

# P&SN

## Police and Security News

Serving Law Enforcement & Homeland Security

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022  
VOLUME 38 ISSUE 6

**FIREARMS TRAINING:**  
How to "Sharpen the Sword"

**DRONE PILOT  
PROFICIENCY  
TRAINING**



**NEW POLICE VEHICLES  
& EQUIPMENT FOR 2023**



**Supporting Your  
IMPORTANT CAUSE**







# SMITH & WARREN®

Built With Care. Worn With Pride.

10% of all blue badge sales go directly  
to ASGO First Responder Autism Training



## GO BLUE IN APRIL

Outfit your department in blue badges this April to  
show your support for Autism Awareness. For 2023  
we are raising money for the ASGO Autism  
Awareness First Responder Training program.



Supporting Children & Adults with Autism

Learn more by visiting  
[www.smithwarren.com/autism](http://www.smithwarren.com/autism)





SETINA FIRST IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

***UNEQUALED PERFORMANCE & SEAMLESS DESIGNS  
INSPIRED BY OUR COMMITMENT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.***



**SETINA**

[www.setina.com](http://www.setina.com)

DESIGNING FOR THE FUTURE



**Rear Cargo Storage**



**Partitions & Seating**



**Firearm Mounts**



# P&SN Police and Security News

Serving Law Enforcement & Homeland Security

## CONTENTS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022

Volume 38 • Issue 6

policeandsecuritynews.com

### COLUMNS

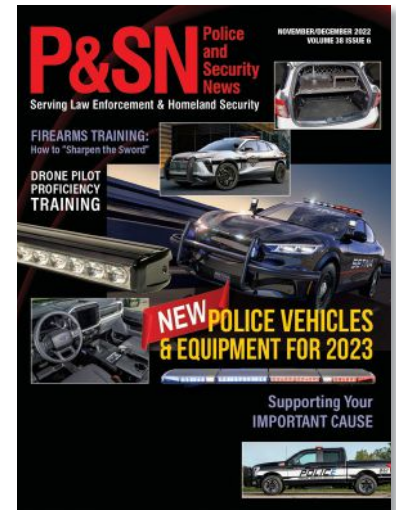
...and nothing but the truth.....6  
The Misery of the Aftermath

Focus on Technology .....10  
Body Armor/Ballistic Protection

Product Highlight .....20  
Tactical EMS/First Aid Equipment

The Wheels of Justice .....26  
Transportation 2023

Busted! .....46  
Real Stories of Genuine Absurdity



### ON THE COVER

Find all of the newest information covering police vehicles and aftermarket equipment for the coming year in this annually featured report.

Vehicles and equipment pictured on the cover (clockwise, starting from the very top right): new Cargo Cover/Equipment Trays from Jotto Desk; Ford's Mach-E featuring equipment from Setina Mfg; Whelen's new Edge® 9X Lightbar; Ford's 2023 F-150 Lightning™; an interior view of the new Ford F-150 Lightning; SoundOff Signal's new mpower® Traffic Controller; as well as the upcoming 2024 Chevy Blazer EV PPV.



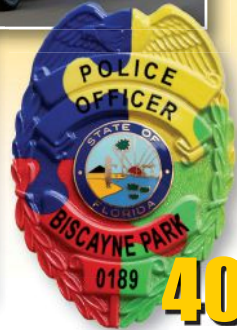
12



26



22



40

## FOCUS Law Enforcement Training

Firearms Training: How to "Sharpen the Sword" .....12

Mike Boyle

Falling short of your expectations in academics or athletics may be a source of embarrassment, but it will not get you killed. With that said, I am often astonished by the attitudes of some trainers and administrators when it comes to firearms proficiency.

Drone Pilot Proficiency Takes Flight with Certification Course .....22

It's a hot August day at the Maryland State Police Training Academy. The sun is shining bright and there's a constant buzzing in the air.

## FEATURES

Promoting and Supporting Your Important Cause .....40

Earby Markham

This past October marked the annual observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Since 1985, this month has been dedicated to educating the public and promoting the screening and prevention of breast cancer.

## SPECIAL REPORT

Transportation 2023 .....26

Sgt. James G. Post

P&SN presents its 25th annual report on the latest technical advances in police vehicles, components and aftermarket equipment.



# N • ear 360

## 0% EAR FATIGUE

Most advanced Knowles Micro Speaker.

Designed to stay in the ear canal all day. You literally cannot tell you're wearing an earpiece.

The patented bend over the top of the ear is a key N•ear™ exclusive feature.

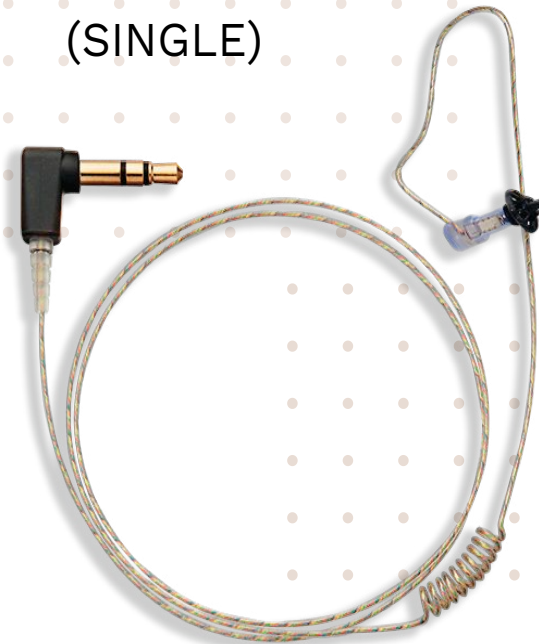
Wear in Left or Right ear, available in 22" or 48" cable length and a Dual or Single Ear version.

## THE FLEXO (SINGLE)

## PATENTED OVER EAR BEND

## LIST PRICE

\$129.99



## 100% SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

The micro speaker + the open ear tip makes it possible to hear both your surroundings and your radio.

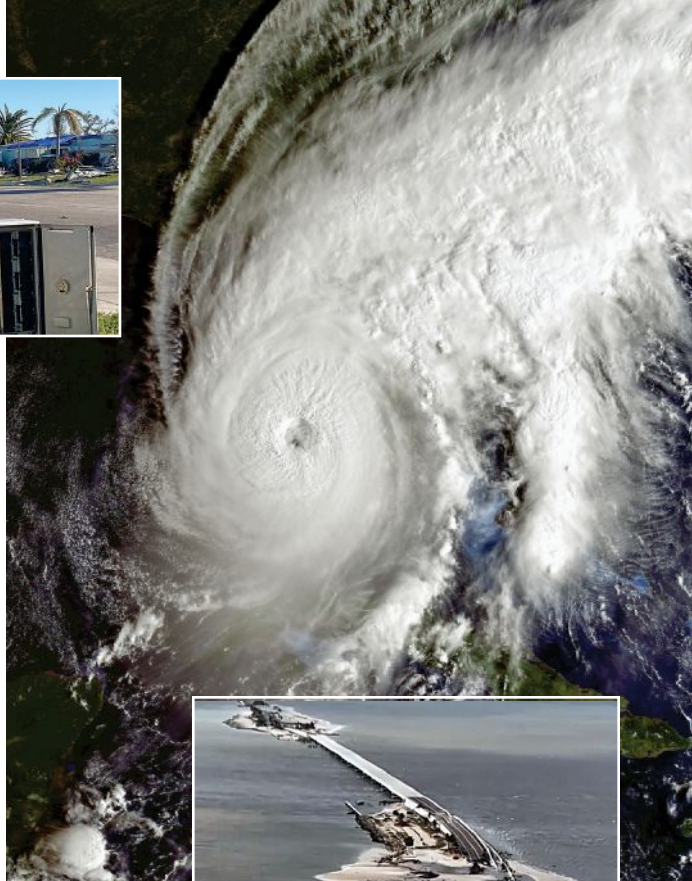


THE BEST EARPIECE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

(813) 710-NEAR • support@n-ear.com • www.n-ear.com



...AND  
NOTHING BUT  
THE TRUTH



## The Misery of the Aftermath

RAMESH NYBERG

**A**s I write this, it has been just 26 days since Hurricane Ian made landfall on Florida's southwestern coast just north of Sanibel Island.

I spent a good deal of time in that area as a youngster. We were close friends with a family who lived in Fort Myers and we visited often. They lived right on the Caloosahatchee River which flowed across the north end of town into the Gulf of Mexico. Sanibel and Captiva are sister islands which serve as "barrier islands" to the communities of Fort Myers and nearby Port Charlotte. I have wonderful memories of catching catfish on the shores of the Caloosahatchee and snorkeling

with my friends around the tip of Sanibel which, at that time, had no more than two or three buildings on it. The beaches were unspoiled and stone crabs abounded in the shallow waters.

Later in the late 70s and 80s, snowbirds from the Midwest found it a haven from the overcrowded East Coast. The town of Cape Coral bloomed next door and Fort Myers went from a sleepy southern town to a bustling retirement hotspot.

Today, the entire area is in ruins.

Hurricane Ian scoffed at the supposed "barriers" of Sanibel and Captiva. The storm surge brought a wall of Gulf water into Fort Myers from the west while the Ca-

loosahatchee overflowed from the north. Fort Myers became completely flooded. Ian's 155 mph winds battered the entire region, leveling the beach communities and businesses along both barrier islands, as well as the cool Margaritaville-like shops, bars and restaurants of Fort Myers Beach. You might have seen the pictures. For me, it brought back many painful memories of August 24th, 1992, when Hurricane Andrew came through the southern suburbs of Miami-Dade County like a buzz saw. It also hurt to see one of my favorite childhood playgrounds shredded and floating in a surreal suburban swampland.

Andrew was bad. A wind velocity instrument atop a building in Coral Gables recorded gusts of 168 mph before it *broke off*. But, Ian was a far worse storm. Andrew's winds were more powerful, but it was a faster moving, smaller and more compact storm. The storm surge affected a small suburban area, not the wide swath that Ian, a slower moving giant, impacted. I was working in homicide at the time Andrew hit us. We had 36 storm-related deaths. Ian's death toll is 100 more than that and there are still five people missing.

Two days after Ian left the area, I read an article in which a local government official said that recovery would take "days, maybe even weeks." This poor man, I thought, is in for such a rude awaken-

### SIG® P365X/XL GRIP EXTENSION

Adds 1/2" grip length to P365X/XL magazines. Increases the overall ergonomics of the grip ensuring a consistent and repeatable grip.

**MSRP \$10.95**



Ask For Product #  
**PG-365X**



**PEARCE GRIP®**

(800) 390-9420

[www.PearceGrip.com](http://www.PearceGrip.com)





# WaterShed®

PREMIUM QUALITY RAINWEAR

BUILT TO SPEC



Stormforce™  
Oscar



[WeAreWaterShed.com](http://WeAreWaterShed.com)

800-848-8092  
[Orders@gowatershed.com](mailto:Orders@gowatershed.com)



## DIFFERENT



## RIFLES



## SAME



## SUPPORT

Create consistency with  
**ATLAS BIPODS**



**WE ARE SUPPORT®**  
CAGE CODE 3L7F2



316.721.3222  
accu-shot.com

ing. The recovery is approaching the one month mark and barely anything – except for the clearing of some roads – has been accomplished. Recovery and reoccupation of most of these areas will take the better part of a couple of years. Andrew took that long and the damage is far greater in this storm. Law enforcement personnel in Lee and Sarasota Counties are experiencing this reality now. Before you can even start thinking about rebuilding, you must clear the roads and that means bringing in heavy equipment. If you're scratching your heads and thinking of that "chicken or the egg" dilemma, you're right. How do you bring in the heavy equipment when some of the roads – including the causeway to Sanibel Island – have collapsed or have been washed away? Police are also grappling with looters (I hate that word – they are *burglars*); contaminated water; carpetbaggers coming from everywhere to prey on home and boat owners; price gouging; and, now, hordes of mosquitoes. We had all that after Andrew. My neighborhood had no electricity for three weeks and our windows were blown in. When you stepped outside, you heard a symphony of chainsaws and generators echoing for miles. After a week, every home had a large mound of debris, tree clippings and garbage (the sanitation department wasn't picking up yet) piled high by the road. One night, trying to sleep in the unforgiving humidity, I realized we had a family of rats invading the house.

Don't forget this problem, too, and I guarantee you it is happening just 90 minutes west of me: Police officers' homes are also flooded or damaged so badly they cannot live in them. After Andrew, we banded together and went house to house, fixing and clearing each other's homes so we could attend to the public. Many of us had to relocate to hotels.

Ian's survivors – police officers included – are suffering in even worse conditions in Southwest Florida. Some areas had to wait two weeks for the water to evaporate or drain back into the Gulf and the Caloosahatchee before trying to salvage their homes. Tens of thousands of displaced residents have been frantically calling their insurance companies to get funds to start repairs. Hotels for several counties around are jam-packed with desperate families trying to figure out how to start the next chapter of their lives. A recent news story reported that approximately 70% of these people have no flood insurance. If you don't live in Florida, you might not know that standard homeowner's insurance policies don't cover flooding. You need flood insurance to cover that.

I decided on this topic for this issue be-

cause Ian's ferocity missed us by a nudge to the south. Seeing it slam into the Fort Myers area was deeply personal. The storm's enormous size put almost the entire state in peril as it approached. We were all prepping and watching because we've seen this movie before. Hurricane Andrew was wobbling as it approached from the Bahamas. It pointed at West Palm Beach, then, a couple of hours later, it appeared to aim for Key West. At the last minute, Andrew straightened out and came barreling into my neighborhood. The only saving grace was that he was gone in two hours, whereas Ian cruelly, slowly battered Florida's Gulf Coast like a *piñata*. Much of the area was totaled even before it made landfall.

The aftermath of these megastorms causes stress beyond imagination. Andrew ruined half of our house, but the driveway was at least dry, so I could get in and start cleaning up. The neighbor's roof disintegrated and destroyed the eastern facing windows of our master bedroom and the wind came through and blew the south facing window out into the backyard. Most of the belongings I had in our master bedroom were later found at the bottom of the pool once we drained it. When I went out to the highway three days after the storm, there were people in the median of US 1 selling chainsaws, generators and water – for \$5 a gallon! And people were buying it.

Something happened to us after Andrew: We all banded together to help each other. Neighbors who had never even known each other were sharing ladders, tools, gas, and stories. I suspect the same thing is happening on the other side of the state. But, they need help. Please check your local Red Cross centers and other help organizations to see what you can do. I honestly think that just about anything would help now: blankets, propane, clothes, bug spray, water, batteries, canned food, diapers, and other daily stuff we take for granted. Because, for many, all of that – and much more – is all gone.

What these folks do not need is to be forgotten. **P&SN**

Ramesh Nyberg retired from law enforcement in November 2006 after 27 years in police work. He lives in Miami and teaches criminal justice at a local high school. He also teaches regional law enforcement courses through Training Force, USA. He enjoys getting feedback from readers and can be reached at [ramesh.nyberg@gmail.com](mailto:ramesh.nyberg@gmail.com). Also, Ram has recently announced his newly published book, *The Ten Must-Haves to Be a Great Detective*, available on Amazon in both paperback and Kindle eBook. You can find it by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/hwc2xajm>





# VENGEANCE X7

- INTRODUCING VENGEANCE X7
- PATENTED VENGEANCE VIEWPORT
- EXCLUSIVE ELZETTA RIFLE RATED LIGHTING\*
- LIGHTWEIGHT CURVED DESIGN
- HIGH PERFORMANCE BALLISTIC COMPOSITE
- COREBOND LARGE FORMAT ID\*
- RIFLE RATED INDEPENDENTLY TESTED
- MADE IN USA

## PROTECT WITH A VENGEANCE™

— PREORDER NOW FOR 2023

— REQUEST A QUOTE

— [info@blueridgearmor.com](mailto:info@blueridgearmor.com)

— 844-556-6855

— [blueridgearmor.com](https://blueridgearmor.com)

\*OPTIONAL CONFIGURATION / ACCESSORIES

ElZetta





# FOCUS ON TECHNOLOGY



## New Scalable Plate Rack

The **Scalable Plate Rack (SPR)**, from PROJECT7 ARMOR, is purpose-built to provide scalability from a plate rack to an entry vest, and configurability allowing you to change your loadout to fit your mission. Scalability refers to the ability to add optional soft ballistics to the **SPR** platform, "scaling" it either up or down. Configurability refers to the ability to "configure" various features of the **SPR** to the end-user's preference. Configurable features include: Loadout System/In-Cummerbund Adaptive Pouch/Lining. The **SPR** is designed for special operations personnel who have a broad range of missions including high-speed dynamic entries, linear assaults, vertical access work, and rural operations.

[aardvarktactical.com](http://aardvarktactical.com)

## New Modular Body Armor System

Adept Armor has just released new side plates to complete the Storm System of body armor. The **Storm System: Foundation Side Plates** are modular, stackable 6" x 6" single curve side plates which are adaptable to different threat levels via the use of removable strike faces. These R400 single curve side plates are designed to be worn alongside the Adept Armor torso plates. They are made from structured UHMWPE fiber composite, stiffened foam with a water-resistant nylon cover.

Though it's often said that side plates are bulky and uncomfortable to wear, the new **Storm System: Foundation Side Plates** are ultralight at just 0.85 pounds and thin at 0.9 inches. Rated at NIJ Level III, the side plates feel effortless to wear, yet offer considerable protection from rifle threats.

[adeptarmor.com](http://adeptarmor.com)



# Body Armor/Ballistic Protection

## Ballistic Entry Shield



The **VENGEANCE™ Series WMX6 IIIA Ballistic Entry Shield**, from BlueRidge Armor, has been designed with direct input from federal law enforcement agents. Features include the **VENGEANCE Viewport** and the **Elzetta Horizontal Handle** system. The Viewport maintains a wide field of sight when compared to standard rectangular viewports while enhancing lower peripheral vision, giving a clear forward view of obstacles and trip hazards.

The BlueRidge Armor **WMX6** is a weapon mount upper shield platform designed for maximum coverage with a tapered lower which improves mobility in narrow passageways. The **WMX6** measures 20" x 34" and weighs only 14.5 lbs. (with Viewport). It is NIJ 0108.01 Rated IIIA and Special Threat Tested, and can be designed to the user's specifications utilizing BlueRidge's Custom 3D Shield Builder.

[blueridgearmor.com](http://blueridgearmor.com)



## Plate Carrier with Thermal Management Technology

The **AETOS PC**, a high-speed, low-drag plate carrier from Armor Express, features thermal management technology with a front and rear integrated I.C.E.™ ventilation system with Evap Technology™. Designed with fully adjustable shoulders; low bulk shoulder construction for optimal weapon compatibility; ID placard attachment points front and back; a Side Plate Pouch (SPP) for side rifle plate protection; and a FirstSpear™ Tubes® cummerbund, it comes in a variety of colors.

[armorexpress.com](http://armorexpress.com)

## IIIP Plate

Fabricated from a proprietary manufacturing process, the **IIIP Plate**, from West Coast Armor, is constructed with some of the strongest and lightest Ultra-High Molecular Weight Polyethylene (UHMWPE) fibers (Dyneema®) available.

The performance of the West Coast Armor **IIIP Plate** is unrivaled. Weighing only 3.5 pounds for a 10" x 12" shooter cut, this special threat pure Dyneema plate represents some of the strongest Level III standalone plates available today.

The **IIIP Plate** stops all Level III threats, including special threat rounds up to m193.

[westcoastarmor.com](http://westcoastarmor.com)



## FAST Helmet

The West Coast Armor **High-Cut Ballistic (FAST) Helmet** is a lightweight version of the ACH and MICH helmets, with a high-cut design which goes above the ear. This is the preferred helmet of Special Forces because of its light weight and due to less impingement between the helmet shell and headsets. Its high quality padding with nylon hook and loop fastener backing makes prolonged use comfortable and effortless.

The **High-Cut Ballistic Helmet** meets and complies with NIJ Level IIIA standards which provides a level of protection against projectiles such as .357 SIG at 1,470 feet/second and .44 Magnum rounds at 1,430 feet/second from longer barrel handguns.

The **FAST Helmet** features Kevlar® aramid construction; Level IIIA ballistic rating; a Dial Retention Liner; and a four-point adjustable chin strap.

[westcoastarmor.com](http://westcoastarmor.com)





### New Level III+ "Mini Shield"™

RTS Tactical recently launched their new **Level III+ Rifle Special Threat Rated Mini Shield**. Starting at 11 pounds, the RTS Tactical **Mini Shield** offers quick deployment for protection against special threat rounds sought out in the DEA Body Armor Testing Protocols.

Currently, a majority of armored ballistic shields deployed in the field of service by law enforcement agencies are missing rifle-rated protection.

The **Mini Shield** is equipped with a heavy-duty handle, oversized trauma pad system and quick release buckle for maximum effectiveness in the field.

The RTS Tactical **Mini Shield** is available in three sizes: small – 12" x 18" (11 lbs.); medium – 14" x 24" (16.9 lbs.); and large – 16" x 30" (23.3 lbs.).

[rtstactical.com](http://rtstactical.com)



### LVAK (Low Viz Alpha Kit)

The **Low Viz Alpha Kit**, from West Coast Armor, is a special profile armor system designed with reduced print and signature for law enforcement, special detail, PSD (Personal Security Detail), and EP (Executive Protection). The minimalist design makes strategic use of materials for a formfitting, plate profile reducing and comfortable system.

The **LVAK** can be worn in conjunction with any of the West Coast Armor plate or armor systems; however, it excels when paired with IIIA hard or soft armor panels.

The **LVAK** comes equipped with one of two cummerbund options: (a) an elastic cummerbund with storage sections for magazines, communications gear or accessories; or (b) a slick elastic cummerbund for the operator or agent who will need no access to additional equipment supported by the armor system, thereby allowing the user to maintain the lowest profile.

The **LVAK** is also capable of carrying any of West Coast Armor standalone armor plates up to Level IV.

[westcoastarmor.com](http://westcoastarmor.com)



# DRAGON SKIN®

## 100% Ergonomic

Watch Us On  
**You Tube**

**4 ERGONOMIC advantages over any other duty belt in the world.**

- ① •No rubbing on upper hip bones
- ② •No pulling on lower back
- ③ •No pinching the sciatic nerve
- ④ •No squeezing off blood flow to lower legs

Sold only in sets ie: (INNER AND OUTER BELT)

**The most comfortable duty belt in the world**



Made in Canada



[www.hi-tec.qc.ca](http://www.hi-tec.qc.ca)

1-888-709-4400 [service@hi-tec.qc.ca](mailto:service@hi-tec.qc.ca)

### New Level IIIA Tactical Clipboard

Designed specifically to augment standard law enforcement duty gear without an overbearing presence or a hindering weight (about the weight of an iPad®), the **Tactical Clipboard**, from Hardwire, layers over the forearm, discreetly allowing officers to be outfitted with ballistic protection throughout their shift. Equipped with an ergonomic handle and durable VELCRO® elastic strap, the **Clipboard** allows for hands-free control and utilizes natural response to threat maneuvers. While the handle empowers the user with another tool for blocking or shielding in confrontations, the **Tactical Clipboard** protects the head or vital torso area with highly effective ballistic protection.



[hardwirellc.com](http://hardwirellc.com)





**MIKE BOYLE**

**Falling short of your expectations in academics or athletics may be a source of embarrassment, but it will not get you killed. With that said, I am often astonished by the attitudes of some trainers and administrators when it comes to firearms proficiency.**

**B**y giving firearms training just enough attention to “get by,” they either feel that they, or the people they are responsible for, are prepared to deal with adversity. In the end, it doesn’t matter if it’s the Mayberry “it won’t happen here” attitude, indifference to training or just plain laziness, law enforcement officers who are ill-prepared to deal with violence are at a serious deficit which could result in their being seriously injured or worse.

While it is impossible for any law enforcement officer to have the necessary skills to prevail in every conceivable situation, we can certainly go the extra yard in getting a handle on the most common types of assaults and develop counter-tactics. As far as incidents when deadly force is required, we have roughly 170 years of collective experience to draw on and can identify the most likely patterns of assault. These events typically unfold at very close range, the action is very fast and light conditions are often poor which handicaps the officer’s decision-making process. High-risk events include motor vehicle stops, intervention in domestic

incidents, attempting arrests, and investigating suspicious persons and places. Clearly, officers today are working in a more volatile operational environment than ever before and most of us recognize that merely achieving minimum standards doesn’t make the cut. If your agency does not go that extra yard, you need to take the bull by the horns and get squared away on your own. Sure, it takes time and money, but how much is your life worth? Those of us involved in training our fellow officers need to bring our best efforts forward. As instructors, you are in the best position to see that the time afforded is sufficient to make certain the troops get what they need. This often involves shaking the tree and butting heads with the command staff.

### **Don’t Get Sucked Into the Qualification Trap**

A hurdle which all law enforcement officers face is periodic qualification with their firearms. In the law enforcement world, qualification is used as a measure

of marksmanship and proficiency in handling and operating firearms. I would submit it has little to do with fighting with a gun.

Quite simply, qualification is a test. Imagine if one of your grade school teachers gave you the same spelling quiz week after week, but nothing ever changed. No doubt you would have a strong command of those multisyllable words, but deviating from them would move you into unknown territory. But, that is exactly what happens in firearms qualification. In many outfits, officers fire the same rote exercise year after year throughout their entire career. Used as a periodic test to assess marksmanship, qualification is not necessarily a bad thing. However, if it is all that you are doing, you are being severely short-changed. Unfortunately, many outfits have confused qualification with training and that is all they do.

A great many qualification courses test marksmanship skills from roughly arm’s length back to 25 yards. Time frames to accomplish a particular firing sequence are liberal and targets are unobstructed



# **POLICEAMMO** FROM **THE GUN SHOP**

**Using less lethal marking ammunition with force on force scenario-based training can be an effective way of replicating the fear and stress of a life-threatening situation**



**FORCE**  **FORCE**

**The Premier Less Lethal Marking Round**



## **UMAREX T4E**

**When Budgets are Tight, Train More but Spend Less**

60 Main Street #D | Vincentown, New Jersey 08088-8870

Tel: 609-859-1997 | Fax: 609-859-3099 | [info@policeammo.com](mailto:info@policeammo.com)



# FIREARMS TRAINING: HOW TO "SHARPEN THE SWORD"

Continued from page 12



***When you consider that a large percentage of shootings take place around vehicles, training in this area is very important.***

and are positioned directly in front of the shooter. Light conditions are optimum and the course of fire is predictable once you have run it a few times. Real life is not nearly as accommodating. Light tends to be poor and both you and your assailant are moving. You may have only a partial target to shoot at and your background may consist of innocent bystanders rather than a berm.

I am not suggesting we eliminate firearms qualification from the mix, but we need to recognize that it is not a valid training tool or a barometer of performance in the unforgiving real world. The ability to shoot a high score is great; however, it is important that we take it to the next level and include both dynamic and interactive training into the regimen.

## It Doesn't Have to Be Expensive

I spent my career working for an agency which was not exactly awash in cash, but we were able to do some very innovative training with our modest resources. Our quarterly range sessions included the requisite qualification course for



***Using nonlethal ammunition with force on force scenario-based training can be an effective way of replicating the fear and stress of a life-threatening situation.***

handgun, rifle and shotgun, but I always managed to sneak in some additional dynamic exercises. Round counts for these exercises were very low and could be accomplished with just a handful of ammunition. We got creative making range props and built our own target stands, as well as a moving target system from scrap parts. Over time, we were able to upgrade and we got some commercial gear and a bunch of reactive steel targets. Best of all, officers had a very positive reaction to the ever changing scenarios we created and it often got competitive.

Well over 30 years ago, we modified a number of old revolvers so that they would no longer accept live ammunition and, instead, fired cotton balls fired by a primed, plastic cartridge case. This was our introduction to scenario-based, interactive training. Today, there are a few firms turning out marking cartridges, modified pistols which mimic police duty sidearms, as well as protective gear. Instructor level training is also available from these very same outfits. Scenario-based training can also be performed with Airsoft technology at considerable savings. One of the advantages of Airsoft is that these scenarios can be performed indoors in places such as schools or a place of business without making the mess associated with marking cartridges.

In the not so distant past, I felt that the various electronic simulators were nothing more than an expensive video game. My attitude has now changed 180 degrees and there are now some great systems out there which offer realistic

scenarios and induce stress. Interactive training provides you with some great feedback on your skills and shows you where you can improve.

## Marksmanship Matters

Precision is the quality of being minutely exact or accurate. Law enforcement officers need to have the ability to place their hits on the target where they will do the most good and shut down a determined adversary in the shortest amount of time. As we make the transition from the range environment to real life, most of us would agree that targeting the high chest gives the greatest likelihood of a quick stop. A hit anywhere on the body may cause an adversary to stop what he is doing, but the result of an off center hit is unpredictable. Damaging vital organs which support life tends to have a much more dynamic effect.

Not only do we have to shoot with a degree of precision, but it has to be done relatively quickly. Needless to say, this is not an easy task when being subjected to life-threatening stress. Most officers of average skill can consistently hit the high chest of a paper target when firing from typical combat distance. Doing it on demand is another matter altogether.

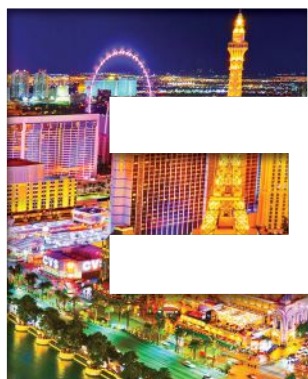


***Overlays and paper plates can be used to create high value areas on any target.***

To achieve success, one needs to balance speed and accuracy. Both my personal practice and the training I provide include shooting at very small targets in an open-ended time frame. I tell my students to focus on the fundamentals and take all the time they need to make a hit. Once we have established that we can hit, it's time to step on the gas pedal and shoot faster. At this point, I begin using a larger, yet realistic-sized, target; however, the emphasis is still in making quality hits.

One of my pet peeves with the targets

IT'S A



**JAN. 17-20**  
**2023**

AN EVENT OF  
**NSSF**  
The Firearm Industry  
Trade Association

**Participating in the SHOT Show® is a BIG DEAL for your agency.** This is where the industry gathers to connect businesses and law enforcement agencies to showcase products, share knowledge and find solutions to current challenges in the law enforcement community. Unlike any other event, the SHOT Show provides the best deals and opportunities to equip and prepare you and your officers so you can be safe while protecting your communities.

**THE VENETIAN EXPO + CAESARS FORUM** LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

**REGISTRATION OPENS IN OCTOBER**

**[SHOTShow.org/psn](https://SHOTShow.org/psn)**

*The SHOT Show is a trade-only event. Professional affiliation and department purchasing or training authority required.*



## FIREARMS TRAINING: HOW TO “SHARPEN THE SWORD”

Continued from page 14



***Use of cover and movement should be components of all firearms training programs.***

used for police training and qualification is that many are too big with very optimistic high value scoring areas. In many cases, beach ball-sized shot groups would be sufficient to post a good score. There are, however, some very good targets out there for the taking and, lacking that, you can make your own. Common remedies include folding targets in half or affixing

an eight inch paper plate to designate that high value area.

It is very important that we set some realistic goals in our practice. Exactly how fast do we need to shoot and hit? Every situation is going to be different and there is a very strong likelihood that the bad guy has already initiated the action. In short, you will be playing catch-up. Can you

fire three rounds in three seconds? How about three rounds in two seconds? With a little bit of practice, this is not an unrealistic standard. Sure, the gamesmen can run their pistols much faster, but law enforcement officers have a much steeper hill to climb. We have to absolutely identify not only the threat, but the background, before we press the trigger.

### **Most Likely, Less Likely, Unlikely**

All of us have limited resources which we can devote to training both in money and time. We would like to cover as many of the real-world contingencies as possible; however, our focus should be on the scenarios which are more likely to occur as opposed to less likely. As indicated earlier, we have a pretty good idea as to the dynamics of armed encounters. With that in mind, training should primarily focus on quickly dealing with threats at close range. We shouldn't neglect the possibility of dealing with problems at a greater distance, but the bulk of our practice with handguns should take place at seven yards or closer. Most police training takes place under optimum light conditions, but the reality is that the inverse is true out in the real world.

***Continued on page 18***

INTRODUCING THE

# FLAT IFAK

The design doesn't add bulk but still carries what you need in an emergency.



Mount medical supplies to a vest, headrest or belt.



**RESCUE ESSENTIALS**

[rescue-essentials.com](http://rescue-essentials.com)

# Testing the New LVL 2 Slim Holster

**W**hen Alien Gear Holsters® first introduced the Rapid Force™ line of Level 2 and Level 3 Duty Holsters, I was skeptical. I had used several duty holsters during my career which were all produced by a company other than Alien Gear. I wasn't completely satisfied with those holsters, but my department required that I use them. I always thought there had to be a better duty holster. Along came the Rapid Force Level 3 Duty Holster and, after testing and torturing it, I've been recommending it to both friends and students in class.

## Plainclothes/Off Duty Use

It doesn't seem like Alien Gear Holsters is content to rest on its laurels because here comes the LVL 2 Slim Holster. Part of the Rapid Force line of holsters, this is an on duty/off duty Level 2 retention holster. The slim design conceals well under loose clothing or a light jacket, making it ideal for Outside the WaistBand (OWB) carry. The design also makes it a great holster for detectives, special agents, executive security operators, training officers, or any other plainclothes assignment. In addition, it is a great holster for making a quick change from uniform into street clothes at the end of a shift.

The Rapid Force LVL 2 Slim Holster mounts outside the waistband using the Alien Gear Holsters' paddle attachment or the new Locking Belt Slide. The Locking Belt Slide allows the user to easily clip the holster to a belt, locking the holster in place and keeping it from moving – even during extreme physical movement or close confrontations. Using the Locking Belt Slide, the LVL2 Slim Holster maintains its position on the belt until the user unlocks and removes it.

The LVL 2 Slim Holster is compatible with all Rapid Force expansions, as well as their "Quick Detach" (QD) system. This means that, if you use this holster with the QD system, along with the Rapid Force Level 3 Duty Holster with the QD system, they can be quickly and easily swapped without tools. This is convenient for detectives and other plainclothes officers who may wear a duty belt on occasion while serving search warrants or other activities. They can quickly disconnect it from their plainclothes belt, attach it to their duty belt and off they go using the same familiar gear with the same draw stroke.

When I first received this holster, I noticed the material used to construct it was thin, but extremely rigid. Everything about this holster screams quality. The holster even comes with extra re-

## TODD FLETCHER



tention screws and bushings. Rapid Force Holsters are made in the USA and they manufacture everything exclusively at their facility in Northern Idaho. They come with a 30 day field test-drive and a three year full manufacturer's warranty.

## Trouble-free Transition

Training and getting used to this new holster are quick and easy, especially if you've used other thumb swipe designs or the Rapid Force Level 3 Duty Holsters. The LVL 2 Slim Holster keeps the handgun secured and protected with a Level 2 thumb swipe mechanism built to be consistent with the Level 3 Duty Holster's intuitive draw. When I first used the holster, I ensured my handgun was empty and did a test fit. It was a little loose, so I adjusted the tension screws with the included wrench until it was just right. Even after tightening it up a little, there was no binding which is something I can't say about one of their competitors.

Once it was adjusted, it was time for some dry fire practice. Immediately, my draw times using the LVL 2 Slim Holster were right where they should be with an OWB holster. In fact, I was surprised enough that I tested myself on my shot timer and found draw times from this holster were on par with my normal Level 1 (friction retention only) holster. I'm sure my draw will get a bit faster with more time and repetitions using this holster. But, I was shocked with how easy it was to get a good grip, draw and presentation using this new holster.

Normally, I'm not a fan of paddle holster attachments. Sure,

they are convenient to put on and take off, but I don't like how they tend to move around. The Alien Gear Holsters' paddle attachment is a really good design which minimizes unwanted movement on the belt. I can pull the paddle away from my waist to make location adjustments, but the paddle keeps the holster secure during normal everyday movement.

## Locking Belt Slide

If there's a chance you may be running or wrestling with suspects, I recommend upgrading to the Locking Belt Slide. Once you put the belt slide over your belt and attach the LVL 2 Slim Holster with the QD system, it is locked onto your belt and is not coming off. This is the most stable OWB belt attachment I have ever used. When this is paired with a high quality belt designed for concealed carry, you have a comfortable, concealable, extremely stable, and easy to use holster for all-day/everyday carry.

I think the best use of the LVL 2 Slim Holster for plainclothes assignments is to use a female QD attachment on the paddle, another on the Locking Belt Slide and a third one on your duty belt. With a male QD on the LVL 2 Slim Holster, you can quickly and easily swap the holster and handgun from the paddle to the Locking Belt Slide to your duty belt quickly and easily. This is the ultimate in flexibility and options.

The LVL 2 Slim Holster accommodates suppressor height sights up to 0.475" and the optic cut is compatible with all standard optic mounting plates. It is available for GLOCK®, Smith & Wesson® and SIG SAUER® model handguns. The MSRP starts at \$73.88 (no light) and \$79.88 (with light) on the Standard Paddle LVL 2 Slim Holster and the Locking Belt Slide with QDS starts at \$108.88 (no light) and \$114.88 (with light). Scheduled for release after January 1, this new holster is another good reason to look forward to 2023. For more information on Alien Gear Holsters and the Rapid Force line, visit [aliengearholsters.com](http://aliengearholsters.com) **P&SN**

Sgt. Todd Fletcher (ret.) has over 25 years of law enforcement experience with assignments to patrol, criminal investigations and training. He has presented instructor development training nationwide and at multiple regional, national and international training conferences. He owns Combative Firearms Training, LLC which provides firearms training and instructor development classes to law enforcement, military and private security. Todd was awarded the 2022 ILEETA Trainer-of-the-Year award. He can be contacted at [todd@combativefirearms.com](mailto:todd@combativefirearms.com).



**The LVL 2 utilizes a Level 2 thumb swipe mechanism for handgun retention.**



**This new holster offers a slender minimalist design.**



## FIREARMS TRAINING: HOW TO "SHARPEN THE SWORD"

Continued from page 16

Frequent low light training should also be included in the mix.

Our dynamic training drills include other elements including movement, more than one threat, cover concepts, and the presence of innocent bystanders. Considering that a great number of real-world events unfold from, or around, vehicles, getting a car or two out on the range from time to time is also a plus. Another real-world possibility which we train for is the likelihood that an officer may be injured or has fallen to the ground and has to fight one-handed.

### Don't Forget Shoulder Weapons

Because the vast majority of police action shootings involve little or no forewarning, handguns are utilized in the overwhelming majority of incidents. This is especially true of patrol officers and investigators. But, should time allow, accessing a shoulder weapon is almost always the better choice. With both shotguns and rifles, hit potential is greater and better stopping potential is realized.

I recognize that the greater training effort should be devoted to the system which is most likely to be utilized; how-

ever, shoulder weapons should not be ignored. Today, many agencies have pushed the shotgun to the back burner and now use a patrol rifle to fill that same niche. That concept may be valid; however, I see many outfits following the same path they did with the shotguns of old. Training is cursory at best and, as a result, officers never develop anything close to a degree of proficiency.

Making decisive hits with either a shotgun or a rifle is not especially difficult with just a little bit of training. Without a proper indoctrination and regular training maintenance intervals, the command of basic operational skills in shoulder weapons suffers. Both shotguns and rifles are very different critters than a pistol and tasks such as getting into action, reloading, and clearing stoppages is very different.

I recognize that issues such as available time and access to a range compound the problem. However, this can be offset with off-range practice using dummy rounds to practice basic operational skills such as reloading. When the opportunity comes up for live fire, officers are now up to the challenge.

### Final Thoughts

Again, the focus of our practice should be on the things which are most likely to happen. I would caution that human nature is such that we continue to practice the things we are really good at. In reality, we should devote some attention to the things we are not so good at. Perhaps, our draw times from that Level III duty holster are a bit slow or our reloads are awkward. Significant progress can be made by practicing off the range and using inert dummy rounds.

Luck can be described as success or failure brought about by chance rather than one's own actions. True, there are some things we can't control in the unforgiving real world, but chance continues to favor the well rehearsed individual. To be best prepared, our training standard should be excellence rather than mediocrity. **P&SN**

Captain Mike Boyle served with the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Law Enforcement, and has been involved in firearms and use-of-force training for over 40 years. He has been a police academy director and rangemaster and remains active as an instructor providing basic, in-service and instructor level training. He is a member of ILEETA and NALEFIA. His book, **Everything You Need to Know About Police Firearms Training**, was recently published by Blue360 Media.



**S.T.A.T. MEDICAL DEVICES**

**BLEED CONTROL EMERGENCY KIT**

**BLEED CONTROL MADE SIMPLE**

**INFO@STATMEDDEVICES.COM**

**USE CODE: PSN2022 AT CHECKOUT FOR 10% OFF YOUR PURCHASE**



**TRAINING FOR ENGAGEMENT**

**T4E**

**T4EGUNS.COM**

**SIONYX**

# HEIGHTEN YOUR SENSES

Observe threats. Identify friend or foe. Capture the scene.

All after dark - with the power of clear color digital night vision.



[SIONYX.COM](https://www.sionyx.com)



# PRODUCT HIGHLIGHT



## RESCUE ESSENTIALS

The Rescue Essentials **Flat IFAK** is built on a low-profile pouch platform and is loaded with essential TCCC (Tactical Combat Casualty Care) components to address traumatic injuries in a variety of situations. Dual pull handles provide access to the inner sleeve from either direction and it can be mounted on vests, in cars, and anywhere easy access to medical gear is needed.

[rescue-essentials.com](http://rescue-essentials.com)



## RESCUE ESSENTIALS

The small, highly effective, **Wound-Pack** houses components to manage a wide variety of wound types and sizes – from small abrasions and large lacerations to deep wounds and soft tissue sprains. Compactly stowing a 4"x4" gauze sponge, an ABD Pad, compressed gauze, elastic bandage, and duct tape, the **WoundPack** offers diverse wound management components in a small footprint.

[rescue-essentials.com](http://rescue-essentials.com)



## TACMED SOLUTIONS

The **SOF® Tourniquet** is the most streamlined tourniquet on the market, with no catch points when folded. Designed for one-handed applications, the **SOF Tourniquet** easily slides over an arm or a leg. It features an aircraft grade aluminum windlass, a 1.5" nylon compression band, a slack indicator, a high-strength buckle which can quickly detach and reattach, and a Tourniquet Retention Assistance Clip which secures the windlass before locking it into the Tri-Ring.

[tacmedsolutions.com](http://tacmedsolutions.com)

# Tactical EMS/First Aid Equipment

## TELEFLEX

**QuikClot® Hemostatic Dressings** enable first responders to control bleeding injuries during mass casualty events. Using **QuikClot® Hemostatic Products** and advanced preparedness helps to ensure you have the right medical products to control bleeding when injuries occur.

Some of the benefits of **QuikClot® Hemostatic Dressings** include faster bleeding control compared to standard gauze<sup>1,2</sup>. **QuikClot® Dressings** allow law enforcement personnel to control bleeding at the scene until medical support arrives. They are easy and intuitive to use – as **QuikClot® Dressings** use the same placement technique as standard gauze. New, updated packaging is now more compact and cube-sized, with eight tear points to expedite access for quicker application.

[quikclot.com](http://quikclot.com)

1. Causey MW, McVay DP, Miller S, et al. *J Scientific Research*. 2012; 177 (2): 301-305. Pre-clinical study.
2. Trabattoni D, Montorsi P, Fabbicchi F, et al. *Eur Radiol*. 2011; 21: 1687-1691.



## S.T.A.T. MEDICAL DEVICES

A newly designed tourniquet with proprietary technology is now being offered by S.T.A.T. Medical Devices. The **X-Force Tourniquet** is equipped with a ratcheting system which gives the user a mechanical advantage to increase pressure with minimal effort to stop life-threatening bleeding. Its propriety conversion release system allows the ability to release pressure slowly or fully. This new technology makes it easy for one-handed application in the most difficult of circumstances.

[xforcetq.com](http://xforcetq.com)



## SIM LIMB

**Sim Limb** is an effective tool for helping to help teach basic trauma care techniques. Its unique design can help train in multiple trauma scenarios such as chest seal application, tourniquet application, wound packing, and pressure bandage applications all in one. **Sim Limb** also can bleed, providing an interactive realistic training scenario. The kit includes a convenient carry case, proprietary simulated blood, blood pressure bottle, compressed gauze, gloves, and an absorbent mat.

[simlimb.com](http://simlimb.com)

## TACMED SOLUTIONS



The **OLAES® Hemostatic Bandage** features combat proven HemCon® ChitoGauze® PRO in a single, easily accessible package. CoTCCC recommended, ChitoGauze® PRO uses chitosan as the hemostatic agent and is X-ray detectable. Its flat, packed version easily fits into most standard IFAKs, providing options to best fit your trauma kit space requirements. Additional capabilities include a true pressure cup, a wound pad, hook and loop control strips, elastic wrap, a securing clip, and easy-tear points.

[tacmedsolutions.com](http://tacmedsolutions.com)

# Operator 1911



## All New OPERATOR®

Featuring a host of duty-grade features serious shooters demand, the Operator® 1911 delivers a cutting-edge, tactical-grade pistol. Tactical Rack rear/tritium front sights, G10 grips, ambi safety, two eight-round magazines with bumper pads, forward cocking serrations, and more combine to make the Operator 1911 from Springfield Armory® a must-have tool for self-defense. If you want a no-nonsense, defensive-grade pistol that's ready to serve, then look no further than the Operator.



**SPRINGFIELD ARMORY.**



[SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM](http://SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM)



# DRONE PILOTING PROFICIENCY TAKES FLIGHT WITH CERTIFICATION COURSE

It's a hot August day at the Maryland State Police Training Academy. The sun is shining bright and there's a constant buzzing in the air.



It's not insects – although those are certainly out and about as well – it's small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS), also known as drones.

Dozens of officials from across the country, spanning a variety of different federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, have gathered together for intensive training. The "Advanced Open/Obstructed Test

Proctor Course for Evaluating Drone Capabilities and Remote Pilot Proficiency" was developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in conjunction with the Science and Technology Directorate (S&T). The goal is right there in the title: evaluating capabilities and proficiency. Competent drone piloting is critical when lives are on the line; these devices are used in numerous law enforcement operations including search and rescue and accident/crime scene investigation.

"We first developed these test methods with the idea of helping the government to identify and test ground robots to make sure we have a standardized method and we're buying the best," explained S&T Standards Manager Kai-Dee Chu, PhD. "We have been using them to test drones for procurement purposes and the first responders found out for themselves that these standardized test methods are even better than their training courses. So, they adopted these test methods and it's just caught on like wildfire – not just in the United States, but now in Canada, in Korea, in Japan...these test methods are used by all these first responders."



Ground test open scenario (Photo: NIST)

## ENTIRELY NEW TRAINING

So far, this training has been offered three times – in California, then Texas and, finally, Maryland – since it was first introduced in January 2022 and it has led to more than 400 certified proctors. The next course offering will be in Savannah (GA) this November. It consists of 24 hours of classroom and hands-on flight instruction over three days to "train the trainer," so newly certified proctors can take what they've learned back to their home agencies and subsequently certify their drone operators. This generates a "domino effect" of enhanced officer expertise and increased public safety. The course follows NIST



*The buckets help you do it safely because the buckets have alignment visual cues inside them, so you know you're safe when two buckets align; you know you're six feet away and you can relax for a second; and now you're looking inside the car and you're doing the job..." added Adam Jacoff. (Photo: S&T)*





**Indoor nighttime obstructed scenario**  
(Photo: NIST)

test methods which have been adopted, or are under consideration for adoption, by ASTM International; the National Fire Protection Association; the Airborne Public Safety Accreditation Commission; the Civil Air Patrol; and many other federal, state and local public safety organizations.

"When we started, there was no measurement science or standards infrastructure available to objectively evaluate drone capabilities or remote pilot proficiency, so we filled that void," said Adam Jacoff, NIST Project Leader for Emergency Response Robots and chair of the ASTM E54.09 Subcommittee on Response Robots. "After helping to guide purchases, these standard tests then support credentialing of remote pilots. Although these drone test methods are specifically designed to help emergency responders and public safety organizations maintain a safe operational standoff while performing extremely hazardous tasks, they similarly support a wide variety of commercial and industrial applications. All pilots flying in the national air space need to demonstrate they can maintain positive aircraft control while performing operational tasks in complex and often hazardous environments."

## DAY AND NIGHT

The course includes both open and obstructed test lanes, meaning with and without line of sight, as well as realistic operational scenarios – all using established assessment standards for scoring. Flights are conducted both during the day and at night so that pilots can be ready for anything. As vigorous as it is, the tests are inexpensive (using equipment like plastic buckets available at any hardware store), easy to conduct and require less than 30 minutes to complete. Attendees learned how to fabricate the test apparatuses, conduct trials and embed the same scoring tasks into their own training scenarios. Upon completion, they know everything they need to replicate the course back at their home agencies.

One of the realistic operational scenarios which participants played out in Mary-

land was based on an actual emergency call from earlier this summer involving an abducted child and an abandoned vehicle in a rural area.

As Corporal James Lantz with the Maryland State Police put it, "The scenario that we're doing out there, the open area search, is basically the exact same scenario of a mission that we flew about two months ago. We had an AMBER Alert. The vehicle was found in a field...surrounded by trees and everything like that. So, we can sit there and say... 'This is exactly what we faced. These were the hazards that we had. These are the issues that we had.' We replicated that here, in a controlled environment, a testable environment that we can use to measure that these guys are able to perform."

Drone operators were instructed to thoroughly inspect the vehicle as if searching for any signs of people, weapons or even explosives within. Participants were required to take photos of the various targets taped to the car with their drone's camera.

To become certified as a proctor, participants must pass a written quiz with a grade of at least 80% and submit scores from trials they proctored for other remote pilots. The officers work in teams of three, rotating through each role of pilot, proctor and visual observer. The pilot maintains control of the drone, calling out each intention of movement before doing so and calling out each bucket alignment as they make their way through the obstacles. The proctor scores the pilot. The visual observer maintains sight of the aircraft and surroundings, repeats the pilot's intention of movement to confirm, and calls out corrections and warnings as necessary.



**Post-test obstructed scenario**  
(Photo: NIST)



**The targets were strategically located to simulate how close and at what angle operators would need to have their drones at to achieve a sufficient view of the inside of the car. Subsequent assessment is partially based upon the images the pilots are able to capture.**  
(Photo: S&T)

## MEASURING AIRCRAFT CAPABILITY

In addition to testing the skills of the drone pilots, the course is a great way to see what the drones can do. As David Battaly from the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency said, "It's a practical measure of not only the pilot's proficiency and ability to operate his aircraft, but the capabilities of that individual aircraft. There's a myriad of drones on the market and each drone is a little bit different. So, it measures the pilot's proficiency, how well he can manipulate his drone, and the capabilities of what his drone can actually achieve." Seeing how different devices perform helps inform procurement decision-making so law enforcement agencies can purchase the best tool for the job.

Thanks to the easily repeatable nature of the course and the uniformity and consistency offered by the standards, drone operators across the country will be able to compare "apples to apples" when assessing capabilities during a response. This approach encourages collaboration and ultimately leads to a safer public.

"It's important because we want to have certified pilots fly these drones to make sure they operate safely and proficiently," added Chu. "But, more than that is now that we have standards, we have common ground to talk about these capabilities. And, these standards are not stagnant. We need to revise them every two or three years, but we can always have the latest and best test methods for our operators and for our first responders. So, that's the beauty of using these international standards for these training facilities because they are well tested; they're well accepted; and, even after we are gone, these standards will still be there."

The drone standard test methods are expected to be accepted by ASTM by spring of 2023 and next up will be underwater test methods for aquatic robots.

To view a list of upcoming courses, visit <https://tinyurl.com/bdh55jz3> P&S



# LEVEL UP



# A CLASS OF ITS OWN

(Advertorial)

In a marketplace overrun with armor that's too bulky and heavy for daily use, made overseas, too expensive, and doesn't live up to the demands of the job, the question becomes, which armor is best suited for police and security?

West Coast Armor makes the world's strongest and lightest plates with cutting-edge materials and a proprietary manufacturing process. But what really takes their products to the next level is the attention to detail that can only come from a company run by people who have worked in or around law enforcement and the military all their lives. Officer feedback has been integral to the development of West Coast Armor's products.

*"There are plenty of good plates out there," said Sgt. Joe Pensole. "For me, though, the best in low profile armor is West Coast Armor. Their plates are made from the best materials, pure Dyneema®, they're lighter and more comfortable, and they stop everything they're supposed to stop and then some."*

Using their plates in combination with their Low Viz plate carrier creates the lightest, strongest, most adaptable, and most comfortable kit you can find.

*"It's incredibly light and comfortable," Lt. Brian Honie added. "It's a real game-changer, one-pound plates, and all for under 650 bucks. The material science and R&D that went into their plate carriers is like nothing I've ever seen, it's really next level stuff!"*



## Low Vis Alpha Kit

Rated best Concealable Plate Carrier by RE Factor Tactical - 2022 Top Plate Carriers Guide

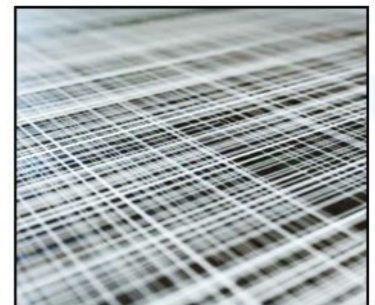
## Materials and Manufacturing

For West Coast Armor, the journey to create the world's finest ballistic armor starts with the best raw materials.

*"If you're in a Michelin-rated restaurant, you don't expect them to serve you frozen fish sticks," said Christian Ellis, CEO of West Coast Armor. "They're using the premium of the premium. Quality ingredients make quality products. That's our belief."*

To meet this standard, the special threat rated IIIA plate is manufactured from the industry's most cutting-edge Ultra-High Molecular Weight Polyethylene (UHMWPE) fibers, pure Dyneema®.

But just like in a five-star restaurant, the finest ingredients can only take you so far. You also have to know how to mix those ingredients to create something truly special. West Coast Armor achieves exactly this for its special threat rated IIIA plate thanks to a proprietary manufacturing process that starts with those incredible UHMWPE fibers. Millions of these fibers are laid together in ninety-degree cross-sections to create a single sheet. Dozens of these sheets are then layered on top of each other and pressed together under immense pressure while utilizing a precise heating and cooling system. The result is the lightest and strongest—and to my knowledge, the only—special threat rated IIIA plate in the world.



Millions of UHMWPE (Ultra High Molecular Weight Polyethylene) Fibers laid in 90 degree cross sections to create one single sheet which is then stacked with dozens of others and pressed together under extreme pressure.

WWW.WESTCOASTARMOR.COM





The IIIA Plate weighs only 1 pound.



The IIIA Plate is .25" in total Thickness

The plates, of course, are only part of the equation. The carrier must also meet West Coast Armor's exacting standards. The Low Viz Plate Carrier is constructed of 500D Cordura® coupled with a hybrid nylon elastic called Tweave Durastretch®, which field testing has proven to be not only stunningly strong and durable, but extremely comfortable to wear. Round out the package with double-stitching, and you begin to see how West Coast Armor takes their dedication to quality and detail to the next level.

Pairing the special threat rated IIIA plate with the Low Viz Plate Carrier results in a kit with an emphasis on low profile, light weight, and incredible stopability, all in a package so comfortable you'll forget you're wearing it.

Not to be overlooked is the equipment used to make their armor. It starts with their state-of-the-art Kuris® CAD cutting machine. This is the top of the line in German-made equipment. West Coast Armor's five-point Quality Control process happens before the armor is cut, and is followed by a multi-count and weighing process on each piece, which is then marked by hand to confirm. Next (for the soft armor) it's off to the sewing process, using Juki® and Consew® sewing machines, which go right to work using Dupont® #66 thread. From that point, the armor moves to the Sonobond® ultrasonic welder, where a water and air proof seal are made using RipStop®. After being cut, counted, and weighed repeatedly, the hard armor (which starts soft) is then hand marked and sent to be pressed. Extreme pressure and heat is utilized, followed by a rapid cooling process which literally forges the Dyneema® or Spectra® into a solid plate. ***"To get true edge to edge protection, you must press the plates oversized and then water jet the excess away to the precise size followed by a fine hand sanding process to knock down the edges. Most companies would never consider throwing away so much Dyneema® or Spectra® to make plates," Ellis said.***

Finally the plates are weighed then either wrapped with Cordura® or Linex® coated.

## Accountability and Oversight

Of course, none of this means anything if the plates and carriers don't perform. West Coast Armor holds multiple NIJ-certifications on soft and hard armor, with multiple plate and soft armor products in the queue for certification in both the .06 and .07 NIJ standards. Sadly, even in this industry, companies source raw materials and outsource manufacturing to Asia. West Coast Armor emphatically does not. They are based in San Diego, California, sourcing their raw materials from US-based companies like Honeywell, DSM, Dupont, and Barrday, and they do all of their manufacturing in the United States.

## Applications

The special threat rated IIIA plates and Low Viz Carrier keep everything streamlined and low-profile. When you're working long hours, particularly if you're in hot environments, the materials that go into both the plate and the carrier are more comfortable and breathable than anything on the market.

Though West Coast Armor designed these kits for personal security details doing covert jobs, they are adaptable to any need. Officers who prefer full wrap-around coverage will find that the Low Viz offers optional 6x6" side plates. They also have 4 cummerbund options to choose from, making the Low Viz kit adaptable to almost any application.

## What Is Next

West Coast Armor is working on new products that are extremely impressive. Most of these are in the final stages of internal testing, and in queue for NIJ certification. One new piece of armor is a true standalone level III, multi-shot, edge to edge, positively buoyant plate tipping the scales at a mind-blowing 2.5lbs. This is a company worth watching over the next few years.





# THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE



## TRANSPORTATION 2023

SGT. JAMES G. POST

### P&SN presents its 25th annual report on the latest technical advances in police vehicles, components and aftermarket equipment.

Welcome to our annual transportation issue in which we report on all the newest LE vehicles and equipment as gleaned from the Annual Michigan State Police (MSP) Vehicle Evaluation, as well as annual events such as this year's IACP Conference and Police Security Expo.

We'll first report on the results of the MSP tests of the popular LE sedans, SUVs, trucks, and motorcycles, plus the first ever Electric Vehicle (EV) tests. This will be followed by a review of recently purchased EVs put into service, followed by a reveal of newly released emergency equipment, plus a special section on new protective vehicle equipment available for the safety of your officers. Lastly, this column will conclude with breaking news you won't want to miss.

#### MICHIGAN STATE POLICE ANNUAL LE VEHICLE EVALUATION

##### 2023 Sedan/SUV Evaluations

The Michigan State Police Precision Driving Unit conducted their first evaluation of LE vehicles in 1975 and those tests were attended by just five guests. In 2006, LE motorcycles were added. In the 47 years since those first tests, annu-

al attendance has grown to several hundred LE representatives and the tests are now the standard for North American LE, as well as determining the coveted MSP "Pursuit" rating. Acceleration, top speed and braking of four-wheel vehicles were conducted September 17th at the Chrysler Proving Grounds in Chelsea, MI, while the motorcycles were tested September 17th at the MSP Precision Driving Track in Lansing, MI.

This year, Ford® submitted one electric vehicle for testing, the Mustang Mach-E AWD and those results will follow those of Internal Combustion Engines (ICE) and Hybrids.

#### Acceleration and Top Speed

This is easily the most popular com-

petition among viewing spectators which answers the gearhead's age-old question, "What'll she do?" The track's guardrails are standing room only for these tests. GM submitted four ICE vehicles, two Tahoes and two Silverados; Dodge® submitted four ICE vehicles, two Charger sedans and two Durangos; Ford brought three Police Interceptor® (PI) Utilities and one F-150 truck.

Our report will contain first, second and third place ratings in three categories: 0-60, 0-100 in seconds and top speed in mph. 0-60 represents time from a standing start on a shoulder or on-ramp and 0-100 represents an average time to overtake a violator. The rankings are as follows:

- 0-60 mph: 1st – Ford PI Utility 3.0L EcoBoost® (5.68 seconds); 2nd – Dodge Charger 5.7L RWD (6.01 seconds); and 3rd – Ford F-150 Responder® 3.5L EcoBoost (5.72 seconds). The slowest was the Dodge Durango 3.6L AWD at 8.65 seconds.
- 0-100 mph: 1st – Dodge Charger Pursuit 5.7L RWD (14.10 seconds); 2nd – Ford F-150 Police Responder 3.5L EcoBoost (14.6 seconds); and 3rd – Ford PI Utility 3.0L EcoBoost (14.74 seconds). The slowest was the Dodge Durango Pursuit 3.6L AWD at 24.11 seconds.



**The Mustang Mach-E posted a 0-60 mph time of 3.93 seconds at this year's MSP vehicle tests.**



SOUNDOFF SIGNAL  
**30<sup>TH</sup>**  
*Anniversary*  
2022



## WHEN SAFETY MATTERS MOST

Visibility is essential, speed is critical and safety is of the utmost importance. Our mission to provide quality products isn't for the vehicles; it's for the people they protect.



**INDUSTRY-BEST  
LEAD TIMES**



**HIGH QUALITY  
PRODUCT**



**UNMATCHED  
CUSTOMER SUPPORT**



**SCAN TO LEARN MORE**

[soundoffsignal.com](https://soundoffsignal.com)  
800.338.7337  
Hudsonville, MI

**SoundOff  
Signal**



## Top Speed

The top speeds are as follows:

1st – Ford PI Utility 3.0L EcoBoost (148 mph); 2nd – Dodge Charger 5.7L RWD and 3.6L AWD, computer limited at 140 mph; and 3rd – Ford PI Utility Hybrid and PI Utility 3.3L (136 mph). The slowest top speed was recorded by the two Silverados at 112 mph.

(Note #1: Many top speeds are computer limited by the manufacturer, resulting in ties. Note #2: All Ford PI Utilities are AWD.)

## SUV Shootout

For nearly a century, America's cops have patrolled, protected, served, caught bad guys, and delivered babies in sedans, over half being V-8 RWD with four doors. They have worn badges of all of the "Big Three," with the top selling brands swapping the title every time a new model from the other guys appeared. Today, only one police sedan remains in production, the Dodge Charger Pursuit, as SUVs have become the norm for police work across the country and sales substantiate that. The Chargers have been able to hold on to strong sales, particularly with state patrols, but their future is anyone's guess.

With that in mind, we thought you might

like to have a head-to-head comparison of the LE SUVs tested by MSP this year. There were two Chevy Tahoes, two Dodge Durangos and three Ford PI Utilities.

On first glance, it's almost like comparing apples, oranges and bananas. The Tahoes are the largest. They are available in RWD or 4WD and both are powered by the venerable 5.3L V-8. They have a loyal following in county agencies and state patrols needing storage and heavy load capacities.

Dodge Durangos fall somewhere in the middle (size wise) and are the newest models available. Their sales have been lackluster, primarily selling to departments with Charger fleets. They are available in two AWD configurations, powered by either the 5.7L V-8 or the 3.6L V-6.

The largest selling SUVs are the Ford PI Utilities and have been for several years. Ford has been consistent with their commitment to keep improving these units. Currently, all three models are standard with AWD. There are three powertrain options offered to customers – the 3.0L EcoBoost; the standard 3.3L; or the 3.3L HEV (Hybrid) gas/electric combo which features regenerative (self) charging.

The SUV results are in...the fastest SUV at 148 mph was the 3.0L PI Eco Boost Util-

ity, the slowest was the AWD Tahoe at 124 mph and in the middle was the 5.7L Durango at 130 mph.

The best projected braking of the three was the RWD Tahoe at 127.70 feet; the 5.7L Durango was the worst at 137.70 feet; and the Utilities averaged 131.70 feet.

## Keep on Truckin'

There were three pickup trucks submitted for testing this year. Chevrolet brought two Silverados (both in 4WD), the Z7X and the Z71 (off-road) package. Ford brought their F-150 Police Responder 3.5L EcoBoost to the party and it beat the Chevys in all of the acceleration categories, 0-60 (5.72 seconds), 0-100 (14.16 seconds) and top speed at 120 mph, while the Silverados' 0-60 were in the mid 7s (in seconds), 0-100 in the high 18s (in seconds) and top speeds were computer limited at 112 mph.

Both Chevys did better than Ford in the braking tests, with projected stopping distances of 140.20 feet and 140.40 feet, while the F-150 took another 20 feet longer to stop at 162.20 feet.

## The Electric Mustang Results

The Ford Mustang Mach-E drew a lot of

### X-LOCK

#### Gun Racks for Your Vehicle

Only the X-Lock gives officers quick, one-handed access to guns – when they are needed fast.

- Stainless steel, ratcheting, arms automatically adjust to a tight, secure fit when the gun is pressed into place.
- Padding protects guns and prevents rattling.
- Lock operates with a key or with an electronic timer for immediate access.
- Components can be adjusted to custom fit most makes/models of guns.
- Quick installation! Can be mounted with little or no drilling.

**TUFLOC**  
LAW ENFORCEMENT & MILITARY

800.321.0870 • info@esmet.com • tufloc.com

### X-LOCK

#### Gun Racks for Your Home

Finally... a gun rack that keeps guns secure, whether hidden or on display, and ready for quick access.

- Stainless steel, ratcheting arms automatically adjust to a tight, secure fit when the gun is pressed into place.
- Padding protects guns from nicks, scratches and dents.
- Lock operates with a key or with an optional keypad that incorporates fingerprint recognition technology.
- Components can be adjusted to custom fit most makes/models of guns.
- Quick installation!

**TUFLOC**  
SAFE STORAGE. QUICK ACCESS.

800.321.0870 • info@esmet.com • tufloc.com

**ACKERMAN**  
BY **WaterShed®**



**CUSTOM**

**UNIFORM**

**JUMPSUITS**

[WeAreWaterShed.com](http://WeAreWaterShed.com)

**MADE IN  
USA**  
SAI FM, OREGON

**800-848-8092**  
[orders@gowatershed.com](mailto:orders@gowatershed.com)



## THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE

Continued from page 28

attention as it was put through the same rigorous tests as the ICE and Hybrid competitors and the results were surprising to most in attendance. The electric Mustang bears little resemblance to the 58-year-old nametag it wears. Other than the pony graphics adorning the slab front and rear panels, it's certainly not your dad's Mustang.

The pocket rocket achieved a 0-60 time of 3.93 seconds and a 0-100 time of 12.23 seconds, both faster than every competitor. The top speed was a respectable 122 mph, well below the Utility and the Charger. The Mustang's projected stopping distance was 122.80 feet, the best of all the competition.

The jury is still out on the feasibility and reliability of the Mustang as a viable fleet vehicle at this time. It does boast a fully charged range of 300 miles and several are being field-tested at this time, but certainly lengthy, all-season, real-world LE testing is in order.

### Vehicle Brake Testing

Most experts argue the braking tests are even more crucial than speed as they represent the projected distance to stop a police vehicle. The results represent the average of three 60-0 mph decelerations,

recorded in feet. The results are as follows:

In first place with the shortest projected stopping distance was the Tahoe RWD at 127.70 feet; in second was the RWD V-8 Charger at 129.60 feet; and in third place was the V-6 AWD Charger. The worst vehicle was the Ford F-150 Police Responder (162.20 feet). That's over 34 feet further than the first place finisher or nearly two car lengths.

### 2023 MOTORCYCLE EVALUATIONS

There were only three LE motorcycles submitted for testing this year: a BMW R 1250 RT-P and two from Harley-Davidson®, the FLHTP and FLHP. The acceleration and top speed results follow.

#### Acceleration and Top Speed

The fastest 0-60 and 0-100 were both posted by the BMW at 4.10 seconds and 9.41 seconds, respectively. The H-D® FLHTP posted the second best 0-60 at 5.31 seconds, while the FLHP recorded third place at 5.43 seconds. In the 0-100 mph results, the Harleys swapped positions, second going to the FLHP at 18.12 seconds and third going to the FLHTP at 19.05 seconds.

The BMW recorded the top speed at 136 mph, while the Harleys recorded identical top speeds (likely computer governed) at 110 mph.

### Brake Testing

The BMW also recorded the best projected stopping distance of 133.80 feet, while the H-D FLHTP was second at 141.20 feet and the FLHP was third at 141.70 feet.

### SURFING THE NEW GREEN ELECTRIC VEHICLE WAVES

A seemingly never-ending fossil fuel shortage resulting in exorbitant prices at the pump have fueled (pun intentional) a rush to electric and hybrid vehicles around the world and LE fleets are joining the mass exodus from ICE vehicles. This is despite the fact that EVs have a greater reported poor quality rating than ICE vehicles, as reported in a study published June 28, 2022, by J.D. Power.

Based on owner and lease reports (complaints), the PP100 (Problems Per 100 vehicles) was an average of 175 PP100 for ICE vehicles, compared to higher PP100 scores of 239 and 240 for hybrids and EVs (respectively). Because of

## Rugged, Reliable Mobile Printers Built for all Your eCitation Printing Needs

PrintekMobile provides law enforcement professionals the best mobile printer solutions which have:

- Easy to use paper loading features
- Compatibility with all eCitation software packages
- Dual serrated tear edges for crisp, clean tears
- A 2-year bumper-to-bumper warranty on all printers
- Unique features and a variety of mounting options

Contact us today to see why more and more agencies across the country are switching to PrintekMobile printers!

Schedule your **FREE** 30-day demo today!



**PRINTEKMOBILE™**

www.printek.com | cyeager@printek.com | 800.368.4636 x570



**Pistol Bullets  
and  
Ammunition**



**Zero Bullet Company, Inc.**

P.O. Box 1188 • Cullman, AL 35056

Tel: 256-739-1606 • Fax: 256-739-4683

**Toll Free: 800-545-9376**

**www.zerobullets.com**

Tesla's dominance in the field, they were studied separately and received a slightly better PP100 rating of 226. Overall, when compared to the 2021 study results, the electric market experienced an 11% increase in complaints.

Both new and continuing electric models increased in complaints this year, although new vehicles received the most. The problems can be attributed to several factors: 1) launch (new) vehicle complaints have increased every year since 2021; 2) mass market vehicles (base models) experience fewer problems than premium models; 3) infotainment systems remain the most problematic area; 4) driving assistance issues continue to grow. (The most problematic system is Lane Departure Warning/Lane Keeping Assistance.); and 5) continuing supply chain delays and disruption, especially the microchip shortage, have caused automakers to seek alternative solutions to get new vehicles delivered and, in some cases, new vehicles are being shipped without some microchip controlled features installed. This results in consumers being notified to return to their purchasing dealers at a later date so that their "new" vehicle can be finished. This is further complicated by the fact that not

all dealerships (primarily smaller, remote ones) have mechanics trained in electric vehicle repair.

The recent Hurricane Ian revealed more electric vehicle issues. The mass evacuation of millions of residents turned interstates into virtual parking lots and scores of electric vehicles were abandoned when their charges were depleted. Another problem which applies to coastal areas was discovered, too. Nonelectric vehicles can normally keep moving when flood water is as deep as the floorboards; however, since electric vehicle batteries are the lowest portion of the vehicle, they can "drown out" in several inches of salt water, sometimes causing them to spontaneously erupt in flames, causing increased danger to first responders and occupants.

### READY OR NOT, THEY'RE HERE

Despite dire warnings, less than positive performance experiences and a critical shortage of US charging stations, American LE departments continue to purchase electric vehicles, seeing them as the only possible future of LE vehicles. Of course, some have no choice due to their city, state or federally mandated death to fossil

fuel deadlines, but many are entering this brave new world on their own. Following are some of the latest.

### Boulder City, NV, Police Department

The Boulder City Police Department is embarking on an EV pilot program, partially because of the waitlist of ICE vehicles needed to replace its high mileage fleets. Funded primarily by money from the American Rescue Plan Act, the initial purchase will be two Tesla Model Ys, two Tesla Model 3s and one Ford Mustang Mach-E.

### Cobb County, GA, Sheriff's Office

Cobb County has announced its purchase of the first "All-Electric Prisoner Transport Van" in the United States. The 2022 Envirotech Cutaway/Logistics Van comes outfitted with a Prisoner Transport Upfit. The sheriff's office says it purchased the van to reduce operating cost, reduce cost per mile and reduce the county's carbon footprint. The van is reported to travel 200 miles on a full charge; however, Cobb County, home of the Atlanta Braves, is the third most populous county in Georgia and covers 345 square miles.

# FORENSCOPE

Available Exclusively From **EVIDENT**

[www.ShopEVIDENT.com](http://www.ShopEVIDENT.com)



**Mobile Multispectral  
Forensic Tablet**



**Mobile Multispectral Contactless  
Fingerprint Detection System**

## 2 NEW LIGHT SERIES

800.557.0098 | 308.278.3131 | [www.golight.com](http://www.golight.com)

- >> Updated Design / Increased IP Ratings
- >> LED or Halogen Lighting Heads
- >> 2x Stronger Magnetic Grip
- >> Multi Unit Selection Remote
- >> Home Position Button
- >> Low Amp Draw







## GOLIGHT INC



## THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE

Continued from page 31

### Cotati, CA, Police Department

The police department was the first in Sonoma County to put an electric police patrol in service, a Tesla Model Y. Its purchase follows the city council's commitment to greenhouse gas reductions, including recent actions to prohibit the construction of new gas stations throughout the city. Even with the higher initial purchase costs, it feels that the Tesla will be less expensive overall, resulting in less gas and maintenance expenses.

### Fredericksburg, VA, Police Department

After studying data on the benefits of changing to hybrid vehicles, the Fredericksburg PD purchased three Ford PI Hybrid Interceptors last month, with five more ordered for next year. It anticipates the vehicles will bring significant fuel savings, improved performance and reduced carbon emissions when compared to traditional ICE police vehicles. It found that the Interceptors benefit from an idle reduction feature (when running the HVAC system) because the gas engine will idle less while the battery powers the police radio. It has

found the average patrol vehicle consumes 663 gallons of gasoline annually, half of which is consumed while idling.

### Newport, OR, Police Department

The Newport, OR, city council authorized \$125,188 to purchase and equip two 2023 Ford F-150 Lightning™ Pro pickups for the police department. (This includes a 16.14% increase in pricing, or \$16,000, recently announced by Ford.) This amounts to \$62,594 for each electric truck, fully equipped and outfitted by Wireworks LLC. It also has carryover funds from 2021 of another \$61,000 to purchase a hybrid AWD vehicle (unspecified make).

## ONE STOP SHOPPING FOR ELECTRIC LE VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

### Setina Manufacturing Company, Inc. (setina.com)

The good folks at Setina Manufacturing recognize the potential of electric LE vehicles and have been burning the midnight oil developing quality equipment to fill a



**Setina Mfg. offers a new console for the Mach-E SUV series of vehicles.**

void in EV equipment sources, realizing that one size does not fit all when it comes to these three uniquely different branded EVs. They have complete catalogs for three: the Chevy Bolt, the Ford Mustang Mach E and the Tesla Model Y and we've included a shopping list for all three.

### Chevy Bolt

Currently offered for the Bolt, Setina has LED lighted push bumpers, Model PB450L, which are factory preassembled from aircraft-grade aluminum and are prewired for LED perimeter lighting. Their Single Prisoner Transport System

ALMOST NO AMMUNITION MANUFACTURER  
INSPECTS EVERY SINGLE ROUND, BUT WE DO.  
IT TAKES EXTRA TIME AND COST TO  
HUNT FOR THE SMALLEST IMPERFECTION.  
BUT WE WOULDN'T DO IT  
ANY OTHER WAY.

THE POWER OF  
BLACK HILLS  
Performance

Ammunition

TO LOCATE A DEALER NEAR YOU, PLEASE CALL 800.568.6625

www.black-hills.com

consists of Single Transport Partitions and includes a full roll bar-type frame-work with a vinyl coated expanded metal vented divider for ventilation and Setina's Single and Double T-Rail weapon mounting system which is designed for versatility and ease of access with a choice of multiple lock choices.

### Ford Mustang Mach-E

Setina's Center-Pull Seat Belt System for the Mach-E is designed and tested to meet federal standards while their Console Series focuses on the maximum use of cabin space and provides the officer with a comfortable workspace. Setina's Single Prisoner Transport System Partition provides a secure area for the detainee while providing driver comfort. Weapon mounts offer secure and convenient storage for one or two weapons using their Single and Double T-Rail Mounting System. Setina push bumpers, combined with the latest LED perimeter lighting, are prewired and preassembled with Impact Resistant Fender Protectors for the Mustang.

### Tesla Model Y

Departments buying Tesla Model Ys will be pleased to find a variety of equipment specifically designed for them and ready for delivery. Their Transport Seating features their exclusive Center Pull Seat Belt System. The Single Prisoner Transport System options include weapon mounts and accessory storage, while the Tesla console emphasizes an efficient layout. Setina's Vault-Lock provides secure firearms storage and their Series PB405L Push Bumpers offer



*Designing vehicle equipment for the Tesla Model Y came with a unique number of challenges for Setina.*

LED Perimeter Lighting and Impact Resistant Fender Protectors.

Setina is also celebrating their upcoming 60th anniversary, as their founder, the late John R. Setina, created the first roll bar/prisoner partition in the industry in 1963 while working as a vehicle repair specialist for the Washington State Patrol.

### NEW EQUIPMENT REVIEW LIGHTS AND SIRENS

**CODE 3, Inc.**  
([code3esg.com](http://code3esg.com))

The newest product from CODE 3 is their surface mount CD3511 LED warning light which is only 0.5" deep and features 36 flash patterns in five colors in single or dual color options. This light can be mounted virtually anywhere on a vehicle.

**Federal Signal**  
([fedsig.com](http://fedsig.com))

Federal Signal recently released their new MicroPulse® Ultra flush mount, low profile warning lights in five versions (dimensions) available in single and dual color models in five colors which can be synchronized to their Pathfinder® Siren.

## THE NEW ELSAG® STREET SENTRY

### LPR for City and Suburban Streets

The ELSAG Street Sentry is an economical, solar-powered LPR system that allows police to create LPR safety nets in their communities by finding suspect vehicles faster. It reads plates 24/7, even in extreme hot and cold temperatures. Trust the LPR experts with over 20 years of experience.



Made in the USA

[leonardocompany-us.com](http://leonardocompany-us.com)







**The new mpower® Traffic Controller, from SoundOff Signal, provides a myriad of warning or arrow/patterns.**

## Soundoff Signal (soundoffsignal.com)

Designed for either interior or exterior use, the new mpower® Traffic Controller, from Soundoff Signal, utilizes the same six inch module silicone lenses as their mpower Lightbar. One of the best new features of this light is its ability to support traffic control in all facings via separate controls for each direction. The mpower Traffic Controller is available in lengths of four, six, eight, or ten modules, with the eight module version available as split or full. LED colors include red, amber, blue, green, and white, and feature a number of warning or arrow/patterns.

Launched in 1992, SoundOff Signal began as a manufacturer of small motorcycle flashers, but quickly branched out to include lighting products for emergency vehicles. By the early 2000s, they were providing high-tech safety solutions for first responders worldwide. This year, the over 400 employees at SoundOff Signal are celebrating the company's 30th anniversary.

## Whelen Engineering Co., Inc. (whelen.com)

Whelen's new Edge® 9X Lightbar Series combines aspects of their most popular lightbars with a new look and expanded customization. There are models available in both short and tall in a retro design. They are available in two lengths and in a selection of light patterns.

Their newest control system, the Core-S Light and Siren System, is designed to be installed in a console or under a dash and the connector placement accommodates hard to reach areas. The fully customizable system features siren, input/output and control functionality in one compact box along with an integrated control head.



**Whelen's new Edge® 9X Lightbar offers a "retro style" appearance.**

## CONSOLES AND STORAGE SOLUTIONS

### Havis, Inc. (havis.com)

Havis has introduced a vehicle-specific angled console for the 2022 Ford F-150 Lightning truck in both Pro and XLT trim levels. They provide 20" of total equipment mounting space in a nine inch wide section and 13" total equipment mounting space in a 3.3" wide section. These consoles include a mounting kit which mounts them between seats and also fits the lower dash contour. Options include cup holders and side mount arm rest.



**Jotto's new Cargo Cover/Equipment Trays provide an area for mounting communications equipment.**

### Jotto Desk (jottopublicsafety.com)

Jotto Desk has introduced Cargo Cover/Equipment Trays for the 2021+ Chevy Tahoe (#475-1850) and the 2021+ Ford PI Utility (#475-1865), designed to provide a solid horizontal divider in the vehicles. The upper/top sections provide an area for mounting expensive communication, video and lighting equipment which uninstalls easily for service, while retaining the lower section for personal or critical gear such as SWAT weapons and accessories.

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

Lund's all-new SF-21TAH SubFloor Cargo Storage System for the 2021+ Chevy Tahoe expands the rear storage area, allowing you to securely stow equipment, radios, weapons, and more. It creates a slightly raised level floor in the cargo area allowing for "SubFloor" storage with two hinged locking com-



**The new SubFloor Cargo Storage System, from Lund, expands the rear storage area for the 2021+ Tahoe.**

partments. The rear compartment can be used for weapon and equipment storage while the front compartment is ideal for radios or additional gear storage. It is designed to work with or without a rear cargo partition and mounts to OEM mounting points.

### TruckVault, Inc. (truckvault.com)

The Drone Responder 7 (DR7) is a command display platform which features a two drawer configuration, one for drone storage and one for drone parts storage, and secure pushbutton and T-Handle locks. It provides an integrated articulating monitor mount, along with a low-profile radio and power panel mounted lengthwise to preserve rear visibility. Made with MDO, a strong, heat-resistant material which is highly customizable, it includes a heavy-duty hinged table extension with storage below.

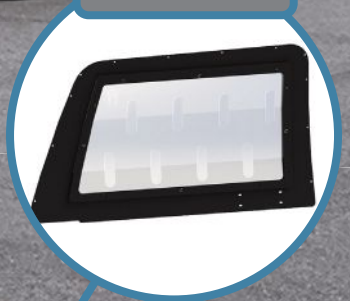
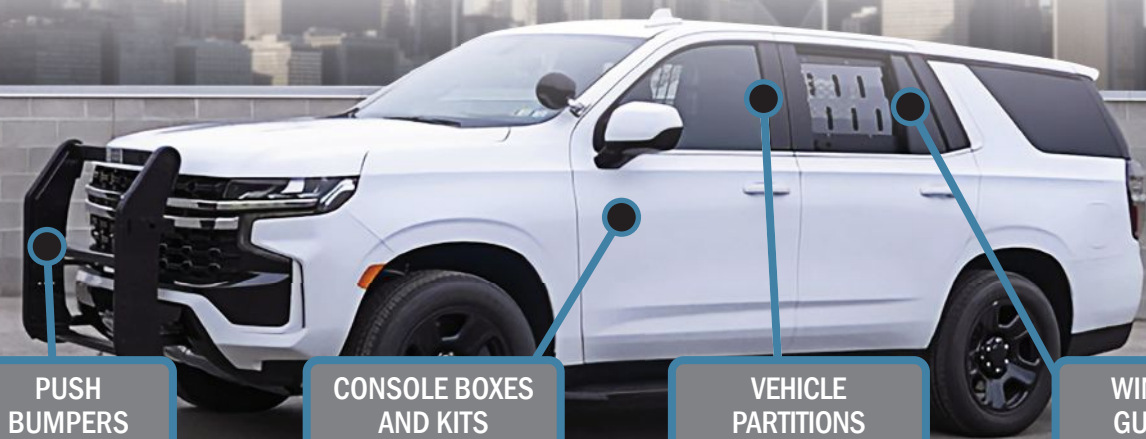


**TruckVault's new Drone Responder 7 command display platform**

### Tufloc® (tufloc.com)

New from Tufloc is their TufBox Storage Bin constructed of high density plastic which is designed to fit under the TufBox Drawer, but can also be used as a stand-alone organizer in the rear of SUVs and cruisers. It comes complete with a set of dividers and a hinged cover is available.

# BUMPER-TO-BUMPER PURSUIT VEHICLE SOLUTIONS

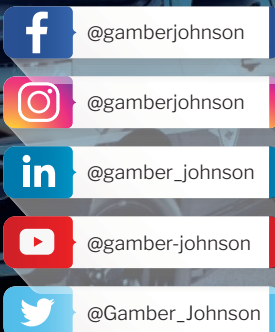


ALSO SEE

- CRADLES & DOCKS
- MOTION ATTACHMENTS



[WWW.GAMBERJOHNSON.COM](http://WWW.GAMBERJOHNSON.COM)



**G**<sup>®</sup> **GAMBER  
JOHNSON**<sup>®</sup>

RUGGED. RELIABLE. RESPONSIVE.





*Tufloc's new TufBox Storage Bin can also be used as a stand-alone organizer.*

## ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

### Brother Mobile Solutions (brothermobilesolutions.com)

Brother Mobile Solutions recently launched a selection of next generation, full page PocketJet 8 Series printers designed to print in seconds with up to 13.5 pages per minute speeds and a 75% reduction in time. It is compatible with a wide range of operating systems, including a plug-in which allows users to print without drivers or apps and features high-resolution print technology for detailed printing – everything from small fonts and fine images to detailed images.

### Digital Ally®, Inc. (digitalallyinc.com)

Digital Ally has unveiled their new in-car video system, the EVO-HD, which maximizes space and offers top end reliability paired with remote access and service capabilities. With built-in, patented VuLink®, the EVO-HD captures multiple recording angles in sync with body-worn and in-car camera systems. It can support up to four HD 1080p cameras and dispatchers can automatically start a recording of any device remotely and can record up to the previous 60 seconds.

### Gamber-Johnson, LLC (gamberjohnson.com)

Gamber-Johnson has announced their new docking solution for the Panasonic TOUGHBOOK® 40 laptop which features full and lite port replication options. The docking station is designed close to the footprint of the computer to preserve cabin space with a composite design for reduced weight and increased durability. It reduces road vibrations through bumpers and a rugged latching system to keep it secure, eliminating the hazard of becoming a projectile in an accident. An LED indicator



*The TOUGHBOOK® 40 docking station is the first ever Gamber-Johnson docking solution which provides USB-C port replication.*

light reflects docking connection status to ensure proper docking.

Gamber has also introduced new pedestal mounting solutions for the 2017+ Tesla Model 3, 2022+ Ford F-150 Lightning, 2022+ Ford Mustang Mach-E, and the 2017+ Chevrolet Bolt. These install easily and provide a space efficient platform for computers and other devices.

### PrintekMobile (printek.com)

Printek's latest full page printer is the Interceptor 80 (I80) which provides officers in the field the ability to print tickets or reports

**HYDRA RAM** USED BY ONE FIRE COMPANY TO FORCE 109 DOORS AFTER THE FIRST EXPLOSION AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTER IN 1993

**THE FIRST AND ONLY ONE-PIECE INTEGRATED, PRESSURIZED HYDRAULIC FORCIBLE ENTRY TOOL**

**Truly a one man operation.**

**Weights only 11 lbs.**

**Full Extension in Only 7 Pumps.**  
Other Spreaders Require Up To 30 Pumps.

**CALL FOR FREE CATALOG OF ALL OUR FORCIBLE ENTRY TOOLS**

**The KAYO**  
With the 1-2 Punch  
**THE HIGHEST KINETIC IMPACT OF ANY RAM ON THE MARKET**

Weight: 30,000 LBS. OF FORCE.  
40+ lbs. of longlasting epoxy/steel construction. Only 30 inches long with two forward handles and one rear, but enough for the second man to hold. Exclusive Celtex shock absorbing grips.  
**E-Z to stow, E-Z to carry, E-Z to use...\$390.00**  
One man battering ram – \$330.00

**The Pro-Bar –**  
A 30 inch Halligan-type forcible entry tool. One piece construction. Length: 30" Weight: 8.5 lbs., Ship. wt. 10 lbs. **\$299.00**

**Li'l Pro-Bar –**  
Type "A" lockpuller on adz and gas shut off key on fork. Length: 12", Weight: 2 lbs., Ship. wt. 3 lbs. **\$84.00**

**Mini Pro-Bar –** Diamond knurled grip, type "A" lockpuller on adz, and gas shut off on fork. Length: 20", Weight: 3 lbs., Ship. wt. 4 lbs. **\$102.00**

**FIRE HOOKS UNLIMITED, INC.**  
1827 Old Mill Road, Wall, NJ 07719  
**PHONE: (732) 280-7737 • FAX: (732) 280-7792**  
**www.firehooksunlimited.net**

**TO SERVE AND PROTECT**

**This Officer Wears a Stratton Hat and So Should You.**

**MADE IN USA**

Stratton Hats is the world's largest manufacturer of hats for uniformed personnel. Stratton Uniform Hats enhance authority and dignity, and have the added benefit of opaque, sun-shielding brims for valuable protection against harmful UV rays.

All Stratton Hats are made in the USA. Nothing tops a Stratton Hat.

Visit our website or call today.  
Phone: 708-544-5220 Fax: 708-544-5243

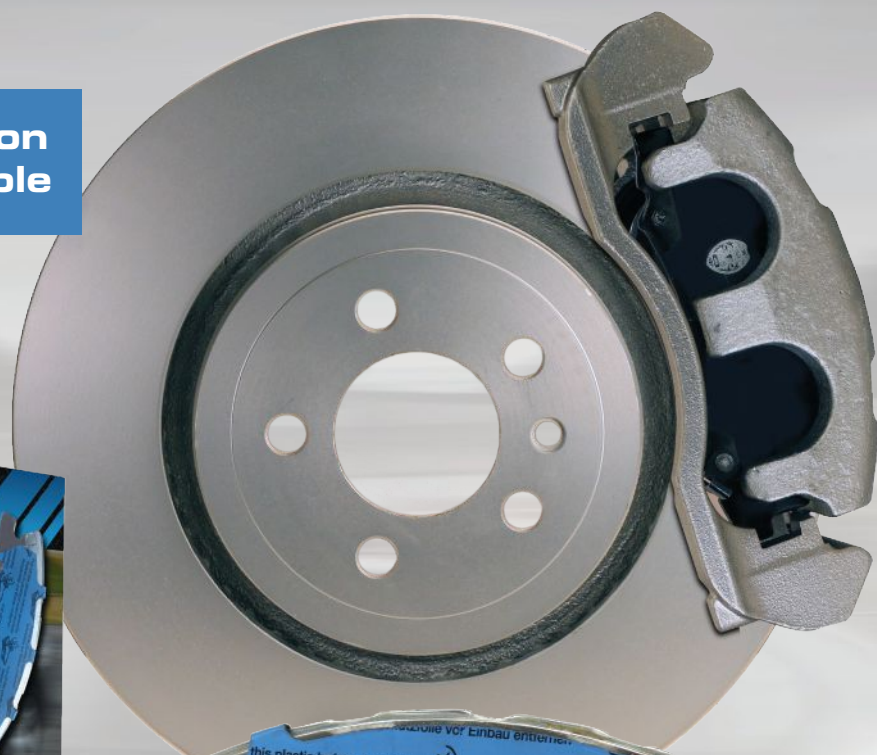
**WWW.STRATTONHATS.COM**

Use your Smart Phone and QR code scanner to visit our web site.

After the workday, keep your style on with an authentic Stratton Western Hat!

# Stop. Right. There!

Late model application coverage now available



Raybestos® Police disc brake pads and rotors are specially manufactured to meet the demanding needs of law enforcement professionals.

**Raybestos**  
The best in brakes®



## THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE

Continued from page 36

faster and easier and the sleek design allows it to fit into most available printer mounts. It is compatible with Bluetooth®, USB or Wi-Fi and comes with serrated tear edges and a two year warranty.

### POLICE OFFICER SAFETY

Never before have American police officers suffered more at the hands of criminals. They have been attacked with swords, hatchets, overpowered by gangs, and shot with firearms of all calibers and configurations. Their deaths, and the corresponding national crime wave, are a concern to all responsible American citizens. Our finest have been ambushed on radio calls, car stops, search warrants, and bogus "SWAT" calls. Some officers have even been killed on their first few days on the job. Bullet-resistant armor alone can only provide some protection as many officers have been attacked in their vehicles without even an opportunity to exit and defend themselves.

Fortunately, some American companies are stepping up to save our officers' lives. This section will present a variety of safety-related products.

### Hardwire LLC (hardwirellc.com)

Hardwire offers Level IIIA B-Kit armored door panels and Level IIIA+ transparent armor window inserts originally developed in a trial program with the NYPD. The program was so successful that it was rolled out citywide and was expanded to the Philadelphia PD five years ago. The expenditure for the B-Kit and window insert is roughly \$3000 per door and the two ballistic items not only protect the occupants from gunfire, but also shield officers from thrown items such as cinder blocks, bricks, stones, and water bottles filled with concrete, and may even add strength to the vehicle during a side-impact collision.

Vehicle door armor uses the same technology as the US Military and is made from Dyneema®, and sometimes Spectra®, and is bolted directly to the door. The window armor is made of laminated polycarbonate (not glass) and the door and glass protection typically adds about 25 pounds to each door.

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

Pro-gard has two new products designed to protect officers, the first being



*One of Pro-gard's newest components is their bolt-on HD Fender Wraps for the 2021+ Tahoe and the 2021+ PI Utility.*

their Retractable Outboard Seat Belt Options for Prisoner Transport Seats, making it safer for officers when securing prisoners for transport. These eliminate the need for an officer to reach across the prisoner to secure them in the vehicle. Currently, they are available for the 2021+ Chevy Tahoe and the 2021+ Ford PI Utility.

Pro-gard's latest advancement in exterior vehicle protection is their bolt-on HD Fender Wraps for the 2021+ Chevy Tahoe and the 2021+ Ford PI Utility. They are available for delivery now and bolt directly to the Pro-gard HD Push Bumpers, if so equipped. They have five inches of pushing surface and protect the widest area of the vehicle's front end.

### Raybestos® (raybestos.com)

Stopping an LE vehicle and avoiding accidents is a constant concern for fleets and, sometimes, OEM equipment is not up to the task, particularly on high mileage units. Raybestos Police disc brake pads and rotors are manufactured specifically to meet the demanding needs of law enforcement professionals. Specific pursuit-rated friction formulations for high temperatures provide fade-resistant operation and stopping power during



*Raybestos® provides brake pads and rotors for both new and late model police vehicle applications.*

## OFFERING LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS A CHOICE!



Restraint Chair



Stops Squad Car Damage!

Nylon Control Strap



DuraGuard Bench



Controls Spitters!

TranZport Hood



Protective Helmets for Headbangers



CALL TO REQUEST A CATALOG TODAY!

**Humane  
Restraint®**

912 Bethel Circle • Waunakee, WI 53597

PHONE: 800-356-7472 • FAX: 608-849-6315

www.humanerestraint.com

high-speed applications. Their zinc-plated backing plates provide corrosion and shear resistance, and improved shim technology offers even greater noise damping. Custom rotor designs with unique vane configurations also cool the brakes in pursuit situations.

## NEWS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED BECAUSE YOUR EV BATTERY WAS DEAD

### Able 2 Products Turns 50

Tucked away in the small southwest Missouri town of Cassville, Able Two Products Company produces lights and sirens under the SHO-ME® brand name.

The company was started by Jerry Watley in 1972 with two employees and two products. Today, they have grown to over 100 employees who manufacture and distribute over 300 different public safety products worldwide.

One of Able 2's best-selling items is their exclusive LED rechargeable cordless light which features two modes – spot or flood. It is fully charged in five hours with a runtime of up to 50 hours and a bulb life of 100,000 hours. Thousands of these emergency lights have been donated to first responders working natural disasters (such as hurricanes and tornados) across the US.

### Safe Fleet Acquires Police Upfitter Kerr Industries

Safe Fleet of Belton, MO, (a Kansas City suburb) announced the acquisition of Kerr

Industries and its subsidiary, Crown North America, who are the leading vehicle upfitters serving the emergency and law enforcement markets in North America. With 1800 employees and upfit locations in Toronto, Dallas, Detroit, and Chicago, the merger with Kerr expands Safe Fleet's operation to 15 manufacturing locations and 13 service centers.

Specializing in upfitting OEM vehicles, Kerr and Crown's business model was based on the fact that new LE vehicles were dropshipped directly to their facilities and customers could order from a variety of their packages directly from their local dealer. The company built out more than 110,000 Crown Victoria police vehicles from 2001 until the end of CVPI production in 2011.

This merger should substantially improve delivery of new police vehicles to departments in dire need of replacement vehicles for aging fleets across the country.

### Has Your Cat Gone Missing?

I've previously reported on the pandemic of catalytic convertor thefts across the country and now the thieves have struck in our own backyard. On September 12, a San Francisco police officer discovered a fully marked SFPD truck had its catalytic convertor stolen by a thief during the night. Further investigation discovered that another marked police truck and two marked police vans also had their cats stolen. The irony was that the four units were parked outside the Special Operations Bureau building which houses the

SWAT Team and Bomb Squad!

The enterprising thief figured, "What the hell, I'm here already, and the cats are cold, so I'll just take them all." Experienced thieves armed with battery operated reciprocal saws can cut a convertor off faster than you and I can zip tie a shoplifter. And, unlike today's stock market, the value is amazing and never goes down, prompting estimated worldwide convertor thefts to increase 1000% in two years. But, we are winning a few battles, just not the war. Consider the following story from Beaverton, OR.

Police stopped a suspect with more than 100 stolen convertors worth about \$80,000. That led police to an accomplice whom detectives alleged was the head of a theft ring which shipped large boxes of catalytic convertors to the East Coast and overseas. Subsequent searches by cops of eight locations discovered 3,000 convertors, hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash, expensive cars and jewelry.

There are now devices available which mechanics can add to ICE vehicles to deter, or at least slow, thieves from cutting cats off. There are numerous YouTube videos online showing techniques to protect this very expensive piece of equipment. Still, the best tips are: 1) of course, park inside whenever possible; 2) engrave your VIN on the convertor; 3) park in well-lit areas; and 4) invest in a good motion detecting alarm. **P&SN**

*Sergeant James Post welcomes your feedback with comments and suggestions. He can be contacted at [kopkars@arkansas.net](mailto:kopkars@arkansas.net).*



## ACTIVE SHOOTER SOLUTION

The Spartan Shield was designed & engineered to meet the need for an "ANYTIME / ANYWHERE" Level III protection.

**Exceeds NIJ Threat Level 3 (High Power Rifle)**



Deployed Size: 19" x 33"  
Folded (stored) Size: 19" x 19"  
Weight: ±16 lb.  
4.4 square ft. of protection  
Exceeds N.I.J. threat level III (High power rifle)



MADE IN U.S.A.

INSTANT ARMOR, INC. - USA    [www.instantarmor.com](http://www.instantarmor.com)    Toll Free: 877-BLT-PRUF    Office: 805.526.3046





## Promoting and Supporting Your Important Cause

This past October marked the annual observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Since 1985, this month has been dedicated to educating the public and promoting the screening and prevention of breast cancer.

**EARBY MARKHAM**

If you mention police charities or fundraising to members of your community, you'll probably hear moans and groans along with stories of telemarketers who persistently call during dinnertime. Some may talk about the abuses of using telemarketing groups as the means to request donations in support of the first responder communities and just how little of the donated money actually makes it to the cause (and how most of it goes to paying the expenses of the telemarketing agencies involved). Add to that the number of investigations and convictions which came out of those situations over the years. At least, that is my recollection as an LEO in the 1980s and 1990s.

But, times have changed. Now, departments are actively involved in raising funds for global public causes, such as breast cancer, autism, and mental health awareness, just to name a few, and it's

through a much different approach than what was used in the past. I started in law enforcement in the 80s and, at that time, being neutral on all issues was the default setting for most departments. Today, partnering with your local community to fundraise for issues of a national or global concern seems much more inclusive and more in alignment with the times. Law enforcement agencies, primarily at the municipal and county levels, are selling specially manufactured items such as badges, patches and challenge coins with special designs or colors which coordinate with the charity being supported. The sales may be departmental only or through departmental personnel and the public. In the case of a potentially problematic item, such as a memorial or awareness badge, the version available for the public should be marked for a "supporter" and not given a police rank in order to decrease the opportunity for misuse/misrepresentation.

To get an idea of how the use of highly visible causes for fundraising is being received, I spoke with the leaders of departments ranging in size from 28 to over 1200 sworn personnel, as well as some of the companies which manufacture the items these departments make available to support their causes. One prevalent sentiment which I found very encouraging is that everyone I spoke to exuded a sense of enthusiasm and pride about the partnerships formed with the community and the sense of accomplishment the donations give.

### Spanish Fort Police Department

My first conversation was with Chief John Barber of the Spanish Fort (AL) Police Department (SFPD). With 28 sworn personnel, Spanish Fort represents one of the fastest growing areas in the state of Alabama and it's an ideal area to obtain a snapshot of some of the fundraising activities in which smaller departments are becoming involved. Chief Barber said SFPD supports several of the awareness campaigns throughout the year such as childhood cancer awareness and No-Shave November. However, the money from No-Shave November is kept by the department and used for hardship cases in the community around the Christmas holiday. The Chief related that the city has been very supportive of the department's fundraising and that it's been regarded as a very positive public relations effort.

### City of Mobile

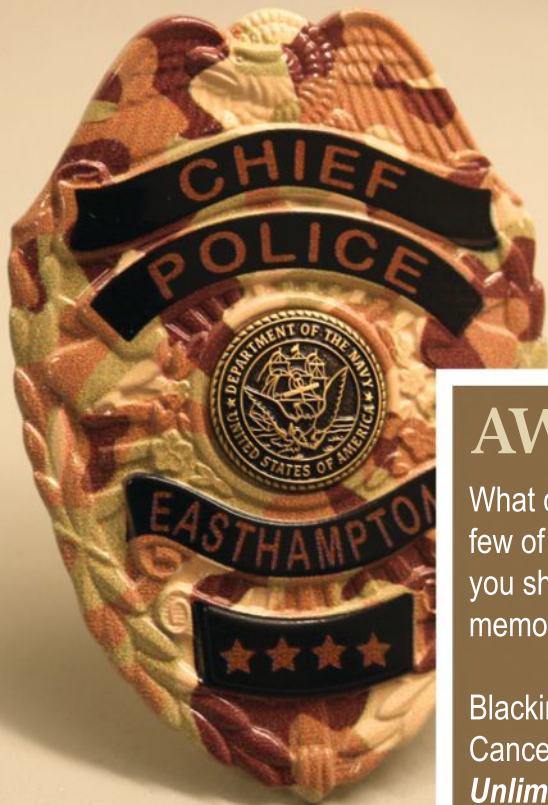
I next spoke with the Public Safety Executive Director for the City of Mobile (AL), Lawrence Battiste. Director Battiste also served as the Chief of Police for Mobile and can speak firsthand about the activities of the department. Director Battiste is a dedicated supporter of fundraising for important causes and noted that, during his tenure as chief, the department worked to support multiple causes through patch and T-shirt sales. Regrettably, the pandemic reduced those efforts; however, they have come back online with sales of their pink breast cancer awareness patch. Earlier this year, they achieved gratifying



*Two examples of fundraising patches from the Lititz Borough (PA) Police Department. All of the proceeds from their pink patch go to the Suzanne H. Arnold Center for Breast Health.*



Blackinton®



## AWARENESS BADGES

What cause is closest to your heart? These are just a few of our many new colored finishes that can help you show support for a cause, cultural celebration, memorial, etc.

Blackinton was the first to manufacture Pink Breast Cancer Awareness Badges, and now the first to offer **Unlimited Coloring™** on your metal badge. **Unlimited Coloring™** without large set up costs. Contact us today!





## PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING YOUR IMPORTANT CAUSE

Continued from page 40

success by selling out of their autism awareness patches. Interestingly, he noted that, when a cause was chosen for support, it often originated as a request from someone associated with the department who had been personally impacted by that cause.

### The Pink Patch Project (PPP)

The Pink Patch Project is a public awareness campaign to bring attention to the fight against breast cancer and to support breast cancer research organizations in combating this devastating disease.

The Project is a collaborative effort between the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs' Association and public safety agencies in Los Angeles County and beyond. These agencies partnered together to combat breast cancer by raising public awareness about the importance of early detection in the fight against the disease and to raise funds for breast cancer research and treatment.

The origins of the PPP began in 2013 with the Seal Beach Police Department in Southern California who wore pink patches on their uniforms during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. In 2015, the Irwindale, CA, Police Department took the idea a step further and sold their patches to the community, raising over \$20,000 for one of the nation's largest cancer centers, the City of Hope.

In 2016, then Chief Anthony Miranda took the idea to the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs' Association and 25 local agencies came onboard. Today, the program has expanded to several hundred partner agencies throughout the world and includes partners from police, sheriff, fire, EMS, and federal departments worldwide.

The program centers on vibrant pink versions of the public safety employees' uniform patch. These bright patches have been specially designed by each participating agency specifically for their PPP participation. Public safety employees at each of the participating agencies wear their pink patches on their regular duty uniforms each year for the entire month of October during "Breast Cancer Awareness Month."

The pink patches are intended to stimulate conversation with the community and to encourage public awareness about the importance of early detection and the on-going fight against this disease.

As of when this article was written, the PPP has sold over 900,000 patches, raising over \$1,655,000 for the cause, with 756 agencies becoming involved. It should be noted that three of the biggest supporters of the Pink Patch Project are The Emblem Authority, Condor Outdoor and the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs' Association.



**V.H. Blackinton has created a process whereby they can apply multiple colors to their lines of metal badges.**

### V.H. Blackinton

Did you ever wonder where pink badges originated? Starting in 2012, V.H. Blackinton & Co. developed a process which allows badges to have a pink finish applied. Specifically, Unlimited Coloring technology enables the folks at Blackinton to incorporate color on a metal badge without disrupting the detail in the metal. Previously, adding color to a metal badge was limited to finishing an entire surface or adding color within the metal walls of a badge. However, with their proprietary technology, unique colors and designs can be added to public safety awareness badges without the need for a new die.

Sharyn Dunn, the Marketing Manager at Blackinton, stated that they did this because of the growing number of agencies they saw every October with pink cars and pink shirts for fundraising, so they decided

to try a pink badge. With that, the Breast Cancer Badge Program came about. Since launching the program in 2012, \$30,000 has been donated to charity.

In addition to Blackinton, I spoke with representatives of some of the other manufacturers to learn what their experiences have been with charity fundraising.

### Smith and Warren

Smith & Warren first partnered with the National Breast Cancer Foundation back in 2016 to help support those affected by breast cancer.

In 2021 alone, S&W donated over \$15,000 to the NBCF and they continue to donate 10% of the proceeds from all of their PINK badge sales to this worthwhile organization to help continue its truly life-saving programs. In total, Smith & Warren has donated over \$75,000 to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. With other efforts, they raised over \$35,000 for the 9/11 Tunnel to Towers Foundation; over \$25,000 for the First Responders Children's Foundation; over \$20,000 for Autism Speaks and thousands more for other charities.

Smith and Warren offers a variety of awareness badges through a custom service called VisualBadge.

Lee Galperin at Smith & Warren badges was a great source of information about what law enforcement has done with charity fundraising through the sale of commemorative badges, challenge coins, etc. It was through Lee Galperin that I met Lt. Roberto Valdes with the Miami, FL, Police Department which is deeply involved in special cause fundraising. They use unique badges as a part of a larger strategy which incorporates public announcements and rollouts of the new fundraising projects. Miami PD's efforts also include specially wrapped vehicles as an extension of their fundraising. This elevates the visibility of their program and enhances their public relations benefits. Lt. Valdes also pointed out that he's had the good fortune to work with others in the department who have been directly affected by the difficulties which these charities strive to support. Doing so has brought a feeling of personal ownership to their charity work. Additionally, these efforts have resulted in some considerable donations: 2020 Autism Speaks, \$7520; 2020 Armed Forces Appreciation, \$3585; 2022 Childhood Cancer Awareness, \$5280 – just to name a few.



**Smith & Warren first partnered with the National Breast Cancer Foundation back in 2016 and they continue to donate 10% of the proceeds from all of their pink badge sales.**

### Sun Badge Company

Ben Dawson with Sun Badge Company is another enthusiastic supporter of the way law enforcement has incorporated special run badges for specific causes into their fundraising efforts. He advised that Sun Badge has many departmental customers who offer different anniversary or in remembrance badges to their officers knowing that a percentage of the purchase price is donated to law enforcement entities such as the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

### SymbolArts

SymbolArts has designed a special Hurricane Ian Awareness Badge in support of the first responders providing on-scene aid to the impacted communities. Half of the proceeds of these unique badges will be donated to the relief fund "Heroes Helping Heroes Rebuild" put forth by the Florida Sheriffs Association. Funds will be



**SymbolArts is offering a Hurricane Ian Awareness Badge in support of first responders. Half of the proceeds will be donated to the relief fund, "Heroes Helping Heroes Rebuild," put forth by the Florida Sheriffs Association.**

by expressing solidarity, as many families have been touched by hardships such as breast cancer and autism.

### Additional Manufacturers...

There are a number of police equipment manufacturers who have also done much to help support and raise awareness of various causes. One popular example is Setina Mfg. who, back in 2015, began providing pink push bumpers and bumper wraps for police cruisers as a means to support the annual Go Pink! campaign.

Another example is Strong Leather Co. who first began providing recessed Pink Badge Holders for attaching your shield to your belt or wearing around your neck (with a custom-made pink chain).

In 2021, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) announced that it would be arresting people using pink handcuffs to raise awareness for breast cancer, according to Sheriff Alex Villanueva.

"Pink badges and pink handcuffs, all meant to grab your attention as we raise awareness and pray for a cure to end Breast Cancer!" Villanueva tweeted, stating that due to the coronavirus pandemic, "many women have put off mammograms and other cancer screenings."

One of the biggest suppliers of pink handcuffs in the US is Peerless Handcuff Company which was founded in Springfield, MA, in 1914.

We all agree that law enforcement has been under attack on many fronts for the last several years. From the BLM/Antifa protests and riots and the renewed calls for defunding the police to the physical, mental and emotional stress which were a part of the pandemic, law enforcement as a whole has suffered greatly in many ways. I believe the programs which support various

used to provide immediate financial support to those officers whose homes and families were displaced due to the hurricane. SymbolArts has stated that they are "grateful for this collaboration and opportunity to support these officers facing great difficulty as they continue to serve their local neighborhoods amid disaster." Preorders are currently being accepted and these badges will begin shipping mid to late December.

When I first spoke with the publisher of *Police and Security News*, I defined what I was trying to describe as "silent activism" since pink or blue badges are almost self-explanatory. Perhaps "silent advocacy" would have been a more accurate description, yet it's much more than that. A common theme which came up in nearly every conversation I had was about humanizing the badge and the officer – and how the unique badges and patches allow citizens to comfortably initiate a conversation with them – either with a question or

charities through local action not only provide funding to these important causes, but doing so can also help bring communities and law enforcement officers together while working to achieve a short-term goal which can create long-term improvements. The end result is that these efforts are not only greatly improving morale within the department, but the charities benefit from the donations; the department benefits with positive public relations; and the community benefits with improved relations with the department through networking. I believe that qualifies as a win/win. **P&SN**

For more information, contact:

1. Chief John Barber – [policechief@cityofsspanishfort.com](mailto:policechief@cityofsspanishfort.com)
2. Executive Director Lawrence Battiste – [battistel@cityofmobile.org](mailto:battistel@cityofmobile.org)
3. Lieutenant Roberto E. Valdes – [7329@miami-police.org](mailto:7329@miami-police.org)
4. Florida Sheriffs Association Information/Donation Page – <https://video.theassociationpartner.com/f5eefqilg>
5. Amy McDaniel, El Segundo Police Department – [info@pinkpatchproject.com](mailto:info@pinkpatchproject.com)
6. V.H. Blackinton & Co. – [blackinton.com](http://blackinton.com)
7. Smith & Warren – [smithwarren.com](http://smithwarren.com)
8. Sun Badge Company – [sunbadgeco.com](http://sunbadgeco.com)
9. SymbolArts – [symbolarts.com](http://symbolarts.com)

Earby Markham began his career in the public sector with the Mobile, AL, Police Department before moving into a series of positions in the private sector managing the security for large facilities in several key sectors of Critical Infrastructure. He wrote for P&SN multiple times in the 1990s and, with this article, officially ends a hiatus of 20+ years.

**50% OF ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO:**  
**HEROES HELPING HEROES REBUILD**



**RELIEF FUND  
BADGE  
PRE-ORDER  
NOW OPEN**



Visit SymbolArts at:  
[www.symbolartsshop.com](http://www.symbolartsshop.com)  
[www.symbolarts.com](http://www.symbolarts.com)  
**CUSTOM BADGES | PATCHES | PINS | & MORE**



**Back in 2015, Setina Mfg. began providing pink push bumpers and bumper wraps for police cruisers as a means to support the annual Go Pink! campaign.**



# NEWS

## New National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Toolkit Available

Published by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), this toolkit helps government agencies promote the new National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Number, 988. SAMHSA recognizes the need for governments, states, territories, tribes, crisis centers, and partners to speak with one voice to ensure that there is a clear understanding about what 988 is and how it will work. They encourage you to use these communication outreach materials and build on them with your community coalitions to meet the needs of your specific audiences.

The 988 Partner Toolkit can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/4xrd8wy5>



## School Climate, Student Discipline, and the Implementation of School Resource Officers

Published by the National Institute of Justice, this report examines the impacts of School Resource Officers (SROs) on outcomes related to school climate and student suspension rates, with a focus on racial differences and the role of school context. This study also examines how SROs perceive their roles and how these roles may be shaped by school contexts.

A copy of the report can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/yucxa3an>



## NIJ Brief: Five Facts About Mass Shootings in K-12 Schools

Published by the National Institute of Justice, this brief discusses evidence for detecting, preventing and responding to school shootings through NIJ-sponsored research. Preventing mass shootings in the United States, particularly those occurring in school settings, is an important priority for families, government leaders and officials, public safety agencies, mental health professionals, educators, and local communities. The brief provides potential solutions for preventing these shootings, as well as additional NIJ reports related to school shootings.

A copy of the brief can be read at <https://tinyurl.com/8x9archx>



## New Training Module on Ghost Guns

The Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) have released a new training module on privately made firearms, commonly known as ghost guns, as part of the National Public Safety Partnership (PSP) Virtual Academy. Working collaboratively, ATF and BJA developed the PSP Virtual Academy Ghost Guns course to provide law enforcement with a readily accessible, on-demand, and no-cost way to gain insight into what constitutes privately made firearms and how they may be manufactured. The course also presents recommendations regarding evidence collection.

For more information on how to access this training module, visit <https://tinyurl.com/3f48c4sj>

## Host an Instructor Development Class

**Provide Your Firearms Instructors with the Tips, Techniques, Leadership Skills, and Teaching Strategies to Successfully Coach and Mentor Their Students**

- Patrol Rifle Instructor Certification
- Handgun Instructor Certification
- Pistol Mounted Optics Instructor
- Building Better Shooters
- Advanced Coaching & Diagnostics

And much more...

### COMBATIVE FIREARMS TRAINING

541-598-8372 or 940-445-1110

Todd@CombativeFirearms.com

Combative Firearms Training is proud to be a member of the following organizations:

# Advertiser Index

Page #	Advertiser	Web Site
8.....	Accu-Shot.....	accu-shot.com
32 .....	Black Hills Ammunition .....	black-hills.com
41 .....	Blackinton .....	blackinton.com
9.....	BlueRidge Armor.....	blueridgearmor.com
Cover 4.....	BulletSafe .....	bulletsafe.com
44 .....	Combative Firearms Training, LLC.....	combativefirearms.com
11 .....	Dragon Skin.....	hi-tec.qc.ca
31 .....	EVIDENT, Inc. ....	shopevident.com
36 .....	Fire Hooks Unlimited, Inc.....	firehooksunlimited.net
35 .....	Gamber-Johnson, LLC.....	gamberjohnson.com
31 .....	Golight, Inc. ....	golight.com
13 .....	Gun Shop, The.....	policeammo.com
38 .....	Humane Restraint Co., Inc. ....	humanerestraint.com
39 .....	Instant Armor, Inc. ....	instantarmor.com
Cover 3.....	Jotto Desk .....	jottopublicsafety.com
33 .....	Leonardo/ELSAG ALPR Systems .....	leonardocompany-us.com
5.....	N-ear, Inc.....	n-ear.com
6.....	Pearce Grip, Inc. ....	pearcegrip.com
30 .....	Printek, LLC.....	printek.com
37 .....	Raybestos.....	raybestos.com
16 .....	Rescue Essentials .....	rescue-essentials.com
18 .....	S.T.A.T. Medical Devices.....	statmedicaldevices.com
3.....	Setina Manufacturing Co., Inc.....	setina.com
15 .....	SHOT Show 2023.....	shotshow.org/psn
19 .....	SIONYX .....	sionyx.com
Cover 2.....	Smith & Warren .....	smithwarren.com/autism
27 .....	SoundOff Signal .....	soundoffsignal.com
21 .....	Springfield Armory.....	springfield-armory.com
36 .....	Stratton Hats.....	strattonhats.com
43 .....	SymbolArts.....	symbolarts.com
28 .....	Tufloc .....	tufloc.com
18 .....	Umarex USA, Inc.....	t4eguns.com
7.....	WaterShed, LLC.....	wearewatershed.com
29 .....	WaterShed, LLC.....	wearewatershed.com
24-25.....	West Coast Armor, LLC.....	westcoastarmor.com
30 .....	Zero Bullet Co., Inc.....	zerobullets.com

## P&SN Police and Security News

Serving Law Enforcement & Homeland Security

**PUBLISHER:** Al Menear

**ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER:** Toni Saturno

**MANAGING EDITOR:** John G. Stephenson

**ART DIRECTOR:** Jeanne Daubner

**GENERAL MANAGER:** Cindie Bonsall

**CIRCULATION MANAGER:** Bill Zadlo

### ADVERTISING:

Al Menear  
Toni Saturno

Performance Publishing, LLC  
145 Main St., Ste. B-1  
Pennsburg, PA 18073-1372

**Phone: (215) 538-1240**

**E-mail:**

**info@policeandsecuritynews.com**

Police and Security News is published bimonthly by Performance Publishing, LLC, 145 Main St., Ste. B-1, Pennsburg, PA 18073-1372.

Published photos and written material are the property of Performance Publishing, LLC and may not be reproduced without permission from the publisher.

Opinions expressed in cartoons and editorial in Police and Security News are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the management or ownership of Performance Publishing, LLC

Standard Rate Postage Paid at Bellmawr, NJ (permit #1239).

POSTMASTER: Please send form #3579 to Performance Publishing, LLC, 145 Main St., Ste. B-1, Pennsburg, PA 18073-1372

All subscriptions and editorial should be directed to: Performance Publishing, LLC, 145 Main St., Ste. B-1, Pennsburg, PA 18073-1372

Performance Publishing, LLC does not assume, and hereby disavows, any liability to any person for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions in the information contained herein, regardless of any cause whatsoever.

Police and Security News is edited to provide accurate and reliable information in relation to the subject matter it covers. Police and Security News is distributed with the understanding that its publisher and employees of Performance Publishing, LLC are not engaged in rendering professional advice in absolute terms. It is strongly recommended that expert assistance be utilized whenever such advice or information is required.



**VERIFIED**  
AUDIT CIRCULATION



# BUSTED!

JAMES L. MCCLINTON, PH.D.

**Man arrested for fishing without a license...** A 27-year-old man from Snohomish County, Washington, has been enjoying a lot of fishing lately – but he was not casting with a traditional rod and reel. Instead, he had been using a rodent glue trap attached to a fishing line to take money out of night deposit boxes around the area. “This particular method is pretty unique; we haven’t seen that one before,” said the chief of the Stanwood Police Department. “He was only successful a few of the times out of the many times he tried at area banks,” said the chief. He faces 13 counts of burglary in the second degree. (*His glue trap managed to catch one large rat – himself.*)

**Don’t make me come back there!...** A Southwest Airlines pilot told passengers that their “vacation is going to be ruined” if they don’t stop AirDropping nude images on the plane. Piloting a plane to Cabo San Lucas, he made it clear that he would turn the plane around. “So, here’s the deal,” the pilot said over the intercom. “If this continues while we’re on the ground, I’m going to have to pull back to the gate, everybody’s going to have to get off, we’re going to have to get security involved, and [your] vacation is going to be ruined...whatever that AirDrop thing is – quit sending naked pictures, let’s get yourself to Cabo,” he continued. The incident reportedly happened when a passenger received the explicit image and complained to a flight attendant. Cyberflashing is already considered a misdemeanor in Texas. (*The pilot sounds like every dad about to go on a trip where there will be no stops for peeing or snacks.*)

**Easiest annulment ever!...** A Florida couple’s honeymoon was cut short this summer after the 34-year-old husband allegedly left his new wife to solicit a prostitute. The man was among the 176 people arrested following a months-long operation in Hillsborough County. While on his honeymoon, on the same day he was married, he responded to an ad from an undercover detective posing as a prostitute. He then left his wife at their hotel and went to the undercover location where he was arrested. The investigation focused on men soliciting adult prostitutes and also those

## REAL STORIES OF GENUINE ABSURDITY



## He needs to rethink his mass marketing strategy...

An 18-year-old suspected drug dealer in Florida was arrested after asking a county commissioner if he wanted to buy cocaine in a “random text message.” The Flagler County Commissioner alerted the sheriff’s office that he received a text from someone offering to sell him an “eight ball” of cocaine. Detectives took screenshots of the text conversation between him and the suspect, then traced his number. The Commissioner kept in touch with the accused and arranged an in-person meeting. The man was arrested without incident after walking up to the undercover detective’s vehicle to make the sale. He was also found in possession of a bag filled with 3.17 grams of fentanyl. (*The suspect also said that he doesn’t use cocaine, he just likes the way it smells.*)

looking for sex with underage victims. (*Men are like parking spaces – the good ones are taken and the rest are handicapped.*)

**“We’re not going to put up with any more of your monkey business!”...** The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff’s Office recently responded to abuse of 911. It turned out that someone at a zoo called police after they found the zoo’s cellphone and dialed 911. And, when dispatchers attempted to call the number back, nobody picked up. Deputies were dispatched to the cellphone’s location to determine if assistance was required and discovered that it was a local zoo near Paso Robles. But, nobody there had made the call. “Was someone trying to make us look like a monkey’s uncle?” the sheriff’s office wrote on social media. It was then determined that the zoo’s Capuchin monkey named Route was the likely caller. It had apparently picked up the cellphone in the zoo’s golf cart which is used to travel around the 40 acre site. “Route is a little embarrassed by the whole thing,” it added. “But, you can’t really blame her, after all, monkey see, monkey do,” (*Next up – Uber Eats.*)

**The thief had been hiding stolen watches on his belt, but that proved to be a waist of time...** A thief robbed two Swiss tourists of a “luxury” watch at

gunpoint while they were vacationing in Naples, Italy, but then returned the stolen watch seven minutes later. But, their actions weren’t driven by remorse – they simply realized that the watch was a fake. The entire incident was captured on camera. Video footage shows another man returning the watch, offering an apology, saying “sorry, sorry” in hopes that it wouldn’t be reported. They apparently realized it wasn’t an authentic Swiss-made Richard Mille and wanted to avoid trouble. If authentic, the watch would have been worth around \$300,000. (*Wait...what? A Swiss tourist wearing a fake Swiss watch? Isn’t that just a little unpatriotic?*)

**That’s unbearable...** Police in Manchester, England, identified a suspect in a car theft. After receiving a tip that an 18-year-old male was at a certain address, officers went there to search for him. There was no sign of the suspect until officers heard breathing – coming from an oversized teddy bear sitting on the floor. The man was hiding in the stuffed animal. Officers “could ‘bear-ly’ believe what they stumbled across,” the department said. The suspect is “now stuffed behind bars after being sentenced last week for theft of a motor vehicle.” He was sentenced to 32 weeks in prison plus banned from driving for 27 months. (*32 weeks? Is that the “bear minimum”?*) **P&SN**

# NOT EVERY OFFICER IS BUILT THE SAME



**JOTTO DESK®**  
VEHICLE MOUNTING SOLUTIONS

## DOES YOUR CONSOLE MEASURE UP? DUTY GEAR SAVER CONTOUR CONSOLE

The DGS Line of Contour Consoles has been designed to provide additional hip/duty gear room for those needed the extra space. DGS stands for Duty Gear Saver and this line of consoles will make more room, will prevent damage to holsters and provide a console solution that will have your law enforcement personnel smiling.

[JOTTOPUBLICSAFETY.COM](http://JOTTOPUBLICSAFETY.COM)



Chevy Tahoe (2021+)  
DGS Contour Console  
425-6687



Ford PI Utility (2020+)  
DGS Contour Console  
425-6703



Dodge Charger (2021+)  
DGS Contour Console  
425-6705



Dodge Durango  
DGS Contour Console  
425-6706





# BulletSafe™

## VP3 BulletProof Vest



### III A Bullet Protection

Certified protection against multiple handgun rounds up to .44 Magnum



### Stab/Slash Protection

Protects against most stabs and slashes from edged blades



### Concealable Soft Armor

Lightweight soft armor with cooling liner contours to shape



### 8 Point Adjustments

Modular elastic Velcro® strips attach the front and back plates



### Upgradeable Plate Pockets

Patented pockets allow plates to be added to the front and back for added protection



**\$299<sup>97</sup>**

Includes:  
- Front and Back Carrier  
- 2 BulletProof Panels  
- 2 Shoulder Straps  
- 2 Sides Straps



[www.bulletsafe.com](http://www.bulletsafe.com)  
Contact Sales: 817.225.6978  
[sales@bulletsafe.com](mailto:sales@bulletsafe.com)

