into a mission. He announced his candidacy against the incumbent whose office arrested him, winning the Republican primary in March 2026 with over 53% in a three-way race. In deeply conservative Lonoke County (population ~76,000, east of Little Rock), he is the heavy favorite in November against an Independent challenger.

His platform focuses on transparency, professionalism, and a dedicated team to combat sex crimes against children—lessons forged in the worst day of his life. "I'm the father who acted to protect his daughter when the system failed," Spencer said in his campaign launch video. His attorney, Erin Cassinelli, stated: "No member of this family should ever again be forced to walk into a courtroom and relive this horror. This father should have never been charged for protecting his child."

At Guns Save Life, we stand unequivocally with fathers like Aaron Spencer. This was not vigilantism—it was a dad rescuing his daughter from a child rapist who kidnapped her. Dad was merely exercising his God-given right and natural duty to defend his child from a monster the courts had loosed upon her. The right to keep and bear arms exists precisely for moments like this, when seconds count and "authorities" are nowhere to be found.

The dismissal sends a clear message to predators and negligent officials alike: Parents will not stand idly by. Protect your family first. The paperwork can be sorted later—especially when the system loses the very evidence that would exonerate a hero.

Congratulations, Aaron Spencer. Lonoke County is poised to elect a sheriff who truly understands accountability starts at home with armed, responsible citizens.



PUMP SHOTGUNS: The Deplorable's best friend for home defense in PICA-ravaged Illinois

by Nick Klementzos

(GSL) - In the great state of Illinois, our benevolent overlords in Springfield don't trust you — the unwashed, gun-clinging bitter clingers — with the most effective tools for protecting your family. Thanks to PICA (the Protect Illinois Criminals Act), they've banned the good stuff while criminals laugh and ignore the laws anyway.

If you've been living under a rock, crawl out, dust off the dirt, and face reality: PICA is the law, and it sucks. But we're not helpless. While "assault weapons" are off the menu, good old pump-action shotguns remain perfectly legal and devastatingly effective for home defense.

Why Pumps Still Rule the Night

Pump shotguns are the blue-collar hero of self-defense: relatively affordable (some Turkish models are downright cheap), stupidly reliable, and so simple even a politician could run one (though they'd probably short-stroke it).

A quality pump — think Mossberg 500/590, Maverick 88, or Remington 870 — costs less than a decent night out in Chicago and will run forever with minimal maintenance.

Short barrels (18-20 inches) make them perfect for navigating hallways and tight spaces without becoming a liability. And here's the kicker: in real-world encounters, one well-placed shotgun load often ends the fight immediately. I've dug through reports and can't find a single credible case where the bad guy kept coming after eating a solid hit of buckshot or slug at typical home distances. On the other hand, I've seen videos of people shot with buckshot and they collapse where they stand.

That distinctive ka-chunk of racking a round? Thanks to Hollywood, everyone understands that sound. Many dirt bags have suddenly remembered urgent appointments elsewhere the second they hear it.

The Not-So-Pretty Truth

Nothing's perfect. Shotgun ammo is bulky and heavy, so you're not carrying a bandolier like Rambo.

Recoil is real — Newton's Third Law doesn't care about your feelings. Most factory stocks are ridiculously long (13.5-14 inches), turning the gun into a shoulder-punishing club for anyone under 5'8" or smaller-statured family members.

Capacity sucks too: usually 4-5 rounds in the tube. You fight with what's in the gun.

Contrary to Hollywood magic, a shotgun is not a room-sweeping death ray. Pattern spread is about 1 inch per yard. At 15-18 feet across a bedroom? You're still looking at an open hand-sized pattern, tops. Aim, people. Missing means you might ventilate your own kid or neighbor instead of the scumbag.

Smart improvements for Land of Lincoln gun owners

Here are some improvements you can make to tip the scales your way for a defensive shotgun.

Reduced recoil slugs and buckshot. Originally designed for female cops, they have mild recoil but remain punishing to whoever's on the business end of things.



Install a "side saddle." These will hold four to six extra rounds securely on the receiver, giving you extra bubble gum to go around to the bad people if you're having a bad day.

Continued on page 20.

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GSL-sponsored Educator CCW class crushes it – June 2026 style

(GSL) - Guns Save Life, GSL Defense Training, and the DeWitt County Sportsman's Club just crushed another outstanding Educator Training class near Clinton this past weekend. No fluff, no excuses—just two days of hard-hitting, no-PowerPoint Illinois Concealed Carry instruction that turned nervous newcomers into confident defenders. This ongoing partnership delivered the real deal: one of the best CCW programs in the state, completely free for teachers, administrators, support staff, bus drivers, and anyone else in the education trenches.

The class followed GSL Defense Training's battle-tested Essential Carry itinerary. Day One launched with zero-BS gun safety: the NRA's Three Rules and the Illinois State Police's Four Firearm Safety Rules drilled in deep. Instructors—experienced civilians, attorneys, and court-certified experts—covered handgun basics. Then it got real with dry-fire exercises: dominant eye checks, natural point of aim, grip and stance work, draws from concealment (including verbal commands to the bad guy), reloads, and tactics like cover vs. concealment, barricades, de-escalation, the Tueller Drill and more.



Range time hit hard and fast. Participants fired roughly 250 rounds mastering safe handling, drawing from concealment, shooting from cover and barricades, strong- and support-side one-handed fire, malfunction clearances, tactical reloads, moving off the "X," "slicing the pie," and target discrimination. Loaner guns, holsters, safety gear, drinks, and snacks kept everyone focused while the red-shirted instructor crew swarmed the line with patient, one-on-one coaching.

Legal blocks were no sleepy lectures. Instructors hammered Illinois laws—FOID cards, 72-hour waiting periods, PICA transport rules, private transfers—and federal regs including Form 4473 and prohibited persons. Day Two brought home defense strategies: hardening your castle with lighting, landscaping, locks, layered security, safe rooms, and clear verbal warnings to intruders ("Intruder, you're in my home. LEAVE NOW! I've called the police. I am armed.").

More legal lectures delivered more red meat: the Reasonable Person Doctrine, Ability-Opportunity-Jeopardy (AOJ), disparity of force,

and Illinois statutes on deadly force (720 ILCS 5/7-1 et seq.).



Yes, we effectively have "castle doctrine" and "stand your ground" in Illinois. Our lawyers and court-certified experts delivered straight talk on when lethal force is justified, the dangers of warning shots, and why you never pursue.



Other lectures included pre-encounter awareness (unaware to alarm), de Becker's pre-violence indicators from The Gift of Fear, interrupting the OODA Loop, tunnel vision, auditory exclusion, and post-encounter realities: police interactions, media silence, and the brutal personal aftermath of using deadly force.

Feedback from the educators was pure fire:

- "Made me feel comfortable, explained and made sure I understood the safe and correct way to use a gun. This was my first class. I can't wait for the refresher course."
- "The positive atmosphere and camaraderie of the staff made it very enjoyable. I can see why it has a good reputation. I loved the class."
- "This course was beyond excellent!! Everything was perfect. Relaxed, fun,

- SAFE and enjoyable. Beyond Perfect. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. By far, this is the best class!"
- "Awesome instruction. Obviously very knowledgeable instructors. I very much appreciate I wasn't made to feel unwelcome or othered in any way."
 - "Friendly, helpful, fun and plentiful instructors."
 - "The instructors were excellent. So were the lectures. It was very impressive. Great job!"

These match years of past praise. Nervous novices walked out shooting support-hand, purse draws, and discrimination targets like they meant it—all under the watchful eyes of a massive, passionate instructor team with centuries of combined experience.

In today's world, where "thoughts and prayers" and locked doors won't stop a determined threat, this free training is a game-changer for educators. Graduates can safely handle firearms found on campus, spot pre-violence red flags, maintain situational awareness to protect students, and carry legally with real confidence. Many alumni return for refreshers, drag colleagues along, and sleep better knowing they're no longer relying on hope.



GSL Defense Training's philosophy is simple and brutal: "Hope has no survival value."

Preparation saves lives. This program builds empowered, responsible gun owners who treat firearms as tools of last resort while refusing to be easy victims. The welcoming vibe at DeWitt County Sportsman's Club—great facilities, fun atmosphere, serious training—makes two intense days fly by.

In a job dedicated to protecting the next generation, GSL Defense Training just armed another group of heroes with skills, knowledge, and mindset. Participants didn't just qualify—they left genuinely dangerous to anyone who would harm them or their kids. We can't wait to do it again.



SPENCER PRATT: Death threats made me appreciate the Second Amendment

(GSL) - In a candid May 2026 CNN interview, former The Hills star and current Los Angeles mayoral candidate Spencer Pratt shared how death threats ultimately transformed him into a Republican. During the peak of his reality TV fame around 2007-2010, Pratt and his wife Heidi Montag faced relentless threats. "When I was a hated reality star, I got so many death threats. I had so much security and police. And what did they tell me to do? Get a gun," Pratt explained.

He and Heidi followed that advice, arming themselves for home protection and pursuing concealed carry permits (CCWs) in dangerous Los Angeles. The key difference? Only Republicans supported their right to carry for self-defense. Democrats offered no help.

This story highlights a core truth: when predators threaten your life, the Second Amendment is essential. Police can't be everywhere, and disarming law-abiding citizens leaves families vulnerable. Pratt's journey from Hollywood celebrity to armed Republican shows how real-world threats convert skeptics into defenders of the right to keep and bear arms.

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John Murphy's situational awareness and de-escalation class

Just Get Home AAR

by John Boch

(GSL) - John Murphy showed exactly why he's a nationally known and highly respected firearms instructor when he brought his "Just Get Home" class to the DeWitt Co. Sportsman's Club in Clinton this May.

Early Saturday morning, he nailed the entire mission in one punchy line: "This class isn't about cutting your draw time by a half-second. This class is about giving you five to ten seconds to avoid needing to draw your gun and use deadly force in the first place."



John Murphy.

Boom. That set the tone for two high-octane days that delivered far more than just range time. The real meat started long before students showed up — with hours of must-watch YouTube videos from Murphy himself. These aren't dry lectures. They're gripping real-life encounters, caught on video. Murphy dissects them frame by frame, exposing every dumb decision that turned a sketchy situation into a one-way ticket to a fight the victims never wanted. Victims who ran their mouths instead of disengaging sometimes get killed in gruesome ways. People who ignored glaring pre-violence indicators and paid the price, some with their lives.

Murphy acknowledges it's tempting to "buy a ticket for a ride you don't want to take" by letting your ego trump common sense. That's why good de-escalation skills are a must and Murphy teaches those. Again, those videos alone are pure gold for anyone who wants to learn from other people's pain instead of experiencing it firsthand.

In class, Murphy brought that same sharp analysis to life. He hammered home the "leaks" bad guys give off — especially that deadly straight-line approach right before the boom.

Students learned to spot trouble brewing, create distance, and de-escalate like pros. In today's Illinois — where Chicago-style armed robberies and carjackings can happen anywhere thanks to revolving-door justice and no-cash bail — these skills aren't optional. They're survival essentials, whether you're in the big city or smaller towns.

But when talk fails? That's when things got fun on the range. Sunday delivered a full slate of dynamic live-fire drills that forced students to read changing threats in real time. No lazy "beep — shoot" commands here. You had to process visual cues, make split-second decisions, and act accordingly.

Reaction times slow when your brain is busy reading the fight instead of waiting for an auditory cue — exactly like the street. Roughly 350-400 rounds later, shooters walked away sharper and more decisive.



Marking hits on the 3D target.

The class wasn't all guns, either. A serious medical block taught wound assessment, lightning-fast tourniquet application, and proper use of Israeli Battle Dressings for different injury types. Then came the pepper spray segment — sneaky, effective techniques designed to deploy without telegraphing your move and catching the bad guy completely flat-footed. Smart, low-profile tools that expand your options before you ever touch the trigger.

The course draws straight from Murphy's intelligence analyst roots. His engaging, no-BS style (with plenty of dry humor) kept the 16+ hours flying by for everyone on the line.

The course ran \$495 locally, a high value, virtual bargain for the content. No range fees or surprise charges. It's not for novices with guns. If you don't have a good background in gun handling, including holster work, you might want to train up. Make sure you can handle your gun safely in a dynamic environment.



Engaging moving targets behind innocents/barricades... That's Murphy in the back controlling the bad guy while Jason looks for the shot while not covering the innocent with his muzzle.

If you haven't trained hard on situational awareness, conflict avoidance, and de-escalation, put this near the very top of your list. Sadly there are precious few instructors that cover this pre-violence indicator/de-escalation material with the breadth and depth of Murphy. It's sort of Murphy's niche and he does it well.

In a world full of potential threats, the best gunfight is still the one you never have. John Murphy's "Just Get Home" equips you to spot trouble early, talk or walk your way out, or decisively end it if forced. That knowledge can save your life — and help you and your family get home safe every single time.



Fires Aron Snyder over coyote dispatch video

TIME TO PUSH BACK AGAINST 'BORN PRIMITIVE'

'Born Primitive' caves to anti-hunting mob

(GSL) - In a move that hands fresh ammunition to the animal rights crowd, Born Primitive Outdoor fired veteran hunter, Army vet, and gear innovator Aron Snyder after a raw video surfaced of him dispatching a wounded coyote in Wyoming.

The footage shows Snyder dragging, kicking, and finishing the animal with a knife after it allegedly attacked a rancher's calf. It's messy and unscripted—exactly the kind of real-world predator control that doesn't photograph well for social media. But context matters: coyotes hammer livestock, costing U.S. producers over \$71 million annually, with coyotes responsible for the lion's share of cattle and sheep losses. In Wyoming, they're classified as preda-

tors with no bag limits or seasons.

Dispatching a wounded animal in close quarters is rarely pretty. A clean shot with a firearm would've been ideal, but Snyder's long track record in the backcountry suggests this was sloppy execution under pressure, not deliberate cruelty. Wyoming Game and Fish has opened an investigation anyway.

Predictably, groups like Project Coyote, Women for Wolves, and Animal Wellness Action pounced, flooding the internet with calls for charges, jail time, and hunting bans.

This is precisely why videos like this are poison for sportsmen. They give the antis perfect fundraising

fodder to smear all hunting, fishing, trapping, and outdoor pursuits as barbaric. One decontextualized clip becomes "proof" that tradition itself is cruel.

Born Primitive's decision to sack Snyder sends the wrong message. Instead of standing firm for practical predator management and the realities of the field, they folded to manufactured outrage. It's time to stop patronizing these groups. Sportsmen and gun owners need companies that back real-world conservation and self-defense against predators—not virtue-signaling that empowers the very people who want to end our way of life.

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Pro-tip: American flags outside usually mean gun owner inside...

Lunatic intruder meets Papa Bear in California

San Jacinto, CA (GSL) - In San Jacinto, a deranged fool armed with a shotgun decided to invade a home with a wife and teenage daughter inside—because nothing screams “genius plan” like breaking into a house and starting a gunfight.

The quick-thinking homeowner, who was next door, rushed back after hearing screams and shots. He grabbed his gun, confronted the armed maniac, and in the exchange of fire, dropped the intruder dead on the spot. The homeowner walked away unharmed.

Even in deep-blue California, you still have the fundamental right to defend your home and loved ones. This armed lunatic learned the hard way: castle doctrine isn't just a suggestion. Well done, sir—your family is safe thanks to your decisive action.

Big Anthony might have been big, but he wasn't bulletproof

Springfield, OH (GSL) - On February 27, 2026, Springfield police identified 28-year-old Anthony Walker Jr. as the man killed in an early-morning incident that appears to be a clear case of self-defense.

Around 12:56 a.m., officers responded to a reported shooting in the 1700 block of Maiden Lane. They found Walker suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

According to the 911 caller, he was at his ex-girlfriend's home when her ex-boyfriend (Walker) began banging on the doors, forced his way inside, and demanded to know where “his gun” was. Walker allegedly threatened the occupants, assaulted them, and drew a firearm. After Walker fired a shot that missed, the resident returned fire in self-defense, striking Walker multiple times.

Armed self-defense wins again...

Heroic family members defend against racist lunatic with rifle

(GSL) - In Leesburg, Georgia, a peaceful family reunion turned into a nightmare when a deranged racist, Jeffrey Tyler Kinzer, allegedly targeted a Black family gathering with an AR-15-style rifle. But thanks to the quick thinking and armed resolve of the intended victims, the attacker was stopped in his tracks.

According to witnesses, Kinzer first drove by the Autumn Leaf Drive home around 9 p.m. on June 7, leaning out the window and hurling racial slurs. The family tried to de-escalate. Minutes later, the coward returned – this time wearing body armor and brandishing the rifle. He opened fire on

the group, which included roughly 20 children and elderly relatives enjoying a joyful reunion.

Marine veteran Ramell Green and other family members didn't wait to become victims. They grabbed their firearms, took defensive positions, and returned fire. Green moved aggressively to protect the innocents, ensuring the lunatic met determined resistance. Kinzer was struck and injured by the family's return fire before fleeing. He was later arrested and charged with aggravated assault, with more charges expected.

This incident perfectly il-

lustrates why the right to keep and bear arms exists. A racist lunatic with evil intent learned the hard way that law-abiding Americans – including Black families exercising their Second Amendment rights – will not be easy targets. The family's bravery turned potential tragedy into a powerful example of armed self-defense.

As Ramell Green put it, the gathering was peaceful until the attacker arrived, “and he found out that he's not the only one who has training.” Well done. In a world full of predators, good guys with guns save lives.

He brought sword to gunfight: Guess who lost

(GSL) - In scenic Dandridge, Tennessee, on May 28th around 10:10 p.m., some aspiring Game of Thrones extra — high on bad decisions and medieval fever dreams — strolled down Riverfront Circle with a sword like he was auditioning for the role of “Darwin Award Finalist of the Year.” He picked the wrong homeowner to play medieval maniac against.

One well-placed bullet later, Sir Lancelot of the Stupid Decisions was taking a dirt nap. Deputies rolled up at 10:14, gave the sword-slinger some CPR (spoiler: too late), hauled the armed homeowner in for a quick chat, and sent him home with a pat on the back once bodycam footage and evidence proved the obvious: guy with sword = aggressor, guy with gun = problem solved, permanently.

Lesson learned, kids? Bring a sword to a gunfight and you'll star in the next “local man dies of terminal stupidity” headline. Tennessee gun owners: still undefeated champions of natural selection. Leave the Renaissance Fair props in the garage next time, champ — or at least upgrade to something from this century.

Needed a double tap, or Mozambique

Pervy peeper kicks door, gets shot, then fights police, punches K9

Tulsa, OK (GSL) - Around midnight on June 1st, 47-year-old Alvin Basham kicked in a door near 22nd and Mingo. The homeowner had spotted the pervy perp peeking in windows, issued a warning. After the door got kicked in, the homeowner shot him once in the chest when Basham reached for his waistband.

The now-bleeding Basham fled, leaving not only his wallet outside the home, but a handy blood trail. Once cops caught up with him, he resisted while shot. He bit an officer, and punched a police K9. The K9 bit the perp solidly, savoring the giant interactive squeak toy that screamed when bitten.

That allowed offers to cuff him up and take him to the hospital. He'll survive, and face charges when released.

Paper vs. Gun

by Mike Bski

(X) - Today is Day 9 of National Gun Violence Awareness Month. And today I want to talk to every person who has ever told a woman she does not need a gun.

It is a Friday night in December. Waco, Texas. You are alone. The neighborhood is quiet. And then your back door explodes.

Not a knock. A KICK. Two men. Masks. Already inside before your brain finishes processing what just happened.

December 12, 2025. Speight Avenue. We do not know her name — she did not ask for coverage. What we know comes from the police report and the emergency room records. Because that last part matters.

She fired approximately eleven rounds. The two men fled.

Twenty minutes later, a 32-year-old named Antonio Chavez was dropped off at Baylor Scott and White with a bullet in his forearm. He was already on the books for two violations of a protective order and continuous violence against family. The system had already met Antonio Chavez. The system had already given someone a piece of paper to keep him away. He violated it twice. Then he put on a mask and kicked in a woman's back door.



His bond was set at \$276,000. The woman was never charged. Because Texas law is perfectly clear about what you are allowed to do when two masked men kick in your door.

She had a gun. She is alive. Full stop.

Now the numbers. Because this is still a science classroom.

Women are **seven to eleven times more likely to use a gun for self-defense than to be murdered.**

Not safer with a gun — **DRAMATICALLY** safer.



The University of Chicago — not exactly a right-wing institution — calculated that more relaxed carry laws between 1977 and 1992 would have prevented 1,570 murders, 4,177 rapes, and 60,000 aggravated assaults every single year.

John Lott found that when concealed carry laws were adopted, rape rates fell measurably, county by county, because predators respond to the possibility of an armed victim the same way every living thing responds to mortal risk — they avoid it.

The Supreme Court already told you in *DeShaney v. Winnebago County* (1989) and *Town of Castle Rock v. Gonzales* (2005) that the government has no legal obligation to protect you. The protective order Chavez violated twice was a piece of paper. The court issued it. The system recorded his violations. And on a cold December Friday in Waco, the piece of paper was nowhere in that room when the door came in.

The gun was.

The gun control crowd says they want women to be safe. Then they spend June trying to disarm the tool that makes women seven to eleven times more likely to survive an attack. Those two positions cannot coexist in good faith.

She did not ask to be a symbol. She just wanted her door to stay closed. When it did not, she handled it.

But what do I know — I am only a combat medic, a science teacher, and the father of daughters who will know how to handle it too.

Crime drops as more Americans pack heat

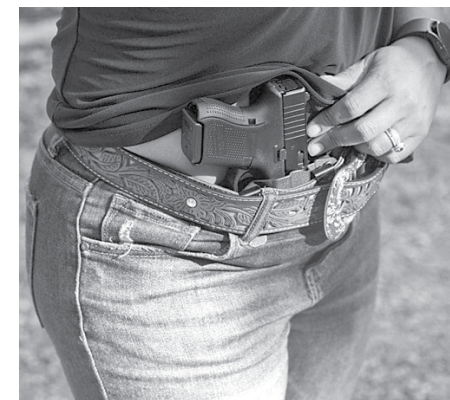
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by McLaughlin & Associates found that almost 30 percent of respondents said they carry a firearm. More specifically, the survey found that 13.2 percent respondents said they carry a firearm all or most of the time, while an additional 16.6 percent said they carry one sometimes or rarely. These results show a 5.5 percent increase in the number of respondents who said they carry firearms since a similar poll was conducted in December 2024...

Since 2021, 13 states, covering 34 percent of the U.S. population, have adopted constitutional carry laws. As a result, 29 states do not require law-abiding citizens to obtain a permit to carry a concealed handgun. A little less than two-thirds of those who are carrying a concealed handgun in these states have a permit...

“It doesn't surprise me that while the country is experiencing record-low murder and violent crime rates, we are also experiencing a record high number of people legally carrying concealed handguns for self-protection,” Alan Gottlieb, the executive vice president and founder

of the Second Amendment Foundation, told RCI.



Bradford County, Fla., Sheriff Gordon Smith said lowering crime rates “isn't rocket science.” He told RCI, “You reduce crime by putting more cops on the street, increasing arrest and conviction rates, and imposing meaningful prison sentences. But you also cut crime by empowering law-abiding citizens to defend themselves and their families through [concealed] carry.”

A BRAZEN \$200M HEIST

LaPierre cronies try to run off with NRA Foundation's \$200 million in assets

(GSL) - In one of the most shameless nonprofit grifts in recent memory, the outfit formerly known as the NRA Foundation—now rebranded as the 1791 Foundation—is demanding gun owners suffer collective amnesia. After 35 years of raising roughly \$200 million by relentlessly trading on the NRA name through Friends of the NRA banquets, auctions, raffles, and donor appeals, these operators now claim the iconic brand was merely incidental.



The timing is perfect: right after the NRA sued to stop unauthorized use of its intellectual property, the Foundation ditched the name that built the fortune and expects everyone to pretend the last three decades of NRA-branded fundraising never happened. Donors didn't write checks for some vague "1791" vision—they supported the NRA's mission.

What makes this especially infuriating is the cast of characters now in charge. Many of the same Wayne LaPierre-era insiders and loyalists—tied to the scandals, self-dealing, luxury spending, and governance disasters that nearly sank the NRA—have simply migrated to control this freshly rebranded pile of donor cash. It's termites fleeing one house only to set up shop next door as "property managers."

Donors deserve full transparency and accountability, not slick legal maneuvers and donor amnesia. The money was raised under the NRA banner for NRA-aligned work. Letting LaPierre's old crew walk off with it would be the final insult to millions of faithful supporters. Pattern recognition says: follow the money and stay skeptical.

Chicago's revolving door justice system is out of control thanks to criminal-friendly legislators, local 'leaders' and prosecutors

HOW MANY MORE HAVE TO DIE?

Chicago career criminal finally gets 85 years for murder... after multiple free passes

(GSL) - In July 2017, Torrey Lewis and an accomplice tried to carjack Timothy Horace, a man in a wheelchair, outside the Marcus Cinema in Country Club Hills. When they couldn't operate his specially equipped vehicle, they shot the 31-year-old dead in front of his family, stealing his Rolex and cash. Lewis was hit with 160 counts of murder and held initially — but Cook County's soft-on-crime machine soon kicked in.

Judge Carl Boyd cut him loose in 2020 on electronic monitoring after just 10% of a \$300k bond. While on EM for the murder, Lewis was caught twice with stolen guns — including high-speed joyriding in a stolen car during a "free movement" day under the SAFE-T Act, where he was shot in another gunfight. Prosecutors under the Kim Foxx-era office repeatedly fumbled, charging misdemeanors instead of felonies, drawing rebuke even from judges. Lewis beat those charges too.

This predator roamed free, victimizing the community again and again, thanks to activist judges and prosecutors who prioritize "equity" over public safety. After years of delays, Lewis finally got 85 years — 50 for murder (100% time served) plus consecutive terms. He'll be 103 at projected release in 2096.

How many more innocents like Timothy Horace must die before Illinois ends this deadly catch-and-release insanity?

BAN CRIMINALS, NOT GUNS

(GSL) - Anti-gun politicians love scary labels to describe our guns. They target America's favorite rifle, the AR-15, along with home-made firearms and now "machinegun pistols." They seek to ban America's favorite handgun, Glocks, because criminals sometimes illegally add auto-sear switches to turn them fully automatic—devices that are already heavily restricted under federal law.

Nuisance lawsuits against GLOCK blame the manufacturer for criminals' actions, even though the company doesn't make or promote the illegal switches. Research from the Crime Prevention Research Center shows the threat is wildly exaggerated: just 43 murders involving these converted guns

over five years—0.05% of total U.S. murders—compared to over 6,000 knife homicides in the same period.

The real failure is prosecution. Chicago PD regularly arrests gang members with switches - as many as a dozen or more a day. Where are the prosecutions and long prison sentences? In St. Louis, police recently arrested two suspects with converted GLOCKS, yet the Circuit Attorney's Office released them without charges. While officials push new "extra illegal" bans and sue manufacturers, actual criminals walk free. The NRA is fighting these unconstitutional bans in court. Law-abiding gun owners deserve better than performative politics that ignores real crime.



Why we're naming and shaming reckless judges making stupid decisions

(GSL) - Earlier this year, we put judges on notice: if you're going to play catch-and-release with violent predators under Illinois' insane SAFE-T Act, we're going to encourage our members and friends to name you, shame you, and make sure the public knows exactly who's rolling out the red carpet for the worst of the worst.

Some folks still clutched their pearls. "But she's a very nice woman," at least one caller told me, talking about Macon County Judge Lindsey Shelton. Nice? Wonderful.

Bake sales are nice too. They don't keep armed career criminals off the street.

Here's the ugly reality Judge Shelton decided didn't matter: a career felon charged in three separate home invasions in Decatur over the span of just a couple of weeks. In one of those invasions, the perp shot a victim.

And Judge Shelton turned him loose anyway.

Tough noogies. She made the call. Now she owns every bit of it.

Her decision wasn't just disappointing—it was reckless, tone-deaf, and defies every scrap of common sense. This is the kind of judicial malpractice that gets innocent people hurt, robbed, or killed while the

black-robed elite sip their Starbucks in their offices protected by armed security.

We'd bet good money Judge Shelton wouldn't have been so understanding if this dirtbag lived next door to *her* house or was kicking in doors in *her* neighborhood. But of course he doesn't. She doesn't have to live with the consequences of her compassion for criminals. You and your family do.

We can't vote her out of office, so our options for holding her accountable are limited. That's exactly why naming and shaming is on the table—and why we'll keep doing it.

If you run into Judge Lindsey Shelton out in the real world, politely remind her of the blood on the hands of the system she's helping protect. Ask her how she sleeps at night knowing she put that shooter back on Decatur's streets. Make her look you in the eye and defend it.

Because "nice" doesn't cut it when your rulings terrorize law-abiding families.

We're not asking judges to be perfect. We're demanding they stop being stupid.

The SAFE-T Act is already a disaster. Judges like Shelton are making it lethal. Time to continue to hold them accountable.

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.

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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



When objective data crushes the gun control industry's hysterical talking points

(*Shooting News Weekly*) - The gun confiscation lobby has spent decades warning that lawful carry would lead to chaos. They said ordinary citizens couldn't be trusted with firearms in public. They said more concealed carry would mean more crime. They said constitutional carry would put our fellow Americans in danger.

The data, however, says otherwise.

Research from the Crime Prevention Research Center shows concealed carry permit holders remain among the most law-abiding groups in America. In Florida and Texas, *concealed carry permit holders are convicted of firearms-related violations at roughly one-twelfth the rate of police officers.*

Police officers already commit crimes at far lower rates than the general public. So when permit holders are convicted of firearms-related violations at an even lower rate than law enforcement, the gun confiscation lobby's narrative collapses.

News flash: lawful carriers are not the problem. Criminals are.

The fear campaign failed

Anti-gun politicians rely on fear. Fear of Americans carrying handguns. Fear of families defending themselves. Fear of ordinary citizens refusing to remain helpless.

But millions of Americans have carried firearms legally for years, and the numbers are clear: Permit holders are overwhelmingly responsible and law-abiding.

The same is true in states with constitutional carry. State after state has restored constitutional carry despite hysterical warnings from the anti-gun left. The gun confiscation lobby predicted disaster.

But it never happened. Not even once.

That's because criminals don't obey permit requirements, gun-free zones, magazine bans, or background check schemes. Those laws only burden the people least likely to commit crimes in the first place.

Permit numbers undercount the real story

The CPRC report also makes clear that permit data now understates how many

Americans are legally carrying. Why? Because 29 states now have constitutional carry, meaning law-abiding citizens can carry without begging the government for a permission slip.

In those states, permit numbers can fall even as the number of people legally carrying rises. That matters in every state, including Texas. Texas is already a constitutional carry state, yet it still has roughly 1.58 million active carry permits — one of only five states with more than one million permit holders. And CPRC reports that nationwide, there are still more than 21.4 million concealed carry permits across the country.

In other words, lawful carry isn't rare. It is mainstream. And the people doing it are overwhelmingly responsible.

Facts beat gun control talking points

Gun rights folks have long argued that public policy should be based on facts, not fear and emotion. The facts show lawful carriers aren't a public-safety threat. The facts show gun owners can be trusted to carry responsibly. And the facts show the gun confiscation lobby's attacks on concealed carry, constitutional carry, and armed self-defense are built on propaganda — not reality.

That's why every state must keep expanding and defending the right to keep and bear arms. That means protecting constitutional carry. That means abolishing "gun-free" zones that leave law-abiding residents defenseless. That means passing Kyle's Law to protect lawful self-defenders from financially devastating civil lawsuits. And it means rejecting every attempt to punish good guy and gal gun owners who simply want to defend themselves and their families.

This debate shouldn't be decided by emotional headlines or gun control talking points. It should be decided by reality. And reality isn't on the side of the gun confiscation lobby.

Lawful carry is not a fringe movement. It's a mainstream exercise of a constitutional right. The Second Amendment isn't a government-issued privilege. It is a constitutional right. And the data proves gun owners can be trusted to exercise it.

45, 16 commonwealth attorneys will not enforce the ban

Virginia's scary gun ban creates chaos among sponsors

(*GSL*) - With Virginia's controversial ban on so-called "assault firearms" and large-capacity magazines set to take effect July 1, 2026, even the Democratic lawmakers who pushed the bill can't agree on what it actually covers or how it will be enforced.



Virginia radical Governor Spanberger.

Sen. Sadaam Salim (D-Fairfax), the Senate sponsor, downplayed the law's reach. He claimed it mainly affects gun store sales and only kicks in if a post-July 1 "assault weapon" is linked to another crime. Law enforcement won't be knock-

ing on doors to check ownership dates, he said.

In contrast, Del. Dan Helmer (D-Fairfax), the House sponsor, took a harder line. He warned that simply bringing an assault weapon into Virginia after the deadline is a misdemeanor punishable by fines and jail time—even without other criminal activity.

This internal confusion highlights the bill's poor drafting. At least 15 commonwealth's attorneys, including Lynchburg's Bethany Harrison, have announced they will not enforce the ban, citing its unconstitutionality under *Bruen*, *Heller*, and *Miller*. Many predict aggressive enforcement only in deep-blue areas like Fairfax, Richmond, and Norfolk, while much of the state ignores it.

Gun sales have already doubled as Virginians rush to buy before the deadline. Multiple lawsuits challenge the ban in state and federal court.

They took him at his word

Texas man arrested for threatening to kill FBI agents and blow up White House

(*Houston (US DOJ)*) - A 35-year-old man from a small town in Grimes County has been charged for allegedly transmitting interstate threats via social media, announced Acting U.S. Attorney John G.E. Marck.

Authorities took Peter James Bloomfield into custody June 10 where he remains on related charges. He is expected to make his initial appearance before a U.S. magistrate judge in Houston in the near future.

The criminal complaint alleges authorities discovered a Texas-based X account with multiple threatening messages directed at federal law enforcement and others. The account allegedly made several posts about

where the closest FBI building was, killing federal agents and others, spending money to blow up the White House and negative comments about America. Bloomfield is linked to that account, according to the allegations.



BLOOMFIELD

Law enforcement also allegedly identified a Facebook account in Bloom-

field's name that used the same profile image as the X account which posted additional threats against federal agents and notable figures. The charges further allege the Facebook account included comments about making a hit list and who would be on it during a Fox News broadcast of a recent Senate floor hearing.

[*Editor's Note: On his Facebook page, he posts images of a few gun, complains about the high cost of houses (blaming "Boomers" for selling their homes at market prices), that women don't want to date men like him (go figure) and that he plays a lot of video games and music. No mention if he still lives in his mom's basement.]*

Concealed carry gives the would-be assailant the maximum opportunity to make a critical error in their victim selection process.

-- Russ from Clinton, IL

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Black Powder: The gritty, under-appreciated badass of the shooting sports

by Damon Williams
GSL Member

(GSL) - When I think black powder, I picture a grizzled old-timer in fringed buckskins cradling a 48-inch longrifle, or a dusty cowboy striding through swinging saloon doors with a Colt Peacemaker on his hip. None of that sterile, plastic-fantastic modern range ninja nonsense.

New shooters get blasted with endless arrays of tactical black rifles, red dots, and gadgetry that costs more than a used truck. Easy to get distracted by all the shiny crap.

But if you're craving a slower, more deliberate pace—trading hundreds of rounds for a satisfying dozen well-earned shots—a muzzle loader might be exactly what you need.



There's a learning curve and safety rules before you start cramming that ramrod home. Real black powder is a true explosive, not a propellant like smokeless. Leave any air gap and you risk a catastrophic "boom" in the wrong direction. And cleanup? Non-negotiable. That sulfur residue turns into sulfuric acid when it meets moisture. Clean immediately or watch your pride-and-joy rust into a paperweight.

The gear list is intimidating without a mentor: powder, wads, projectiles, caps, flasks, measures, lube, possibles bag, nipple picks—the works. But welcome to the information age. *YouTube* has you covered. Modern black powder substitutes like Hodgdon 777 are far less corrosive (up to 72 hours before cleaning in climate-controlled conditions) and come in easy pre-measured pellets. Plastic sabots speed things up. In-line muzzle loaders with

shotgun primers, scoped up and loaded with sabot hollow points, are legitimate hunting weapons that can stack up against modern single-shots. Plus there's the nostalgia of hunting like our forefathers did it.

You wanna know who else loves black powder? Kids. Seeing that massive cloud of smoke billow out of the barrel brings big smiles, oohs, and ahhs every single time. The light recoil is more of a push than a kick, making it genuinely fun instead of punishing for small shoulders. With modern substitutes and a bottle of Windex, cleanup is quick — you can shoot, clean up, and be headed home in an hour tops.



Deer hunters, those extra muzzleloader seasons (yes, often two) are a godsend when you draw a tag but come up empty. Illinois even lets you run multiple muzzle loaders. Smoke clears in a couple seconds, reload takes 30-60... but the satisfaction is real.

Cap-and-ball revolvers are cheaper than cartridge versions, no FOID required for the powder, balls, and caps. Want more? Conversion cylinders turn them into .45 Colt or .45 ACP shooters. Reloaders: stuff some real FFg into .44 Special, .45 Colt, or even a .45-70 and grin like an idiot. My son once ran an entire match with black powder in .45 ACP—gun cycled fine, but he was scrubbing like a madman after three stages. (Pretty sure I didn't drop him on his head as a baby.)

Black powder is work. But there's a primal sense of accomplishment when that patched round ball or heavy bullet smacks steel after all the ritual. It's not for everyone. But for those who get it? Pure shooting soul.



What happens to the NRA Firearms Museum?

(GSL) - The bitter legal and organizational battle between the National Rifle Association (NRA) and its former charitable arm, now rebranded as the 1791 Foundation, has raised alarms over the fate of one of America's most significant firearm collections.

Valued at \$31.7 million in 2023, the collection—primarily displayed at the NRA National Firearms Museum in Fairfax, Virginia, and the National Sporting Arms Museum in Springfield, Missouri—embodies nearly a century of American gun heritage, donated by supporters who trusted it would be preserved for education and public appreciation.

Former NRA Museums Firearms Specialist Logan Metesh (2014–2018) notes in a *Shooting News Weekly* story that a 2023 bylaws change stripped away key protections, granting the Executive Vice President unilateral control over the collection and eliminating required reviews by the Gun Collectors Committee and Finance Committee. Crucially, most firearms are owned by the Foundation, not the NRA itself.

Following Wayne LaPierre's 2024 resignation and the June 2026 upholding of his 10-year leadership ban, many of his allies

departed the NRA Board. On the very same day, the NRA Foundation rebranded as the 1791 Foundation, with a board stacked by former LaPierre supporters. The group is now restructuring toward greater independence via a self-perpetuating board.

This matters deeply: the firearms represent roughly 18% of the Foundation's \$176 million in assets. Should full separation occur, nothing legally blocks the 1791 Foundation from deaccessioning and selling pieces of the collection to fund priorities—including potentially "reimbursing" LaPierre the \$4.1+ million he owes the NRA as court-ordered restitution, possibly via a name-image-likeness (NIL) contract that could sidestep his leadership ban.

The NRA Museums Division is already critically understaffed, down to just one person managing thousands of artifacts across two states. Without a negotiated transfer of ownership back to the NRA, this irreplaceable heritage risks liquidation amid the infighting—betraying donors' intent. The ideal resolution is an agreement preserving the collection intact for future generations. Only time will tell if cooler heads prevail.

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Our neighbors to the north have a dangerous candidate for governor

Wisconsin Governor candidate wants to abolish prisons and police

(GSL) - Look, Wisconsin voters, if you thought the last few years of crime spikes, revolving-door justice, and “defund the police” experiments were bad, buckle up.

State Rep. Francesca Hong, the self-proclaimed democratic socialist darling from Madison, is auditioning for the Democratic nomination for governor with a vision so detached from reality it makes you wonder what she’s been mainlining in her chef’s kitchen.

Her “perfect world”? No prisons. None. Because, in her words, “we all see the humanity in one another and nobody’s disposable.”

Hong isn’t just floating vague “reform” ideas. She’s doubling down on the full abolitionist fever dream: defund the police as a “first step” toward abolishing them entirely. She’s previously declared that police “exist to uphold White supremacy” and that reform “can’t be an option.” Now she’s telling voters this long-term vision of no cops, no prisons is the path to “public safety.”

Hong on Guns

The democratic socialist from Madison is all-in on radical gun control. She hasn’t met a gun control measure she hasn’t wrapped her arms around. She wants special legislative sessions to push this EveryTown/Moms Demand Action agenda.

Meanwhile, the selective outrage is glaring. Like many on the far left, Team Hong reliably cheers armed Antifa militants and “mostly peaceful” protesters, while demanding everyday Wisconsinites surrender their means of self-defense. It’s the classic radical formula: strict control for you and me, but leniency (or outright violence. In her prison-free utopia paired with police abolition fantasies, good guys with guns are apparently the real problem — not the predators she’d rather hug than incarcerate.

Murderers, rapists, repeat violent offenders — just release them into society with

some “social services” and a hug? This isn’t compassion; it’s delusional incompetence that gets people hurt, or worse.

We’ve seen this movie before, and it ends in disaster.



Francesca Hong.

While real Wisconsinites deal with carjackings, smash-and-grabs, and terrified neighborhoods, Hong fantasizes about emptying prisons and dismantling law enforcement.

Her campaign spins it as addressing “root causes,” but the root cause of crime is criminals choosing to commit it.

This isn’t some fringe DSA meeting rant. This is a leading contender for the Democratic nomination for governor.

To normal people, prisons protect society from predators. Police enforce laws that keep the innocent safe. Dismantling both isn’t visionary — it’s suicidal for public order.

Wisconsin deserves better than this radical experiment. Francesca Hong’s platform delivers the full “defund, abolish, and pray the criminals behave” package.

Mock her relentlessly? Absolutely — because ideas this detached from reality, this dangerous to everyday families, deserve nothing less. Voters should understand exactly what this vision would mean for public safety.



PUMP SHOTGUNS: The Deplorable’s best friend for home defense in PICA-ravaged IL

Continued from page 12.

Go 20-gauge. Yes, the 12-gauge hits harder on paper, but for home defense the difference is academic. A 20-gauge is lighter to wield, but that lighter gun means you eat a lot of recoil when you pull the trigger. Train confidently and you (and they) will actually hit what they’re aiming at. They’re not going to like the recoil though, but at least they can hold the gun up more easily before the trigger gets pulled.

Fix that stock. Grab a Remington Youth model or Mossberg Bantam for shorter length of pull for teens or smaller women. Or have a gunsmith cut yours down.

Train. Take a defensive shotgun class. One day can turn nervous fumbling into smooth, violent competence. (*Hint, hint — this would make a killer GSL course, John.*)

Install a sling. With a sling, you don’t have to set your gun down if you need your hands. And you can carry a shotgun

relatively unobtrusively with a sling. Unlike a handgun, you can’t stuff it in your pants in a pinch.

Bottom Line

Unlike semi-autos, pumps eat anything you feed them. You run the action, it feeds whatever you give it. No gas system to jam, no finicky reliability issues. Ammo is everywhere — Walmart, Rural King, even hardware stores in real America.

Until we repeal this unconstitutional garbage called PICA and restore our God-given rights, don’t let politicians disarm your family. A proper pump shotgun, in trained hands, remains one of the most effective tools for stopping threats cold.

Buy one. Fit it. Train with it. And sleep a little sounder knowing you’ve got serious stopping power when seconds count.

The fight continues. Stay ready, Illinois.

A cousin of the junk science about guns...

Only 50% of social science research can be replicated, study finds

(The College Fix) - A new study adds further criticism to the "replication crisis" in scientific research.

Researchers from a variety of universities looked at "164 quantitative papers published from 2009 to 2018 in 54 journals in the social and behavioural sciences," according to the summary in the Nature article. The team "attempted replications of 274 claims of positive results" but found only about half could be replicated.

The researchers found that many published findings did not consistently hold up when tested again, although the exact replication rate varied depending on how success was measured.

For Michael Inzlicht, a professor and one of the study's authors, the findings matter because psychology research often reaches the public long before its reliability is fully understood.

"The bigger stake is clinical," the University of Toronto professor said. "Psychology sits at the heart of how we treat mental illness. If the underlying work isn't credible, why trust the treatment recommendations that flow from it?"

Could have been a defensive gun use... by the anglers!

Homeowner brandishes shotgun, threatens anglers on Pecos River, gets arresticated

San Miguel County, NM (GSL) - Erik Michael Briones, 65, of San Miguel County, New Mexico, just earned himself a starring role in the "What Not to Do" hall of fame. Instead of minding his own business, this genius repeatedly brandished a shotgun at anglers fishing the Pecos River — including racking the slide and threatening to use them for target practice.

His charming line? "I'm gonna start target practicing... if you're in the way, well I'm sorry."

Big yikes.

According to the New Mexico Attorney General's office, Briones now faces five felony counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon for incidents spanning April 2023 to March 2026. Videos, photos, witness statements, and lineups all tell the same story: a man who thought his property line gave him a license to play cowboy with a 12-gauge.



Here's the reality check: Someone standing in a river with a fishing rod is not an imminent deadly threat. Not even close. Deadly force — or the credible threat of it — is only justified when you face reasonable fear of death or great bodily injury. Fishing nearby doesn't qualify. Period.

Now he's out on conditions with an ankle monitor, staring down the very real possibility of becoming a prohibited person for life.

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NRA membership range requirement troubles a 'liberal' gun owner

(Reddit r/liberalgunowners forum) - Past year I have been shooting in public land. It has been fine but can be a pain to get to.

I was just accepted to a private shooting range. Very nice facility outdoors. Rifle range out to 440yds, skeet and trap fields, pistol bays with various silhouettes (some with lights for shooting after sundown).

An NRA membership is required. I know in the past they have been politically right leaning but as of recent has spoken up for 2nd amendment rights for the trans community.

At a bit of a moral crossroads and not sure what to do.

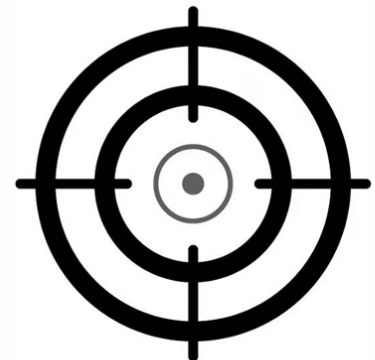


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Calendar



GUN SHOWS...

June

Jun 19, 20 & 21: Pecatonica Gun Show, Winnebago County Fairgrounds, Pecatonica Marv Kraus Promotions 563 608-4401.

Jun 27 & 28: Crown Point Gun Show, Lake County Fairgrounds, Crown Point, IN. Central IN Gun Shows. (765) 855-3836.

August

August Crown Point Gun Show cancelled.

September

Sep 19: National Civil War & Collector Arms Show, DuPage Co. Fairgrounds, Wheaton IL. Irene Zurko (715) 526-9769.

Sep 19 & 20: Chillicothe Sportsman's Club, Chillicothe, IL. Steve Risinger (309) 208-1010.

Sep. 27 & 28: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike (630) 363-3131.

Sep. 26 & 27: Crown Point Gun Show, Lake County Fairgrounds, Crown Point, IN. Central IN Gun Shows. (765) 855-3836.

GUN CLUBS

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.

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 fxrt1984@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**



NRA FREEDOM ACTION FOUNDATION

formerly the Friends of NRA

June 25: Logan County, Lincoln

Aug 1: Two Rivers, Rushville

Aug 8: South Central Illinois, Mt. Vernon

August 22: Heart of Illinois, Washington

August 29: US Grant, East Dubuque, IL

September 19: Kishwaukee Valley, DeKalb

For more info, visit FriendsOfNRA.org.

CRACKPOTS

I believe in the 2nd Amendment, but...

Talarico: 'Common Sense' to lock up guns at home, Criminalize private sales

(Breitbart) - During an appearance on the Unity Over Division podcast, Texas U.S. Senate candidate James Talarico (D) suggested it was "common sense" to mandate how guns are stored in homes and to ban private sales.

Talarico said, "I am a believer in the Second Amendment. I don't pick and choose between the Bill of Rights, I believe in the Second Amendment just as much as I believe in the first."

Going exactly nowhere...

Dem Rep. introduces bill banning suppressors

(Breitbart) - U.S. Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ) introduced legislation Monday designed to outlaw the sale of firearm suppressors throughout the country.

Because crime never happens in hospital parking garages or nearby neighborhoods...

VA Gov. bans CCW guns in hospitals

(Breitbart) - Gov. Abigail Spanberger (D) signed legislation Thursday that prohibits law-abiding Virginians from being armed for self-defense in an array of hospitals.



Couldn't happen to a nicer bunch... Besides, concealed means concealed

Florida HOA bans carry, get hammered by AG

PORT ST. LUCIE, FL — The Tradition Community Association learned the hard way that Florida isn't playing games with the Second Amendment. After sending residents a heavy-handed letter banning both open and concealed carry in parks, trails, and common areas, the HOA quickly found itself in the crosshairs of Attorney General James Uthmeier. Uthmeier fired off a demand

letter giving the board until early June to drop the unconstitutional nonsense or face legal consequences. On June 3, the HOA folded like a cheap lawn chair. They agreed to stop enforcing the ban, and Uthmeier confirmed the policy change is being made permanent to comply with state law.

This victory underscores Florida's strong preemption laws that prevent HOAs

from playing legislator and disarming law-abiding gun owners. While some residents whined about "safety," the rest can now enjoy their community spaces without checking their rights at the gate.

Score one for the good guys. Don't mess with Florida gun owners.

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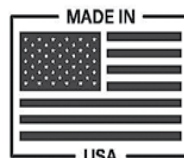
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Joins California in banning some handguns

MD enacts Glock ban

(Breitbart) - Governor Wes Moore (D) signed legislation Tuesday banning the sale of Glock and Glock-clones into law, making Maryland the second state to enact such a ban.

CT enacts Glock ban

(Breitbart) - Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont (D) signed a ban on Glock and Glock-clones Tuesday, meaning three states now ban sales of the wildly popular handgun brand.

Defund the police + decriminalizing crime =

Seattle neighborhood builds barricades against crime

Seattle (Yahoo News) - Residents in a troubled Seattle neighborhood have begun erecting large homemade barricades across residential streets after a surge of gun violence left many fearing for their safety.

Neighbors living near Aurora Avenue say repeated shootings, alleged prostitution activity and late-night chaos have pushed the community to a breaking point.



DOJ probes Philly PD for arbitrary CCW denials

(GSL) - The U.S. Department of Justice (under the Civil Rights Division) is officially investigating the Philadelphia Police Department (and the city) for how they handle gun carry permits.

Specifically, they're looking at whether Philly PD's rules and habits for issuing or taking away licenses to carry firearms are unconstitutional. The concern is that police may be using a vague "good cause" or discretionary standard to revoke or deny permits to regular, law-abiding people — which could violate the Second Amendment (right to keep and bear arms) and Fourteenth Amendment protections.

The Left's mental illness identity

(PJ Media) - If you've spent any time arguing with liberals online, you already know this. Now there's a study to prove it.

Decades of research have shown that political conservatives report better mental health and greater happiness than their counterparts on the left. A new study published in the journal Political Behavior takes that finding a step further, finding that "mental illness is emerging as its own political identity and is most heavily aligned with leftist political ideology and causes," and that it clusters heavily among younger, far-left Americans.



Elections have consequences!

Florida to ditch 3-day waiting period: 'Unconstitutional'

(Breitbart) - Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier announced Friday he will be settling a case so as to secure a declaration that Florida's 3-day gun purchase waiting period is unconstitutional.

Gun sales insane in Virginia ahead of ban

(Breitbart) - Sales of firearms, AR-15 parts, and magazines with capacity of greater than 15 rounds are surging in Virginia, where residents are now less than a month away from an "[gun and magazine]" ban taking effect.

The effective date of the ban is July 1, 2026.



Rideout Arsenal moving out of Virginia

Atlanta (Office of Governor) - Governor Brian P. Kemp today announced that Rideout Arsenal, a firearms designer and manufacturer, is investing \$22 million in a new manufacturing facility in Thomasville, creating 120 new jobs over the next several years.

"Georgia attracts job creators from all over the country and world because we work with them, not against them," said Governor Brian Kemp. "Our state's pro-business approach, skilled workforce, and enduring support for constitutional freedoms make us an ideal home for manufacturers like Rideout Arsenal, and we look forward to their success here in the No. 1 state for business."



FBI fires five behind Biden's 'Catholic' memo

Richmond, VA (WTVR) - Five FBI analysts who worked in the Richmond field office received notices Friday that they were being fired.

The terminations are the latest tied to the Trump administration's efforts to target federal law enforcement and stem from the Richmond Catholic Memo — an 11-page document leaked in January of 2023 that examined a potential link between violent extremists and what is called radical traditionalist Catholic ideology.

The memo drew intense political scrutiny and was immediately withdrawn by the FBI.

New study confirms massive (up to 50x) racial disparity in New Jersey carry permit denials

(Bearing Arms) - Bearing Arms contributor John Petrolino has been documenting the many issues with New Jersey's post-Brunen carry regime for months now, from the number of denials based on subjective standards (a no-no, according to the Supreme Court) to the excessive wait times many applicants are forced to endure.

In May 2024 John revealed that Black applicants for a carry permit were more than twice as likely to be denied as their white counterparts; a revelation that caught the attention of researchers at Rise Against Hate, who decided to dig into the data on their own. After months of research the group has released their study on permit-to-carry application outcomes, and they too found "significant racial disparities" in permit denials. In fact, the disparities appear to be even worse than what Petrolino was able to document.

According to Rise Against Hate's data, Black applicants are more than ten times as likely to be denied a permit to carry than white applicants. While some counties appear to be issuing permits in a colorblind or racially neutral fashion, the disparities are immense in places like Ocean County, where white applicants are 50 times more likely to be approved for a permit compared to Black applicants.



Not in Ocean County, NJ.

The study's authors say the "primary concern for biased or potentially prejudiced results is with the denial category of 'Public Health, Safety, and Welfare', as the reasoning for this category is based on the subjective discretion of the application investigator within the police department."

Des Moines PD 'concerned' after yet another defensive gun use

Des Moines, Iowa (GSL) - Meet Sergeant Paul Parizek, Des Moines PD's longtime public information officer and polished department spokesman.

When a 22-year-old lawfully armed Iowan stopped a 17-year-old robber at Pappajohn Sculpture Park with a defensive gunshot, Parizek didn't celebrate a citizen exercising his rights under Iowa's constitutional carry laws. Instead, he wrung his hands over "more guns out there" and warned that regular people lack the proper "skill set" to use them.

"The thing that becomes concerning is that there are people who don't have the skill set to react with that tool. They don't have the skill set to accurately hit their target."

Really?

Spare us the pearl-clutching, Sergeant. The armed citizen did hit his target, stopped the threat, and faced no charges — exactly how strong self-defense laws are supposed to work.

This is the same tired anti-gun rhetoric we hear from

big-city departments: treat law-abiding carriers like reckless amateurs while criminals prey on the disarmed. Parizek frets about PTSD, "not a video game," and how gang members can carry too (until they get records, apparently). Never mind the deterrent effect of an armed populace or the lives saved by citizens who refuse to be victims.



Sgt. Chicken Little, the only one professional enough to have a gun in public.

This isn't Parizek's first brush with controversy. Back in 2020, a judge ruled that the Des Moines police spokesman — Parizek — broke Iowa's public records law by improperly withholding body-cam footage.

He was fined for it. Yet he remains the department's camera-ready mouthpiece, quick to spin officer-involved incidents but quick to lecture civilians who successfully defend themselves.

The real concern isn't responsible gun owners who train and carry legally.

It's a spokesman more uncomfortable with citizens protecting themselves than with the culture producing 17-year-old armed robbers. Iowa's constitutional carry and self-defense laws are working. Every successful defensive gun use proves the right to keep and bear arms isn't dangerous — it's essential.

Sergeant, if you're so worried about "skill sets," focus on disarming criminals and training your own officers instead of scolding the good guys who just proved they had what it takes. The polished uniform can't hide the outdated mindset.

Keep carrying, Iowa. The Parizeks of the world will keep clutching pearls while armed, responsible citizens stay safe.



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Letter to the Editor:

Power outages and post-storm reality: GunNews prep lessons hit close to home

Last month in *GunNews*, you covered emergency preparations for storm season as part of one of your speakers at a meeting.

Well, Mother Nature delivered a serious test last Thursday [June 11]. A major storm system ripped through my region of the state and others, spawning multiple tornadoes—including some that caused significant damage in places like Streator, Illinois.

Closer to my home, we saw widespread power outages, most likely from storms trashing power lines and problems at substations. Many thousands remain without electricity on the second day after the storm as I'm writing this.

Just like the SHTF books warn, a couple of days with widespread power outages

and things start sliding in the wrong direction fast.

I went out to run a couple of quick errands this morning. Big mistake. What should have been a simple trip turned into a frustrating reminder of how fragile our normal routines really are.

In our area, only two gas stations had power and were open. One was completely out of regular unleaded. The other had a long line of cars snaking out into the street, with impatient drivers laying on their horns anytime someone tried to cut in. The "me first" syndrome was alive and well.

Traffic was even worse at major intersections. Many lights were either completely dark or flashing red. While most drivers behaved like civilized adults and took

turns, there was always that one clown who couldn't wait and barreled through, creating chaos and near-misses.

Bottom line: travel right now is more trouble than it's worth. People really should stay close to home if they can, conserving fuel, and avoiding unnecessary trips.

These experiences are the best training we can get. Thank you for the information shared in *GunNews*. I read it to review the fundamentals. It also reminds me to test my stuff, including charging batteries and exercising my generator. Hopefully others read and implement the advice you give to keep their families safer. Stay safe out there.

Name withheld
Suburb withheld

POLICE

WHAT TO DO IF YOU BEGIN TO BE BEHEADED

Step One -
Don't be racist

Step Two -
Don't be Islamophobic

Step Three -
Patiently wait for the police to come and arrest you

Step Four -
Do not react in anger. Use the incident to bring us all together

Issued by the Ministry of Community Cohesion • Stay Calm & Carry On • Report Hate Incidents

Antifa Member Lectures D-Day Veteran On How To Fight Fascism

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BUT A MURDER LASTS FOREVER**

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