

BODY ARMOR AND BALLISTIC PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

P&SN

Police
and
Security
News

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019
VOLUME 35 ISSUE 6

Serving Law Enforcement & Homeland Security

ESSENTIAL PATROL RIFLE SKILLS

HOW TO PROPERLY

DRAW

A DUTY WEAPON

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FOCUS

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...AND
NOTHING BUT
THE TRUTH



WE DIDN'T START THE FIRE...

RAMESH NYBERG



By the time you read this, the holiday season will be in full swing. So, this column focuses on reflection of the past, and thanks – yes, thanks – to our brothers and sisters in blue from the past. What they had to deal with, and how they dealt with it, is an exploration most of us don't really know about and it has shaped what we – as law enforcement agencies today – have become.

It's easy for us, in any profession, to think we have it "rough." Don't get me wrong, my police family. You are out there wearing that badge every day dealing with things and attitudes I did not have to face. It's a different world, particularly for you in patrol. We should, however, take a look back every so often and, when we do that, we are able to see the "glass half full" part of our profession. It's kind of like the last couple of generations who have grown up with cell phones and digital downloads and never had to make a call from a rotary phone, or buy a CD to hear music (much less an LP – I still have quite a collection of vinyl!). It's easy to get frustrated when your cell phone drops a call. But, folks, it's a damn cell phone. The signal goes up into freaking space and comes back down, so you can Face-

Time® with your friends and family.

What prompted all of this was a comment I saw on Twitter. Yes, I know. I should stay the hell off of Twitter, and I do, save for my real estate marketing. It's hard to ignore certain comments, though. This one was semi-political in nature and ended with the words, "...the world is on fire." I thought about that. Yes, there is division – political and racial. Yes, we have antifa goons roaming the streets of Portland and other places. We've had some protests, a lot of hatred and name-calling back and forth. Stuff is also bad in the Middle East (oh, huge surprise there, hmm?) and there are tensions everywhere.

Number one, everything I just mentioned has *always* been present in some form or another, domestically and globally. It's all just more "in our face" today because of social media and the ability for anyone – a 12-year-old kid, maybe – to be a source of "news" in a matter of seconds. And, as for the world being "on fire," I respectfully direct your attention to the year 1968.

You want the world "on fire"? That was it. The United States was embroiled in a nasty, bloody conflict in a little strip of Earth called Vietnam. 1968 may have been one of the deadliest years there, though I think

we lost more service personnel the year after. We were bombing North Vietnam at a rate which was as unmitigated as anything which had ever happened in the history of war. More bombs fell on North Vietnam than all the bombing which occurred in WWII, both the European and Pacific theaters *combined*. Hanoi, for sure, was on fire, but so were the streets here at home.

1968 saw more protests than any time in our history. When I mean protests, folks, I'm not talking about a hundred or so idiots with handkerchiefs on their faces, breaking windows and burning cars. I'm talking about tens of thousands – in some events, *hundreds of thousands* – of Americans in the streets, marching, shouting, blocking streets, and fighting with police. These riots didn't happen three or four times; they happened with regularity. The most prominent and noteworthy of the '68 riots were in Detroit, in the Watts area of L.A. (which all but burned to the ground), and Chicago. Your predecessors were called to the streets, donning primitive riot gear, and with almost no training in how to deal with it. The supervisors of those days were basically throwing together teams of officers – anyone and everyone who was available – and deploying them wherever



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...AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

Continued from page 6

the demonstrators were present. Inevitably, rocks and *Molotov cocktails* were thrown – not to mention bags of urine and feces – at police officers and they responded the way human beings under attack respond: They fought back. The results were bloodied and beaten protestors, injured cops, and members of antigovernment organizations, such as the Weather Underground, vowing to become more violent the next time. The Weather Underground planned and encouraged the killing of police officers and loudly stated that their goal was the dismantling of capitalism and the overthrowing of the US government. They were so radical that the Black Panther Party turned down their request to collaborate with them in their quest to take power.

Those who came before us, brothers and sisters, didn't have high-tech communication gear. They didn't have expandable batons, OC spray or TASER®s. They had revolvers, German Shepherds, tear gas, and big wooden clubs. And, they had zero training in "conflict management" or even field force tactics. These were street fights, pure and simple, and they got very ugly.

Add to this mayhem, which went unabated from 1967 well into 1971, that most police chiefs back then were not as educated, well-spoken, and experienced in public relations as they are today. So, each TV broadcast showing bloodied protestors getting dragged into paddy wagons only made things worse. On fire? Yes, the streets of America's major cities absolutely were and this unrest raged under both Democratic and Republican presidents. When things were so bad in 1968 that President Johnson chose not to run for re-election, imagine what it was like for those underpaid and poorly trained uniformed cops on the street? America's protests fueled similar protests worldwide. Buddhist monks were setting themselves on fire in the streets of South Vietnam. There were violent protests in France and England as people there jumped on the antiwar bandwagon. If you want a great depiction of that era, watch the Ken Burns documentary, *The Vietnam War*. It's as much about what happened here in America as it is about the war itself.

We have come an awful long way since then. As a law enforcement profes-

sion, we have evolved into what, I believe, is the most well-trained, well-equipped and well-educated civil servants to be found anywhere on the planet. If you tell that to the average American citizen, they might laugh and say, "Yeah, right." But, ask someone who moved here from a foreign country what he (or she) thinks. Go anywhere else in the world and cuss out a cop and experience the difference for yourself. Go to India or just about any country in Asia or Africa and pick up the phone to request a police officer because you have a problem, and they will laugh at you and tell you to handle it yourself.

You don't even have to go to another country to see how your profession has evolved and what policing with few or no resources is like. Just go back to 1968.

When the world was truly on fire...

P&SN

Ramesh Nyberg retired from law enforcement in November 2006 after 27 years in police work. He now owns his own private investigation agency, Nyberg Security and Investigations, and can be reached at Ramesh@NybergPi.com. He enjoys getting feedback from readers.



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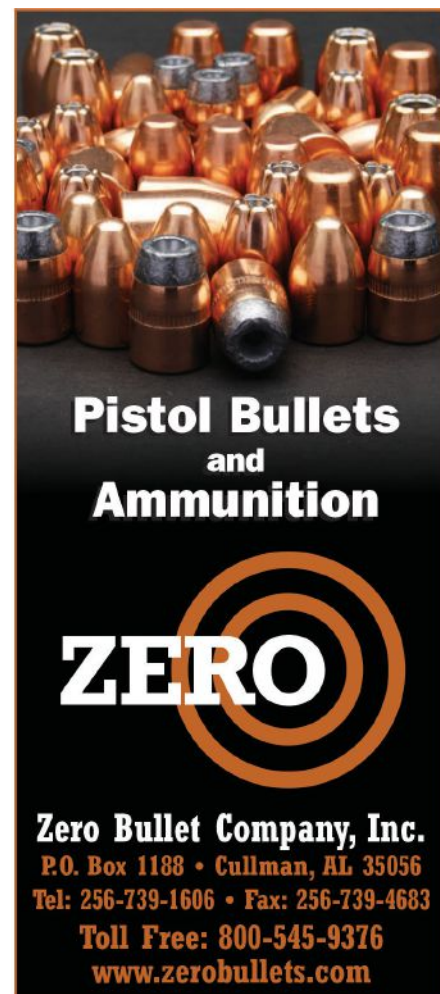
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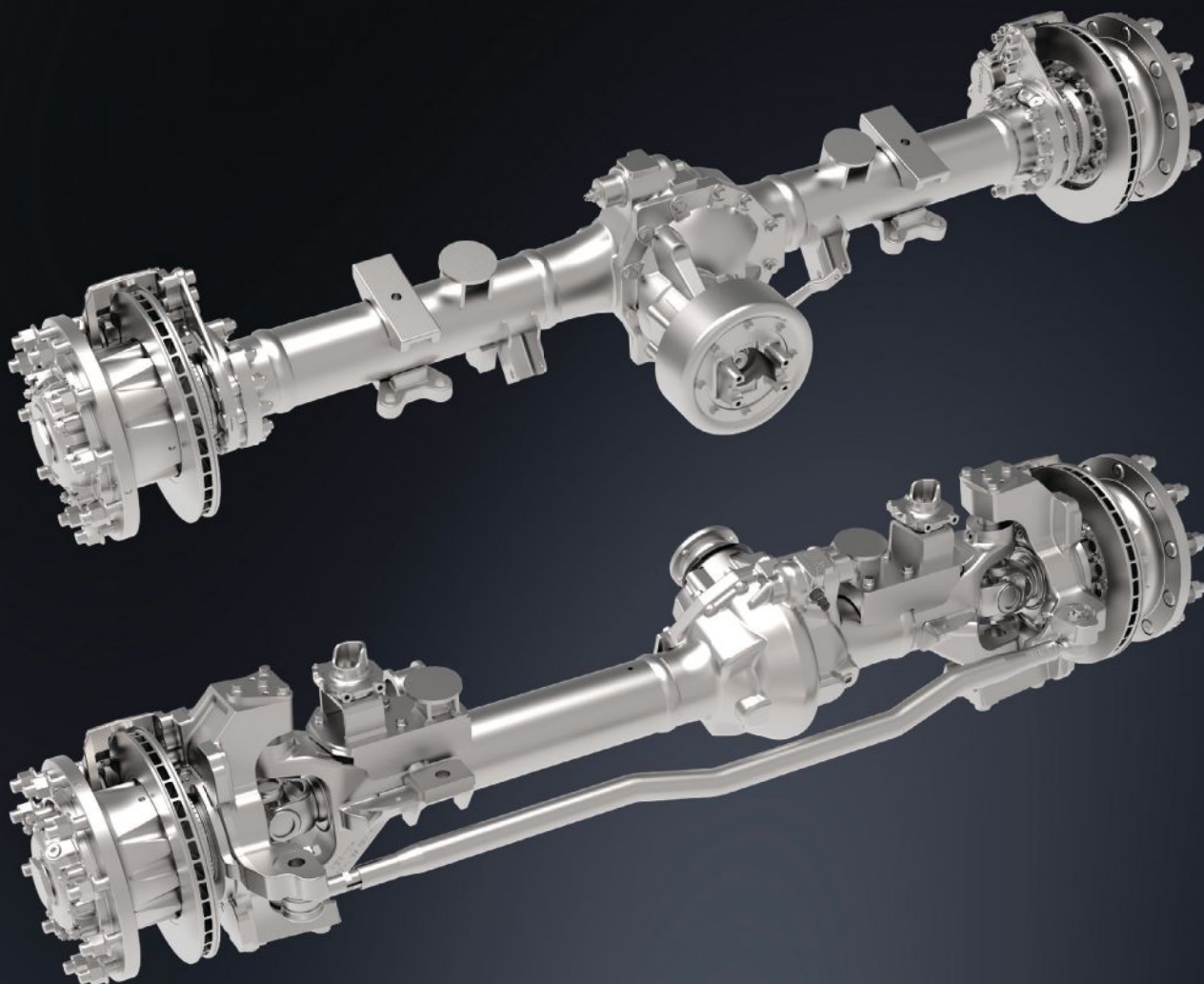
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FOCUS ON TECHNOLOGY

Body Armor/Ballistic Protection



New Concealable Carrier

RISE™ 2.0 is Angel Armor's next generation concealable carrier offering a variety of features. **RISE 2.0** bolsters its soft ballistics with front and rear top loading rifle plate pockets for quick up-armor capability using Truth SNAP™ rifle plates without removing the vest. **RISE 2.0** offers improved weight distribution – the weight of the vest and plates is apportioned around the torso (as opposed to the shoulders) using its QuadCore Attachment System™ for a consistent fit while keeping the vest secure with no turtling or shifting throughout the day.

Circle 6006 for More Information

Attack Mats are created and patented by a retired police officer who recognized the need for quickly available ballistic protection during high risk situations. **Attack Mats** are vehicle specific, combination floor mats and ballistic shields in one. Officers can easily remove the mats from under their feet by grasping one of the mats' integrated handles as they exit the patrol vehicle. This provides them with an instant Level IIIA ballistic shield to protect themselves. **Attack Mats** are lightweight and can withstand multiple rounds from both handguns and shotguns (including slugs) without penetration.

Circle 6008 for More Information



Inexpensive Rifle Rated Ballistic Shields for Patrol

Baker Ballistics has introduced an affordable new model of rifle rated ballistic shields, the **MRAPS® X**, specifically targeted for use by patrol first responders armed with patrol rifles. It can be stored where needed most for instant use – on the front seat.



Recent deadly armed attacks upon law enforcement by criminals equipped with rifles have clearly identified the need for an inexpensive, yet highly protective, ballistic shield to counter what is considered the most dangerous ballistic threat to American LEOs – AR platform 5.56mm weaponry.

Patrol personnel can now afford to be protected from popular weaponry and dangerous ammunitions which exceed the ballistic capabilities of standard lightweight NIJ Level III polyethylene armor inserts and shields.

Circle 6009 for More Information



New Carrier with Upgraded Cummerbund

The lightweight **Hard Core H3**, from Armor Express, features adjustable shoulders and waist and uses BRAVO cut panels for enhanced coverage and a more accurate fit. The carrier includes the Dynamic Cummerbund System, now available in three Quick Release options. The **H3** features the Quad Ventilation Liner (QVL) system for improved heat management and air circulation; the MOLLE design offers user customization; it accommodates Peraflex System pouches; and the shoulder strap offers enhanced ergonomics and communication channeling.

Circle 6007 for More Information



Hardwire, LLC

New from Hardwire is their **2020 Interceptor Utility armor kit**. They are now offering kits in Level IIIA (preferred by most departments/agencies), Level III and Level III+. Hardwire's Vehicle Armor products are a cost-effective solution for adding ballistic protection to a police vehicle without major vehicle modifications or difficult installation. Hardwire's car door armor quickly attaches to a vehicle's exterior and the Transparent Armor Window Insert fits into existing vehicle window openings. The window insert and vehicle door armor provide protection against handguns and shotguns (NIJ IIIA) or rifles (NIJ Level III).

Circle 6010 for More Information



Guardian Uniform Carrier

Combining the functionality of a load bearing vest with the tailored appearance of a uniform shirt carrier, the **Guardian Uniform**, from Point Blank Enterprises, provides an integration of versatility and design. The carrier features multifunctional pockets, MOLLE webbing to attach equipment pouches and a concealed center zipper for easy donning and doffing. Available with NIJ Standard 0101.06 Level IIA, II or IIIA ballistic systems, the **Guardian USC** offers around-the-clock protection and comfort.

Circle 6011 for More Information



New Body Armor System

Phalanx Steel is the newest addition to the completely modular, shift-deployable NIJ Level III body armor system offered by Phalanx Defense Systems. **Phalanx Steel** hard armor is a multihit-rated, stand-alone armor which has also been tested against special threats like M193, M855, M80, and 7.62mmx-39mm MSC. The plate can be upgraded with a spall cover for added protection.

Circle 6012 for More Information



Operator Elite Helmet

Compatible with communications equipment, gas masks and many other attachments, this is the helmet of choice for many military and law enforcement agencies throughout the world. The **Operator Elite** helmet, from Point Blank, is designed to be lightweight and provide robust protection with additional configurations available. Its 4D Combat Pad ultra-comfort system keeps users cool in the summer and warm in the winter, along with a guaranteed no rattle fit.

Circle 6014 for More Information



New Helmet Mandible

The **EXFIL® Ballistic Mandible**, from Team Wendy, mounts quickly and tool-free to the front section of the rail system on an EXFIL Ballistic or EXFIL Ballistic SL helmet, protecting the face and ears from fragmentation while still allowing the user to cheek his/her weapon. It comes standard with two interchangeable nose pieces: a ballistic nose (shown in the photo) with a CORDURA® and nylon/spandex blend cover, and a non-ballistic, all-terrain nose with vents to allow for additional airflow.

Circle 6016 for More Information



New Level IIIA Shield

The **M1**, from Armor Express, is a Level IIIA ballistic shield (NIJ 0108.01 rated) which utilizes hybrid ballistic technology to minimize weight. New shape and sizing features of the **M1** give greater coverage while allowing for multiple shooting platforms with handgun or long gun. The rear of the **M1** is covered in loop enabling operators to place mirrors, entry tools and other needed equipment at arm's reach. Other key features include a black textured nylon face; a 5" x 11" viewport; hybrid composite ballistic construction; and a forearm strap with padding. The **M1** is available in a number of sizes, with and without a viewport.

Circle 6013 for More Information



New Helmet from Armor Express

The **Busch PROtective AMP-1 TP** provides head protection with extraordinary resistance to blunt force trauma, stopping bullets while decreasing impact to the helmet. Constructed of a multilayer aramid composite, the helmet meets VPAM-3 standards in addition to NIJ, DEA and FBI certification. Its increased edge and multi-impact capabilities enhance the helmet's protective area by up to 50% compared to standard ballistic helmets. Other key features include an advanced padding system with an improved wheel dial for ultimate sizing flexibility and a new harness system with single handed adjustment. The **AMP-1 TP** is available in black and green.

Circle 6015 for More Information



ARMIS GEN II

The **ARMIS GEN II** offers an innovative approach to body armor design. Point Blank's highly scalable, side-opening carrier allows tactical units the flexibility to configure the body armor system to meet mission specific needs. This includes the capability to release the complete vest in one quick motion and select the specific level of protection needed while enhancing mobility, agility and substantially improved range of motion for the operator.

The **ARMIS GEN II** is available with an advanced laser cut fabric, **TANK TRACK™** with Debris Management System. It has been engineered to provide superior puncture, abrasion and water resistance, and its lightweight construction is exceptionally strong with maximum load bearing capabilities.

Circle 6017 for More Information

TECHNOLOGY FROM THE PAST

Back in 1920, three inmates escaped from the Charlestown State Prison in Boston by means of a mechanism which they had manufactured in the prison shops.

It was later discovered that one of the escaping prisoners had a natural talent in the manufacturing and handling of tools. It was this individual who manufactured the apparatus which unlocked the necessary cell doors. Ordinarily, the cell door lock was far out of reach by even the tallest of prisoners. The improvised mechanical device was built out of more than 20 parts and perfectly assembled.

The body was a rod one inch in diameter and one and a half feet long. The "head" contained a movable part (semicircular in shape) which included

Prison Escape Tools

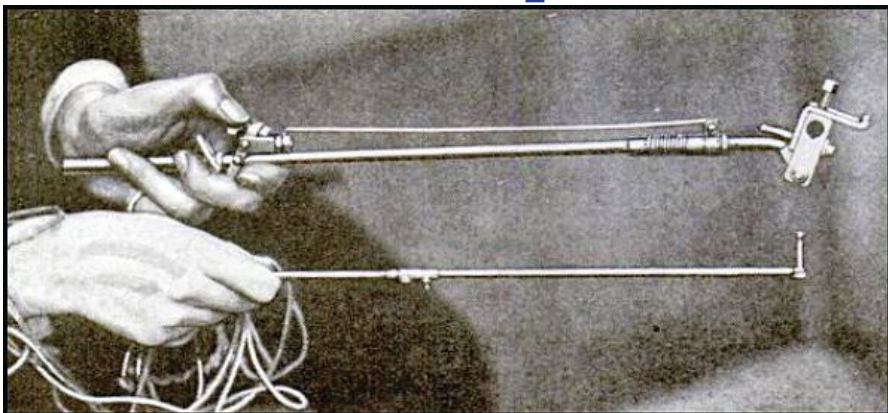


Photo: Popular Science

a carefully carved groove. The groove held a screw which was used to secure a key when placed in the groove. The movable "head" was controlled by a piston which was actuated by a thumb lever. One press allowed the part to revolve.

The device was unquestionably made in the prison – many of the parts were recognized as coming from various workshops within.

A trusty aided the three convicts in making their getaway. Cleverly arranged dummies were left by each man on their bunks so that correctional officers passing their cells would suspect nothing, even while the convicts were making their escape.

Police officials at that time declared that there wasn't an institution in the world which was infallible in preventing the escape of such men as these. **P&SN**

AE

Armor Express continues to lead the way in building overt body armor solutions. Introducing the TRAVERSE carrier in BRAVO cut. See more at ARMOREXPRESS.COM

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Tactical EMS/First Aid Equipment

PRODUCT HIGHLIGHT



CHINOOK MEDICAL GEAR, INC.

The **TMK-CUF Advanced** (Care Under Fire) is a tactical medical kit with expanded capabilities to deal with life-threatening injuries. The **CUF** features multiple internal elastic retention bands for securing hemorrhage control items, and the bottom of the pouch features an external three inch elastic retainer band designed to hold a tourniquet for quick access. The bag is made of 500 denier CORDURA® nylon and is MOLLE compatible with PALS webbing. It measures 7" x 5" x 3.25". Weighing 1.25 pounds, it contains gloves, a tourniquet, bandages, gauze, an airway tube, a decompression needle, a chest seal, shears, and tape.

Circle 6020 for More Information



COMBAT MEDICAL®

The **Tactical Mechanical Tourniquet (TMT)** is a hemorrhage control device specifically designed for massive hemorrhage control of an extremity. Using lessons learned from the battlefield, the **TMT** is designed to ensure ease of application and definitively control hemorrhage. Taught as a self-aid/buddy-aid task, the **TMT** requires minimal training to instantly treat life-threatening hemorrhage of an extremity.

Circle 6021 for More Information

TSSi

The Bleeding Control Kit Bag

is designed to hold up to eight Individual Bleeding Control Kits or a combination of Individual Bleeding Control Kits and poleless litters. The TSSi Bleeding Control Kit provides a simple and effective solution by equipping users with the essential tools to stop massive bleeding. The **bag** uses extremely durable 500D red nylon fabric which is screen printed with the words "BLEEDING CONTROL KIT" in white so that it can be easily identified in an emergency.

Circle 6024 for More Information



RESCUE ESSENTIALS

The **Mutual Aid Trauma Kit (M.A.T.)** was developed to provide officers with a standardized vehicle trauma kit for immediate treatment of gunshot wounds or other penetrating trauma. The kit components follow CoTCCC and C-TECC recommendations for tactical emergency medical response. An optional headrest mount allows the kit to be carried in a high visibility location where it can easily be seen by other responding officers and first responders. A three inch carabiner is attached to the bag, providing rapid attachment and enhanced "grab and go" capability. The **M.A.T.** contains one tourniquet, gauze, an emergency trauma dressing, a chest seal, a trauma pad, shears, an instruction card, and other supplies. It measures 5" x 8" x 4" and weighs 13.5 ounces.

Circle 6022 for More Information



COMBAT MEDICAL®

The **iTClamp®** is a CoTCCC recommended hemorrhage control device specifically for use on the head and neck. It is an intuitive, easy to apply, combat ready wound closure device which controls severe bleeding within seconds of application during "care under fire." The **iTClamp** seals the wound, creating localized, hands-free pressure which quickly forms a stable clot and prevents further blood loss. Localized pressure remains the simplest, time-tested way to control severe hemorrhage. With minimal training, every first responder can instantly treat life-threatening hemorrhage not amenable to a tourniquet.

Circle 6023 for More Information



TACTICAL MEDICAL SOLUTIONS®

The **TacMed™ Warm Zone ARK™** is a complete redesign of the standard ARK (Active Shooter Response Kit). The **Warm Zone ARK** holds up to eight fully customizable Casualty Throw Kits which bring 14 SOF® Tourniquets, 14 pressure dressings and 14 chest injury treatments directly to your warm zone, casualty collection point or ambulance collection point. Once open, the throw kits can be tossed to other responders and even bystanders due to the bilingual instructions found inside. The **WZ ARK** also excels as a rapid extrication platform by simply replacing the casualty throw kits with the Rescue Task Force Litter.

Circle 6025 for More Information



RESCUE ESSENTIALS

The **TacMed™ Patrol Trauma Response Kit (PTRK)** has the tools you need for rapid response when seconds count. Designed to be worn on the belt or on a MOLLE platform, this compact **kit** takes up minimal space and keeps critical equipment on the provider. The **PTRK** has a divider to keep the SOF® Tactical Tourniquet Wide separate from the Esmark Bandage, gauze, and Fox Chest Seal. There is also individual storage for one pair of gloves. It measures 6" x 4" x 3" and weighs 13.5 ounces.

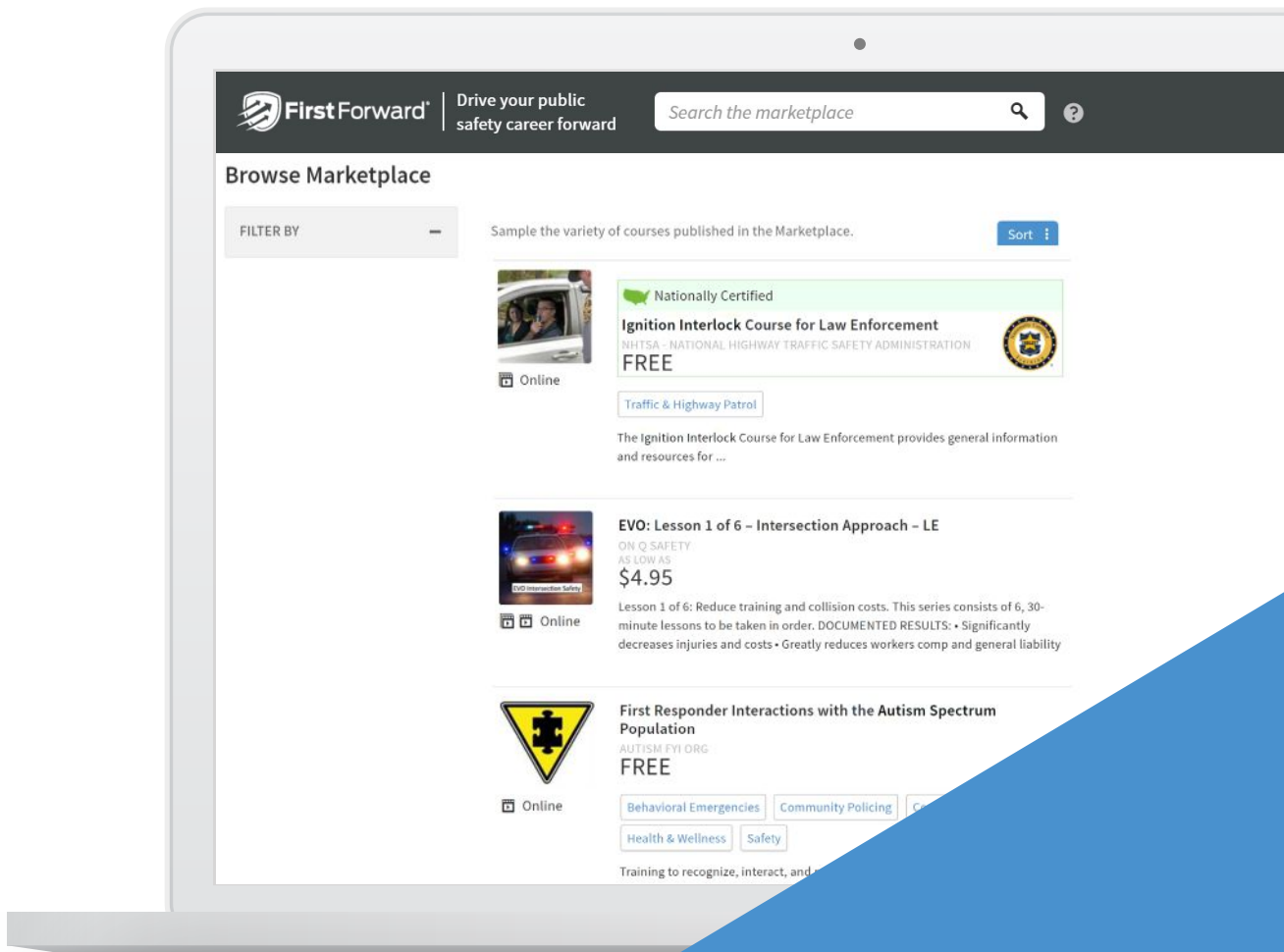
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THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE



TRANSPORTATION 2020

Welcome to our transportation issue for 2020, our annual review of everything which is new in LE vehicles and equipment for the coming year as seen at national events like the IACP Conference, Police Security Expo, Police Fleet Expo, and the Michigan State Police (MSP) vehicle tests. You've often heard that "hindsight is 20/20," well, we're here to prove that foresight is also 20/20, as we give you a huge jump start on building your next fleet.

Our preview will be presented in the following order: First, the results of the Michigan State Police 2020 vehicle tests, followed by a review of 2020 Model Year sedans and SUVs from the "Big Three." The next section will cover the MSP motorcycle tests and descriptions of those motorcycles. Next, you'll find a review of emergency lighting and sirens, followed by consoles, bumpers, partitions, and storage solutions and we'll conclude with a look at a variety of other LE equipment.

2020 MSP TESTS AND VEHICLE REVIEW

On September 14, 2019, the MSP put 13 LE vehicles to the test: five sedans, seven SUVs and one pickup. The vehicles were tested for acceleration, top speed and braking at the Chrysler Proving Grounds, Chelsea, MI.

Sedan Acceleration, Top Speed and Braking

For your convenience, we've combined the sedan results here and the SUV results will follow.

The five sedans presented for evaluation were four Dodge Chargers including two

3.6L V-6 and two 5.7L V-8 models (one each in RWD and AWD). The fifth sedan tested was the Ford Responder® Hybrid Sedan. In all reality, this was a competition between the four Chargers, as the Ford Responder Hybrid is not considered a pursuit vehicle.

Acceleration is recorded in speeds of 0-20 mph through 0-100 in ten mph increments and the top speed is recorded as well. For the purposes of our analysis, we look at top speeds and the 0-60 mph times, as that is a fair representation of the speed needed to overtake a violator from a standing start to freeway speeds and, of course, the top speed indicates whether you'll catch them or not.

The fastest sedan (at 150 mph) was the Charger 5.7L HEMI® V-8 in AWD. It was also the fastest from 0-60 at 5.81 seconds. Second was the RWD V-8 at 149 mph and 0-60 in 6.06 seconds, and third was the 3.6 V-6 AWD at 143 mph and 0-60 in 7.23 seconds.

This year, the distances required to reach 100 mph and 120 mph were recorded (in feet) and the RWD HEMI recorded the shortest distances in both with 1254.62 feet (100 mph) and 2429.38 feet (120 mph).

The Ford Responder Hybrid Sedan had a respectable showing with a top speed of 119.8 mph which was actually faster than both Dodge Durangos tested, but it did take the longest distance (2787.31) to reach 100 mph, and its 0-60 mph time was the slowest of every vehicle tested at 9.06 seconds.

Vehicle braking is determined by an average of two 60-0 mph stops and is recorded in feet. Obviously, the shortest distance registered is the best. Over the years, we've seen drastic improvements in braking with two- and, then, four-wheel disc brakes, ABS and AWD – all of which make the streets

safer for our officers and citizens alike.

Of the five sedans tested, the Ford Responder's stopping distance was the best of the sedans...and, actually, the best of ALL vehicles tested with a distance of 126.6 feet! The two V-6 Chargers followed with 127.2 feet (AWD) and 127.3 feet (RWD) with the two V-8s slightly over an inch apart at 128.4 and 129 feet.

SUV Acceleration, Top Speed and Braking

Following what is becoming a North America buying trend, most of the vehicles in this test were SUVs (a total of seven): two Chevrolet Tahoes, two Dodge Durangos and three Ford Police Interceptor® Utilities.

The Ford Interceptors tested were all in (standard) AWD configuration – the new Hybrid, the 3.0L EcoBoost® and the base 3.3L edition. The EcoBoost was the fastest SUV tested, matching the Charger's top speed of 150 mph and it also posted the fastest 0-60 time (5.43 seconds), 0-100 mph (13.99 seconds), plus the shortest distances to reach 100 mph (1308.88 feet) and 120 mph (2607.87 feet).

Two versions of the Chevy Tahoe were tested, both with the venerable 5.3L V-8 – a RWD and a 4WD. Of the pair, the RWD was somewhat faster with a top speed of 134 mph versus 122.1 mph and a 0-60 time of 7.81 seconds versus 7.94 seconds. The AWD also took less real estate than the 4WD to reach 100 mph (76.99 feet) and 120 mph (243.96 feet).

The Dodge Durangos were the slowest in acceleration and top speed of all the SUVs. The two tested were both AWD units – a 3.6L V-6 and the 5.7L V-8. Of the pair, the V-8 was one mile per hour faster at 118 mph

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versus 117 mph and both vehicles' 0-60 times were slower than the Tahoes' (7.44 and 8.59 seconds) and their distance required to reach 100 mph was further as well (1969.72 and 2162.17 feet).

However, in the brake tests, the Mopar® Durangos did improve; in fact, the HEMI posted the shortest stopping distance of all the SUVs tested at 129.2 feet. Second-best was the Hybrid Interceptor at 130.1 feet and the EcoBoost Utility (at 130.3 feet) was third. The Durango V-6 tied with the Ford 3.5L at 131.5 feet. The heavier Tahoes required more than ten feet (each) to stop (142.5 and 144.9 feet).

THE 2020 VEHICLE LINEUP

CHEVROLET (gmfleet.com/police)

For the first time in recent memory, Chevrolet has only one true police car for sale – the Tahoe PPV. Long gone are the great name plates, like Caprice and Camaro, and now the Impala has been added to that list. "But, wait," the GM brass would argue, "we have several more, like the Silverado Special Service, the Malibu, the Traverse, the Bolt, and the Express Van." Sure, the GM Fleet brochures show these vehicles with "Police" decals, but what we report on is what MSP tested – the Tahoe, one of American departments' favorite SUVs.

The Tahoe comes in two flavors (both with the 5.3L V-8) – the RWD Police Pursuit Vehicle (PPV) and the 4WD Special Service Vehicle (SSV). Only the PPV is pursuit-rated, but the majority of the Tahoe specs and data are identical as both are considered "carryover" models. The SSV boasts a higher ground clearance (10.7") and an Off-Road Suspension Package, but both share common safety features such as Forward Collision Alert, Lane Assist and Lane Departure Alert, Automatic Emergency Braking, Hill Start Assist, Rear Park Assist, rear cameras, and a skid plate package. The Tahoe is available in 13 colors. Although the Tahoes have a higher MSRP than the Ford and Dodge competition, their durability and five year/100K warranty keeps their resale prices high and the demand strong.

The Silverado truck also carries the SSV designation, but is not pursuit-rated. It is only available in a Crew Cab model, but in either RWD or 4WD configurations. The Express Transport Van is available as a windowed passenger van or a closed cargo van which is suitable for conversion into secure prisoner transport.

FCA US LLC (fcausfleet.com)

Dodge offers two pursuit-rated choices (in six configurations) for 2020, the Char-

ger Pursuit and the Durango Pursuit. The Charger is available with either a Pentastar® 3.6L 292 hp V-6 or the popular HEMI 5.7L 370 hp V-8. Both versions were originally offered in RWD only, then AWD was offered in the V-6 and now AWD is available with both engines. The HEMI AWD is the segment's most technologically advanced AWD system for maximum all-weather traction and performance. The 2020 Charger features FCA's exclusive (no extra cost) Officer Protection Package in which a camera and sensors detect movement at the rear of the vehicle and automatically send an image to the Uconnect® touch screen which can be programmed to activate warning chimes, flash taillights and reverse lights, roll up windows, and lock all doors.

Other Charger standard features and options for 2020 include ballistic door panels for driver and passenger doors; programmable steering wheel controls which can operate aftermarket emergency equipment; and load-leveling Nivomat® shock absorbers. Everything is covered by a three year/36K mile warranty. Chargers are available in 18 colors with great names like Destroyer Gray, Maximum Steel Police Blue, Sheriff's Tan, and White Knuckle.

The Durango Pursuit was first tested last year by MSP and the improved 2020 model is the result. It is available with either the

TufBox

NEW Drawer System for the 2020 Ford Police Interceptor



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3.6L V-6 or the 5.7L V-8 and both are AWD. It differs in appearance from the civilian Durango with brake cooling air ducts in the front fascia, but shares Charger's popular "racetrack" design taillights. It is equipped with Nivomat load-leveling shocks, police grade brakes, front and rear stabilizers, Electronic Stability Control (ESC), best in class towing capacity (7,200 lbs.), ParkView® rear camera with ParkSense and the interior is K-9 friendly with a tri-zone interior temperature control.

Dodge's cousin division, Ram, offers the Ram 1500 Special Service (SS) truck powered by the 5.7L HEMI backed with a six-speed automatic transmission and part-time 4WD with an electric shift transfer case. It boasts a towing capacity of 10,170 lbs. and offers the exclusive Ram Boxes, twin locking built-in cargo bins in the bed sides. Other features include the ParkView Rear Camera, All Speed Traction Control and Electric Stability Control. The Ram SS is not pursuit-rated.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY (fleet.ford.com)

The new 2020 Police Interceptor Utility Hybrid has been eagerly anticipated and the results live up to the expectations. It joins the other two PI Utilities and all three

are AWD. The Hybrid is powered by a 3.7L liter gas engine and lithium-ion battery and has a projected 41% fuel savings over last year's gasoline model. In addition, the Utility Hybrid platform was specifically designed around the battery so cargo space is not sacrificed and, actually, cargo space in the 2020 Utility has increased.

The other PI Utilities offer either the standard 3.3L V-6 or the gutsy 3.0L EcoBoost which tied with the HEMI Charger Pursuit for top speed. The Utilities share several exclusive features, such as Ford's Police Perimeter Alert which monitors a 270 degree area around the vehicle's rear to detect movement. When motion is detected, the system automatically activates the rear camera and an audible alarm, rolls up the windows and locks the doors. Other PI features include Pre-Collision Assist with Automatic Braking and Pedestrian Detection and Forward Collision Warning.

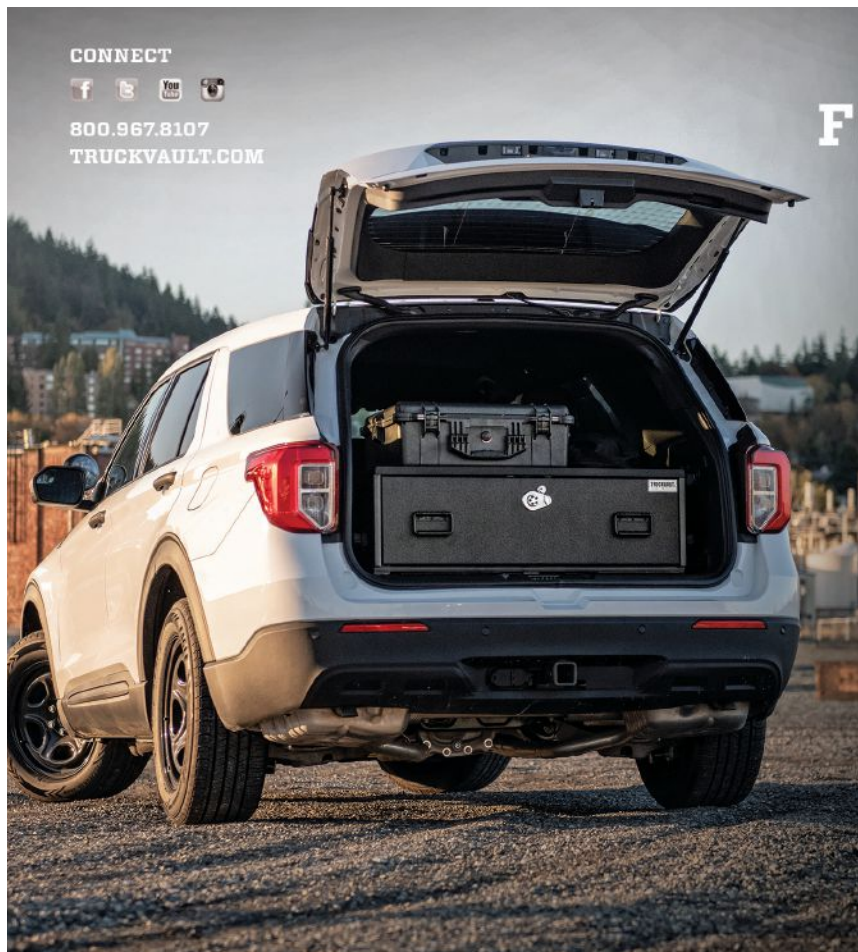
Ford is renowned for their rigorous accident testing, dating back to the Crown Victoria rear end fires decades ago. At that time, Ford increased their standards to well beyond what was required for a rear end crash survivability – a 75 mph impact. But, they did not stop there, as the Utility is also tested for an eight inch curbing impact, median crossings and a 30 mph railroad track

crossing, aka a "Dukes of Hazzard" jump. For high water rescue, the Utilities have been successfully tested for operation in 18 inches of water at 15 mph and ten inches at 40 mph. The PI Utilities are available in 17 colors.

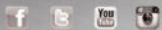
Ford's other LE applications include the Police Responder Hybrid Sedan which can provide noticeable fuel savings over traditional police sedans of the past. It is estimated that, with a full charge, it can cover 25 miles before the hybrid gas/electric system takes over.

The F-150 Police Responder pickup is a SuperCrew Cab model powered by the 3.5L EcoBoost 375 hp V-6 in full-time 4WD. Its 6.9 second 0-60 mph was actually better than both Durangos and its top speed was a respectable 106 mph. Of the three LE pickups, it is the only pursuit-rated model. It has a towing capacity of 7000 pounds and boasts the best payload capacity of the competition (2030 lbs.). It has the most interior passenger volume of any pursuit-rated vehicle. A non-pursuit F-150 Special Service Vehicle is also offered.

Other Ford LE vehicles include the Expedition; the Expedition MAX Special Service Vehicle; and the new Transit Prisoner Transport, an AWD van.



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MOTORCYCLE ACCELERATION, TOP SPEED AND BRAKING

The Michigan State Police were given six police motorcycles for evaluation. There were three BMW Authority solos – an RT-P (1250 CC), a GS-P (750 CC) and a GS-P (850 CC). Harley-Davidson® brought two, both with their Milwaukee-Eight® 114 (1868cc) – an Electra Glide® FLHTP and a Road King® FLHP. The sixth competitor was a Yamaha FJR P-AB (1300cc). The brake tests were conducted at the MSP Precision Driving Unit track on September 13 and the acceleration and top speed tests were conducted at the Chrysler Proving Grounds on September 14.

Hands down, the fastest motorcycle was the Yamaha at 147 mph, ten miles faster than the BMW 1250 at 137 mph. The Yamaha was also fastest at 0-60 mph at 3.67 seconds. The Yamaha also hit 100 and 120 mph in the shortest distance (708.79 feet and 1454.86 feet). The 1250 BMW was second best here, too. Third place top speed went to the BMW 850 GS-P at 120.1 mph, while the two Harley-Davidson police bikes posted the slowest top speeds (108.3 and 109.2 mph) and the slowest 0-60 and 0-100 times, too.

The best braking performance winner was the BMW RT-P at 127.3 feet, followed by the BMW 850 GS-P (131.8 feet) and the BMW 750 GS-P (132.9 feet). The two Harleys followed with distances of 138 and 138.9 feet and the worst stopping distance was recorded by the Yamaha at 143.8 feet, a full 16½ feet further than the best braking BMW! That's more than the widest American crosswalk and it should be a concern.

THE 2020 POLICE MOTORCYCLE REVIEW

BMW (bmwmc.net)

BMW Motorrad USA are represented by three models – the R 1250 RT-P, the F 750

GS-P and F 850 GS-P. In the marketplace for nearly 30 years, BMW solos are being used by more than 550 American agencies, including three of the largest which are all located on the West coast – the CHP, LAPD and LA County SD. Equipped with three different size engines, BMW offers motors for every application.

The BMW flagship, the R 1250 RT-P, features the 1250cc Boxer engine with Shift Cam Technology (SCT) which offers more effective combustion and the new toothed camshaft drive chain provides an optimized oil supply over a roller chain.

The F 850 GS-P safety features include an ergonomic ride comfort and both GS-Ps are equally capable on streets, highways and off-road and offer a variety of LE accessories.

Harley-Davidson (h-d.com/police)

Harley-Davidson offers two popular pursuit-rated motorcycles: the FLHTP Electra Glide and the FLHP Road King. Both are powered by the Milwaukee-Eight 114 CI 1868cc V-Twins and feature H-D's new Reflex Defensive Rider System (RDRS), designed to aid the rider when accelerating and braking in a straight line or when turning. The system is standard on the 2020 models and prevents the wheels from locking up when braking and is most helpful when riding in adverse road conditions and in urgent situations.

A key feature of RDRS includes Cornering Enhanced Electronic Linked Braking (C-ELB) which provides more responsiveness and more front and rear braking under a wide variety of situations. Cornering Enhanced Antilock Braking System (C-ABS) is a variation of ABS which takes into consideration the lean angle of a two-wheel motorcycle and is designed to help the rider maintain control when braking. Cornering Enhanced Traction Control System (C-TCS)

was designed to prevent the rear wheel from excessive spinning under acceleration when going straight or cornering and is switchable between Standard and Rain modes. Vehicle Hold Control (VHC) applies and holds brake pressure and prevents the motorcycle from rolling when stopped at a stop sign, on a hill or in stop-and-go traffic.

Yamaha (yamahamotorsports.com)

Yamaha's FJR1300P is a police version of their popular FJR1300 Sport Touring Motorcycle and has proven to be a fast and nimble option to the heavier police bikes. The 1298cc, DOHC, 16 valve, liquid cooled, inline four-cylinder engine is coupled to a six-speed transmission. It features standard traction control, cruise control, LED lighting, adjustable seat height and handlebar positions, and a push-button controlled adjustable windshield. Yamaha is currently working with a group of vendors to develop exclusive LE equipment options.

EMERGENCY LIGHTS AND SIRENS

Lights and sirens are the bread and butter of police work. All the high-tech goodies we'll cover later are important, of course, but lights, sirens and radios are still the most important equipment in our vehicles and, without them, they're as worthless as a rowboat without oars, Superman without his cape, or Hollywood starlets without silicone. Following, you'll find new innovations in lighting and sirens from the leading manufacturers listed in alphabetical order.

Code 3®, Inc. (code3pse.com)

Code 3 has announced a significant upgrade to a popular exterior light. The HD-4PAK has evolved into the MICROPAC Hide-a-Blast™ exterior light. The housing unit which contains the controls and com-

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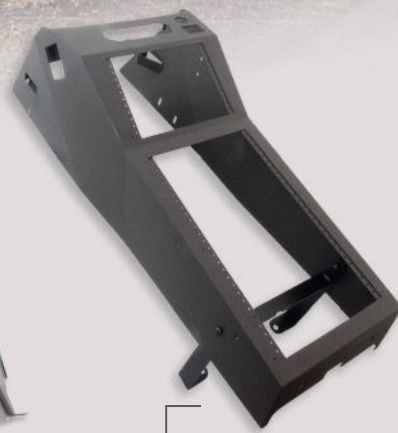
The 2020 PI Utility Solutions are **IN STOCK NOW!**



475-0063 - Space Creator Partition,
HS/HV Window



475-0791 - Single Cell Lite



425-6505 - Contour Console

Now is the time to order the brand new 2020 PI Utility suite of products from Jotto Desk, your Total Solutions Provider for the Law Enforcement Industry. Jotto Desk is your "Everything but Lights" one-stop shop for equipping public safety and homeland security vehicles. Ordering vehicle partitions, prisoner seating, gun racks, equipment consoles, computer mounts and more has never been more convenient with Jotto Desk's integrated designs that make sure that all products fit together perfectly to ensure a hassle free upfit.



GO TO JOTTOPUBLICSAFETY.COM FOR A LOOK AT THE ENTIRE 2020 PI UTILITY SUITE

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A brand line of  **ASSEMBLED**

ponents has been condensed and moved directly behind the lighthouse providing the compact design. Despite the low profile, the MICROPAK contains six LED heads and offers 26 single color and 69 dual color flash patterns. It can be mounted on virtually any vehicle surface.

Federal Signal (fedsig.com)

Federal Signal has introduced their new Pathfinder Siren and Light Controller which features a 100/200 watt siren, light controller and noise-cancelling microphone. There are two models, the PF200 and PF200R, and both feature a four position slide switch and seven position rotary switch and offer either face mounted or hand-held controllers, all in a compact 6" x 2.5" size.

SoundOff Signal® (soundoffsignal.com)

SoundOff Signal continues to improve their popular nFORCE® series of lightbars, with the newest 2.0 version which will be available February 2020. The new 2.0 will feature increased light output and symmetrical design with a lower profile flat top. These lightbars are available in popular lengths of 36" to 72", with 21 warning patterns, five takedown patterns and five alley light options. Also new is their nFUSE Lightbar which will be available in the winter of 2020. The nFUSE will combine nFORCE Lightbar LED technology with a Magnum Lightbar-style cover and features high output dual color lighting and enhanced control technology.

If that weren't enough, SoundOff also has brand-new 4x2, 7x3, and 6x4 Perimeter Lights. The 4x2 lights are currently available and the 7x3 and 6x4 units will be ready to go in early 2020. Available in the mpower® line with a choice of silicone lenses or polycarbonate lenses, these new lights feature warning, stop-tail-turn, or reverse functionality.

Also new from SoundOff Signal is the bluePRINT Sync® which unifies the lighting functions of an entire fleet of emergency vehicles and equipment. It is an add-on component for the bluePRINT 3 System and it provides true warning system coordination between vehicles (with no subscription fees). Sync-equipped emergency vehicles will automatically flash in perfect timing when using the same pattern which reduces the distractions and confusion of multiple, random flashing lights. It allows approaching drivers to better judge the emergency vehicle's status.

Whelen Engineering Company, Inc. (whelen.com)

Whelen Engineering has introduced the Arges™ remote spotlight which features a collision-safe control head which eliminates the need for an internal handle. With a small footprint, it reduces blind spots while driv-



CenCom Core™ is Whelen's new control system which enhances officer safety with advanced automation and remote connectivity.

ing and, with a full 360° rotation and 180° tilt range, 1800 lumens and 130,000 candle power, it's as close to daylight as possible. It also switches from spotlight to floodlight with no moving parts.

Their CenCom Core™ is a completely redesigned control system powered by WeCanX™, a CAN-based communications system created to enhance officer safety with advanced automation and remote connectivity. It is the most powerful CAN-based communication system in the industry today and connects lightbars, sirens, control heads, siren amplifiers, and input and output expansion modules. CenCom Core with patent-pending Dynamic Variable Intensity (DVI™) patterns is an innovative series of flash patterns designed to create an advanced level of safety in nighttime situations.

Whelen's Cloud Platform™ offers a multitude of capabilities. Using the Vehicle Safety Gateway™ (VSG™), it helps first responders make life-saving decisions through telemetric and GPS-based data, while the Cloud Live Map provides real-time information to accurately pinpoint vehicle locations, creating faster response times and advanced situational awareness. You can automatically synchronize lights and siren tones on vehicles in close proximity to each other which enhances officer and motorist safety.

CONSOLES, BUMPERS, PARTITIONS, AND STORAGE SOLUTIONS

Go Rhino! Products (publicsafety.gorhino.com)

Go Rhino! is geared up for the new 2020 PI Utility, offering three styles of push bumpers and numerous prisoner compartment components, including front and rear partitions, molded seats and rear door and rear window bars. For the 2018-2019 F-150 Responders, they offer steel or aluminum push bumpers, partitions and guards for the rear doors and rear windows.

Havis, Inc. (havis.com)

Havis builds consoles, computer mounts, docking stations, and prisoner and K9 units for the most popular police vehicles. They are geared up with new equipment for the

2020 Ford Interceptor Utility, such as the 24 inch Flat and the 22 inch Angled consoles; a premium and a lightweight dash monitor mount; an assortment of pedestal mount options; and a wide range of cargo storage solutions, including multiple trunk trays and a brand-new suite of modular storage solutions.

The Havis K9 transport solutions for the 2020 Interceptor Utility come with several options to keep your K9 partners safe. They offer modular systems for one or two dogs and a combination K9-Prisoner Transport solution. This next generation of K9 transport units feature an improved front slider door which eliminates rattle; window guards and door panels which maximize occupant safety; and provisions for a number of optional upgrades like divider doors, fan kits and remote door opener systems.



Jotto Desk's PI Utility Contour Console will mount up to 20" of equipment.

Jotto Desk (jottodesk.com)

Jotto Desk was one of the first up-fit equipment manufacturers to design, build and stock components for the 2020 PI Utility. Calling themselves the "Total Solutions Provider" (TSP), Jotto lives up to that claim for the Utility, with true "one-stop" shopping. First, you'll find their exclusive Contour Console which looks like it was installed by FOMOCO as it blends smoothly into the PI dash and relocates factory HVAC controls, parking brake, USB and 12-volt outlets (into their console), while still providing 20 inches of faceplate mounting. Three different computer mounts have been designed for the 2020 PIU which are designed to not only work with the A-MOD Desktops for laptops, but also with the various tablets being utilized. All mounts are designed to be a no holes installation – requiring no modification to the vehicle.

Mounts for Jotto's ZRT Gun Racks with SmartLok Technology are ready for the new Utility, too, and their Space Creator Partitions have been designed to prevent prisoners from sliding through an unsecured window. The all-new 2020 PI Utility Single Cell includes a traditional front divider, new center divider, passenger side window armor, door control covers, ABS seat cover and a rear cargo barrier which provides rear cargo protection and also protects prisoners in a crash. Additional cargo protection is offered with the rear Secure Grid Window Armor.



Lund Industries now has new additions to their LOFT product lineup.

Lund Industries, Inc.
(lund-industries.com)

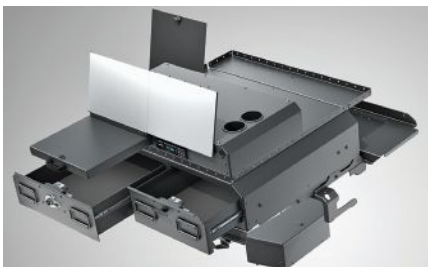
Lund Industries has announced a new addition to their popular LOFT product line to solve the problem of placing aftermarket electronics in the new 2020 Utility. The LOFT PIU20-EC Electronic Storage Model utilizes the unused space near the headliner in the cargo area and does not impact rear visibility. Other LOFT models for the Ford 2020 PIU will accommodate a single patrol rifle, dual rifle (including an auto-opening feature) and rescue gear, as well as the electronics unit.

OPS Public Safety
(opspublicsafety.com)

OPS Public Safety builds storage solutions and slides for LE trucks and their MAXX Slide Series offers designs for specific assignments, such as the SWAT Package, CVE Package, and Accident Reconstruction Package. Their new pickup drawer is called the Truck Box which comes in four different sizes. Its resilient aluminum design allows it to hold up to 450 lbs. of gear at full extension and 750 pounds on top of the drawer. Also new is their Combo Radio Drawer for the Ford PI Utility. This unit is designed to safely separate your weapons from your equipment by providing a long storage compartment on the driver side and two stacked drawers. In addition, the bottom drawer includes perforations on the front, back and bottom to prevent your radio equipment from overheating.

Setina Manufacturing Company, Inc.
(setina.com)

Setina is one of the oldest names in police vehicle equipment and they are celebrating their 56th year. They are proud to offer a



Setina's new Command Center works in conjunction with their new Dual Drawer Cargo Storage System.

total transportation solution for the 2020 PI Utility. From front to rear – their exclusive Bodyguard LED Lighted Push Bumpers to the Trunk Tray Storage Systems – they have you covered, but their innovation doesn't stop there. Equipment for the new PI Utility also include XL Partitions, Window Barriers and Door (panel) Guards, Free Standing or Partition Mounted Weapon Systems, and SmartBelt Electronic Seat Belts. They also offer both molded cover-style seats and replacement prisoner transport seats.



The Single Prisoner Transport "MAX" furnishes the Ford F-150 with a single prisoner transport seat, as well as a heavy-duty pull-out cargo drawer system.

New offerings from Setina aren't limited to just the new Ford Utility. Dubbed the "Single Prisoner Transport 'MAX,'" this new offering provides single prisoner transport and maximum interior storage for the Ford F-150. Features include a single prisoner transport polycarbonate partition and a heavy-duty pull-out cargo drawer system with an integrated radio and electronics storage bay. The rear driver side, lower storage deck comes with a heavy-duty rubber protective mat and tie-downs, and is available with an optional upper secure storage deck for optimal storage possibilities.

Also new for the PI Utility is Setina's Easy-Lift Cargo Deck II which functions as a rear compartment cargo, radio and electronics storage system. This new unit replaces your vehicle's factory rear compartment deck and provides a secure location for lower deck radio, electronics and cargo storage, along with providing easy access to your spare tire. Its modular design allows for the addition of Setina's new two drawer cargo storage system and command center. This new storage system is constructed of heavy-duty, aircraft grade aluminum and features dual locking drawers and high capacity steel lock-in, lock-out slide rails. The command center includes a sliding whiteboard, laptop platform, multiple radios, USB ports, and cup holders.

TruckVault, Inc.
(truckvault.com)

TruckVault builds storage units for LE pickup trucks and SUVs. One of their most popular designs in their Commander Line is the Investigator which combines a traditional two drawer system with an additional



TruckVault's Elevated 1 Drawer model attaches directly to factory locations on the vehicle for a secure installation.

weapons drawer on top. It fits the various LE SUVs. Their Elevated 1 Drawer model uses one of their secure in-vehicle storage solutions atop rugged steel brackets which allow easy access to the SUV's spares.

The unique SeatVault provides secure, fully concealable under seat storage for the LE Chevy and Ford pickups. They fit under the rear seat and are finished in OEM carpet colors to match your truck's interior.

Tufloc®
(tufloc.com)

Tufloc recently announced two new products. The X-Lock Gun Racks give officers quick, one-handed access to their guns. The patent pending design features stainless steel, ratcheting locking arms which automatically adjust to a secure fit for most weapons and the low-profile lock allows for aftermarket gun accessories.

The new TufBox Locking Drawer System for the 2020 PI Utility provides plenty of room to secure guns and equipment and the new base raises the TufBox off the floor to access the spare tire.



Tufloc® is offering their new TufBox Locking Drawer System for the 2020 PI Utility.

Westin Public Safety Division
(westinpublicsafety.com)

Westin Public Safety's equipment includes their Elite XD push bumpers for the LE pickups from Ram, Ford and Chevrolet with optional wing wraps and winches. For PIT maneuvers with the Utility, Charger and



Westin's new Defender Front Partition's unique design provides 20 percent more viewing area.

LE trucks, they offer the Push Bar Elite.

Westin has added two new prisoner partitions for the Tahoe and PI Utility. The Defender Front Partition is also new for the Charger and its unique design provides 20% more viewing area than the competition and boasts the fastest install in the industry. All exposed hardware in the prisoner area is tamperproof. The Defender Rear Partition for the Tahoe and Utility works with or without an optional electronics box and/or a poly window and mounts directly to OEM bolts and conforms to the headliner. The partitions can be mated to Westin's ABS Prisoner Seats, Door Cover Panels and Window Guards. Their partitions are backed by a three year warranty.

OTHER LE EQUIPMENT

This is all the other stuff which doesn't fit into the other categories and that you didn't think you need, but, once you read about it, you just gotta have it.

COBAN Technologies, Inc. (cobantech.com)

COBAN's FOCUS™ H1 in-car video system enhances officers' safety and efficiency with exclusive vehicle intelligence which continually records to the internal drive while storing event-based videos on the removable drive. It also offers a higher resolution and reduced stress on the agencies' network.

Goodyear® Tires (goodyear.com)

Goodyear Tires have been around almost as long as there have been police cars, but

did you know that their Goodyear Enforcer Family has three different models from which to choose? The Eagle® Enforcer is the standard duty tire and it features a pursuit calibrated tread compound for intense operating conditions on wet, dry and slushy surfaces. The Eagle Enforcer All Weather™ tire is equipped to handle adversity as the Active Response Technology combines pursuit ready and winter tread compound zones for enhanced grip on various road surfaces. The Eagle Enforcer Winter is made to work well in harsh winter conditions. It features V-TRED Technology which helps evacuate water, winter slush and snow from the contact patch.

Hardwire, LLC (hardwirellc.com)

New from Hardwire is their 2020 Interceptor Utility armor kit. They are now offering kits in Level IIIA (preferred by most departments/agencies), Level III, and Level III+. Hardwire's Vehicle Armor products are a solution for adding ballistic protection to a police vehicle without major vehicle modifications. Hardwire's car door armor quickly attaches to a vehicle's exterior and their Transparent Armor Window Insert fits into existing vehicle window openings. The window insert and vehicle door armor provide protection against handguns and shotguns (NIJ IIIA) or rifles (NIJ Level III).



Hardwire now has vehicle armor available for the new Ford PI Utility.

John Deere (deere.com)

Yep, you read that right...John Deere has entered the public safety arena with a new line of Special Application Vehicles built on the proven John Deere Utility Vehicle chas-



John Deere has introduced a line of police utility vehicles which are available in red, white, blue and black.

sis. They can be customized to match other fleet vehicles and are available in four primary colors, NOT just John Deere Green!

Pro-gard™ Products, LLC (pro-gard.com)

Pro-gard Products' newest addition to their ever expanding lineup is the Easy-Mic Magnetic Microphone Adapter. How many zillion holes have been drilled in police car dashes just to hang a radio microphone? Add to that number motorcycles and paddy wagons and the numbers are staggering. Well, Pro-gard has come up with one of those "Why didn't I think of that?" solutions, their Easy-Mic, a universal magnetic adapter which easily attaches the mic to a permanent base and is guaranteed to fit most handheld microphones. The base can be mounted virtually anywhere inside the vehicle.



The Easy-Mic assists in minimizing distracted driving.

SoundOff Signal (soundoffsignal.com)

SoundOff will have their new 500 Series Siren available in the spring of 2020. This new 200 watt siren features built-in bluePRINT programmability, as well as dual-tone capability to deliver two siren tones at once. This provides officers with extreme "traffic moving" capability and the new 500 Series also delivers improved diagnostic capabilities.

Thanks for Your Input!

We hope our review will assist you in making the critical fleet decisions facing you in 2020. **P&SN**

Sergeant James Post appreciates your comments and suggestions for future articles. He can be reached at kopkars@arkansas.net.

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Current methods for capturing latent fingerprints require physical contact which can possibly damage or destroy the fingerprint, or risk contaminating or destroying the DNA information contained in the fingerprints. Another problem is locating blood spots, gunshot residue and body fluids at the crime scene or on items taken from the scene to the laboratory.



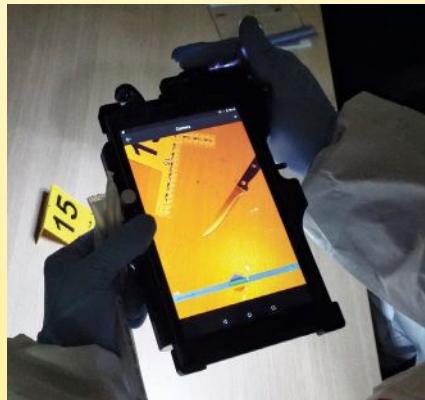
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The lightweight system includes an integrated advanced mobile axial lighting system and an attached Canon camera. The Canon camera is powered by an internal lithium



The ForenScope Mobile Multispectral Imaging Tablet is the world's first mobile, multispectral imaging system for locating blood, gunshot residue and body fluids.

battery while the integrated axial light source is powered by an attached lithium battery. These batteries provide hours of operation for real mobility and have fast charging capability.



Blood spots identified by ForenScope Mobile Multispectral Imaging Tablet

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The system features a dual filter system. The primary filter may be switched between the UV/Visible setting or the IR setting. The secondary filters are housed in a rotatable filter wheel which includes yellow, orange, 415nm, or open filter settings. The advanced lighting system is housed in two interchangeable lenses, the Macro Lens and the Micro Lens. Each lens features white, UV-A, violet, blue, Infrared 1, and Infrared 2 LED lights arranged in a circular array.

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Bill Siuru is a retired USAF colonel. He has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Arizona State University. He has been writing about automotive, aviation and technology subjects for many years.



ESSENTIAL PATROL RIFLE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

TODD FLETCHER

In some departments, carrying a patrol rifle is a confirmation of ability and competence. It's recognition of a commitment to training and skill development. In other departments, carrying a patrol rifle is a responsibility everyone shoulders.

In my opinion, I prefer to have all officers equipped with rifles because they are easier to shoot accurately and are more effective than a handgun. Greater accuracy and effectiveness seem like a good combination to me.

However, there are certain insights officers need to know when they carry a patrol rifle. In addition to this knowledge, there are essential skills which must be continuously reinforced through training. These should be practiced until they become second nature.

EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

When choosing a carbine, avoid lower priced, off-brand rifles. Generally speak-

ing, these days, you are lucky if you get what you pay for. It is unwise to skimp on gear which can protect your life and the lives of the public you're sworn to protect and serve.

After obtaining a quality rifle, one common mistake is hanging too many aftermarket parts on it. A lot of these accessories do nothing more than add weight and a sense of "tacti-cool." Don't be Cadet Tackleberry (if you don't know who Cadet Tackleberry is, feel free to look it up). Accessories attached to your rifle should be quality items which enhance your ability to put accurate rounds on target. Officers can't afford to use inferior, untested products which may fail when needed most.

A quality light, a minimum of three magazines and a sling should be mandatory. Optics are optional; however, I'm a big fan of magnified optics on patrol rifles for their advantage in threat assessment at a distance.

KNOW YOUR ZERO

An instructor once told me, "I can't imagine an officer ever firing more than 25 yards in an urban environment, so we should sight our rifles in at 25 yards." How many places in your world extend further than 25 yards? Parking lots, hallways in schools or hospitals, your home property, and many other locations can extend well beyond 75 feet.

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Continued from page 28



Keep patrol rifle accessories limited to those items which enhance the operator's ability to use the rifle. A quality sling, multiple magazines and a tactical light are great items to add.

When this instructor told me to sight my rifle for 25 yards, he hadn't considered where the bullet would end up beyond 25 yards. This is critical information. Without getting too involved in external ballistics, if we sight our rifles to deliver the point of impact exactly on the point of aim at 25 yards, we will be approximately 2.2" high at 50 yards, 5.5" high at 100 yards and nearly 7.5" high at 200 yards. This makes the rifle pretty much useless beyond 50 yards.

With a 100 yard zero, the bullet is $\pm 2.5"$ from zero to 190 yards. This zero is a solid choice, but my recommendation is to use a 50/200 yard zero. With this zero, the bullet

is within $\pm 2.5"$ center mass from zero to nearly 240 yards. Even at 300 yards, holding on the upper torso gets you a potentially fight stopping hit.

MECHANICAL OFFSET

Everyone who carries a patrol rifle must know their offsets. What is mechanical offset? Basically, the center of the bore sits lower than the sights. When the rifle is fired, the bullet exits the barrel several inches lower than the sights. This is important when engaging a small target at close range, but it can make a difference

on larger targets, too. The amount of mechanical offset will vary from rifle to rifle depending on the sights or optics mounted on the rifle. If we measure from the center of the barrel to the center of the optic, this will tell us our mechanical offset. Generally, this measurement will be around $\pm 2.5"$. So, from zero to ten yards, the bullet is going to impact about 2.5" low.

To check your mechanical offset, go to the range and do some testing. Start at three yards and fire three shots holding on the same point of aim. The bullet should impact about 2.5" low. Repeat this at five,



Target transitions and weapon transitions are essential skills which all officers need to be proficient in when carrying a patrol rifle.

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seven, ten, 15, and 25 yards. As you get further away from the target, the point of impact will get closer to your point of aim. Once you get to your zero distance, the point of aim and the point of impact will be the same.

The next step is to get to the point where you can automatically adjust your point of aim to enable the bullet to land in your intended point of impact. Starting at the three yard line, shoot three shots holding your point of aim high to adjust for the mechanical offset you observed in the previous drill. Repeat this at five, seven, ten, 15, and 25 yards.

WEAPON HANDLING SKILLS

One big advantage for patrol rifles (and the AR platform in general) is that they are easier to shoot well than other platforms. Marksmanship isn't the biggest problem when training with a patrol rifle. The biggest problem is getting officers comfortable with rifle handling skills such as working with a sling, working the selector/safety lever, reloading, and clearing malfunctions.

Currently, there are quite a few officers whose only experience with firearms is a duty handgun. Since many modern duty

handguns use passive safety systems instead of mechanical safeties (such as GLOCK®), these shooters aren't accustomed to running a rifle with an "on/off switch." Running the selector lever is crucial to getting the rifle up and running quickly and efficiently. When you're on the range, don't cheat yourself by working the selector lever before the start of the drill. You're missing the value of learning to work it correctly and you're creating bad habits which may cost you down the road.

Reloads are another essential patrol rifle skill. If your rifle is empty, you have to feed it. Simply hit the magazine release and let the magazine hit the ground as you use your support hand to obtain a full magazine. Insert the full magazine aggressively to ensure that it is properly seated, pull on the magazine to confirm and hit the bolt release to chamber a fresh round. It sounds simple, but many shooters need to spend more time working this skill to become more efficient.

If the rifle isn't empty, but you want to exchange a partial magazine for one which is fully loaded, there are several good techniques. The easiest method is a reload with retention. Grab the magazine in the



Training to understand and apply knowledge of mechanical offset is critical for close quarter and mid-range targets.

rifle with your support hand and press the magazine release with the trigger finger. Pull the magazine out and put it in a pocket or dump pouch. Obtain a fresh magazine, insert it aggressively and give it a pull to ensure that it is locked in place. Other techniques include the more traditional tactical reload and the L-reload. Each of these has its place and can be useful, but they require more practice in order to become efficient skills.

When it comes to working in and around the rifle sling, it's important to remember that the sling is a critical component of a patrol rifle. Just like a holster is a safe

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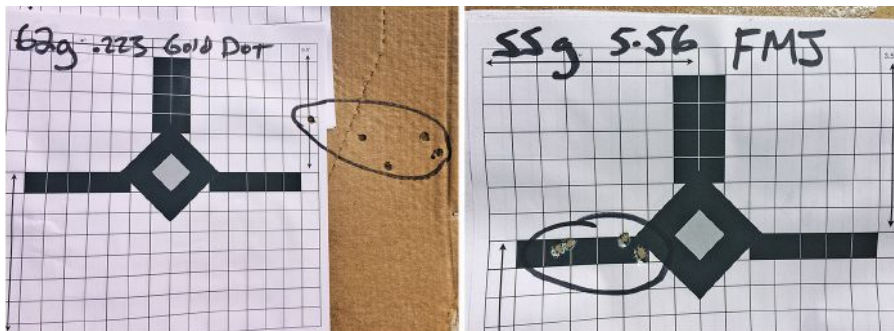
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Don't change ammunition type or brands without checking the zero. Both targets were shot at 50 yards using the same rifle under the same conditions. This rifle has a 50/200 yard zero using 42-gr. frangible ammunition.

place for a handgun, a sling provides a safe place to retain a rifle. However, the sling is a piece of equipment a lot of officers get tangled up in because they're not used to working around it. I recommend practicing your reloads, malfunction drills and other skills with the rifle slung to get used to working around it.

SHOOTING SKILLS

As long as the shooter has a relatively stable shooting platform, most officers can apply marksmanship accurately from an up close and personal distance to 100 yards with minimal training. The key is learning to run the gun quickly and accurately. A well-trained rifleman will spend a significant amount of time working on weapon presentation, target transitions and shooting from cover.

Patrol rifle operators should also be proficient working from low ready and high ready positions and starting in a variety

of body positions. If we are always facing the target and standing in our best "range ninja" position, how do we respond when a threat presents itself and we have to turn and locate the threat? Try this drill: With the rifle in a relaxed low or high ready position, shuffle around casually while talking to your training partner. On the start signal, turn, locate the threat, bring the rifle up to a stable shooting position, and deliver one to



Shooting from both sides of cover is another essential skill for officers carrying a patrol rifle.

two center mass shots. Gradually increase the distance, keeping your shots in an eight inch circle and breaking the shot in less than one second. At ten yards, this can be easy. At 25 yards, it gets challenging.

Target transitions are another area where patrol rifle operators should spend a good amount of training time. The hardest target transitions are moving from close targets with quick, accurate shots to a distant target with slower, precise shots. This skill is difficult for most shooters, so working on these skills can translate into increased proficiency in other areas as well. There are many effective drills, so feel free to send me an E-mail if you're looking for ideas.


Shooting from cover is another essential patrol rifle skill. Shooting from both sides of cover is obvious, but one of the biggest training points to consider is the mechanical offset when leaning out around cover. If the rifle is canted slightly, what may appear to be a clear sight picture may, in fact, result in the muzzle of the rifle remaining behind cover. Shots put into hard cover at short range have a way of getting your attention.

Positions such as standing, kneeling, double kneeling, squatting, sitting, prone, and rollover prone are important to practice. Working around different shapes and sizes of cover can provide an opportunity to shoot from a variety of positions. A well-designed nine hole barricade can put shooters in a variety of awkward shooting positions, helping them to understand how to stabilize different shooting positions while delivering accurate shots on target.

Knowing your equipment and how to set it up is essential knowledge for every officer equipped with a patrol rifle. This includes equipment selection, rifle zeros and mechanical offset. Essential skills include target transitions, shooting from cover, positional shooting, weapon presentation, and working the selector lever. Study up and then hit the range to turn that knowledge into skills which become second nature. **P&SN**


Todd Fletcher is a sergeant in Central Oregon with over 25 years of law enforcement experience. He has presented instructor development training nationwide and at multiple regional, national and international conferences. He owns Combative Firearms Training, LLC which provides firearms training and instructor development classes to law enforcement, military, private security, and armed citizens. He can be contacted at todd@combativefirearms.com.

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GETTING INTO ACTION: THE DRAW STROKE

MIKE BOYLE

How important is
a reasonably fast
draw stroke?

Although modern officer involved shootings bear little semblance to the imaginary gun duels of the Old West, having the ability to quickly bring the gun to bear on a threat remains an essential skill. Danger is unpredictable. What may appear to be everyday citizen contact can erupt into a life-threatening situation in the blink of an eye. In a perfect world, we could instantly evaluate each and every situation, never be surprised and take the appropriate measures. But, reality has a nasty way of kicking us in the teeth and, sometimes, ugly situations un-

fold before us with little or no warning.

An extensive study of police involved shootings by the NYPD illustrated that, in 70% of the cases reviewed, the officer had prior knowledge of the danger they were about to face. In incidents such as a felony in progress or shots fired, it's probably wise to respond with the gun in hand. But, can you count on such forewarning? This dynamic is probably somewhat different once you get away from the big city out to suburbia or more rural areas. Situations considered routine, such as motor vehicle stops, can quickly degenerate into gun play. This

video of a recent incident which occurred in St. Paul, MN, serves as an exemplary example: <https://tinyurl.com/y5sv762m>

I wish I could report that law enforcement officers receive extensive training on drawing the handgun from the holster. Sadly, this isn't always the case. All too often, officers merely get some cursory instructions on holster function, along with the opportunity of a few practice draws and are then considered good to go. Deficiency in technique is rarely corrected and the all too generous time frames of the qualification course allow officers with the most awkward draw stroke to get in under the wire. It's hardly unusual to see three or even four seconds elapse between the start signal and break of the first shot.

Speed of the draw stroke is further complicated by the use of security holsters for duty use. Make no mistake about it, security holsters are a great idea and have saved cops' lives, but they do require more training and frequent practice.

Contemporary duty holsters often feature multiple levels of security which must be deactivated before the gun can be removed from the holster. With proper instruction and procedure, even the draw from a Level III security holster can be reasonably fast, but many departments and individual officers simply don't make the commitment.

Officers working in plainclothes have some very different concerns as the gun is concealed under some sort of covering garment. Range time should include the drawing of the handgun from the holster and the type of clothing actually worn on duty. Yet again, I've seen detectives and administrators working out from a duty rig they haven't worn in years or with the gun not covered at all.

Steps of the Draw

Efficiently drawing the pistol from the holster remains an essential skill. To cut right to the chase, you can't fight if your gun is still in the holster. Bad guys don't play fair and it's very likely that you'll be entering the fray from far behind on the power curve. The faster you can get the gun out and into action, the greater the chance for survival.

For instructional purposes, I've been teaching the draw strokes in various steps so as to not overload students with too much information. I explain that, as they progress to a level of unconscious competence, the steps will melt away much like snow on a sunny day. Other instructors



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GETTING INTO ACTION: THE DRAW STROKE

Continued from page 34



Step One – The dominant hand moves to the pistol and releases all retention measures. A firm and final shooting grip is applied. The support hand moves to the body midline at chest level.

and institutions might have a slightly different spin, but the following is the breakdown I use in getting students up to speed on the draw stroke.

Step One – The shooter begins with the

body in a slightly bladed position, hands at the side and feet roughly shoulder width apart. On the stimulus, both hands are in motion. The strong hand moves to the holstered pistol and takes a firm and final shooting grip. When drawing from concealment, the covering garment must be swept away prior to gripping the handgun. As the hand comes in contact with the gun, all security measures are released simultaneously. The support hand moves to the body midline at roughly chest level. It is extremely important that both hands are in motion at the same time.

Step Two – The strong hand lifts the gun clear of the holster, but there is little or no forward movement. The wrist of the strong hand should be straight. By now, the support hand has arrived at the body midline at chest level.

Step Three – The strong side elbow is brought to the rear and the gun is lifted to chest height. The support hand now comes in contact with the pistol to complete the shooting grip. At this point, the muzzle is directed forward and the gun is positioned at the high chest, slightly offset toward the shooter's strong side. The trigger finger enters the trigger guard, although no rearward pressure on the trigger is applied.

Step Four – Extend the arms and drive the gun toward the target. Obtain a reliable index to make a hit. The trigger finger now applies rearward pressure. The set time from arms at full extension to shot break will vary on how far the target is from the shooter.



Step Two – The pistol is lifted clear of the holster and the dominant hand wrist is straight.

This formula has served me well for over 30 years. Note that, out in the harsh, real world, you can't always pick your spot



Step Three – The support hand comes in contact with the pistol to complete the shooting grip as the pistol is brought up to chest level.



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4 Step Four – The pistol is driven to eye level and the arms are fully extended. Take a sight picture and press the trigger to fire the shot.

and you may have to draw from a compromised stance or fire with just one hand. But, the steps offered here represent a starting point.

How fast can you go? With just a little practice, I can get new shooters on the gun and establish a shooting grip in under a half second. That includes deactivating the retention measures on their security holster. I can expect both hands on the gun (Step Three) in about 3/4 of a second and gun at eye level in one second or so. They may not nail it every time, but, with a little work, they are looking pretty sharp.

Once shooters have established a degree of proficiency, new dimensions to the draw stroke can be introduced. For starters, I like to mix in a one-hand response and taking a lateral step while drawing. Consider that we spend a good part of the workday in a sitting position. Examples include sitting behind the wheel of the patrol vehicle, at a desk or behind a table on a meal break. Be sure to include a draw from the seated position into your practice regimen. Also consider working a weak hand draw in the event of an injury. With many security holsters, this isn't easy, but it is possible. It is especially important that

practicing the draw stroke should be initially done with an empty gun. Check it twice!

Recovery to the Holster

There are a number of pitfalls associated with returning the handgun to the holster, but they all can be eliminated with proper training. On the range, get in the habit of scanning 360 degrees before reholstering the handgun. Granted, in the sterile environment of the range, it's unlikely there are other "threats" in close proximity, but that's not always the case out on the street. Get in the habit of thinking "plus one." Just because you took care of one problem, it doesn't mean there aren't other potential threats lurking nearby.

On the range, holster reluctantly. There are no prizes, ribbons or trophies for the shooter who reholsters the quickest. In a real-world situation, you may not reholster until the cavalry arrives. If the threat is down, it doesn't necessarily mean he is out. Maintain your vigilance.

I remain a stickler for a one-hand return to the holster and this is true with both duty and concealment rigs. Time and time again, I've watched unschooled individuals use the support hand to sweep

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GETTING INTO ACTION: THE DRAW STROKE

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clothing out of the way or assist in holster return. Inevitably, they sweep the muzzle over the hand or wrist, creating a dangerous situation. Quite frankly, if you need two hands to secure your pistol, it's time to reconsider your technique or gear.

Recognize that, in a threat management situation, you may need that support hand to push a subject back or access a less-lethal weapon. Having both hands

tied up, even for just a few seconds, can be a recipe for disaster.

Other trainers may not agree with this next point, but I feel a squared away shooter should be able to reholster without looking at the gun. I do allow new shooters to take a quick peek, but once we get beyond that basic level, holster return shall be by feel. To the best of my knowledge, no officer has ever been at-

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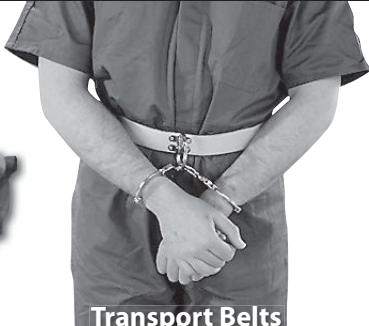
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Before reholstering, scan 360 degrees and look around for other threats. Breathe!

tacked by a B-27 target on the range, but should you take your eyes off a real-life threat, he may see that as an opportunity.

When law enforcement made the big switch from revolvers to pistols, there was a serious spike in incidents when officers shot themselves while reholstering. On the whole, we seem to have turned the corner on that and most everyone understands that the trigger finger must be off the trigger and outside the trigger guard before attempting to reholster. Short trigger action guns are very unforgiving in this regard and I make it a point in all my classes that the finger should be well clear of the trigger when reholstering.

Plainclothes Concerns

Investigators and off-duty cops dressed in plainclothes have an additional hurdle or two to negotiate. Clearly, a gun buried under a layer or two of clothing is going to complicate the process.

As indicated earlier, range time will be far more productive if you work out with the gun and holster you actually utilize, concealed from view. Anything less would represent only part of the picture.

Covering garments fall into one of two categories: open front or closed front. To draw from an open front garment, such as a suit jacket, the gun hand sweeps the clothing clear of the gun. Be sure to make a strong, rearward sweep or you'll likely end up with a handful of fabric instead of your pistol.

Closed front garments, such as sweat-shirts or sweaters, present a different challenge. One popular technique is to

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GETTING INTO ACTION: THE DRAW STROKE

Continued from page 38

reach down with the support hand and pull the edge of the garment up high while the strong hand goes for the gun. That technique will work just fine in many situations, but it comes up short should your adversary be inside of your personal space. Up close and personal, you may need the support side hand and arm to block and parry. If the support arm is down, your head, neck and upper chest are open to attack.

The alternative technique is to have the

support side arm available to block while the strong side hand lifts the garment and quickly goes down to draw the gun. It is a tad slower, but it may be the better solution when an opponent is arm's length away. By all means, practice both techniques.

Holsters Make a Difference

The current crop of holsters for both uniformed duty and plainclothes applications is better than ever. One can choose



The pistol should always be returned to the holster with one hand.

between various materials, styles and levels of retention to achieve an optimum balance between performance and comfort. However, I would caution that there is no perfect holster which suits everyone and factors such as body type, gender and mission at hand all come into play. In short, ill-fitting holsters can be uncomfortable and make for a very inefficient draw.

Let's consider duty holsters first. For years, duty holsters have been available in different ride heights and rakes. A mid-rise holster is often the best choice for male officers as it positions the gun on the duty belt for an efficient draw. That same type of holster on a female officer may be the proverbial train wreck because the butt of the gun is too high on the torso, compromising both comfort and draw efficiency.

Many cops won't hesitate to pay top dollar for a handgun used for concealed carry, but will cut corners on purchasing a holster for the same. Your plainclothes holster should be comfortable, relatively secure, durable, allow for an efficient draw stroke, and conceal the gun under the type of clothing worn. By all means, avoid the cheap chicken skin clip-ons which collapse when the gun is drawn, making a one-hand return impossible.

I find myself in the minority when it comes to concealment holsters in that I do not prefer the FBI-style rake where the gun butt is angled forward and the muzzle



Holster angle can make a big difference with draw efficiency. From left to right: FBI rake, neutral rake and forward rake

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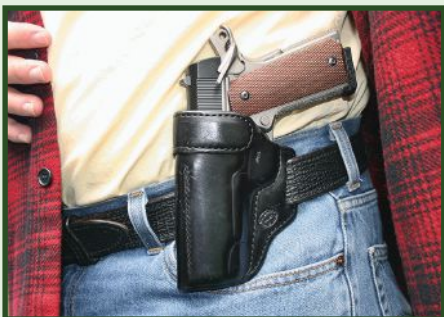


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A covering garment should be worn to practice the concealed carry draw stroke.

is to the rear. Instead, my choice runs to either a neutral rake with the gun straight up and down, or a forward rake with the muzzle angled slightly forward. Yes, it does make the gun a little more difficult to conceal, but I find I can draw much faster.

Female officers often have to put up with plainclothes holsters which are totally unsuitable. Fortunately, there are a few manufacturers turning out quality holsters ideally suited for the female form. Performance and comfort are significantly better than most of the off-the-rack holsters.

Holsters do indeed make a big difference. If we devoted just a fraction of the time we spend selecting our guns to choosing holsters, we will be far better off.

Get Busy

One does not need to go to the range to practice holster skills. Draw practice can be accomplished just about anywhere, including in your own home. Find a quiet spot free of distractions and make sure there is no live ammunition in the immediate area. Before commencing with practice, be absolutely sure your handgun is empty (check it twice). Even though you have double-checked your gun, consider the background where you will be pointing your handgun. If by chance you are interrupted, check your gun again before resuming practice.

At first, strive for a picture-perfect draw with no extra movements. At best, we are moving at half speed so we can do some self-assessment on form. When you are confident all is well, go a little bit faster and continue checking your form to make sure no superfluous movements have entered into the mix. Finally, push the gas pedal all the way to the floor and add a trigger press. Check your surroundings, take a deep breath and recover to the holster.

I remain convinced that short, frequent sessions of no more than a few minutes

are better than an occasional marathon. Strive for smooth rather than fast and speed will come with time. As you get more comfortable, you can add in a lateral step as you draw. As with all psychomotor skills, practice continues to favor the prepared individual. **P&SN**

Captain Mike Boyle served with the New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife, Bureau of Law Enforcement, and has been an ac-

tive firearms instructor for more than 30 years. He has been an assistant police academy director and remains active as an academy rangemaster and instructor. Mike has served on the Board of Directors of the International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors (IALEFI) since 1996. He is the architect and coordinator of IALEFI's Master Instructor Development Program.



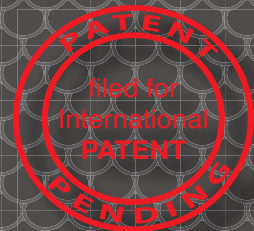
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Ten Ways to Be the Best Law Enforcement Trainer

Anyone who trains law enforcement personnel knows that you need to be at the top of your game to stand in front of a group of officers as an instructor.

ED NOWICKI

Presenting necessary information or assisting officers in developing new or improved skills can be more than challenging. However, officers may also be extremely appreciative if they see the benefits of what the instructor is presenting.

There are no shortcuts to being a good instructor. There are a number of things an instructor can do to see that learning takes place. This list of “ten ways” is not the be-all and end-all. Undoubtedly, there are instructors who may believe that some items do not belong or that others have been omitted. Still, these ten ways will work for most instructors by making them better instructors.

1. Safety first. Instructors must realize that they are responsible for everyone who participates in their training programs. Some injuries are preventable and some are not. It should be the goal of every instructor to see that preventable injuries are, in fact, prevented. If an injury occurs, an injury response plan should be in place. This can be in the form of an adequately supplied first aid kit and knowledge where the nearest phone is located, so that EMS personnel can be summoned. It is also a plus

for instructors to be certified in first aid or emergency treatment. It is a big plus for every firearms instructor to receive training in gunshot wound aftercare and treatment.

2. Be prepared. The motto of the Boy Scouts of America is “Be Prepared.” What works for the Boy Scouts also works for any law enforcement instructor. Preparation encompasses everything from handout material to audiovisual material and equipment. Preparation also means that downtime is avoided or reduced. Instructors cannot prepare for every possible “what if,” but they can do their best to see that learning takes place through proper planning.

3. Update your material. For example, the principles of conducting a good interview and interrogation are still the same today as they were when shown in that old 16 millimeter film on “Interviews and Interrogations.” That old film features men with three pounds of grease on their hair, neckties which are as wide as bibs and cars with foot high tail fins. Even though the interview and interrogation principles haven’t changed, showing that old film will do nothing but

cause your officers to laugh. Update lesson plans, handout materials, tests, or anything else which needs updating.

4. Be a role model. This begins with looking like an instructor. If teaching academic or lecture topics, wear your agency uniform or appropriate business attire. If teaching hands-on topics, from DT and PT to firearms training, wear a collared shirt and either professional looking coach’s pants or BDUs. Instructors should not use vulgar language or use condescending language toward any person or group. Many officers do look up to their instructors, so it is imperative that instructors realize how important being a role model is.

5. Get to know the students.

This can include knowing each officer’s name and rank to personal hobbies and interests. This also shows officers that you care enough about each of them to know who they are. Show them respect and you will earn their respect.

6. Use technology when presenting.

Get to know how to use PowerPoint® and all that it is capable of doing. If you use a Mac instead of a PC, you can go beyond what PowerPoint can do with Keynote®. Local photos inserted into the PowerPoint program can give a local flavor and enhance the presentation. Learn about Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and other networking Internet sites. You may even want to create your own blog. Consider podcasting and video podcasting – it’s not that difficult to learn.

7. Take the time to read. See what’s posted on various blogs which interest you. Read the newspaper and other magazines. Learn how to use free Internet news clipping sources which E-mail you each day with only topics you want. Read professional law enforcement periodicals – you’re reading this issue of *Police and Security News*, so you know how to do that! See what literature is available from various companies. Spend some time Googling and you may find a treasure of information.

8. Smile and be a positive influence.

It’s easy to get in a negative mind-set as a law enforcement officer. After all, officers only get called when there are problems. Dealing with officers is different than dealing with a bad guy, so it’s okay to smile and laugh. Being in a groove has a positive connotation, while being in a rut has a negative one. You can influence officer

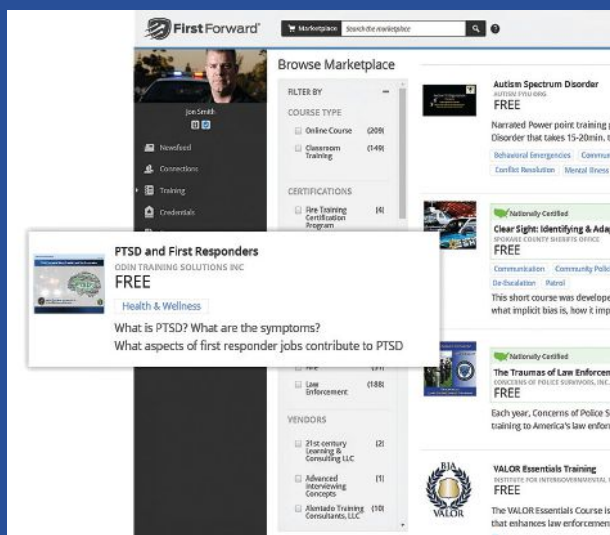
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For more information about FirstForward and FirstForward PRO, visit www.FirstForward.com.

An advertisement for TSSI (Tactical Security Systems, Inc.). The background image shows several police officers in tactical gear, including helmets and vests, holding rifles. The TSSI logo is prominently displayed at the top left, with a red square containing a white silhouette of a state and the text 'EST. 1980' to its right. Below the logo, the word 'EQUIPMENT' is written in large, bold, white letters. Underneath 'EQUIPMENT', the phrase 'YOUR LIFE CAN DEPEND ON' is written in red, bold, sans-serif capital letters. At the bottom left, the website 'WWW.TSSI-OPS.COM' and email 'SALES@TSSI-OPS.COM' are listed, along with the phone number '(877) 535-TSSI (8774)'. At the bottom right, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

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TEN WAYS TO BE THE BEST LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINER *Continued from page 42*

perspectives by helping them out of a rut and into a groove. It sounds simple, but it does work!

9. Get the officers actively involved. Challenge, but don't confront. Ask open-ended questions which require more than a simple "Yes" or "No" response. This is easier with hands-on topics, but this can also work in lecture-based programs. It helps if officers understand the material, since it will make it easier for them to memorize important information. To quote a Chinese proverb, "Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I'll understand."

10. Join professional associations and go to conferences. Attending a professional conference can help recharge your batteries! Since birds of a feather flock together, it's a great way to discuss many challenges. Your peers may have answers to your questions and you may have answers to theirs. Most people who attend training conferences, including conference presenters, will go out of their way to help their fellow attendees. Additionally, professional memberships can serve as a lifeline throughout the year. The ability to network is a big plus.

Now is the time to assess your strengths and weaknesses in order to be the best law enforcement trainer possible. The secret is: There is no secret! It's hard work, but it's more than worth it. **P&SN**

Ed Nowicki, a nationally recognized and judicially declared police practices and use of force expert, is a retired police officer. He is also the executive director emeritus of ILEETA. He can be reached at NCJTC@aol.com.



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BUSTED!

James L. McClinton, Ph.D



What an appropriate gift for the politicians in Washington, DC... TSA agents at Juneau International Airport spotted a “large organic mass” in a traveler’s carry-on bag. However, when agents opened the bag, they found a plastic grocery bag full of moose “nuggets.” The passenger told the TSA officers that he collects them and likes to present them to “politicians and their #@\$%+ policies.” The passenger was not detained and was allowed to continue on with his bag of moose poop. Later, an Anchorage newspaper reported that a man was seen at the state capitol, handing out baggies of moose nuggets in protest of the Governor’s proposed budget. (*Holy Bullwinkle, Batman!*)

I doubt these idiots could even manage to break into a song... In Okaloosa County, Florida, two masked criminals entered the boardwalk on Okaloosa Island, whipped out a blowtorch and went to work on the ATM. But, the criminal act didn’t go as expected. Instead of cutting into the machine, the torch welded the metal parts of the locks and hinges shut. Duh! After it became apparent that they were going nowhere fast, our incompetent thieves packed up their tools and left. Police have good surveillance camera pictures and are expecting to make an arrest, shortly. (*It’s safe to say that they both got burned...*)

Was she drinking from a sippy cup?... In South Carolina, a 25-year-old woman who officers said was driving drunk was not cited with a DUI because her vehicle of choice was a toy truck. But, Walhalla police said they did charge the woman with public intoxication. Police had spotted her cruising down the road in a Power Wheels® electric toy truck after a caller reported a suspicious person. Officers said she was driving about one mile from her home in Walhalla when they stopped her. (*How often do we see police pursuing a person who is suspected of DUI on foot?*)

A real vehicle theft or an elaborate marketing hoax? Hmmm... Someone in Charlotte, North Carolina, stole a van from the “Unknown Brewing Company,” covered with big neon colored logos for the establishment painted all over it. The brewery posted a picture of the stolen van on social media, along with an offer to throw a free “keg party” for anyone who found it. Almost immediately, tips started to “pour” in, with a

“Dude, you can’t outrun the Batmobile”...

A man in Burtonsville, Maryland, drives a highly recognized vehicle: a custom-built 1966 replica of the Batmobile, complete with rocket launchers, jet flames and a bat phone. When a hit-and-run driver smashed into his prized car on Route 28, he wasn’t about to let the driver make a getaway. “I don’t know what the guy was thinking,” he told a TV reporter. “He must have been going about 60...and just slammed into the right rear corner.” When the driver failed to pull over, the man called 911, then gave chase, eventually pulling into a church parking lot, where the driver agreed to give him his insurance information without getting the police involved. (*How did this turn out? Find out next week – same Bat-time, same Bat-channel.*)

photo of the vehicle’s whereabouts being posted within 42 minutes. A woman called police and offered to park her car in front of the van to block it. Police recovered the van and said that it had been hot-wired by professionals. In honor of the van’s safe return, the brewery is offering up a new beer, “Van Theft Auto,” which it sells for 25 cents a pint to celebrate. (*This demonstrates the power of social media – and bribery.*)

You might want to take notes as you try to follow me here... A homeowner was asleep around 1:40 a.m. in Cocoa, Florida, when, suddenly, a black Cadillac crashed into her garage, missing her by only inches. The Cadillac had been stolen and the thief was fleeing an Orange County Sheriff’s Office patrol vehicle which had also been stolen and was being driven by someone impersonating a police officer. A local TV station reported that, after the crash, the phony police patrolman continued trying to pull over vehicles before speeding away. The stolen patrol SUV was later found abandoned behind a shopping plaza. (*I wonder if the trial will be presided over by a real judge?*)

Sending him to the school principal’s office was clearly not an option... While students at Holy Family Catholic School in Port Allen, Louisiana, were enjoying a field trip to Washington, DC, their 47-year-old principal was more interested in a different form of sightseeing. Police were dis-

patched to Archibald’s Gentleman’s Club in DC after “an intoxicated man refused to pay his bill,” according to the arrest report. Officers reportedly found the principal standing in a roadway, “refusing to move.” He was arrested for public intoxication and possession of an open container of alcohol. He immediately resigned his position as principal. (*The 13-year-olds were the responsible ones on this field trip.*)

This robbery didn’t pass the smell test... Two geniuses decided to rob a bar in Winona, Minnesota. Their plan had them dressing all in black and covering their faces with bandanas and ski masks. They concealed their weapon inside a paper bag. The two waited until the bar was about to close and grabbed the manager when she went outside for a smoke. But, one of the thieves dropped a box containing the night’s cash receipts. This emboldened a patron to get in the face of the other robber, causing him to drop his box of loot. Other customers joined in the scuffle, uniting in a real “feeding frenzy.” They managed to partially remove the crooks’ masks and caused their weapon to drop to the floor. As it turns out, they weren’t armed with a gun, but an air freshener. The thieves fled the scene empty-handed. By the way, they were recognized by employees who had spotted them drinking in the bar only 15 minutes earlier. (*“Hand over the cash or I’ll make you smell like a freshly cleaned restroom!”*) **P&SN**



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