



**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, 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. Share this column online at nrarepublications.org.

In Hart County, Ga., near midnight on Sept. 1, a man heard a woman screaming for help and saw her being choked by another man on her front porch. The armed citizen shot the man who was allegedly assaulting her, stopping the attack. The suspect ran into the house and was wielding a knife when police found him. He was ordered to drop the knife, which he did, but he otherwise remained non-compliant, so officers tased him and took him to the hospital for treatment of a gunshot wound. Investigators found that the woman, who was the alleged assailant's girlfriend's mother, had also been cut numerous times before the choking. The suspect was to be charged with multiple counts of felony obstruction, aggravated assault and battery and other charges. (921wlhr.com, Lavonia, Ga., 9/4/24)

At 7:30 a.m. on Aug. 31, a homeowner in Lee's Summit, Mo., discovered a stranger who had broken into the home. The homeowner reportedly told the man to leave, but he did not comply, so the homeowner shot him. The suspect then got into a car and left, but officers soon stopped the vehicle and detained two people inside it. The suspect was sent to the hospital for treatment of unspecified minor injuries. The investigation was ongoing. (kmbc.com, Kansas City, Mo., 8/31/24)

In Daviess County, Ind., a man was in front of his home the evening of Sept. 2 when another man pulled into the driveway, got out and started arguing with him. When the stranger pointed a gun at the homeowner, he drew his own gun and fired two shots. The assailant got back into his car, but later died of his injuries. The county sheriff said there was no connection between the two men, but the man who'd initiated the incident was known to have "mental-health issues." (wthitv.com, Terra Haute, Ind., 9/5/24)

On Sept. 3 in Tulsa, Okla., a man was at home when five individuals rushed him, pinned him against his car and assaulted him. "With overwhelming odds against him, he did pull out a pistol and start firing," a police captain told reporters. Two of the alleged assailants were struck, with one, a 47-year-old man, later dying of his wounds. The investigation was ongoing. (fox23.com, Tulsa, Okla., 9/5/24)

Two armed men reportedly broke into the home of a 23-year-old woman in Chicago, Ill., at 6:30 a.m. on Sept. 4. The woman, however, who had been through the extensive process of obtaining a Firearm Owners Identification (FOID) card in Illinois,

produced her own firearm and shot at the men. After an exchange of gunfire, one of the men was shot in the chest and was later pronounced dead at the hospital. The other intruder fled and it was not known if he had been detained at the time of reporting. (wgntv.com, Chicago, Ill., 9/4/24)

On the morning of Sept. 5, a homeowner in Sweetwater, Tenn., was awakened by his dogs barking and lights turning on inside his home. When he investigated, he found a stranger in his home, whom he escorted out at gunpoint to wait for law enforcement. The home invader initially complied, but then shoved the armed citizen down, re-entered the home and locked the door. Other people in the home were now in danger, so the homeowner discharged his firearm, striking the intruder, who then exited and collapsed. The homeowner and first responders rendered aid, but the suspect later died in the hospital. The man reportedly had a history of entering random houses along with a recent "mental status change," which his family reported to police. No charges were to be filed against the homeowner. (wate.com, Knoxville, Tenn., 9/5/24)

In Escambia County, Fla., on Sept. 8, a woman was cleaning out a rental property she owned, with two men helping. One of the men allegedly pulled out a gun and tried to steal the woman's purse; however, she drew her own gun and fired one shot at the would-be robber. The men fled, but police later located and arrested one of them at a hospital with a gunshot wound in his foot; the second suspect now has an active warrant for several robbery charges. (Escambia County Sheriff's Office Facebook post, Escambia County, Fla., 9/10/24) 