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The SIG P365: A Definite Keeper .................................................. 61
Todd Fletcher
When I got the chance to evaluate the P365 handgun, I couldn’t wait to get my hands on SIG’s newest offering.

Train for the Fight ................................................................. 68
Mike Rayburn
When the moment of truth has arrived, the time for preparation has passed.

Take a Second Look at Laser Sights ............................................. 74
Mike Boyle
One constant in any discussion among law enforcement firearms trainers is controversy.

FEATURES

Police Use of Naloxone .......................................................... 32
Chris Fleming, Tod W. Burke, Ph.D. and Stephen S. Owen, Ph.D
Implementing overdose reversal programs has provided law enforcement agencies with a number of collateral benefits.

Public Perception ............................................................... 40
Rebecca Waters
How does an officer’s physical appearance influence public opinion?

SPECIAL SECTION


CONTENTS
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policeandsecuritynews.com

COLUMNS

…and nothing but the truth .......... 6
A Master Interviewer – Gregory M. Smith

Focus on Technology ................. 8
Police Vehicles and Equipment

Law Enforcement Leadership ... 10
Are You a Good Boss? Do You Want to Find Out?

Technology from the Past ........... 14
Safecracking Made Easy

The Wheels of Justice .................. 16
A Condensed History of Police Car Engines – Part One

Legal Update ........................................ 24
US Supreme Court Rules in Favor of Police in DC House Party Case

Product Highlight ......................... 28
Firearms Simulators and Training Equipment

Above and Beyond ....................... 30
Honoring Those Who Take Risks and Save Lives

New Technology ......................... 82

Busted! ........................................... 86
Real Stories of Genuine Absurdity

ON THE COVER
Implementing overdose reversal programs has provided law enforcement agencies with a number of collateral benefits, including improved community relations. However, it is imperative to weigh both the benefits, as well as any potential drawbacks, before making any commitment.
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A Master Interviewer – Gregory M. Smith
April 19, 1953 – October 27, 2017
Ramesh Nyberg

You’ve heard it before: Those who can, do; those who can’t, teach.
As one who did and one who taught (and still does), I respectfully disagree. But, I won’t use myself as an example because that would be presumptuous. Instead, I’ll use as an example a guy named Greg Smith who just passed away a few months ago. Greg was a really special dude and I owe him a lot. In fact, since Greg was my partner in homicide for the better part of 14 years – and a great friend; fishing and drinking partner; and lifetime confidant – I’ll dedicate this issue’s installment of my column in his memory.

As I write this, I’m flying back from Hopkinton, Massachusetts, after teaching a class called “Interviews and Interrogations” at their police department. It was regional training, with officers from departments all around the area of Hopkinton, a small town which has the honor of being the starting point of the Boston Marathon. I taught the class about twenty years ago when I wasn’t teaching the homicide investigation class for in-service personnel.

I have a warm spot in my heart for this topic because I think understanding how to talk and listen to people and get them to tell you secrets they never thought they would tell is an essential, irreplaceable skill. It’s also something Greg was astonishingly good at. It’s important to be an effective communicator in police work – no matter your assignment. Uniform officers use their interview skills on every call and in every citizen encounter, including traffic stops. Your ability to spot deceit, elicit the truth and expose the meaning of what people are saying is critical. It can solve a case; protect a victim; recover a missing person; and, in some cases, keep you alive.

In hopes that I can help the readers of this column tap into some hidden talent, I want to tell you what Greg Smith was all about.

I reported to homicide in January 1985 and, a year later, one of my cases thrust the two of us together. An unfortunate young woman who was addicted to freebase cocaine was found dead in a field and, after we noticed that two other women were found in similar circumstances, my sergeant decided that we should look closer at these cases, in the event that we might have a serial killer in the area. Greg was on the Cold Case squad at the time and the powers that be decided that I would be detached, as would he, and we would be a two-man team to work and examine these cases exclusively. Greg was different than most cops. He truly liked people and he loved nothing more than talking to folks. He never had to try hard to have a conversation with someone – anyone – and he spoke to everyone the same way whether they were a homeless person on a street corner or a multimillionaire. In the interview room, with his gentle, patient way of talking and his relaxed, slow approach to the question at hand, Greg was deadly.

“How ya doin’, I’m Greg,” he would say when he introduced himself to a suspect. It was never “Detective Smith.”

The department sent me to two very good training seminars: The Reid School of Interviewing and the Kinesic Interrogation Workshop, put on by the Southern Police Institute. Both of them were excellent and I learned a lot, but nothing could replace what I saw on a daily basis from my partner. Watching him and listening to him describe the conversations when he came out of the interview room taught me more than those seminars ever could.

One of the most impressive attributes Greg possessed was his patience. As investigators, when we identify someone whom we and his victim(s) can’t wait to get him (or her) in the interview room and start working him (or her). The idea of getting a confession is a thrill and, yes, when you get that confession, there are few things in this job which can rival that feeling. So, we want to get to the nitty-gritty as soon as we can, don’t we? But, I urge you to take a page out of Greg Smith’s book: Take your time. I’ve seen Greg literally sit and bullshit with a murderer for as long as three hours before actually getting into anything about the case facts, much less anything accusatory. He was a master at getting to know the person, talking about things they liked whether it was sports, music or whatever it might be. He would take his time, listening, chatting, laughing, and finding some common ground where you wouldn’t ever think there could be. He got people feeling so relaxed around him that they almost forgot he was a cop.

Gradually, he would work in his own knowledge of the case and the person would be in awe of the command Greg had of the facts and circumstances of the case. People don’t tell secrets to just anyone, especially someone sitting across from them who is projecting a single attitude: “I want to put you in prison.” When they looked at Greg, they saw someone whose face said, “I want to help you unburden yourself of this secret. You can tell me everything.” And, they would. His reputation became well-known. I cannot count the times when detectives from other teams would run up against a brick wall with someone. They would search through the squad room looking for Greg and ask him, “Would you mind taking a shot at this guy?” Way more often than not, a confession would be the result.

When you spent time outside the interview room with Greg, you saw how and why he operated the way he did. He would strike up a conversation with anyone – tollbooth operator, someone on an elevator, taxi driver – and it was never an act. That’s when you realized that the interview room wasn’t an act, either. It was simply the way he was. He did some teaching in our police academy, too, but his real teaching was running down leads every day with me and the others he worked with, interviewing countless witnesses, suspects, and BSing with our server at a restaurant.

The thing which made Greg a great cop and investigator was his love of people. It was this same quality which made him a cherished friend and someone everyone in his family felt lucky to have. I was a better cop for knowing him and, when I stand up and teach “Interviews and Interrogations,” it’s really “The Greg Smith Show” in disguise.

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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Police vehicle armor is available for various vehicle variants, including the Ford Interceptor, Taurus, Fusion, F550 Truck, Sprinter Van, Chevy Impala, Chevy Van, Dodge Charger, and others. These Hardwire products have been implemented by both large and small agencies throughout the US.

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New Radar from Kustom Signals

The Eagle 3 directional radar offers a wide range of features in the smallest mounted radar currently available. The color touch display with selectable color combinations has outstanding viewability in direct sunlight or at night, and front and rear targets are clearly displayed with position change and color. The Eagle 3 also features Scan Mode, a new method of front and rear simultaneous operation which best supports multiple zone target tracking. The Eagle 3 also introduced a new electronic tuning fork integrated into the wireless remote control which produces the fork test signals which greatly simplifies testing requirements. The DuraTrak™ tracking history tool displays a bar graph for the strongest and fastest targets, and Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR) display is a new option for the target tracking bars. True Doppler audio presents the same for stationary, moving opposite and moving same direction targets. TruTrak™ with patient pending Wireless Speed Sensing (WSS) eliminates VSS cables wired to the patrol vehicle or plugged into the OBD II port. WSS enables Automatic Mode Switching (AMS) and provides independent patrol speed verification which supplements the Doppler patrol speed, eliminating common radar errors like shadowing and combining.

New Expanded bluePRINT® Functionality

bluePRINT, from SoundOff Signal, is the control system which improves safety through the automation of emergency lighting and siren performance functions by reducing cognitive load and distractions, so that the driver can keep his (or her) eyes on the road.

The new bluePRINT Link module seamlessly connects the bluePRINT Control System with the vehicle’s CAN data bus to directly communicate important vehicle data and eliminate the need for discrete signal wiring.

The new bluePRINT 3 enhancements provide even greater improvements to the overall functions of the control system. All control panel settings are now programmed through the bluePRINT configuration software app which allows for slide switch activation of siren tone buttons, button type confirmation and double press/multistate for up to four auxiliary buttons allowing new light sequencing, including arrow capability. With the new bluePRINT 3 software release, the system increases the priorities from five to ten and the matrix rules increase from 16 to 24 which greatly improves the number of custom control logic functions.

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New Elevated TruckVault

TruckVault has unveiled their new Elevated TruckVault which is designed to allow spare tire access while maximizing storage space. It is hinged and raises up to allow the spare to be pulled out from underneath. It mounts securely to factory locations.

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New Gun Lock from Tufloc

The X-Lock offers one-handed access with stainless steel, spring-action locking arms which tightly secure most guns and can be mounted with little or no drilling. The patent pending design features padding to protect guns and prevent rattling and a lock which can be opened with a key or an electric timer and adjusted along the back plate to custom-fit each make/model.

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New HHS Series from Whelen

The HHS Series features standard switching; an all-new black molded amplifier housing; 37 total tones (including mechanical tones); and is compatible with various control heads. The HHS Series is available in two models; the HHS4200 model includes a WeCan® port which supports the Inner Edge® FST™ and RST™ Series, WeCan lightbars, or a WeCan external amplifier.

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ARE YOU A GOOD BOSS? DO YOU WANT TO FIND OUT?

The reality is that honestly determining whether or not you are a good police commander can be difficult.

There may be people around you who will praise your virtues, no matter what you do. Of course, there will also be those whom you will not be able to satisfy, no matter how good you really are as a commander. Somewhere between those two extremes is the truth about your abilities. However, it is important for you to effectively evaluate your supervisory abilities in order to take the next step in developing a successful career path.

So, how do you cut through these extremes to learn how effective you really are as a boss? One way is to know what your subordinates (and bosses) want in a police commander. Then, you can evaluate yourself and perhaps make some adjustments to your management style to assume the attributes and accomplishments which are expected of a successful police commander.

To help you better understand your role as a police commander, we surveyed 600 police sergeants as part of a major research project we did several years ago to find out what they most respected in a good leader. Here are five of the top responses from that survey.

1. LEADERS ARE HONEST

Far and away, this is the single most important attribute police commanders must possess. Subordinates have clearly stated, in several surveys, that their commanders must be honest and have great integrity to be truly effective.

This is easy to achieve. Keep your promises or don’t make them. Deal with every person you come in contact with as an honest and forthright person, in an honest and straightforward manner. Your reputation will both follow and precede you. This positive reputation sets the groundwork for your interactions with those above you and below you.

2. LEADERS HAVE GOOD COMMON SENSE

Practical problems in policing require practical and workable solutions. That requires “common sense” on the part of police command personnel.

But, what constitutes “common sense”? Common sense is the combination of your education, training and experience which leads to a successful conclusion to the problem at hand.
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But, of course, you’ve heard the saying, “Common sense is not that common.” This ability to successfully complete the problem at hand (common sense) is seldom accidental. It is not obtained merely by putting in your time and doing the minimum of what is expected of you. It is obtained by hard work, study, attending schools, education, and learning from your (and others’) mistakes, as well as the successes. It is taking proactive and positive steps to become the best officer you can be, and then taking proactive and positive steps to becoming the best sergeant you can be, and then taking proactive and positive steps to…you get the idea.

3. LEADERS TAKE COMMAND

A commander who doesn’t command is not a commander; he is merely someone with a title. Repeated studies have shown that the person who “assumes command” of the situation is viewed as the person in charge. Now, if the commander does not assume command, then someone else should. It could be a supervisor; it could be the informal group leader among the officers; it could be a commander from another agency if you’re involved in an inter-agency situation, but someone will assume command. If you have successfully developed the two previously mentioned attributes, then you will have the confidence in your abilities and the support of your peers and bosses (from working with you where you previously exhibited honesty and common sense) to step up and do the right thing.

Nothing is so weak on the list of “biggest mistakes that a boss can make” than a person who has a command position who is unwilling, or unable, to make command decisions.

“When in command, take command” is an age-old phrase which is as applicable today as it was in ancient times. A command vacuum will be filled, either by you or someone else.

4. LEADERS ARE FAIR

A true commander is fair to all – to his superiors, his peers and the people under his command. He is fair to all, regardless of their race, color, ethnicity, sex, age, or disability. It’s not the laws which ensure this; it’s the attitude of the commander which ensures this.

Based on this fairness, successful police commanders can be depended upon to do the right thing at the right time. Their subordinates know what to expect most of the time. They know that they need to be professional, motivated and thorough. They know that their commanders, at any rank, will require that they do the right thing at all times, consistent with existing laws, policies and procedures because their commanders do the right thing!

Further, they know that, if they do the right thing, their command officer will back their decisions and actions.

5. LEADERS ARE WILLING TO HELP

From an employee’s perspective, the one question which often determines whether a boss is a “good boss,” or not, is this, “Does my boss make my job easier or harder?” True police commanders are always willing to help their personnel and their constituents. Whether it’s clearing red tape for their subordinates, or solving problems for their constituents, they are always willing to help in any way they can.

“THE SURVEY SAYS…”

So, now that you know what five attributes make you a “good boss,” how do you stack up? How can you objectively and fairly determine if you are a “good boss” or not? Here is one way – take a survey! We have designed a “Supervisory Survey” for you to take which will clear out the guessing, eliminate the speculation and remove the extremes we talked about in the opening paragraphs.
of this article. It’s simple, doesn’t take long to complete and you might be VERY surprised at the results. To receive a copy of this survey, please send an E-mail with “Supervisory Survey” in the “Subject” line to info@policeandsecuritynews.com.

There are three steps which you need to take in trying to evaluate your supervisory or management effectiveness.

Step #1 – Fill out the survey. On a scale of 1-10, rate yourself for each trait. Be honest with yourself or the value of this survey is meaningless.

Step #2 – Now, it gets interesting. If you want to get a different perspective on you and your abilities as a supervisor or manager, make a copy of this survey and give this survey to each of your subordinates. Ask each of them to anonymously submit their opinion of your supervisory abilities in each of these ten categories on that same scale. You might be surprised at the results of this survey (for good or for bad!) when you compare your opinion of “you” with their opinion of “you.” It is VERY important for a supervisor to learn to see things through the eyes of their subordinates. This is a very good exercise to start that “understanding.”

If you give the survey to ten or more subordinates, you can “throw out” the best and worst survey results. That helps to eliminate the extreme opinions of you which we mentioned earlier. Tally up the remainder of the scores and comments. Remember that this is what your subordinates think of your management style. The results may, or may not, agree with your results, but, nevertheless, we believe that what your subordinates think of you is far more important than what you think of you. Pay attention to the results of this survey!

Step #3 – If you want to continue to gather data on your strengths and weaknesses as a supervisor or manager, take the next big step. Make a copy of this survey and give it to your bosses. This may be awkward, or it may not work at all if you only have one boss, but you would be surprised at how many people above you with whom you interact have some insights into your abilities. So, pass this survey to as many command level staff as possible in your agency. Much like in Step #2, tally up the results and heed the comments. It is very important to understand what your bosses think of you (or, more accurately, what they think of your strengths and weaknesses as a supervisor or manager).

Use the information from all three steps in this survey to improve yourself, improve your management style and improve your career!

If you fail to assume your leadership position or fail to maintain the confidence of your personnel, you will fail in both your objectives and as a leader. If you assume your leadership role; make reasonable, commonsense decisions; and take care of your personnel, you will be a successful commander. As such, you can look for a bright and successful future as an ever increasingly responsible police commander. P&SN

Note: Police Management Services, LLC is pleased to announce to the readers of P&SN that it is offering a new online supervisory training program. Successful completion will give students three Continuing Education Units (CEUs). For more information, please check their Web site at http://policemanagement.com/expert.html, or you can reach them by E-mail at MCarpenter@policemanagement.com, or by phone at (518)761-9708. Also, see their ad in this edition of P&SN.
Back in the year 1920, when a state-of-the-art safecracker was ready to start on a job, he would take stock of his equipment to make certain that he had incorporated the latest methods and tools. His most recent addition would seem to be an oxyacetylene blowpipe. As pictured to the left, burglars were able to cut through the side of a “burglarproof” safe in an effortless manner with the aid of this tool. They then blew out the door with nitroglycerin and helped themselves to the loose cash in the safe. Had the safe been originally built with a manganese steel lined safety box, this would have foiled the cutting powers of the oxyacetylene torch. The criminals left behind a large hammer and two cylinders of gas. Police subsequently discovered that these, too, had been stolen. The accompanying image shows the hole which was burned into the safe along with one of the gas cylinders. The safecrackers also made use of the property of the firm they were robbing—helping themselves to everything they required, from baking soda to employees’ clothes. P&SN

This burglarproof safe was burned through by the use of an oxyacetylene blowpipe. The door was then blown out with nitroglycerin.
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A CONDENSED HISTORY OF
POLICE CAR ENGINES
(AND A FEW COOL CRUISERS, TOO)

PART ONE

We all think of history in different ways. Your high school history teacher probably traced history by the dates of significant events, while architects categorize history with building styles and sports fans track history by the big (or bad) games of their favorite teams. But, automobile fans (car guys/gals) organize their thinking by favorite years, makes and models. However, performance-minded buffs go even further and chart automobile history by engine type and size, aka horsepower. Because I spent the last 50+ years behind the wheel of police cars, I even take that a step further by identifying with police car engines.

Following, you will find my chronological history of significant police car engines and the emergence of police “pony” cars. This is not official and it is probably not universally shared; it’s just my humble opinion based on police cars I’ve owned and/or driven.

NOTE: Descriptions will alternate between numerical and litre designations, depending on what the manufacturers used at the time.

1932
After building nearly five million Model As, Ford replaced them with the 1932 Model B, aka “The Deuce.” The new Ford included their first V-8 which had the distinction of being loved by both cops and criminals alike. After years of the so-so performance of the Model A four-bangers, cops loved the new V-8. Gangsters like John Dillinger and Clyde Barrow were big fans, too. In fact, the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn has letters from both Dillinger and Barrow on display in which both praised the Ford V-8. Gangsters like John Dillinger and Clyde Barrow were big fans, too. In fact, the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn has letters from both Dillinger and Barrow on display in which both praised the Ford V-8. There is one from Barrow (dated April 10, 1934) and one from Dillinger (dated May 16, 1934); however, both of these have been disputed by family members and handwriting experts alike. But one from Dillinger (dated May 6, 1934) is probably genuine because it was sealed in Henry Ford’s safe for 75 years, perhaps because Dillinger, after praising the V-8 for giving him the ability to “get away from the coppers,” signed off by stating, “Yours ’til I have the pleasure of meeting you.” s/s John Dillinger. That meeting, or one with Clyde Barrow, for that matter, never happened, as both of their careers were terminated through lead poisoning (by law enforcement) later in 1934. Bonnie and Clyde were killed in a stolen 1934 V-8 Ford near Gibsland, LA, May 23, and Dillinger was shot to death on a Chicago street on July 22nd.

The original Ford “flathead” V-8 was a scant 65 horsepower (hp), but increased to 75 hp in 1933/34 and ended its 21 year
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1951

A lot of today’s “young gun” Mopar® guys think the current HEMI® was born in 2006; however, the original Chrysler HEMI V-8 first appeared in 1951; although, at that time, they wore names like “Fire Power,” “Fire Flite,” “Fire Dome,” or “Fire Ram,” depending on the make of vehicle in which they were installed. These were also Chrysler’s first V-8s, replacing six cylinders. Weighing in at a scant 180 hp, those first HEMIs were discontinued in 1958, but would be reborn as humongous engines in 1964.

1955

The small-block Chevy V-8 was unveiled in 1955 and is, hands down, the most popular American engine ever built. Naturally, they were soon powering police cars. Although starting out at a mere 160-180 hp, they eventually grew to simply being referred to by numbers such as 283 (230 hp), 327 (365 hp) and 350 (360 hp). That original configuration small-block continued until 2003.

In 1967, my department bought a handful of Chevys with the gutsy 4bbl 327. As was the practice, they rotated the cars among the precincts and officers. One dog watch night, I drew one of the Chevys and it was quite a departure from the six-cylinder Plymoughs I was used to driving. I was dispatched to back up another officer on a particularly hot call and the car was amazing. As I approached (at a speed which was well over all sensible speeds), I saw the officer and I tried to stop...nothing. Then, I stood on the brakes with both feet and I slid a half block past him! Yep, they ran like the wind, but those drum brakes with bias tires wouldn’t stop you on a hundred bucks worth of dimes.

1956

This was the first Chrysler small-block V-8, a 318. Most of you are probably more familiar with a different 318 which powered the popular Diplomats and Gran Furys decades later.

1958

The first GM big-block V-8 appeared a scant three years after their small-block debuted. The first big-block was a 348 and was used until 1961. The 348 was

---

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replaced with a big-block eight which was so popular that a hit record by the Beach Boys was named after it…the 409. The 409 reigned until 1965 when it was replaced by the 396 which was replaced by the 454 which lasted throughout most of the Seventies.

During GM’s early V-8 years, most police departments opted for the small-blocks, but, occasionally, hot-rodders were surprised by big-block Chevy police cars in their rear view.

1962
The small-block Ford V-8 was born as a 260 and, in 1964, it grew to a 289. Eventually, it grew to a 302 and then it became the very popular 5.0 in the Fox-body SSP Mustang police cars (1982 through 1993), but more on those later. The 5.0s were also found under the hoods of other Fox platform police cars, notably the Fairmont (1978-1982) and LTD (1984-1985), often called “4DR Mustangs.”

1964
Chrysler revived the HEMI as a Gen II 426, the darling of NASCAR, NHRA and AHRA alike, with legends like Richard Petty, Don Garlits and John Force. From 1965 to 1971, Mother Mopar delighted street rodders everywhere with their “Street HEMI” installed in their Plymouth and Dodge muscle cars in aptly named promotions such as “The Scat Pack” (Dodge) and “Rapid Transit System” (Plymouth). The 426 also got its own tribute record from Jan and Dean in their song, “The Little Old Lady from Pasadena” and her “brand-new shiny, super stocked Dodge.”

1966
Chrysler’s first 440 “wedge” engine was unveiled and, two years later (in 1968), a smaller hp version, the 383, was born. Soon, Chrysler added the name “Magnum” to the 383 and 440 engines, perhaps to attract even more cops to their cruisers. (What cop couldn’t identify with a name like Magnum?) Also offered (but not on police cars) was an option of three two-barrel carburetors on a high-rise intake manifold, called a “Six Pack.”

One of the most famous 440 Magnum powered movie police cars ever was not even in a police movie, the 1974 Dodge Monaco Bluesmobile, driven by Dan Aykroyd in 1980’s The Blues Brothers. His character describes the Monaco this...
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U.S. PATENT NO. 8,910,560
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way, “It’s got a cop motor, a 440 cubic inch plant. It’s got cop tires, cop suspension, cop shocks.” Aykroyd was so enamored by the car that he bought one for himself.

1969
This was the year when we first heard of the 351 V-8 from Ford. They were often referred to as 351 Cleveland (1969) or 351 Windsor (1970), a reference to where they were built. Thousands of these engines powered Ford cruisers back in the day, but, when car guys hear 351, they fantasize about the 1971 Mustang Boss 351.

1970/1971
These were the glory days for Mopar gearheads and cops alike. Not only could performance junkies order the screamin’ 383 and 440 Magnums in their Cudas, Challengers, Road Runners, and Super Bees, WE could order them in Dodge and Plymouth police cars, too! And, there were thousands on the streets and highways of America. But, wait, there’s more…in 1970 and 1971, power-hungry buyers could still buy the last of the HEMIs, now rated at 426 hp. It’s rumored that a few might have ended up in police cars.

In the late Eighties, I purchased a used 1977 Missouri State Patrol Plymouth Fury with a 440 Magnum. As I was still suffering the pain of the oil embargo and the influx of imports and detuned domestics, I loaded my 13-year-old son in it and told him, “I’m so sorry that you will never be able to do this when you start buying cars. These days are over.” I pulled the old war horse out onto the street and nailed it, leaving black strips for (I swear) half a block! Okay, it was up a slight incline, but my son got the point.

But, fast-forward 30 years and, wow, was I wrong about the future of police cars!

This ends Part One of our look in the rearview mirror (or should I say under the hood) of police cruisers. Stay tuned for Part Two and the birth of pony police cars, the “pocket rockets” from Ford and Chevy. P&SN

Sergeant James Post appreciates your comments and suggestions for future articles. He can be reached at kopkars@arkansas.net.
The latest mobile office solution from Havis features a new lightweight, high-resolution touch screen display and optional vehicle-specific mounts that maximize comfort, safety, functionality and in-vehicle space. The display functions as an external monitor that mounts close to the dash with the option of mounting the computing device elsewhere in the vehicle to save space in the cabin. A tilt/swivel hinge provides for a range of adjustments to reduce glare and body strain and allow access to the OEM control panel.

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Recently, in District of Columbia v. Wesby, 583 U.S. ___ (2018), the United States Supreme Court rejected a claim made by 16 trespassing partygoers that the police lacked probable cause to arrest them. The circumstances unfolded at about 1:00 a.m. in the middle of March 2008 when District of Columbia police officers responded to a complaint about loud music and illegal activities at a house described as “vacant” by the caller, a former neighborhood commissioner. Upon arrival, several neighbors confirmed that the house should have been empty. When the officers knocked on the front door, one of the partygoers opened the door and the officers entered. The house “was in disarray” and looked like a “vacant” property. “The officers smelled marijuana and saw beer bottles and cups of liquor on the floor. In fact, the floor was so dirty that one of the partygoers refused to sit on it while being questioned. Although the house had working electricity and plumbing, it had no furniture downstairs other than a few padded metal chairs. The only other signs of habitation were blinds on the windows, food in the refrigerator and toiletries in the bathroom.”

“In the living room, the officers found a makeshift strip club. Several women were wearing only bras and thongs, with cash tucked into their garter belts. . . . After seeing the uniformed officers, many partygoers scattered into other parts of the house.” In one of the upstairs bedrooms, the officers found a naked woman and several men. One partygoer was located hiding in an upstairs closet and another who had shut himself in the bathroom refused to come out.

The officers questioned the 21 people in the house, but were unable to obtain a clear or consistent story. Two of the women working the party said that a woman named “Peaches” was renting the house and had given them permission to be there. She did not know Peaches’ real name, but was able to call her on her phone so that an officer could talk to her. When asked about who had given her permission to use the house, Peaches became agitated, nervous and evasive. Ultimately, she admitted that she did not have permission to use the house.

The officers then contacted the owner who confirmed that he had not given anyone permission to be there. At that point, the officers arrested the 21 partygoers for unlawful entry. At police headquarters, a lieutenant decided to change the charge to disorderly conduct. “The partygoers were released and the charges were eventually dropped.”

Sixteen of the partygoers sued the Dis-
strict and five of the arresting officers for false arrest under the
Fourth Amendment, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1983. Although
the District Court and Court of Appeals concluded that the
officers lacked probable cause to arrest and that they were
not entitled to qualified immunity, the United States Supreme
Court disagreed and reversed.

Preliminarily, the Court addressed whether the officers
had probable cause to arrest the partygoers. “To determine
whether an officer had probable cause for an arrest,” courts
will “examine the events leading up to the arrest, and then
decide whether these historical facts, viewed from the stand-
point of an objectively reasonable police officer, amount to
probable cause.” Here, we are looking for “only a probability
or substantial chance of criminal activity, not an actual show-
ing of such activity.”

In this case, there was no dispute that the partygoers en-
tered the house without the permission of the owner. “Con-
sidering the totality of the circumstances, the officers made
an ‘entirely reasonable inference’ that the partygoers were
knowingly taking advantage of a vacant house as a venue
for their late night party.”

From all accounts, it was apparent that the house had
been vacant for several months. It had no furniture, except
for a few padded metal chairs and a bare mattress. “The
house had a few signs of inhabitance – working electricity
and plumbing, blinds on the windows, toiletries in the bath-
room, and food in the refrigerator. But, those facts are not
necessarily inconsistent with the house being unoccupied.”
Indeed, the partygoers could have brought the food and toi-
letries.

“In addition to the condition of the house, consider the
partygoers’ conduct. The party was still going strong when
the officers arrived after 1:00 a.m., with music so loud that
it could be heard from outside. Upon entering the house,
multiple officers smelled marijuana. The partygoers left beer
bottles and cups of liquor on the floor, and they left the floor
so dirty that one of them refused to sit on it. The living room
had been converted into a makeshift strip club. Strippers in
bras and thongs, with cash stuffed in their garter belts, were
giving lap dances. Upstairs, the officers found a group of
men with a single, naked woman on a bare mattress – the
only bed in the house – along with multiple open condom
wrappers and a used condom.”

“Taken together, the condition of the house and the con-
duct of the partygoers allowed the officers to make several
‘commonsense conclusions about human behavior.’ Most
homeowners do not live in near barren houses. And, most
homeowners do not invite people over to use their living
room as a strip club, to have sex in their bedroom, to smoke
marijuana inside, and to leave their floors filthy. The officers
could thus infer that the partygoers knew their party was not
authorized.”

The partygoers’ reaction to the officers’ arrival gave them
further reason to believe the partygoers were trespassers.
“Many scattered at the sight of the uniformed officers. Two
hid themselves, one in a closet and the other in a bathroom.”
This behavior was “certainly suggestive” of wrongdoing.
Moreover, the partygoers’ answers to the officers’ questions
also suggested their guilty state of mind. When the officers
asked who had given them permission to be there, “the par-
tygoers gave vague and implausible responses.” Additional-
ly, “some of the partygoers claimed the event was a bach-

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could have disbelieved them since people normally do not throw a bachelor party without a bachelor.”

Peaches, after initially insisting that she had permission to use the house, “ultimately confessed that this was a lie — a fact that the owner confirmed. Peaches’ lying and evasive behavior gave the officers reason to discredit everything she had told them.”

“Viewing these circumstances as a whole, a reasonable officer could conclude that there was probable cause to believe the partygoers knew they did not have permission to be in the house.”

Accordingly, the Court reversed the DC Circuit’s holding that the officers lacked probable cause to arrest and concluded that the District and its officers were entitled to summary judgment on all of the partygoers’ claims. The Court’s conclusion that the officers had probable cause to arrest the partygoers was sufficient to resolve this case. Nonetheless, the Court went on to rule that the officers were also clearly entitled to qualified immunity under §1983.

Larry E. Holtz has served as a Detective Sergeant with the Atlantic City, New Jersey, Police Department; a Deputy Attorney General for the state of New Jersey; and an Assistant County Prosecutor. Presently, Mr. Holtz is the Managing Editor of Blue360 Media, the largest US provider of legal information which is solely focused on serving law enforcement.

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The U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center has released a report, Mass Attacks in Public Spaces – 2017. The study focused on 28 incidents carried out in public places in the United States in 2017 during which three or more persons were harmed. The report takes an in-depth look into the commonalities of the attackers which include location of attack, weapons used, gender, age, substance abuse, criminal history, mental health, motives, targeting, stressors, and communications. NTAC examined the incidents to identify key themes for enhancing threat assessment and investigative practices. To read the report, go to https://tinyurl.com/y8xgmqrw.
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“Above and Beyond...” salutes Patrol Sergeant Mathew Cousins of the Bristol, TN, Police Department

Artwork by Don Lomax

As the officers approached the lobby of the hotel, Sgt. Cousins looked down and noticed several expended .223 rounds scattered on the asphalt. He quickly realized that they were seriously outgunned and returned to his patrol car to retrieve his own patrol rifle from the trunk. As he did, he broadcast the escalated situation over his radio to warn other officers en route.

Even though down, the injured Scott attempted to raise his weapon to engage. Sgt. Cousins advanced and put an end to the threat by taking Scott into custody!

K-9 officer Sgt. Mathew Cousins' clear-eyed approach to the situation that morning - spotting the expended .223 casings which caused him to return to his vehicle for his own long gun - may well have made the difference in evening the odds for the officers and it helped bring an end to the extreme situation and neutralize the threat for his actions above and beyond the call of duty. Officer Cousins received the BOCF law enforcement officer of the year award.

Lakeem Keon Scott, 37, armed with an AR-15 and a pistol, began firing through the window of a Days Inn, striking the hotel clerk. He then turned his attention to firing on several vehicles along Volunteer Parkway, wounding several victims and killing one! Calls from the area reported gunfire to 911 operators! Three patrol officers responded. The second of the three was K-9 officer Sgt. Mathew Cousins.

While moving to catch up with the other officers, Cousins observed the armed assailant coming out from behind the neighboring auto parts store and ordered him to drop his weapon. The Perp refused and opened fire on the officers.

In exchange, Sgt. Cousins shot at the leg, but continued to return fire until Scott went down wounded.

The End
During the early morning hours of July 7, 2016, officers of the Bristol, Tennessee Police Department were dispatched to a local Days Inn motel to a report of shots fired.

Upon arrival of the officers, shortly after 2:00 AM, Sergeant Mathew Cousins, the second of three officers to arrive, discovered spent .223 shell casings on the ground. Realizing that the situation was very serious and the suspect was apparently armed with a rifle, Sergeant Cousins returned to his vehicle to obtain his patrol rifle while at the same time alerting other officers of the situation.

At this point, Sergeant Cousins observed the shooter emerging from behind a nearby auto parts store apparently to ambush the officers from behind. The suspect was armed with a rifle and a handgun.

Sergeant Cousins immediately challenged the suspect and ordered him to drop the weapon. The suspect ignored the commands and opened fire on the officers.

All three officers returned fire striking the suspect causing him to fall to the ground. Even though he had been wounded by the police gunfire and is on the ground, the suspect continued to try and fire his rifle at the officers.

Sergeant Cousins advanced on the downed suspect during an intense gun fight and the suspect was taken into custody.

Only when the gunfight had ended was it determined that Sergeant Cousins had suffered a minor gunshot wound to his leg.

The clerk at the Days Inn had suffered multiple gunshot wounds and was immediately transported to the hospital.

The suspect survived and it was later learned that he had fired several rounds into passing cars on an adjacent four-lane roadway, killing a local paper carrier, Jennifer Rooney.

The suspect also admitted to “being in a rage” and that his attack was racially motivated.

Thanks to Sergeant Cousins’ quick observation of the spent rifle casings and realization that the suspect was armed with a rifle, as well as, his quick response to obtain his patrol rifle and the fact that he spotted the suspect moving in from behind the officers to ambush them, he prevented further injuries or deaths.

Additionally, Sergeant Cousins’ decision to advance on the downed shooter, who was still firing at the officers, turned the tides on the gun fight, which resulted in the quick resolution to the matter.

As such, it is with great honor and pride the National Rifle Association names Sergeant Mathew Cousins as the 2017 NRA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.
Implementing overdose reversal programs has provided law enforcement agencies with a number of collateral benefits, including improved community relations. However, it is imperative to weigh both the benefits, as well as any potential drawbacks, before making any commitment.

In Wisconsin, police were dispatched to the scene of an unresponsive two-year-old after he allegedly consumed OxyContin® pills, an opioid derivative. Despite interventions from first responders, the toddler was pronounced dead at the scene. On March 15, 2017, law enforcement officials responded to a suspected opioid overdose in North Carolina. In this case, police were able to administer naloxone, a potentially life-saving drug used to combat the immediate effects of an opioid overdose.

Since 1999, opioid overdoses have quadrupled. With the increase of opioid addiction and overdose deaths, the 2017 report of the President’s Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis “recommended that all law enforcement in the United States be equipped with naloxone.” With such a sweeping recommendation, it is important to understand the benefits, as well as implementation issues, related to naloxone.

In addition to this discussion, a listing of resources pertaining to naloxone use is provided with this article.

The Use of Naloxone

During the 1950s, researchers worked on the effects of an acute opioid overdose. By 1961, pharmaceutical researchers Dr. Mozes Lewenstein and Dr. Jack Fishman applied for a patent for the drug naloxone. Unlike other drugs used at the time to treat opioid overdose, naloxone did not produce the effects associated with opioid use. Naloxone is effective because the drug forms a stronger bond than opioids to chemical receptors in the brain, replacing them and helping to reverse some impacts of opioid overdose.

In cases of severe opioid overdose, the central nervous system and respiratory systems are depressed to the point that a victim cannot breathe. However, after naloxone is administered, because it replaces opioids at the brain’s receptor sites, the victim’s breathing may be restored.

In 1971, the FDA approved the use of naloxone – intramuscularly, intravenously and subcutaneously – in part because of the drug’s safety. Intranasal use of naloxone has also been found to be effective in the initial treatment of overdose victims. This provides less risk to the responder administering the drug and requires less medical training, as no syringe or injection is required. By 2015, the FDA approved the use of naloxone in NARCAN® Nasal Spray, further equipping laypersons with the ability to immediately treat opioid overdose.

In recent years, prescriptions for opioids have increased drastically despite pain levels remaining relatively consistent among Americans. Opioid overdose deaths, from prescription and illicit drugs, have continued to rise since the 1990s, recently surpassing automobile accidents as the highest cause of preventable death in the United States. Community programs throughout the

A lethal dose of heroin (shown on left) as compared to a lethal dose of carfentanil (middle) and fentanyl (right)
United States have begun to equip the public with naloxone to prevent fatal overdoses. Law enforcement agencies which work to provide their officers with naloxone can provide an additional line of defense against opioid deaths, both to the public and for accidental exposures to officers.

**Benefits of Naloxone as They Relate to Law Enforcement**

**Accidental Exposure to Opioids**

Exposure to opioids is becoming a greater problem for officers in the field. In 2015, the DEA warned that even trace amounts of opioids, such as fentanyl – an opioid 50 times stronger than heroin – can be fatal if an officer is unknowingly exposed. Recently, a police officer in Ohio overdosed after touching a white powdery substance, alleged to be fentanyl, after a traffic stop. The officer was treated with naloxone at the scene. Also according to the DEA, accidental opioid overdoses are becoming more common as first responders have begun to report an increase in symptoms related to opioid poisoning while performing their duties. In fact, the DEA has specifically recommended the immediate use of naloxone in such cases.

Police K-9s are also susceptible to opioid overdose. For instance, to ensure the safety of their K-9s, handlers in Baltimore County have begun carrying naloxone. Because the drug is administered in the same manner as it is for humans, no additional training is required. Police agencies armed with naloxone would act to limit vulnerability to accidental overdoses.

**Timing of Naloxone Administration**

Rapid administration of naloxone is essential to the drug’s effectiveness because death can occur within three hours of overdosing. This small margin of time becomes important as witnesses of the overdose may delay calling for medical attention out of fear of receiving criminal charges. Witnesses also may not immediately recognize that an overdose has occurred.

Some believe that only paramedics and other highly trained medical staff should be tasked with administering naloxone. However, medical responders may have longer response times than law enforcement, especially in rural areas. In addition, in some jurisdictions, emergency medical technicians may be prohibited from administering naloxone. Law enforcement officers have also demonstrated that they can perform ba-
sic medical procedures – such as CPR (CardioPulmonary Resuscitation) and AED (Automated External Defibrillator) services – to prolong life prior to EMS response. By providing and training police to use naloxone, an initial dose of the drug could be administered in the valuable minutes before paramedics arrive at the scene.

**Protecting the Public**

Law enforcement agencies across the United States have been supplying their officers with naloxone since 2010. Naloxone administered by police has proven effective as countless overdoses have been reversed. While some oppose extending naloxone access because it is believed to increase drug misuse among addicts, there is no empirical evidence to support this claim.

**Police/Community Relations**

Finally, police deployment of naloxone could help to build positive relationships with the public. A study of California law enforcement officers trained in naloxone administration found that the public conveyed their appreciation to officers for using naloxone when necessary and that officers themselves found its life-saving effects to be rewarding. The study also suggested that public awareness of law enforcement’s helping role could lead to a greater willingness to call 911 for police response in overdose situations, especially when coupled with laws or policies which preclude charging callers for drug offenses, such as personal possession of narcotics and paraphernalia (California has such a law).

**Possible Issues for Police Departments**

**Cost of Naloxone and Training**

Research suggests that supplying officers with a naloxone kit which provides two doses has proven effective in limiting deaths; however, additional doses are occasionally required to reverse an overdose. While naloxone kits at one time were relatively cheap, prices have recently increased with the greater demand for the drug. For instance, providers have witnessed markups as high as a 500% price increase in the past three years. Depending upon supply, the cost of nasally administered naloxone ranges from $70 to $150 per dose; injectable forms of naloxone cost as much as $4,500 (for two doses). In addition, naloxone typically loses potency within a year and a half to two years, requiring agencies to resupply their inventory (as well as maintaining current and accurate records to track inventory and its expiration dates). At the same time, some agencies may utilize grant funding to maintain naloxone supplies.
Naloxone Resources

The following resources may prove useful in considering and developing naloxone policies for law enforcement agencies:

- Report of the President’s Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis, issued November 1, 2017: [https://tinyurl.com/yclwvj4g](https://tinyurl.com/yclwvj4g)

- Bureau of Justice Assistance National Training and Technical Assistance Center, Law Enforcement Naloxone Toolkit: [https://tinyurl.com/ycbcddcxr](https://tinyurl.com/ycbcddcxr)

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s Preparing for Naloxone Distribution: Resources for First Responders and Others: [https://tinyurl.com/y9qvungg](https://tinyurl.com/y9qvungg)

- International Association of Chiefs of Police naloxone resource page, including a model policy (membership required): [http://www.theiacp.org/naloxone](http://www.theiacp.org/naloxone)

- Drug Enforcement Administration, Fentanyl: A Briefing Guide for First Responders, issued in June 2017: [https://tinyurl.com/yavnp27t](https://tinyurl.com/yavnp27t)

Special Training

States require individuals who administer naloxone to be trained; however, there are a variety of types of training sessions. Programs largely resemble receiving certification to perform CPR, but, in this instance, training includes learning about opioids, detecting an overdose and properly administering naloxone through various routes. These courses take about 40 to 90 minutes to complete and some training can be completed online.

Naloxone’s Possible Physiological Effects

While naloxone causes no response in persons without opioids in their system, it can cause an intense opioid withdrawal in opioid addicted patients. Although largely non-life-threatening, acute withdrawal can make patients violent. In 2016, two Pennsylvania state troopers were assaulted after reviving a man with naloxone. However, experts consider incidents of this nature to be exceptions to the rule, noting that most
patients feel sick or groggy upon revival rather than becoming agitated. Serious side effects, such as cardiac arrest and epileptic seizures, have been linked to naloxone administration, but typically only occur when in conjunction with preexisting conditions and are extremely rare.

This raises an important consideration about naloxone which should be addressed in agency policy. Naloxone administration by itself does not provide complete treatment. Rather, evaluation by a medical professional is still necessary. The effects of opioid overdose may be longer lasting than naloxone’s revival, placing patients back in respiratory arrest after naloxone wears off. Patients who do not receive follow-up care may become fatalities even after being revived with naloxone.

**Legal Considerations**

Law enforcement officers likely face little liability in cases of naloxone administration. Responses to opioid overdose are largely covered by “good faith” provisions allowing an officer to perform tasks deemed necessary to sustain life. Many states have enacted laws providing further protection to officers and laypersons from liability when administering naloxone. Additionally, naloxone does not produce any negative effects if improperly administered.

Qualified immunity can also provide protection to law enforcement officers who administer naloxone in the course of their duties. However, agency legal counsel should review naloxone administration policies along a number of lines, at the very least including training protocols (e.g., sufficient to withstand claims of the *Canton v. Harris* “deliberate indifference” standard) and distinguishing between positive duties to act (in which law enforcement’s efforts for medical care may be protected) and failure to act (in which failure to provide care,
including requesting EMS treatment and transport, can incur liability). One important issue to address is guidance on when naloxone should be administered. Sound policy guidance can address these and other issues while ensuring naloxone availability for use in medical emergencies.

**Recommendations**

Naloxone use by law enforcement professionals offers many benefits. As a tool which promotes life safety to responders and to the public, it merits sound consideration. Several recommendations follow, but readers are also directed to the listing of resources included in this article for additional guidance in developing a full agency policy.

To receive the medication, agencies should begin by immediately training their officers through appropriate public health entities. Naloxone is a prescription medication, but, in some jurisdictions, it may be purchased with the approval of a pharmacist. To address liability concerns, certification is required to receive and administer the drug.

Naloxone access for rural police agencies is especially crucial for three reasons. First, in some states, EMT basics are unable to administer naloxone due to current scopes of practice. In rural areas, EMT basics frequently respond before advanced medical personnel, limiting the intervention a subject receives until the arrival of paramedics. Although these protocols appear to be changing to accommodate na-
tionwide addiction rates, supplying a police department with naloxone could bridge the transition for EMS once restrictions are lifted. Second, between 1999 and 2004, rural counties saw a 159% increase in fatal opioid overdoses. Third, in comparison to other first responders (e.g., EMS), police respond more rapidly to emergencies in rural areas.

Naloxone deployment may also be useful for school resource officers, as well as by agencies that police institutions with heavy volumes of traffic (or significant residential or transient populations), such as universities and airports. These locations may well have a need for emergency opioid response, due to the sheer number of persons who traverse them on a given day.

Finally, widespread distribution of naloxone to police agencies—consistent with the recommendations of the President’s Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis, is one positive and life-saving step in which law enforcement can help to address a public health crisis. And, in doing so, they may help to establish meaningful police-community relationships.

Conclusion

Naloxone has the potential to be an invaluable tool for law enforcement agencies, particularly with current levels of opioid addiction and use. While the drug will not serve as the “silver bullet” for the opioid epidemic and will require the development of sound agency policies to guide its deployment, it has worked to prevent many overdose deaths. Arming officers with the training and resources necessary to save lives is essential as overdose rates continue to escalate.

References available upon request.

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Recent events involving police use of force have compelled law enforcement to spend more time considering their relationship with the communities they serve and how to improve the public’s perception of officers and their role in the community. In addition to public outreach programs designed to bring citizens in contact with officers in constructive, positive ways, recent research suggests that an officer’s appearance can influence public opinion.

“It is possible that even mere presence factors (i.e., absent contact), such as the appearance of police officers in different attire and patrol capacities, may be enough to impact their perceived approachability, accountability, respectability, and so on,” posits Rylan Simpson, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Criminology, Law and Society at the University of California, Irvine, in his recent research paper, “The Police Officer Perception Project (POPP): An experimental evaluation of factors that impact perceptions of the police,” published in the Journal of Experimental Criminology.

Simpson hypothesized that, as a symbol of a community and its values, a uniform serves to legitimize police, enhancing public perception of officers presented in uniform and diminishing an officer’s perceived status when presented in civilian clothing.

The study presented participants with 64 images each depicting one of four officers in a uniform or civilian clothing and either in a vehicle, on foot or on a bicycle. For each image, the study participants were asked to categorize it along five subdivided variables: aggressive versus not aggressive; approachable versus not approachable; friendly versus not friendly; respectful versus not respectful; and accountable versus not accountable.

Results

“I find that participants generally reported favorable views of the police. Contrary to much public discourse, participants overwhelmingly rated images of police officers as accountable, respectful and approachable,” Simpson concluded.

Although participants perceived police officers as more aggressive when presented in police uniform (versus civilian clothing), they also perceived them as more approachable, respectful and accountable. The police uniform, therefore, appears to convey aggression, but it does so without compromising more favorable perceptions, he adds.

Patrol strategy also played a part in how participants perceived police officers, with officers being perceived as more approachable, respectful and accountable when presented on a bicycle or on foot than in a vehicle and as more friendly and less aggressive when seen on a bicycle than in a vehicle.

“Police departments may maximize the benefits of police/
community events by increasing the presence of officers on bicycles during such events. Where feasible, police departments may also consider incorporating more bicycle and/or foot patrol into their regular patrol practices,” Simpson writes.

**Future Research**

While this study represents a large-scale evaluation of factors which impact perceptions of the police, Simpson has further evaluated the effects of police vehicles (e.g., marked vehicles versus unmarked vehicles, etc.) and accoutrements (e.g., high visibility vests versus load bearing vests, black gloves, etc.) on perceptions in related manuscripts. “In future research, I intend to extend my work from the laboratory to the real-world environment,” says Simpson. “As part of such work, I hope to evaluate the effects of appearance on perceptions of officers under conditions where more dynamic and contextual stimuli are present. It is my hope that other researchers will direct greater attention to similar questions as well.”

**Industry Insights**

Steve Zalkin, President of the North-American Association of Uniform Manufacturers & Distributors (NAUMD), hesitates to classify the image of an officer in uniform as aggressive. “A well-dressed and groomed police officer in a Class A uniform reflects a dedicated civil servant to her/his community and portrays safety. A peace officer only wants to show aggression when an environment needs to be controlled,” he says.

“Police uniforms provide an image to the community that they serve. The image portrayed to the public can be professional, militaristic or community policing,” he adds. “Public opinion is a little more outspoken when a department has a military presentation. Uniforms need to fit the job function and need to be functional for the job description.”

Public perception is increasingly a concern for police departments, concedes Cory Nykoluk, Director of Design for First Tactical. “In today’s political climate, the appearance of an officer is vital,” he says. “Even before words are spoken, the uniform is the first point of communication. If an officer looks like he is prepping for World War III, it’s easier for public opinion to view that negatively.”

**Form and Function**

Police departments have a great deal of choice in selecting
Traditional MOLLE gear still tends to occasionally elicit a negative perception among some in various communities.

officer uniforms – all of which can affect how the public perceives officers: headwear (baseball cap versus dress cap versus no cap); shirts (tactical shirt versus dress shirt versus polo shirts); pants (dress slacks versus tactical pants [cargo side pants] versus shorts [hot weather environments]); jackets (professional outerwear versus athletic outerwear); and body armor (under uniform versus over uniform). These items can also be found in different fabrics and colors and public perceptions will differ based on those choices and how they are presented.

“Gloves are a great example of officers influencing their image,” Nykoluk adds. “Take the traditional molded knuckle plate on the outside of traditional hard knuckle gloves. The plate tells you that this glove is designed for a very specific purpose. Modernized hard knuckle gloves are becoming more low profile with the protective knuckles moving underneath the fabric and becoming less pronounced, thus giving officers a more professional appearance that isn’t ‘aggressive.’”

The addition of body armor and other protective gear can influence public perception, “depending on a person’s understanding of a police officer’s job responsibilities and job function. It depends on specific situations and the environment. Schoolchildren typically will relate better to resource officers who are in casual attire versus a tactical uniform. In an active shooter situation, I am running towards a SWAT officer first,” says Zalkin. “The uniform must fit the job function and be functional for the job. Patrol officers, horse patrol, K-9, SWAT, bomb squad, school resource officers, and command staff all can, and should, have a different uniform.”

“One of the big complaints you hear is that the traditional heavy MOLLE gear is the first thing that an untrained eye catches and responds negatively to,” says Nykoluk. “The MOLLE platform is seen throughout images of the military and the public sees that and thinks of war. In recent years, popular media has given this functional gear a negative connotation and, unfortunately, police departments have had to adjust accordingly.”

**Dress for Success**

There has been a shift in uniform styles, Zalkin notes. “During my tenure in the uniform industry, which began in 1983, there has been consideration by command staff in choosing uniforms to fit the public’s perception for the police agency. School resource officers wore embroidered polo shirts with khaki pants (a soft sell look); street officers wore Class A uniforms for a professional look; and only tactical teams wore the military look. Today, everything is about functionality, number one, and comfort, number two. In the

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**PUBLIC PERCEPTION**

Continued from page 41

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**PUBLIC PERCEPTION**

Continued from page 41
past, body armor was always worn under uniform shirts. Today, many agencies wear body armor in MOLLE carriers over their uniforms. Uniform pants yesterday were traditional looking dress slacks; today, many agencies wear cargo pants or tactical pants."

Nykoluk has also noted a shift in police uniforms. "Many departments have changed to polos with a refined tactical pant. Both items are still tools for their job (functional on the street, in the office and on the range), but are refined in silhouette, keeping a neat, clean and professional look. I think that directly ties into the idea of public perception driving the appearance of law enforcement officers." Vest carriers which look like uniforms are also an emerging trend, he adds.

Zalkin’s advice: "Dress for success with the skew on officer safety and functionality. There is an old saying that perception is 99% reality. It is not just about the public’s perception. It is also about officer pride and department culture. Do you sew an American flag on the uniform? What does the department emblem look like? The emblem portrays the community."

Conclusion

“Mere presence matters,” Simpson advises law enforcement. “Simply observing police in different attire and patrol capacities impacts perceptions of them. An officer does not necessarily need to initiate formal contact in order to change the way in which a citizen thinks about them. Even just driving, walking or biking through a neighborhood is enough to elicit perceptions. With that being said, different types of attire and patrol strategies elicit different types of perceptions. For example, officers are perceived more favorably when presented on a bicycle, or on foot, than when presented in a vehicle. Officers should thus be mindful of the perceptual effects of their presence.”

“Appearance does not exist in a vacuum: Perceived visual characteristics may shed insight into perceived philosophical characteristics (e.g., guardian versus warrior). Officers must remain vigilant of the effects of their presence and how they can manipulate their presence in order to enhance public/police relations,” Simpson adds. P&SN

Formerly the Editor-in-Chief for Forensic Magazine, Rebecca Waters is a freelance writer and editor.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Booth Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mack Camera &amp; Video Service, Inc.</td>
<td>1637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAG Instrument</td>
<td>718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Police Supply</td>
<td>803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mall Chevrolet</td>
<td>1750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marbelle Co. Inc.</td>
<td>1149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark43</td>
<td>644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material Protection, LLC</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medtronic Zephyr Performance Systems</td>
<td>745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meggit Training Systems</td>
<td>534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merrill</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MetroAlert</td>
<td>1737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Data Solutions</td>
<td>2230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro Strategies, Inc.</td>
<td>1337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirram Security</td>
<td>1159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millennium Communications Group, Inc.</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILO Range Training Systems</td>
<td>2124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Profitt</td>
<td>317 &amp; 319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moccean</td>
<td>1538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Material</td>
<td>318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monmouth University</td>
<td>417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorola Solutions, Inc.</td>
<td>1418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Equipment Enterprises</td>
<td>2056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NJ Cops Magazine</td>
<td>2036 &amp; 2038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NJ Div. of Criminal Justice/Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor</td>
<td>1446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NJ Fraternal Order of Police</td>
<td>1728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police</td>
<td>629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA Community Outreach</td>
<td>937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA Law Enforcement Division</td>
<td>2032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National University</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neese Industries</td>
<td>649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey Business Systems</td>
<td>616 &amp; 617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey State PBA</td>
<td>2036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey Transit Police</td>
<td>657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIGHTSTICK</td>
<td>1145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North American Rescue</td>
<td>2034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast Communications, Inc.</td>
<td>835</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ocean Computer Group</td>
<td>1548</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ocean Systems</td>
<td>1230</td>
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<tr>
<td>Odor Crusher</td>
<td>929</td>
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<tr>
<td>ODYSSEY Battery</td>
<td>2042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Duty Blue</td>
<td>1039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Duty Management</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Business Systems, Inc.</td>
<td>1315</td>
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<tr>
<td>Officer Phil/Community Outreach</td>
<td></td>
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<td>-- Publication</td>
<td>553</td>
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<tr>
<td>OfficerStore</td>
<td>1914</td>
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<tr>
<td>Otis Technology</td>
<td>1437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDQ Signature Systems</td>
<td>1244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH&amp;S Products</td>
<td>934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PKA Technology</td>
<td>943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMC Associates</td>
<td>408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSS by VCS</td>
<td>1122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packetalk, LLC</td>
<td>1920 &amp; 1922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pagecom, LLC</td>
<td>1527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panasonic Avionics</td>
<td>1827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panasonic Avionics, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panasonic Mobility</td>
<td>1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panther Vision LED Innovation</td>
<td>742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner Plus by Learning House</td>
<td>1724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasacc Data Services</td>
<td>1138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrol PC</td>
<td>606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peerless Handcuff Company</td>
<td>1537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pelco by Schneider Electric</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Justice &amp; Safety Institute</td>
<td>2039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pestlifi Associates</td>
<td>2229 &amp; 2231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plantif Scheduling</td>
<td>1347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Blank Enterprises</td>
<td>1727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police &amp; Fire Federal Credit Union</td>
<td>735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police and Security News</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PoliceBike.com</td>
<td>1335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Innovations</td>
<td>1201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procomm Systems, Inc.</td>
<td>842, 844, 846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pro-gard Products, LLC</td>
<td>1005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Room Consulting, Inc.</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ProPhenix Corp.</td>
<td>1023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proper International</td>
<td>2231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRO-VISION® Video Systems</td>
<td>834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety Corporation (Cry Wolf)</td>
<td>1137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUGS Cabinet Systems</td>
<td>1043, 1045, 1047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Putco, Inc.</td>
<td>925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUJ2 Systems, Inc.</td>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranger Joe's</td>
<td>1726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raybestos Brakes/Brake Parts, Inc.</td>
<td>1845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ReconRobotics, Inc.</td>
<td>1626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red the Uniform Tailor, Inc.</td>
<td>1721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reebok Duty</td>
<td>2234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue Essentials</td>
<td>1024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue Phone, Inc.</td>
<td>648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Home Funding</td>
<td>418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring</td>
<td>437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockland Custom Products</td>
<td>1117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosco Vision Systems</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route 23 Autommall, LLC</td>
<td>2043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruger Firearms</td>
<td>1442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RuggON Corporation</td>
<td>1123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHL International Corp.</td>
<td>949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.T.A.T. Medical Devices, LLC</td>
<td>2241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWAT &amp; ESU Equipment Literature Table Registration Area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samzie’s Ltd.</td>
<td>1034 &amp; 1426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samzie’s Uniforms</td>
<td>1036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samzie’sOnline.com</td>
<td>1038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savage Arms</td>
<td>1042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule Express by Informer Systems</td>
<td>1334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ScheduleAnywhere</td>
<td>1640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search &amp; Rescue Council of New Jersey</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secure-Idle</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SecureWatch24</td>
<td>1833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Servpro Team Green</td>
<td>1248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setina Mfg., Co., Inc.</td>
<td>1749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark Marine Technologies Inc.</td>
<td>547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ShureSafe</td>
<td>537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sightmark/Pulsar</td>
<td>1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silent Partner</td>
<td>1838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sirchie</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sitework Associates, Inc. Registration Area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLEEPS</td>
<td>1238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith &amp; Warren</td>
<td>623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonitrol Security Systems</td>
<td>901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SoundOff Signal</td>
<td>1553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SouthComm Law Enforcement Media</td>
<td>1744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpiderCuff</td>
<td>524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPIDAR Tech</td>
<td>638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spillman Technologies, A Motorola</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solutions Co.</td>
<td>1423 &amp; 1425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalker Radar</td>
<td>1001 &amp; 1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage Systems USA</td>
<td>746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stratus Support Systems</td>
<td>1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streamlight, Inc.</td>
<td>1734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Smarts VR</td>
<td>743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong Leather Co.</td>
<td>1535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunflower Systems</td>
<td>935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super Seer Corporation</td>
<td>1938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SymbolArts, LLC</td>
<td>1414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SyTech Corporation</td>
<td>2138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T4 Survival</td>
<td>2143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TG3 Electronics</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.J. Morris &amp; Son/Eagle Point Gun</td>
<td>722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSI, Inc.</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tactical Public Safety</td>
<td>1715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TargetSolutions</td>
<td>2236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Wendy</td>
<td>416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telreco, Inc.</td>
<td>535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrestrial Imaging, LLC</td>
<td>1147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bancorp Bank</td>
<td>1049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The College of Saint Elizabeth</td>
<td>1746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Evans Group</td>
<td>2025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The George Washington University, College of Professional Studies</td>
<td>1647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Gun Shop</td>
<td>1821 &amp; 1823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Police Chaplain Program</td>
<td>739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rodgers Group/Critical Response Graphics</td>
<td>729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ti Training Corp.</td>
<td>637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiffin Metal Products Co.</td>
<td>748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOMAR Electronics, Inc.</td>
<td>843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Recall Corp.</td>
<td>1643 &amp; 1645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Logix</td>
<td>1336 &amp; 1338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Safety Service</td>
<td>1252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triangle Communications, LLC</td>
<td>1542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TriTech Software Systems</td>
<td>2135 &amp; 2137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troy Products, Inc.</td>
<td>817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRU-SPEC</td>
<td>1443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turn-Out Uniforms</td>
<td>1228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Technologies, Inc.</td>
<td>736 &amp; 738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Armor Corporation</td>
<td>1539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.SA Blanket and Scarf</td>
<td>1037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Uniform Sales Co. Inc.</td>
<td>2240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V-Comm, LLC</td>
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<td>V Drain Inc.</td>
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<td>V.E. Ralph &amp; Son, Inc.</td>
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<td>VWK9</td>
<td>2141</td>
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<td>VER-MAC</td>
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<td>Versatile Products, LLC</td>
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<td>Veterans Mfg., LLC</td>
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<td>Vicon Industries, Inc.</td>
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<td>VirTra</td>
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<td>Vista Outdoor</td>
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<td>WTH Technology, Inc.</td>
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<td>Warehouse Battery Outlet, Inc.</td>
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<td>Warshauer Electric Company</td>
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<td>WatchGuard Video</td>
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<td>Wells Fargo Home Mortgage</td>
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<td>Wendells, Inc.</td>
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<td>WHELEN Engineering Company, Inc.</td>
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<td>Wilmington University</td>
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<td>Winner Ford</td>
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<td>Wireless C&amp;E</td>
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<td>X-Ray Imaging, Inc.</td>
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**SEMINARS/PRODUCT DEMOS**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018**

**Exhibits Open: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m</td>
<td>National Organization of Black Women in Law Enforcement (NOBWLE-Newark)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Room #310 Association Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Booth #1956</td>
<td>Learn How to Fly a Drone!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Learning to fly drones can be intimidating for beginners. Stop by the drone cage to discover the basics of piloting these devices.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presenter: Drone Nerds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Booth #2115</td>
<td>Complimentary Health Screenings</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blood Pressure Readings, Pulmonary Function Testing, Body Fat Analysis and Blood Sugar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presenter: Deborah Heart &amp; Lung Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Vapor Wake® Body-worn Explosive Detection – An Overview and Demonstration</td>
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<td>Gain insight into the three types of detection by K-9s – Traditional Explosive and Unobtrusive Vapor Wake Explosive Detection Canine Screening Focusing on Applications and Prioritizing the Search</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presenter: Paul Hammond (VWK9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Opening Ceremonies (New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Leasing and Fleet Management</td>
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<td>Advantages of Fleet Leasing vs. Ownership</td>
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<td>Making the right financial moves in the municipal or statewide market is critical for ongoing success. Learn about the key benefits of leasing when acquiring your fleet vehicles.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Presenter: Rod Mitchell (The Bancorp Bank)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Introduction to the GeoOrbital Electric Wheel – An Overview of Technology</td>
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<td>How the GeoOrbital wheel works and its benefits to police departments – an ongoing demonstration on police bikes – test rides on PSE 2018 test track throughout the day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presenter: Jeff Jaran (GeoOrbital)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>21st Century Regional and National Data Sharing – the Game Has Changed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Data sharing platforms such as Coplink, NDEX and Linx have been effective tools for analysts to use. What has been lacking until now is the ability to see data outside of analysts’ immediate area or state and put that information into context. Identify patterns across jurisdictions and make connections you might miss through manual investigations alone.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Presenter: Mike Prate (LexisNexis Risk Solutions)</td>
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**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2018**

**Exhibits Open: 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

<table>
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</table>

**Note: Seminars & Product Demos subject to change.**

**A Special Focus on Equipment for SWAT Teams and ESU/HRT**

Literature tables will be set up in the registration area of Hall D offering information on the latest products and technology specifically designed for SWAT teams and emergency service units.

Members of these elite groups play a vital role, being trained to quickly intervene using specialized weapons and tactics.

Get prepared to be prepared: Preview product information before walking through the exhibit entranceway and visiting the display in PSE 2018.
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Visit us at PSE 2018 - Booth #1314

Visit us at PSE 2018 - Booth #636

Visit us at PSE 2018 - Booth #421

Visit us at PSE 2018 - Booth #636

Visit us at PSE 2018 - Booth #421

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policeandsecuritynews.com • May/June 2018 53
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Visit us at PSE 2018 - Booth #1219 & 1229

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When I got the chance to evaluate the P365 handgun, I couldn’t wait to get my hands on SIG’s newest offering.

For more than a decade, I carried a department-issued SIG SAUER® P226® as my duty handgun. In addition to being used on duty and during department firearms training, that well-worn P226 was used in a variety of competitive shooting events, firearms training classes and many afternoons practicing on my own. I put tens of thousands of rounds through that pistol, and the only items which needed to be serviced were the recoil and magazine springs. Eventually, my department transitioned to a striker-fired duty handgun. I like my current duty pistol, but that SIG P226 still has a place in my heart.

Located in Epping, New Hampshire, SIG SAUER is the largest member of a worldwide business group of firearms manufacturers which includes J.P. Sauer & Sohn, Blaser USA and Swiss Arms. This network of companies has been a global leader in the development and manufacturing of high-quality, reliable firearms for military, law enforcement, private security, and commercial customers worldwide. SIG SAUER currently produces the M17/M18 pistols, the newest handguns for the U.S. military, which are based on the highly successful SIG P320. To say the company has a history of making combat proven firearms may be an understatement.

A Pleasant Surprise

Before the 2018 SHOT Show in Las Vegas, rumors were flying about a new micro-compact handgun from SIG SAUER. Few people actually knew what was in store, but, after the SIG P365 debuted, most of us were surprised by the features packed into this diminutive new pistol. The SIG P365 is an all-new 9mm striker-fired micro-compact pistol which takes aim at the competition including the GLOCK®, 43, the Smith & Wesson® M&P® Shield™,
Springfield Armory’s XD-S®, and the Ruger® LC9®. Each of these pistols is roughly the same size and holds seven 9mm cartridges in their standard, flush fit magazines. The exception is the GLOCK 43 which holds six rounds in its standard magazine.

**Uniquely Designed Magazine**

Enter the SIG P365 and its flush fit magazine which holds three rounds more than its nearest competitor. That’s right. This micro-compact pistol boasts a full-size payload of ten rounds in the magazine. For those wanting even more ammo, SIG makes an extended 12 round magazine which also provides a bit more real estate to grasp. The SIG P365 steel magazines are patent pending wonders of ammo containment with a unique design and appearance. Many compact pistols use double stack magazines making it easy to pack in more rounds, but micro-compact handguns typically use single stack magazines to minimize width. This flat profile makes concealment easier by reducing the tendency to “print” through clothing. SIG engineers stepped up to the plate and created something different. They started with an all-new magazine design and built the gun around it. The best way to describe the P365 magazine shape is “pyramidal.” This pyramid shape makes for a double stack arrangement at the bottom of the magazine, but tapers up to a single stack at the top.

On the frame, the SIG P365 comes equipped with a nicely designed beavertail and undercut trigger guard which helps maintain a high grip hold. This is especially important in small handguns due to the reduced surface area of the grip. The grip angle is the same as the SIG P320. At the bottom of the magazine well, SIG SAUER smartly added some relief cuts to the side of the grip frame where it meets the magazine base pad. This gives shooters the ability to strip a magazine from the pistol, especially in the event of a double feed malfunction. All too often, this is a custom addition to my personal handguns, so it’s really a nice touch on a factory pistol.

**Additional Design Features**

The takedown and slide catch levers are located on the left side of the slide. The slide catch lever is guarded by a small ledge to help prevent accidental interference with the shooter’s hands during firing. This can be a common problem for some shooters when their grip keeps the slide catch lever depressed causing the slide to fail to lock back on an empty magazine. Other shooters can have their grip interfere by inadvertently pressing up on the slide catch lever causing the slide to lock back on a full magazine. Either way, this can be problematic. However, this shouldn’t be a problem with the design of the P365.

The grip texture is aggressive enough to stay firmly planted in your hand without being overly abrasive. SIG did a commendable job of balancing the need for grip texture without going overboard. Many of us carry our off-duty handgun in an Inside the
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WaistBand (IWB) holster. An aggressive texture on the grip frame when carried in an IWB can lead to discomfort and irritated skin. On the range, this handgun proved the value of the time and effort SIG put into the grip texture and design. Even with its small, micro-compact frame, I was able to keep the pistol planted firmly in my hands during combative speed drills.

Another problem encountered by those of us who carry off-duty is the accidental release of a magazine. Large, oversized magazine release buttons are great for competition and most duty pistols. But, those same oversized magazine release buttons can be hazardous for our health when carried in an IWB or pocket holster. Accidentally releasing the magazine may result in one shot, or none, in the event your pistol is equipped with a magazine disconnect. Thankfully, the magazine release on the P365 is protected on the backside by a slight upturn in the polymer frame. This prevents users from accidentally depressing the release when carrying, but it’s not so intrusive as to interfere with magazine changes when needed. Lastly, for those of us whose arms are on backwards, the magazine release button is easily reversible.

There are a couple of nice touches on the slide of the SIG P365. Well placed and designed front and back cocking serrations contribute to ease of use. I really grew to appreciate the surface area of these cocking serrations, especially with wet or gloved hands. They aided in working the slide, conducting press checks, loading, unloading, and doing malfunction drills.

Quality Sights
SIG also equipped the P365 with their proprietary X-RAY3 Day/Night Sights. The most noteworthy feature of the front sight is how it visually jumps out at the shooter when presenting the pistol up on target. The front sight pops into view quickly and easily thanks to the bright green color which surrounds a tritium vial for extreme low light use. Complementing the front...
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sight is a wide tritium rear sight which is quick to acquire. The rear sight also works well for one-handed reloads where the shooter is injured and might have to use their belt, boot or some other surface to rack the slide in order to chamber a round. It’s a nice touch on a handgun designed for everyday carry and off-duty use.

After giving it a once-over, I checked the owner’s manual and lubed it as directed. On the range, this SIG P365 was more than put through the ringer. Instead of evaluating it like a small pistol which wouldn’t be shot frequently, I wrung it out and tested it like a duty handgun. In other words, I ran it hard.

**Range Performance**

After numerous combative speed exercises and shooting drills, the P365 performed exceptionally well. More than 1200 rounds were put through my T&E sample without a single malfunction. The SIG P365 ate everything thrown at it and it just kept running. It ran reliably with a mixture of 115-, 124-, and 147-grain ammunition including training and duty ammo. It also ran with no malfunctions using some mixed 65- and 85-grain frangible rounds as well. Even with magazines containing a mixture of ammunition weight and bullet types, the SIG P365 ran flawlessly without a single hiccup.

The SIG P365 is as accurate as any of the currently available everyday carry handguns. I’m not really one to put a handgun in a vice and shoot from 25 yards to test mechanical accuracy. (I find this to be tedious and boring.) Instead, I’m more interested in seeing if a pistol can maintain good combative accuracy running at combative speed with a variety of ammunition and still be reliable and dependable. Call it “minute of bad guy” or whatever, but most quality handguns on the market are capable of shooting better than me. With this being said, the SIG P365 is capable of shooting some ragged one hole drills, as well as running and gunning during combative speed and accuracy drills.

The SIG P365 also has a very good trigger for such a small handgun. This helped ensure acceptable accuracy on targets at distances beyond 50 yards which is quite a testament given the diminutive size of this micro-compact. There is a small amount of slack before reaching the pressure wall. The entire trigger travel is smooth and the trigger breaks cleanly with minimum over travel. Reset is obvious and short. Paired with the terrific sights, this combination makes for a micro-compact handgun which can be run hard and accurately. The sights are easy to track during recoil and the trigger can be reset and ready to go quickly. In fact, the SIG P365 easily maintained 0.23 second split times during Bill Drills.

The Bottom Line

If you’re a fan of the SIG P320 pistols, then you will love the SIG P365. This handgun fits the role of an off-duty, everyday carry gun extremely well. Its diminutive size fits well in a pocket or IWB holster. It also fills the role of a back-up gun carried in an ankle holster. SIG added some custom touches to this pistol which are usually only available from the aftermarket, including a good trigger, great sights and grip frame relief cuts for the magazine. Plus, it proved itself to be duty reliable and dependable. Yeah, I liked it…a lot. Sorry, SIG SAUER, you’re not getting this one back – I’ll send you a check. This little warrior will definitely be a new addition to my armory.

Todd Fletcher is a sergeant in Central Oregon with over 23 years of law enforcement experience. He has presented firearms and 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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Are you training for the fight or are you training for the range? There is a difference, even though there shouldn’t be, but some departments are still doing “range practice” when they should be teaching “street fighting.”

In today’s world of touchy-feely PC police departments, where we cry when we retire and can’t wait to show off our latest dance moves on YouTube, God forbid we actually call something for what it is. Let’s be real here, folks, it is what it is.

Gunfights are nasty things. They don’t happen on a square range in a sterile environment where the range officer has the final say on whether or not you passed. They happen in filthy alleys, dirty streets and run-down houses where you may get cut; bruised; and, potentially, even shot. The final score of whether or not you passed won’t be determined by your firearms instructor or the bad guy – it will be determined by you and you alone.

A Survival Mind-set and Realistic Practice

Your mind-set to win at all costs; to prevail against all odds; and to be the one who determines your own fate is what will get you through this lethal encounter. However, you can’t do it with mind-set alone; you need to have some realistic firearms training under your belt. So, let me ask you again: Are you training for the fight or are you training for the range?

If you’re standing still, punching holes in a paper target from the 25 yard line, then you’re training for the range and not for the street. If you’re shooting from the standing, kneeling, and prone positions only, then you’re training for the range and not for the street. If you’re still shooting the dreaded “double tap,” then you’re just training for the range.

How do you train for the street? You train by being factual and realistic. The vast majority of Officer Involved Shootings (OISs) happen at close distances. More than one officer has told me that...
their gunfight could be measured in inches, not feet or yards. Do OISs happen at greater distances than just a couple of feet? They most certainly do, but, again, the vast majority of them are up-close and personal; as some like to say, “at bad breath distance.”

If you’re on the range shooting a qualification course which includes the 25 yard line with your handgun, why are you not transitioning to your patrol rifle or shotgun? Your handgun is for emergency situations only. It’s not the “go to” gun for barricaded suspects or some other long distance standoff. That’s why long guns are utilized.

Should you train with your handgun at the 25 yard line? Absolutely, since you never know what might happen. However, why do we spend so much time trying to get officers “qualified” at greater distances when the vast majority of OISs are up-close and personal?

Imagine if you worked in the private sector and you told your boss you’re going to spend 95% of the company’s training budget on a task the company’s employees only do five percent of the time. Not only that, but the task which is only done five percent of the time can be done easier, safer and more accurately with another tool – in the case of law enforcement, a long gun. I don’t think you’d have a job as a training officer in the private sector for very long.

**Move It or Lose It**

Even if you don’t spend a lot of time out at the 25 yard line, are you learning to shoot on the move? Or, are you doing what a lot of departments do and just stand there like a row of ducks in a shooting gallery? You need to be able to shoot and move at the same time. More importantly, you need to be able to shoot accurately while moving.

Officer involved shootings are fluid situations which most often involve the bad guy, or guys, and the officer moving. If you’ve found effective cover, by all means, stay there and use it – but, most times, there is no cover available, or the officer hasn’t thought about cover until after the shooting has started. Trying to look for cover and trying to determine what is, or isn’t, ballistic-resistant, and then move to it while you’re getting shot at is difficult at best.

That’s why you need to be constantly thinking about cover. An example would be if a vehicle in front of you has just committed a minor traffic infraction and you decide you’re going to stop it and issue the driver a citation. Before you even turn on the

You need to have the experience of shooting from various positions on the range, so that you can call on those skills should you become wounded or injured in a fight.
overheads, you should be thinking about your stop location. Preplan your stops, so you have adequate cover if things go south and this turns into a potential lethal encounter.

Look for a safe spot not only for you, but for others as well. Are you stopping this vehicle across the street from a school? One of the rules of firearms safety is to always know your backstop and beyond. Are you’re initiating this traffic stop in a location which provides safety for you and others in the area should you become involved in a shooting with the occupant(s) of the vehicle?

Having available cover and a safe backstop should you have to shoot will also play a part in how you approach this vehicle. Some will say you should always do a right side approach. Granted, the right side approach does have some advantages over the left side approach. However, if I’ve got a big tree for cover on my left and that school we talked about earlier is over my shoulder, I’ll probably do a left side approach or call the driver out to me.

There’s nothing in the books which says you can’t call the occupants of the vehicle out to you. For that matter, the courts have ruled numerous times that we can call people out of the vehicle. If there’s no cover on your right, and you’re not comfortable doing a left side approach for whatever reason, then call the driver out to you and use his vehicle as your backstop. It’s not the best of backstops, but it’s better than nothing.

What Works as Cover?

Should you become involved in a shooting at this traffic stop, you should know how to shoot in, and around, your vehicle. Part of your training for the fight should involve knowing what parts of a vehicle are cover and what parts are not. Basically, other than the steel wheels and engine block, not much of your vehicle, or any vehicle, provides you with adequate ballistic protection. The door pillars do offer some ballistic protection, but the last time I checked, most cops are a little wider than a door pillar.

Because the steel wheels and engine block are your only real cover on a vehicle, you need to know how to shoot from behind those areas. If you’ve trained shooting from the kneeling and prone positions, that’s a good start, as some departments don’t even do that, but you will need to do more if you want to train for the fight.

Have you trained on shooting from your side, so you can maximize the cover of the steel wheels? If you crouch up into a semi-fetal position at an angle be-
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Part of your “training for the fight” should include shooting from your back, in case you’re knocked down or have fallen backwards during a lethal encounter.

hind the wheel, you can maximize the wheel as cover and leave little, if any, of your body exposed to incoming rounds. Learning to shoot from your side will also serve you well if you’re involved in a ground fight with someone, or if you’ve been wounded and are lying on your side.

There’s a famous case from the 1960s in which an officer was wounded and lying on his side. Witnesses to the incident said the officer “kept trying to sit up” when the suspect calmly walked over and shot the officer in the head. The investigation determined the officer was trying to sit up to reload his .38 revolver. He had been trained to shoot and reload from the seated position, but had never been trained to reload and shoot from his side.

There’s a saying in training circles that “you fall back on your training,” in times of high stress like an OIS. In some respects, that’s true. But, if your training is inadequate, such as not preparing you for the fight by teaching you how to shoot and reload from your side, then you’ll do what this officer did and fall back on what you do know.

That’s what training for the fight is all about: It’s about having options. Your only option shouldn’t be to sit up and reload; it should be about being able to reload and shoot from any position, including shooting from your back or from all fours. If you’re wounded or in a ground fight and have to shoot, you need to be trained to do so effectively. It’s not enough to just tell someone they can do it; you have to practice doing it. You have to train for the fight.

You wouldn’t tell an MMA fighter how to fight and then never practice it. Imagine that outcome in the octagon. When you read the account of the officer trying to sit up to reload, I bet some of you thought to yourself, “Why didn’t he just shoot from his side?” Because he had never been trained to do it, that’s why.

We need to get away from training for the range and start training for the fight. Start training for real life and for the perils of the street, not for the qualification on the range. P&SN

Michael T. Rayburn has been involved in law enforcement since 1977 and is the author of five books. He is a former Adjunct Instructor for the Smith & Wesson Academy and is the owner of Rayburn Law Enforcement Training. He can be reached at www.combatgunfighting.com.
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One constant in any discussion among law enforcement firearms trainers is controversy.

Back when the Earth was flat, we engaged in heated debate as to whether pistols offered advantages over revolvers or the stopping potential of the 9mm versus the .45ACP. Some of these issues have played out, but others will persist until we can put our phasers on stun.

One area where both practitioners and instructors would probably agree is that only hits count. The ability to put decisive hits on your adversary before he can seriously hurt you. That, of course, is easier said than done, particularly since the bad guy typically initiates the action.

But, if I could offer something which might just give you a tangible advantage and tip the odds in your favor, would you consider it? Quite frankly, I’ll sign on for just about anything which gives me the upper hand, even if it involves cheating.

In the Beginning

Laser sights were first developed in the late 1970s, but were not ready for prime time until some years later. The credit for their development goes to Dr. John Matthews who created a helium-neon laser and adapted it to a Colt® revolver. It was a big, awkward and hardly cop-proof piece of equipment, but it paved the way for better things to come. Over time, laser sights evolved for the better and manufacturers were turning out pistols and be carried in a standard duty holster.

Like many trainers, I have a somewhat conservative view of equipment and viewed laser sights with suspicion. Then, as now, there is no free lunch and success is rooted in the application of foundational skills. I’ll confess that laser sights did not win me over right away, but, after taking a more critical look, I feel they can fill a useful niche. Make no mistake about it, you still have to apply those fundamentals, but, in many instances, a laser will make this so much easier.

I don’t feel mounting a set of laser sights will solve all of your problems or turn a poor shooter into Dirty Harry, but they do bring something to the table. Let’s take a look and see what they have to offer.

Advantage

The term LASER is actually an acronym which stands for Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation. Unlike other light sources, lasers emit light coherently and spatial coherence allows light to be projected in a beam. Laser sights can cast a red or green visible beam or an InfraRed (IR) beam which can only be seen with special equipment. For law enforcement applications, red and green lasers are, by far, the most common with IR lasers pretty much limited to the military and SWAT. For ages, the endless debate of point shooting versus aimed fire has raged. From my perspective, there isn’t much of an issue and I’ve come to the conclusion
that we should use as much of the sights as we can. Obviously, at arm's length, we point and shoot, but, as distance increases, in order to hit, we need to get a reliable index on the threat. With traditional pistol sights, poor light, movement and body alarm reaction can muddy up the waters.

Laser sights neatly split the difference between traditional sighted fire and point shooting. A spontaneous, life-threatening attack in close quarters may cause you to focus on your attacker rather than the sights. However, since the laser projects a highly visible beam and superimposes an aiming spot on the threat, we now have a single plane focus. In short, you now have a reliable sight picture without using the conventional sights.

True, this is only a partial solution as laser sights are not visible in bright light. Green lasers can be seen under a wider range of light conditions than red lasers, but I, for one, am not convinced you will pick up on your aiming point in bright sunlight when subjected to extreme stress. But, indoors or outdoors in low light conditions, laser sights are highly visible and quick to pick up a target. To put things in perspective, consider that most police action shooting takes place under less than optimum light conditions.

Another consideration is that, in many shootings, either the officer or the threat is moving. In some circumstances, both will be moving simultaneously. How comfortable would you be engaging a moving threat in poor light? In my experience, a laser sight increases the likelihood of getting hits on the target. This is especial-
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Take a Second Look at Laser Sights

Continued from page 75

ly true when engaging targets which are moving laterally or on an oblique angle. Sure, that dot is going to bounce a bit, but a laser will, in fact, increase the probability of a hit.

One of my pet peeves as a trainer is that many law enforcement officers do not use cover properly and needlessly over-expose themselves to danger. A laser can be a useful tool by helping officers maximize the use of cover while minimizing their exposure to a threat. This same concept can be applied when using ballistic shields.

As indicated earlier, law enforcement officers are reactive by nature and there is no guarantee that you’ll be striking the first blow or firing the first shot. What if you’re struck in the arm or shoulder or have fallen to the ground and cannot take a traditional sight picture? A laser sight can get you on target, even if you can’t drive the gun to eye level or assume a normal shooting posture.

Many of us carry a small pocket pistol or snub revolver for backup or off duty carry. One common quality of many of these little blasters is that their sights stink. They’re tough to define under optimum low stress day conditions and next to impossible to see at night. Bolting a set of laser sights on your pocket rocket can change all that and give you a fighting chance. Despite their many advantages, laser sights have not been especially popular with the police. Maybe, it’s time to reconsider.

Some Considerations

Currently, there are dozens of different laser sight systems which have something to offer to the law enforcement professional. But, like many other tools, one is cautioned to only consider reputable manufacturers with a proven track record. By all means, avoid “hobbyist” grade gear – buy cheap, buy twice. To help narrow down your choices, here are some criteria you may want to consider when making a choice.

Service Pistols

Since the late 1990s, all of the major handgun manufacturers have been building pistols with integral accessory rails. It’s taken a little bit of time, but Weapon Mounted Lights (WMLs) have become very popular for patrol officers. Why not take it one step further and add an illuminator with an integral laser?

Excellent white light/laser combinations such as the proven Streamlight® TLR-2® and SureFire® X400 families are readily available and come highly recommended. These units feature an intense white light mated to a laser aim and have much to offer. Stand-alone rail mounted lasers are available, but I would make a strong case for the combo units which will help in both threat discrimination and give you a
reliable index. A major stumbling block to
the widespread adoption of laser light units
has been the availability of a suitable duty
holster. Duty holsters for popular pistols
and weapon mounted lights are out there
for the taking, but compatibility with com-
bo units can be a challenge. Safariland®
offers their 6360 ALS® duty holster for both
the Streamlight TLR-2 and SureFire X400
families. This is probably the most popular
duty holster in use today and remains a top
choice. BLACKHAWK!® produces the Ep-
och™ duty holster for the TLR-2 and that is
another alternative.

Small Guns
Firms such as Crimson Trace®, Laser-
Max and Viridian Weapon Technologies
turn out small laser aimers which can be af-
ixed to the front of the trigger guard. Some
even combine a small illuminator along
with the laser. I have also grown very fond
of Crimson Trace Lasergrips® on my small
frame revolvers. Lasergrips replace the fac-
tory stocks and contain a small laser diode.
“Interactive Activation” is achieved by taking
a firm shooting grip on the revolver.

As far as pocket poppers, my Ruger®
LCP® is equipped with a LaserMax Center-
Fire aimer which is affixed to the front of the
trigger guard. Retrofitting this accessory to
the pistol enhances the potential of the LCP
and this combination is discreetly carried in
the pocket with a Sticky Holster.
A short while ago, LaserMax upped the
ante and came out with the GripSense™
 system which mates a red or green laser
with a 100 lumen light. A laser only Grip-
Sense unit is available for the Ruger LCP
II. Truth be told, I’m not especially fond of
little pistols for primary carry, but they do
make great backups.

Duty Holsters
If you’re locked into a standard duty
holster, but desire laser capability, consid-
er a guide rod unit from LaserMax or La-
sergrips from Crimson Trace. The internal
laser from LaserMax replaces the factory
spring and guide rod assembly and casts
a pulsating laser beam. Point of impact is
within two inches at 20 yards and Laser-
Max guide rod units are well made.
Lasergrips are available in a number
of popular service sizes and compact pis-
tols and will work in many styles of stan-
dard duty holsters. I’ve even got a set for
one of my polymer frame GLOCK®s which
snaps over the grip and is held in place by
pins.

Green vs. Red
Red lasers tend to be less expensive
than green and are less sensitive to tem-
perature extremes. Green lasers are vis-
ible in brighter light conditions than red,
but, from a practical standpoint, I’m not
sure how important that is. I have found
that cold temperatures can play havoc with
green lasers more so than red. Green la-
sers are significantly more expensive and
tend to go through batteries faster than
red.

Switching
For a tool I might have to use under
stress, I like simple, intuitive switching. If
I have to hunt and peck to make it work,
that will not fit into my plan. When I need
the laser, I need it now. Grip activation
and rocker switches work best for me.
New and Notable

My preference for service pistols runs toward the combination units with an illuminator and a laser aimer. The fact that they perform two tasks with a single device makes them an attractive proposition. Recently, two products along this line were introduced which are indeed game changers.

First up is the Streamlight TLR-8 Weapon Light with Aiming Laser. The TLR-8 is a small and powerful unit designed to fit a wide range of popular pistols. Its size is roughly half that of Streamlight’s TLR-2. Despite its downsizing, the TLR-8 boosts a 500 lumen LED illuminator and a 640-660 nm red laser. Considering what was available just a few short years ago, the capabilities of the TLR-8 are amazing.

The low-profile TLR-8 is snag-free and features ambidextrous on/off switching complete with a strobe function. A unique quality to the TLR-8 is a “safe off” feature on the bezel to prevent accidental activation and preserve battery life. The TLR-8 is crafted from machined aluminum and wears a durable anodized finish.

I recently affixed a TLR-8 to my GLOCK 19 pistol and have been very pleased with the results. Safariland is already tooling up to make duty holsters to accommodate this new Streamlight laser/illuminator which epitomizes the shape of things to come.

Another hot ticket which recently hit the market is the X5L Gen 3 from Viridian Weapon Technologies. The X5L Gen 3 is the next evolution of the original green light/laser combination and features a brighter tactical light with a rechargeable battery. The 5mW green laser is rated at 510-520nm and is designed to be visible in the widest range of light conditions. The green laser is paired off with a 500 lumen Cree® LED which has the potential to turn night into day.

One of the cooler features of the X5L Gen 3 is the rechargeable battery. Not only is the battery rechargeable, but on board capability means that you don’t have to remove the unit from the gun and remove the battery to get it back to full potential.

A toolless quick detach system makes the X5L Gen 3 easy to affix or remove. Multiple operation modes include a solid beam, pulsating laser, strobe or solid laser. With their proprietary holster, Viridian also offers instant-on activation, but I feel this would have greater appeal to the civilian market rather than law enforcement. Sometimes, we just have to be stealthy.

A really nice touch is that the Veridian X5L Gen 3 has the same external dimensions as the Streamlight TLR-1. That means duty and plainclothes holsters cut

The Streamlight® TLR-8® is half the size of earlier combo units, but boasts a 500 lumen illuminator and a red laser.

TAKE A SECOND LOOK AT LASER SIGHTS
Continued from page 77

The Streamlight® TLR-8® is half the size of earlier combo units, but boasts a 500 lumen illuminator and a red laser.
The Streamlight® TLR-2® is available with either a red or green laser.

For the TLR-1 will also work with the X5L which will no doubt broaden its appeal.

**Final Thoughts**

Although laser sights can afford some tangible advantages, they are not the solution to every problem. A great many police action shootings take place inside of conversational distance and a laser affords little, if any, advantage. In bright sunlight, they are no more useful than a hood ornament. But, when you factor in moving threats, poor light and extreme stress, you begin to get a better appreciation of their value.

To gain a better understanding of laser capabilities, your training needs to include those more challenging elements, such as poor light and movement. Compare the results achieved with laser sighted weapons versus those with conventional pistol sights, including tritium variants. With what system are you able to get more center hits? How about speed of engagement? It’s been my observation that both hits and speed favor the laser, especially when you bring on the heat.

Of late, there has been quite a bit of interest in optically enhanced red dot sights for pistols. Time will tell if they are the better choice. Both red dots and lasers require training, but it’s not a particularly steep hill to climb. Under daylight conditions, red dots are the way to go, but lasers have an advantage in the dark. Lasers can also have a pacifying effect and avert the need to apply deadly force. In one situation with which I’m familiar, the bad guy tried to wipe the red dot of death off his chest and quickly decided it was best to give up rather than resist.

To my thinking, it’s all about gaining an advantage. Many of us have come to terms with a weapon mounted light on our duty pistol and a laser/light combo which is no bigger might have special appeal.

Laser sights are an option worth exploring. If you’re not cheating, you’re not trying. Is that an unfair advantage? Perhaps, but I’ll take all the help I can get.

**P&SN**

Captain Mike Boyle served with the New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife, Bureau of Law Enforcement, and has been an active firearms instructor for more than 30 years. He has been an assistant police academy director and remains active as an academy range-master 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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NEW REPORT FOCUSES ON LINE OF DUTY DEATHS AND OFFICER SAFETY

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, in partnership with the United States Department of Justice’s Office of Community Policing Services (COPS), has released, Making it Safer: An Analysis of U.S. Law Enforcement Fatalities Between 2010-2016, a report which contains data driven analysis of line of duty deaths across an array of circumstances.

The primary purpose of this report is to provide an in-depth analysis of the types of calls for police service which resulted in a law enforcement fatality, identify any emerging patterns or trends and offer recommendations which will reduce future fatalities. Spanning from 2010 to 2016, Making it Safer provides statistical and tactical data relating to the circumstances of these line of duty deaths. The researchers found that "Domestic Disturbance" calls continue to present the most danger to officers summoned to investigate complaints. The analysis of these encounters can help policymakers and practitioners identify opportunities to improve officer safety, as it contains real case studies which can serve as good examples of situational opportunities.

Similarly, the report addresses instances where officers were killed when they took independent action to address violations of the law or to investigate suspicious circumstances. The research into “Self-initiated Activity” highlighted that traffic stops posed the greatest danger to officers who are actively enforcing laws. The report offers recommendations on how officers can learn from the case studies provided and handle such calls in a safer manner.

In a third segment of the report, the researchers conducted an analysis of cases the Memorial Fund deemed to be shooting ambushes of officers during the 2010-2016 period. This analysis provides insight into the number of cases which occurred while detailing the circumstances in which officers were fatally assaulted. The report found that more than 20 percent of officers who were killed in ambush attacks were shot while seated in their patrol cars. Making it Safer also includes a review of the use of body armor by officers involved in a specific series of fatal incidents, as well as the use of seat belts in fatal automobile crashes over the same period. The report reveals that in one year, 52 percent of officers killed in automobile crashes were not wearing their seat belt.

Additionally, the researchers used the Memorial Fund’s extensive database of line of duty deaths dating back to 1791 to review “Police-on-Police” shootings and put them into historical context. Although the frequency and number of these cases has diminished, these tragedies continue to occur and are largely preventable. Many of the cases examined involved an officer inadvertently shooting a fellow officer as they struggled with a suspect, an officer unintentionally striking a fellow officer with his firearm, or officers engaged in a shootout with an armed suspect, but mistakenly shooting a fellow officer during the commotion.

The eye-opening statistics and poignant case studies, along with easy to understand informational graphics, will help law enforcement agencies across the country work to make it safer for those who serve. The report can be found at www.LawMemorial.org/MakingItSafer.
New Body-worn Camera

The Detective II, from Force Protection Video, offers 2.5 hours of continuous video recording; weighs only 24.5 grams; supports continuous recording, time-lapse recording, looping recording, and slow-motion recording; and measures only 1.5” x 1.5” x .5”. Great for crime scene investigations, witness interviews and training, a removable and adjustable clip allows the Detective II to be attached to your shirt, helmet, backpack, or bike.

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Mobile Scanning from Anyline

The Austrian Police have recently begun utilizing Anyline’s Mobile OCR technology to identify people and vehicles with their smartphones. This is easily accomplished by scanning IDs, such as passports, as well as license plates. Anyline lets you input data up to 20 times faster than writing or typing which produces more accurate reporting of license plate and ID details, real-time feedback and less time spent on manual data entry and radio communication.

Anyline’s Mobile OCR lets every police officer leverage 21st century technology throughout their workday. Mobile ID and license plate scanning removes writing and typing from the reporting process, eliminating mistakes and typing errors. In addition, police can securely upload all scan data to their database. This eliminates the need for manual data entry later on.

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Make Your Patrol Bicycle Electric in 60 Seconds

Upgrade your current patrol bike to electric by swapping out your front wheel for a GeoOrbital Public Safety wheel. The GeoOrbital wheel is made in the USA with aerospace-grade aluminum, Panasonic battery cells and a shock absorbing No-Flat tire. Tested in actual police use, the GeoOrbital wheel will expand bicycle patrol zones and enhance a community policing philosophy. Featuring an industry-leading 650 watt continuous rated motor, a GeoOrbital equipped bike reaches speeds of 20 mph, with a range of up to 23 miles without pedaling. The electric wheel also features a built-in USB outlet for charging cell phones on long patrols.

Circle 3135 for More Information

ZRT Gun Rack

Jotto Desk offers the ZRT Gun Rack featuring SmartLok Technology which makes it impossible to be “hotwired,” providing peace of mind that a broken window doesn’t mean a stolen weapon. SmartLok Technology eliminates the opportunity to steal a firearm by manipulating the power.

Jotto Desk’s new ZRT Gun Rack offers advanced designs where they are needed. Mounting configurations include vertical partition mounted; horizontal partition mounted; rear seat mounted; single cell mounted; and trunk/rear hatch mounted. ZRT Gun Racks are available for both single weapon or dual and can be ordered with a handcuff key override or their proprietary straight key designed specifically for the ZRT Lock Head.

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New Hard Armor Shoulder

From Armor Express, the Hard Armor Shoulder Plate System, or HASP, is a lightweight ballistic protection plate and carrier exclusive to their Lighthawk Tactical product line. Available in Level IIIA, III, or III+ options, the HASP system offers added shoulder protection to your plate carrier or tactical rig. With four-way stretch and engineered with laser cut material, it also features an ID/patch attachment point and offers a low profile and reduced weight.

Circle 3133 for More Information

Vehicle Drain System

The VRAIN is a vehicle drain system for patrol cars designed specifically to protect police officers from infectious bodily fluids from the rear footwells of police units. The VRAIN is easily installed over fleet mats and aftermarket floor pans and allows fluids to drain from vehicles for simple and effective cleaning. Each drain comes complete with a security cap and tool to remove it. Recommended by the Ford Motor Company as a solution to protect under seat electronics, the VRAIN can also be installed in the front footwells to protect against damaging snowmelt. It is used by the Chicago PD, the Philadelphia PD and others throughout the US and Canada.

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DelDOT Announces Mobile Driver License Pilot Study

The Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has launched a mobile Driver License (mDL) pilot study which will run for six months. The pilot, which includes approximately 100 state employees and stakeholders, is designed to test user acceptance and new innovative features which can only be achieved with an mDL.

“Delaware is among the first states to test a mobile driver’s license, and we’re excited to help move this new technology forward,” said Governor John Carney.

“This six month pilot will help us see what mDLs look like in real-world scenarios and address any issues which arise as a result before we decide to fully adopt and implement this application for our more than 800,000 licensed drivers and ID card holders,” said Secretary of Transportation Jennifer Cohan.

“It is exciting for us to be one of the first states to test this innovative technology which can both protect the privacy of our customers and enhance safety in ways that can’t be achieved with a traditional driver’s license or identification card,” said Scott Vien, Director of the Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles.

The pilot is being run by both the Delaware DMV and IDEMIA, the company which produces the state’s physical driver licenses and identification cards.

Features of the mDL which will be tested include:

- Enhanced privacy for age verification – no need to show a person’s address, license number and birth date, the mDL will verify if the person is over 18 or 21 and display a photo.
- Law enforcement use during a traffic stop – the mDL will allow law enforcement officers to ping a driver’s smartphone to request their driver’s license information prior to walking to the vehicle.
- Business acceptance – understanding how businesses which require identification or age verification interact with the mDL will be advantageous throughout the pilot.
- Ease of Use – ensuring the mDL is able to be presented to any organization without difficulty.
- Secure access – the mDL is only unlocked and accessible by the mDL holder. The mDL is accessed through an app on the owner’s smartphone and is opened/ unlocked by entering a user created pin number or by using facial recognition.

New Quiqlite X2

Quiqlite X2 Tactical Red/White LED is our newest addition to the Quiqlite family of products. Manufactured from aircraft aluminum 6061-T6 Tactical was designed to withstand an assortment of punishment. X2 Tactical is an adjustable hands free concealed led flashlight that provides from 20 up to 200 lumens of light on demand. Its new extra wide (30mm) adjustable flood light arm gives you the freedom of directing light where you need it without having to hold it in your hands or under your arm while reading, writing and maneuvering in the dark. Each Quiqlite X2 Tactical comes with a lifetime warranty. You break it, we replace it.

- New Aluminum Housing
- USB Rechargeable
- 4 Brightness Modes: 20,75,150,200 lumens
- Safety Strobe
- Independent Tactical Red or White led Activation
- Anti-Reflective Anodize Finish
- 160-Adjustable 30mm Wide Head led Arm
- Magnetic Housing
- 360° Rotating Removable Magnetic Belt Clip
- 20 Minute Auto-Off Timer (w/ override feature)
- Quiqlite Light diffuser Attachment
- Programable 1942 Water resistant rating
- Limited Lifetime Warranty

Quiqlite.com

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## Advertiser Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page #</th>
<th>Advertiser</th>
<th>Web Site</th>
<th>Response #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Accu-Shot</td>
<td>accu-shot.com</td>
<td>3040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Adorama</td>
<td>adorama.com</td>
<td>3056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>Adorama</td>
<td>adorama.com</td>
<td>3138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>All Fleet Solutions</td>
<td>allfleetsolutions.com</td>
<td>3057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>AmChar Wholesale, Inc</td>
<td>amcharlaw.com</td>
<td>3024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>AmChar Wholesale, Inc</td>
<td>amcharlaw.com</td>
<td>3058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>American Uniform &amp; Supply</td>
<td>amerunif.com</td>
<td>3051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>AmeriGlo</td>
<td>ameriglo.com</td>
<td>3027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Anyline GmbH</td>
<td>anyline.com</td>
<td>3059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Anyline GmbH</td>
<td>anyline.com</td>
<td>3113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Armed ID</td>
<td>armed-id.com</td>
<td>3060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Atlantic Uniform Co., Inc.</td>
<td>nipolicеoutfitters.com</td>
<td>3061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Back Defense Systems</td>
<td>backdefenseystems.com</td>
<td>3013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Beyer Fleet</td>
<td>beyerfleet.com</td>
<td>3012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Beyer Fleet</td>
<td>beyerfleet.com</td>
<td>3062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Big Sky Rocks, Inc.</td>
<td>bigskyrocks.com</td>
<td>3063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>Big Sky Rocks, Inc.</td>
<td>bigskyrocks.com</td>
<td>3121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Black Hills Ammunition</td>
<td>black-hills.com</td>
<td>3022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Block Communications</td>
<td>blockcom.com</td>
<td>3064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Cardio-Kinetics, Inc</td>
<td>cardiokinetics.com</td>
<td>3065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Combative Firearms Training</td>
<td>combativefirearms.com</td>
<td>3026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>DME Forensics</td>
<td>dmeforensics.com/PSN</td>
<td>3017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>DeSales University</td>
<td>desales.edu</td>
<td>3066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>DeSantis Gunhide</td>
<td>desantis holster.com</td>
<td>3050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>DeSantis Gunhide</td>
<td>desantis holster.com</td>
<td>3057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>EDI-USA</td>
<td>edusa.com</td>
<td>3068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Earphone Connection</td>
<td>earphoneconnect.com</td>
<td>3052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Elite Vehicle Solutions</td>
<td>elitevehiclesolutions.com</td>
<td>3069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Elite Vehicle Solutions</td>
<td>elitevehiclesolutions.com</td>
<td>3126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>EVIDENT, Inc.</td>
<td>evident.com</td>
<td>3070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>FN America, LLC</td>
<td>fnamerica.com</td>
<td>3071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>FirstNet</td>
<td>firstnet.com</td>
<td>3003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cover 2</td>
<td>Ford Motor Co.</td>
<td>fleet.ford.com</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Gargoyles Performance Eyewear</td>
<td>gargoyleseyewear.com</td>
<td>3072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>GeoOrbital, Inc.</td>
<td>geo.com/safety</td>
<td>3073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>George Washington Univ.</td>
<td>gwu.edu/police-security-studies</td>
<td>3041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>George Washington Univ.</td>
<td>gwu.edu/police-security-studies</td>
<td>3074</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>GLOCK, Inc.</td>
<td>gen5.glock.us</td>
<td>3002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Gun Shop, The</td>
<td>policeammo.com</td>
<td>3037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Gun Shop, The</td>
<td>policeammo.com</td>
<td>3075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hardwire, LLC</td>
<td>hardwirellc.com</td>
<td>3014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Havis, Inc.</td>
<td>havis.com</td>
<td>3025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Havis, Inc.</td>
<td>havis.com</td>
<td>3076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Human Restraint Co., Inc.</td>
<td>humanerestraint.com</td>
<td>3131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>ILY Enterprise, Inc.</td>
<td>ily.com</td>
<td>3077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>JAMAR Technologies, Inc.</td>
<td>jamar.com</td>
<td>3078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>JAMAR Technologies, Inc.</td>
<td>jamar.com</td>
<td>3125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>John Jay College</td>
<td>online.jjay.sen.yu.edu</td>
<td>3109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Joshua Marcus Group, LLC</td>
<td>marcmorfromclark.com</td>
<td>3124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Jotto Desk</td>
<td>gojotto.com</td>
<td>3023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Jotto Desk</td>
<td>gojotto.com</td>
<td>3079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Kaldor Emergency Lights, LLC</td>
<td>kaldirergencylights.com</td>
<td>3080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Kustom Signals, Inc.</td>
<td>kustomsignals.com</td>
<td>3031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Kustom Signals, Inc.</td>
<td>kustomsignals.com</td>
<td>3081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>LeonardoELSAG ALPR Systems</td>
<td>leonardosystem.com-us.com</td>
<td>3044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>LeonardoELSAG ALPR Systems</td>
<td>leonardosystem.com-us.com</td>
<td>3082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Liberty Art Works, Inc.</td>
<td>libertyartworks.com</td>
<td>3083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>Liberty Art Works, Inc.</td>
<td>libertyartworks.com</td>
<td>3128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Mack Camera</td>
<td>mackcam.com</td>
<td>3084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Material Protection, LLC</td>
<td>mg-llc.us</td>
<td>3085</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page #</th>
<th>Advertiser</th>
<th>Web Site</th>
<th>Response #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Millennium Comms, Group, Inc.</td>
<td>millenniuminc.com</td>
<td>3086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MILO Range Training Systems</td>
<td>milorange.com</td>
<td>3001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>MILO Range Training Systems</td>
<td>milorange.com</td>
<td>3087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mitchell-Proffitt Company</td>
<td>mitchellproffitt.com</td>
<td>3015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Mitchell-Proffitt Company</td>
<td>mitchellproffitt.com</td>
<td>3088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Moclean</td>
<td>mocleanantacitical.com</td>
<td>3089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cover 3</td>
<td>Moclean</td>
<td>mocleanantacitical.com</td>
<td>3141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>NDI Technologies, Inc.</td>
<td>ndi-rs.net</td>
<td>3029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>NRA Law Enforcement Div.</td>
<td>le.nra.org</td>
<td>3038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>NRA Law Enforcement Div.</td>
<td>le.nra.org</td>
<td>3049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>NRA Law Enforcement Div.</td>
<td>le.nra.org</td>
<td>3090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>NRA NSPC 2018</td>
<td>npsc.nra.org</td>
<td>3112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>NRA Refuse To Be A Victim</td>
<td>rtwav.nra.org</td>
<td>3091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>NRA Refuse To Be A Victim</td>
<td>rtwav.nra.org</td>
<td>3114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>911 Circuits</td>
<td>911circuits.com</td>
<td>3092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Police Fleet Expo</td>
<td>hendonpub.com</td>
<td>3119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Police Management Services</td>
<td>policemanagement.com</td>
<td>3117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Police Security Expo 2018</td>
<td>police-security.com</td>
<td>3055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>Pugs Cabinet Systems</td>
<td>pugscabinets.com</td>
<td>3140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Pulsar</td>
<td>pulsar.com</td>
<td>3095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Pulsar</td>
<td>pulsar.com</td>
<td>3118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Qualification Targets, Inc.</td>
<td>targets.net</td>
<td>3111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>QuiLite, Inc.</td>
<td>quilit.com</td>
<td>3139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Rescue Essentials</td>
<td>rescuesentials.com</td>
<td>3096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Ring’s Manufacturing</td>
<td>blueguns.com</td>
<td>3110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Safety Vision, LLC</td>
<td>safetyvision.com</td>
<td>3122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Saint Vincent College</td>
<td>stvincent.edu/graduateprograms</td>
<td>3028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Santa Cruz Gunlocks, LLC</td>
<td>santacruzgunlocks.com</td>
<td>3123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Secure-Id</td>
<td>secure-id.com</td>
<td>3097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Setina Mfg. Co., Inc.</td>
<td>setina.com</td>
<td>3018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Setina Mfg. Co., Inc.</td>
<td>setina.com</td>
<td>3098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Sightmark</td>
<td>gsa.sightmark.com</td>
<td>3046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Sightmark</td>
<td>gsa.sightmark.com</td>
<td>3099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Smith &amp; Warren</td>
<td>smithwarren.com</td>
<td>3100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Sniper Tools Design Co., LLC</td>
<td>snipertools.com</td>
<td>3042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>SoundOff Signal</td>
<td>soundoffsignal.com</td>
<td>3019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>SoundOff Signal</td>
<td>soundoffsignal.com</td>
<td>3101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Steck Mfg. Co., Inc.</td>
<td>steckmfg.com</td>
<td>3030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Stratton Hats</td>
<td>strattonhats.com</td>
<td>3047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Streamlight, Inc.</td>
<td>streamlight.com</td>
<td>3016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Streamlight, Inc.</td>
<td>streamlight.com</td>
<td>3102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Strong Leather Co.</td>
<td>strongbadgecase.com</td>
<td>3048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>TacView, Inc.</td>
<td>tacview.com</td>
<td>3115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Team Wendy</td>
<td>teamwendy.com</td>
<td>3103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>TruckVault, Inc.</td>
<td>truckvault.com</td>
<td>3120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Tufloc</td>
<td>tufloc.com</td>
<td>3020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>U Marex USA, Inc.</td>
<td>umarex.com</td>
<td>3043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>V-COMM, LLC</td>
<td>vcomm-eng.com</td>
<td>3104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>VirTra Systems</td>
<td>virta.com/seethedifference</td>
<td>3053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>VirTra Systems</td>
<td>virta.com/seethedifference</td>
<td>3105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44-45</td>
<td>WatchGuard Video</td>
<td>watchguardvideo.com</td>
<td>3054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>WatchGuard Video</td>
<td>watchguardvideo.com</td>
<td>3106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Westin Public Safety Div.</td>
<td>westinpublicsafety.com</td>
<td>3107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>Westin Public Safety Div.</td>
<td>westinpublicsafety.com</td>
<td>3129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Whelen Engineering Co., Inc.</td>
<td>whelen.com</td>
<td>3021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Whelen Engineering Co., Inc.</td>
<td>whelen.com</td>
<td>3108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Zero Bullet Co., Inc.</td>
<td>zero bullets.com</td>
<td>3039</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
James L. McClinton, Ph.D

It’s always nice when private citizens are able to successfully interact with the local police… A New York woman who was scheduled to appear in court on a marijuana possession charge did everything possible to get herself in deeper trouble. First, she cut off an unmarked police car when she pulled into the parking lot while talking on her cell phone. She then pulled into a parking space clearly labeled as reserved for the Chief of Police. Finally, when she rolled down her window to talk to approaching police officers, marijuana smoke billowed out of the car. She was subsequently charged with a new marijuana possession charge, as well as a charge of illegally using a cell phone while driving. (Officers were initially hindered by their own uncontrollable laughter.)

Talk about self-awareness!… Police were dispatched to a car wash in Bellevue, Washington, on a report of a road rage incident — apparently a minor rear-end crash between two cars. When the owner of one got out of his car to take pictures, the driver in the other car pointed a gun at him and then threatened him. When the officers arrived, they had to pull the agitated man out of his car and one officer was punched in the process. Our rowdy friend then threatened to kill the officer. That proved to be a pretty stupid move on his part. The troublemaker was tased and arrested. Not surprisingly, this gentleman’s vanity license plate offered up an accurate description: “Dirt Bag.” (I guess “Dumbass” wasn’t available.)

Because drones are so much less noticeable to neighbors than walking up to the door… A California couple faces felony charges after they allegedly used a drone to deliver illegal drugs. The couple, ages 39 and 31, were charged with three counts of possession of controlled substances for sale and possession of drug paraphernalia. The Riverside Police Department said they “observed a drone fly up to the door… A hundred grams of cocaine, and a baseball bat. (He’s no longer “tooting his own horn”!)"
Over 128 years of heritage. Over one million rounds of testing. Now ready for the real world. Experience the intuitive grip angle, enhanced grip texture, and incredible recoil control. The handgun always points naturally and stays on target for fast, accurate follow-up shots. It's the handgun you'd expect to come from the makers of the world's most battle-proven firearms. Learn more at FNAMERICA.com or visit your local dealer.

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