



Tactical Talk

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"I hold it, that a little rebellion, now and then, is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical."

— **Thomas Jefferson**,
Letter to James Madison
January 30, 1787

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Annual **Rangemaster** Tactical Conference and Polite Society Match

The annual Rangemaster Tactical Conference and Polite Society Match will again be conducted at the outstanding facilities of the United States Shooting Academy in Tulsa, OK. USSA is a world class facility, and we are fortunate to have the use of it for this event. The dates are April 24-25, 2010.

The 2009 event was a shake-down cruise for us and the USSA staff, and we found that with this huge facility we can accommodate more participants than we have been able to in the past. This year we will have 20 well known trainers providing instruction all weekend. Classes will include live-fire range training, hands-on physical skills, as well as classroom lectures. The match will be expanded next year, as well. To request a registration packet, please e-mail rangemaster.tom@gmail.com.

These targets were designed by Rangemaster Instructor John Hearne. They fall down when struck in the upper center chest, in an anatomically correct vital area. With the addition of guns and other props, they can be threats or bystanders. These are used extensively at the Tactical Conference.





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Continuing Education

Beware of any school/instructor who thinks training obtained 30 years ago, or even 10 years ago, is all they need now. Our field is an evolving one, as new threats emerge, and new equipment and tactics become known to us. At Rangemaster, all of our instructors are continually involved in updating their knowledge through on-going education and training. For instance, a few weeks ago we had an outside trainer here for a specialized course. Over half the students involved in that class were on our staff. In May, two of our instructors attended a five day, 44 hour NRA Law Enforcement Handgun/Shotgun Instructor School at the North Mississippi Law Enforcement Training Center in Tupelo. In late May, two attended the National Tactical Invitational (NTI) in Harrisburg, PA. This commitment to personal improvement is one of the key attributes of a good trainer.



The North Mississippi Law Enforcement Training Center in Tupelo was the scene of a recent NRA Law Enforcement Handgun/Shotgun Instructor School attended by Rangemaster instructors.

Outdoor range at the NMLETC



The legislature has voted to over-ride Gov. Bredesen's veto of the restaurant carry bill, so the bill will now go into effect on July 14th. To re-cap, this means that as of that date:

1. People who have a valid carry permit can legally wear a gun into a restaurant that serves alcohol for on-site consumption;
2. Permit holders MAY NOT drink alcohol while there;
3. It is still unlawful for anyone without a permit to carry in these locations;
4. A restaurant can still post itself as a no-gun zone. It will be up to you whether to patronize such a restaurant. I won't.

You should be aware that the over-ride of the Governor's veto passed by a huge margin, with broad bipartisan support. The vote in favor of this law was 69-27 in the House and 21-9 in the Senate. Several state legislators deserve your thanks for this important piece of legislation. Please contact them and let them know you appreciate their hard work on behalf of your right to self defense.

Rep. Curry Todd, rep.curry.todd@capitol.tn.gov
Sen. Mark Norris, sen.mark.norris@capitol.tn.gov
Sen. Doug Jackson, sen/doug.jackson@capitol.tn.gov

This bill was grossly misrepresented in the media as the "Guns in Bars Bill". No one advocates carrying a gun in a bar, any more than we advocate drinking and driving. The problem is, ALL restaurants now have to serve alcohol to be competitive. I can't think of a single restaurant above the fast food level that does not sell alcohol. During the debate in the Senate, Sen. Jackson told of one of his constituents who had to helplessly watch as her husband was murdered in a Nashville restaurant, because to comply with the law she had left her legally carried gun in her car. This bill finally removes that requirement. It's about time!

The hysteria over allowing permit holders to carry in restaurants was characterized by the cry that "alcohol and guns are a deadly mix!". I guess the Commercial Appeal and others who fought so hard against this law forgot that everyone in the restaurant drove there in a car. Al-

cohol and gasoline are a deadly mix as well, but that never occurred to the nay-sayers. The fact is, it will still be a Class A Misdemeanor to drink alcohol while carrying a gun, just as it is a crime to operate a motor vehicle while under the influence. The penalty for drinking and carrying a gun is stiffer than the penalty for drunk driving. The simple fact is, the people who opposed this law are opposed to your having the ability to defend yourself and your loved ones, anywhere at any time.

Some thirty-seven other states allow permit holders to carry guns in restaurants that serve liquor. None of those states have had a problem as a result, and no state has ever rescinded such a law allowing restaurant carry. This new law simply brings Tennessee in line with the rest of the country.

Two other gun rights bills have passed and crossed the Governor's desk, and now become law. First, Handgun Carry Permit holders may legally carry in any state park in Tennessee, effective Sept 1st. This does not apply to local parks (city/county) but to state parks. Another bill, HB390, allows persons with valid Handgun Carry Permits to carry a long gun (rifle or shotgun) in their cars with the magazine loaded, but no round in the chamber. Thus, a business owner responding to a burglar alarm at his business at 3:00 am can legally take his shotgun with him, which would be prudent.



Child Abductions

A critical component of risk management is having a realistic idea of what the actual threat is. Child abductions are a horrible tragedy for a family to endure, but is it really something you need to worry about? That depends.

For our purposes, child abductions can be separated into two main categories: family abductions (custody disputes) and non-family abductions (kidnappings). Removal of a child by a non-custodial parent is by far the most common form of child abduction, with over 200,000 cases a year in the US. According to the US Department of Justice, in parental abductions 53% of the time the child is missing less than a week, with about 1 in 5 being gone a month or more. However, in 6% of these cases the child is never returned.

Obviously, the removal of a child in a custody battle is difficult to prevent. The child knows and trusts the non-custodial parent, and the offender knows the child's school and play areas, as well as the custodial parent's patterns. If you are involved in a divorce involving child custody, you can take some precautions. Be sure the court is aware of any threats to flee with the child made by an ex-spouse, and ask for a court order defining custody or restraining the ex-spouse. No, the paper won't prevent anything, but it makes the follow-up legal process much easier and smoother if something does happen. Have your child fingerprinted, and keep current photos showing full face, profile, and full body views of the child. Depending on the child's maturity level, it may be advisable to discuss the possibility before hand and have a plan worked out in advance.

The non-family abduction is one of the most horrible crimes a family can endure. Although not as common as family dispute abductions, these kidnappings are by no means rare. In fact, according to a major study, there were over **58,000** such kidnappings in the United States in 1999.

These kidnappings by non-family members, or strangers, are committed for various motives. The classic kidnapping for ransom is somewhat rare in the US, although it is a thriving business in much of the world. Abduction of young girls for the sex trade is common in many parts of the world, but not so much here. In the United States, most child abductions by strangers fall into one of two categories. The first involves snatching a young child for the purpose of raising it as the kidnapper's own. This usually involves female offenders who may have miscarried or are unable to get pregnant. They often fake a pregnancy, to avoid raising suspicion when an infant appears in their household. They may pose as a nurse in a maternity ward, or use baby-sitting as a way to become familiar with a family and its home. The best defense here is to know more about your baby-sitters and have docu-

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mentation of their identities, such as a copy of their driver's license.

The other type of kidnapping is the one most frequently the focus of media attention—the kidnapping of a child by a stranger for the purpose of rape, torture, and murder. In 40% of these cases the child is murdered, and sexual assault is the most common motive for the abduction. In 4% of these cases, the child disappears completely and is never found, a parent's worst nightmare.

There is a stereotypical victim in these cases. One study described the “average” victim in these cases as “an 11 year old female white from a middle class neighborhood”. A larger Department of Justice study found that these victims are typically female (65%), most often between the ages of 12 and 17 (81%), and the motive was physical/sexual assault in 77% of the cases.



There is also a stereotypical offender, although of course, exceptions occur. The typical predator was a white male, about 27 years old, unemployed or holding a menial job, and living alone or with his parents. Almost all have a prior history of criminal or deviant behavior. Neighbors or friends of a family member were the offenders 53% of the time. Simply put, this means the odds are 50/50 that the offender will be a total stranger or someone known to someone in your family. This underscores the need to be careful about the people you allow around your home, particularly if you know of prior problems. In this study, 65% of the abductions were the result of a sighting of the child in a vulnerable location, followed by a sudden assault and a quick abduction. A third of the incidents occurred within 200 feet of the victim's home.

To prevent this horrible crime, remember that nice neighborhoods are the prime hunting grounds of this type of predator. Encourage your child to always be with others, not walking alone in the neighborhood. Monitor the people who come in and out of your home, including male friends of older children or teenagers. Teach your children to never go anywhere with a stranger, regardless of his sob story, and to kick, scream, and make as much disturbance as possible if someone attempts to force them to go with them. Report to the police any males seen loitering around playgrounds or areas where children congregate. If you are present when a stranger accosts your child, accept that extreme violence may be called for on your part. With 58,000 of these episodes each year in the US (that's 160 a day, by the way), accept and internalize that this is a real possibility, and be mentally prepared to deal with it.

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July 18-19, 2009

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All day, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

This is an intensive pistol skills course, with 1,200 rounds fired in both daylight and dim light conditions. There is very little classroom time. This course is intended to polish and ingrain your ability to hit at high speed at any distance. Students need to be a prior graduate of at least Level II Handgun.

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Friday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
each day.

Tuition includes a comprehensive manual and 700 rounds of ammunition. Students learn to teach modern defensive shooting, while at the same time perfecting their own shooting technique. Successful students qualify as State Certified Handgun Instructors in Tennessee. We only conduct this course once each year, and it fills up early.

