

Rallies, Protests and Riots – Part 2

An Interview with Marc MacYoung

Interview by Gila Hayes

In our January eJournal, violence dynamics expert Marc MacYoung gave a professional's viewpoint on the civil unrest, riots and destruction that plagued the nation throughout most of last year. MacYoung blends his expertise with experience as an L.A. resident during the 1992 riots. Last month, he outlined options for avoiding and escaping a riot-torn area. This month, we drill down into survival strategies and preparation for various situations, including protesters marching through your residential neighborhood, being caught in a mob while you're just trying to get home from work some night, or being in a restaurant that is attacked by packs of protesters. We switch again to Q & A as we continue to learn from MacYoung in his own words.

eJournal: Last month's talk with you was important because you outlined a number of indicators that we should recognize well in advance, so that having listened to you, we recognize, "Oh! This is what Marc was talking about. Now is the time to leave" and we get out of there before we look like an easy target.

MacYoung: When you are getting the night riots like you have seen in Portland, Oregon, those were specifically targeted at government buildings. That was the area where they were "protesting," and you know what? I don't really have that much reason to go into downtown Portland anyway, and I really don't have any reason to go down there at 11:00 o'clock at night! At 11:00 o'clock at night, that is not a protest. That is a riot. You do not want to be out roaming the streets at that hour. If you have any possible opportunity not to be in that area, take it!

eJournal: Moving more into other areas of concern, I want to ask you what happens when protesters march into residential neighborhoods. I've spoken with members who are frightened by the current civil unrest and not surprisingly, fear of violent protesters invading the neighborhood where they live is right at the top of their list of concerns. People are very, very alarmed by that possibility.

MacYoung: They should be! Let's talk about riot delivery guys. With delivery services you can have pizza and restaurant food for home delivery. Now it's riot delivery. My first big bit of advice is to know exactly what the laws are for your state.

eJournal: If readers are not sure about their state's laws, they should chat with an attorney licensed to practice in their state. I say that because the laws about how much force is allowed to keep people off of your land – your driveway, your lawn, your garage and outbuildings compared against inside the dwelling – are extremely varied from one state to another. What is allowed in Texas may be massively illegal in Connecticut, and beyond that, you'd better consider what the courts in your state have allowed plaintiffs to collect in damages from homeowners after defense of property.

MacYoung: Where does your castle doctrine begin and end? Or does your state not have a castle doctrine? So, #1, know that! Next, let me ask you, when 300 people, some of them carrying rifles, are marching past your front door, do you really need to go stand on your porch and watch?

eJournal: I don't think the question for our members is so much about glowering like an angry spectator, as it is whether their defense is best established by standing on their porch with a shotgun, at the end of the driveway with their own rifle, posted inside the front door with a shotgun or hunkered down in the furthest point of the basement with a gun. Member questions show an honest puzzlement, because few to none have ever faced riots before and never expected to in their lifetimes.

MacYoung: I have been through multiple riots. The decade from 2000 to 2010 was the first decade I had not been in those circumstances. I have left situations that were turning into riots and I have been on the ground within a few miles of riots. I spent the L.A. riots in L.A. I was living in Glendale and my girlfriend was in Pasadena.

When it started, we phoned and she said, "They said they are sending us home from work." I had an enclosed porch and I sat out there, reading a book and smoking a pipe, with a shotgun



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right next to me on the table. When my girlfriend pulled in, we parked her car in the garage and we went inside. The only time I was outside was to make sure that my girlfriend, when she slowed down, would not be accosted.

eJournal: In your experience when protesters go into residential neighborhoods, are the marchers focused on getting to the house they want to protest in front of, or are they looking to enjoy some gratuitous destruction on the way there?

MacYoung: If these guys are marching through your neighborhood to go protest at somebody's house, the odds are good they are going to keep walking by your property. Instead of, "Will they fight me?" the question is, "Why am I drawing attention to myself?" if I am going to stand there and volunteer because I am out in front holding a rifle.

eJournal: Finally, a factor you can control! Why are you drawing attention is a great question! Why am I doing things to actively draw the protesters' attention?

MacYoung: Why am I drawing their attention? Why, especially if they have not crossed my property line? You know, one of the hardest lessons for people to learn – especially people who have put a lot of time into training – is the following very, very important saying: "Not my circus; not my monkeys."

eJournal: To apply that adage, we might need to determine, where is the border to my circus tent? The mob making its raucous way past your front yard creates a lot of fear. It scares people so badly that they start imagining trespasses. They think they should "stop it before it starts." They stop thinking rationally and stop perceiving that they are not presently being attacked. The fear steals their ability to think clearly and all they want to do is make the scary people go away. When they're scared and in situations for which they have no applicable experience, people do some pretty foolhardy things – including brandishing firearms at large crowds marching past in the street.

MacYoung: That fear then becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. The marchers are targeted on somebody else – say, like in the Colorado Springs incident – where people went to the home of a police officer who was involved in what had been deemed a legitimate shooting, a justified shooting. The mob said, "No! No! No! He is a killer!" although the kid he shot had a gun and was turning around toward him. You cannot reason with people who reached a conclusion through means other than reason! There, you had a bunch of nutballs who were walking around armed. Yes, it was threatening; it was intimidating, but they are really not looking to get into a firefight.

eJournal: What happened in Colorado Springs? Were they focused exclusively on the police officer's home?

MacYoung: No, they were focused on anybody who challenged them. Think of the Buffalo Springfield lyrics, "Singing songs and carrying signs; most say, hooray for our side." There were some confrontations with people who were standing outside and watching, some with guns. Don't be a bullet magnet! By and large, the marchers just kept on going. Now, it would be a different story altogether if someone broke off from the march and tried to break into your house.

eJournal: Have there been instances of broader destruction? In addition to Colorado Springs, what is happening elsewhere? Marchers went to the Olympia, WA mayor's home; marchers went to protest at the apartment building where Portland, OR mayor Ted Wheeler lived. I think the same has happened in Los Angeles and San Jose, CA, Wilmington, DE, in Washington, D.C. and in Chicago. Is the targeting specifically the residence of an elected official or is the destruction more general?

MacYoung: In residential neighborhoods, the targets tend to be specific, with pounding on the door of that house and throwing rocks through windows of that house. For the most part, the crowds just go past the other houses. There could be a few guys hanging around afterwards doing break-ins, but I have not heard any reports of that happening.

eJournal: Nonetheless, it is not unusual to hear people who live in higher-income enclaves express fears that rioters will break into the community and attack them simply because they are well-to-do.

MacYoung: That fear is predicated on threats that were made to do that, but if you get 300 people marching down the street, some of whom are openly armed, some of whom are raising Hell, most of the time, they are going to walk by property. If something happens to trigger it, then they might destroy property.

eJournal: What might be that "something that happens to trigger it?"

MacYoung: Like if some nervous Nellie opens fire. That is totally a wild card. Who knows what is going to happen if somebody gets in someone else's face and starts arguing? When you have got a wolf pack cruising by your front door, don't call attention. Now, if they try to come through that door, that is a different kettle of fish.

eJournal: Note that you said, "through the door," and that implies that the homeowner is not outside waving a gun at the mob; he or she is inside, armed and has drawn the line at entry into the residence. Shifting gears, you've talked about the wolf packs hunting down people of different ideology than theirs, and I'm wondering if there are things that we do or

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appearances that we assume, that put targets on our backs and elicit the response, “Oh, he or she is not one of us! Let’s mess him/her up.”

MacYoung: There can be, but more of it is that people who don’t catch their attention are just background. If you turn and walk away, they have closer people to look at. On the other hand, wearing a Trump hat in Portland is a really good way to stand out and to be singled out.

eJournal: So maybe we don’t have to kit out in black hoodies and bandanas to blend in?

MacYoung: Have you heard the saying, “Don’t be that dog?” Have you ever had a dog that has a propensity to fight other dogs? You’ve got him on a leash, and another dog comes into the area, and he gets all excited and starts quivering and pulling on the leash because he wants to go fight that dog?

Many decades ago, I was not at the height of my nastiness, but I was pretty close, I was at a convenience store with the guy who was my live-in girlfriend’s little brother. We were picking some “honey-do” stuff up before we went home, when three cholos, Mexican gang members, come in.

All of a sudden, I feel this “disturbance in the force,” and I look over and here is my brother-in-law being “that dog.” He is quivering...it is actually now called “Mad Dogging,” but the term was not around at the time...he was looking at these three guys and going, “Grrrrrrrr,” and I said, “Stop looking at them! STOP LOOKING AT THEM!” He says, “I can’t help myself, man! I just gotta.” Well, these guys have now noticed him glaring at them and they start to come over. So, I stepped between them, and I flipped the switch, and all of a sudden, they were like, “Oh, we have to go now and shampoo the cat.”

What I did, was I turned, grabbed my brother-in-law, and shoved him toward the cashier. Once we got out of there, I said to him, [through clenched teeth] “Don’t look at them. If you look at them, I will slap you silly!” So, we got out of there, and nothing happened. I love stories that end in “nothing happened.” I tell you that story to illustrate the advice, “Don’t be that dog.”

eJournal: You would be surprised how many times people say they believe it is better to give a hard stare to people who they find alarming than to look away, because they believe the latter will be perceived as weak. Applying that concern to today’s topic, what creates more problems with a mob? A hard, aggressive stare or no eye contact?

MacYoung: Being too weak when dealing with a mob is less of a problem than trying to challenge them or put another way,

“Don’t be that dog.” Granted, if you are wearing all the wrong clothing, you are going to send up a red flag. But if you aren’t, what is going to attract their attention is you glaring at them and trying to attract their attention.

eJournal: The principles you’ve outlined today are so important for ordinary, middle-class folks who never faced a mob, as we work out strategies to survive our current reality, and I am not optimistic that the civil unrest will end anytime soon, so perhaps is the reality for some years to come. We would prefer to learn from your experience, not through trial and error. A big key is understanding the messages we are sending through our demeanor.

MacYoung: Remember in my book *Multiple Attackers* (<https://armedcitizensnetwork.org/december-2020-book-review>), the only physical technique that I taught was how to frog march a friend out of a situation. If you do that right, you are going to be so busy keeping your friend from glaring at them that you won’t have time to glare at them yourself.

eJournal: If you are focused on performing a task like pulling your friend or family member out of a budding conflict, that mission keeps you from getting sucked into posturing and growling with a predictably bad outcome.

MacYoung: It is going to be ugly. The odds are not in your favor.

eJournal: Marc, there is one part of this problem we have only mentioned in passing. If we are in a car, you’ve already strongly advised pulling a U-turn – even if it is illegal – and not getting caught.

MacYoung: Break the law! Get out of there!

eJournal: OK, let me make this worse, maybe we are on a bridge with no way to turn around when we’re soon going to be overrun by a big crowd of protesters with signs and weapons and shields and all the other indicators that it is not a peaceful rally. Are we better off staying inside the vehicle? The idea of a pedestrian pushing through a riot scene is truly terrifying.

MacYoung: That is such a booger of a question! There is literally no right answer.

eJournal: I hear you! I think we equate being inside a car that is being kicked, dented and damaged with being trapped, but is it safer inside or out?

MacYoung: They can beat the bejeebers out of your vehicle and if you are caught inside, don’t react! The solution is called “insurance,” so let the insurance company take care of the damage.

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eJournal: Is an automobile better protection against violent people than we might think – especially if people are thrashing the car body?

MacYoung: Well...yes...and... [long pause] First of all, in almost all states, life is given priority over property. So, you can't shoot them if they are pounding on your car hood. The vehicle itself does provide protection. There is a lot more vehicle to get beat up than you.

It becomes a problem when somebody tries to come through a window because somebody trying to enter the passenger compartment of the vehicle can be construed as an attack. It becomes a problem if somebody is waving a gun, because bullets go through cars.

But, if you floor it, you are going to be running over people who were not posing an immediate threat to you. Jumping out of your car is going to be construed as participating and escalating. Sit there and let them trash your car up to – and this is going to be the really hard one – up to smashing and coming through a window (not smashing a windshield). A smashed windshield is still a barrier.

eJournal: It seemed like an awfully fine line until you identified two different actions: smashing compared against coming through the window. I don't think I have heard those two elements defined separately before, and that is an important distinction.

MacYoung: You know what else? My car comes with this amazing feature called reverse.

eJournal: Yep! Unless there is a Mack truck behind you.

MacYoung: But, again, you can go forward enough and then you can slam it into reverse. The conditions to be locked in, and utterly unable to move are very rare. Get the hell out of there. Realistically, if you are driving and you see a mob of people...I mean, how many car lengths ahead are you supposed to be looking when you are driving? Well, last time I checked, mobs do not materialize out of thin air.

One of the things in Austin, TX really bothered me. That guy saw a bunch of people marching in the middle of the street. He turned and tried to drive down that same street. Hmmm...I am pretty sure my car still has reverse. I can drive backwards down the other side of the road.

eJournal: From the news report, it sounded like the Austin motorist was determined to drive into the crowd. I think people who are expressing fears of being trapped in cars by mobs are coming from a different perspective. They are the ones who talk about making a mistake and inadvertently getting stuck on a

single lane offramp or whatever that "what if" might be.

MacYoung: You can explore as many "what if" scenarios as possible, but generally if you are caught that means that you had – and you know how much I love this term – a situational awareness failure.

eJournal: There's another area of concern, and your comment about situational awareness failures reminds me that we need to talk about it. In past months there was news footage of people dining in nice restaurants that were invaded by mobs. That has raised concerns amongst members who could imagine going out to dinner with their wives or families and not knowing what to do if assailed by a mob while in a restaurant.

Without question, the "school solution" is to grab your dependents and run out the back door of the restaurant. I would, though, like to use this as a setting for a different line of exploration. You have talked about verbal communication, and I have to ask just how well verbal de-escalation works against excited, wrought-up, emotional mobs. Your thoughts?

MacYoung: [deep sigh] Oh, why don't you ask me something easy like explaining women? Let me think to see how far back I need to go. This is an incredibly important question; the problem is it needs some background information.

eJournal: I'm listening...

MacYoung: Have you heard me talk about plastic berserks?

eJournal: No, please fill me in.

MacYoung: I have actually dealt with some that were truly berserks. They are not berserkers, by the way, that is actually making the Swedish term English. In the original Nordic languages, a berserk is both a state of consciousness and the individual doing it. So, to stop a true berserk, you will have to empty your magazine into him. He is so fixated on killing you he doesn't mind dying to get there. Stopping him is a nightmare.

Now, a plastic berserk is somebody who is using that tactic to intimidate you.

eJournal: Do you mean that he wants your reaction without sharing the risk of dying?

MacYoung: He is not that far gone. Now, there are two types of plastic berserks. One is an attacking plastic berserk and the other version is a posing plastic berserk. I have seen people in mid-attack who are going to physically attack, who are acting like berserks, they are running, barking, drooling, howling, and then when they suddenly realize that the person they are charging is going to play show and tell with their vital organs,

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and it is like watching somebody hit a force field. They bounce backwards.

A true berserk would come through regardless. He doesn't care about dying; he just wants to kill you. Somebody using berserk tactics is trying to freeze you and intimidate you. If you freeze or you go "eeeeek!" he will attack.

eJournal: Sure! It worked just like he hoped...

MacYoung: ...and, by the way, you are frozen right there where he needs for you to stand. If he is charging once he sees legitimate resistance, he is going to change his mind and break off the attack. He may stall, so don't expect him to turn and run. That is plastic berserk number one. That is the attacker.

The posing plastic berserk is just no end of trouble, because he will come screaming up to you and stop in your face in attack range and keep on screaming at you.

eJournal: So, what do you do? You don't really have a legitimate reason to shoot someone who is just too close and screaming at you, but because of his proximity the potential for injury is off the charts so you have to do something.

MacYoung: Well, yeah, that is the problem, but even if he's stalled and even though you feel threatened, it could start up again and actually turn into a physical attack if the guy doesn't believe his bluff is working. The posing berserk is pure intimidation, and if you thump them or shoot them or whatever, they are going to squeal, "I wasn't going to attack them," to the police and suddenly, they are the victim. If you watch these people running into these restaurants, what you will see, almost exclusively, is posing plastic berserks.

eJournal: How the heck do you get safely away from them?

MacYoung: Well, part of the problem is the way that most people handle it. Most people just go submissive until the cops come. The berserks come in and they go, "oggity, boogity, boogity" until someone calls the cops and then they get out of there before the cops show up. They are not engaging in actual physical violence. What they do is pure intimidation.

If you cannot withdraw, you have got to work from where you are. I can come from a seated position – and I have done this before against an attacking plastic berserk – I was sitting there one second, and he is coming, charging at me, and the next thing he knows, I am moving toward him. Now, I had to be able to justify and explain why I was moving towards him.

As an expert on the subject, I knew if he hit me while I was sitting or if I was standing and leaning back, I would be at a positional disadvantage. If asked, "Why did you come out of

the chair?" I would answer, "because I did not want to get hit while I was sitting."

I understand that because I know the danger of multiple attackers. I understand that if I hit or drop one, I am likely to have to face others, so if I come up out of the chair with enough force that a) he is on the ground and b) he is screaming, that might just convince the others that they don't want to fight with me.

eJournal: Besides there are other diners who are easier to intimidate.

MacYoung: Years and years ago I heard a saying, "A bully doesn't want to fight you." In fact, a bully does not want to fight at all. He wants to beat you up and be done with you. For the plastic berserk this is a mad power rush. It's fun. It's exciting. See how powerful they are! Right? And they are not suffering for it. Now, if they were really to start suffering seriously, that often breaks their will.

eJournal: That's why we need to identify what we are up against. What you have explained about the posing berserk is completely different than some of threats you described earlier, like wolfpacks. How we respond has to be dictated by what we are facing – and that is before we even broach the question of tailoring our response to avoid going to court to fight criminal charges.

MacYoung: They may turn into a wolf pack if you do not respond with sufficient force. You have to be able to explain why you reasonably believed that amount of force was appropriate for the circumstances. In this case, the reason is about multiple attackers. If you are familiar with the dangers that multiple attackers pose, you can justify using a higher level of force.

eJournal: I think that truth is particularly applicable to our older Network members. A few years ago, Dr. Robert Margulies gave us an interview that I think all members should study to understand the dangers of head injuries. In his interview, he explained that as we age, our brains actually shrink, so the danger from brain damage from a fall or blow to the head is much more extreme for an older person. (See <https://armedcitizensnetwork.org/december-2015-blunt-force-trauma-lethality>)

MacYoung: You cannot take a beating when you are older the way you could when you were younger. There is more room for your brain to bounce around in your skull.

You must not wait until the point of no return. I cannot tell you how important it is to understand attack range. If I understand

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attack range, and someone is screaming and howling and calling me names from outside attack range, I can just say, "Well, just get that all out of your system, Pun'kin." Well, fine, he can do that. If someone is howling and barking and doing a berserk charge in another direction, I can say, "Well, have fun charging the castle, boys!" I don't need to react.

Not my circus; not my monkeys is a very, very important concept. That doesn't mean I am going to stay sitting there drinking my tea, watching it happen, but on the other hand, I do not necessarily have to get involved. If I am sitting at a table and people rush into the restaurant and going "rumpa, rumpa, rumpa," even if I don't stand up, you will see me reaching across my body to put my hand on the edge of the table. When I come up, that table will get tipped over.

eJournal: You are going to have a barrier.

MacYoung: ... and they are going to have something to trip over.

eJournal: Applying these principles outside of the restaurant scenario, gets a little more difficult if you are surrounded by the mob.

MacYoung: Not necessarily, because it is hard to surround you if you are retreating. If someone tries to speed up, you can tell them in no uncertain terms to back off.

eJournal: So, we do communicate, even with howling mobs.

MacYoung: Oh, yes, you communicate and communicate and you communicate again. "I am leaving. I do not want trouble. You go your way, and you can live."

eJournal: This is such a huge subject...

MacYoung: Yes, it is, but the main starting point is, don't get involved. Once you get involved, that is where it starts getting complicated.

eJournal: If I asked you to identify the single most important strategy, what would you say? What takeaway do you want to lodge members minds as we wrap this up?

MacYoung: You are one person against many. The odds are not in your favor. Plan accordingly. That is so important. If I start counting, "One, two..." I am out of there!

If there is a second takeaway, it is that there is no shame in withdrawing from superior numbers.

eJournal: That gem of advice comes from someone who has not shied away from violence, so anyone who takes that advice doesn't have to worry, "Does this make me a coward?"

MacYoung: That is true, and more than that, it used to be my job to handle whatever came through that door. I could not retreat. You can!

eJournal: That might be the most important thing you've taught us today, although there are a number of very applicable strategies you've outlined in this two-part interview, as well as your many books, articles, videos and other contributions. Thank you for sharing your knowledge with us.

Marc MacYoung is an author, lecturer and martial artist and is considered to be one of the pioneers of reality-based self defense. This is not theoretical for MacYoung who spent his youth in situational poverty and lived with crime and violence on the streets of Los Angeles, where he was first shot when he was fourteen. He later worked as the warden of a correctional institute, bodyguard, bouncer and security professional. Initially known best for his street-violence survival books, he has also published a considerable body of work on personal safety and self defense in both books and videos. Start your exploration into Marc's other published work, videos, books, and articles at (<https://www.patreon.com/MacYoung>) and his extensive website <http://www.nonenseselfdefense.com/>.



President's Message

Take a Deep Breath

by Marty Hayes, J.D.

I don't know about all of you, but I am exhausted! Not physically (unless you can blame lack of sleep) but instead, now that the presidential election and all the drama that followed it is over and we had yet another smooth transition of power

(well, maybe not that smooth, but smooth enough, all things considered), I know I am looking forward to giving politics a break. I was a strong supporter of Donald Trump, as were many gun owners. Out of respect for members who tend to be more liberal (we have many, as I hear from them quite often when I get too far to the right in my commentaries), I will attempt to keep this missive fairly neutral.

You see, I lived through the Clinton years, including the Feinstein assault weapons ban, which really didn't ban any semi-automatic rifles, just some of the doodads like muzzle breaks and bayonet lugs, etc. It did stop the manufacture of +10 round magazines, but everyone I knew already had hi-cap mags (as did I). I was relieved back in 2004 when the ban expired, but I cannot truthfully say my life was any different.

I also lived through the Obama years, and guess what? We gun owners survived pretty well. The only real threat to our gun rights could have occurred in the first two years of his administration, when his party had control of both houses of Congress, along with the presidency. The only piece of legislation he managed to get passed was the Affordable Care Act (Obama Care) and that didn't bring the world to an end, although it increased our healthcare premiums. Our healthcare costs doubled, but we are still here.

One of the cool things that occurred during the Obama years, was that the United States Supreme Court affirmed the right of the individual citizen to keep and bear arms for self defense ([District of Columbia v. Heller](#)) They didn't address carrying firearms for self defense on the street and that is too bad. A few years later, the USSC also ruled in [McDonald v. Chicago](#) that the Second Amendment applies to individual states, too. Are we gun owners better off now? Of course, we are. All this occurred during Democratic administrations.

In contrast, the USSC did not address any gun issue cases during the last four years, but the important thing that happened was adding one vote to the pro-gun wing of the USSC. That means if our side can get a case in front of the USSC, we can expect a favorable outcome.

What does it take to get a case in front of the USSC? It takes a case of constitutional significance and it helps if there are

U.S. Federal courts that have differed in opinion on the same or very similar issues. I can see that occurring during the next four years, although we do face the threat from many on the left to "pack the court," passing legislation to expand the number of Supreme Court Justices from nine to more – likely 11 or 13. That would negate the 5-4 or 6-3 advantage the conservative majority of the court enjoys at the moment. I find it sad that the court is influenced by these left v. right wing battles, but that is the world we live in. I do not believe Biden will be able to pack the court, but we shall see.

Returning to my previous train of thought: I am glad the election is over. I have been truly disgusted by the main-stream media's blatant bias towards the left. I started my higher education as a journalism student and at least back then (mid 1970s), we made an honest attempt to keep editorial opinion separate from news reporting. This no longer happens. As a result, I no longer watch the main-stream media's TV reportage.

As I write this, I am sitting in Searchlight, NV, after a quick trip to Las Vegas and then to Southern AZ. I like to take trips in my truck/camper combo, with my dog Mac. It kind of centers me, and the sad part is that when I leave home, Gila has to stay and work the office. My part of the job is to keep the *Boots on the Ground* phone with me, and as I have done in the past, I will drop whatever I am doing and help any member calling after a self-defense incident. That means that wherever I stop for the evening, I need to have good cell service, so here I sit in a vacant parking lot in Searchlight, NV where there is great cell service. Hopefully, I will not freeze my you-know-what off tonight. Tomorrow, I have a business meeting with Cameron Hopkins of Super Vel Ammunition, then I head back home, dodging snow-storms.

The Great 2020/2021 Ammo Shortage

Most people do not know it, but I cut my teeth in the firearms industry as the West Coast Distributor for COR-BON ammunition. COR-BON was a boutique ammunition manufacturer, loading high-velocity ammunition in the tradition of Lee Juris, of Super Vel. For example, the COR-BON 9mm 115 gr JHP traveled about 1300 feet per second, and the studies conducted by Evan Marshall and Ed Sanow, later explained in the epic book *Handgun Stopping Power*, showed the COR-Bon 115 gr JHP being the best manstopper for a 9mm.

Back in the early 1990s, I got in early distributing their ammunition and by the time 1994 and the Dianne Feinstein assault weapons ban came about, I was selling about one million dollars of COR-BON ammunition per year. Then Bill Clinton was elected president and the assault weapons ban of 1994 was passed. It seemed like everybody wanted to stock up on guns and ammo. Both COR-BON and my company The Firearms Academy of Seattle were caught with our knickers down and immediately went into a back-order status. We had ten times more orders than we had ammo, and for about two years, we

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struggled to serve the gun-owning public. That was the first time I saw an ammo shortage.

The second time I experienced an ammo shortage was after Barack Obama was elected. By then I had left the ammo distribution business to concentrate on my shooting school, The Firearms Academy of Seattle. In 2009, we had a great year teaching new shooters, making more money that year than we had ever made before. A little anti-gun hysteria sure was good for business, and apparently people were able to find some ammo somewhere because they came to us in droves for training. We supplied .22 LR ammo for the loaner guns we used then in our introductory firearms classes, but we had started to run low by the time the ammo crunch eased.

After living through two ammo shortages induced by anti-gun politicians, I had learned my lesson. When ammo and components started showing up again at the distributors at decent prices, how much ammo and reloading components do you think I bought so I would never be caught short-handed again? Well, I am not telling, but suffice it to say neither the school nor me, personally, will be running out this time.

All I am trying to say here is that I would recommend people quit panicking. Don't buy the high-priced ammo being offered over the Internet. Relax, and wait until prices ease up, as they will. By refusing to buy the \$50 boxes of 9mm I am seeing out there, you will force the prices back where they belong. When

prices do come back down, start buying ammunition slowly but steadily. The industry is trying its best to supply the demand, and they could use a little help. Finally, as a favor to the shooting schools, don't stop training, just to hoard your precious 9mm. If trainers do not have students, they might not be there to train you when the shortage is over.

Do You Train in the Martial Arts?

On YouTube, I have recently come across on videos of the fights and interviews with five-time kick boxing champion Kathy Long. Do yourself a favor and watch some of her fights and listen to her interviews. I suspect you will be as fascinated with her and her story as I am.

Marty in the Media

I have expanded my public presence. That's really not my personal style, but it is necessary to help educate others, especially new gun owners. Armed Citizens' Educational Foundation now has a YouTube channel for our Armed Citizens' TV videos at <https://armedcitizenstv.org> where I have started posting educational videos. So far, the videos have revolved around legalities of self defense, but we are open to posting other types of videos. I have also started writing a regular column in [Gun Digest](#) magazine, where I take a self-defense case reported in the news and pick apart the legalities of the issue. I welcome you to start subscribing to [Gun Digest](#) magazine.



Attorney Question of the Month

In our [December 2020 online journal](#) internationally-known author and instructor Massad Ayoob gave an instructional interview about how making an affirmative defense in court to explain why one used force in self defense shifts the burden of proof.

Because courts and laws vary considerably from state to state, we started a more detailed exploration into this issue in our popular Attorney Question of the Month column in January by asking our affiliated attorneys—

What is the process in your state for presenting an affirmative defense of use of force in self defense?

What are the potential impediments that may result in a judge denying a self-defense argument?

If denied the ability to argue self defense, what steps would you take to get the best outcome for your client? Our affiliated attorneys provided such detail about what is involved in arguing self defense to the courts in their state that we broke the discussion into two installments. If you missed the first, we suggest you return to <https://armedcitizensnetwork.org/january-2021-attorney-question> and read the commentary there, too.

John R. Monroe

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In Georgia, a person charged with a crime for which the person wants to claim self defense has multiple options:

1. A person who lawfully uses self defense is immune from prosecution. He therefore has an opportunity to raise the issue when he is charged. If he does raise the issue, he is entitled to a hearing before he is tried (because immunity means you cannot even be tried). At an immunity hearing, the burden of proof is on the defendant, by a preponderance of the evidence, to prove that he lawfully used self defense. The hearing is before the judge only without a jury. He may present evidence in any admissible form. It usually consists of the testimony of an eyewitness or the defendant himself. The state also may introduce evidence. If the state fails to offer evidence, which is not unusual, if the defendant laid out a valid case for self defense, immunity should be granted.

2. If the defendant either chooses not to assert immunity, or does so but it is not granted, he still may raise self defense as an affirmative defense in his trial. This is the more traditional

method. In order to assert self defense, the defendant has the burden to produce some “slight” evidence of self defense. This burden is quite low, because anything that even hints at self defense is sufficient. If the defendant carries his burden of production, the burden shifts to the state to prove there was no self defense beyond a reasonable doubt. Consider an example where the defendant makes a 911 call and says, “A man attacked me, and I shot him!” The state will probably want to introduce the 911 recording because it constitutes an admission by the defendant that the defendant was the shooter. But the 911 call also constitutes evidence that it was self defense. So, the defendant would not have to introduce any evidence at all. The 911 call is all that is needed to shift the burden to the state to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that there was no valid use of self defense. If the defendant meets the burden of production, he is entitled to a jury instruction on self defense, including an instruction that the state must disprove self defense beyond a reasonable doubt.

In some states, I understand that the defendant must admit to the underlying facts in order to claim self defense (i.e., “I admit that I shot him, but it was in self defense.”) Not so in Georgia. The Supreme Court of Georgia has ruled that a person may both maintain his innocence and claim self defense (i.e., “I didn’t shoot him, but if I did it was in self defense.”) One justice put it this way during oral argument on a case where this was an issue. “Let’s say a bank surveillance video shows a woman at an ATM machine and a man comes up behind her wielding a crowbar. As the woman turns around, the man raises the crowbar in a menacing fashion. The woman fatally shoots the man. A woman is charged with murder. She can say, ‘That’s not me in the video, but even if it was, it was self defense.’”) The defendant does not have to admit to being the woman in the video, the shooter, in order to claim self defense.

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RCW 9A.16.110(1) states as follows:

No person in the state shall be placed in legal jeopardy of any kind whatsoever for protecting by any reasonable means necessary, himself or herself, his or her family, or his or her real or personal property, or for coming to the aid of another who is in imminent danger of or the victim of assault, robbery, kidnapping, arson, burglary, rape, murder, or any other violent crime as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

RCW 9A.16.020 states as follows:

The use, attempt, or offer to use force upon or toward the person of another is not unlawful in the following cases:

[Continued next page]

(3) Whenever used by a party about to be injured, or by another lawfully aiding him or her, in preventing or attempting to prevent an offense against his or her person, or a malicious trespass, or other malicious interference with real or personal property lawfully in his or her possession, in case the force is not more than is necessary ...

In *State v. Smith*, 111 Wn.2d 1, 759 P.2d 372 (1988), our state Supreme Court recognized that self defense and lawful use of force is a valid and available defense to a charge other than assault; in that case the charge was harassment. "Consider, for example, the laws authorizing violent acts in self defense. We do not consider these laws to be unconstitutionally vague merely because someone who acts within their scope may be arrested, prosecuted and even convicted for his actions. Rather, we tolerate the burdens law enforcement places on the individual who has rightfully defended himself in order to ensure that he has not violated clear statutory prohibitions. Nor are we bothered by the element of indefiniteness the self-defense laws create in the offenses – harassment being one – to which these laws apply." *Smith*, at 12.

A self-defense instruction to the jury only requires some evidence, from whatever source, that tends to prove the defendant acted in self defense. Although some evidence must be admitted, there is no need that there be the amount of evidence necessary to create a reasonable doubt in the minds of the jurors. The evidence must be viewed subjectively from the defendant's point of view as conditions appeared to him at the time of the act. The defendant need not have been in actual danger of assault; he was entitled to act on appearances; and if he believed in good faith and on reasonable grounds that he was in actual danger of assault, even if later it developed that he was mistaken as to the extent of the danger, if he acted as a reasonably and ordinarily cautious and prudent man would have done under the circumstances as they appeared to him, he was justified in defending himself. *State v. McCullum*, 98 Wn.2d 484, 488-89, 656 P.2d 1064 (1983).

The State bears the burden of proving the absence of self-defense beyond a reasonable doubt. *McCullum*, at 494.

A self-defense claim is predicated upon the right of every citizen to reasonably defend himself against unwarranted attack. *State v. Janes*, 121 Wn.2d 220, 237, 850 P.2d 495, 22 A.L.R. 5th 921 (1993).

The claim of self-defense must be assessed from the standpoint of the reasonably prudent person, knowing all the defendant knows and seeing all the defendant sees. Jurors are to put themselves in the place of the defendant, get the point of view which he had at the time of the incident, and view the conduct of the other person with all its pertinent sidelights as the defendant was warranted in viewing it. In no other way could the jury safely say what a reasonably prudent person similarly situated would have done. By evaluating the evidence from the standpoint of the reasonably prudent person, knowing all the defendant knows and seeing all the defendant sees, the approach to reasonableness incorporates both subjective and objective characteristics. It is subjective in that the jury is entitled to stand as nearly as practicable in the shoes of the defendant, and from this point of view determine the character of the act. Also, the jury is to consider the defendant's actions in light of all the facts and circumstances known to the defendant, even those substantially predating the incident. It is objective in that the jury is to use this information in determining what a reasonably prudent person similarly situated would have done. By learning of the defendant's perceptions and the circumstances surrounding the act, the jury is able to make the critical determination of the degree of force which a reasonable person in the same situation seeing what he sees and knowing what he knows would believe to be necessary. Stated differently, the jury is to inquire whether the defendant acted reasonably, given the defendant's experience. *Janes*, at 238-39.

There is no duty to retreat before using force, as long as the defendant is in a place where he has a right to be. *State v. Hiatt*, 187 Wash. 226, 237, 60 P.2d 71, 75 (1936).

A big thank you to the Affiliated Attorneys who participated in this discussion. Please come back next month when we have a new topic of discussion with the generous men and women who serve as Network Affiliated Attorneys.

Book Review

Choose Adventure

Safe Travel in Dangerous Places

By Greg Ellifritz

Independently published (May 2, 2020)

494 pages, paperback

ISBN-13 979-8642460122

\$18.05 paper; \$9.95 eBook

<https://www.chooseadventurebook.com>



Reviewed by Gila Hayes

Applying lessons from indirectly related instruction is a little strategy I've found to be an effective way to learn and retain information. This month, having been gifted a copy of *Choose Adventure* by instructor and [blogger](#) Greg Ellifritz, I found the pages I was reading applicable outside of world travel. Although his book addresses travel to developing countries, as he writes, it also teaches "the social skills necessary to navigate an unfamiliar environment. This book will also prepare you for the relatively rare occasions where you might have to face greater danger. I will show you how to survive natural disasters, riots, and crowd violence. I will teach you how to use improvised weapons, how to avoid criminals and scam artists, and how to escape a kidnapping attempt or terrorist attack."

One cannot doubt that Ellifritz is qualified to teach survival skills. A career police officer and trainer, he writes that he amassed "over 75 different police instructor certifications, mostly in the subject matter of police use of force [and]... became a court recognized expert in the fighting arts. I taught police officers how to psychologically manipulate contacts with violent criminals to avoid violence. If those tactics failed, I taught officers how to win physical fights with pepper spray, impact weapons, their firearms, and their bare hands."

Ellifritz discusses the terms "developing" and "third world" countries as distinct from "first world" nations. I found many of his observations about safety in third world countries applicable domestically. For example, illness and injury presents different challenges when abroad, but even if the reader never leaves the U.S., there's value in *Choose Adventure's* thought-provoking discussion of common ailments as preparation to survive civil unrest, ventures into wilderness or under-developed regions, or just daily well-being in case an emergency arises. A section on foodborne illness is a useful self-help reminder and after reading Ellifritz's advice on treating injuries, I added a couple of items to my first aid box. I appreciated the refresher in tourniquet use, too.

For travelers arriving in an unfamiliar locale, he stresses the importance of daytime arrival to allow for a walk around the neighborhood to "scope out ... potential problem areas." He explains, "These guidelines may be pretty basic, but using them will give you a quick assessment of your relative safety in any neighborhood in the world," going on to list the presence

of armed guards, rundown or uncared for properties, graffiti on walls, obvious security measures "like broken glass embedded atop walls, electric fences, barbed wire," and aimless loiterers in the street and pedestrians traveling in small groups not singly. Watch the reaction of people in the area when they see you, he continues, citing the book *Left of Bang's* teachings about indicators of impending trouble including detecting changes in the local routine and reactions of the locals.

Safety in crowds is another topic that applies anywhere and although the context in *Choose Adventure* applies to sporting events, it is applicable to safety in any crowded venue. Ellifritz teaches, "Crowds are more likely to be deadly at the entrance of an event than at the event's conclusion. When crowds are leaving, there are generally multiple exits. On entrance, everyone is usually funneled through just a few entry gates, making it far easier to be caught up in a bottleneck and trampled on by the pressing crowd. If the crowd seems violent or surging, hang back. Don't be in a hurry to get in. If you know in advance that the event is going to be crowded, consider arriving at off-peak times, either very early or after the game has already started," He suggests, "Be exceptionally careful leaving the event. It may be smart to leave a bit early so that you aren't out in the streets when the majority of the crowd exits the stadium."

You don't need to be a sports fan to get caught up in crowd violence. "Be cautious using public transportation near large sporting events. Even if you don't attend the event itself, you may encounter sports hooligans, rioters, or drunken fans in the subway or on the bus before and after the big game. There are usually numerous bus stops, taxi stations, and subway entrances near any large sports stadium. Avoid those stations and stops when they are crowded with rowdy sports fans," he writes.

A common risk is approaches from strangers who may see you as an easy victim, Ellifritz suggests. You can easily identify hustlers who call you "friend," say they just want to talk, or are complimentary, and he advises that any of those approaches warns you not to engage in conversation. Beware, he continues, of appeals for help, as well as tests of your compliance by a stranger who is too persistent, talks excessively and what they say doesn't comport with their actions or tries to give you something. Pay attention if your intuition warns you even if you can't consciously identify what is incongruous. A later chapter of *Choose Adventure* teaches "the art of disengagement" and identifies the dangers of criminal teamwork, how to recognize it and break the contact.

"Pre-assault indicators are universal," Ellifritz writes. "It doesn't matter what country you are visiting. Be alert when you start seeing any predatory movement patterns or deliberate approaches in a crowd." He provides a good list of gestures, expressions, body positioning, actions taken to alleviate stress that's building up as the assailant prepares to attack, as well as commenting on the place in the timeline that recognizable cues like the target glance and the witness check occur. "The display of any one pre-assault indicator or body language cue is not

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enough to instantly brand the person who displays it as a serial killer. 'Normal' people sometimes make these gestures as well. Look at clusters of signs. When you start seeing two, three, or four different indicators, recognize that you are likely being groomed for a criminal attack."

After a good discussion of behavior and appearance that suggests an imminent attack, Ellifritz turns the tables and introduces, "We've talked about criminal pre-assault indicators, now it's time to discuss 'victim indicators.' What makes a criminal choose a particular person as a victim?" He discusses behaviors that signal a submissive person, or one that is experiencing discomfort, again quoting a book we've discussed in these pages before, [Left of Bang](#).

Warnings about the more mundane dangers of being intoxicated while a tourist are equally applicable to life here at home, although the availability he describes in other countries is substantially different. Even alcohol use creates an opening for watchful criminals, he warns.

Reality checks are important in books about survival planning. Ellifritz writes several chapters about travel weapons and improvising what is at hand for self defense. He advises that, "One has to solve not only the problem of surviving the initial violent encounter, but the secondary problem with the police and the criminal justice system as well. In other countries, the 'secondary problem' won't likely be a fair trial by a jury of your peers; it might be an angry lynch mob. You aren't prepared to defend yourself unless you can handle that issue as well," ending with an echo of multiple earlier suggestions that behaving politely, smiling, and acting respectful.

He discusses safely weathering tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanos and civil unrest while a tourist. Of civil insurrection his advice is an echo of Marc [MacYoung's advice](#) in the January 2021 and this edition of the journal. "The best advice I can give you is to pay attention to your surroundings and have an escape plan for every location you visit. When you see things starting to go bad (massing police, masked looters, people setting fires), GET OUT! Implement your escape plan. Don't stick around and become a target for police batons, gangs of teen looters, or panicked crowds. Usually, the people who get hurt or killed in these events are the people who aren't paying attention or who want to stand around and be a spectator."

Don't run, but walk directly away toward safety, avoiding eye contact, Ellifritz continues. If surrounded by a large mass of people, try to get your back to the wall and let the crowd move on by, minimizing the numbers you have to deal with simultaneously, or being bypassed entirely, he teaches. As a tourist, you are easily recognized as an outsider, and that makes you a natural target for rioters. He also outlines survival if caught in a car by a rioting mob, including the tip to keep windows down a half-inch to make them harder to break, studying up on alternative routes for escape, how to drive through a crowd if you must, and concerns for families or companions traveling together.

Understanding and escaping bomb threats is the topic of a chapter, including bomb appearance, lethality, what to do after a bombing, the risk of continued hostilities, the likelihood of multiple bombs, safe evacuation locations, and where to stage to treat casualties.

Terrorism and hostage-taking, while uncommon, carries a different set of considerations overseas than here in the U.S., Ellifritz writes. Armed Americans are not well served by our government's "dumbed down" advice to "run, hide, fight" he opines, but as an unarmed traveler visiting a country where privately carried firearms are exceedingly rare, the question becomes your ability to run away effectively due to health, clothing choices, responsibilities to small children, or environmental issues like darkness, very close proximity to the gunman or being trapped where the only exit is in the direction of the shooter.

"If unarmed, you should think about running as a response if there is a good chance you can get away before the killer sees you," he advises. Hiding or barricading has mixed results, he continues, but can be effective if a secure room with locking door and no windows is at hand, with several exits in case the shooter gets in, or if the hiding place offers temporary shelter while help arrives. Hiding is still "nearly last on the list of options for the majority of active killer events" in Ellifritz's view.

"That leaves the final option of fighting. Again, the circumstances dictate the tactics. Is this a lone teenage boy trying to stab people with a knife or is it a team of 50 armed terrorists trying to corral you into a mass hostage event? Your ability to succeed while fighting is determined by both your abilities and the abilities of your potential attackers." Still, unarmed citizens have stopped active killer incidents, as researched by Ron Borsch, he cites, and fighting is viable if the place you barricaded has been breached, the killer is within arms' reach, you have some kind of weapon—if only a knife or pepper spray, you can ambush the shooter, you team up with a number of other people who are willing to fight, you have fighting skills, and observe a weapon malfunction, reload in progress, or the killer drops or sets down his gun.

The latter points underscore the import of waiting for the right opportunity, Ellifritz continues. He discusses chokepoint ambushes, strategies for group counterattack, summarizing, "The goal is to end the fight as quickly as possible so that more people don't get hurt or killed." Although the context is overseas travel, the information is extremely valuable for those who work disarmed in the so called "gun free" zones, travel out of state where their carry license is invalid, and other scenarios about which we worry.

An avid reader of Ellifritz's Active Response Training blog, I have to admit that I've long hoped he would compile his work into a book. While *Choose Adventure* sets a different context, it was much of what I'd hoped for. I think our members will enjoy reading it, too.

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Editor's Notebook

by Gila Hayes and Josh Amos

This closing commentary is a joint effort this month. It was fun to team up with our Affiliates Manager Josh Amos to tell members about the work of our Armed Citizens' Educational Foundation. We are proud of the hundreds of thousands of copies of our educational booklet we've provided over the past decade to educate the public about self-defense legal issues and our recent expansion into video lectures.

The [Armed Citizens' Educational Foundation](#) is a 501(c)(3) entity dedicated to providing education on self defense and the law. Our primary educational item is the booklet *What Every Gun Owner Needs to Know About Self Defense Law* written by Network President Marty Hayes, J.D. This booklet is free, and it is a great tool to promote awareness and education in the lawful use of firearms and deadly force by armed citizens.

Over the past ten years, we've sent out around 100,000 free copies of this booklet each year. Key partners who help get the booklets into the hands of those interested in its message include our affiliated instructors, attorneys, and corporate sponsors. The booklet is also available for free to the public upon request via phone or our [website](#). It's a great way to get pertinent legal information into the hands of the public and give them more tools to avoid trouble.

Josh comments that the grass roots component to getting our Foundation's message out is one of his favorite tasks. "We have corporate partners/sponsors who play a key role in supporting the Educational Foundation and distributing the booklet," he explains. "It is my pleasure to introduce them to our members and mention their efforts on our behalf. We value these companies and encourage you to support them with your business."

Ammo.com

<https://ammo.com/acef-supporter>

Ammo.com gives their online ammunition purchasers the option to donate a percentage of their purchase to a select group of pro-freedom organizations, including our Armed Citizens' Educational Foundation. Through this effort, Ammo.com and those buying ammo through them have donated several thousand dollars each year to defray the costs of printing and mailing *What Every Gun Owner Needs to Know About Self-Defense Law*.

Josh ships a lot of booklets each week, packaging and mailing them to affiliates, instructors, members hosting events and a wide variety of other people who want to share our educational message. Several months ago, with a lot of help from our



printer, Lynx Group in Salem, OR, we drop-shipped our largest number of booklets ever to Ammo.com for distribution in their ammo orders. We were reminded again what a great friend Ammo.com is to the Network and Foundation and to armed citizens.



CCW Breakaways, LLC

<http://www.ccwbreakaways.com>

CCW Breakaways has been a longtime supporter of the Educational Foundation by distributing our booklets with orders for their holster trousers. CCW Breakaways is the creation of Jay and Georgann French who, after becoming licensed to carry concealed weapons searched in vain for "an effective method to carry their handguns. When nothing satisfactory could be found, Jay began experimenting with modifications to a pant and a pocket. Necessity was the mother of invention and now we have the holster-pocket product lines with five US Patents," they write on their website, adding "Since 2010 our pants have been sold to military units, law enforcement departments, private security operators and responsible citizens who need speed-concealment-comfort for defending themselves and their loved ones."



Gum Creek Customs, LLC

<http://www.gumcreekcustoms.com>

Gum Creek distributes our booklets with car-mount holsters they sell and ship. Founded in Oxford, GA in 2009, Gum Creek specializes in vehicle defense accessories for law enforcement, the outdoorsmen, and gun enthusiasts. Jimmy Smallwood and Bert Gleaton call themselves two average guys who had an idea and decided to bring that project to fruition.

Recluse Holsters

<http://www.recluseholster.com/>

Tod Cole, owner of Recluse, relates on his website that one hot summer about 15 years ago, he was looking for a pocket holster for his .380. Deciding that what he needed wasn't currently made, he invented the one-sided holster with trigger block for

[Continued next page]



safe pocket carry. While discussing his project, he found that one of his friends was carrying a .32 loose in his pocket, so Tod turned him into his first market tester. The response was so enthusiastic that Recluse, LLC was formed, the design patented, and today Tod hand molds and sews pocket holsters in several configurations for a large number of makes and models of firearms. We love that small-business success story and are grateful for the copies of the Foundation's booklet Tod sends out with each holster he handcrafts and ships.



Simply Rugged Holsters

<https://www.simplyrugged.com>

Rob Leahy's Simply Rugged Holsters is another business that grew from a hobby, into a home business, and then into a thriving holster shop. A few years ago, a mutual friend introduced Rob to Network President Marty Hayes while all three were at the Gunsite Alumni Shoot. Our affiliation with these good folks was the result. We appreciate the support of Rob and his wife, Jan, and their holster-building crew and thank them for

the many copies of our Foundation's booklet that they have shipped out with their holsters.

Too Many Generous Individuals to Name

In addition to financial support from the Network and our corporate sponsors, our Foundation is the grateful recipient of monetary donations from many individuals, both Network members and members of the public who believe, as we do, that the need for public understanding of the issues surrounding legitimate use of force in self defense has never been greater.

We send each of you a resounding "Thank you!"

Meeting the Need

<https://armedcitizensnetwork.org/educational-foundation>

<https://armedcitizenstv.org>

With friends like these the Foundation's future is bright. We recognize that there are many opportunities to reach the gun-owning public with our Foundation's message of safety, responsibility and help armed citizens – both experienced and new – understand the legal implications of using force in self defense. This past year, we've expanded the Foundation's outreach into video through Armed Citizens' TV, knowing this format reaches a lot of people who may not sit down and read much, but still need to understand the important issues that attach to use of force in self defense. Our Foundation and its supporters are doing our part to explain those issues.



About the Network's Online Journal

The *eJournal* of the Armed Citizens' Legal Defense Network, Inc. is published monthly on the Network's website at <https://armedcitizensnetwork.org/our-journal>. Content is copyrighted by the Armed Citizens' Legal Defense Network, Inc.

Do not mistake information presented in this online publication for legal advice; it is not. The Network strives to assure that information published in this journal is both accurate and useful. Reader, it is your responsibility to consult your own attorney to receive professional assurance that this information and your interpretation or understanding of it is accurate, complete and appropriate with respect to your particular situation.

In addition, material presented in our opinion columns is entirely the opinion of the bylined author and is intended to provoke thought and discussion among readers.

To submit letters and comments about content in the eJournal, please contact editor Gila Hayes by e-mail sent to editor@armedcitizensnetwork.org.

The Armed Citizens' Legal Defense Network, Inc. receives its direction from these corporate officers:

Marty Hayes, President

J. Vincent Shuck, Vice President

Gila Hayes, Operations Manager

We welcome your questions and comments about the Network.

Please write to us at info@armedcitizensnetwork.org or PO Box 400, Onalaska, WA 98570 or call us at 360-978-5200.

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