

CHURCH DEFENSE

LICENSE TO CARRY ORIENTATION TRAINING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This course has been compiled and developed with information from multiple source:

- **FBI**
- **Law Enforcement Agencies**
- **Military**
- **Past Experience**

WORDS OF CAUTION

- **This Information Is For Your Eyes Only (FOUO)**
- **This Is Not a One Size Fits All solution**
- **The Security Of The Church Should Not Be Apparent To The Congregation.**
- **This should not be a subject discussed with the congregation.**

WORDS OF FAITH

2 Timothy 1:7

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

WHAT GOD'S WORD SAYS:

Security is not a Lack of Faith. It is a Spiritual Responsibility affirmed by Scripture.

- **Judges 7:20-21**And they stood every man in his place round about the camp...
- **1 Chronicles 9:23-24** The Gatekeepers
- **Neh 4:20-22** So we laboured in the work: and half of them held the spears
- **Isaiah 62:6** ...Watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem;
- **Luke 22:36** ...and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one.
- **John 15:13** Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

What is “Active Shooter”?

An Active Shooter (AS) is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area.

CHURCH CONCERNS

- **Concealed Carry versus Congregation's Safety**
- **Concealment NOT OPEN CARRY**
- **Minors should not have access to your firearm**
- **Your Transparency in Church**
- **Locations of Concealed Carry within the Church**
- **Proper Ammunition Used by LTCs**
- **Fratricide (Shooting innocent 3rd parties)**
- **Training**
 - **Confined Space Engagement Skills**
 - **Firearm Proficiency**

CHURCH AS Goals

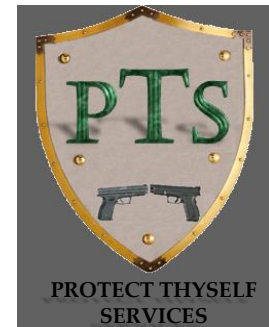
- 1. SAFE AND SECURE Church environment**
 - **SAFETY FIRST** for the congregation
 - **A SENSE OF A SAFE** place to worship
- 2. MAINTAIN a transparency of LTC presence.**
- 3. QUICK intervention by the Security Team with engaging a serious disruption or threat of serious bodily harm or death of a congregation member.**
 - **MAINTAIN a high level of Situational Awareness.**
 - **RAPID RESPONSE** to a real threat (Take Down or Engaging).
- 4. If suspicious person are allowed to enter the sanctuary**
 - **Positioning of 2 Security personnel near a potential threat.**
 - **Monitoring unusual conduct and the ability to safely respond.**

CHURCH AS Goals

- 5. ACCURATE SHOOTING by LTC's within the Church**
 - **FOCUS** on the Person not the Weapon
 - **Aim for the Center of Mass of the Threat**
 - **NO FRATRICIDE** events (Shooting of an innocent 3rd party)
- 6. LTC Orientation Training for New LTC's**
- 7. Quarterly LTC Qualification and Refresher Training**
- 8. Good LTC Communications Plan**
 - **ALERT** Congregation of Threat (Gun, Get Down, Take Cover)
 - **PROVIDE GUIDANCE** to others to move to an Exit while out of sight (If possible).
 - **TELL** others to say down until Law Enforcement informs them to get up.

CHURCH AS Goals

- 9. LTC Personnel have an understanding of CONFINED SPACE ENGAGEMENT Skills within the Church**
 - USE of a Safe Firearms Ready Position (SUL)**
 - PROPER Firearm Hold and Finger off the Trigger**
 - SAFETY of Innocent persons (360 Degrees)**
 - NO HARD BALL Ammunition (Hollow Point or Polymer Only)**



DEFENSE OF YOUR CHURCH

WHAT MUST YOU DO?

Survey of Average 911 Response Times

According to a recent survey, the average response time for a high-priority 911 call is:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Atlanta, Ga | 11 minutes and 12 sec |
| El Paso, Texas | 11 minutes and 11 sec |
| Denver, Colorado | 11 minutes flat |
| Tucson, Arizona | 10 minutes and 11 sec |
| North Fort Worth, Texas | 10 minutes and 11 sec |
| Kansas City, Mo. | less than 10 minutes |
| Oklahoma City, Ok | less than 10 minutes |
| Nashville-Davidson County, TN | below 9 minutes |
| Dallas, Texas | 7 minutes 51 sec |
| Azle Police (First Responders) | 5 – 7 minutes |
| Azle Rapid Response Team | 10-15 minutes |

THREE LAYERS OF DEFENSE

LAYER 1 - THE GREETERS (*Observation and Identification*)

LAYER 2 - SECURITY IN THE FOYER (*Apprehension, Confrontation, Lockdown, Perimeter Security and etc*)

LAYER 3 – LTCs IN THE FOYER AND SANCURARY (LAST RESORT TO ENGAGE)

For Example:

As with the White House Security, There is 3 Layers of Defense.

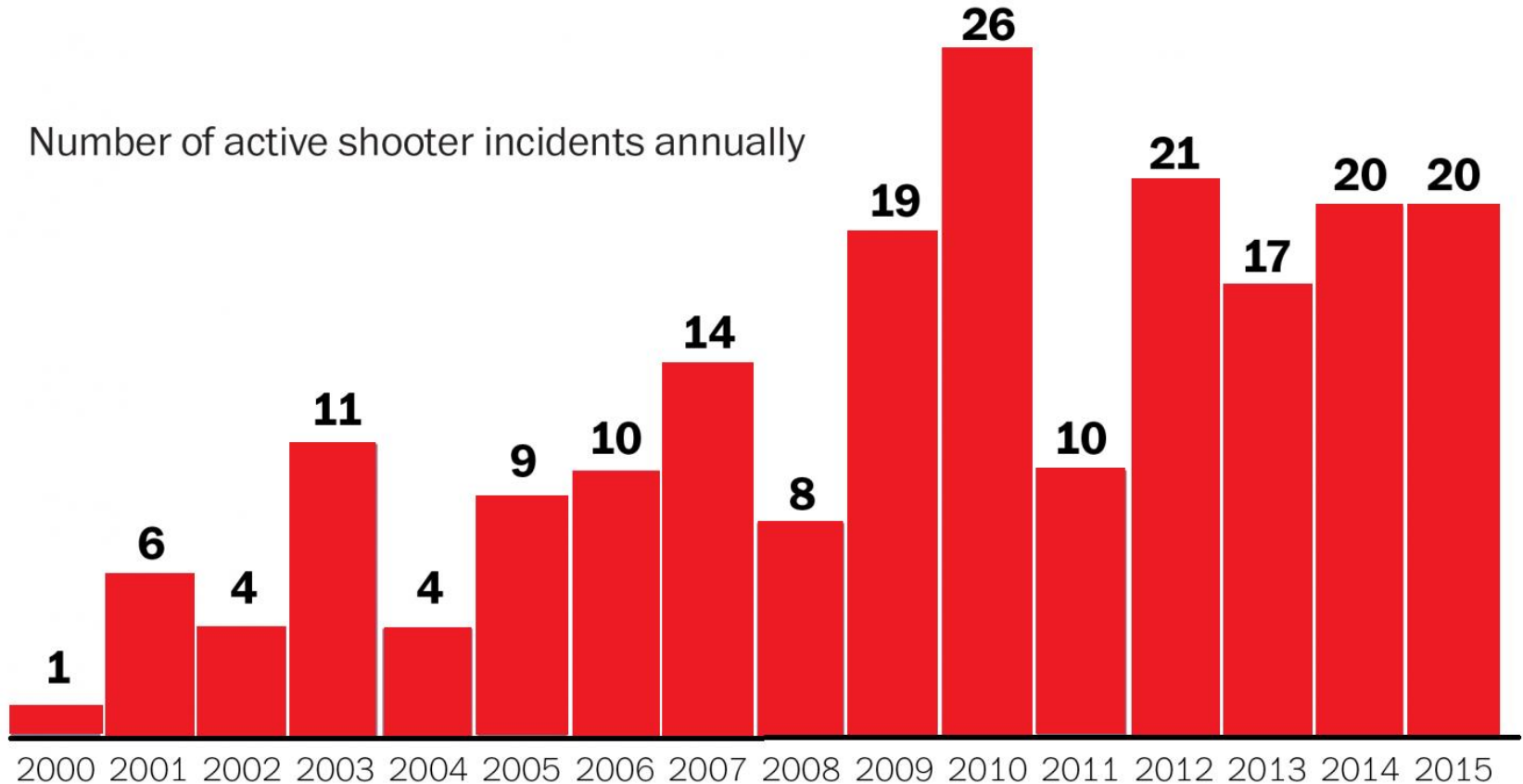
- Layer 1: Uniformed Officers (**Gates and Perimeter**)
- Layer 2: Interior Security (**Lawns and Roof Tops**)
- Layer 3: Internal Security (**Secret Service Agents**)

90% of All Threats are STOPPED at Layer 1: the Gates/Perimeter or Front Door/Foyer.

ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS IN US

The New Era of the "Active Shooter"

Number of active shooter incidents annually



WAPO.ST

Source: FBI

INCREASING ISSUES

- Active Shooter or terrorist events **are becoming increasingly more common** whether from the mentally instable to the terrorist, so is the threat to **businesses, large gather places, churches, restaurants and family outings** are becoming more potentially vulnerable to danger.
- Local and Federal agencies have been making recommendations on how to respond since the 2008.
- Established guidelines have focused on **schools, government, and business settings, but not church settings**. These recommendations talk about how facilities can prevent, respond to, and recover from an active shooter event.
- In response to future threats, the law enforcement community is constantly developing new ways to improve:
 - **Enhanced awareness**
 - **Vigilance**
 - **Response times**
 - **Law enforcement tactics for safety of the community**

CHURCH SHOOTINGS HISTORY

Violent deaths continue, more than thirty (30) per year, even when there is little national media attention.

FIRST TEXAS CHURCH SHOOTINGS

One of the worst church shootings on record occurred in 1999 at Wedgwood Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

Seven people were killed and seven more injured when a lone gunman entered the sanctuary during a “See You At The Pole**” rally on a Wednesday night. At the end of the rampage, the gunman sat on the back pew and shot himself in the head.**

Though church shootings occurred before 1999, that year marked the beginning of a continuing wave of violence that includes murders and suicides on faith-based properties.

WORST CHURCH SHOOTING IN HISTORY

On Nov 5th 2017, a 26-year-old Devin Kelley , became an Active Shooter at Sutherland Springs Baptist Church in Sutherland Spring, Tx.

The gunman killed 26 people and wounded 20 others – the majority of those shoot were children and elderly.

During the engagement, the gunman walked row to row repeatedly shooting the congregation. He was stopped when a former NRA Instructor engaged the shooter striking him 2-3 times. At which time, he fled and later died.

NOTE: Law Enforcement was on site within 4 minutes of the 911 call.

BURNETTE CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST

On Sept 24th, a 25-year-old Sudanese Immigrant Emanuel Kidega Samson, became an Active Shooter at Burnette Chapel Church of Christ in Antioch, southeast of Nashville, Tn.

Melanie Smith, 39 was shot and killed in the church parking lot, while walking to her car when she was hit. Samson entered the back of the church and shot six people – three women and three men.

During a scuffle with Usher Robert Engle, 22. It's unclear whether he shot himself or the firearm unintentionally discharged during his confrontation and scuffle Engle was pistol-whipped, causing "significant injury around his head".

NON TYPICAL SHOOTING

On June 17, 2015, a mass shooting took place at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in downtown Charleston, South Carolina.

Nine people were killed, including the Senior Pastor and State Senator, Clementa Pinckney. A 10th person was shot and survived.

Non Typical Conduct: Shooter entered and sat down in the audience and he waited more than 20 minutes before he started shooting.

PREVENTING CHURCH VIOLENCE

Preventing shooting violence is important to every member within a church. **The optimum events would be to stop the shooter before he can enter the church property and endanger the congregation.**

Deterrents are not a solution, because generally the shooter does not care if he gets caught. Generally, the shooter is extremely focused on the act that he is going to commit and feels justified in his actions.

When a shooter attacks he has already thought about it **(#1)** and is now acting on it **(#2)**.

Without prior planning, the church would be in step **#1**, mentally processing what is happening, which is reacting or responding to the aggression.

PREPARING FOR SELF-DEFENSE

- Realize that an active shooting can occur anywhere.
- **It can happen in a rural community or a big city.**
- You cannot assume that it could not happen where you live.
- **Shooters range in profile from misguided teenagers to members of highly trained terrorist groups.**
- The better prepared you are the better your chances are to survive such an attack.
- **The general characteristics of an active shooter are for example:**
 - **98%** of the time the active shooter is alone.
 - **96%** of the time it is a male.
 - The average incident lasts **no more than 12 minutes and no less than 30 seconds.**
 - **40%** of the time the shooter commits suicide during the incident.

PREPARING FOR SELF-DEFENSE (Cont')

- What these statistics show is that the shooter will:
 - Generally be a **lone shooter who is very focused**
 - The shooting **occur abruptly**
 - Last **for several minutes or less**
- You need to determine that you **“Will Not Be A Victim”** and be prepared to survive by yourself.
- This may include attempting to stop the shooter yourself - before law enforcement can arrive.

HOW CAN WE DEAL WITH THIS?

The answer is **SITUATIONAL AWARENESS!!!**

Being prepared for the unexpected is absolutely essential to survival.

Situation awareness can mean the **difference between a life and death situation.**

A threat will attack when it is to his best advantage with surprise on his side. You will always be a least 2 steps behind your threat.

- **He has already planned who he is going to attack and is fully committed.**
- **He has visualized what to do.**
- **He is ready to act on it and YOU have not even thought about it.**

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Situational awareness is simply knowing what's going on around you before, during and after an incident.

In reality, this requires you to practice and developing training that will develop in you forethought and mental preparedness/ toughness.

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

At Our Church

ALWAYS:

- **Maintain a Situational Awareness of your surroundings** (*This is not operating out of fear, but being prepared!*).
 - **Area** (*What is going on around us*)
 - **People** (*How many, What they are doing?*)
 - **Monitor the demeanor of others** (*i.e. any signs of emotional disturbance, disturbance or fixation*)
 - **Suspicious actions by an individual or group**
 - **Lingering individuals**
 - **Potential indicators of a weapon**
 - **Suspicious vehicles** (*while you are in the parking lot*)
 - **Packages carried into church by strangers**

SA At Our Church (Cont')

- Know All Exits within our Church and maintain the “Two Exit” rule.
 - Select seating that allows you to monitor the entrance.
 - Identify at two or more potential exit if needed (Doors, Windows, Kitchens)
- Mentally develop a plan for the “what ifs”
 - Develop Scenario of potential situations in you mind
 - Identify potential Hides (Soft Cover) or Safe locations (Hard Cover).
 - Potential Exits
 - Communication (Gun, Take Cover, Move, Stop, Run, Directions and etc.)
 - What to do if you hear firearm fire and how to respond.
 - How do I protect my family (1st) and others (2nd) and help them escape.
 - Do I Stand and Defend others (How) or lead others out.
- Recommend that you position yourself on or near the aisle.
- If you choose to position yourself in the center of the congregation, you will need to keep your firearm holstered.
- BE DECISIVE AT ALL TIMES... **DO SOMETHING.....**

PRIOR MENTAL PREPARATION (6 P's)

Prior Planning & Preparation Prevent Poor Performance

- **Mentally or physically develop plans (*scenarios*) in the event of an active shooter wherever you are.**
- **Train yourself to develop “What if” questions for developing a plan. These activities are important to be prepared for the unspeakable.**
- **Will provide a strong foundation upon which to base sound decisions and actions.**
- **NEVER consider your thoughts to be foolish.**
- **It is better to have a Plan and not need it, that not have a Plan and need it.**

Preparedness eliminates PANIC and by proper training and developing an alert and suspicious mindset, you can recognize and be prepared to deal with a threat (active shooters and emergencies).

STAYING ALERT

During church activities, Security team and staff members will be watching for suspicious behavior like:

- People leaving at unexpected times, especially if they leave something behind they entered with.
- People wearing trench coats in hot weather.
- People wandering in the parking lot.
- People who are acting erratically.

COMMON SIGNS OF EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE

- Clinched fists
- Increased deep and rapid respiration
- Sweating
- Elevated blood pressure (red face and complexion)
- Violent verbal outbursts (stomping feet or throwing things)
- **Crying**
- **Body tremors (shaking)**
- **Stuttering speech**
- **Tantrum like behavior**
- **Intense or fixed eye contact on a target or focal point (such as perceived source of stress)**



WEAPON IDENTIFICATION

Identification of potential signs of a weapons can be effected as they enter boundaries of the church.

Church security can preempt a threat before a shooter choses to engage his mission. *(This would reduce the potential of shooting by 90%)*

WEAPON IDENTIFICATION

Learn to Recognize These Behaviors:

1. Unnatural Stride

- **The shooter may walk with an awkward gait.**
- **He may walk uncomfortably.**

2. Self Checking

The shooter will typically touch and/or adjust the weapons concealed on their bodies numerous times during the day. On rare occasions, it could be a distinct grasping of the weapon as they adjust it.

WEAPON IDENTIFICATION

3. Sagging Clothing:

- You will often see the **fabric pulled or** Clothing hangs lower on the side where the weapon is located or the **weapon may swing** he walks. The shooter will attempt **to hold or pin the weapon** if it begins to swing or beat against his body.

4. Hunchback Stride:

When trying to conceal a shotgun, rifle or automatic weapon under a coat while walking:

- The butt of the weapon will often cause a noticeable bulge behind the armpit.
- A jacket will not move naturally because it is supported by the outline of the weapon.

WEAPON IDENTIFICATION

5. Visible or the Outline of a Weapon:

- A telltale bulge of the weapon.
- A distinct outline of a handgun in a shooter's pocket.
- The weapon can actually be seen. *(The butt of a handgun is visible because it is sticking out.)*

6. Palming: (edged weapons and small firearms)

- The threat will typically cup their hand in order concealing their weapon.
- **Palming behaviors often indicate imminent risk to the observer.**

CHURCH HANDGUN POLICY

- There will be **NO OPEN CARRY** within the confines of the church unless you are a Law Enforcement Officer (LEO).
- **Only LTC licensee will be authorized to concealed carry a firearm within the confines of the church.**
- If you **ARE NOT** a member of the Security Team, your firearm **WILL REMAIN HOLSTERED** during the defense of the church UNTIL the security personnel are no longer able to provide the defense against an **Active Shooter**.
- There are **NO FIREARMS** allowed within the confines of the church without a **Licensed To Carry**.
- **Any LTC will be required to attend** a concealed carry training by an Texas DPS certified instructor before they can carry within the confines of the church.

CHURCH HANDGUN POLICY (Cont')

- **Conduct training** on and understand Texas Penal Code 9 Subchapter C. Protection of Persons which includes:
 - **Sections, 9.31 Self Defense**
 - **9.32 Deadly Force in Defense of Person**
 - **9.33 Defense of a Third Person.**
- **Firearms will remain** in the LTC's possession and be concealed when on their person at all times.
- **Transporting of firearms** to and from one's personal transportation, it will remain concealed on their person or possessions.

CHURCH HANDGUN POLICY (Cont')

- **LTC's will prevent easy access** to a concealed carry firearm by others within the congregation and those considered a minor.
- **NO INTENTIONAL exhibiting, or the threat to use or exhibit,** of a firearm (in a manner intended to cause alarm, personal injury or property damage) in or on any property, including a parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area, that is owned by the Church.
- **NO firearm will be stored** at any time on the premises during the day or overnight when not on their person.
- **NO FIREARM or AMMUNITION** will be permanently stored overnight on the premises of the Church.

CHURCH HANDGUN POLICY (Cont')

- **The purpose of allowing the concealed carry of a firearm on the premises is for the purpose of protection of their person or persons in the event of an incident where there is Fear of Severe Bodily Harm or Death.**
- **It is the PUBLIC DUTY of an LTC in compliance with Texas Penal Code §9.21.**

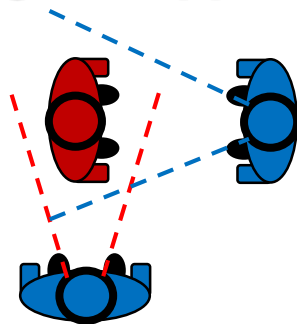
**BEFORE AN POTENTIAL
THREAT OR ACTIVE
SHOOTER ENTERS THE
SANCTUARY...**

BEFORE THE SHOOTER ENTERS THE SANCTUARY

If you identify a potential unfamiliar person with a firearm. Immediately notify a designated Security Team members to assist in verification.

If you are a member of a Security Team, you should confront the individual and ask him if he is carrying a firearm using the 90 Degree approach which allows you to observe the front, side and back of the suspect (**be fully prepared to detain the individual if he reaches for his firearm**).

90 Degree Approach



BEFORE THE SHOOTER ENTERS THE SANCTUARY (Cont')

There is a possibility of 3 Responses (Yes, No or Individual reaches for his firearm).

If they answer YES:

Request to see him LTC License. If not, advise them of your Church Handgun Policy and ask them to please return the firearm to his vehicle. If they return, ask them to show you that they do not have a firearm, then graciously invite them into the sanctuary.

If they answer NO:

Ask them to show you that they do not have a firearm, then graciously invite them into the sanctuary.

IF INDIVIDUAL REACHES FOR HIS GUN:

OPTION 1

- One team member forces the perpetrator's firearm down and to the side **while attempting to secure his trigger finger or physically placing your thumb between the hammer and the frame of the firearm.**
- Another team member may attack the shooter's lower body, typically at or behind the knee taking him to the ground.

IF INDIVIDUAL REACHES FOR HIS GUN:

OPTION 2 Alternative – STUN GUN

- A Designated Security (trained) member with a small Stun Gun would engage the shooter's body for 3-5 seconds of contact. (*If you do this, it is important that the shooter does not have his hand on his firearm or his finger on trigger.*)
- Focus on the shooter's vitals (*eyes, groin, head, nose or throat*).
- If he vigorously resist or overpowers your restraints, **REAPPLY the Stun Gun until he is subdued**.

IF INDIVIDUAL REACHES FOR HIS GUN: (Cont')

OPTION 3 *(THIS IS A LAST RESORT)*

- If required, A License to Carry (LTC) member retrieves his handgun and points it only in the direction of the potential shooter **WITH YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER** and positioned along the frame of the firearm until necessary. *(Accidents do happen)*
- If he vigorously resist or overpowers your restraints, **be prepared to engage the shooter if necessary**.

NOTE: This is a deadly force situation so be prepared to STOP the threat even though it *may cause Severe Injury and possibly Death to the shooter.*

AFTER THE INDIVIDUAL IS DETAINED

- Upon restraining the potential shooter, immediately contact 911 and state:
 - Emergency assistance is needed an armed intruder has been identified and secured at specific location **by armed security**.
 - **Number of personnel being detained.**
 - Personnel detaining AS have firearms in hand and **will have one hand in the AIR**. *(This is helps the dispatcher to inform the police in route of how many personnel are armed before they arrive.)*
- One **UNARMED** church official should go outside and meet the response team *(with both hands in the air)* and inform LEOs the detained individuals location.
- If possible, all firearms **will be put down or out of site**, before the response team arrives.
- If not possible, only one member should retain his firearm aimed it downward as much as possible **with the opposite hand in the air**.

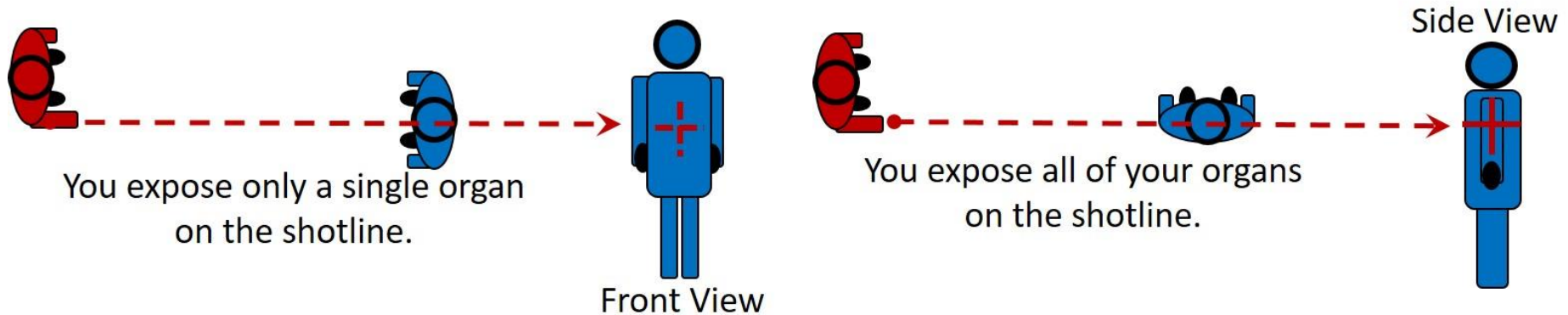
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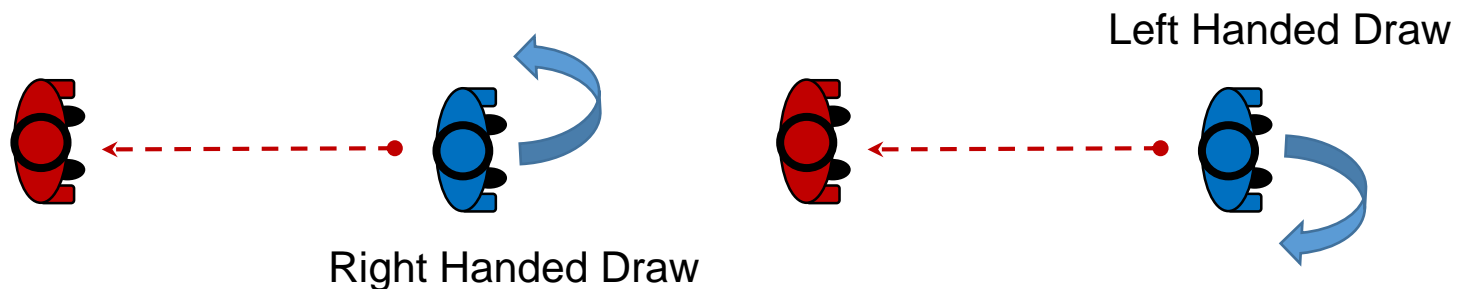
- Determine that you **will not be a victim** and **Remain calm and FOCUS** on the Actions you must take!!!!
- **DO NOT** Become Paralyzed by **FEAR**
- Minimize your signature to the shooter (*Do Not Give Him Something to shot at OR turn your body sideways*)
- **MAKE** your body **MOVE** and Assist others.....
- **MOVE** to a safe hide or location as quickly as possible.
- **DO NOT** by Your Actions Communicate to the Threat that you intend to engage them **until the last possible moment.** (*See Next Slide*)
- **KEEP** your firearm draw concealed as long as possible.
- **AIM** for the Center of Mass of your target.....

MINIMIZED SIGNATURE

NEVER *turn your body sideways, because you expose all of your vital organs to the Threat.*



DO NOT by Your Actions Communicate to the Threat that you intend to engage them **until the last possible moment.** **Right handed Draw Left / Left Handed Draw Right.**



WHAT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY?

- **DO NOT** BECOME PARALYZED BY **FEAR**
- **COMMUNICATE TO THE CHURCH**
- **DO NOT** BY YOUR ACTIONS COMMUNICATE TO THE THREAT THAT YOU INTEND TO ENGAGE THEM **UNTIL THE LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT.**
- **DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE SHOOTER OFF OTHERS**
- **FOCUS AND ENGAGE THE THREAT**
- **AIM FOR CENTER OF MASS**
- **BE A GUIDE FOR OTHERS**
- **PROTECT THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LICENSE TO CARRY MEMBERS

- **SELECT** seating on the aisle to minimize your chances of flagging or being hindered by others.
- **SELECT** seating that is near the front or rear of the congregation and that gives you a view of the Sanctuary Entrances.
- **DO NOT SIT** in the Center of the Congregation unless you intend to be a second line of defense.
- **KEEP** your firearm concealed at all times.
- **BE AWARE** of those around you and use a **SUL or Compressed SUL** firearm ready hold position prior to engaging a threat so that **you do not FLAG the innocent**.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LICENSE TO CARRY MEMBERS

- **KEEP YOUR FIREARM HOLSTERED (If you are not a member of the Church Security Team)** until the Security personnel can no longer defend you or those around you.
- **BE AWARE** of those around you and use a **Compressed or SUL ready firearm hold position** prior to engaging a threat so that you **DO NOT FLAG** the innocent.

COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN THE SANCTUARY

- **As you begin to engage the threat, all LTC personnel must communicate to the congregation the following:**
 - **GUN**
 - **TAKE COVER AND STAY DOWN**
 - **MOVE TO AN EXIT. NOW!!!!!!**
- **Mentally visualize your communication to the congregation in your mind.**
- **RAISE YOUR VOICE** and your communication should be controlled, loud and clear.

COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN THE SANCTUARY (Cont')

- **TELL YOURSELF** out loud what you must do.
- **COMMUNICATE** with the Threat to draw his attention away from other members of the church.
- Know that when you do this, it will put you in **“Harm’s Way”** and your intentions to engage the threat must be immediate and accurate for their Center of Mass.
- Rehearse your communication frequently until it becomes second nature. *(Treat it the same way you might do Fire Drills)*

ACTIVE SHOOTER GETS INTO YOUR SANCTUARY...

IF A SHOOTER GETS IN...

- **Typically, when a shooter breaches a door he will look straight ahead first.**
- **Those who are in direct line or across from the shooter should get down and take cover as best possible.**
- **If possible, A Deacon or LTC Congregation members who are positioned on the side of the sanctuary doors can move to apprehend (tackle) or engage the shooter.**

Church Concealed Carry Locations

- 🚫 Doors to be secured
- 🔒 Last Doors secured
- 🟢 Doors secured from inside
- ⊕ License to Carry Location



SHOOTER TARGETS THE CONGREGATION:

- Direct confrontation by a LTC Congregation member is **ESSENTIAL**. This is dangerous, but you can improve the congregation's chances by distracting the shooter.
- Weaken his shooting ability by immediately warning the congregation.
- Any and all LTC personnel should warn the congregation **“GUN, TO GET DOWN AND TAKE COVER”**. *(If they try to run, they will draw attention to themselves)*
- A Designated LTC will evacuate the Pastor / Worship Team back stage right and remain with them.

SHOOTER TARGETS THE CONGREGATION: (CONT')

- LTC Congregation members on the aisle must subsequently prepare to ENGAGE THE SHOOTER WITH THEIR FIREARMS. **IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET AND AIM FOR CENTER OF MASS.**
- Each LTC in the congregation must be prepared to stand between the shooter and the congregation.
- If you can accomplish this from a protected position, DO IT!
- **REMEMBER - SAFETY** for innocent bystanders is a **“FIRST PRIORITY”**

LTC MEMBERS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CONGREGATION

- Should **REFRAIN FROM ENGAGING** the shooter and cover those around you.
- Contact 911 as soon as possible.
- You are the **SECOND LINE OF DEFENSE** when those around you are in danger.
- **BE AWARE** of any third person (innocent personal) near or around the shooter. You must insure that they are not in the line of fire.
- **REMEMBER - SAFETY for innocent bystanders is a “FIRST PRIORITY”**

ONCE A SHOOTING BEGINS....

- LTC Personnel within the middle of the congregation should try to contact 911 as soon as possible.
- We can expect only your deacons or sound booth to call 911, but redundancy is encouraged. Police will want to know the following:
 - ✓ Number of shooters
 - ✓ Brief description of the shooter or shooters
 - ✓ Location of suspects
 - ✓ Types of weapons (pistols, rifles, shotguns, automatics and etc.)
 - ✓ Immediacy of threat (life threatening, urgent, or unknown)

IF THE SHOOTER DOES NOT PENETRATE INTO THE SANCTUARY AND IS SHOOTING RANDOMLY:

- Sanctuary doors must secure the on the inside to prevent entrance by the shooter.
- WARN the congregation **“GUN, GET DOWN AND TAKE COVER”** behind any available chair, pillar, or door.
- **A LOCKDOWN must be initiated.**
- Recognizing the grave danger, the church security team or LTC congregation member can save lives by closing the gap between themselves and the shooter and **ENGAGING WITH LIVE FIRE OR OVERWHELMING HIM.**
- **Remember:** *While trying to overwhelm the shooter, you stand the chance for a random shot at you or the congregation.*

NOTE: Engaging the shooter with Live Fire is always a **LAST RESORT!**

SAFETY OF CONGREGATION

- Designated personnel should be assigned to secure the Nursery and Children's Church. *(In advance, develop a method of securing the Nursery and Children's Church Areas with hasp or dead bolt)*
- Typically, an active shooter will head for the area with the LARGEST number of people are assembled FIRST.
- If possible, available *Deacons, Staff or LTC Personnel* should try to assist or lead the congregation along the floor while staying below the profile of the auditorium chairs to the exits. *(Realize that if the congregation tries to run, they will draw attention to themselves)*

SAFETY OF CONGREGATION (Cont')

- Those church members (*elderly, handicapped and etc.*) who CANNOT conduct a low profile maneuver should remain hidden behind any objects that will prevent view by the shooter.
- **If possible, a LTC congregation member should remain with the elderly or handicapped.**
- **AFTER THE INCIDENT IS OVER**, those that have remained in the sanctuary should remain down until directed by law enforcement.
- **Any quick movements could be misinterpreted by law enforcement.**

AFTER A SHOOTING ENDS....

BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVE:

- LTC Congregation members **must holster or put down their firearms and step away from it (if possible).**
- **ADVISE EVERYONE** to stay on the ground until told to move by law enforcement. *(People have a built-in urge to run for safety)*
- **Quick movement creates confusion and complicates the situation for police.**

AFTER A SHOOTING ENDS....

BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVE (Cont'):

- When your personnel or congregation do get up, **AVOID:**
 - Sudden movements
 - Panic actions
 - Stand up Empty handed. *Avoid having any object in your hand that could be construed as a threat by SWAT!!*
- If you are in contact with the emergency dispatcher, stay on the line in order to provide real-time intel to police on the scene.

IF THERE IS A HOSTAGE SITUATION

A hostage situation could consist of 1 to many individuals. If this occurs:

- The Security Team / LTC members **should immediately STAND DOWN.**
- Try to collect as much information as possible about the situation.
- Prepare to provide intel to the LEO's

NOTE: This is a situation THAT ONLY a Well Trained Law Enforcement Team should handle.

IF THERE IS A HOSTAGE SITUATION

The Security Team is responsible for the following:

- Locking down the immediate location
- If possible, Assess the number of hostages (*Consolidate your Information*)
 - **Gender / Age / Special Needs**
- Proceed to Notify the Police (*EXIT and identify yourself with Hands in the Air and firearms put away*).
- Provide the LE Hostage Team with as much information as possible.
 - **Number of assailants**
 - **Number of Hostages** (*Gender, Age, Special Needs, Any possible injuries*)
 - **Location** (*include last known position within the room and layout*)
 - **Number and type of weapons**
 - **Potential Assess Points, Windows and etc....**
 - **Any Obstacles within the area.**

**TRAINING SPECIFIC FOR
LICENSE TO CARRY
PERSONNEL WITHIN THE
CHURCH**

**THIS IS A
LAST RESORT!!!**

USE OF FORCE
AND
DEADLY FORCE

ARE YOU CAPABLE OF USING FORCE, OR EVEN DEADLY FORCE, FOR SELF PROTECTION?

Fact: Regardless of who you are, what you are, what you know, or how good you are.
If you are not mentally prepared, chances of winning are decreased.

**TRYING TO MAKE A DECISION
WHEN FACED WITH REALITY
CAN BE FATAL FOR YOU!**

**Fact: It is better to have a
plan and not need it, than
not to have one and need it.**

Engaging a Threat is Dangerous

- Your actions for the CHURCH will put you in **HARM'S WAY.**
- When you start, there is **NO TURNING BACK.**
- Remember Your Actions **“SAVE LIVES”**
- You **must decided in advance** what you may have to do **to save another.**
- Think about What You Have in Your Hand.
- What It is Capable of Doing and **DECIDE NOW.**

WHEN USING A FIREARM TO DEFEND..

Understand that when your firearm is brought into play the dynamics of the situation change drastically. This is a **LAST RESORT ACTION!!!!**

YOU MUST:

- Properly identify the assailant and determine if he is armed and a threat.
- **BE AWARE of innocent bystanders around you and DO NOT FLAG them during your engagement. (FIRST PRIORITY)**
- Assume proper shooting posture. **(will discuss during training)** Weaver / Cooper / Isosceles Technique.

WHEN USING A FIREARM TO DEFEND (Cont')

- Use a proper two handed technique handling your firearm.
- **Finger Off the trigger until required on the threat.**
- **Maintain Follow Through when pulling the TRIGGER**
- **DO NOT ANTICIPATE the recoil.**
- **Let the Firearm surprise you!**
- **Maintain the Follow thru of the firearm.**

ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER BEFORE USING FORCE IN CHURCH:

- **Church Awareness/Situation**
- **Number/size/gender of attackers**
- **Innocent bystander's locations**
- **Weapons being used**
- **Mental states, perceived state of mind**
- **Body language/clothing**
- **Lesser force options**

OBJECTIVES OF FORCE & DEADLY FORCE

- **STOP**

- **CONTROL**

- **NEUTRALIZE**

DEADLY FORCE (LETHAL)

Force that is intended or known by the actor to cause, or in the manner of its use or intended use is capable of causing death or serious bodily injury.

DEADLY FORCE is to be used as a means of **LAST RESORT**, when all other means have failed and the fear for the loss of your life is immediate.

The objective of Force/Deadly Force is to

STOP, CONTROL, or NEUTRALIZE the other so as to eliminate the apprehension of a fear for life.

Penal Code §9.21. PUBLIC DUTY

Conduct **is justified** if the actor reasonably believes the conduct is required or authorized by law.

- When force is used against a person to protect persons, to protect property, or for law enforcement.
- The use of deadly force **is not justified** under this section **unless the actor reasonably believes the deadly force is specifically required** by statute or it occurs in the lawful conduct of war.
- If deadly force is so justified, **there is no duty to retreat before using it.**
- The justification afforded by this section is available **if the actor reasonably believes:**
 - 1.the court has jurisdiction or the process is lawful, even though the court lacks jurisdiction or **the process is unlawful;** or
 - 2.his conduct is required or authorized **to assist a public servant in the performance of his official duty,** even though the servant exceeds his lawful authority.

Penal Code §9.22 Necessity

Conduct is justified if:

- (1) the actor reasonably believes the conduct **is immediately necessary to avoid imminent harm.**
- (2) the desirability and urgency of avoiding the harm **clearly outweigh**, according to ordinary standards of reasonableness, **the harm sought to be prevented by the law proscribing the conduct.**
- (3) a legislative purpose to exclude the justification claimed for the conduct does not otherwise plainly appear.

DEADLY FORCE SELF DEFENSE 9.32

- **IMMEDIATELY NECESSARY TO DEFEND
AGAINST UNLAWFUL DEADLY FORCE**
- **TO PREVENT IMMINENT COMMISSION OF:**

AGGRAVATED KIDNAPPING

AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ASSAULT

AGGRAVATED ROBBERY

MURDER

ROBBERY

SEXUAL ASSUALT

DEADLY FORCE DEFENSE OF A THIRD PERSON 9.33

- **SAME REQUIREMENTS AS SECTION 9.31 & 9.32**
- **THE ACTOR BELIEVES HIS INTERVENTION IS IMMEDIATELY NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE THIRD PERSON**

AGGRAVATED KIDNAPPING

AGGRAVATED ROBBERY

AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ASSAULT

MURDER

ROBBERY

SEXUAL ASSUALT

TO STOP VERSUS KILL

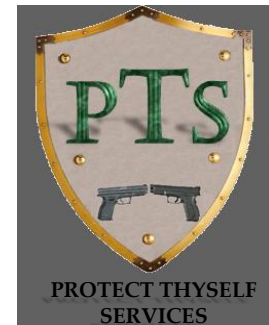
Shooting **“TO KILL”** indicates PREMEDITATED INTENT to inflict death or serious bodily injury on another regardless of their intent and/or actions being lawful.

Shooting **“TO KILL”** is NEVER an option for a law abiding person.

Shooting **“TO STOP”** is the intent to reduce or eliminate the fear you have of death or serious bodily injury to yourself or another person based on the other person’s unlawful use of deadly force against you or another.

Always aim for center of mass of the assailant to avoid hitting innocent bystanders.

Shooting to STOP, while it may result in the other person’s death, lacks the intent to kill.



Psychological Reaction In a Threat Confrontation

PSYCHOLOGICAL REACTION IN A THREAT CONFRONTATION

We respond to Threat confrontation in a variety of ways when presented with the potential of serious bodily harm or death.

In dealing with a threat confrontation, our brain will begin to move at a higher level of response or just shut down.

Because not every confrontation is the same. So are our response to these confrontations is going to be different and without proper training to prevent **PANIC, we will not know how we will respond until it occurs.**

Below are the potential responses:

- To FREEZE in place
- To SUBMIT to the threat
- To FLIGHT or Escape in a threat situation
- To STAND AND FIGHT

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FREEZING

Freezing behavior is a (self-paralyzing) response reaction to **high stress stimuli, most commonly observed in prey animals.**

Freezing behavior is known to cause changes **such as shortness of breath, increased heart rate, sweating, or choking sensation.**

This is strong sympathetic responses to fear stimuli and may persist throughout the duration of the confrontation.

SUBMITTING

- When it comes to a threat confrontation, submitting is simply **giving in or giving up to your threat.**

Historically, when a person defending himself with a firearm is less likely to suffer serious bodily harm or death by fighting back rather than submission.

FLIGHT

Flight is the decision to escape or flee, when confronted with a serious bodily harm or death situation.

STANDING AND FIGHT

Such a posture will require the use of whatever reasonable or necessary force that is available in order to prevent the potential of serious bodily harm or death by the threat you are confronted with.

THIS IS A SELF-DEFENSE POSTURE.

STANDING AND FIGHTING

REMEMBER:

The objective of Force/Deadly Force is to **STOP**, **CONTROL**, or **NEUTRALIZE** the other so as to eliminate the apprehension of a fear for your life.

CASTLE DOCTRINE removes the requirement to **RETREAT** before using force if the person is entering your home, auto, or workplace.

THE NEED FOR MUSCLE MEMORY TRAINING

- **Muscle memory** is developed by the regular practice of process and procedure with rapidity in the execution of the step-by-step procedures involved in both **cognitive and motor skills**.
 - This process occurs without the need for conscious control or attention.
 - **Muscle memory is a type of long-term memory.**
 - With regular and frequent handgun training, you can develop your **MUSCLE MEMORY**.
- Recommend that you training with your handgun at the range at least monthly.*

THE IMPORTANCE OF MUSCLE MEMORY

- The **SINGLE-MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR** in surviving a close-range defensive scenario is the **instantaneous and intuitive manipulation** of your firearm.
- **Caliber, sight picture and shot placement** mean nothing when you're fumbling to get your firearm clear of its holster and presented towards the threat.
- In order to make effective use of a defensive firearm you must be able **to bring it into the fight and KEEP IT THERE.**
- **You'll need to build muscle memory for all aspects of your firearm's operation to:**
 - **DRAW FROM THE HOLSTER**
 - **MANIPULATION OF ANY SAFETY DEVICES**
 - **EXECUTION OF MALFUNCTION CLEARING PROCEDURES**
 - **PROPERLY AIM AND ENGAGEMENT OF A TARGET**

- **A DEFENSIVE SITUATION IS STRESSFUL, AND IT BECOMES MORE STRESSFUL THE CLOSER YOU ARE TO YOUR THREAT.**
- **You find that your physical being changes with:**
 - **INCREASED HEART RATE**
 - **ADRENALINE CAUSES A LOSS OF FINE MOTOR CONTROL**
 - **TUNNEL-VISION**
 - **AUDITORY EXCLUSION**
 - **AND A HOST OF OTHER SIDE EFFECTS.**
- **The vast majority of defensive handgun use takes place within less than 12 feet distance, you cannot expect to have time to think about what you're doing.**

SPEED VERSES ACCURACY???

In the context of defensive scenarios that you are likely to encounter. It negates the key factor of the HUMAN REACTION.

- A NON-CRITICAL HIT can distract, disable, or delay an assailant. This can affect their ability and determination to cause harm.
- Gives the defensive shooter a better opportunity to safely retreat to cover or STOP the attack of an active shooter.

ACCURACY IS STILL THE MOST CRITICAL COMPONENT OF DEFENSIVE SHOOTING!!!

Building an **Intuitive Muscle Memory** response will:

- Enhance your ability to shoot accurately in a defensive.
- Builds your confidence in firearm usage.
- Increasing your reaction time with the good fundamentals.

A LIFE -THREATING CONFRONTATION

- Handling Stress in a life threatening confrontation can prove to be quite a challenge even for someone who is well trained.
- You must deal with some involuntary physiological changes in such a confrontation. These changes in bodily response are:
 - **ADRENALINE RUSH** – This is known to produce throughout your body: increase in your strength, no feelings of pain and a heightening of your senses.
 - **LOSS OF FINE MOTOR SKILLS** – Stress can result in a loss of the fine motor skills.
- Phenomenon such as **tunnel vision**, **auditory exclusion**, the **loss of fine and complex motor control**, **irrational behavior**, and the **inability to think clearly** have all been observed as byproducts of this type of stress.

ADRENALINE RUSH

Here are just a few of the symptoms of adrenaline:

- **Noticeable Increase in Your Strength** - People who undergo an adrenaline rush during a major emergency **such as singularly lifting a car off the body of loved ones.**
- **No Feelings of Pain** - An adrenaline rush can also be used to protect your body.
- **Heightened Senses** - From your vision to your touch, your senses will be dramatically heightened when you are undergoing an adrenaline rush.
- **Sudden Boost of Energy** – You will experience a substantial boost of energy when the confrontation first starts.
- **Increased Breathing** - Because everything happens so fast during an adrenaline rush, your breathing and your heart rate will jump suddenly.

LOSS OF FINE MOTOR SKILLS

- During a high stress confrontation there is a substantial increase in heart rate as you begin an adrenaline rush and **there is a potential for a loss of fine motor skills.**
- This refers to the muscle control required to make small precise movements such as **opening a car with car keys under stress.**
- These Fine motor skills involve a refined use of the small muscles controlling **the hand, fingers, and thumb.**

PERCEPTION CHANGES IN THREAT CONFRONTATION

- Be prepared to experience a change in your perception during an active shooter confrontation. As your heart rate increases, during your adrenaline rush, you will experience a slowing down of things around you.
- You will begin to experience **tunnel vision** and **auditory exclusion** and you become less aware of the objects and people around you as you focus on the threat before you.
- You must train yourself to stay aware of your surroundings.
- To combat this:
 - **Take a couple of deep breaths to slow the adrenaline rush.**
 - **Force yourself to back away mentally and take in the broader surroundings.**
 - **Blink your eyes a couple of times very quickly.**

PSYCHOLOGICAL REACTIONS AFTER A SHOOTING

- **VIEW ACTUAL INCIDENT IN SLOW MOTION**
- **FLASHBACKS**
- **DREAMS**
- **NIGHTMARES**
- **COMPARTIMENTALIZE THE THOUGHT**
- **FEAR**
- **ANGER**
- **PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS**

FIVE (5) EMOTIONAL TRANSITION PHASES

DENIAL - REFUSE TO ADMIT OCCURANCE

ANGER - RESENTMENT OF OCCURRENCE

AVOIDANCE – WISHING IT HAD NOT HAPPENED

DEPRESSION - OFTEN THE LONGEST DEPENDS
ON PERSONALITY OF INDIVIDUAL

ACCEPTANCE - ACCEPTS OCCURRENCE AND
RESUMES NORMAL LIFE

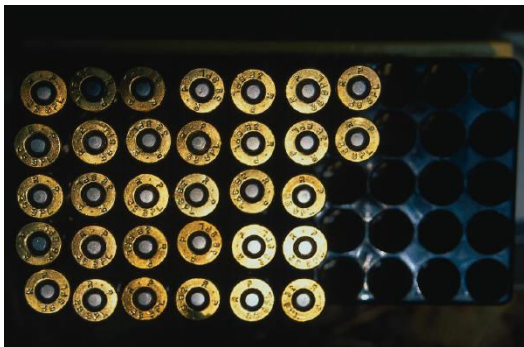
FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, AND EQUIPMENT ARE THE TOOLS



“This is the **LAW**:

- **THE PURPOSE OF FIGHTING IS TO WIN.**
- There is NO POSSIBLE VICTORY in **DEFENSE.**
- **THE SWORD IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE SHIELD** and Skill is More Important than Either.
- **The FINAL WEAPON is the BRAIN.**
- All Else is Supplemental.”

John Steinbeck



Firearms Safety and Handling

Firearms Safety and Handling of Firearms

If you own or carry a firearm you are responsible for whatever happens with it within the church.

The firearm has no minds of its own and should never be allowed to fall into the hands of an unauthorized person.

FUNDAMENTAL FIREARM SAFETY RULES

- 1. Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.**
- 2. Never let the muzzle cross anything you are not willing to destroy.**
- 3. Keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until you want the firearm to fire.**
- 4. Know your target and what's beyond it.**

SAFE TRIGGER FINGER POSITION REVOLVER

WITH THE REVOLVER POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, THE INDEX FINGER SHOULD BE PLACED ALONGSIDE THE FRAME OF THE REVOLVER, ABOVE AND AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER GUARD.



SAFE TRIGGER FINGER POSITION SEMI-AUTO

WITH THE SEMI-AUTOMATIC POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, THE INDEX FINGER SHOULD BE PLACED ALONGSIDE THE FRAME OF THE PISTOL, ABOVE AND AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER GUARD.



THE PROCESS OF ENGAGING YOUR THREAT WITH A PISTOL

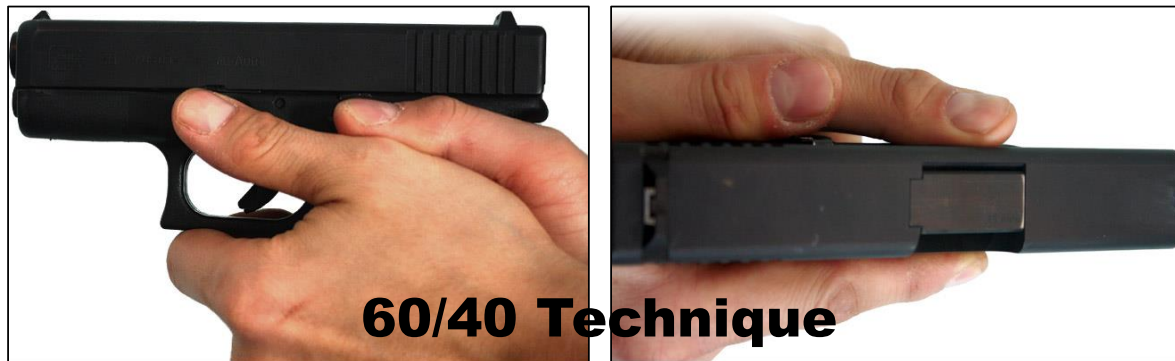
- **CONCEAL YOUR INTENTIONS TO ENGAGE**
- **DRAW AND AIM (60/40 GRIP)**
- **PLACE FINGER PROPERLY ON TRIGGER**
- **FEEL THE TRIGGER**
- **FINAL STEP – SQUEEZE THE TRIGGER**
GENTLY
- **ALWAYS SQUEEZE OFF 2 ROUNDS AT THE THREAT.**
- **MAINTAIN YOUR FOLLOW THROUGH**

GRIPPING THE FIREARM

- When handling your firearm and shooting within the Church, you will need to use a two handed grip.
- A two-handed grip is more stable and therefore more accurate.
- A recommended grip technique is a **60/40 technique**.
- **No “Death Grip”** on the firearm with the dominant hand.
- Relax the dominant hand and grip firmly with the support hand.

60/40 Grip Technique

- Keep the index finger of your firearm (dominant) hand extended and against the frame of the firearm (**the bottom portion of the firearm that doesn't move when fired**).
- Support hand, place the four fingers of the hand over the firearm hand's lower 3 fingers with a harder grip and staying below the trigger guard.
- Bring the thumb of your support and alongside the firearm hand thumb and point both thumbs forward along the frame of the firearm. **Dominant hand pushes and Support hand pulls.**



IMPROPER GRIPS

TEA CUPPING – This was taught for many years to firearm owners and it produced instability and proved hard to manage the recoil of the Firearm.



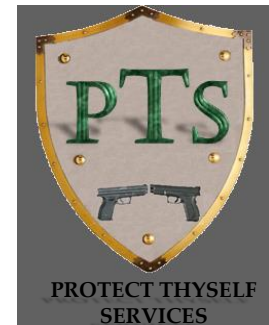
CROSSED THUMBS – Many new shooters instinctively will cross their thumbs one over the other in order to stabilize their firearm (revolver or semi-automatic). This can prove to be very painful as the slide recoils to the rear after the trigger is pulled and the bullet is released..



THE PROCESS OF PROPER TRIGGER USE

- Maintaining the proper trigger position is crucial.
- This is done by relaxing the grip of your firearm so that you index finger is bent in 90 degree angle slightly away from the frame of the firearm and the pad of your finger is positioned over the trigger.
- As you practice your trigger pull, you mind will develop a sweet spot on your finger pad, that if not done properly will automatically feel wrong.
- To achieve this sweet spot on your finger pad, you can practice dry firing with an Airsoft Gun, unloaded firearm, firearm loaded with dummy rounds or a Number 2 pencil with a rubber eraser.
- Adjust your finger until there is NO BARREL MOVEMENT (Left or Right), using only enough finger required to pull the trigger.
- Pull the trigger GENTLY and CONSISTENTLY and **LET THE firearm SURPRISE YOU.**





CONFINED SPACE ENGAGEMENT BY A LICENSE TO CARRY

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF CONFINED SPACE (CLOSE QUARTER) ENGAGEMENT SHOOTING

- There are **(3) three factors** that determine your success in your confined space engagement with a threat. These factors are:
 - **The distance to the threat.**
 - **The size or silhouette of the threat**
 - **Your personal firearm skills.**
- **Speed of engagement is developed with the practice in accuracy with range targets. You should never shoot faster than you can consistently hit your intended target.**
- **The lack of accuracy becomes a serious hazard to those around you in a confined space.**

CONFINED SPACE (CLOSE QUARTER) ENGAGEMENT SHOOTING PRACTICE

- Your ability **to engage** the threat accurately at his center of mass, precludes his ability to engage you **when he is incapacitated by your accuracy to engage.**
- Your emphasis should be placed **on accuracy and good center of mass hits.** Only then can you begin to slowly push yourself and develop better speed without sacrificing your accuracy.
- The accuracy of good center of mass shots **must be mastered first,** because it will prove to be a matter of safety when your threat cannot respond with lethal force against you.

COMMON ISSUES WITH CONFINED SPACE ENGAGEMENT SHOOTING

**In Confined Space Shooting, The Following Will Be
Common Issues That You Must Adapt To:**

- **Limited Space**
- **Relatively Short Engagement Distances**
- **Bad or Poor Lighting Conditions**
- **Noise and Confusion**
- **Serious Adrenaline Rush**
- **High Stress**
- **Need for Rapid Engagement Shooting**
- **Potential of Multiple Threats**

CONFINED SPACE ENGAGEMENT SHOOTING

- **Confined Space Shooting requires familiarity with your:**
 - **BASIC firearm SKILLS**
 - **TECHNIQUE**
 - **PHYSICAL AGILITY**
 - **CONTROLLING THE ADRENALINE RUSH AND ABOVE AVERAGE SHOOTING SKILLS.**
- **Functioning in confined spaces in most rooms you can be in very close proximity to an armed threat.**
- **The firearm becomes an extension of your body, your muscle memory will bring the firearm to alignment quickly and accurately and the eye displays the sights without conscious thought.**

SERIOUS CONSIDERATIONS

There is a number of serious considerations that must be taken into account before you start an engagement such as:

- **A Engagement with Limited Space and Direction Simultaneously**
- **A High Risk of Failure (Potential of Surprise by the Threat)**
- **Being Aware of your Proximity to Others**
- **Limited Range of Motion**
- **Need for Precision Shooting**
- **Physical Obstructions within the engagement area**
- **Proper Technique with Your firearm in a Confined Space**
- **Proper Ammunition for Use in A Confined Spaces**
- **Keeping Safe Orientation and Control of Your Firearm in Confined Space**
- **Shooting In a Populated Area**

FOCUS

- **Confined space engagements for License to Carry will always be “up close and personal”, so that the tactics of time, distance and cover that are applicable under normal circumstances doesn’t apply.**
- **In an Active Shooter scenario, the church and surrounding area will most likely be in the setting of a confined space.**
- **The active shooter expects to find the church with little resistance or threat to himself in pressing his or her attack and will have limited security measures to protect members of the public they are targeting.**
- **Most active shooters desire a maximum fatality scenario and a confined space allows for an optimum fatality rate due the limited ability for his targets to maneuver or hide and it will be a target rich environment.**

THINGS YOU MUST UNDERSTAND

- If you are a licensed to carry, you are fully responsible when you are drawing of your firearm and it must be a **LAST RESORT** response to **STOP** the threat, because of the lethal consequences of your actions.
- You are not on a target range where you can safely shoot at a target.
- You must be concerned with injury to the innocent.
- The drawing of your firearm is being conducted under duress and urgency and there is not a defined direction to point your firearm initially.

THINGS YOU MUST UNDERSTAND

- A very aggressive active shooter is now targeting and engaging you and those around you.
- **DO NOT FLAG** the innocent with your firearm.
- **Innocent personnel will occupy your 360 degree perimeter.**
- **When you engage the threat (The Bullet Trap), you must insure that the bullet hits its intended target and not the innocent.**
- **You must use ammunition will penetrate your threat and will not exit and continue on to unintentionally strike an innocent person.**

FLAGGING

While maneuvering within a confined space, you are pointing your firearm's muzzle, even incidentally at member of your team or an innocent bystander who maybe around you.

HOW TO GRIP YOUR FIREARM

- **A two hand grip is the best technique for use in a confined space engagement.**
- **You must maintain a two hand (60/40) grip effectively.**
- **In a confined space there will be corners, doors, objects and blind spots that you must negotiate.**
- **Looking straight forward or towards the firearm with it away from your body.**

AVOID STRIKING OBJECTS

- If you must maneuver within the church's confined space, you must insure not to get fouled up **by striking obstacles or other people near or around you.**
- When retrieving your firearm from its holster in a confined space and then attempting to maneuver you are far more likely to strike something like **chairs, columns, doors, furniture, people, pillars or walls depending where you are located or seated.**

BEST FIREARM CARRY POSITIONS

While maneuvering within a confined space, there are two potential firearm carry positions that are recommended.

SUL (READY) POSITION

HIGH PORT (READY) POSITION

TEMPLE INDEX (MODIFIED) POSITION

The carry position that you chose will be based on which is most comfortable for you

READY POSITION

- **This puts the firearm within the range of motion for strength and dexterity and the firearm is under your complete control.**
- **Minimizes the ability of someone to attempt to disarm you and allows you to be far less exposed during a threat's element of surprise.**
- **It is easier to defend against disarms.**
- **You are less than 6" from your pistol engagement position and thus it makes it faster.**

NOTE: THE HIGH PORT OR TEMPLE INDEX (MODIFIED) WILL GIVE YOU BETTER CONTROL AND IT BETTER PROTECTS YOU FROM DISARM ATTEMPTS AND ALL WITH A MORE NATURAL AND RAPID ABILITY TO ENGAGE THE THREAT.

SUL “SOUTH” READY POSITION

This is the BEST READY POSITION for a confined space engagement where there are innocent personnel in a 360 Degree around you. This technique eliminate the possibility of Flagging an innocent 3rd party.

When you have a clear line of sight with the threat, you can bring you firearm up to engage them without the posing a threat to an innocent 3rd party.

- 1. Firearm is Pointed Down (South)**
- 2. Strong (Gun) Hand Over Support Hand**
- 3. Thumbs Touching**
- 4. To engage the hands are rolled up in a 60/40 Grip position**
- 5. Pushing forward with Strong hand and pulling back with the support hand.**



HIGH PORT (READY) POSITION

When you move with your firearm in hand in a confined space, it is recommend that you conduct this using a **High Port firearm position.**

- This is a position of firearm readiness, where your firearm is in front of your torso positioned across the body 30 degrees forward and 30 degrees towards your support side in the same point
- It is not pointed out where your movement in and around various obstacles can be fouled, impeded or restricted by chairs, doors, people, pillars or other obstacles.
- It keeps the pistol up, away from you at about a 30 degree angle as well as any others that may be around you.
- When using the high port you have the firearm silhouetted in the footprint of your body without flagging anyone in the room..



TEMPLE INDEX (MODIFIED) POSITION

This technique should be used with both hands in a **60/40 grip**, indexing the firearm vertically with your strong hand (**see figure below right**), parallel to the head, index finger along the frame of the firearm and position the support hand next to the temple.

- This would be used in close quarters or confined space engagement that is in or around other innocent personnel.
- **Used when your firearm is out of your holster and indexing your firearm in up direction. Firearm is NOT POINTED at others.**
- This position allows for a rapid engagement and movement to aim and engage your threat quickly, **with little to no interaction with objects or personnel around you.**



MANUEVERING

If you must conduct a engagement maneuver in a confined space engagement or sudden active shooter threat, you must move swiftly to a location of safety to regroup your thought or briefly develop a defensive strategy.

You potentially may have to conduct a maneuver from a seated or standing posture in order to quickly respond to an immediate threat from an active shooter.

After you retrieve your firearm, achieve a ready position and then aggressively and safely maneuver backward, forward or lateral for the purpose of developing a clear line of sight on your threat.

The intent is to change your current location or posture in order to make it more difficult for your armed threat to acquire or locate you.

MANUEVERING (CONT')

While moving to change your current location or posture, it is recommended that your best movement should be backward or laterally in order to give yourself time.

Recommend practicing these movements to build your confidence and muscle memory. While moving you must:

- STAY CALM AND FOCUSED ON YOUR ARMED THREAT AS YOU MOVE.**
- NEVER TAKE YOUR EYES OFF OF YOUR ARMED THREAT OR HIS LOCATION.**
- ALWAYS ANTICIPATE YOUR THREAT'S POTENTIAL NEXT MOVE.**

FRAME TO AIM

- Make Sure That You Are Mentally Prepared For **HARM'S WAY**.
- Confirm Your Target (*The Shooter*)
- Insure that you **DO NOT FLAG** the innocent.
- Two Hand Control As Your firearm Leaves Your Frame... (*Grip With Support Hand*)
- Trigger Finger Along The Frame Until **READY**.
- Focus On The Front Sight To Threat. (*Center Of Mass*)
- Establish A Proper Trigger Position.
- Squeeze The Trigger And Maintain Follow Through.

SIGHT ALIGNMENT

In a confined space engagement, this will often be impossible because of the element of surprise, low lighting and target fixation.

When an armed threat is pointing a firearm at you or others, it is nearly impossible to take your attention away from an imminent threat and focus back to your sights.

You will find the distances involved are close enough for you to be able to trust your muscle memory and natural firearm alignment.

However, this will require you to conduct considerable periods of practice shooting at a fixed target while moving.

BREATHING AND TRIGGER CONTROL MODIFIED

- You will need to modify breathing control, because in a high stress engagement breathing control is **POINTLESS**, because your required response time will not permit it.
- **Thus you will need to training yourself to remain as calm as possible, while you are shooting rapidly.**
- With respect to trigger control, there will not be time to slowly increase pressure on the trigger. You will need to develop a consistent finger position with your muscle memory and aggressively pull the trigger without jerking the firearm.

BREATHING AND TRIGGER CONTROL MODIFIED

- **The firearm must fire at the instant you have a clear line of sight on your armed threat. Trust your muscle control and your hands natural trigger finger position.**
- **You must depend on your skills of rapid firearm alignment and subconscious trigger release.**

PROPER SHOOTING STANCE

Inexperience shooter have a common problem in that they:

- Shifting the whole aiming burden to their dominant eye.**
- Hold their aim too long**
- Maintain a shooting stance that either does not promote proper alignment or balance when aiming the firearm.**

THE ISOSCELES STANCE

- This stance is basically like a tripod or isosceles triangle with a two-handed technique in which the dominant hand holds the handgun and the support hand wraps around the dominant hand.
- The shooter is **pushing, or punching**, the firearm outward towards the target with his arms, and the handgun makes **the apex of an isosceles triangle**.



THE ISOSCELES STANCE (Cont')



MODIFIED ISOSCELES STANCE



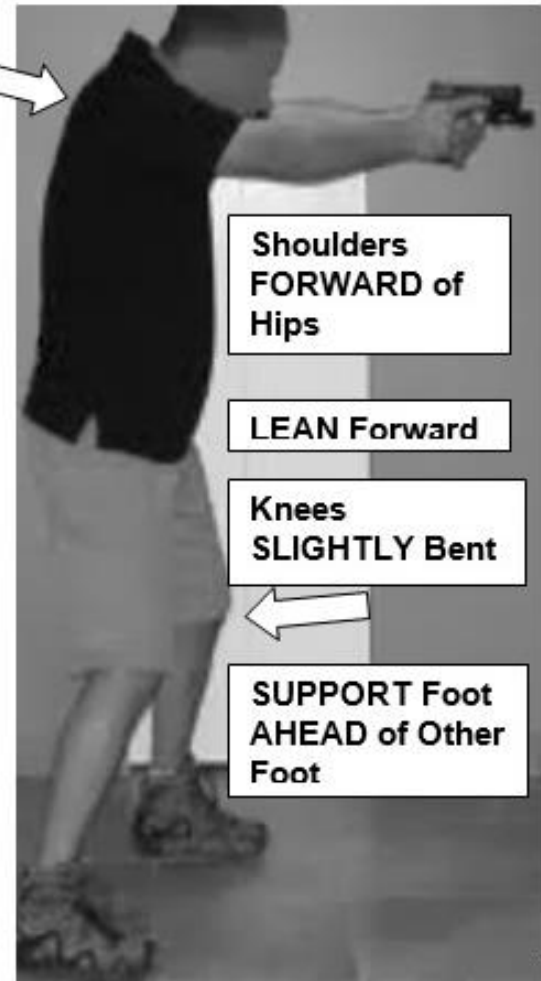
Upper Body
Mostly
SQUARED
to Target-
VERY
Slightly
BLADED

BOTH Arms VERY
Slightly Bent OR Straight

Similar to
BOXER's
Stance

Support Foot
Pointed at Target

Strong Foot
BEHIND Support
Foot- About 6-8
Inches



Shoulders
FORWARD of
Hips

LEAN Forward

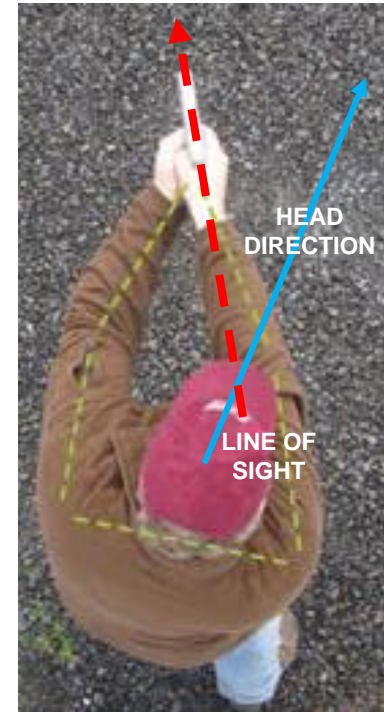
Knees
SLIGHTLY Bent

SUPPORT Foot
AHEAD of Other
Foot

- **Lean Forward.**
- **Stay on the Balls of your feet.**

WEAVER STANCE

- The shooter is bladed toward the target.
- The chest of the right handed dominant shooter is facing towards around 1:30 or 2 o'clock
- The chest of the left handed dominant shooter is facing towards around 10:30 or 10 o'clock.



One of the most notable disadvantages to the Weaver stance is for cross-dominant shooters.

PERSONALIZING YOUR STANCE

- As a shooter, you must find or adopt a stance **that is comfortable for you**, based on your body type and physical condition.
- It is not necessary to perform a **“perfect” Isosceles, Weaver or Chapman**.
- We are mere mortals and many times pain or physical limitations prevent us from achieving an **“ideal stance”**.
- It need not affect one’s consistency.
- A less than perfect stance **that is consistent** can still function to reliably index the firearm and deliver the front sight on target.

COMMON WAYS YOUR STANCE MAY DEVIATE

There are some common ways your stance may deviate from the ideal shooting stances—which deviations will mess up your speed and accuracy **and which ones will not.**

1. It is not a problem if your elbows are too far out; that is, **slightly “chicken winged”.**
2. If your firearm rotates slightly counterclockwise (**right handed**), or clockwise (**left handed**) , **IT IS NOT A PROBLEM.**
3. **Trembling won't make you miss.** The front sight will be vibrating a little. **Just hold it on target as steadily as you can** as you press the trigger. **YOU WILL BE JUST FINE.**

Massad Ayoob (internationally known firearms instructor) refers to this as **“The Wobble Zone”**. **It will not affect combat accuracy.**

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CHURCH AMMO RECOMMENDED

- THE AMMUNITION THAT WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE CHURCH WILL BE A LOW VELOCITY HOLLOW POINT.
- IN CONFINED SPACES, AMMUNITION THAT **WILL PENETRATE, BUT NOT EXIT** IS NEEDED IN ORDER TO PREVENT SECONDARY INJURIES TO INNOCENT BY STANDERS. **IT IS RECOMMENDED:**

Federal Premium Guard Dog



Federal Premium Personal Defense® HST



Hornady FTX® Critical Defense



Ruger® ARX™ Polycase



CHURCH AMMO RECOMMENDED

(Cont')

380 Auto

Ruger® ARX™ Polycase

Hornady 90 GR FTX® Critical Defense 90 Grain Hollow Point

Federal Premium® Personal Defense® HST, 99 Grain Hollow Point [P380HST1S](#)

9×19mm Parabellum

Ruger® ARX™ Polycase

Federal Premium Tactical HST, 147 Grain +P Hollow Point [P9HST4](#)

Federal Premium® Personal Defense® HST, 124 Grain Hollow Point [P9HST2S](#)

Federal Premium Guard Dog, 105 Grain +P Hollow Point [PD9GRD](#)

CHURCH AMMO RECOMMENDED (CONT')

40 Caliber

Ruger® ARX™ Polycase

Federal Premium® Personal Defense® HST, 180 Grain Hollow Point [P40HST](#)

Federal Premium Guard Dog, 135 Grain +P Hollow Point [PD40GRD](#)

45 ACP

Ruger® ARX™ Polycase

**Federal Premium® Personal Defense® HST, 230 Grain Hollow Point
[P45HST2S](#)**

**Federal Premium Guard Dog Home Defense, 165 Grain Expanding Full Metal
Jacket [PD45GRD](#)**