



“... the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”

EXERCISING THE RIGHT

Early Night Intruder Shot

The local CBS affiliate in Philadelphia reported on February 21 about a break-in that occurred in the early hours of the morning. CBS 3 Philly reported that a man broke in to a house where two women were sleeping in the Kensington neighborhood of the city around 3 a.m. But once the suspect was inside, one of the female occupants shot the man in the thigh. The ladies called 911, and the wounded suspected was transported to Temple University Hospital, where he was listed in critical condition. People in the area praised the woman’s fast actions: Neighbor Robert Gonzalez told CBS 3, “If he was getting into my house, I probably would have done the same thing if I had a gun.”

Repeat Felon Attacks Family

WTSP.com reported on February 8 about a felon with a long rap sheet who had a deadly run-in with a family. The incident occurred in Frostproof, Florida, when, police say, Jory Plummer broke in to a family’s house around 1 a.m., where a mother, father, and their three children were fast asleep.

The mother was awakened by the sounds of loud banging on the front door of the family home. She frantically woke up her husband, who retrieved a firearm and went downstairs to investigate. The father was shocked to observe that his front door had been broken open.

The husband would later tell police investigators that the suspect, Plummer, was right outside the house, screaming obscenities at him. The father told Plummer to leave, but the deranged man ignored the father’s verbal commands and charged at him. The Polk County Sheriff reported in a press release that the father was “in fear for his life” and fired his gun, hitting Plummer with one round. But even that didn’t stop the aggressor, who, police say, charged at the father a second time. The father fired again, and Plummer was mortally wounded, collapsing to the ground. The injured suspect was

transported to a nearby hospital and later succumbed to his injuries.

The Polk County Sheriff’s written statement explained that the deceased suspect’s long criminal history involved many felonies and misdemeanors including, but not limited to, sexual assault, domestic violence, and resisting law enforcement. In the statement, Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd emphasized that “people have a right to be safe in their home, and when necessary, defend that safety. At this point in the investigation, the evidence indicates that the resident acted in self-defense.”

Alcohol and Guns Don’t Mix

A tragic story out of Erie County, Pennsylvania, reminds us of how dangerous it is to consume alcohol while handling firearms. The incident unfolded on December 22 at a gun range, where two men and their girlfriends were firing a pistol that one of the men had just recently purchased. Investigators later determined that one of the men, who had a blood alcohol content of .21, which is almost two and half times the legal limit for driving, began randomly firing the pistol at the other man and his girlfriend, hitting the man multiple times.

A 67-year-old man, who was at a nearby shooting stall when the dangerous scene unfolded, quickly intervened to stop the deadly attack. The older man fired his pistol at the intoxicated man and hit the shooter five times, with two shots hitting the suspect in the rib cage and three hitting him in the back. The older man administered first aid to the wounded suspect and called 911.

The shooting suspect was taken to a nearby medical facility, where he was later pronounced dead. The man who had been shot by the intoxicated shooter was treated for five gunshot wounds but was released the same day.

Erie County District Attorney Jack Daneri later issued a determination that the senior citizen who intervened was justified in his actions. Daneri said in a February 2 press conference at the Erie County Courthouse that the 67-year-old man is “aware

he took someone’s life and he has remorse over what he did, but listening and watching his statement to the state police, he believed it was necessary for him to do what he did at the time.... It’s my determination that it was reasonable for that man to believe he needed to use deadly force against [the shooter] and because it was reasonable for him to use that deadly force, no criminal charges are warranted.” Daneri added that investigators still don’t have any insight into why the shooter turned the gun on his friend, as the two were lifelong friends and there wasn’t any fighting or hostility prior to the shooting. In closing, Daneri only noted that the autopsy showed the high level of alcohol in the suspect’s system.

Lauren Boebert Granted Concealed Carry Permit in D.C.

This column previously reported how Congresswoman Lauren Boebert of Colorado made national news by very publicly proclaiming her intention to carry a concealed firearm in our nation’s capital, which sent the gun-control crowd into a tizzy. Now they can be more upset, as *The Hill* reported on February 4 that Congresswoman Boebert was officially granted her concealed-carry permit. D.C. Police Chief Robert Contee held a press conference, where he told members of the media that a “concealed carry permit was issued” to the first-year congresswoman. Contee further explained that as the D.C. police “do with all our permits, if citizens are allowed to carry, then we grant them a permit.... In this case, she was allowed to carry and she was granted a permit.” Contee also added that when it comes to permits being issued to other members of Congress, he believes “there are probably others.”

Boebert’s spokesman, Benjamin Stout, was very positive about the congresswoman being granted the permit and stated that “as a co-chair of the Second Amendment Caucus, she has proudly helped some of her colleagues receive this permit as well.” ■

— PATRICK KREY