
Defensive Handgun 2 with Low Light/Night Fire Course



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Defensive Handgun 2 Course

Course Goal Statement

"Arrogance has no honor . . . only competence and confidence"

- The purpose of this eight-hour course is to provide each participant with instruction and coaching to begin developing the necessary knowledge & skills to successfully use a legally concealed defensive handgun in a lethal force confrontation.

Establishing a “Self-Defense File”

- Start documenting any training, reading or notes and retain them as important artifacts for your defense in the event you are involved in a self-defense confrontation
- Suggestion: Mail a copy of this handout to yourself via US Certified Mail with return receipt requested. Once received be sure to leave it sealed by the US Government and secure it in a safe place upon the event it is needed in court. The prosecutor must prove your intentions and this handout will act as discoverable evidence that you are taking every reasonable precaution to protect you and your family from harm.

Four Firearms Safety Rules – MEMORIZE THESE!

- All guns are always loaded – there are **no** exceptions!
- Never point a gun at anything or anyone you are not willing to shoot
- Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target/threat and you’ve made a deliberate conscience decision to shoot – finger must be high alongside the frame in the “Registered Position.”
- Be aware of your target/threat and what is in front, behind, and beyond the threat

Tactical Safety & Safety while Moving

- Finger off the trigger and positioned high alongside the frame
- Handgun in the Ready Position
- Safety on or decocked before moving

Developing the Defensive Mindset

- In our world there are those who willingly prey upon others. In utter defiance to the law and common cultural civility they will physically attack others in such a manner that death or serious bodily harm will likely occur. Like a fatal house fire, they don't happen often, but when they do the results are horrendous and irrevocable. See page 19.
- Don't live in a continuous state of denial! Fortunately lethal encounters are not an "everyday occurrence" for most of us. But how often does someone have to be attacked or killed for us to take reasonable precautions to protect our families and us? **KEY:** The probability of an attack exists to some degree in EVERY PLACE and at EVERY MOMENT! There is no safe sanctuary on this planet.
- Software/mindset is MUCH MORE important than hardware. Of order of importance are mindset, tactics, skill, and then equipment.
- Get rid of the "favorite gun/tool" syndrome. Discard any reference to "defective equipment" or "life's little circumstances" as excuses for failure or incompetence
- We all have areas we need to improve. Acknowledge it and do something about it!
- Stop worrying about "looking good" in front of others. When you go to the range or a competition work on the areas you need to improve.
- Develop a warriors' or fighters' mindset. Life is worth living and worth defending! A warrior develops a lifelong hunger and thirst of studying self-defense/fighting arts.

Understanding the Tachy Psyche Phenomena – *What will happen when I'm confronted with Lethal Force?*

You must fully understand the reality that being suddenly and deliberately attacked is an extremely stressful situation. Research has validated what has been known for years that under extreme stress an acute and unavoidable change takes place in the human body and mind.

You must understand that if we are ever attacked you will rise to the level of training you've undergone. If you are not properly prepared for this kind of sudden encounter then the absence of training and muscle memory results in panic and confusion. This phenomenon is called the "flight, fight, or flight mode" When in this mode our brain chemistry is altered. The part of the brain which controls our rational thoughts is bypassed and during an attack the mind and the body relies on "scripted" responses that are programmed during training and practice. If you don't have a "script" to follow then you are trying to withdraw emergency skills from an empty self-defense account! In her book entitled *Surviving Deadly Force Encounters*, Dr. Alexis Artwohl found that 74% of the police officers she interviewed who had survived a lethal encounter ran on "automatic pilot." These officers survived because of their training. They had practiced the correct steps over and over until these steps and tactics were programmed into muscle memory. Once programmed, and practiced ritualistically, the mind and the body will be able to successfully fight, on "automatic pilot", even when the rational part of the brain is out of gear.

Conceal Carry – Elements Effecting Conceal Carry

Concealment

- ◆ Works in opposition to comfort and speed
- ◆ Necessary to prevent detection
- ◆ Is it over concealed? “I can’t get to it?”
- ◆ Proper holster and clothing selection is important

Optimal Concealment



Minimizes Comfort & Speed

Comfort

- ◆ Works in opposition to concealment and speed
- ◆ Comfort may not be important to the task but it is if you will wear it more
- ◆ NO method/system is perfect, so learn to live with it!
- ◆ Select a feasible handgun but don’t sacrifice effectiveness/caliber for “comfort.”
- ◆ For carrying concealed, no handgun is too small, but for fighting no handgun is too big!
- ◆ Comfort should be judged from all normal daily positions including walking, sitting, climbing, or driving.

Optimal Comfort

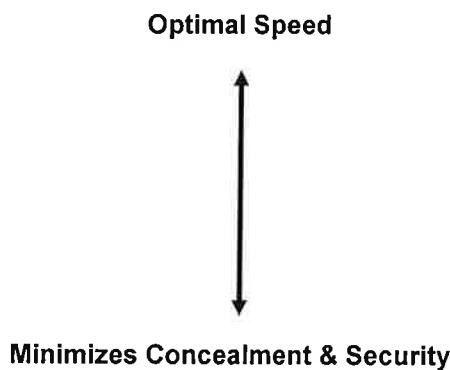


Minimizes Concealment & Speed

Conceal Carry – Elements Effecting Conceal Carry

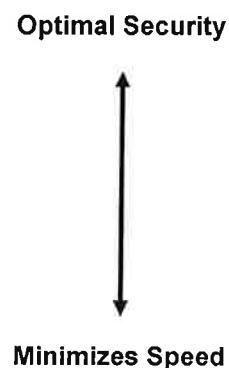
Speed

- ◆ Works in opposition to concealment and security
- ◆ You must be able to respond with the handgun to unplanned/unexpected threats!
- ◆ Can you get the handgun out of the holster, from any position, at a reasonable speed?
- ◆ Reholstering must be accomplished with one hand and with the support hand in the event you are injured
- ◆ Does your system allow you to quickly reload and maintain a continuity of fire?



Security

- ◆ Works in opposition to speed and should be balanced
- ◆ Security is the need to keep the handgun in the holster when working
- ◆ Security is the need to keep the handgun in the holster when someone is trying to take it away from you
- ◆ Employ sensible personal tactics when approaching a suspect or during an arrest



Conceal Carry – Things to Ponder . . .

Liabilities of a Concealed Handgun

- ◆ It is subjected to short range
- ◆ It is a low power tool and has limited ammunition capacity
- ◆ It is restricted by garments or other coverings
- ◆ Dress Considerations
 - Clothing Specs and Selection
 - Size larger clothes
 - Two way zippers
 - Use snaps rather than buttons
 - Stiffer clothing edges or use a weight
- ◆ Weather and dress . . . can you conceal it when it is hot?
- ◆ Identification, can you get to it without being shot?

Assets of a Concealed Handgun

- ◆ Any gun is better than no gun
- ◆ I'll probably have it with me
- ◆ Socially acceptable – they don't realize I'm carrying
- ◆ It helps us address the three questions no one has answers for . . .

Three Questions No One Can Answer for You:

- ◆ who the threat might be
- ◆ when / where attack may take place
- ◆ what it will take to stop the threat

Conceal Carry Equipment

Basic Requirements – (You should answer "yes" to all these questions)

- Is it a solid platform? Does it stabilize the load sufficiently?
- Does it provide low profile concealment?
- Does it provide you with reloading capability?
- Do I have a source of light for low light/subdued light situations?
- Do I have a cellular telephone?
- Do I have my CHL and government issued I.D.?

Holster Requirements – (You should answer "yes" to all these questions)

- Does it allow a full firing grip when in the holster?
- Safety: Is the trigger and trigger guard fully covered?
- Safety: Will the gun stay in the holster regardless of my position?
- Safety: Does the holster mouth remain open when I remove the handgun?
- Safety: Can I reholster the handgun without looking at the holster and/or using my support hand?
- Does the holster match the same size as the belt?
- Does the holster stay "put" during the draw?
- Can I wear the holster all day with reasonable comfort?

Holster Design

- ◆ **Strong Side Belt Carry**
 - ◆ Most common means of carry
 - ◆ Works well with most body builds and is perfect for slim body build or for some women if worn in front of hip
 - ◆ Works well under loose clothing
 - ◆ Can "stick-out" more than IWB holster and the butt of the handgun is more difficult to conceal
 - ◆ Good balance of speed, comfort and concealment
 - ◆ Less accessible when in a chair or a car when wearing a seat belt
- ◆ **Inside the Pant Strong Side Carry**
 - ◆ Second most common means of carry
 - ◆ Allows greater concealment than strong side belt carry but with a slight decrease in speed
 - ◆ Some people find them unbearable as they can "gouge" your side
 - ◆ Great under shirts, jackets or polo type shirts
 - ◆ Extremely difficult to re-holster if using a poor design holster
 - ◆ Works well with "blocky" body builds both for men and women

Holster Design

◆ **Cross Draw**

- ◆ Not as popular as it used to be
- ◆ Works well under coats or very loose clothing
- ◆ Works great for people who are in a vehicle for long periods of time
- ◆ Provides better access with either hand
- ◆ Not great for “Dunlop” body types

◆ **Shoulder Holster – Vertical or Horizontal carry**

- ◆ Popular in television and movies
- ◆ Not as comfortable or as fast as belt carry
- ◆ Requires a separate draw stroke to prevent sweeping the muzzle over support arm and shoulder and other people
- ◆ Lots of movement and shifts when wearing
- ◆ Good access in cars
- ◆ Difficult to re-holster single handed

◆ **Ankle Holster**

- ◆ Not the best choice as a primary carry but makes adequate back up carry
- ◆ Baggy pants legs are required
- ◆ Practice the presentation
- ◆ Draw speed is slow and awkward

◆ **Purses**

- ◆ Make sure it has a holster and a separate pocket
- ◆ If not, it will end up in the bottom of the purse
- ◆ Pros/Cons of “off-body” carry

◆ **Pocket Carry**

- ◆ Snag proof hammers
- ◆ Must have a holster that covers the trigger
- ◆ Pants need to be baggy and darker colors work best

◆ **Other Methods**

- ◆ Pocket carry
- ◆ Waist band carry without holster
- ◆ Pager Pal
- ◆ Thunder Wear
- ◆ Belly Band
- ◆ Middle of Back
- ◆ Thigh Holsters
- ◆ Others?

Clothing Selection Considerations

- ◆ Concealment comes from clothing not from a holster
- ◆ Wear your handgun when trying on clothes
- ◆ Check opacity and materials – never assume you’re concealed
- ◆ Get pants with wide enough belt loops and get a proper belt

Handgun Modifications for Conceal Carry

- ◆ Purchase a high quality defensive type handgun that you can bet your life on!
- ◆ Then purchase an exact duplicate
- ◆ Purchase one that fits your hands well
- ◆ Keep the gun close to stock – “*The less you do the happier you’ll be*” Clint Smith
- ◆ Handgun needs to be the largest caliber you can manage and shoot well
- ◆ Get a good set of durable non-adjustable defensive type night sights
- ◆ If needed, have the sharp edges melted or tactically rounded
- ◆ Stay away from oversized parts and stocks such as extended safety, magazine release or slide stop

Steps to Deploy a Concealed Handgun

- ◆ Learn to clear the cover and obtain a master grip on the handgun
- ◆ Support hand indexes onto the upper body. It must make full contact with the body. “Give your hand something to do!”
- ◆ Rock and lock the handgun to protect it from “grabs”
- ◆ Hands come together to establish the grip
- ◆ Drive the handgun to the threat and fire if required
- ◆ Go to the ready position after the threat subsides
- ◆ Implement the “Scan and Search” technique
- ◆ Once clear, do a tactical reload

Review: Loads

- ◆ **Combat/Empty Reloads:** When the gun is empty load NOW! I shoot until the threat stops.
- ◆ **Tactical/Partial Reloads:** I reload because I can. I want to save precious ammo

Review: Clearing Malfunctions

- ◆ **Phase 1:** Finger straight, tap, rack, assess and shoot again if required.
- ◆ **Stovepipe:** Same as Phase 1
- ◆ **Phase 2:** Finger straight, tap, rack, assess and shoot again if required. IF THE GUN STILL MALFUNCTIONS THEN: Finger straight, lock the slide back/open, remove magazine, store magazine, aggressively work the action, reload, assess and shoot if required.

Most Likely Scenario?

- ◆ **Range:** Will probably be at short distance from contact to 10 yards
- ◆ **Time:** Two to five seconds is a long fight. In Miami it lasted around four and a half minutes, in Waco it lasted for days
- ◆ **Rounds:** In the 1980's it was 2.8 rounds to get a hit and over six rounds per engagement. In the 1990's it took 12.9 rounds to get a hit and 17.9 per engagement
- ◆ **Target Orientation:** Most likely frontal at an angle and MOVING
- ◆ **Target Condition:** Mentally impaired? Chemically impaired? Highly dedicated?
- ◆ **Target Response:** Typically not impressed with handgun rounds. A study by John Farnam indicates 90 percent of individuals hit by handgun rounds live to see another day while less than ten percent die from handgun wounds. Rifles and shotgun have the opposite effect When I shoot I must anticipate that the threat may not stop.
- ◆ **After Action:** Beware of an ambush! Expect multiple assailants.
Police Responding to the scene

Target Indicators – Look for them, but don't project them!

- ◆
- ◆
- ◆
- ◆
- ◆
- ◆
- ◆
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- ◆
- ◆

It will never happen to me . . .

- ◆ Tacoma, WA -- Eight (8) youths, ranging in age from 13 to 16, told police they beat 30 year old, Eric Toews to death on August 19, 2000 because they were bored. (March 23, 2002)
- ◆ South Bend, Ind. — A man shot four co-workers to death at an aircraft parts plant Friday, then fired at police from a stolen company van during a high-speed chase that ended with him killing himself. (March, 2002)
- ◆ Orange City, FL – Two predators, with long arrest records, who decided to rob an Orange City Blockbuster Video store were not expecting Robert Shockley to be, legally, carrying his handgun concealed. Shockley shot both men when they came into the store with their masks on screaming violent, obscenity-laced threats. They made it clear they intended to kill their victims. Shockley pulled his gun and ordered the two to “freeze.” They didn’t. He shot and killed James Wince, the one holding the rifle. Bennett, the second robber, then reached for the rifle and Shockley shot him too. (March 18, 2002)
- ◆ St. Louis, MO – A parolee who had served 19 years for murdering a car salesman in a robbery was charged Sunday with the bizarre, unprovoked knife attack Friday night on three men in Valley Park, authorities said. Three out of five men died. (March 11, 2002)
- ◆ Memphis, TN – A home invader was fatally shot Sunday night by his elderly intended victim during a break-in at a southwest Memphis home. About 9:15 p.m. two men posing as police officers went into a home. After the 79-year-old woman resident of the home let the two inside, they attempted to rob her. As they were dragging her through the home, the woman called out to her husband, also 79. The husband came into the room and fired one shot. The two robbers ran out of the house. One of them collapsed dead outside. (April 2, 2002)
- ◆ Grundy, VA – A struggling law school student who had just been suspended went on a shooting spree at the Appalachian School of Law killing the dean, a professor, and a student before being wrestled to the ground. Three other students were also critically wounded. The dean and the professor were “executed” in their offices. (January 16, 2002)
- ◆ Council Bluffs, Iowa – Two officers shot and killed an armed man at a soccer game on a Sunday afternoon. The officers were responding to a “shots fired” call when an armed man turned on the officers and they returned fire killing him. (August 13, 2001)
- ◆ Kelso, WA – A Longview, WA man was arrested in Kelso last night after police say he went on a shooting rampage with a shotgun in Kelso neighborhood injuring three people. The man shot over 50 times. (January 14, 2002)
- ◆ Pittsburgh, PA – Two masked men walked into a sandwich shop and opened fire on a group of people killing two men and a young girl. One man, apparently a lookout, stood outside the shop as the two men shot over 15 rounds. (2001 AP)
- ◆ Ft. Worth, TX – Larry Gene Ashbrook, who had a history of paranoia and mental instability, shot three people in the Wedgewood Baptist Church lobby before entering the sanctuary where more than 150 people were waiting for a concert to begin. He shot 11 more in the sanctuary before shooting himself, killing eight in all. He also threw a pipe bomb, with no injuries. (September 15, 1999)
- ◆ New Orleans, LA – Police said a crowd of children and teenagers killed a 16-year old girl in front of her home. Seven to ten children & teenagers attacked the girl stabbing her to death with a steak knife.
- ◆ Providence, RI – An employee shot a co-worker to death and wounded another at a newspaper plant, then wounded another employee before committing suicide. (June 9, 2002)

It can happen at work, church, school, soccer game, park, in rural America, sandwich shop, in your home, or in front of your home. It can happen by a person working alone, a group working as a team or even children who are bored. The predators can use a gun, knife, or even their feet and it's safe to assume that each of these victims would have told you prior to their incident "*it will never happen to me . . .*"

Low Light/Night Fire Defense

FLASHLIGHT BRIEFING

General Flashlight Rules

- ◆ Do not over use the flashlight and give away your position
- ◆ Never lay the flashlight down on the ground. You may not find it again.
- ◆ Always keep the flashlight on your person and under your control.
- ◆ Never hold the flashlight in your strong hand
- ◆ Use the pulse switch... two-second rule.
- ◆ Always move after firing or using the flashlight. (Your position is compromised.)
- ◆ If you are in the light... use flashlight to illuminate darkened areas and then move into those areas for concealment. (From darkened areas search the lighted areas.)
- ◆ Stay as much as possible in darkened areas for concealment.
- ◆ Do not illuminate others (partner) who are on your side!
This makes them a target and gives away their position and yours.

Reloading Procedure with the Flashlight

- ◆ Turn the flashlight off and move your position.
- ◆ Place the flashlight under your strong side arm.
- ◆ Remove the empty magazine from the magazine well.
(If this is a partial reload put the magazine in a pocket.)
- ◆ Load with a fresh magazine.
- ◆ Rack the slide. (Do not rack the slide in partial reload.)
- ◆ Reacquire the flashlight and continue.

Malfunctions with Flashlight

- ◆ Turn the flashlight off and move position.
- ◆ Place the flashlight under strong side arm.
- ◆ Tap the magazine and rack the slide.
- ◆ Reacquire the flashlight and assess/continue

IF THE WEAPON IS STILL MALFUNCTIONING

- ◆ Turn the flashlight off and move position.
- ◆ Place the flashlight under strong side arm.
- ◆ Perform Phase II clearance drill.
- ◆ Reacquire the flashlight and assess/continue.

Flashlight Search Techniques

FBI Techniques

- ◆ Modified FBI Technique.
- ◆ Harries Technique.
- ◆ Chapman or “Side by Side” Technique.
- ◆ Combined use of techniques during the search.
- ◆ Subdued light firing techniques without the flashlight.
- ◆ Close quarters firing technique.

Handholds with the Flashlight

Overhand grip:

Light is held in support hand, beam forward, fingers over top of barrel; thumb under barrel and on the switch

Reverse Grip:

Light is held in support hand. Thumb under, fingers on top of the barrel with ring or middle finger on the switch.

Base Switch Grip (for Sure-Fire types):

Flashlight is held between index and middle fingers, which press switch against base of thumb.

Techniques:

Modified FBI technique:

- ◆ Overhand grip with thumb on switch
- ◆ Arm extended fully to support side, below and forward of shoulder
- ◆ Generally used as a searching technique with handgun held in position 3 or ready position
- ◆ Is not an optimum position to fire from, but flows easily into the side-by-side method

Chapman Technique:

- ◆ Overhand grip with thumb on switch. Roll the palm up.
- ◆ Hands come together with thumb and index finger holding the light, the other three fingers wrap around the 3 strong side fingers holding the weapon. Tube of flashlight is placed against strong thumb.
- ◆ Can be used when engaging a threat or when searching in an area for a threat.

Side-by-Side Technique (AKA Ayoob):

From the Modified FBI, bring hands together, arms extended, bases of thumbs aligned.

- ◆ Purpose is to obtain a firing stance quickly, will also blind threat, natural point of light hits suspect in eyes.
- ◆ Used to counter sudden attacks at close range. Is not effective past seven yards.

Harries Technique:

- ◆ Reverse grip with ring or middle finger on switch.
- ◆ Using Weaver (or modified Weaver) stance, bring flashlight under weapon (not in front of), place back of hands and wrists together and press together to create isometric tension.

Keep support elbow down!

- ◆ Barrel of flashlight is parallel to strong-side forearm.
- ◆ Modified Harries Technique: From modified FBI search position (overhand grip), bring flashlight under weapon and lock the support side thumb and wrist against the back of the strong hand, apply isometric pressure.

Base Switch Technique (Cigar/Rogers):

- ◆ Position sure-fire type flashlight between the index and middle fingers of the support hand with the pressure switch against the base of the thumb.
- ◆ Compress the switch against the base of the thumb by contracting the support hand fingers.

Combine flashlight techniques during searches:

- ◆ Modified FBI technique for general searching. Transition to side-by-side, Chapman or Modified Harries Technique when focusing on a potential threat and shooting is likely.
- ◆ Or if using a reverse grip, transition to the Harries Technique
- ◆ Techniques flow together as search progresses.

Pros and Cons:

- ◆ Each method has its own good and bad points.
- ◆ Practice to determine what works for you.
- ◆ Be flexible, no technique works every time.