



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Greetings...

Here we are going into our Summer Break period. We will not be having membership meetings in July or August, but the good news is that we may be able to get back to shooting since the price of ammunition seems to be on a downward trend. Just this week I have seen increased availability of both 9mm and .22LR the prices are still higher than they were in the past, but the trend is encouraging.

All our regular shooting activities (both live and virtual) will continue through the summer, and I encourage you to sign up for a session.

I will be looking for guns for future member meetings.... Let me know if you have any suggestions/recommendations.

Chuck Wildzunas
President



To help you all to celebrate this important American Holiday, check out this video on how a US Veteran owned company celebrates: [July 4th Video](#)

Some Lots of Winchester 9mm Luger 115 gr Ammo are Being RECALLED. The Ammo is Under-Charged and Causes Squibs. See the notice here: [Winchester 9mm Recall](#)



Defense of Others

by Terry Marksberry

I think most of us intuitively know that defending someone other than yourself, a loved one, relative, or close associate, is, at best, problematic. Until I started doing research for this article, I did not realize just how problematic it is. Good Grief! Florida's *Justifiable Use of Force* statutes (Title XLVI, Chapter 776, Section 012) allow you to use force, up to and including lethal force, to stop or prevent a forcible felony or defend yourself "or another" to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm. *Forcible Felony* is defined in Statute 776.08. First let us define a couple of terms:

Defense of Another: It is the right of an individual to protect a third party with reasonable and proportional force against another person who is threatening to inflict harm upon the third party.

"Alter Ego" Rule: The essentially obsolete rule that an individual coming to the aid of a third party has no more right to defend the third party than third party has the right to defend themselves.

GSL (Good Samaritan Laws): Laws that provide some degree of immunity from Civil &/or Criminal liability for those who voluntarily provide help to others.

First, should you find yourself in a situation where you defend another individual from some threat, you will have to act in compliance with the laws of self-defense. For example, your behavior and actions must be reasonable for the circumstances, your use of force must be proportional to the force threatened, the person defended must not have been the aggressor in the situation, and the threat to life or limb must be imminent.

Secondly, there is often a legal difference in your ability to intervene in a situation if the person you are defending is a close family member or a total stranger. It can certainly be argued that you have, at least, a moral obligation to defend a loved one versus a total stranger.

The 3-3-3 Rule

As with personal self-defense situations, a life-threatening situation will likely happen abruptly and unexpectedly. The 3-3-3 rule is that you will have at most 3 seconds to decide to act or not. The encounter is probably close-up at less than 3 yards and will be over after 3 shots are fired either by you or the assailant.

With the 3-3-3 rule in play, you obviously have no time to make decisions, only act. If you carry a concealed weapon, you must decide ahead of time, under what circumstances you would consider involving yourself in a critical encounter. Remember, your first obligation is to come home safely and defend your loved ones.

In Florida, there is no legal duty or obligation to come to the aid of a stranger, notwithstanding the GSLs. However, there is generally a duty to help or rescue ONLY where:

1. You are the one who created the dangerous situation in the first place
2. There is a special relationship between you and the person needing help. e.g. Spouse, Parent-Child, Teacher-Student.

Involving yourself to any extent in a life-threatening confrontation is fraught with physical dangers for you personally and an absolute snake-pit of legal issues.

It's probable that most situations you may come upon are already in progress. You don't know who started it. It may not be obvious who is the assailant and who is the victim. Visual evidence can be very misleading. The commotion may have attracted your attention and others.

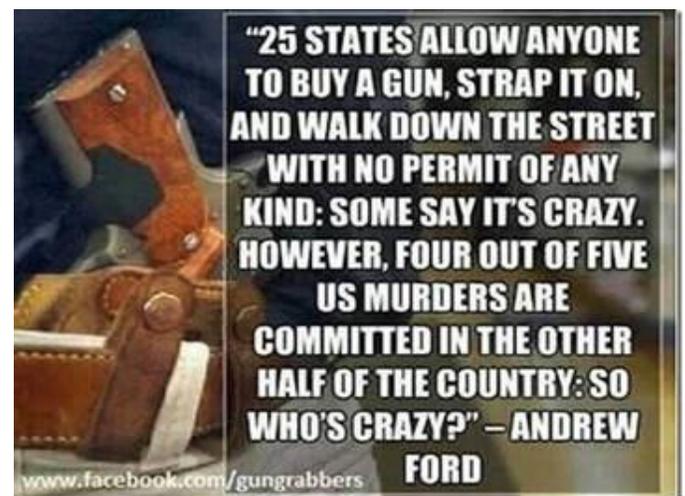
The person with a gun may be another concealed carry person defending him or herself. In which case the person with the gun is the good guy!

There are a thousand other scenarios that can result in disastrous legal ramifications for you, even physical peril. Sometimes it is just best to call 911 and be a really good witness! The decision is yours.



Remember you are not law enforcement just because you have a gun!!

**"The world is filled with violence. Because criminals carry guns, we decent law-abiding citizens should also have guns. Otherwise, they will win and the decent people will lose."
- James Earl Jones**



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)



“CONFIDENCE!”

I play what could best be described as a wonky game of golf. You know: sometimes passable, mostly pitiful and consistently inconsistent. But there are those rare days when you get into the “groove”. It seems like no matter what you do, almost every shot goes where you want it to and the golfing gods are, for some reason, in a benevolent mood. From hole to hole, you actually feel “confident”. But then, you make the mistake of all mistakes. You put your mouth on it and actually say something unbelievably stupid like, “You know what?! I think I’ve finally got this game figured out!” You’ve done it now! It’s all over and the real you is back! Reality has returned with a vengeance and the lost-ball graveyard is full of your contributions once again. But for a brief, shining moment you felt the thrill of confidence and what a feeling it was!



That’s how it is with any sport and shooting is no exception. For a beginner, dropping the hammer on a firearm can be a scary proposition. To gain confidence, you need to get over that first hurdle and then start the building process. When working at my career on stage, nerves were a constant companion, but you learned how to translate those feelings into energy and the nerves soon become welcome excitement over what’s about to happen. Without that nervous energy, a performer’s output can often prove flat and lifeless. Don’t be adverse to nerves creeping into your range time, especially early on in your shooting career. They can prove useful and help you focus.



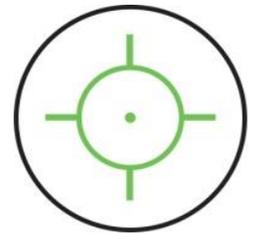
New and more experienced shooters alike are often overly concerned about what others are thinking or they make the mistake of comparing themselves to better shooters. You’ve got to dwell on what you’ve done well in a particular session and don’t be so very concerned about the occasional snafu. Learn from the errors and move on.



A good instructor will help keep you positive and on the right track.

- Set specific goals for yourself
- Focus on the positive things you’ve achieved
- Stop comparing yourself to others
- Take care of your health. It will prove beneficial to all your athletic pursuits
- Remember – you’re not nervous; you’re excited! So allow yourself to have fun!

When the people fear the government, there is tyranny. When the government fears the people, there is liberty.” Thomas Jefferson



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