



SAGA SNIPPETS

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Self-Defence: During an Attack

By John Welch

There have been quite a few media reports lately about the arrest of farmers and home owners (in fact, any ordinary law-abiding citizen) who allegedly acted in self-defence while protecting lives and property against armed criminals. Some of these defenders, despite being injured in these attacks, have been arrested and charged with murder or attempted murder.

I urge you to read, or even re-read, articles that appeared in SAGA Snippets that have dealt with self-defence: January 2018 – Self-defence awareness; February 2018 – Firearm-free zones, and How to carry a handgun afield; April 2018 – The right to self-defence; May 2018 – Civilian arrest (section 49); July 2018 – Carrying for self-defence; September 2019 – Papers to be carried; October 2018 – How many magazines?; December 2018 – Holiday and firearms; January 2019 – Self-defence behind the wheel of a car, and Self-defence for women; and February 2019 – Self-defence – Consider your sources, Trigger-finger discipline, and How to choose a defensive holster.

In these articles authors discussed legal and practical matters relevant to personal defence, but what happens after you have survived an attack? I am going to deal with this matter in the next few editions of Snippets. Firstly, what to do when the attack is imminent or happening; secondly, the events immediately following the inci-

dent; and thirdly, subsequent developments, such as media coverage, intimidation, police investigations, criminal and civil litigation, etc.

One of the most important matters is in fact still part of the incident, rather than something separate from it. Often a police official or private citizen who has just used her/his firearm to thwart an unlawful and violent attack, quickly holsters their handgun or even drops it out of shock. Because a firefight (shooting at a person and/or being shot at) is such a traumatic experience, one of the immediate consequences is the formation of tunnel-vision. Tunnel-vision causes you to focus intensely on the target without taking cognisance of people in the immediate vicinity of the target, or people moving into the field of fire. Because of tunnel-vision a person often cannot explain whether s/he saw another person, or how many others s/he saw, or whether they were armed. However, s/he is usually able to explain in detail everything about the attacker, especially that he was armed, with what and often even the colour and size of the firearm or knife.

For your personal survival, it is vitally important to break tunnel-vision. Because you are so intensely focussed it takes an effort to break tunnel-vision – you need to physically look left and right and behind, by moving your head and not merely glancing to the sides. The main reason for breaking

tunnel-vision is to see whether the attack has ceased, or whether there still is another threat to deal with. Accordingly, the rule is always to only re-holster after having broken tunnel-vision and making sure that there is no further threat. It is, however, never a good idea to be confronted by the police while you have a gun in your hand.

Firefights in which civilians are involved either happen in the privacy of your home, or on a farm, or in a public place such as a parking area, a road, a shopping centre, etc. When the incident happens in a public place, especially parking lots or shopping centres, the chances are good that security guards will be on the scene before the police and that they will summon the police. Chances are also good that there will be independent witnesses and probably closed-circuit television.

When an incident happens at home, in a rural or urban area, you may or may not have prior warning of the attack; hearing either persons breaking open the gates, doors or windows, or the alarm, in which case you may have some time (often not) to take preventive action. Preventive action must, if possible, entail locking all people in one safe place (unless you have



Continued....Self-Defence: During an Attack

multiple competent firearm handlers, in which case they all must know exactly what the plan is and the direction they will be firing), phoning your security service provider, the police and neighbours and giving final instructions of how your family should behave. However, all these are meaningless if you do not have a proper defensive firearm and know how to use it efficiently. And if your defensive weapon is more than an arm's length away from you while you read this, you are actually not serious about personal defence.

When preventive action is not possible because of the speed of the violent attack, you probably have the right to defend yourself against such unlawful and violent attack. Let me reiterate what I have stated before: you do not have to fire a warning shot, except when it is opportune and safe to do so. When hiding in a locked room and the intruders start pounding on the door, warn them verbally that you are armed and will not hesitate to shoot.

Be reminded that the identification of the target is of vital importance. This does not mean that you must know who the attackers are – you must identify them as a serious threat. If you have rowdy friends who often arrive unannounced and hammer on your door, you may have difficulty distinguishing between them and criminals. And although it is usually not advisable to shoot at someone behind a closed door, circumstances might dictate otherwise.

Should you be compelled to discharge your firearm, shoot at those who constitute the threat, and shoot to stop the attack. Obviously, if you have seen firearms, knives or any other potentially dangerous weapons with the attackers, those are the threats you probably must concentrate on,

however, a multitude of attackers, armed or not, constitute a serious threat. Once you have discharged your firearm, do a tactical reload whenever you have the opportunity (this means you do not jettison a magazine that still contains ammunition). Should you use a revolver, remove live ammunition and retain it while dumping empty cases, where after you should reload, preferably with a speed-loader. Remain behind cover when you reload. Firing at a target that shoots back is not a good idea unless you are behind cover or are concealed. Reloading should only happen once you have broken tunnel-vision.

Once you have ascertained that there is no longer any threat of violence, establish whether everyone is safe and whether anyone may have sustained injuries. All injuries must be treated as serious and these must be communicated to the emergency personnel as accurately as possible. If there was no time to report the incident to the police, do so now.

Do not leave the room or the house to investigate, even if you can no longer hear any noises, wait for the police or armed response to arrive. Even if they identify themselves, do not be caught off guard – only open the door once you are satisfied that it is in fact the police or your armed response guards. When you open the door, keep your firearm ready (perhaps behind your back or covered in a newspaper or magazine), but do NOT point it at the police or security guards.

Should you discover a wounded perpetrator, do not attempt to apply first aid or arrest him. Cover him with your gun and ask someone to inform the emergency staff or your reaction unit accordingly. Be alert when doing so, although unlikely, the other crimi-

nals might come back for him. Make a mental note, and as soon as possible thereafter, a written note, of every person who came onto or was at the scene. Take notice, in particular, how the police handle the crime scene and how the evidential material is handled.

When you call the police before or during an event, what should you say to them? You (or your wife/husband/partner/mature child/etc) should tell the police that you are under attack; unknown persons are busy breaking into your house (or have done so), or whatever else really is or was happening. Also tell them to please hurry to your address; that you are armed (if you are); that you will be unable to open the security gate; and that you have called your armed response unit too and whether or not you have called the medical emergency services. Do not tell them that you intend shooting or have shot anyone. If the situation changes and you have time and opportunity to make another call to the police, tell them what the current status is. If the perpetrators hammer against the closed door or discharge firearms, inform the police accordingly or point the microphone in the direction so they can listen. Let me hasten to say that despite warnings at official institutions that calls may be recorded, the emphasis is on "may", chances are good that the recording system does not function. Should it function, these recordings could be used in court – either for or against you. You do not have to make a telephonic statement of facts. After you have (again) phoned the police and the security service provider, now call your attorney. If possible, s/he should come to the scene.

Whatever you do, do not tamper with or manipulate the crime scene.

Winchester Ammunition Recalling 3 Lots of .38 Spl.

Product Safety Notice

by NRA Staff

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Winchester Ammunition, as a responsible corporate citizen, is currently recalling three lots of .38 Spl. 130-gr. FMJ ammunition. The company has determined the below lots of 38 Special ammunition may contain incorrect powder charges. Ammunition with excessive powder charges may cause firearm damage, rendering it inoperable, and subjecting the shooter and bystanders to a risk of serious personal injury or death.

To determine if your ammunition is subject to this notice, review the Symbol and Lot Number. If it is Symbol USA38SPVP with Lot Number KF21, KL30 or KM52, immediately discontinue use and contact Winchester toll-free at 844-653-8358 for free UPS pick-up of the recalled ammunition.

This notice applies only to Symbol USA38SPVP with Lot Numbers KF21, KL30 and KM52. Other Symbol or Lot Numbers are not subject to this recall.

The ammunition Lot Number is ink stamped inside the right tuck flap of the 100-round carton as indicated here. The symbol is printed above the UPC bar code.

Winchester Ammunition urges you to contact them if you have any questions concerning this 38 Special centerfire ammunition recall. Their toll-free number is (844) 653-835; you may also elect to write to Winchester (600 Powder Mill Road, East Alton, IL 62024 Attn: USA38SPVP Recall), or visit their website at www.winchester.com.

Symbol: USA38SPVP
Lot Numbers: KF21, KL30 and KM52

<https://www.nrafamily.org/articles/2019/2/28/product-safety-notice-winchester-ammunition-recalling-3-lots-of-38-spl/>

SAGA Note: This product safety notice was written for American purchasers and the telephone numbers will not be toll free from South Africa. If you are affected we suggest you contact the dealer where you bought the ammunition.



Blue Book of Gun Values Marks Milestone with 40th Edition

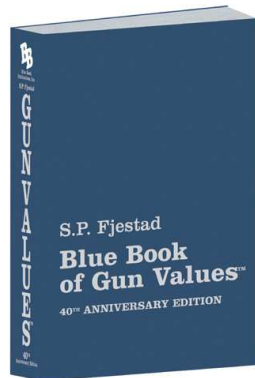
<https://www.ssusa.org/articles/2019/3/19/blue-book-of-gun-values-marks-milestone-with-40th-edition/>

by SSUSA Staff
Tuesday, March 19, 2019

40th Edition *Blue Book of Gun Values* By S.P. Fjestad
2,512 pp. Blue Book Publications.
\$59.95

For the first time in many years the value of collectible firearms have gone down significantly. The new 40th edition of the *Blue Book of Gun Values* by S.P. Fjestad carefully tracks this downward trend, along with all the usual pricing updates on many current and discontinued models that readers have come to expect each year.

For the 40th anniversary, the book includes a neat-looking retro cover. Within lies 2,512 pages that



feature nearly 1,700 manufacturers and trademarks. There's a mind-boggling 30,000 gun model descriptions along with over 180,000 values. Additionally, the Photo Percentage Grading System (PPGS) has been updated to accurately grade all pistols, revolvers, rifles and shotguns based on percentages of original condition.

The extensive serialization information available allows the year of manufacture to be determined for many firearms makes and models.

The *Blue Book of Gun Values* database is also available via flash drive for convenience, and as an online subscription that is updated monthly. The database also includes thousands of high-resolution color images.

Existing subscribers will receive complimentary updates to online subscriptions in early April.

For ordering information, please visit BlueBookOfGunValues.com.

HuntEx 2019: 25 to 28 April 2019



Save the Date....for HuntEx 2019.

HuntEx 2019 will take place from Thursday 25 April (VIP Day — book in advance with HuntEx) to Sunday 28 April at Gallagher Estate, Midrand.

The SAGA stand will be in the same position as last year: Stand 253 in Hall 2.

We will be processing new members and renewals, we have insignia items for sale, we have leaflets to hand out.....

For more information about the show visit www.huntex.net



Why Words Matter

<https://www.america1stfreedom.org/articles/2019/2/22/why-words-matter/>

by Mark Chesnut
Friday, February 22, 2019

The good news: Child shooting victims fell 12 percent in the United States in 2018, according to a recent report from the Gun Violence Archives.

The bad news: Gun-ban advocates will continue to twist words and redefine categories in order to manipulate us into believing that many, many more children are shot every year than actually are.

Here's how it works.

Consider the recent news story about a 25-year-old South Side Chicago woman. A legal concealed-carry license holder, she was waiting at a bus stop when, according to police reports, 19-year-old Laavion Goings Jr. pulled a gun on her and tried to rob her.

As the attempted armed robbery turned into a physical struggle, the woman managed to pull out her handgun and shoot Goings in the neck. He ran away, and later died at a nearby hospital.

As the attempted armed robbery turned into a physical struggle, the woman managed to pull out her handgun and shoot Goings in the neck.

It is a pretty cut-and-dried case of legal self-defense. The incident was even caught by a nearby security camera, leaving little question about what happened.

Goings, by the way, had a long rap sheet, including being charged just last year with aggravated battery of an officer.

Bianca Daniel, a neighbor of the attempted robbery victim, told news station WLS, "It's tragic that he did die, but the lady had to do what she had to do. She's on a bus stop, probably going to work, you know, and she has to encounter that early in the morning. I'm kind of proud that, like, that's what she did because she stuck up for herself."

One might assume that would be the end of the story. Yet soon, Goings will likely end up being mentioned in a newspaper story about how many shootings there were in Chicago for a particular month (of course, with no mention that it was a self-defense scenario). He'll also make the list of

Chicago "homicides" reported at the end of the year.

And that won't be all. The next time we hear of Goings, it will likely be in some anti-gun feature story written by so-called "mainstream" media about "teens and children" killed by "gun violence." After all, Goings was 19 years old, and a gun was involved.

Of course, the headline writer will just boil it down to "kids killed by gun violence," for space's sake. And the layout artist will choose a picture from the funeral of a 4-year-old to accompany the story.

So, the next time you hear a news report or read a headline about kids killed by gun violence, remember Goings. And ask yourself if anti-gunners truly want a "real conversation" on guns when they use such deceptive tactics to manipulate the public.

Watch this space ...for more interesting firearm snippets