



**IF YOU HAVE A  
FIRSTHAND “ARMED  
CITIZEN” EXPERIENCE,  
EMAIL NRA PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS TEAM AT  
MEDIA@NRAHQ.ORG.**

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.

**Send clippings via email to [armedcitizen@nrahq.org](mailto:armedcitizen@nrahq.org), or by mail to “The Armed Citizen,” 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030-9400. For bonus features, visit “The Armed Citizen Blog” at [americanrifleman.org](http://americanrifleman.org). Share this column online at [nrarepublications.org](http://nrarepublications.org).**

**T**wo suspected burglars broke into a Los Angeles, Calif., home through a sliding-glass door around 3 p.m. on July 8, apparently thinking the home was unoccupied since a woman had just left. However, a 56-year-old armed citizen was still inside. When they encountered the homeowner, a scuffle ensued and one of the suspects deployed pepper spray, but the man was still able to shoot several times at the alleged assailants, striking one 35-year-old man in the neck. A second suspect fled in a vehicle that a third person had waiting outside. The wounded suspect was taken to the hospital in critical condition and faced charges upon his release; he has an extensive record, including prior burglary and armed robbery convictions. The homeowner was not facing any charges at the time of reporting. (foxla.com, Los Angeles, Calif., 7/9/24)

**A** 49-year-old man forced his way into a home in Malta, New York, around lunchtime June 14. The homeowner and residents did not know the man, and when he followed one of them to a bedroom, the resident armed himself with a shotgun and fired two rounds at the intruder. The sheriff's office said that “the investigation has not revealed any criminal conduct by the resident who appears to have been defending himself inside of his home from a subject who was not known to him” though they emphasized that the investigation remained open. (cbs6albany.com, Albany, N.Y., 6/14/24)

**A** food-delivery driver exiting a Mexican restaurant on June 18 in Memphis, Tenn., reportedly saw a man near his red van pull out a gun and fire toward him, whereupon he returned fire. Officers found a suspect inside the restaurant with at least three gunshot wounds in his left leg, whom witnesses say had initiated the shooting, though this man told officers that unknown assailants had chased him and shot at him for no reason. The suspect and one woman who had been injured by flying glass were taken to the hospital and were in non-critical condition. (wreg.com, Memphis, Tenn., 6/19/24)

**I**n Spring, Texas, on the morning of June 22, a homeowner called police to report that he'd shot an intruder in his home who'd “rushed” him. Though the homeowner attempted lifesaving measures after the incident, the home invader still died at the scene. The investigation was ongoing. (woodlandsonline.com, The Woodlands, Texas, 6/22/24)

**V**ery early in the morning on July 6 in Tampa, Fla., a man broke into a beach-community home through a window, whereupon he was shot by an armed citizen

in the home. The intruder, a man in his 40s, was pronounced dead at the scene. (fox13news.com, Tampa, Fla., 7/6/24)

**A**n Anderson, Ind., businessman was walking downtown on July 8 and playing a scavenger-hunt game on his phone when a 43-year-old homeless man reportedly ambushed him. The assailant took the man's phone and punched him in the face, whereupon the businessman fired at and killed the aggressor. Later investigation revealed that the homeless man had threatened several other people in the area as well. Authorities said it appears to be a “very strong self-defense case,” noting “you can use deadly force to defend yourself or your property if you have reason to believe you could be injured or killed” in Indiana. (fox59.com, Ind., 7/11/24)

**I**n Topeka, Kan., shortly after 11 p.m. on July 10, a man entered an unnamed business and was informed by staff that the business was closed. The man allegedly drew a firearm and threatened the staff, but one of the staff members shot him instead. The suspect was taken to the hospital in stable condition and the investigation was ongoing. (wibw.com, Topeka, Kan., 7/11/24)

**O**n the morning of July 12, a woman in her vehicle in Cincinnati, Ohio, was reportedly attacked by two other women armed with rocks. The woman defended herself by shooting the alleged assailants. The suspects were both transported to the hospital, one with life-threatening injuries. The victim's vehicle had flat tires, and her back and side windows were broken. Police were still investigating the incident at the time of reporting. (fox19.com, Cincinnati, Ohio, 7/12/24) 