



**IF YOU HAVE A  
FIRSTHAND "ARMED  
CITIZEN" EXPERIENCE,**

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Studies indicate that firearms are used more than 2 million times a year for personal protection, and that the presence of a firearm, without a shot being fired, prevents crime in many instances. Shooting usually can be justified only where crime constitutes an immediate, imminent threat to life, limb, or, in some cases, property. Anyone is free to quote or reproduce these accounts.

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**A** man in Lufkin, Texas, was sitting in his vehicle with his wife and infant outside a business when a man approached and demanded the vehicle. The father reportedly warned the would-be carjacker (presumably that he was armed), but the assailant ignored the warning and continued to try to steal the car, whereupon the father fatally shot him. The 47-year-old carjacker turned out to have been released from the county jail less than an hour earlier, where he had been serving time related to assault and family violence charges. Authorities reviewed the security footage from the business and stated that no charges against the armed citizen were likely. (rvmnews.com, Scottsdale, Ariz., 6/6/24)

**A** homeowner in St. Louis said he woke up around 4 a.m. on May 14 to noises and found a stranger inside "knocking things around." The homeowner, whose identity was not released, shot the alleged home invader, who fled on foot. Police used dogs to track the 27-year-old male suspect, then transported him to the hospital with life-threatening injuries. "Thank God my house is safe and that person wasn't trying to get in my home," one neighbor told reporters. "It's crazy but you have to protect your family at the end of the day." The suspect, who allegedly attempted several break-ins earlier that night and has prior burglary, firearm possession and property damage convictions, now faces charges of burglary first-degree, attempted burglary first-degree and resisting arrest with a felony for this incident, should he recover. (firstalert4.com, St. Louis, Mo., 5/14/24)

**K**issimmee, Fla., authorities were notified of a burglary in progress at an occupied dwelling on May 21 and arrived on the scene while the alleged intruder was still inside. They ordered him to leave, but the 28-year-old man "failed to comply" and instead forced his way into the bedroom where a woman and her family had retreated, whereupon the woman shot him. He then left the home and turned himself over to the authorities outside, who rendered aid and transported him to the hospital. The sheriff's office told reporters the woman said she had "acted in self-defense of her and her family when the suspect forced his way into the bedroom the victim and her family were in." (fox35orlando.com, Orlando, Fla., 5/21/24)

**A** man whose vehicle broke down on a highway exit in Elizabethtown, Ky., on May 24 abandoned it there, and then returned with his wife's vehicle. As he was sitting inside his wife's vehicle, he noticed a man approaching from behind. That man reportedly opened the door and demanded

the car keys. The man inside warned the suspected would-be carjacker that he had a gun, whereupon the suspect demanded that as well and began to punch and kick the seated man. During the struggle, the suspect allegedly even tried to gouge out the victim's eye, saying, "Give me your eyeball." Fortunately, the armed citizen was able to fight off the attack well enough to fire several shots at the suspect. The alleged assailant was soon apprehended and taken to the hospital with multiple gunshot wounds; he faces charges of attempted murder, strangulation, robbery and criminal mischief. The victim was treated with "visible injuries" to his face and a corneal abrasion to his left eye. (thenewsenterprise.com, Elizabethtown, Ky., 5/25/24)

**N**ear midnight on May 27 in Taylor, Texas, a homeowner called authorities to report a man breaking in. The man apparently succeeded at entering the home, whereupon the resident shot him. Authorities found the 23-year-old suspect lying near the house with a bullet wound in his hip. He had a large knife with a sheath inscribed with the words "Hail Satan." They transported him to the hospital and obtained a warrant to charge him upon his release from medical care with burglary of a habitation with commission of a felony, which is a second-degree felony charge. (taylorpress.net, Taylor, Texas, 5/28/24)

**A** ride-share driver in Stanton, Calif., was dropping off a passenger at about 8 p.m. June 2 when he reportedly witnessed a woman being assaulted by a man. The driver shot the alleged assailant, then called law enforcement. They responded and gave the 20-year-old suspect medical treatment, then transported him to the hospital where he was listed in critical but stable condition. They also treated the woman at the scene. The investigation was ongoing. (ocsheriff.gov, Orange County, Calif., 6/3/24) 