



Tactical Talk

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"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing."

—Theodore Roosevelt

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Where Do Crooks Get Their Guns?

Anti-gun activists are continually screaming about the "gun show loophole" and universal background checks. As usual they are dead wrong in their position and frankly, they outright lie to you about where and how criminals obtain the guns used in crimes.

The United States Department of Justice recently released figures from a study conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics regarding 1,402 convicted felons and how these felons obtained the guns used in their crimes.

According to the study the percentages of guns obtained from legal sources were:

retail store	7.3%
pawn shop	2.6%
flea market	.6%
gun show	.8%

As you can see, the infamous "gun show loophole" accounts for less than 1% of the guns used in these crimes.

According to the same study these criminals obtained their guns from a family member or a friend in 37.4% of the cases. These transactions would not be covered by any background check law. In fact, if the criminal obtaining a gun from a family member or friend already has a felony record he is committing a felony under existing state and federal laws. No need for a new law on this.

In these 1,402 cases the guns were obtained by stealing them or trading for them with a drug dealer or other illegal street source 40% of the time. When you add this 40% and the 37.4% that were acquired from family or friends that's almost 80% of the crime guns. Gun shops, pawn shops, and gun shows accounted for only 10.7% of the guns in this study.

It is already illegal for a convicted felon to possess a firearm or ammunition under both state and federal law, no matter how they obtain it. Making it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to obtain firearms is like fighting drunk driving by making it harder for non-drinkers to buy car.

Our Three-Day Firearms Instructor Development Course is earning a reputation nation-wide as one of the best courses for developing one's skills as a trainer. It is a very intensive course, and is frankly, a lot of hard work. It is also a great deal of fun and a very rewarding experience. Here is an excerpt from a review written by a student who attended this course in Oklahoma last year:

" This was my fourth instructor's course, the first three being through Sig Academy, the NRA and Tactical Response. The Tactical Response Instructor's class comes close, but in the end I believe that if you could pick only one of the above classes, you should pick the Rangemaster course. The Rangemaster course is the only one of the above that goes into detail about how to properly coach a shooter on the firing line. It also forces students to give informative, properly delivered coaching and to receive and implement the same.

The Course is a nearly even split between class time and range time. At first this might seem a bit range heavy for an instructor's course, but the split worked just right because of the way range time is used in the course. When you are not shooting you are observing and coaching. When you are shooting you are implementing the coaching given by your training partner. Whether in the classroom or on the range you are in turn learning and teaching, developing vital skills as an instructor."

-- Kirk Clark, New Mexico

Some of the 2014 courses are full, but we still have openings in these classes:

August 1-3 at Rangemaster, Memphis (indoors, air conditioned)
901-370-5600 to register

August 29-31 Ft. Lauderdale, FL (indoors) rascgc@aol.com to register

Sept 19-21 Chandler, OK spencerkeepers@yahoo.com to register

Oct 3-5 Dallas, TX detwd114@yahoo.com to register

Tuition is \$525.00 for three very full days of training. You will need 1,000 rounds of jacketed ammunition. We supply a 200 page manual, that is a valuable training reference source.

Here I am in Sarasota, Florida, in my version of "soft clothes", khakis and a Hawaiian shirt with the tail out. Under the shirt is a Glock 35 in an IWB holster and 2 spare magazines. I spent the afternoon among hundreds of other people and no one paid me the least amount of attention. I just laugh when people tell me they can't carry anything bigger than a micro .380.





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2611 S. Mendenhall Rd.
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	DVD: "Cooper's Color Codes" (1 hr.+)	\$ 22.95	
	DVD: "Introduction to Self Defense Handguns" (30 min.)	\$ 14.95	
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Safe or Out?

Baseball and Personal Defense

By Rangemaster Instructor Craig Harper



Up front admission - I'm a bit of a baseball geek. While debates about things like the Designated Hitter bore me, I do pour over the standings, box scores, and MLB videos every day. And I'm a long-time Citizen of The Red Sox Nation. Obviously, I also have great interest in personal defense. So, with those thoughts in mind, it is not surprising that I found a connection between a baseball sta-

tistic and personal defense. Bear with me.

There is a current debate in baseball about sliding into base: is it faster to slide head first or feet first? (We will skip the secondary debate about sliding into first base) This debate has come to prominence because of a number of injuries to players who slide headfirst. Some think the head first slide is no faster, so why risk the injury? Others swear the headfirst slide gets the runner to the base faster. Nobody could prove either side - until now.

A fellow baseball geek (but far more learned than I) named David A. Peters, Ph.D., the McDonnell Douglas Professor of Engineering at Washington University in St. Louis, has used math, science, Newton's Law regarding force, and calculations of the base runners center of gravity, to conclude: the head first slide will get the runner to the base 0.2 seconds faster than feet first. That doesn't sound like much until you consider that the runner traveling the 90 feet between bases at 15 mph would have a 5-inch advantage. Anyone who has ever played baseball or has seen a very close play at any base knows, 5-inches is a BIG advantage when determining if the runner is safe or out.

So, what does all this have to do with personal defense? It has been well documented that the typical street gun fight lasts 3-seconds. If it takes you 4 seconds to get your gun into action, you're 1-second behind the curve. 1-second doesn't sound like much but, like base running, a very small advantage can mean the difference between being safe and out. And out in a fight could mean totally out. 1-second is a heartbeat – literally.

It's not likely you'll need the speed of champion shooter Jerry Miculek (6 shots with a revolver, reload, 6 more shots in 2.99 seconds!) but you do need to get your gun into action and get accurate hits quickly. How do you do that? Actually, it's simple if you apply yourself:

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- Acquire the necessary skills. If you have not taken the Level II course at Rangemaster, do so. You'll acquire the basic skills needed for a street fight.
- Practice. Then practice some more. Buy a shot timer. Once you are consistently getting 2 good hits in 3-seconds, strive for 2.5 seconds. Then strive for 2-seconds.
- Practice in a structured environment. Attend Tom Givens' Combative Pistol Course #1 and #2. I guarantee you'll become faster and more accurate.
- Then practice more.
- Did I mention practice?

Keep in mind that under pressure – in a fight – you will never rise to the occasion; you will sink to your lowest level of training. Small advantages may not seem very important yet if 0.2 seconds matter in baseball, certainly a second or two matters in saving your life.



One of the specialty classes we offer is Defensive Revolver.



We are seeing more and more women in our Combative Pistol courses around the U.S.



Homicide Trends

The US Department of Justice gathers and reports information on a number of crime classifications from all over the United States. They recently released a huge amount of data on homicides occurring during the time period 1976-2005. This is a 29 year period, so there was a lot of data to examine. Here are a few tidbits from that information.

Males are almost four times as likely to be murdered as females. Males are also far more likely to be the offender.

Among male victims, they were killed by:

Spouse, ex-spouse, or girlfriend	5%
Other family member	6.8%
Acquaintance/known person	35.3%
<i>Stranger or unknown</i> killer	52.9%

Among female victims, they were killed by:

Spouse, ex-spouse, boyfriend	30%
Other family member	11.8%
Acquaintance/ known person	21.8%
<i>Stranger/unknown</i>	36.3%

Cases involving:

male offender/ male victim	65.3%
male offender/female victim	22.7%
female offender/male victim	9.6%
female offender/female victim	2.4%

Age of victims:

Under 18	9.8%
18-34	52.7%
35-49	22.8%
50+	14.7%

Circumstances of murder, 2005 only:

Felony murder*	2,432	15%
Argument	4,787	
Gang related	955	5.7%
Other **	2,223	
Unknown **	6,295	



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Felony murder is a murder committed during the commission of some other felony, such as armed robbery, car-jacking, rape, etc.

“Other” and “Unknown” accounted for 51% of all homicides. “Other”, “Unknown” and “Felony Murder” together comprised 66% (2 out of 3) of these homicides. These are the ones we go armed to prevent.

Please note that gang related murders were the smallest percentage. The common notion that most murders are gang members killing each other is nonsense.

A couple of other quick facts:

Each year about 4,400 unidentified human bodies are recovered in the US. About 1,000 remain unidentified after one year. At any given time, there are approximately 100,000 active missing person cases in the US. Many of these are soon found, as they are voluntary disappearances due to marital discord, domestic violence, credit issues, etc. However, several thousand each year disappear without a trace and are never seen again. Obviously, these are undetected homicides that add to the data detailed above.

Other Violent Crime

These figures are also from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, a branch of the US Department of Justice. These deal specifically with 2006.

Total Violent Crime Incidents for 2006 = 5,685,620 (1 for every 54 people)

A common fallacy is that this violent crime takes place in the wee hours, after midnight. Wrong!

6 am-6 pm 52.4% 6 pm-midnight 32.8% midnight-6 am 10.9%

Robbery = 645,950 with injury to the victim= 232,380

Rape = 255,630 Victim's advocacy groups believe about 1 rape out of every 6 is reported to the police. Do the math.

Aggravated Assault = 1,209,730 (an assault involving a deadly weapon and/or serious bodily injury to the victim) Many Aggravated Assault victims are permanently disabled, have to have multiple surgeries, or are permanently disfigured, they just didn't die and become homicides.

Here is a practice course of fire that was designed specifically to be shootable with a five or six shot revolver or with a semiautomatic pistol. This would be a good course to shoot with both your everyday carry pistol, and if you carry a small revolver as a backup gun or when maximum concealment is required, with that gun as well. This will give you an accurate view of just how much performance you lose when going to the smaller gun.

30 Round/Revolver Neutral/Skills Course

3 yards Draw and fire 3 rounds, dominant hand only. Switch hands, and fire 2 rounds non-dominant hand only, all in 7 seconds.

5 yards Sidestep, draw and fire 5 rounds in 4 seconds.

5 yards Sidestep, draw and fire 3 rounds to the body, then 1 round to the head box, all in 5 seconds.

7 yards Draw and fire 5 rounds in 5 seconds.

7 yards Start with one round in the gun, at the ready. On signal, fire one round, sidestep, execute an emergency reload and fire 4 more rounds, all in 8 seconds.

15 yards Draw and fire 3 rounds in 5 seconds.

25 yards Draw and fire 3 rounds in 7 seconds.

30 rounds total 150 points possible

Scoring, depending on target design used:

IALEFI-QP 8" circle and head ring= 5, 10" circle = 4, bottle = 3

RM-Q Chest and Head boxes = 5, any other hit = 3

DS-Q1A/2 8" circle= 5, dotted outline = 3, rest = 2

VSRT inner ring and head ring=5, second ring=3, rest=2

150 points possible 120+ to pass (80%)

Tennessee Law on the Use of Deadly Force

Here, quoted verbatim, are the Tennessee statutes that cover the Use of Deadly Force:

39-11-611. Self-defense.

(a) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) **Business** means a commercial enterprise or establishment owned by a person as all or part of the person's livelihood or is under the owner's control or who is an employee or agent of the owner with responsibility for protecting persons and property and shall include the interior and exterior premises of the business;

(2) **Curtilage** means the area surrounding a dwelling that is necessary, convenient and habitually used for family purposes and for those activities associated with the sanctity of a person's home;

(3) **Dwelling** means a building or conveyance of any kind, including any attached porch, whether the building or conveyance is temporary or permanent, mobile or immobile, that has a roof over it, including a tent, and is designed for or capable of use by people;

(4) **Residence** means a dwelling in which a person resides, either temporarily or permanently, or is visiting as an invited guest, or any dwelling, building or other appurtenance within the curtilage of the residence; and

(5) **Vehicle** means any motorized vehicle that is self-propelled and designed for use on public highways to transport people or property.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding § 39-17-1322, a person who is not engaged in unlawful activity and is in a place where the person has a right to be has no duty to retreat before threatening or using force against another person when and to the degree the person reasonably believes the force is immediately necessary to protect against the other's use or attempted use of unlawful force.

(2) Notwithstanding § 39-17-1322, a person who is not engaged in unlawful activity and is in a place where the person has a right to be has no duty to retreat before threatening or using force intended or likely to cause death or serious bodily injury, if:

(A) The person has a reasonable belief that there is an imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury;

(B) The danger creating the belief of imminent death or serious bodily injury is real, or honestly believed to be real at the time; and

(C) The belief of danger is founded upon reasonable grounds.

(c) Any person using force intended or likely to cause death or serious bodily injury within a residence, business, dwelling or vehicle is presumed to have held a reasonable belief of imminent death or serious bodily injury to self, family, a member of the household or a person visiting as an invited guest, when that force is used against another person, who unlawfully and forcibly enters or has unlawfully and forcibly entered the resi-

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dence, business, dwelling or vehicle, and the person using defensive force knew or had reason to believe that an unlawful and forcible entry occurred.

(d) The presumption established in subsection (c) shall not apply, if:

(1) The person against whom the force is used has the right to be in or is a lawful resident of the dwelling, business, residence, or vehicle, such as an owner, lessee, or titleholder; provided, that the person is not prohibited from entering the dwelling, business, residence, or occupied vehicle by an order of protection, injunction for protection from domestic abuse, or a court order of no contact against that person;

(2) The person against whom the force is used is attempting to remove a person or persons who is a child or grandchild of, or is otherwise in the lawful custody or under the lawful guardianship of, the person against whom the defensive force is used;

(3) Notwithstanding § 39-17-1322, the person using force is engaged in an unlawful activity or is using the dwelling, business, residence, or occupied vehicle to further an unlawful activity; or

(4) The person against whom force is used is a law enforcement officer, as defined in § 39-11-106, who enters or attempts to enter a dwelling, business, residence, or vehicle in the performance of the officer's official duties, and the officer identified the officer in accordance with any applicable law, or the person using force knew or reasonably should have known that the person entering or attempting to enter was a law enforcement officer.

(e) The threat or use of force against another is not justified:

(1) If the person using force consented to the exact force used or attempted by the other individual;

(2) If the person using force provoked the other individual's use or attempted use of unlawful force, unless:

(A) The person using force abandons the encounter or clearly communicates to the other the intent to do so; and

(B) The other person nevertheless continues or attempts to use unlawful force against the person; or

(3) To resist a halt at a roadblock, arrest, search, or stop and frisk that the person using force knows is being made by a law enforcement officer, unless:

(A) The law enforcement officer uses or attempts to use greater force than necessary to make the arrest, search, stop and frisk, or halt; and

(B) The person using force reasonably believes that the force is immediately necessary to protect against the law enforcement officer's use or attempted use of greater force than necessary.

[Acts 1989, ch. 591, § 1; 1990, ch. 1030, § 8; 2007, ch. 210, § 1; 2008, ch. 1012, § 1; 2009, ch. 194, § 2.]

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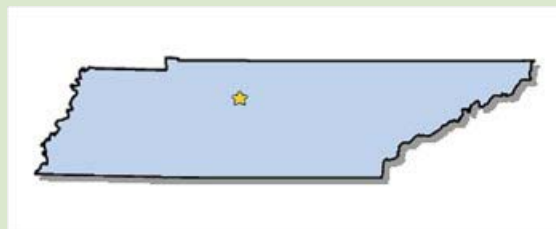
39-11-612. Defense of third person.

A person is justified in threatening or using force against another to protect a third person, if:

(1) Under the circumstances as the person reasonably believes them to be, the person would be justified under § 39-11-611 in threatening or using force to protect against the use or attempted use of unlawful force reasonably believed to be threatening the third person sought to be protected; and

(2) The person reasonably believes that the intervention is immediately necessary to protect the third person.

[Acts 1989, ch. 591, § 1.]



The following are court cases often cited as case law in Tennessee deadly force cas-

“If any less injury than death or great bodily harm is feared or indicated by the circumstances, the plea of self-defense will not be sustained, though the degree of homicide may be reduced. -- Rippy v. State, 39 Tennessee, 217 (1858).”

“Where great bodily violence is being threatened or inflicted upon a weak person by one much stronger and heavier, with his fists, and with such determined energy that the person assaulted may reasonably apprehend death or great bodily injury, he is justified in using a deadly weapon upon his assailant. It makes no difference whether the bodily violence is being inflicted with a bludgeon or with the fists of an overpowering adversary of superior strength and greater size. -- State v. Bowling, 3 Shannon’s Cases 110 (1880)

“A killing, warranted as in self-defense, must be done under an honest, existing, and well founded belief that it is absolutely necessary in self -defense. --Rippy v. State, 39 Tenn. 217 (1858), Draper v. Sttate, 63 Tenn. 246 (1864); Hull v. State, 74 Tenn. 249 (1880); Barnards v state

We are fortunate that Tennessee state law on this matter is pretty straight forward and in pretty plain English. The use of deadly force is strictly limited to situations in which the life of an innocent person is reasonably believed to be in grave, immediate danger.

Primary Business Address
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April 2011 Range-Master Combative Pistol I Class

**We'll be back at the East Texas Rifle & Pistol Club in Longview, Texas
for a One Day Defensive Shotgun Course on September 7.**