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# D.S.S.A. NEWS

DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
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## A TASTE OF TYRANNY

By: Ingrid M. Sigler  
Former First Lady of the NRA

I am an immigrant and a naturalized citizen. My parents brought me here to the United States of America from war-torn Europe when I was ten years old. My parents and older brother lived through World War Two. My father was taken into Germany as slave labor, my mother survived by fleeing her home with my older brother, living in the countryside, hiding with a farm family until the Americans liberated Holland.

We came here to be free. My parents lived the American dream, rising from abject poverty to build their own business, free to make their own way and to pursue happiness – life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, just like it says in the Preamble to our beloved Constitution. I have experienced the “Blessings of Liberty” and I am thankful for each and every one of those “blessings”.

Today is my birthday. I wish I could say that it is a “happy birthday”, but it’s not. This birthday, in the year 2020 is like no other. Our country and our State are in virtual lock-down. Our people are fearful for their safety and the health of their families, and our government has given us a small peek at what totalitarianism must be like. I fear for my adopted country, and I fear for our constitutional form of government.

I remember years ago, soon after I was married, I became interested in reading the writings of our country’s Founding Fathers. I was reading a compendium of letters exchanged between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson when I realized that those gentlemen were more free than as English subjects than we were when I was reading that book over 40 years ago – **and they fought a revolution** – amazing. And, look at us now. Let me be clear, I fully appreciate the seriousness of COVID-19 and I pray that our nation will soon recover from its impact. But, perhaps this pandemic-era though which we are now living has a silver lining from which we might actually learn something.

Perhaps this panic and the resulting confused reaction from our political elites have shown us what the future could bring if we are not careful – perhaps they have given us a taste of tyranny from which we can learn – learn that it can happen here just as it has happened elsewhere.

The Constitution says that government cannot interfere with private contract rights – but it has.

The Constitution says that government cannot interfere with free speech – but it has.

The Constitution says that government cannot interfere with the right to assemble – but it has.

The Constitution says that government cannot interfere with our right to associate with others – but it has.

The Constitution says that government cannot interfere with the right to worship – but it has.

The Constitution says that government cannot take what is ours without just compensation – but it has – just ask the business owners who are losing their businesses.

The Constitution says that government officials cannot stop you without a warrant or without either probable cause or a reasonable and articulable suspicion that a crime is being, has been or is about to be committed – but they are doing it every day, all in the name of “safety”.

The Constitution says that government cannot infringe upon the right to keep and bear arms – but it has – first by closing gun stores against their will and then by limiting their hours of operation and the number of people who can enter those stores (2 per ½ hour) during those limited hours of operation.

And now they want to open Congress and the various state legislatures – including our own, but deny citizens the

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right to enter, to hear and be heard, and to actively interact with their elected officials and representatives – all in the name of safety. Our Constitution says they can't do that – but they will, just watch. They did it in Maryland and now over 600 bills are constitutionally suspect.

No, today is not a “happy birthday” – my adopted country that I love so much is in trouble. The freedoms I hold so dear have been eroded and may be in danger of disappearing forever.

I am an American – and I am proud to be an American. But the America I came to so many years ago is very difficult to recognize.

During the American Civil War, Lincoln ignored the Constitution and suspended Habeas Corpus, and a number of other Constitutional safeguards – and the Supreme Court let him do it.

I wonder what the Supreme Court will say about what is happening here today? Will it do what it did in the Dred Scott decision, Plessy v. Ferguson and Korematsu v. U.S., ignoring constitutional safeguards and just “go along to get along”? Or will the United States Supreme Court do its job and stand up against governmental overreach as it did in Brown v. Board of Education, Mapp v. Ohio, Miranda v. Arizona, and the Heller and McDonald decisions? How about the Delaware courts – will they do their jobs, or will they buckle under pressure from the other two branches of government and the so-called popular press?

And when will our Senators, Representatives and other elected officials wake up and recognize the damage they are doing to American Freedom? Tomorrow? Next week? Next month? Next year? Ever?

I am not as smart as a lot of other people, and I don't have a bunch of fancy degrees hanging on my wall. I don't have the answer to the ills and threats facing our country right now. But I do know that Benjamin Franklin was right when he said that “Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety.”

Maybe I'm wrong. I hope I am. Maybe it is a “happy birthday” after all. Maybe this current taste of tyranny will cause America to wake up and appreciate the freedoms our Constitution guarantees us and maybe Americans will fight to ensure that we never taste tyranny again.

When Benjamin Franklin was asked “what hath ye wrought” as he was leaving Independence Hall upon the signing of our Constitution, he is reported as replying “A Republic, if you can keep it”.

Perhaps we should heed Ben Franklin's warning.

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## **-Spotlight on Member Clubs- Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club**

By: Steve Myers  
Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club

Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club, Inc. nestled in Sussex County has been a hidden gem for Delaware sportsmen for nearly 50 years. The Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club (NSC) is spread over only about 20 acres of ground, hidden between Concord and Bethel just east of Seaford. NSC boasts 15 different ranges for Pistols, Rifles, Shotguns, and Archery. While we are a membership based club for the benefit of our members we also host a variety of monthly and seasonal shooting activities which are open to the public.

When you drive anywhere around “Slower/Lower” Delaware, you will notice new housing developments popping up throughout Sussex County. As a result of this growth, NSC has experienced a considerable increase in membership as these new Sussex County residents escaping states with higher tax burdens and more restrictive firearm laws look for, and find, a new place to pursue the shooting sports. We at NSC can always use more gun friendly residents, 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment supporters and voters to help us preserve our heritage.

NSC has five dedicated rifle and pistol ranges, a trap Range with 2 trap machines under lights, separate pistol ranges with 4 bays for Steel Challenge (Action Pistol) and lastly a separate “Police Range” for our Black Powder events, D.L.E.M.A. competition and Law Enforcement training of Sussex Correctional and local Law Enforcement agencies.

The two rifle ranges include a short range set up for 25, 50 and 100 yards and a longer rifle range which is set up for 50, 75, 100, 150 and 200 yards with the 50 and 100 yard ranges also having pre-set AR 500 steel plates for additional shooter enjoyment that most clubs don't offer. The 3 pistol ranges are 25 yards with multiple target frames and are also under cover. The Trap Range is open Wednesday evenings at dusk, our Steel Challenge is open the third Sunday of the month at 9:00 AM and Black Powder rifle and pistol are open on select Saturdays; all those activities also open to the public.

The Indoor Pistol Range is open Monday Evenings (public invited) with other opening days and times being planned. Archery enthusiasts will no-doubt enjoy our newly added indoor electronic 4D archery range, which is the only one of its kind within 500 miles of Delaware. The other Archery targets and 3D Archery course are laid out in trails behind the club house.

We are also partnered with Delaware Tactical, [www.delawaretactical.com](http://www.delawaretactical.com) a Delaware-based company which teaches the Delaware CCW course to our members and the public, as well as offering other advanced training on NSC ranges. These are, of course, fee based classes. So you can see we at NSC can offer quite a bit of recreational shooting opportunity for such a small package!

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## Nanticoke Public Event Activities and Schedule

**Action Pistol/Steel Challenge** - \$5 - 3rd Sunday @ 8:30 AM  
**Trap** - \$4/round - Wednesdays @ Dusk (Shoot under Lights)  
**Indoor Pistol** - \$5 Mondays @ 6:00 PM -(Winter Months Only)  
**Indoor 4D Archery** - Coming in March, schedule TBA  
**3D Archery** – Seasonal Events – check programs on web site  
**Black Powder** - \$5 - 1st and 3rd Saturday @ 10:00 AM  
**D.L.E.M.A.** - 2nd Saturday @ 9:00 AM - Police Range - \$12.00 membership/\$8.00 range fee

Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club actively supports our Second Amendment Rights: we all know our Gun Rights have been under attack the last several years and I am afraid to say it's probably going to get worse before it gets any better. Any Second Amendment and Article 1 Section 20 successes have been dependent on the actions of our D.S.S.A. and D.G.R. in Legislative Hall. Now more than ever it is important for all of our organizations to unify, as D.S.S.A. President Jeff Hague outlined when our Delaware Sportsmen's Clubs all met with D.S.S.A. representatives in March 2019. We believe that the Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club as well as other sportsmen's clubs in Delaware are the second layer of support for generating enthusiasm for opposing bad, and supporting good, 2A legislation.

Please view Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club web site [www.shootnsc.org](http://www.shootnsc.org) for further information. The top header will guide you. Public events are under the "Programs" header. NSC also offers 2A News and Legislative Alerts found on the top header of web site. For any additional information, please send an E-mail to: [info@shootnsc.org](mailto:info@shootnsc.org)

Please View the NSC Calendar for Scheduled Events or Any Cancellations – the special activity gate is 100 yards east of main club electronic gate, and is open for all public events.

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## Will Pandemic Fears Grease the Way for Authoritarian Gun Controls?

Lawmakers are peddling restrictions on self-defense and other rights to a frightened public.

By: J.D. Tuccille  
Submitted by John Sigler  
<https://reason.com/2020/04/01/will-pandemic-fears-grease-the-way-for-authoritarian-gun-controls>



Draconian bills to restrict self-defense rights have a life of their own in Congress. There's always one lurking in the background, individually unlikely to become law, but ready to be deployed if a suitable high-profile crime or convenient crisis emerges to ease its passage. And that brings us to the "Gun Violence Prevention and Community Safety Act of 2020," a far-reaching bill hovering in the legislative shadows as the COVID-19 pandemic fuels fears around the globe and breaks down barriers to authoritarian measures.

Introduced in the Senate and the House at the end of January by Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Rep. Hank Johnson (D-Ga.), the bill would impose federal licensing for guns and ammunition, require universal background checks, ban so-called "assault weapons," outlaw normal-capacity magazines, regulate DIY firearms, and otherwise impose the full wish list of restrictions sought by those who envision armed government ruling over disarmed subjects.

With its massive intrusions into rights deeply cherished by much of the population, the proposed law is a recipe for massive noncompliance, confrontations between people and enforcers, and deepened political divisions. It's also exactly the sort of legislation that is usually dead on arrival, killed by opponents in Congress. But these aren't normal times. Officials with fever dreams of expanded power thrive on the fear generated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As the coronavirus pandemic brings the world to a juddering halt and anxious citizens demand action, leaders across the globe are invoking executive powers and seizing virtually dictatorial authority with scant resistance," The New York Times warned on March 30.

"The laws are taking swift hold across a broad range of political systems—in authoritarian states like Jordan, faltering democracies like Hungary, and traditional democracies like Britain. And there are few sunset provisions to ensure that the powers will be rescinded once the threat passes," the Times added.

The restrictions described in the article are wide-ranging, covering everything from detaining people, to surveillance, to censorship of speech aimed at politicians and policies.

In the U.S., the Department of Justice floated the idea of indefinite detention—holding people without trial until such time as the emergency ends, if ever. California Gov. Gavin Newsom speculated about the possibility of martial law "if we feel the necessity." Washington D.C.'s Mayor Muriel Bowser wants to arrest anybody who ventures from home for an unapproved reason (and toss them in a virus-ridden jail). And jurisdictions across the country have ordered gun stores—among other "nonessential" businesses—closed for the duration of the crisis (although Los Angeles County and New Jersey are among those that walked back the orders under public pressure and threat of legal action).

These overreaching public officials are enabled by fear. "All animals experience fear—human beings, perhaps, most of all. Any animal incapable of fear would have been hard pressed to survive," wrote economic historian Robert Higgs in 2005. The author of *Crisis and Leviathan* (1987), a book-length

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examination of how bad times drive government to grow in power and scope, Higgs added: "The people who have the effrontery to rule us, who call themselves our government, understand this basic fact of human nature. They exploit it, and they cultivate it."

That's exactly the playbook followed by Warren and Johnson in selling their gun control bill. They play to the fear many members of the public have of dangers beyond their control, and their desire to be "saved" from peril.

"Sweeping Bill Implements a Series of Common-Sense Reforms to Address Deadly Crisis," Warren's and Johnson's joint press release trumpeted on January 30, before the COVID-19 pandemic was more than a glimmer in most government officials' eyes. "This big, bold proposal—which combines and builds upon a number of common-sense measures introduced by my colleagues in Congress—would treat the epidemic of gun violence in the United States like the public health crisis that it is, help protect our children, and make our communities safer."

The press release describes a country rife with violence "in homes and on sidewalks, in schools and supermarkets, in places of worship and workplaces," with the risk especially great for kids. It invokes very scary stuff—deliberately so—in an effort to manipulate the public into supporting greater restrictions on personal liberty.

What Warren and Johnson don't address in their marketing efforts for authoritarian legislation is that "violent crime declined 3.3 percent between 2017 and 2018" according to FBI descriptions of the latest statistics. Or that "the two most commonly cited sources of crime statistics in the U.S. both show a substantial decline in the violent crime rate since it peaked in the early 1990s," as Pew Research noted last fall.

Nor do Warren, Johnson, and their colleagues discuss the inevitable resistance their proposed gun controls will meet—as such laws always do—from the gun owners at whom they're targeted. Banning private sales is entirely beyond reach when Connecticut and New York can't even get people to comply with registration.

The lawmakers also ignore the ultimate cost in liberty and lives from attempts to enforce such restrictions on the unwilling.

Instead, what the lawmakers emphasize is a frightening yet bogus "crisis" involving a made-up "epidemic"—and they managed to do so in promotion of their bill just as a real crisis-sized epidemic rolled into our lives.

That doesn't mean that the "Gun Violence Prevention and Community Safety Act of 2020" will pass, but it does mean that this is the right moment for authoritarian laws and practices of all sorts. It also means that this particular legislative monstrosity is being sold in precisely the most effective way for such a moment.

As I write, Columbia Law School is holding an online conference on "states of emergency and government powers in and after the pandemic" that asks "are governments overreaching?" The clear answer would appear to be a resounding "yes" across the board. At risk are rights regarding

economic freedom, speech, due process, and—if Senator Warren and Rep. Johnson have their way—self-defense.

Pushing back against bills like the "Gun Violence Prevention and Community Safety Act of 2020" isn't important just for self-defense rights; it's a necessary part of a larger campaign to put governments on notice to stop exploiting fear and crises to expand their power.

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## **Instructors Corner**

### **New and Seasoned Pistol Instructors**

**By: Roger Boyce**

It's very common for a pistol shooter to assume that they can teach someone how to shoot a pistol. Unfortunately, unless the new shooter is a natural, it's much harder and more complex than it looks.

Teaching someone to shoot a handgun ranges from easy to very difficult. Every student is unique and brings along with them their own set of issues. This article is provided in an effort to help new instructors recognize, diagnose and resolve some of those more common issues.

We start with assuming that the student has been instructed in the fundamentals of shooting a pistol: Stance, Grip, Aiming- Sight Alignment and Sight Picture, Hold Control, Breath Control, Trigger Control and Follow Through. We pick up in this article with range instructional "best practices" and working out a student's problems while shooting.

Let's start with the most common mistakes a new instructor makes and some suggestions for getting started:

#### **Watching the target instead of the student's hands.**

The instructor stares at the target while the student is taking a shot so they can see the shot placement. The instructor gets baffled after 20 shots because the student isn't getting any better. It's because you haven't taught them anything.

Some shooting problems can be diagnosed by looking at the target, but many problems will produce similar results on the target. Slapping the trigger and anticipating a shot can produce the same shot group of low left for a right-handed shooter. Target diagnostics must be done in conjunction with watching the "hands and face" of the shooter.

#### **Starting Distance**

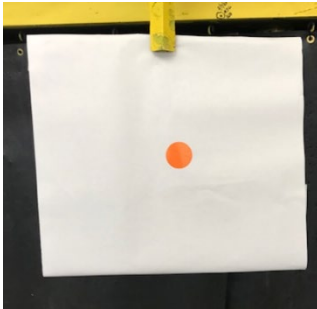
It is best to start the shooter approximately 21' from the target. At this distance most new shooters should be able to keep the shot on paper. After the shooter can produce a 6" group at 21', move them back to a more challenging distance. That distance will vary with the student. It's best to move them back in 10' increments to a maximum of 50'. At 50', even the slightest issue will be dramatically displayed on the target. All target photos in this article are taken with the shooter at 50'. All further discussion in this article assumes a shooting distance of 50'. This is because at 50', it's impossible to hide



subtle problems that are obscured at a lesser distance. Again, start at 21' to get the student comfortable and allow them to have some success. Otherwise frustration will set in very quickly.

### Instructional Targets

The best way is to start with a clean target that is large enough to see any stray hits. Have the backing at least 36" x 36" in size. The cheapest way is to use old architectural drawings (48" x 36" E size) reversed to the back side of the drawing and stapled to a large piece of cardboard. Put a self-adhesive 3" dot in the center as the aiming point or use a felt tip marker and make a dot large enough to see.



Cheap, easy to see hits or misses

Have the shooter take a shot and watch the shooter's hands and face. After the shot turn to the target and find the shot. Does the shot placement correspond to what you are seeing in the shooter? Do this for five or six shots and see if there is a consistent pattern. After about 10 shots it's not easy to see the most recent shot placement (because there are too many hits to remember each location) so you will have to change out with a clean target. You will have to change targets every 10 rounds or so until you work out any problems. Just staple a new piece of drawing paper over the old one and add a new aiming dot.

### First Shots

Many new shooters will have at least one, and in some cases multiple problems that are preventing the shooter from shooting well. The instructor has to watch the student (and target) and diagnose what the problem is. If the instructor suspects multiple problems, solve one problem at a time. This will be discussed later in this article.

### Grip and Stance

A good grip and stance can vary dramatically from shooter-to-shooter and from gun-to-gun but there are some basics that should be the starting point for a new student.

**Grip** - Using an auto pistol, start a student with the thumbs forward grip. This grip is graphically explained in the NRA Basic Pistol and other books on the market. For the revolver, the crossed thumbs grip is standard.

Please ensure that the 'web' of your shooter's hand won't experience 'slide bite' when the slide reciprocates when shooting a semi-auto pistol.



Ensure that your shooter's fingers aren't intruding into the area of the forcing cone (red arrow) when shooting a revolver



Photos from NRA Guide Basics of Pistol Shooting by NRA

### Some key points to note about grip.

The shooting hand (right hand in this description) absorbs most of the recoil. It is very important that the joints in the wrist and arm be aligned to allow the skeletal frame to direct the recoil and give resistance to the recoil so that the gun can cycle properly. Depending upon the type of shooting, the grip will vary from relaxed to choking the gun. For a new shooter, the grip should be relaxed.

The strong hand needs to be placed as high on the backstrap of the gun as possible to get the bore axis (center of the barrel) as close to the right-hand grip as possible. This minimizes the amount of leverage the recoil action will have upon the wrist.

The left hand provides approximately 70% of the recoil management of the firing sequence. Due to the bore axis of the gun being higher than the right-hand grip, the gun recoil creates a muzzle flip where during the recoil, the muzzle rises trying to roll the gun over the right hand.

The left-hand grip must counter this flip/rolling action so as not to drain energy from the recoil spring and allow the gun to cycle as designed. This is accomplished through a firm, pinching grip on the left side of the gun frame, by wrapping around the three gripping fingers of the right hand to the right side of the gun.

Due to the design of the gun, revolvers require a different grip. The "both thumbs forward grip" with a revolver is dangerous due to the gas and flash expulsion from the front of the cylinder. Burns and extreme damage can occur to a thumb that is in the path of the gas that is ejecting from the point where the cylinder mates with the forcing cone entering the

barrel. This gas is being ejected at a right angle in direct line with a thumbs-forward grip. As a student becomes more experienced and evolves into a shooter, the grip will morph to fit the gun and type of shooting.

Stance plays a very important role. Most importantly, stance (in combination with the grip) is used to manage recoil and allow the gun to cycle properly. Be it an isosceles or Weaver or some variant of both, they all have some basic concerns. It is very common so see a student arch their back to compensate for the weight of the gun. This will allow the recoil to push the body backwards and absorb the recoil.

The feet should be spaced far enough apart to ensure a stable footing. Some may be square to the target or bladed, but the space between the feet needs to provide for stability fore-and-aft, side-to-side. The body needs to be able to resist a modest push.

The body (stance) needs to slightly lean forward into the gun. The shooter's weight should be on the balls of their feet. The most common phrase is "nose over toes". Flex the knees and balance. This allows the body to brace for the push of the gun and helps align the skeletal frame. The recoil of the gun will start at the gun hand, through the wrist, along the arm, into the shoulder and down the skeletal frame.



### Finger Placement

Start off with showing the student where to place their finger on the trigger. This will vary with gun and action type.

- For most auto pistols start with the trigger finger placed on the trigger in the center of the finger pad between the tip of the finger and the first joint.
- For double action and heavy triggers, one may have to place the finger on the trigger at the first finger joint (more finger on the trigger).
- For very light competition or target pistols with a very light trigger pull, the finger placement may be closer to the tip of the finger (less finger).



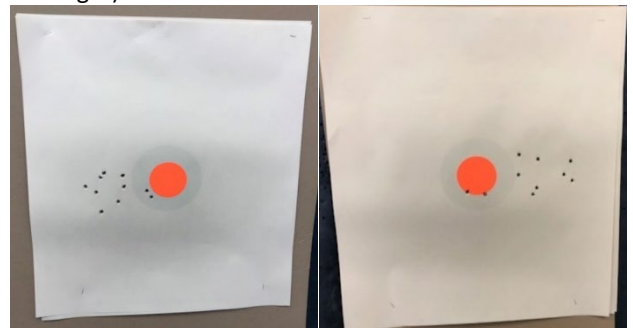
**Center of pad placement.** Notice that the finger is on an angle so it is not natural to press the trigger straight back. It has to be learned.



Heavy double action trigger pulls require more finger on the trigger

The whole purpose of finger placement is to allow the finger to press the trigger in a straight, rearward movement. The problem is that ergonomically (in the position that shooting hand and fingers are placed on the gun), the trigger finger naturally wants to move in an arching movement, not straight line. As the finger of a right-handed shooter contracts, its tendency is to pull the trigger (and frame of the gun) to the right. To press the trigger smoothly without disturbing the sight picture, the finger must move in a near straight line to the rear because that's how the trigger is going to move. Any force applied in any direction other than straight back will cause the shot to drift right or left.

Too much or too little finger on the trigger can cause shots to drift to the left (too little finger) or drift to the right (too much finger).



*Too little finger*

*Too much finger*

Make sure that the student is putting their finger in the center of the trigger vertically. It should not be at the end of the trigger or up against the frame of the gun. The trigger finger should rest naturally at a point somewhere near the center of the trigger arc. As the student gets more experience, the finger may move a little in one direction or another, but to start get them to begin as described.

Although it's beyond the scope of this discussion, it's worth mentioning that trigger design plays a significant role in the whole finger placement discussion. Many triggers are hinged at one point creating a natural arc of movement which complicates the goal of pressing the finger straight back with a constant and even pressure. Other triggers slide in a rearward movement reducing the complexity.

Trigger travel, take-up slack, weight, over travel and other design and mechanical considerations all play a role in this discussion but not for the beginning shooter. As the student gets more experience and into different types of shooting, they can explore all those issues in depth.

Next time we will go into more detail on triggering, and pick up where we left off.

## Bio and Credits

### Author - Roger Boyce

Roger is a NRA Training Counselor, USPSA Range Officer and competitive shooter. Roger is the Director of Education and Safety at the Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club and Vice President of the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association.

### Technical Advisor: US Army MSG/E8 Victor Consiglio

Master Sergeant Consiglio has been a military and civilian firearms instructor for 30 years. USAR Distinguished in Pistol and Rifle and is presently the armorer for the Delaware National Guard. Vic is also an NRA Instructor and serves on the Board of Directors at the Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club.

### Technical Editor: Chris Narwold

Chris is an NRA Certified Pistol Instructor and Certified Range Safety Officer. As a professional technical writer for 32 years he has authored and edited hundreds of technical articles and published technical papers in peer reviewed journals. Chris also serves on the Board of Directors at the Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club.

### Editor: Dr. Barbara Boyce

Barbara is an NRA Certified Pistol Instructor, USPSA Range Officer and competitor in the production and carry optics divisions. Barbara also serves as Secretary of the Board of Directors for the Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club where she runs all ladies shooting and instructional events.

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## 2020 Orange Blossom Regional Mid-Range Match

By: Frank Nedza

The Orange Blossom Regional in sunny Melbourne, Florida has become a must-attend match for many of us 'Northerners', and loads of other people throughout the country. This year's event was no exception. For those that aren't familiar with the match, overall it is really three major

matches that run consecutively. The first is a week-long Across-The-Course match (XTC) which was held on March 7-15, this is directly followed by a week-long Mid-Range match, held on March 16-22, and lastly there are three days of F-Class action as well. Many, many thanks to Brad and Terry, and their dedicated crew of match volunteers –doing three weeks of everyday 'cat herding' is no picnic for sure!! There were flags from 25 of our 50 states present this year, indicating folks from half the country were in attendance. No mean feat considering what has been going on these days.



The Bridgeville Rifle and Pistol Club was well represented this year, with 6 of us able to make the trip for the Mid-Range prone regional. The match format is a day of team matches (2-man team), followed by 4 days of mid-range matches, which in this case means 20 records shots each day at 300, 500, and 600 yards for a total of 240 shots or 2400 possible points, and lastly finishing out with 4-man team matches. This match is shot entirely on Silver Mountain electronic targets, so there is very little pit duty –only a little bit of help with setup and takedown each day.

**Saturday, March 14th;** Departure Day! This year, we decided to take two whole days to make the 1000 mile trip. It made for a long day on day one, getting into southern South Carolina before stopping for the night, and a short day on day two, arriving in Florida in the early afternoon with time to go shopping for groceries and other match day necessities before hitting the sack.

**Monday, March 16th;** Practice day. After signing in, and greeting old friends, we were able to have a bit of organized practice and shake out the cobwebs, as this would be the first opportunity for some folks to shoot in quite a while. This was a good opportunity to confirm (or get) zero's at each of the yard lines we would be firing in the match (300, 500, and 600 yards). It was pretty warm, at 90 degrees, especially when compared to my last match in February with a 21 degree start temperature... Many of us unaccustomed to the heat were sweating bullets by the time we got back to the 600 yard firing line.

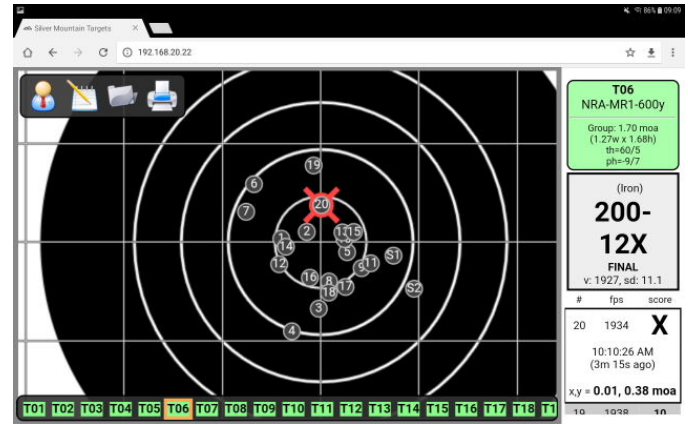


**Tuesday, March 17th; 2-Man Team Matches!** Bridgeville was able to field 3, two man (or person 😊) teams; –in the two man format, each member takes turns acting as wind coach and shooting the match. We shot 2 sighting shots at each yard line (300, 500, 600 yards) with 20 shots for record. There were a total of 27 two-man teams competing. The Bridgeville Gold Team consisted of Rich Kussman and Don Phister, Bridgeville Silver was Jon Howell and Mike Schallow, and Bridgeville Blue was Frank and Madonna Nedza. The Bridgeville Teams were all shooting Palma rifles against other teams who were mostly shooting scoped rifles. The winning team of John Cogshall and Scott Tolley dropped a total of two points for the day, posting 1198-92X!! Bridgeville two-man team results are below;

**Bridgeville Silver -1188-61X**  
**Bridgeville Blue -1183-53X**  
**Bridgeville Gold -1182-50X**

**Wednesday, March 18th; Regional Match Day 1.** Wednesday saw the start of the Regional matches where we would be firing 20 record shots each at 300, 500, and 600 yards. The rifle classes are Any Rifle/Any Sight, AR-Tactical Rifle, Service Rifle, and Palma Rifle. In Any Rifle/Any Sight, the scores were pretty incredible. John Cogshall took the day with a super-nice 600-46X! Second place was had by Tom Colston, with a 600-39X. In fact, there were a total of five perfect scores shot in that category. Dropping one point (599/600) got you... sixth place... In AR-Tactical, Grand Senior David Blouin posted a nice 587-25X for the win. Army Guard member Sam Freeman posted the win for Service Rifle with a 591-22X. In the Palma category, Kent Reeve posted a 598-42X for the win, followed closely by my friend, Keith Hoverstad with a nice 595-26X (iron sights and all).

**Thursday, March 19th; Regional Match Day 2.** In case you weren't paying attention to the day one scores, there were some darned good shooters present at this match. In Any rifle, Denver Gillham put up the only perfect score of 600-37X –he was followed closely by Michael Hester, who posted a nice 599-43X! Dropping two points today got you ...eighth place. Harry Davis, (another Grand Senior) was the winner in AR-Tactical with a 589-24X, with Sam Freeman taking the win in Service Rifle by posting a 594-24X. In the Palma rifle category, Kent Reeve posted a 600-42X for the win shooting clean for the day. He was followed by Keith Steckmeyer, shooting a 597-31X. Honestly, when Kent is there, the competition is for second place most of the time. Nobody minds though, as he is a great guy, and obviously a fierce competitor. We try to keep him on his toes and honest though 😊. Day two also saw Madonna Nedza shoot her first 600 yard clean with a Palma Rifle at 200-12X!



**Friday, March 20th; Regional Match Day 3.** There is that Cogshall guy again! John is shooting lights out these days for sure, and posted a nice 599-52X for the category win. Note that of 60 record shots, 52 of them were X's!! YIKES! John was closely followed by Kenny Lankford, who posted a nice 599-47X. Dropping two pints today got you... eighth place... Harry Davis took the win in AR-Tactical class posting a 589-23X. In Service Rifle, Sam Freeman came through again posting a 595-30X. That is three days of winning so far with a Service Rifle using only a 4.5 power scope! That is some hard holding for sure! In Palma Rifle, Kent Reeve shot a 599-43X for the class win, followed by Keith Hoverstad again, who shot a nice 595-37X.

**Saturday, March 21st; Regional Match Day 4.** Competition was fierce again on day four of the individual matches. In Any Rifle, John Cogshall was the winner with a 600-50X, followed by Scott Tolley, who posted a 600-44X. In fact, the top four finishers in Any Rifle today all shot 600 scores! Dropping one point today got you ...fifth place, and dropping two points put you at ninth. In AR-Tactical, David Blouin scored a 598-33X for the win. In Service Rifle, Army Guard member Michael Jones broke Sam Freeman's hold on the winning with a 599-25X. In Palma, Kent Reeve took the win with a 600-45X, with me keeping him honest 😊 at 599-37X. After all that work, the hungry (and tired) shooters headed to the Pavilion for a well-earned Bar-B-Que, and the Stats folks got to work figuring out where everyone stood for the overall. I will hit the top three in each category below

Category	Place	Name	Score
Any Rifle/Any Sight	1	John Cogshall	2398-189X
Any Rifle/Any Sight	2	Jon Howell	2395-163X
Any Rifle/Any Sight	3	James Treacy	2395-155X
AR-Tactical	1	Harry Davis	2354-89X
AR-Tactical	2	David Blouin	2352-104X
AR-Tactical	3	H. Rockwell Prout	2345-80X
Service Rifle	1	Sam Freeman	2377-110X
Service Rifle	2	Michael Jones	2366-95X
Service Rifle	3	John McNally	2348-83X
Palma Rifle	1	Kent Reeve	2397-172X
Palma Rifle	2	Keith Hoverstad	2384-132X
Palma Rifle	3	Mike Schallow	2380-117X



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## Bridgeville Club Members Individual Results

### Any Rifle/ Any Sight

Jon Howell 2395-163X  
Rich Kussman 2393-150X

### Palma rifle (Iron Sights)

Mike Schallow 2380-117X  
Frank Nedza 2372-124X  
Don Phister 2372-86X  
Madonna Nedza 2350-99X



**Sunday, March 22th; 4-Man Team Matches!** In this format, there are generally two people who act as wind coaches, with all 4 team members rotating through firing 2 sighter shots and 20 record shots at each yard line. Each team is given a 'block time' of 97 minutes to rotate all four members of the team through firing each yard line, so not only do you have to have a good wind coach, but the coaches also need to be OK at time management, as any rounds not fired in the time allotted would be counted as misses (minus 10 points each). There were a total of seven teams participating this year. The Bridgeville club put up one team for this match, with Don Phister serving as our wind coach (Thanks Coach!) and with Madonna Nedza serving as team scorer. The Bridgeville Team took third place in this event posting a very nice combined score of 2386-120X, again shooting Palma rifles (iron sights) against the scoped rifles and hot-rod calibers used by most other teams. In spite of that, we only lost to the winning team by seven points. Pretty nice work I think (and a great time with friends)!

### 4-Man Team Results (top three)

All-Guard Cogshall 2393-169X  
STDs 2388-128X  
Bridgeville Gold 2386-120X

Anyone who is interested can get more detailed information about scores here;  
<http://www.orangeblossomregional.com/match-scores/>

**Summary** –As always, we had great time attending this fun and well-run match! We had seven straight days of

shooting in nice, warm (at times too warm) conditions with friends both old and new –who could ask for anything more? My sincere thanks to the folks that run this match –the Match Director, Stats Officer, all the line help, and all the folks keeping things running in the pits –you all made this a great experience for all of us, and I for one will definitely be back next year. Given all the shutdowns and match cancellations caused by the Corona Virus this year, I am especially glad I went, as it remains unclear when we will be able to get back to shooting matches. For those reading this and thinking that you aren't ready for that level of competition, I say 'Balderdash'. Yes, there are some pretty awesome shooters there, for sure. But, I will tell you that it is a neat experience being around SO MANY great shooters –it shows us what is possible, and gives us all something to work towards. Those great shooters are all willing to help you if only you ask! If you ever have the itch to get out shooting in early March, you couldn't find a better place to do it than the Orange Blossom Regional! I know that I will be going again next year!

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## KAHR K9's Silver Jubilee

By: Justin Opinion

As originally published by GunsAmerica.com/digest on November 15, 2019



Celebrating milestones is one of society's most practiced traditions. We have birthdays and anniversaries for nearly every possible thing or event imaginable. In part, it is a way to admire and recognize the achievement of longevity in a world made of fleeting things. Whether it be celebrating the duration of our grandparent's marriage or the number of years we graduated high school – we love a parade for things that last.



*Special custom aluminum grips from Hogue adorn the 25-year edition and offer excellent texture. The author appreciates the exploding 3D boxes in the grip texture as 'read' from left to right.*

This is especially true for products that endure in markets that can be fickle and heavily competitive. And if the market for a small concealable 9mm handgun isn't the poster child of that concept, then I don't know what is. Twenty-five years ago, Kahr Arms introduced the K9 pistol to the market. Striker fired, yet made of solid stainless steel. Tiny compared to everything else on the market, yet more rugged and reliable than most. And while meant to be carried covertly, it is quite pleasing to the eye.



*Is this a pretty gun that happens to be tough, or a tough gun that happens to be pretty?*

The K9 really helped define Kahr Arms and has its DNA in everything they've made since. When you consider how many handguns come to market amid much fanfare and then quietly fade away, the celebration of a silver anniversary for the K9 is indeed something special, and a parade worth going to.



*Each pistol is engraved on both sides of the muzzle with the "25 years" artwork, just ahead of the exclusive front serrations.*

To celebrate this grand achievement, Kahr Arms is producing a Limited Edition 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary K9. Only 500 of these unique pistols will be made, each engraved with its individual number. In addition, the pistol comes as a special 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary package that includes several custom extras. At its core though, it is still the same sound and solid K9 that helped create a revolution in the handgun industry, and put Kahr on the map.



*Your pistol is made unique by the engraved series number, in this case showing that this gun is number 145 of a total of 500 that will be made.*

The anniversary edition pistol is the same K9 that Kahr offers in several other configurations – just made special by its exclusive aesthetics and extras, as one would expect. Here is a summary of those 'extras':





The polished barrel shines nicely through the intricate cuts in the top of the slide. The barrel is not ported; these cuts are strictly ornamental, although they do reduce a little weight.



### **KAHR K9 25<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Extras**

- Ported / Lightened slide
- Front slide serrations
- Polished barrel and Ejector
- Custom engraved "25 years"
- Sniper Grey Cerakote finish
- Custom Hogue® Aluminum grips
- Matching 1791 leather holster
- x of 500 custom engraved number
- 2 7-round and 1 8-round magazine

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary K9 also includes a certificate of authenticity – with the same gun number. In this case, the gun that Kahr sent me for review is number 145 of 500. I had seen photos of the pistol before receiving it, so I had a good idea what to expect, but I was still a bit surprised at the beauty of the finish in person. Kahr calls it "Sniper Grey" – it's a Cerakote finish and done to perfection.



The 'Sniper Grey' Cerakote finish was an excellent choice for this special gun, and it as tough as it is pretty. The polished barrel hood looks right at home against it.

The aluminum grips that were custom made by **Hogue** set it off beautifully. The grips include "Kahr" engraved on one side panel, and "K9" on the other. In addition to being quite fetching to look at, they offer a nice sturdy grasp on the gun, and should be very durable. The front strap was left baby's butt smooth, and while it might be tempting to lament the lack of checkering there, I think that was the right decision.



### **KAHR K9 25<sup>TH</sup>**

- Chambering: 9mm
- Barrel: 3.5" Polygonal rifling
- OA Length: 6.0"
- Weight: 25 oz. w/empty mag
- Width: 0.9" | Height: 4.5"
- Grips: Custom Hogue® Aluminum
- Sights: TruGlo® Tritium Night Sights
- Action: DAO striker fired
- Finish: Cerakote over Stainless
- Capacity: 7+1 / 8+1
- MSRP: \$1,649

The dimensions and mechanics are no different than the standard production K9, which is of course a fine handgun in any of the half-dozen or so configurations available. Kahr outfitted the Anniversary gun with **TruGlo** night sights, which contain tritium to illuminate in darkness. Three magazines are also provided. I received two 7-round mags and one 8-rounder with slightly extended baseplate. They are single-stack magazines, and have two extras on you while carrying the pistol is an easy accomplishment. And speaking of carrying the pistol – Kahr lets us know right off the bat that this gun is meant to be used, not stuck in some presentation box or tucked away in the back of the safe. A holster is provided with the gun – and not just any holster, but one made by one of my favorite leather holster makers – **1791 Gunleather**.



Of the three magazines supplied, one is extended and takes an extra round, giving the K9 an 8+1 capacity.





*This top-quality custom holster from 1791 Gunleather is included with the pistol, making it literally ready to carry – in style – right out of the box.*

The holster is an OWB in black leather and it quite literally fits this pistol like a glove. To put some icing on that cake, the holster too is engraved with the “25 years” designation to match that on the slide. Well, if Kahr is going to outfit this pretty custom pistol with a leather holster – they clearly mean for it to be carried. And if they mean for it to be carried, then they intended for it to be shot. I’ve not met a gun yet that was too nice to shoot – so I got about the business of seriously testing it.

### SHOOTING THE K9 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY EDITION

I suppose there are guns that are ‘too pretty to shoot’, but I’ve yet to find one. That idea to me is like a car ‘too nice to drive’. So, while it may seem like the K9 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition was made to be a collector’s safe queen, I don’t think that’s what the folks at Kahr really had in mind. At least, it didn’t seem that way when I started putting rounds through it. Prior to shooting it, I had been admiring the finish and the engraving, and all the little extra details that adorn the pistol, but from the moment I first pulled the trigger, it became all about shooting. It became much less about pretty stuff, and all about sights, trigger, and ergonomics.



*The author was more than a little impressed with how fun this small 9mm pistol is to shoot – and how accurate it is.*

The Kahr PM9 has been a primary carry gun for me for many years, and I really like the feel of the triggers that Kahr puts in their pistols. They are somewhat unique among small handguns; in that they employ a long stroke and moderately heavy pull rather than other mechanical safeties such as in-trigger-levers or grip safeties. It is also important to remember that the K9 was designed in an era when the double-action revolver was still a viable carry option for a great many people, both civilian and law enforcement.



*At the top of the long list of things to love about this pistol is the trigger. Its long stroke is ultra-smooth, and its polished face just glides under the finger.*

Mimicking that long stroke was very intuitive for the shooter, and the Kahr trigger is far smoother and lighter. There is also the advantage of a smooth face, opposed to the often-uncomfortable safety blade most striker fired guns use. Kahr publishes the trigger weight to be 7 lbs., but I measured it at 6 lbs. 3 oz. using the Lyman digital scale. Reset is a moot point – like a DA revolver, you just let all the way back out. Final word on the trigger from me is that it is lighter than expected, and silky smooth.



*Despite its many extras and fancy cuts and engraving, the K9 is every bit a defensive handgun, made to be ready to defend innocent lives at less than a moment’s notice.*

Ergonomics of the Kahr K9 are very good for such a small handgun. The gun is tall enough (4 ½”) to accommodate all four of my fingers (your mileage may vary if you have ape hands) and there is just enough grip tang to wedge the web of

my hand into for a snug, firm grasp. Although the trigger is set pretty far forward, it is easily reached with good finger pad placement. The frame of the gun has ample real estate for my preferred ‘thumbs forward’ grip style, with a natural index point in front of the slide stop lever. That lever functions very well in both directions – something I am a bit picky about. It is easy to engage the stop and lock the slide open without altering your grip, using an upward swipe with the thumb – and equally easy to release it with the thumb to load a round into the chamber. It did take a couple of cycles of the gun to get the stiffness out, and after that it was a breeze every time. Another temporary hitch was the extended 8-round magazine, which locked the slide open prematurely with a single round remaining, on the first two times it was used. Some visual inspection didn’t yield any clues, so I pressed on – and it didn’t occur again in another dozen uses. Chalk that up to stiffness and break-in. The magazine release is small but easily reached without changing the strong hand grip, and is easy to operate. Magazines dropped free with some energy each and every time.



*Kahr outfitted this special gun with an excellent set of sights. The simple white ring pops into view quickly against the dark rear sight. All three dots feature tritium centers and will glow in total darkness.*

The sights are the third piece in the trifecta of key criteria for shooting, and these did not disappoint at all. Kahr chose to top off the K9 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gun with a set of TruGlo® sights, which provide a great daytime sight picture as well as a full darkness sight picture via tritium-powered dots. The front sight contains the tritium vial in the center dot, surrounded by a bright white ring, which is easy to pick up quickly. This front sight rests in the notch of a very good rear sight that contains two tritium dots set into black rings inside a serrated black sight. This keeps the eye focused on the front sight while still providing full darkness capability and daytime anti-glare. The rear sight is also cut to provide a tactical edge so that the slide can be racked via one-hand use when necessary.

7 Yard Accuracy Kahr K9 25th Anniversary Edition			
Ammunition Brand	Ammunition Type	5-Shot Group (inches)	3-Shot Group (inches)
SIG Sauer Elite Performance	124 gr. V-Crown JHP	0.881	0.675
Fiocchi	124 gr. FMJ	1.603	0.372
<b>Federal HST</b>	<b>124 gr. HST JHP</b>	<b>0.717</b>	<b>0.280</b>
Federal American Eagle	124 gr. FMJ	1.009	0.656
Hornady Critical Duty	135 gr. +P FlexLock	1.461	0.772
Speer Gold Dot	115 gr. GD/HP	0.974	0.644
Averages		1.108	0.567

\* Rested at 7 yards using a CTK pistol rest

I put several different types of 9mm ammo through the K9 during testing – everything from budget minded range ammo like Magtech and Federal American Eagle, to top shelf defensive stuff from SIG, Speer, and Hornady +P Critical Duty. The pistol handled everything I fed it, hundreds of rounds in all, and shot very consistently at all distances – albeit slightly to the left. A simple rear sight adjustment would resolve that. I was able to empty all three magazines into a 7-yard group off hand with a full spread of only 2 ½”. Recoil was managed extremely well by this little K9. Very often, the tradeoff for concealability is punishing recoil, but Kahr has engineered this gun to shoot flat, even with the hot stuff. This is usually accomplished by a strong recoil spring, which can mean trouble with lighter loads by short cycling the already short-cycle slide stroke, but even when I snuck in a few of my ultra-light competition loads, the gun ran just fine.



*22-rounds of ball ammo inside a 2 ½” group from 7 yards off hand. This consistent accuracy could be due in part to the polygonal rifling in the barrel.*

Sights came right back on target after every shot, allowing for quick follow-up shots. From a more formal rested position, I tested six different loads – all with very impressive results. What was most impressive was that all of the groups appeared in the same area of the target relative to the aim point. That degree of consistency across a mix of ammo is better than I’ve seen in some time.





*Rested groups were equally impressive and consistent. This tight bunch with Federal HST took top honors at well under ¾”.*

### JUST MY OPINION

The Kahr K9 played a significant role in defining the concealed carry gun of today, and remains as relevant now as it was when it was introduced 25 years ago. Celebrating that longevity with this special edition model was not just a great idea – but perfectly executed. If you have a vintage K9, this special model might appeal to your sense of nostalgia, or perhaps even be a fun way to ‘trade up’. If you have never owned a K9, this is very likely the best way to join that club. And if you just want to be the guy who buys the collectible piece brand new, instead of years later after the price has gone up – that’s a good reason too. For me, it is the combination of the excellent aesthetics and extra touches that Kahr designed onto this gun, and the fact that it is a completely legitimate carry option and a heck of a shooter. The folks at Kahr Arms did a great job of combining what the collector and brand aficionado would want with what the dedicated shooter would want. It is equally at home in the display case, or in the high-quality 1791 holster included with it – on your hip at the range, or under a cover garment protecting your family. When working with a review gun, I usually find myself focusing on one or two key questions that I try and answer in the course of the testing and writing... but sometimes I just get fixated on a really dumb thought like, “how long did it take the marketing folks to decide on Sniper Grey versus Sniper Gray?”.



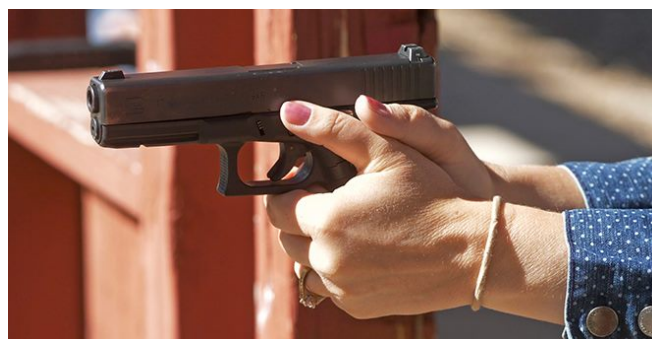
*Under all the frills and extras lies a no-nonsense Kahr K9, now 25 years old... many happy returns!*

## Texas Woman In Her 60's Takes Down 19-Year Old Home Invader

By: **Cam Edwards**

Submitted By: **Vickie Prickett**

<https://bearingarms.com/cam-e/2020/04/13/tx-woman-in-her-60s-takes-down-19-year-old-home-invader/>



A 19-year old who broke into a Fredericksburg, Texas home early Saturday morning was shot and killed after attacking one of the residents inside.

The Gillespie County Sheriff's Office says the intruder, identified as Cleto Neri Solorzano, may have been on some type of drug when he began banging on the back door of the home just before 1 a.m. 73-year old Curtis Roys woke up to the sound of the pounding and went to his back patio to investigate. That's when Solorzano broke through the door and began assaulting the older gentleman; first beating him with a blunt object and then [placing him a chokehold](#). From KVUE-TV:

Deputies said Roys' fiancée, 65-year-old Melody Lumpkin, pled several times for the man to stop assaulting him, but the man did not comply. She then retrieved a handgun from the bedroom and fired a warning shot, but deputies said the alleged intruder continued his assault.

When she noticed Roys was not moving, Lumpkin then reportedly fired another shot, striking the man in the head. When Roys regained consciousness, officials said they then called 911.

According to the sheriff's office, Solorzano was taken to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead. Roys is expected to recover from his injuries, and Lumpkin isn't facing any charges since police believe she was acting in self-defense and defense of her fiancée.

I doubt that the couple would have been able to take on their much younger assailant if they didn't have a firearm to protect themselves, though I suppose it's possible that the 65-



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year old woman could have taken down the 19-year old home invader in a fist fight. It's much more likely, however, that after knocking Curtis Roys unconscious, Solorzano would have assaulted Lumpkin as well, and I doubt that would have ended well for the homeowners.

Thankfully, the older couple *did* have a handgun ready and available to use in self-defense, and I believe they're both alive today because Lumpkin was able to get to her gun. The only mistake Lumpkin made was in firing a warning shot. I understand the reluctance Lumpkin may have had in actually shooting the home invader, but a warning shot is a bad idea, especially since Solorzano had already ignored her repeated demands to stop assaulting Curtis Roys.

There's no indication that Solorzano had any previous criminal charges against him, and the local sheriff's office is calling this an "isolated incident." Isolated or not, this self-defense situation could have come to a much more tragic conclusion if Lumpkin hadn't retrieved her pistol and knew how to use it. I'm glad the couple is going to be okay, and my heart goes out to the family of Cleto Solorzano, who would be alive today if it weren't for a series of bad decisions on his part.

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## Gun-owning feminist slams 2020 Democrats: The Second Amendment 'empowers' women

By: Charles Creitz | Fox News

Submitted By: Vickie Prickett

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/self-described-gun-owning-feminist-slams-2020-democrats-the-second-amendment-empowers-women>



Gun rights activist Antonia Okafor Cover said Friday on "Fox & Friends" that Democrats have the wrong idea about the meaning of feminism, arguing for why gun ownership is empowering and not something to be restricted or criticized. Okafor Cover, the spokesperson for Gun Owners of America, reacted to Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., pledging to ban so-called "assault weapons" and Joe Biden pledging to close what he called the "gun show loophole" in firearms sales and require universal background checks.

She said that feminist icon Susan B. Anthony called for women to practice self-defense, noting that the feminist movement's "origin" is actually about rights such as those enshrined in the Second Amendment.

"I just blatantly talk about the fact that feminism and the Republican Party – or even being a Christian – are not mutually exclusive. They are something that actually go together, and have been since the beginning of the women's movement," she said, referencing her column in "The Independent."

Okafor Cover dismissed the contention that Biden is a "moderate," saying that the only reason he is viewed as such is because he is being contrasted with the ultra-leftist Sanders. "I used to be a Democrat about 10 years ago — this March actually will mark that time that I became a follower and worshipper of Jesus Christ — and at the same time I realized with my feminist beliefs that if I truly wanted to empower women and people and minorities, et cetera, then we really need to empower them through the Second Amendment," she said.

"And so, for Joe Biden to bring on [former Texas Rep.] Robert Francis O'Rourke, who has said things like 'I'm going to take your AK's and AR-15s', well that is blatantly a detriment, in saying that the foundation of America that has said we are going to preserve your Second Amendment rights because it is a God-given right."

She said the Democratic Party has veered far to the left in recent years and that there really is no moderate lane anymore.

"Joe Biden is absolutely not a moderate," she said.

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Fortunately, there is not much to report from the Legislative front. As we all know, the General Assembly is not in session due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Since March 12<sup>th</sup> the Governor has been issuing a continuous stream of Emergency Orders, I think he is up to 15 amendments at this time, in an attempt to deal with Covid-19.

To put it succinctly, everything is either closed or limited. The latest amendment requires the use, by everyone, of face coverings in a list of public places. The order goes on further and outlines requirements for businesses if they wish to remain open.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, the Governor issued amendment 4 of his original order that picked and chose which businesses were essential and non-essential. It should come as no surprise that gun stores were listed as non-essential. This revision went into effect at 8:00 a.m. on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Guidelines issued by DEMA

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and the Attorney General's office stated that police should first warn those businesses that remained open, in contravention of the order. If they remained open, then the police would request a cease and desist order from DEMA.

At 8:00 p.m. that evening the Delaware State Police arrived at Starquest Shooters and Survival Supply on Concord Pike with a Cease and Desist Order. This was done with NO warning. Turns out a complaint was filed by Representative Krista Griffith a Democrat from Fairfax on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> the day before the order went into effect.

The only conclusion is that Starquest was targeted by the administration because they sell firearms.

One other Cease and Desist Order was issued to First State Firearms and Accessories on DuPont Highway in New Castle.

On learning of this situation DSSA immediately retained legal counsel for both stores and began preparation to file legal action since we believed our constitutional rights were being violated. Over the next couple of days there were several conference calls with various government officials, including the Director of the Division of Small Business and Tourism, who apparently has a great deal to say about which businesses are deemed essential and non-essential.

During this process DSSA requested that the State re-designate gun stores as essential businesses, consistent with the Federal designation. No reason was given by the state officials why they wouldn't. The end result was a modification of the status of the gun stores from being completely closed to being able to have 2 scheduled appointments per 30 minutes during normal business hours.

DSSA has since requested by letter that the gun stores be reclassified to essential, in conformity to the designation by the Federal government. As of this writing no answer has been received.

One take away from this is how endangered our Constitutional rights are, both on a state level and a federal level. The statutory authority that the Governor is acting under doesn't appear to grant the almost unlimited powers that the Governor has been exercising. By allowing some stores to remain open, because of their essential designation, and closing other stores, the Governor has picked winners and losers in this pandemic. Because one store happens to sell not only groceries, but many other items, like Walmart, they can stay open, while a store that sells the same items, except for the groceries, has to shutter its doors. The Governor is playing economic roulette. He has decided which businesses will survive and which will fail.

He has also changed state law, without going through the legislative process. The one example is allowing restaurants

that sell alcohol to include alcohol in their takeout orders. State law prohibits that.

All this should be a wake up call to every citizen of this state, and the country. As Benjamin Franklin once said, "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety." November 11, 1755.

DSSA continues to monitor the political climate and will make sure your rights are protected.

Jeff Hague

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## Call for Articles

Would you like to be published in the DSSA News Letter? Publicize your Club's activities or special events. Found a great article that you want to share with Delaware Sportsmen?

**Please send your article or special event to:**  
**Roger T. Boyce, Vice President DSSA**  
[Roger.boyce@dssa.us](mailto:Roger.boyce@dssa.us)