



# The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



All club events have been cancelled until further notice due to the Chinese Coronavirus. We hope you are all practicing social distancing!

We owe authors Terry and Steve a debt of gratitude for their time and expertise for writing the articles in this month's *The Reticle*.

## Traveling with Firearms (& other crazy ideas!)

By Terry Marksberry

Well, it's that time of year again when many of us are thinking about heading back to our home away from The Villages or just going on a little vacation.

Some may even have considered taking one or more firearms with you on a trip. Gulp!!

Unless you do your homework ahead of time, you may be in for some very unpleasant experiences, like even a little jail time, whether driving or flying.

With the patchwork of state laws enacted pertaining to firearms, you will need to examine the laws of EVERY state you would be driving through. One of the best sources of information is the 2020 version of "Traveler's Guide to the Firearm Laws of the Fifty States" available on Amazon.

If you are heading up the east coast on I-95, you will pass through the states shown below:

### 16 States on Route (FL to ME)

- Florida
- Georgia
- S. Carolina
- N. Carolina
- Virginia
- Wash, DC
- Maryland
- Delaware
- Pennsylvania
- New Jersey
- New York
- Connecticut
- Rhode Island
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- Maine



## Interstate 95

To digress for a moment, the Federal "Peaceable Journey" act states:

1. if your gun(s) are unloaded in a locked case
2. located in the trunk (or otherwise unavailable to the driver or passengers)
3. you can legally own the gun(s) at your point of departure and at your destination

you may legally pass through all states between your departure point and destination in spite of any state laws to the contrary.

The problem, of course, is several states, if given the chance, will arrest and jail you as pure illegal harassment, even though, once in court, the charges will be dismissed according to the federal law. Meanwhile, you've spent weeks in jail, and must hire an expensive attorney. If caught, it is definitely cheaper to have "southern guns" and buy "northern guns" so there is no need to transport anything!

You are generally okay heading up I-95 until you reach the Virginia border. Due to VA's new liberal legislature, in the past year, numerous anti-gun laws have been enacted. Don't trust the book on this one. Many laws have been passed since the book was printed.

Best advice for VA and beyond, stop just before the VA border, open the passenger window, throw all of the guns out the window. Continue with your trip.

If you are traveling up I-75 you are in much better shape than I-95.

**"Foolish liberals who are trying to read the Second Amendment out of the constitution by claiming it's not an individual right or that it's too much of a safety hazard don't see the danger of the big picture. They're courting disaster by encouraging others to use this same means to eliminate portions of the Constitution they don't like." - Alan Dershowitz**

## 7 States on Route (FL to MI)

- Florida
- Georgia
- Tennessee
- Kentucky
- Ohio
- Illinois
- Michigan



## Interstate 75

All of the states up through Michigan are pretty much gun friendly. While Illinois is not on the I-75 route, should you want to divert west up to Wisconsin or Minnesota DO NOT go through Chicago. In fact, if you can, bypass IL altogether even though many of the IL counties have passed ordinances to be gun sanctuary counties.

Also, due to Ohio's crazy self-defense laws, DO NOT shoot anyone in Ohio!

Finally, how about heading west on Interstate 10? In short, I-10 west is far better than either I-75 or I-95 until you hit the California border.

## 8 States on Route (FL to CA)

- Florida
- Alabama
- Mississippi
- Louisiana
- Texas
- New Mexico
- Arizona
- California



## Interstate 10

Once you hit the California border, do just like the Virginia border! Pull over, toss your guns out the window, continue your journey!

Flying with guns is possible but the risks are enormous. While the Federal Peaceable Journey Act applies, don't get diverted to NY, for example, or you WILL GO TO jail and not collect \$200! NOT recommended.

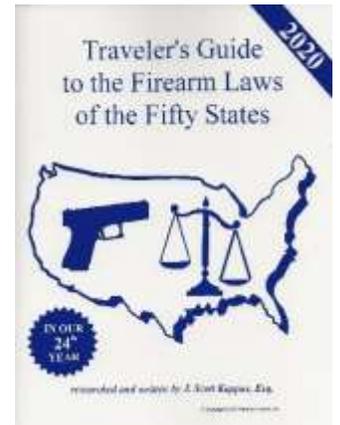
Other than buying northern and southern guns, the next best option is FFL to FFL transfer. Not cheap but potentially less expensive than some of the other possible fiascos.



For the best deal, go to the club's website under the Member Services tab and contact our club FFL dealer, Jeff Greenwood. He can help you at far better rates than any of the gun or pawn shops.

Finally, when you buy the Traveler's Guide, mentioned above, be certain to read the first ten pages thoroughly. Then check out the laws for the states along your route.

Also, check the Florida State website for the latest reciprocity information.



Have a safe trip. We'll see you in the fall. Please do not bring the Chinese Coronavirus back with you!

## Instructor's Corner

By Steve Mosel

(These articles are the opinions of the writer only and in no way reflect official positions of the Villages Straight Shooters - or anyone with good sense for that matter - SM)



## "MY WIFE'S WORST NIGHTMARE"

OK – so here we sit staring at the walls – contemplating our navels. We had discussed this several times before and each time the conclusion was the same. Marilyn, my long-suffering spouse, was certain that old age and retirement would lead to me following her around the house in my bathrobe, bored to tears, asking her to help locate the afore-mentioned bathrobe and/or my glasses which were already prominently perched on my nose. But, by God, I proved her wrong (if that's possibly a reality in a marriage). The Village Straight Shooters had saved our golden years! The Club had given the big guy something to concentrate on and out of her hair. Until – that is – the CoronaVirus!

OK – so now here we are. Temporarily sheltered at home together with Marilyn praying that the virus goes away or finally gets me. (The last part probably isn't a thing, but I thought it would be funny.) What to do for a shooter without a place to shoot? A man without his gun? As I pondered this dilemma, I put on my instructor's hat and

came up with – well – plenty. While you're desperately trying to co-exist, do the following to keep up your skills:

**DRY FIRE:** Making certain that your gun is empty and all the ammo is in another room or locked securely in a safe, take out each handgun you own and give it a daily workout without ammo. This is something you should be doing even in non-virus times to keep your muscle memory in tip-top shape. Get the feel of the weight of each gun and where that trigger breaks. If you've got a flat top weapon – as in Glocks, etc., put a golf tee upside down near the front sight and be sure it doesn't budge as the trigger breaks. This will lead to improved trigger control, which – as most of you should know – is so very vital to good marksmanship. You can dry fire safely with all your guns except 22's which are usually not built to put up with repeated dry fire. I do prefer, however, to use dummy rounds with rubber inserts and springs where the primer would normally go. This cushions the metal-on-metal strikes and extends the life of the parts.

**STRENGTH:** In case you hadn't noticed, we're old! Sitting around doing practically nothing except watching TV will contribute significantly to the withering away of what little muscle tone remains.



Consider isometrics while you're sitting in that easy chair. As a good example, try placing a firm pillow in your lap, sit up straight and push down on the pillow with your palms for a ten-count, then release.

Do that for several repetitions and you'll be surprised how quickly your core muscles will feel the burn. It's always smart to research good exercises for "mature folk" on line. You'll come up with lots of possibilities to keep you busy. Be careful – don't hurt yourself – but do something!

**INFORMATION:** Watch the outdoor channel or others like it for their gun-related programming. Get some magazine subscriptions to the many firearm rags available and read them cover to cover. This will keep you up on the latest and greatest. Just think of it! You'll be able to actually contribute to some of our nutty future conversations with facts! That group of old fart, VSS-Club types hanging around outside Shooter's World and solving the planet's problems, won't know what hit them!

**CLEAN UP YOUR ACT:** This is nothing short of a golden opportunity to get to those long-ignored firearms in your personal arsenal that are desperately crying out for a good cleaning. Field strip all the guns – one at a time please – and really give them a proper shine. I'd avoid

challenging yourself to break them down any farther than you normally would just because you've got the time. Unless you really know what you're doing, the parts will just end up in a box which will eventually have to find its way to Jim Schiefer's house or your local gunsmith for proper reassembly. While you're at it, empty that safe and clean the shelves as best you can. Ammo and other gun-related equipment can leave an amazing amount of grungy residue. Always remember to wash thoroughly after handling guns. Hand washing shouldn't be a problem these days! (*Note: Clean the floors around your safes. The graphite in the hinges can create a slick and sometimes hidden black mess.*)



Look, these are obviously weird times. Everything is upside down and no one is sure of when things will get back to normal. We're all part of a terrific club and we can't wait for the sound of gunfire to resume. But have faith, my bored buddies, it will! In the meantime, do some of the above to make the time move along a little quicker and it may even help prepare you to be in decent shape when our lives are given back to us and the viral enemy has been vanquished!

**“Our nation was built and civilized by men and women who used guns in self-defense and in pursuit of peace. One wonders indeed, if the rising crime rate, isn't due as much as anything to the criminal's instinctive knowledge that the average victim no longer has means of self-protection.” - --Ronald Reagan**



**The Reticle®**

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