

P&SN

**Police
and
Security
News**

Serving Law Enforcement & Homeland Security

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023
VOLUME 39 ISSUE 6



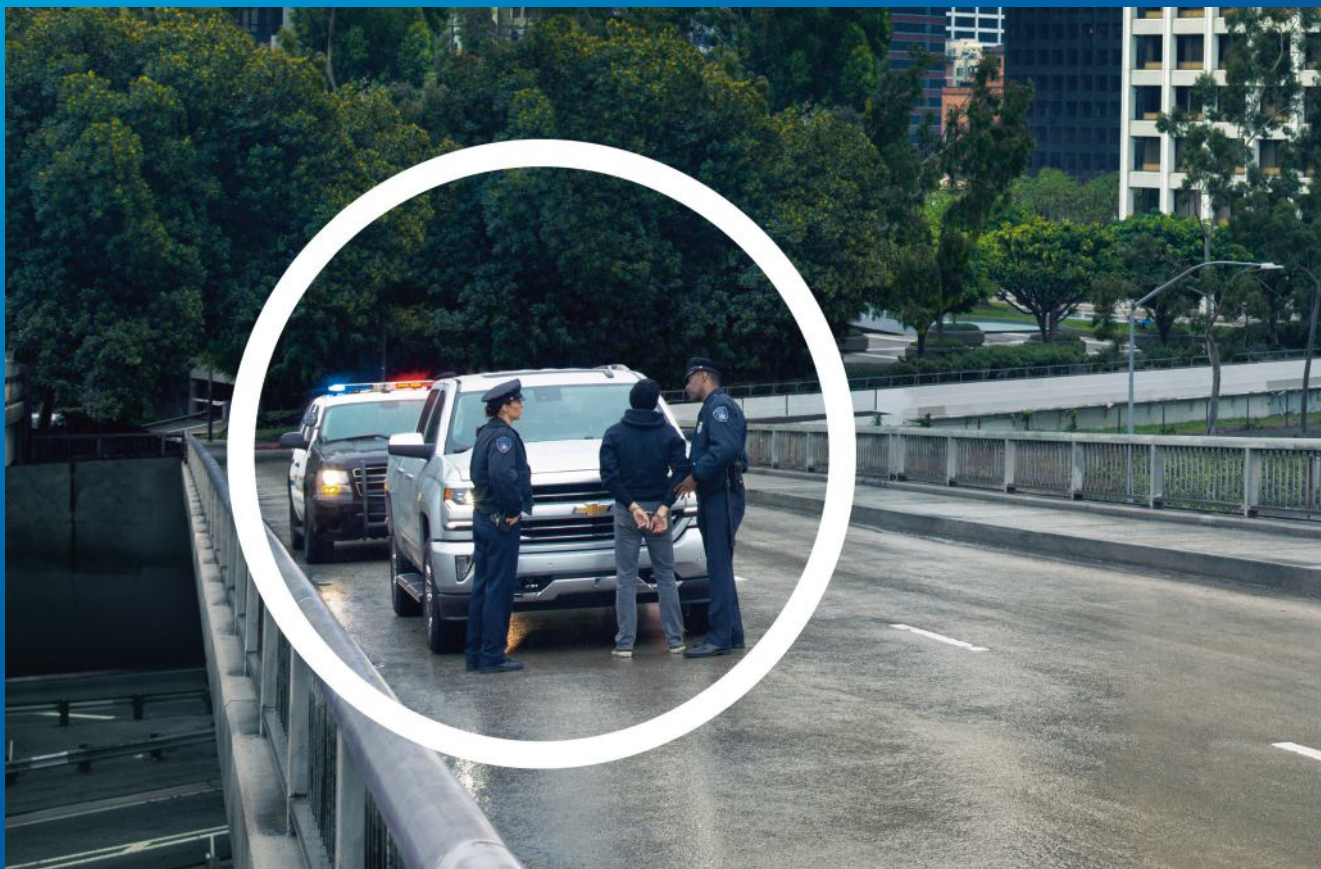
**BEATING BACK FATHER TIME:
FIREARMS TIPS FOR
SEASONED OFFICERS**

**THE FUTURE OF
BALLISTIC PROTECTION**



**HOW TO EVALUATE YOUR
AGENCY'S TRAINING RESULTS**

**HOW TO MERGE VIRTUAL
AND PHYSICAL TRAINING**



OnStar can help you recover stolen vehicles quicker and safer.

With Stolen Vehicle Assistance, OnStar® can use GPS technology and aerial imagery to help law enforcement pinpoint the location of a stolen vehicle and provide the speed and direction of travel. We can also remotely block the ignition to prevent the vehicle from being restarted and slow it down for a quicker and safer recovery.

[LEARN MORE AT ONSTAR.COM/PUBLICSAFETY](https://onstar.com/publicsafety)



Requires paid plan, working electrical system, cell reception, GPS signal, armed GM factory-installed theft-deterrent system, contact method on file and enrollment to receive alerts. Additional messaging and data rates may apply. Services are intended to assist with vehicle recovery and do not prevent theft or protect against damage or loss. See onstar.com for details and limitations. The marks of General Motors, its divisions, slogans, emblems, vehicle model names, vehicle body designs and other marks appearing in this advertisement are the trademarks and/or service marks of General Motors, its subsidiaries, affiliates or licensors. ©2023 General Motors. ©2023 OnStar LLC. All rights reserved.

Dyneema® Unveils Breakthrough Innovation to Enable Weight Savings of Up to 20% in Protective Body Armor

Dyneema (owned by Avient Corporation) has announced the launch of a next generation UniDirectional (UD) material innovation based on its third-generation fiber, Dyneema SB301, a development poised to enhance the safety and mobility of law enforcement officers.

As the only backwards integrated UltraHigh Molecular Weight PolyEthylene (UHMWPE) manufacturer, Dyneema was able to innovate its third-generation fiber at the molecular level. This development has enabled a higher tenacity fiber which is then cross-plied in 0 and 90 degree sheets to make UD material – allowing for increased energy dissipation and distribution and results in increased ballistic stopping power. The first application for the next generation material is soft armor vests. The upgrade in performance enables body armor manufacturers to design protective solutions which are 10-20% lighter than previous technologies.

Both the fiber and UD laminates have been engineered for peak performance which translates into a 15% increase in V50 performance for protection against 9mm ammunition and an eight percent increase in V50 performance for protection against .44 Magnum ammunition, for example.

Additionally, this material provides up to a 20% weight reduction for NIJ Level IIIA vests made with Dyneema SB301.

“In every situation, weight is now considered to be the top priority after ballistic stopping power,” said Marcelo van de Kamp, Global Business Director for Personal Protection for Dyneema at Avient. “That’s because survivability is directly tied to weight savings when speed and agility determine outcomes. We’ve long been known as the ‘world’s strongest fiber,’ but that won’t stop us from finding new opportunities to get stronger. This new product is the latest demonstration of our commitment to both innovation and protection.”

Dyneema SB301 surpasses the performance of Dyneema Force Multiplier Technology which itself marked an important step forward in ballistic performance.

“We understand the pivotal role weight plays in mission success for law enforcement and military personnel. We’re proud to offer a next generation UD material which enables body armor manufacturers to design soft armor vests which are up to 20% lighter than previous solutions, all while maintaining the highest levels of ballistic protection.”

Beyond strength, Dyneema SB301 has the additional advantage of being made from bio-based Dyneema fiber which enables a carbon footprint up to 90% lower than generic High Modulus PolyEthylene (HMPE) fiber.

Now available for use in law enforcement vests for the US market, Dyneema SB301 material is manufactured in Greenville, North Carolina, in compliance with the Berry Amendment. Future innovations are anticipated beyond using this third-generation fiber, including hard ballistic product grades suitable for military vests, insert panels, ballistic helmets, and vehicle armor, and will be available for customer use and product development in early 2024.

When can law enforcement personnel expect access to this new technology? The availability for end users hinges on advancements by body armor manufacturers and NIJ testing, making it impossible to provide a precise date. Nonetheless, it is anticipated to be within the range of 12 to 18 months.

For more information, visit dyneema.com



Dyneema® has recently announced a breakthrough innovation, Dyneema SB301, which enables a weight savings of up to 20% in protective body armor.



Recruiting Women into Policing: Testing the Effectiveness of Recruiting Materials

With women only comprising 12 percent of officers in the field, and just three percent of leadership roles, law enforcement agencies are struggling to meet recruitment goals in terms of diversity and community representation.

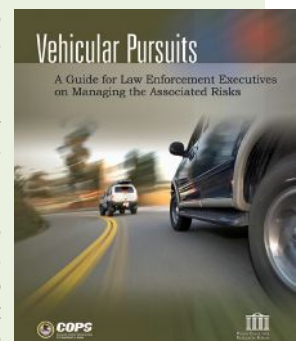
Research shows women officers engage more frequently in de-escalation; are effective in responding to crimes involving violence against women; and foster the cooperation and trust required to implement community policing.

To address the need for more women in policing, NIJ funded researchers explored if women-focused recruiting strategies could improve engagement, perceptions and motivation to apply to law enforcement jobs.

A copy of the findings can be read at <https://tinyurl.com/3hnte2rr>

Vehicular Pursuits – A Guide for Law Enforcement Executives on Managing Associated Risks

Published by the Office of Community-Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHTSA), in collaboration with the Police Executive Research Forum, this publication aims to help law enforcement agencies manage the



risks of conducting and not conducting vehicular pursuits. The guide uses findings from NHTSA research and other credible institutions on crashes and collisions involving police pursuits, as well as focusing group discussions and review of 48 agencies' policies to provide safety information and model policies to encourage the development of safer vehicular pursuits. It includes 65 recommendations which agencies of all sizes and circumstances can consider to develop or refine their vehicular pursuit policies.

A copy of the publication can be downloaded at <https://tinyurl.com/j35cmm93>

P&SN Police and Security News

Serving Law Enforcement & Homeland Security

CONTENTS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023
Volume 39 • Issue 6
policeandsecuritynews.com



COLUMNS

- ...and nothing but the truth 6
The “perfect murder” is an imperfect idea.
- Focus on Technology 10
Body Armor & Ballistic Protection
- The Wheels of Justice 12
Transportation 2024
- Product Highlight..... 26
Tactical EMS/First Aid Equipment
- Busted! 46
Real Stories of Genuine Absurdity

FOCUS: Law Enforcement Training

38 How to Evaluate Your Law Enforcement Training Plan

Eugene Nielsen

As a law enforcement agency or trainer, you want to ensure that your officers are well trained and prepared to face the challenges and risks of their job. You also want to make sure that your training plan is effective, efficient and aligned with your goals and objectives.

40 Why Your Agency Should Combine Virtual and Physical Training

Ron LaPedis

Research conducted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) has revealed that training specifically for de-escalation has resulted in a nearly 30% reduction in use-of-force incidents; an approximate 30% reduction in injuries to community members; and a 40% reduction in law enforcement officer injuries.

FEATURES

28 Beware the Land Mines: 2023 IACP ECW Model Policy

John G. Peters, Jr., Ph.D.

Forewarned is forearmed!

32 Beating Back Father Time: Firearms Tips for Seasoned Officers

Mike Boyle

I have often said that, if I wake up in the morning and only one thing hurts, I’m on my way to a good day.

>>> SPECIAL REPORT <<<

12 Transportation 2024

Sgt. James G. Post

P&SN presents its 26th annual report on the latest technical advances in police vehicles, components and aftermarket equipment.



ON THE COVER

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

Background image courtesy of Setina Mfg; additional images courtesy of GM/Chevrolet, Stellantis/Dodge and Ford Motor Company.



PATENTED
VENGEANCE™ VIEWPORT
AND BEZEL SYSTEM

ERGONOMIC
BALANCED DESIGN

HIGH PERFORMANCE
BALLISTIC COMPOSITE

MULTIPLE LIGHT OPTIONS

NEW

VENGEANCE™ XLR

XTRA LITE RIFLE HARD ARMOR BALLISTIC SHIELD NIJ 0108.01 III & SPECIAL THREAT TESTED

Model shown: XLR 20x36 with Elzetta Horizontal Integrated Rifle Light

info@blueridgearmor.com

844-556-6855

blueridgearmor.com



Scan to browse
VENGEANCE
Ballistic Shields

VENGEANCE

MADE IN AMERICA

...AND
NOTHING BUT
THE TRUTH

The “perfect murder” is an imperfect idea.

RAMESH NYBERG



The notion that one can “get away” with a major crime – murder is the favorite example – is disappearing with every day that the world of forensic analysis gets better. The downfall of most criminals usually falls within a couple of parameters. Either the offender is arrogant and narcissistic to the point that he/she brags about his/her crime to other people, or he/she simply believes that he/she has done such a great job of destroying evidence that he/she will not be caught.

Back in the 1800s, this guy named Locard (you’ve heard of him, you just don’t remember) came up with a simple principle: Human beings who move from one environment to another always take something with them – and leave something behind. This means that my dog’s hairs are likely clinging to my shoes, socks and pants (he sheds a lot, but he’s worth it) when I leave for work. Those hairs are sure to be found in my car and at my workplace. They might even show up at the post office if I have occasion to stop there on the way home. Indeed, a fiber from the living room carpet of one of my students – deposited there when he/she came to my classroom – might be carried from the classroom on the sole of my shoe to that post office or be found on the driver’s side floor of my car.

Locard and others have asserted that there is no such thing as a crime with no evidence; there are only investigators who don’t find it. Think of where we have come from Locard, who lived in the same era when another Frenchman discovered the uniqueness of fingerprints and their value in criminal investigations (what is it with these Frenchmen?). We have made exponential advances in forensic investigation. We’ve taken the work of Locard and other early pioneers and created separate fields of study, disciplines so focused and exacting that there are specialists we can call on to examine leaves, maggot pupae, fibers, or wood samples to help us determine crucial things like time of death or the strength of a suspect’s alibi.

In 1994, a construction crew in Germany uncovered the skeletal remains of 32 victims in a mass grave. Who were these people and how did they die? Historical research showed two different occasions in which 32 victims were killed at the same time. One occurred in the spring of 1945 and the other in June of 1953. Someone familiar with forensic botany had the idea to swab the nasal passages of the skulls. Lo and behold, they found pollen from two different flowering trees. Forensic botanists who identified the pollen told investigators that

these two trees flower and release pollen only in the summer months and that determined that the victims were Soviet soldiers killed by Russian secret police for refusing to break up an anticommunist revolt.

Who knew that pollen could last over four decades and still yield useful results? The experts, that’s who. Investigation sometimes takes someone to say, “Hey, let’s try *this*” to make a breakthrough discovery. As much as science plays a part, you need dedicated and often imaginative people in the mix to ask the “why not?” questions.

In 1986, investigators in the UK asked that very question to Dr. Alec Jeffreys. Dr. Jeffreys, a geneticist who studied DNA, had somewhat accidentally noticed in 1984 how DNA tests could be translated into unique “fingerprints” and actually show familial relationships with great accuracy. The investigators were working two murders of 15-year-old girls, both found raped and strangled on their way home from school. Do you think, they asked, we could use such technology to compare semen samples from our crime scenes to suspect DNA? It should work, Jeffreys told them, and it did.

The first time the Miami-Dade Police Department started to use this breakthrough technology was around 1987.

60 YEARS OF INNOVATION

YOU CAN'T REHEARSE IT



UNEQUALED PERFORMANCE & SEAMLESS DESIGNS

INSPIRED BY OUR COMMITMENT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.



www.setina.com



Rear Cargo Storage



Partitions & Seating



Firearm Mounts

DIFFERENT



RIFLES



SAME



SUPPORT

Create consistency with
ATLAS BIPODS



WE ARE SUPPORT®
CAGE CODE 3L7F2



316.721.3222
accu-shot.com

...AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

Continued from page 6

At that time, you needed a drop of blood at least the size of a dime in order to do a comparison. We didn't have our own DNA lab then, so we had to send it to a lab in upstate New York. With the backlog of cases being submitted from all over the country, we were lucky to get results back in a month. Now, of course, all we need is a single skin cell to get a DNA profile and the labs can tell us sex, sometimes even hair color and other genetic information. Today, investigators on a murder scene can call on the expertise of forensic archaeologists, botanists, entomologists, soil experts, and any other scientific discipline you can name to help them with information.

Investigators, I tell my students, don't need to be forensics experts; they just need to be *resourceful*. Teaching them all about forensics is fun and cool, but teaching them how to find information themselves is another realm altogether. I blew their teenage minds the other day when I showed them what can be found by doing Clerk of the Court searches on property records, local civil and criminal cases, and business relationships through the state's division of corpora-

tions.

"This is creepy," one of them said.

"Isn't this...stalking?" another one asked.

You guys, I told them, post pictures and videos of yourselves all over social media and you're worried about your house showing up on public property records? That is remarkable.

The wonder of all this is our ability to step back and see 2023 as a pivotal moment in the advance of technology. These teenagers have something at their fingertips that no other generation has ever been able to use so robustly: Artificial Intelligence (AI). The property records, company filings, Florida State Prison mugshots, and jail bookings which they found so cool and creepy are all ground zero when it comes to free resources. The doors have been thrown open with AI and everything we've been used to doing to gather sources and data has just roared off the launch pad into areas we cannot yet fathom.

Is it "creepy"? I think we're past that. Is it cool? Sometimes. Is it here to stay? I submit that it has been since 1968, when Stanley Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey* told us of the potential of AI, with a supercomputer which disobeyed the astronauts and took over a space mission (now *that* was creepy).

Today's students – that is, tomorrow's investigators, teachers and lawyers – will look back on today's information technology the way we look back at how we investigated before DNA and Google Maps. We are watching the dime-sized drop of blood shrink to a single skin cell in the blink of an eye. In the process, we are hopefully learning that, like a physical environment, everywhere we "go" in the cyberworld leaves something of us behind. There is no such thing anymore as information which can't be located; there are only people who haven't learned how to find it.

Locard would be proud. **P&SN**

Ramesh Nyberg retired from law enforcement in November 2006 after 27 years of 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. Also, Ram has written a book, *The Ten Must-Haves to Be a Great Detective*, which is available on Amazon in both paperback and Kindle eBook. You can find it by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/hwc2xajm>



**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



WaterShed®

PREMIUM QUALITY RAINWEAR

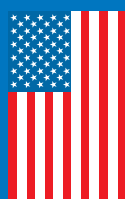
BUILT TO SPEC



**Stormforce™
Sierra**

WeAreWaterShed.com

800-848-8092



**MADE IN
USA**
SALEM, OREGON



Orders@gowatershed.com

FOCUS ON TECHNOLOGY

EXTERNAL PATROL VEST



The **XTERNAL PATROL VEST (XPV)**, from PROJECT7, utilizes a four piece platform and cummerbund design which mitigates the risk of coverage gaps due to misaligned panels, small weight fluctuations or ill-fitting vests. This design provides greater ballistic coverage without compromising flexibility or movement. The **XPV** is available in several front designs including a uniform look, as well as a lower profile tactical look.

Key features of the **XPV** include a textured shoulder design which provides a soft, natural and high friction shooting platform unencumbered by buckles, straps, external pads, or overlapping armor. It also features a Three-Piece Cummerbund (3PC) design for operator specific sizing; ideal weight bearing with broad adjustability; and rotational flexibility for unrestrained movement.

project7armor.com



PROJECT7 Level III Ballistic Shield

PROJECT7 has announced the availability of its new **Level III Ballistic Shield** (NIJ Standard 0108.01) manufactured from a polyethylene composite with a lightweight, chemical-resistant properties, outer wrap. This new shield measures 18" W x 30" H, with an included triangular shaped polycarbonate composite viewport which measures 7" W x 5" H. The standard weight version is only 24 pounds and a lightweight version of this new shield is only 20 pounds. It also features an ambidextrous carrying handle, as well as an optional FoxFury Light System.

project7armor.com

BODY ARMOR & BALLISTIC PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

New Advanced Multi-threat Riot Armor System

Adept Armor has recently introduced the **NovaSteel Breastplate**, an advanced multi-threat riot armor system. Unlike standard riot armor, Adept Armor's **NovaSteel Breastplate** offers protection against a range of threats: It stops handgun threats up to Level IIIA; resists knives, spikes, and blunt impacts exceptionally well; and it defends against rifle threats up to Level RF2 (III+) with an integral up-armor plate.

The system is not only a riot armor torso and shoulder protector, but a drop-in replacement for existing riot armor torso-shoulder parts with vastly improved ballistic and ergonomic properties. In itself, it's the thinnest Level IIIA armor ever produced (less than 0.1" thick).

What sets **NovaSteel** apart is its adaptability. It functions as both riot armor and plate carrier. By adding UHMWPE plates, it upgrades to Level RF2 (NIJ III+), weighing just 13 pounds. Easy to up-armor on the spot, it offers superior multi-threat protection compared to standard plate carriers.

Additionally, **NovaSteel** is MOLLE compatible for overt use and it features ventilation channels, a spine crest and padded shoulders for comfort. Crafted from Adept Armor's **NovaSteel** alloy, it weighs 9.8 pounds in XL/L and nine pounds in medium.

adeptpt



New Hard Armor Shields from BlueRidge



BlueRidge Armor recently released the next generation **VENGEANCE™ XLR (Xtra Lite Rifle) Series** hard armor ballistic shields. The **XLR Series** includes the incredibly light GDS-AR (Guardian Defense Shield-Active Response), which weighs only 6.9 pounds, all the way up to the full coverage tactical entry **VENGEANCE XLR 20" x 36"** weapon mount and ported shield platform. The **XLR Series** has been independently tested at NTS Chesapeake laboratory against a host of standard and Special Threat rifle ammunition including the 7.62x39 Chinese and Russian Mild Steel Core, 5.56 Federal Tactical Bonded and 5.56 M193. The **XLR** makes use of the patented **VENGEANCE Series** viewport and proprietary bezel system which provides unmatched rifle-rated ballistic protection around the face, neck and upper torso. The **XLR** series offers a standard ultralight carbon fiber grip handle with optional FoxFury B30, B50 or B52 auxiliary lighting. If an agency or end user wishes to have a combined handle and light, they have the option to specify a rifle-rated Elzetta horizontal grip with 1000 lumen LED lighting.

blueridgearmor.com

New GC Patrol Shield®

The **GC Patrol Shield**, from Graphene Composites, is a unique ballistic shield using graphene and other advanced materials which offers high levels of ballistic and stab protection at half the weight of similar products. The **GC Patrol Shield** exceeds the NIJ 0108.01 Level III Standard at only 20 pounds and measures 35" H x 20" W x 1" D. The shield has the ability to stop multiple rounds, including edge shots against rifle rounds and special threats, with limited backface deformation due to its effective force dispersion. The shield's weight and ergonomic handle system allow for maximum mobility and includes four corner D-rings for its integrated, detachable sling system. **GC Patrol Shields** can also be combined instantly to create a shield wall or barricade with a force multiplier effect. Its flat design enables easy storage in the trunk or backseat of any patrol vehicle.



gc-shield.com



New Neckline Protector from Hardwire®, LLC

Hardwire offers a new edition to its soft body armor line-up – the **Hardwire Ballistic Burrito**, an adhesive neckline protector which quickly and easily attaches to any soft armor panel. It offers advanced protection for high obliquity shots to mitigate skipping of the projectile. It has been independently tested and catches the bullet at high obliquity angles. This new protector measures 10.25" x 7" x 0.125" and weighs only 2.1 ounces. It can be applied to any soft armor panel neckline within minutes and is effective in both concealable and tactical (outer) carrier configurations.

hardwirellc.com

New EPIC™ Ballistic Helmet Range

Team Wendy® has launched their **EPIC ballistic helmet line**, comprising three models designed for first responders. These helmets feature lightweight, high-performance materials with Team Wendy liner systems for top-notch comfort. Each model offers multiple shell cuts for versatility.



EPIC™ RESPONDER



EPIC™ PROTECTOR



EPIC™ SPECIALIST

The **Responder** helmet comes equipped with Team Wendy's eight pad Zorbium® liner system, an upgraded H-back retention system, and a front cover plate for face shield alignment and stability.

The **Protector** helmet includes a front cover

plate, Team Wendy's reverse dovetail side accessory rails, EPIC Air® Fit Liner System, and CAM FIT™ Dial Retention System without thru-holes.

The **Specialist** helmet comes with a durable aluminum NVG shroud, reverse dovetail rails, VELCRO® loop patches, EPIC Air Fit Liner System, CAM FIT Dial Retention System, and a Shock Cord Kit.

teamwendy.com

TacMed Solutions™ OPSEC Carrier

TacMed Solutions offers carrier designs like the **OPSEC** by RTS Tactical, designed for quick donning and doffing of active shooter/patrol rifle response capabilities. This carrier boasts features such as a 360 degree laser cut Molle platform; interchangeable load-out flaps; a quick-release system; a 32 inch rescue strap; and compatibility with Level IIIA soft armor panels in the cummerbund. The carrier panels also feature premium spacer mesh for comfort and ventilation during extended missions. When paired with two DKX M3 rifle plates, the **OPSEC** offers impressive protection with a combined weight of just nine pounds, making it an excellent choice for law enforcement operations.



tacmedsolutions.com



Bonowi™ FlexShield Ballistic Shield

The **FlexShield** is a ballistic backup protection system which comes in a foldable compact package. The shield can be instantly deployed – an internal Airframe™ bladder is integrated into the design for additional rigidity. Using a CO₂ cartridge, the **FlexShield** inflates in under two seconds.

Worn like a protective shield, it provides near complete body shielding from chin and arms to the groin and stays fully flexible, even when inflated. The **FlexShield** measures 25" x 25" and can be stowed in a compact carry bag.

When inflated, **FlexShield** also fits between a car door and the seat, or VELCRO® attachments (included) can be utilized to fasten it over windows and vulnerable areas. The **FlexShield** is rated at NIJ Level IIIA and comes with NIJ Level III ballistic hard plates to upgrade to a higher level of protection.

stopstick.com

New Shield from Instant Armor

Instant Armor has introduced the new **SpartanAR™** shield. Designed specifically to defeat .223 cal and 5.56 cal rounds, the two most common rounds fired by AR-15-style weapons, the **SpartanAR** uses the highest performing fabrics available to defeat this "special threat" at the lowest possible weight. The **SpartanAR** folds for storage and uses all of the attachment devices common to the Tactical Blanket Systems™. It weighs 14 pounds and measures 19" x 34" (deployed size) and just 19" x 19" when storing it.



instantarmor.com



New Level III Lightweight Hard Armor Plate

Marrero Armor has recently introduced its new **composite stand-alone hard armor plate** which offers NIJ Level III protection and stands out as one of the lightest options available at this protective level (compliant with NIJ Standard 0101.06).

These brand-new **hard armor plates** come in dimensions of 10" x 12" and weigh a mere 2.2 pounds, with a slim profile of just 0.8 inches.

Key features encompass exceptional lightness, thinness, strength, multi-shot capability, and comprehensive edge-to-edge protection.

marreroarmor.com

New Lightweight Rapid Deployment Ballistic Shield



The United Shield International **Rapid Deployment Shield (RDS)** has been designed as a lightweight, highly maneuverable shield which can easily be stowed in a vehicle for quick deployment. The **RDS** incorporates the newest ballistic technology to achieve its low weight, along with a handle system which has been ergonomically developed for increased comfort and flexibility. The LW RDS shield provides a multi-hit capability to meet the NIJ 0108.01 testing standards.

The **Rapid Deployment Shield** measures 15.75" x 27.5" with a weight of only 4.8 pounds for Level IIIA protection and only 11.45 pounds for Level III+ protection. The **RDS** includes options such as Police Decal, Carry Bag and LED Lighting.

unitedshield.com

THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE



TRANSPORTATION 2024

SERGEANT JAMES POST

P&SN presents its 26th annual report on the latest technical advances in police vehicles, components and aftermarket equipment.

Welcome to the *P&SN* Annual Transportation Issue in which you'll find the latest police vehicle and equipment news, *PLUS* the results of the Michigan State Police (MSP) yearly pursuit vehicle evaluations.

Introduction

Today, we find ourselves in a unique place in time for American law enforcement: critical officer shortages everywhere with few or no applicants; new police vehicle and parts shortages; a dismal economy handcuffed to a shocking crime wave; millions of illegals crossing our Southern border, seemingly unabated; illegal drugs creating a coast-to-coast tsunami of overdoses and deaths; and, now, the Israeli War which will further deplete department resources as

personnel are assigned to crowd control and synagogue/mosque protection across America. Despite all of this, our Thin Blue Line continues to hold fast to protect what sanity, safety, civility, and dignity remain in our country.

It was within this environment that the MSP soldiered on to provide you with their annual evaluation of pursuit vehicles, the results of which follow.

First, it should be noted there were NO police motorcycle evaluations this year for a couple of reasons. First of all, the MSP disbanded their Motorcycle Unit in January of this year, due primarily to a number of their motorcycle troopers being killed in traffic accidents in recent years.

In addition, in September, BMW of North America issued a "stop sale" order of ALL motorcycles at BMW dealerships. The reason given was not safety-related, but emissions-related, while the company evaluates the material used in a component of their evaporation system. There has not been a recall and new and used bikes can still be purchased, just not from a BMW dealer.

Vehicles Provided and Tested

Every year, automakers are invited to provide vehicles for testing. These are not limited to America's Big Three and other companies desiring to earn the coveted "Pursuit Vehicle" rating can submit vehicles



Conspicuously missing this year at the MSP tests were Charger pursuit vehicles.

(EV or ICE) which meet basic standards established by the MSP.

For the 2023 tests, Chevrolet, Dodge® and Ford® provided vehicles and, due to the issues which have continued to plague manufacturers since COVID (parts deliveries and shortages), several of the units tested are considered carryover units from the prior year, with minor changes and upgrades.

A total of 12 vehicles were submitted for the 2023 tests: seven SUV bodied, three pickup styles, and two electrics. Following first are the gas-powered (ICE) units.

Chevrolet provided two Tahoes (both with their 5.3L V-8), one in RWD and one in 4WD, while two 4WD Silverado trucks were also provided – a Z7X and a Z71.

Dodge brought two AWD Durangos, one with their 5.7L HEMI® V-8 and one 3.6L V-6. *Conspicuously absent were the Charger*



The MSP has been conducting new police motorcycle testing every year since 2004. Disappointingly, these tests are no longer being conducted.



SINGLE SKU POLICE CAR

2020+ Ford Police Interceptor® Utility

BUNDLE INCLUDES:

CONSOLE BOX
WINDOW BARS
CARGO PARTITION
PASSENGER PARTITION
TRUNK TRAY
GUN MOUNT
PUSH BUMPER
& MORE



SCAN HERE
TO LEARN MORE



Gamber-Johnson is proud to now offer you a comprehensive and convenient vehicle solution in one single sku. The **Single Sku Police Car** bundle reduces product lead times by eliminating the need for multiple orders making it easier than ever to acquire all equipment needed to complete a large install.



@gamberjohnson #GamberJohnson

WWW.GAMBERJOHNSON.COM



THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE

Continued from page 12

Pursuits, currently the largest selling police sedan on the market. The reason Stellantis representatives gave was that the Chargers were no longer in production, much to the disappointment of the loyal Mopar® fans in attendance.

Ford rolled in with three of their popular PI Utilities, all in standard AWD – a 3.0L EcoBoost®, a Hybrid and a base 3.3L. They also provided a 4WD F-150® Police Responder® pickup powered by a 3.5L EcoBoost.

The two all-electric units (EVs) in AWD were tested, the Chevrolet Blazer EV and Ford's Mustang Mach-E®.

The Results

The acceleration, top speed and braking tests were conducted on September 16 at the Chrysler Proving Grounds in Chelsea, MI, and the acceleration results follow, with braking tests last.

Acceleration/top speed tests are self-explanatory, but we usually start with a response to every gear head, lead foot cop's first question: "What will it do?" – not "What kinda mileage does it get?" or "How does it ride?". Top speeds are the primary interest of most drivers, but not the bosses, and cops want to know which cruiser was the fastest!

Okay, you've waited long enough...the fastest (ICE) pursuit vehicle for 2023 was the PI Utility 3.0 EcoBoost at 148 mph, while tied for second (at 136 mph) were the Hybrid and Base PI Utilities. Third place went to the HEMI Dodge Durango at 130 mph. The slowest top speeds recorded were set by the two Silverados at 112 mph each.

Acceleration is measured in seconds from a standing stop and recorded in ten mph increments, from 0-20 mph through

0-100 mph. For this column, we'll report on the 0-60 and 0-100 results: 0-60 representing starting from stationary on an on-ramp or shoulder and reaching freeway speeds, while 0-100 is the time it takes to catch most speeders. Prepare yourself for some surprising results.

The top three vehicles in the 0-60 category were: The best at 5.69 seconds was the Ford F-150 Responder! Second at 5.81 seconds was the EcoBoost PI and third at 6.67 seconds was the Dodge HEMI Durango. The worst 0-60 time was set by the V-6 Durango at 8.25 seconds.

The quickest vehicle at 0-100 was also the amazing F-150, with a time of 14.40 seconds! Next was the EcoBoost PI at 15.13 seconds and third was the Hybrid PI at a flat 17 seconds. Slowest again was the V-6 Durango at 23.06 seconds, over 8.5 seconds slower than Ford's Responder and we wonder if there may have been a mechanical issue as earlier it had recorded a respectable top speed of 120 mph.

A final category recorded in the acceleration category is the distance it takes to reach a particular speed and is recorded in miles. The first results we'll look at are 100 mph and the shortest distance recorded was by the F-150 at 0.25 miles; second was the EcoBoost PI at 0.27 and third was the Hybrid PI at 0.30. The worst distance was set by the 3.6 Durango at 0.42 miles.

The final rating is the distance to reach top speed which was posted by the Z7X Silverado at 0.48 miles and second, the Z71 Silverado at 0.49. (*It should be noted the lowest top speeds were recorded by the Silverados at 112 mph each, so it stands to reason it would take further distance to reach those speeds.*) Third place went to

the F-150 at 0.52, while the worst was the PI Base Utility at 2.09.

Brake Test Results

The same 12 vehicles were also subjected to exhaustive brake tests at the Chrysler Proving Grounds. Brake tests at Chelsea have always been both interesting and fun to watch and, occasionally, in the last 25 years, downright exciting – like the time one vehicle returned to the pits with the front rotors actually on fire! While speeds have gradually been increasing over the years, braking systems (and results) have shown the most dramatic improvement...from four-wheel drum brakes to front disc brakes to four-wheel disc brakes, to ABS, to larger and even drilled rotors, the Big Three have really gotten their collective act together as they realized stopping is as crucial as fast top speeds. Hey, why do you think drag racers have parachutes?

Brake tests are determined by the average distance of three 60-0 stops which gives a projected stopping distance, measured in feet. The vehicle with the best (shortest) projected stopping distance was the EcoBoost Utility at 129.40 feet; next was the RWD Tahoe at 130.40 feet and third place was the base Utility at 131.10 feet. The vehicle with the worst (longest) projected stopping distance was the Ford Responder at 159.65 feet; that's over 30 feet further than the winning Utility. To put it into street terms, that's over the width of three average city crosswalks (and a lot of pedestrians)!

A not too subtle reason for the brake tests is to remind us that, no matter how fast pursuit vehicles are, you have to stop them, too.

I'm reminded of a onetime purchase of



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)



INSTANT ARMOR

INSTANT ARMOR, INC. - USA www.instantarmor.com Toll Free: 877-BLT-PRUF Office: 805.526.3046

MADE IN U.S.A.



Public Safety and Intelligent Surveillance Solutions

Working together for Law Enforcement and Municipalities

Our secure cities program delivers the most comprehensive technology portfolio combined with highly experienced engineering, sales, and support personnel to help municipalities navigate a challenging and demanding implementation process.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Law Enforcement Body-Worn Cameras and In-Car Video Evidence Capture and Management■ Municipal/Law Enforcement Surveillance and Security■ Corrections Facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Traffic Monitoring■ Public Health and Safety Compliance■ Public Events and Venues■ Mass Transportation Hubs■ Schools and Universities |
|---|---|

Our technology solutions extend human senses with innovations that inform professionals and mitigate risks, even in the most challenging, mission critical environments. We are your trusted partner.

CONTACT US
info@us.i-pro.com



Scan to learn more

THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE

Continued from page 14

1967 Chevy Bel Airs my department made. They had the beloved 327, 4 bbl V-8s and this was their first year for front disc brakes, but they were rolling on bias tires. Imagine assigning these to cops who had been driving six-cylinder squads forever. Brother, these cars would scream and light the tires, but they couldn't stop. Many times, I slid right past the location of a hot call and, usually, about half a city block past. And, that was with both feet on the wide pedal!

The EV Cruisers

As mentioned in the introduction, two all-Electric Vehicles (EV) were tested, too,



Even though EVs struggle in cold weather conditions, their impressive speed remains undeniable!

but we separated their results from the ICE vehicles because it's like comparing apples to oranges. Their results follow.

The two tested were the AWD Chevrolet Blazer EV and the AWD Ford Mustang Mach-E and, folks, these are not your father's Blazers or Mustangs. The original Blazer was introduced in 1969 and the Mustang in 1964 and the only identifying feature on these EVs is that they wear the same emblems worn by their predecessors.

Top Speed and Acceleration

Both vehicles performed well; in fact, they outperformed their fossil fuel competitors in several instances. Top speed for the Blazer was 130 mph (same as the HEMI Durango), while the Mustang was a bit slower at 124 mph (identical to the V-8 4WD Tahoe).

But, the differences become significant in the timed acceleration because of the instant torque of the electric engines. The Blazer's 0-60 time of 5.17 seconds was faster than all the ICE vehicles and it was only beat by the Mustang at a screaming 4.07 seconds! The Blazer's 0-100 time of 11.08 seconds blew away all the ICE cruisers and was only topped by the Mustang at 10.87 seconds. The electric's distance to reach top speed was also amazing and beat out most of the competition. The Blazer hit 0.45 miles, the best of every vehicle tested, but the Mustang took it a bit further at 0.55 miles.

Braking

The brake tests placed the projected stopping distance of the Blazer at 135.20 feet, better than five of the 12 units tested or about in the middle of the pack. However, the Mustang not only bested the Blazer at 129.60 feet, it actually had the second-best braking performance of all the vehicles tested...only inches further than the first place EcoBoost Utility.

Conclusions

Comparing the two EV vehicles against the ten ICE vehicles seems like bad odds, but there are some valid results which can be gleaned from the 2023 MSP tests. In an effort to level the playing field, all vehicles were equipped the same and were tested "slick top" (without lightbars). This included the three pickups. Also, there was no mention, or comparison, of MSRP's which obviously is a major concern when shopping for replacement vehicles. Further comparisons, such as interior space, trunk capacity, height and weight, and much more, should be made by consumers while shopping.

That said, considering these are all *performance* tests, they can be helpful when making that final pick. For example, when selecting vehicles for congested cities with no freeways, braking is likely more important than top speed. For rural cities or counties, 4WD and AWD might be a major consideration, as well as the clearance difference between sedans, SUVs and pick-



GOLIGHT INC.

GOLIGHT GT SERIES

- >> 370° x 135° Rotation
- >> LED or Halogen
- >> Wireless or Hard-Wired Remote Control
- >> Permanent or Portable Mounting



800.557.0098 / GOLIGHT.COM



John Jones
POLICE PURSUIT VEHICLES



YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR POLICE PURSUIT VEHICLES



***CHARGERS & RAM SSV
AVAILABLE NOW***

**We sell, service, & up-fit
in our own facility!**

policepursuitvehicles.com ■ (877)473-5546

THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE

Continued from page 16

ups. Even a jurisdiction's yearly weather can be a concern in the selection process.

The results show that the EVs did perform well against the competition and, in some cases, much better. The elephant in the room, of course, is money. The EVs are more expensive than their ICE counterparts and they require major expensive up-fitting of facilities for high-speed chargers. A significant factor also is the driving range of EVs, particularly for SP/HP and rural units and factors, such as temperatures and driving styles which can impact charge levels (range) and the possibility of leaving the operator stranded.

My suggestion is the same as it has been in several past columns...if you are genuinely concerned about the carbon footprint of your fleet, but lack the funds to go all-in with EVs, start with the Hybrid PI Utilities from Ford which now have several years' operational data in numerous North American departments and in the MSP tests. PLUS, you don't have to plug them in! If you are interested in my recommendation of the PI Utility Hybrid, I have some late breaking good news for you. While the civilian Hybrid Explorer has been discontinued, Ford announced on October 18 that they will continue to build the PI Hybrid through MY 2024. As far as 2025 goes, they have announced a total "refresh" for MY 2025. Disclaimer: *Before you ask, I've never worked for Ford, or owned their stock or ever had a demo to drive; I just call 'em like I see 'em.*

My selection criteria and recommendations have (and have always been) based on just two factors: 1) officer safety and 2) department budgets.

CRUISER NEWS

As we mentioned in the last section, there is not a lot of breaking cruiser news because of COVID and the continuing parts unavailability and Stellantis' announcements of on again/off again production of North America's best-selling LE sedan, the Dodge Charger. With everything going on, it's no surprise several of the vehicles tested by MSP were basically carryover models. Following is the news we have discovered for your consumption.

Chevrolet

The Blazer EV for civilians, introduced in 2022, has been overshadowed by the much awaited LE version EV which was launched as a 2024 model and revealed during the MSP tests. Civilian models of new vehicles (historically) are released prior to the LE versions. It's just common sense, as the civilian models command higher prices than the stripped-down LE models. This is not necessarily a bad thing, as it gives engineers the opportunity to study the vehicle in real-world conditions as they tweak the design for the rigid requirements of police duty. The PPV (Police Pursuit Vehicle) Blazer EV was tested by MSP in September as seen in results listed above.

Highlights of the new Blazer include a 400 volt AWD system with a maximum output set at 498 hp and 531 pound-feet of torque. Boasting a 50/50 front to rear weight distribution for superior handling, it features a 105 kWh battery with an estimated range of 250 miles (on a full charge). Upgraded heavy-duty suspension, six piston Brembo™ front brake calipers (matched to 15.3 inch rotors), 20" rims, Firestone Pursuit tires, and a set of underbody protective skid plates complete the rugged LE package.

The electrical architecture is designed for LE equipment upfit needs and standard features include remote start, remote keyless entry and a Passive Power Mode which allows exiting officers to activate (with a key fob), leaving the vehicle powered and unlocked, but protected and nondrivable.

The PPV 9C1 package also provides vinyl rear seating and heavy-duty vinyl flooring standard, while the Detective/Admin version (9PC) retains a civilian-style interior.

Ford

Despite their amazing performance across the range of all vehicles at the MSP tests, there is some bad news from the NHTSA, an investigation which involves some 196,723 2021-2022 vehicles with the 2.7L and 3.0L EcoBoost engines. This covers most of Ford's lineup of Hybrid models (SUVs and pickups) and, although LE vehicles were not specifically mentioned, they

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

PrintekMobile launches its next-generation FieldPro printer. The NEW FieldPro 641 provides law enforcement professionals with the best mobile printer solution that includes:

- Fastest print speeds in the market of 6 ips.
- Easy-to-use LCD screen.
- Dual serrated tear-edges.
- Multiple mounting points.
- Self-centering paper loading feature.
- A 2-year bumper-to-bumper warranty.
- Compatibility with Windows, Android, and iOS Bluetooth.

Visit our website or call us to schedule your **FREE 30-day demo today!**



PRINTEKMOBILE™

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





TACMED
SOLUTIONS

MARITIME FIRST AID KIT[®]

- CHOSEN FIRST AID KIT BY THE UNITED STATES NAVY
- WATERPROOF (IP68) CONTAINER WITH ATTRIBUTES SUITED TO MARITIME AID
- AIRTIGHT AND FULLY SUBMERSIBLE
- 4 D-RINGS THAT CAN BE USED AS LASH POINTS
- BERRY COMPLIANT AND COMPATIBLE WITH MOST ANTI-PILFERAGE SEALS

TM



ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE KIT[®]

- EASILY ACCESSIBLE COMPONENTS
- HOLDS 8 FULLY CUSTOMIZABLE CASUALTY THROW KITS
- CONTAINS 14 SOF TOURNIQUETS[®], 14 PRESSURE DRESSINGS, & 14 CHEST INJURY TREATMENTS
- 2 ULTRALIGHT POLELESS LITTERS
- CONTAINS BILINGUAL JUST-IN-TIME TRAUMA INSTRUCTIONS
- CARRIES LIFESAVING INTERVENTIONS



TACMEDSOLUTIONS.COM | TACMED SOLUTIONS, LLC | 888.822.6331

ANDERSON, SC 29621 | 1250 HARRIS BRIDGE ROAD

THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE

Continued from page 18

certainly fall within the parameters of the investigation.

Although, not a recall, the investigation involves “catastrophic” engine failures caused by the fracturing of engine intake valves manufactured with a new alloy. Without warning, under normal driving conditions, vehicles may experience a loss of power negating a restart.

The investigation began with owner complaints and the only fix is an entire engine replacement. The investigation is continuing and the results will determine mutually by the NHTSA and Ford if a recall is warranted.

Tesla

Tesla has unveiled their new purpose-built all-electric EV/LE package, branded (appropriately) the Model PD. It is built on their popular Model Y platform with LE-specific modifications.

Performance

Here are the basics for gear heads: horsepower – 384; acceleration – 0-60 mph in 4.8 seconds; top speed – 135 mph; drive – dual motor AWD.

Safety was a primary concern in the design of the Model PD. It utilizes the mega-casting technology of the Model Y, where two huge single castings for the front and rear underbody sections are connected by the new structural (liquid cooled) lithium-ion battery pack which also serves as a critical element of the body structure. This innovation reduces weight and greatly simplifies assembly.

Somebody Listened

Civilian Teslas have been tested and evaluated for a couple of years by scores of departments across America. *The tests were highly detailed and informational and we've reported on them extensively as a service to departments considering Teslas, with the cautionary warning that they were not pursuit-rated.*

Department findings in tests were both good and bad and covered everything from upfitting issues to operating costs, performance, officer safety, and comfort. The Tesla engineers have obviously taken these reports into consideration in their design and modifications of the Model Y for duty.

Michigan State Police

While we're on the subject of the MSP, there is crime news which could impact all of you. They reported that, on September 6 (ten days before their annual tests), three of the four marked vehicles parked at their Sault Ste. Marie Post were torched and they were a total loss. An investigation was launched and, supported by surveillance cameras, a suspect was developed. Upon contact, the suspect fired shots at arresting officers and they returned fire, injuring the arsonist, who was charged with more than ten felonies.

This incident, and scores of others which are increasing at an alarming rate across the country, point out the need to secure police facilities and vehicles at all times. Front lobby shootouts have happened; vehicles have been damaged or stolen, and gear has been removed; and officers have been assaulted.

NEW EQUIPMENT NEWS

LE equipment manufacturers are suffering now due to two factors. First, they are still feeling the impact of new and replacement parts and raw material shortages due to COVID, along with employee shortages due to those who never returned to work and the economy. Second, the shortage of new (and even used) cruisers has impacted their sales, resulting in unsold merchandise filling their warehouses.

Despite the industry-wide doom and gloom, equipment suppliers have continued to create, innovate and build new designs and retool existing merchandise with an eye towards making it more universally adaptive.

We have rounded up some new products for your review and they follow by company, listed in alphabetical order.

Brother Mobile Solutions

Brother recently introduced the Rugged-Jet 4200 Mobile Printer with an industry leading battery life at the fastest speeds of 5ips and it features an active docking station with one-touch pairing. It was designed and built based on real feedback from law enforcement. The heavy-duty, compact mobile printer is built to save officers time doing reports and citations, freeing them up to protect and serve.

CODE 3

Code 3 has introduced PRMAMP, their new Programmable Voice Amplifier which provides first responders with up to five programmed, commonly used or critical messages, such as “Tornado (or other) weather warnings”; “Crime scene, do not enter”; or “Accident ahead, turn around.” The messages are fully customizable for specific vehicles or department-wide standards.

The PRMAMP amplifier can be used with (or without) a siren and supports dual speaker outputs, or can be mounted to alternate between siren tones and amplified messages.

This system would have been a cop's best friend where I spent my first 25 years in LE. We were smack-dab in the middle of Tornado Alley and, upon receiving a tornado warning, department policy required us to drive every block in our beat, broadcasting “Tornado warning, take cover” over the siren speaker.

Federal Signal

The company which gave us emergency lighting with such memorable names



The D-Pillar lighting system from Federal Signal has your “six.”

as “Fireball®,” “Visabar,” “JetSonic,” and “Vector” has been at it again; their innovative SUV MicroPulse® Ultra D-Pillar Lighting System is an amazing emergency lighting product which really protects an SUV's “six.” I've installed a lot of lightbars over the years, but this one looks like the simplest of them all. Providing additional lighting on the rear of the popular SUV cruisers, it mounts with 3M™ VHB™ tape to the D-Pillar and each kit is exclusive to the make and model. Each kit consists of six MPS6U tri-color MicroPulse Ultra light heads containing high output LEDs. The fully encapsulated housing provides a barrier against dust, moisture and water and offers fully customizable flash patterns – and even auxiliary signals such as brake, reverse and turn signal.

Gamber-Johnson

Gamber-Johnson has partnered with leading LE equipment manufacturers to provide customers a comprehensive, convenient ordering solution utilizing a single SKU. The Single SKU Police Car Bundle eliminates the need for multiple orders and speeds up delivery and upfit time. There are financing options as well.

Gamber-Johnson has also introduced new and improved prisoner containment systems for the 2020+ Ford PI Utilities. Their Single Cell Partition uses OEM seats



Gamber-Johnson has unveiled enhanced prisoner containment systems designed for the 2020 and newer models of Ford® PI Utilities.

SC-929-5-K9

WEAPON RETENTION



**AFFORDABLE
ADAPTABLE**



ORDERS GENERALLY SHIPPING WITHIN 24 HOURS!

Santa GUNLOCKS

450 Tyler Road • Webster, NH 03303 USA

General phone: (603) 746-7740 • Order phone: (800) 847-5428 • Fax: (603) 746-7764

E-mail: info@santacruzgunlocks.com • Web: www.santacruzgunlocks.com

THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE

Continued from page 20

and confines the detainee to 1/3 of the second row seating, thus allowing the remaining 2/3 to be used for equipment storage. It features solid steel construction, scratch-resistant polycarbonate windows and offers a simple no-drill installation.

Their Passenger Partition completes a fully secure prisoner containment system with a barrier between the second seat and the rear cargo area. It features a sliding poly window with mesh covering which provides abundant airflow for the bad guys and optimal visibility for the operator, while deterring escape attempts out the rear of the PI. This is a far cry from the ventilation prisoners received in the Chevy panel paddy wagon I drove many decades ago...two screen covered 4" x 12" holes cut into the metal side walls!

Havis

Havis' newest product is the VSX Console for the 2021-2023 Chevy Tahoe, a premium vehicle-specific unit to meet the needs of law enforcement, providing a secure and ergonomic platform for mounting a range of essential communications and equipment. It fits seamlessly into the Tahoe, ensuring a clean and professional appearance. The console provides ample storage with lockable top and side compartments.



Jotto recently announced that they had been granted a US patent for their Defend IR Security System. This innovative technology utilizes the light and siren controllers already present in the majority of police vehicles.

Jotto Desk

Jotto Desk, a brand line of Assembled Products Corporation, and a foremost manufacturer of LE vehicle equipment, has been meeting the needs of departments and upfitters for some time and has celebrated 30 years of innovative products and satisfied customers this year. They offer consoles, partitions, computer stands, and secure weapon mounts and boast the best lead times in the industry.

The price of the plethora of components installed in a LE vehicle, plus electronic equipment and weapons, represents a significant investment in every cruiser, while the safety of officers and citizens alike is a primary concern as well. With these needs in mind, Jotto created the Defend IR Security System and they were pleased to announce in September that they were awarded a US

patent for the system which utilizes the vehicle's light/siren controller already in most vehicles. Their PIR sensor cloaks the vehicle interior with protection superior to factory OEM alarms and provides security for those vehicles which have no alarms whatsoever.

When an unauthorized person (without a key or fob) enters the cruiser passenger compartment, Defend IR is activated and, within ten seconds, alerts the controller which turns on the patrol vehicle's lights and siren, protecting weapon(s) and equipment in the unit while the car is parked on calls for service, at stations, or at officers' homes.



The new FP641 FieldPro Printer delivers rapid printing at a speed of six inches per second.

Printek

Printek has launched the next generation of mobile printers, the FP641 FieldPro Printer, which provides four inch wide print solutions for vehicle and mobile applications. It boasts fast print speeds of six inches per second with an easy to see slanted LCD display, large function buttons, and an easy to open center-loading paper compartment. It includes a compact, rugged carrying case with wide shoulder straps which will withstand a six foot drop.

Pro-gard™ Products

Pro-gard builds storage systems and, in August, they revealed a frequently requested item from customers – an under-seat storage box for the Ford F-150 Responder pickup. They put the engineers to work and the result is their Rear Under-Seat Solution for the Responder and Super Duty® Crew Cabs.

Utilizing the OEM mounts, the steel, seamless, hole-free box offers fast installation. It features two compartments, a movable divider, locking latches, and a rubber mat-lined floor.

Pro-gard's Cargo Storage Floor for the



Pro-gard's Cargo Storage Floor for the 2021 and newer Chevy Tahoe features a two-compartment storage system which expands the cargo area.

2021+ Chevy Tahoe is a two-compartment storage system which expands the cargo area. It mounts directly to the vehicle's floor using OEM mounting points and works with or without their Cargo Barrier. Using a mix of 11- and 14-gauge powder-coated steel, it provides security for weapons and gear, communications and electronics.

An ideal partner for the Storage Floor is Pro-gard's newest addition, Cargo Storage Drawers, available in large and small sizes, with optional locking choices. They are stackable, rubber mat-lined and offer a hassle-free, no-drill, quick installation utilizing OEM holes.



Setina's multitiered Cargo Box for the new Blazer EV provides an excellent solution for organizing essential equipment in the rear of the vehicle.

Setina Manufacturing Co., Inc.

Setina now has a top-notch solution available for the new Chevrolet Blazer EV. Setina's multitiered Cargo Box provides law enforcement with a first-rate solution for trunk placement of supporting equipment. Crafted from robust yet lightweight aluminum, this storage solution ensures easy and swift installation without the need for drilling. It enables users to optimize vehicle storage for firearms, cargo and communication gear. The design features modularity and various advanced locking choices, such as RFID, Key Pad, Combi Lock, or Handle Key Lock. Setina offers the Rear Cargo Storage Box in diverse tiers and setups, catering to the specific requirements of every department.

Additionally, as reported earlier this year, Setina Manufacturing marked its 60th anniversary. Founded by John Setina in 1963, the company continues to be a family-run business, now led by John's children, Terry and Judy, who have been steering the company for more than 30 years.

SnapSafe®

SnapSafe, a Hornady Company, recently introduced Snap Safe Trunk Safe II which offers police fleets a storage solution for a variety of gear, firearms and ammo, equipment, radios, documents, and more, with an unprecedented level of security. Constructed with a 13-gauge steel exterior, a pry-resistant six-gauge door with eight interior locking lugs and a digital lock. In case of a power failure, a barrel key backup guarantees immediate access.

The safe includes a three foot cable, allowing the user to anchor it to a solid object,



SoundOff Signal has recently introduced its TM100 Traffic Controller, an affordable solution for traffic advising and warning needs.

and integrated handles to assist with effortless transport or transfer to another vehicle. Additionally, four predrilled holes on the bottom panel offer the option of mounting the safe in a permanent location.

Trunk Safe II measures 42" W x 7" H x 13" D and the empty weight is 69 pounds.

SoundOff Signal

SoundOff is a longtime provider of vehicle lighting, control systems and electronic warning solutions. Earlier this year, they announced their new TM100 Traffic Controller, a comprehensive, budget friendly solution for traffic advising and warning. Its features include a weatherproof and vibration-resistant light emitting design which provides clarity even in sunlight; plug-n-play 25' cable for quick and simple installation; solid aluminum extrusion; backlit controller buttons; and it comes available in single or dual color models with 20 flash patterns.

A Final Tribute

Veto Enterprises of Sycamore, IL, a well-known and highly respected police cruiser and equipment sales dealer and upfitters, have announced they will close their doors at the end of this year, marking 54 years of service to the police community, with customers stretching from the Midwest to the Rockies. Bob Veto, the founder and President, started with a small family run LE equipment sales company in his home in Illinois in 1969 and, as his reputation and sales blossomed, he opened a brick and mortar dealership at the current location in 1987. Bob Veto is a jovial man and a loyal friend to everyone he has met in the profession. His business is staffed by his very capable children, making it a true family affair.

Bob first attended the Michigan State Police Vehicle Evaluations in 1978 and he has been a fixture ever since. After a couple of years, Bob started bringing along friends, fleet representatives and customers. As his entourage grew every year, MSP staff took notice and, eventually, Bob worked with MSP to open their tests to folks in the police fleet field, with attendance in the hundreds.

On his own, Bob started bringing a radar gun to "shoot" the competitors from his spot at trackside. Soon, attendees noticed and huddled around Bob to get "instant" results because, prior to then, results were written on a chalk board by MSP staff.

In 1993, Bob began cohosting the MSP opening banquet on the first night of tests; just another sign of his generosity. In fact, this year the MSP awarded Bob with a well-deserved plaque acknowledging his assistance for the last 31 years!

Bob is a bona fide expert on police cars and not just a statistician; he's got the grease under his nails to prove he knows whereof he speaks. He never hesitates to share his knowledge with anyone who might ask and, believe me, your author has asked a lot!

A little known fact about Veto Enterprises is that they have provided police cars to the majority of cop TV shows and movies filmed in Chicago, including most of the *Batman* films, "Chicago P.D.," "Chicago Fire," and "The Chicago Code." Besides cruisers and civilian cars, he even converted armored cars into SWAT vans.

It's been a real honor knowing Bob for the last 30+ years and calling him a friend. On behalf of *P&SN*, I wish him well in his next adventure and, whatever it is, you can bet he'll still be at the wheel of a cruiser! **P&SN**

Sergeant James Post has 27 years of experience in city, county and federal law enforcement and has enjoyed sharing his wit, wisdom and police car knowledge with readers here on the pages of P&SN for the last 25+ years. He can be reached at kopkars@arkansas.net.

THE ALL-NEW ELSAG® MOBILE LPR SYSTEM



The M8 is re-engineered to be smaller, faster, more accurate

The new 8th generation of the ELSAG Mobile Plate Hunter® 900 (MPH900) license plate reader (LPR) uses neural networks for smarter, faster performance to assist the myriad of vehicle-related missions agencies manage today. With cameras 65% smaller than its predecessor, it reads plates more efficiently and reliably than ever, 24/7 in any weather, identifying suspect vehicles in real time. For every plate read, the MPH900 collects data that can aid your investigations with the capability to adapt to new OCR challenges that arise. Trust the LPR experts with over 20 years of experience.

Made in the USA

leonardocompany-us.com/lpr





CARRY THE FUTURE®



THE FN 509® MRD-LE SERIES

YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER IN PERFORMANCE AND PRECISION

NEW FN 509®
COMPACT MRD-LE



NEW FN 509®
MIDSIZE MRD-LE



FN 509® MRD-LE



NEW FN 509®
FULLSIZE MRD-LE



UNRIVALED SAFETY



UNMATCHED RELIABILITY



UNWAVERING CONTROL

Surpassing a 20,000-round endurance test with zero malfunctions, the FN 509® MRD-LE series is trusted to provide law enforcement with relentless performance on command. All four of the state-of-the-art pistols in this legendary family share the same FN DNA and are forged to deliver the reliability that all law enforcement agencies expect and deserve. Learn more at fnamerica.com.

PRODUCT HIGHLIGHT

TACTICAL EMS/FIRST AID EQUIPMENT



ALIEN GEAR HOLSTERS

The new **TAQ-STRAP** replaces the standard strap on your duty holster for a pre-positioned tourniquet which can quickly stop a femoral bleed within five seconds.

Using the same ratcheting mechanism found in other TCCC tourniquets, it features an extremely simple design for one-handed use or hindered application.

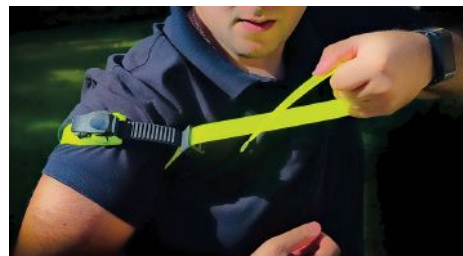
Although designed around the Rapid Force Duty Holster, the strap is 1.5" which is commonly utilized with tactical accessories such as holsters, gas mask pouches and IFAKs.

The **TAQ-STRAP** is prepositioned for application without visual assistance which is crucial in time sensitive and disorienting events. This allows police officers to provide immediate care to themselves or others who may suffer gunshot wounds, catastrophic vehicle collisions, or other various injuries (shown with additional TCCC tourniquet attached).

aliengearholsters.com

XFORCE® TOURNIQUET

The **XForce Tourniquet** stands out as a critical lifesaving tool, providing a rapid and highly effective method for controlling severe bleeding in extremities. Its intuitive design features a self-locking strap, ensuring swift and uncomplicated tightening, while the proprietary ratcheting system enhances its user-friendliness, even facilitating effortless one-handed applications. The **XForce Tourniquet** can be conveniently stored preloaded in a holster, ensuring it is always at the ready for rapid deployment during critical moments.



xforcetq.com

SIRCHIE



The **STOMP Medical Kit** has a wide variety of contents and is designed with many VELCRO® and zippered pockets for easy access to over 300 items inside. Measuring 19" x 14" x 10" and weighing 20 pounds, the **Kit** includes bandages, splints, sponges, a stethoscope, shears, ice packs, a blood pressure kit, a burn aid package, antibiotics, scalpel blades, suture sets, gauze, trauma dressings, and dozens of other items. It can be used in any number of emergency situations.

sirchie.com



TACMED SOLUTIONS™

The United States Navy relies on the **TacMed™ Maritime First Aid Kit (FAK)** as their go-to option. This kit is designed to meet the stringent requirements of the Combatant Craft Division (CCD), providing a comprehensive medical solution tailored for the life-threatening injuries.

Encased in a waterproof (IP68) drybag specifically designed for maritime aid situations, this kit ensures ultimate protection. Not only is it waterproof, but it is also buoyant, guaranteeing it stays afloat and easily retrievable during emergencies. Its resealable design adds to its practicality, allowing secure storage of medical supplies in any maritime setting. Colored in a highly visible orange shade, the **Maritime FAK** can be swiftly located by crew members when time is of the essence. Moreover, it adheres to Berry Compliance, further establishing its reliability and suitability for marine use.

tacmedsolutions.com



RESCUE ESSENTIALS

The **Universal Tourniquet Holder** is designed with a cover to protect clothing from abrasion against hook material on tourniquets. A laser cut TQ identifier has adjustable contrast control: Utilize the red face of the tourniquet panel for enhanced visibility with red lettering; for moderate contrast, simply flip the panel to reveal subdued grey coloring; and, to achieve low contrast, remove the panel altogether.

The back side of the **Holder** offers both vertical and horizontal mounting capabilities; an integrated duty belt loop ensures a more secure attachment to belts; the design incorporates a dedicated 5.5" EMT shears slot, providing storage space for both shears and tourniquet; and a MOLLE strap is included. It measures 7" x 2.5" x 2" and weighs just 2.5 ounces.

rescue-essentials.com

ACKERMAN
BY **WaterShed®**



CUSTOM

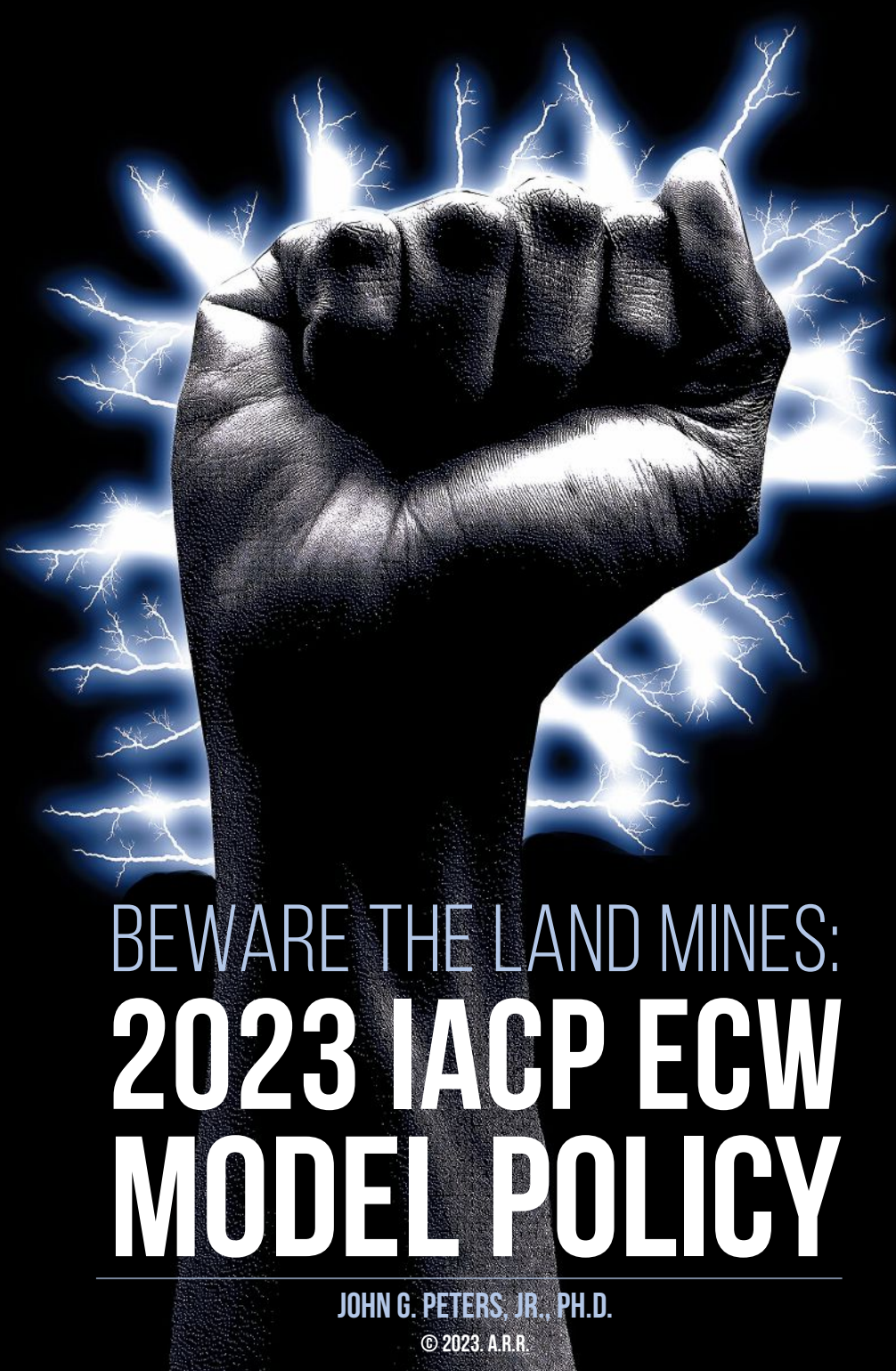
UNIFORM

JUMPSUITS

WeAreWaterShed.com

**MADE IN
USA**
SALEM, OREGON

800-848-8092
orders@gowatershed.com



BEWARE THE LAND MINES: 2023 IACP ECW MODEL POLICY

JOHN G. PETERS, JR., PH.D.

© 2023. A.R.R.

Forewarned is forearmed!

While there is no such thing as a “perfect [law enforcement force option] policy,” this trusted saying applies to the numerous land mines hidden in plain sight within the new 2023 IACP “Electronic Control Weapons” (ECWs) Model Policy and the *Concepts and Issues* supporting document which were recently released. This September 2023 Model Policy replaces the IACP’s March 2018 version.

As an Associate Member of the IACP, this article is not to devalue the work of the IACP, but rather to alert public safety administrators, trainers, risk managers, and users of ECWs that “blind adoption” of this Model Policy may throw them “under the legal attacks bus.” The possible results are more high-profile, unfavorable, costly, and career ending discipline; civil litigations; and criminal prosecutions against ECW users, trainers, administrators, and government

employers. From a risk management perspective, do not thoughtlessly adopt this Model Policy without first considering some significant rehabilitation.

Space does not permit a full analysis of the 2023 IACP ECW Model Policy and its supporting *Concepts and Issues* paper, so only a select few of the potentially more serious risk management concerns are discussed. Administrators, trainers, risk managers, and/or ECW users are strongly encouraged to read and understand, in proper contexts (including critics’ potential attack points), the entirety of this new policy and make corrections to the several errors and omissions within its pages before adopting a corrected version. Like an algebra word problem, many people who read this policy may not see the hidden land mines; for others, they will be obvious. You can be sure plaintiffs’ counsel and/or prosecutors will see them and use their wording, coupled with legal and scientific inaccuracies, against their targets.

A downloadable PDF copy of the 2023 IACP ECW Model Policy can be obtained from the following URL: <https://tinyurl.com/yrzu3ux7>

AREAS OF CONCERN

Following are several risk management issues which need thorough examination and potential adjustments to minimize potential policy complications:

- The new TASER® 10 ECW (released in January 2023) is not included in the policy. It is clear from the language and the descriptions used in this policy that it **does not** include the TASER 10 ECW. There are too many examples of this deficiency to identify and discuss here, but keep in mind that much of what is written can be used against TASER 10 ECW adopters and users.

- Electricity is a weapon. Per the *ECW Concepts and Issues* paper, TASER ECW inventor, Jack Cover, experimented with “electricity as a weapon.” While some folks may argue this is somewhat accurate, imagine a prosecuting or plaintiff’s attorney telling a jury that electricity is a weapon per the IACP ECW Model Policy. Many laypeople, including jurors, are highly misinformed about ECWs. They only know what they have seen on television, in a movie, read online or in print, and from testimony they heard that ECWs deliver 50,000 volts. Per the IACP, **all** ECWs use electricity as a weapon. To clarify, electricity itself is not a weapon, but it is used as a component in weapons such as ECWs.

- Inaccurate force legal standards: Per the 2023 Model Policy, ECW users can “. . . use only the force that is objectively reasonable under the totality of the cir-

THIS IS YOUR SHOT



The SHOT Show® connects law enforcement agencies with the industry's top manufacturers, distributors and experts. This is your agency's opportunity to view the latest equipment, share knowledge and find solutions that will help keep your officers and communities safe.

THIS IS YOUR SHOT. DON'T MISS IT!

SHOTShow.org/psn

REGISTER TODAY

JANUARY 23-26 | 2024 | LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

THE VENETIAN EXPO + CAESARS FORUM

AN EVENT OF
NSSF
The Firearm Industry
Trade Association

The SHOT Show is a trade-only event. Professional affiliation required.

BEWARE THE LAND MINES: 2023 IACP ECW MODEL POLICY

Continued from page 28

cumstances **known** to the officer at the time [emphasis added]. . . .” First, this does not include officers’ force analyzed under the Eighth Amendment “cruel and unusual punishment” standard. More importantly, this is patently a misstatement of *Graham v. Connor* (1989), and its progeny, including *Lombardo v. City of St. Louis, Missouri*, – U.S. –, 210 L. Ed. 2d 609, 141 S. Ct. 2239 (2021), which can foreseeably harm officers in legal proceedings. The standard is not what is *known* to the officer at the time force was used, but rather what was *reasonably perceived* by the officer at the time force was used. This is a major error which slipped by the authors and reviewers of this erroneous Model Policy. This significant inaccuracy conflicts with the clearly established law; with legal decisions; with many agencies’ force policies and guidelines; and with ECW and parallel force option training. Administrators and trainers must recognize this error and others before impulsively adopting and/or training on this new Model Policy.

- Confusing force policy and guidelines: In its *ECW Concepts and Issues* supporting paper, the IACP contradicts itself about ECW user force standards. “To protect the officer, subject, or others from a reasonable **perceived threat** of immediate physical harm” is somewhat accurate, but it falsely implies that an ECW can **ONLY** be used under these very limited circumstances and specifically contradicts the Model Policy language previously discussed [emphasis added]. This contradiction is not to be lightly dismissed because there is case law about such confusing policy language.

In *Ramirez v. Escajeda*, No. EP-17-CV-00193-DCG, Slip Copy, 2021 WL 1131721 (W.D. Tex., March 24, 2021), the court noted the agency’s “Use of Force . . . policy had imprecise language that left its officers to navigate two different concepts of decision-making (objective reasonableness and discretion) which appear contradictory and to some extent inconsistent with the Fourth Amendment’s objective reasonableness standard in *Graham v. Connor*.” Thoughtlessly adopting the 2023 IACP ECW Model Policy would also, arguably, create two or more different concepts of decision-making regarding reasonableness and discretion that, in this case, are contradictory and inconsistent with the Fourth Amendment’s objective reasonableness standard, as exists today in “clearly established law,” rather than the basic *Graham* factors from 1989.

- Shall vs. May vs. Must: Experienced public safety administrators, trainers and employees should know that “shall” means they **must** do a task or procedure. In contrast, “may” is not mandatory and gives the

employee decision-making discretion. The ECW Model Policy uses “shall,” “may” and “must” throughout to the potential disadvantage of administrators, trainers and employees. Knowing what task or procedure is required versus flexible versus forbidden/prohibited becomes a chore for even those employees with gifted memory. Add lay jurors to the mix and one can imagine how prosecutors and/or plaintiffs’ attorneys can focus on confusion in the minds of jurors after exacting cross-examination of employees about when they “shall,” “must” or “may” do something.

Here are a few examples in the Model Policy with emphasis added in bold type:

1. “An officer **shall** not draw or hold their ECW simultaneously with their firearm **or other force option**.”
2. “The ECW **should** not be carried in a position in close proximity to the firearm.”
3. “As soon as the subject is compliant and the situation is under control, a supervisor **shall** be notified of the use of force.”
4. “The ECW **may** be discharged for an initial cycle of up to five seconds.”

Hypothetically, in the first example, if an officer kicked a charging subject or struck the subject in the chest with an open hand to slow or stop forward movement while holding an ECW, the officer intentionally violated the Model Policy. How do you think a prosecutor and/or a plaintiff’s attorney could use these actions against the officer? The second example is a classic failure to define “close proximity to the firearm.” What is the meaning of “close proximity” and how do administrators define it, trainers teach it and agencies enforce it?

- Notifying a supervisor: The previous third example deserves a fuller explanation about the requirement to notify a supervisor. First, as the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) has reported, most police departments in the United States are small, with 46% of all local police departments employing fewer than ten FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) sworn officers and far more than 50% have less than 25 FTE officers, with several agencies working one or two person shifts and some only working part-time. If there is not a supervisor rank or not one working a shift, the default is apparently to contact the Chief of Police after each ECW use which can include presentation compliance. After notification, per the 2023 Model Policy, “. . . Supervisors have a responsibility for ensuring accountability from their officers . . . Supervisors should:

1. “Immediately respond to the scene in which an ECW has been deployed . . .”;
2. If the ECW was deployed, the super-

visor should “. . . ensure the cartridge, wire leads, probes, and AFIDs have been collected as evidence”;

3. Perform the other varied duties per the *Concepts and Issues* paper.

The ECW Model Policy and supporting *Concepts and Issues* paper are filled with definitions, some of which are inaccurate, poorly defined or simply not defined. For example, the term “deploy” is not defined and, in some jurisdictions, can include removing from the holster or presentation compliance. Similarly, the term Anti-Felon Identification (AFID) tags claims they are “Confetti-like pieces of paper [which is only partially correct] installed on ECW devices that are expelled from the cartridge when deployed.” However, when AFIDs are present, they are in the cartridges and not installed on the ECW devices, and not all ECWs contain AFIDs (think TASER 10, Ultrason 2).

Sensitive body areas include the “chest/heart area,” but later is only identified as the “chest area.” These are not synonymous! In another section, the Model Policy warns ECW users to avoid these areas in “probes or activation” modes and later it says, “preferred probe target location” and also directs in the same paragraph, the ECW “should not be intentionally aimed at a sensitive area . . .” which includes the chest. Per this Model Policy, a drive stun to the “chest area” is not preferred. This conflates a touch/contact stun to a “drive stun.” Even a probe striking the chest area when following the “split the beltline” targeting paradigm would not be preferred. Again, consider how prosecutors and plaintiffs’ attorneys can use this language against the ECW user whose probe or drive stun contacted the “chest area.”

- Elevated Risk Population Groups: Axon International, Inc. (Axon) and the IACP Model Policy both caution against using an ECW on populations which are potentially at greater risk of injury or death. However, neither the manufacturer nor the IACP provide exacting definitions for each group. In short, the liability may be placed onto the agency, agency trainers and ECW users. However, the Model Policy definition of “Elevated risk population groups” is concerning because it may ambiguously include or exclude certain individuals. This group consists of “. . . those who reasonably appear or are known to be elderly, medically infirm, pregnant, users of internal cardiac devices, or who have low body mass, such as small children.”

Current Axon ECW (effective September 20, 2022) and the IACP ECW Model Policy (September 2023) do not define “elderly.” Some time ago, a number of law enforcement professionals got together and attempted to define “elderly” only to be

met with so many diverse definitions that no one definition is workable. One definition said an elderly person is “anyone retired” which could mean a 30-year-old who just sold a business for millions of dollars and is retired. Most of us who are over 50 can recall when, at age 18, we thought 30-year-olds were “old,” but no longer.

Another label, “pregnant,” is also a slippery one. The IACP model policy fails to distinguish a person who is “visibly pregnant” from one who is two weeks pregnant.

Lastly, most of us cannot possibly know who “appears [to be] users of internal cardiac devices.” Even Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officers ask people to tell them if they have an internal defibrillator or other implanted device so they can be “wanded.”

• Evidence Collection: Section H of the Model Policy focuses exclusively on “Evidence Collection.” Per this section, “Officers will collect all evidence of the encounter . . . [and] shall collect the cartridge, wire leads, darts, and anti-felon identification markers (AFIDs)” Regardless of weather conditions (think blowing wind, rain, snow, etc.), the officer “will collect” AFIDs among other items. This appears to be an example of non-ECW practitioners writing policy which sounds good on paper, but is hard to follow and very rarely done in practice.

SUMMARY

Unfortunately, space limitation does not permit a full detailed analysis and corresponding explanations of the 2023 ECW Model Policy which means administrators, trainers and/or ECW users must carefully read it in context and in sync with current established science, clearly established law and operational considerations, and then identify concerns and conflicts with existing policy, guidelines, procedures, training, and other relevant documents. A major risk management concern is how the Model Policy can be used against municipalities, administrators, trainers, and/or ECW users during criminal and/or civil legal actions. Too often, expert witnesses on both sides testify that the IACP, through its Model Policies, set “national standards” or “generally accepted police practices” for law enforcement agencies, administrators and officers. This is incorrect. Advocacy groups such as the IACP do not set “standards” for agencies. However, when a municipality or an agency administrator adopts a Model Policy, then it can inappropriately be conflated to an enforceable standard, with potentially severe consequences for that agency.

Another concern focuses on the careers of ECW users. If the IACP ECW Model Policy is blindly adopted or unofficially used by a municipality, administrator and/

DRAGON SKIN[®]

100% Ergonomic




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

 /hitecintervention

 Hi-tec Intervention



www.hi-tec.qc.ca
1-888-709-4400
service@hi-tec.qc.ca

or trainers, violations of it can arguably lead to it being used as a predicate for career-ending discipline, criminal prosecution or civil litigation. Union stewards and members will want to obtain and read the ECW Model Policy and then mandate for its modification to parallel extant force legal standards, update agency policy, guidelines, procedures, training, and, where necessary, to update existing ECW use protocols. A robust discussion should produce contemporary, positive and practical results.

The IACP is an excellent organization and I’m proud to be a member, but the 2023 ECW Model Policy is similar to another deficient one it published in 2009

that, by its own ECW definition, did not include TASER devices. The IACP must quickly rewrite the 2023 ECW Model Policy to correct its many inaccuracies, deficient definitions and the absence of the TASER 10. However, until then: *Caveat emptor.* **P&S**

John G. Peters, Jr., Ph.D., is a frequent contributor to Police and Security News and is an experienced expert witness. He has seen firsthand how agency policy, guidelines and training have been used against municipalities, administrators and officers. John is a former police administrator, deputy sheriff and patrol officer. You are encouraged to copy and share this article with colleagues and others.

BEATING BACK FATHER TIME:

FIREARMS TIPS FOR SEASONED OFFICERS

MIKE BOYLE

I have often said that, if I wake up in the morning and only one thing hurts, I'm on my way to a good day.

One of the harsh realities of life is that, as we age, our physical attributes begin to decline. Our vision isn't quite as sharp as it once was, strength diminishes, reaction time is a tad slower, and we aren't quite as flexible as in our youth.

Most full police careers run somewhere around 25 years and may be a bit longer or shorter based on any number of factors. Assuming an officer got into this game sometime in their early or mid-twenties, it's a safe bet that many officers are pushing 50 years old or more as they run out the clock. From my own personal experience, I began to notice a few hiccups in my performance as I approached my 50th birthday.

While I was never a world-class runner, I did put in my miles at a moderate pace and kept that up for years. At some point, my hip began to bother me and it was clear I needed to do something different. Switching off to a bicycle effectively solved that problem and allowed me to get in some good aerobic exercise.

Around the same time, I noted that the

front sight on my pistol had grown fuzzy which caused me to miss. This created a great deal of embarrassment for me when doing shooting demonstrations and I had to endure the snickering and chuckles of the officers I was training. Fortunately, a set of prescription shooting glasses proved to be the fix and I was back on course.

Although wellness and performance for senior officers is multidimensional, this conversation will focus on some things you can do to maintain your shooting proficiency. Even though I have retired from active service for several years, I continue to work as a trainer and don't want to look silly in front of a group of officers 30 years my junior. I may not have all of the answers, but a few of these tricks have been able to keep me in the game.

SEE BETTER

One of the first speed bumps we encounter has to do with our ability to see in low light which goes unnoticed in most



individuals. The simple fact is that our night vision begins to decline somewhere around age 20. In your mid-forties, you will need four times as much light to see the same things in low light as you did in your prime. Fortunately, the fix is pretty simple. The new generation of handheld and weapon-mounted lights pretty much levels the playing field. Quite simply, if you carry a gun, you need to have a light source instantly available.

By the time most of us hit middle age, some sort of corrective lenses are part of our daily routine. When I reached that milestone, I accepted the fact that I needed glasses to read, but it took me a while to come to terms with the fact that I also

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



These prescription SSP shooting glasses with a magnifier helped turn back the hands of time.

MILITARY PEDIGREE, STREET PROVEN

**TACTICAL
SHIELD**



**SOFT BODY
ARMOR**



**B-KIT ADD-ON
DOOR ARMOR**



**HARD BODY
ARMOR PLATE**



**TRANSPARENT
ARMOR WINDOW
INSERT**



**SCAN TO
LEARN MORE**



ALL THE ARMOR PROTECTION YOU NEED

HARDWIRE®

HARDWIRELLC.COM | 410-957-3669

BEATING BACK FATHER TIME: FIREARMS TIPS FOR SEASONED OFFICERS

Continued from page 32

needed glasses to define that front sight. Once I came to terms with that, I was back on an even keel.

In my particular situation, I have used both prescription and over-the-counter lenses with equally good results; however, your needs may be very different. The over-the-counter variety types are simply magnifiers and are relatively inexpensive. They certainly are suitable for range work, but, for duty use, your situation may indeed require prescription lenses.

FASTER PICKUP

Tritium night sights are pretty much standard on police pistols these days and, while I have no issue with the concept, the execution on many of these designs is flawed. Quite frankly, any sighting system used on a service pistol needs to grab your attention as soon as the gun is brought to eye level. That simply isn't happening with the popular three-dot system found on many pistols and it is especially problematic for senior officers. Factor in life-threatening stress and less than optimum light conditions and you have a recipe for disaster.



This SIG SAUER® P226 is outfitted with XS Sights 24/7 Big Dot Sights.

A few years back, my outfit retrofitted all of our service pistols with Trijicon® HD™ sights which have proven very popular. The Trijicon HD uses the popular three-dot system; however, the front sight is highlighted in photoluminescent paint to make it highly visible in all light conditions. The rear sight features a U-shaped notch and is angled and serrated to make acquiring the front sight easier.

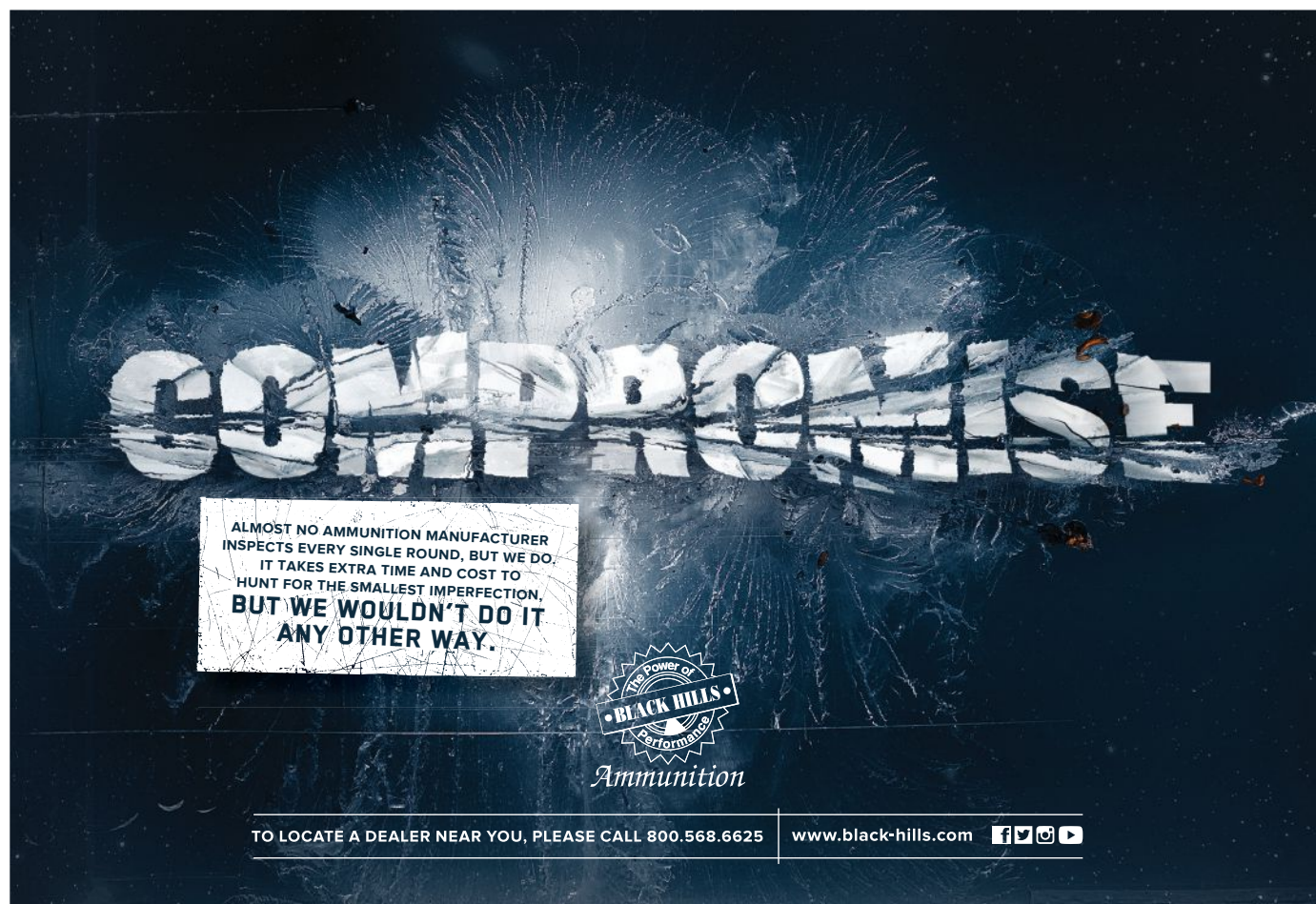
Other viable solutions are available from AMERIGLO® and XS Sights. My favorite in the AMERIGLO line is the CAP (Combative Action Pistol) sight which is also quick to pick up in challenging light

conditions. XS Sights built a solid reputation with their line of 24/7 Big Dot sights and also markets a number of other options which I feel are superior to the traditional three-dot system.

Laser sights never caught on in a big way with the law enforcement community and that is our loss. Granted, they provide a limited solution as they are not visible in bright light, but they have a great deal to offer in reduced light. I have been running a Streamlight® TLR-8® for the last three years which combines an intense white illuminator with a green laser. The TLR-8 is very compact and gives me far greater capabilities with my GLOCK® 19.

RED DOTS TO THE RESCUE




Over the last several years, Miniature Red Dot Sights (MRDS) have evolved from the exotic category to mainstream. Just about every manufacturer of police handguns is now turning out variants where a red dot optic can be easily mounted with little fuss and, as a result, many departments have moved in this direction. High quality units from Aimpoint®, HOLOSUN®, Leupold, Trijicon, and others have proved



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 |    

SPRINGFIELD
ARMORY. 



ECHELON™

U N P A R A L L E L E D

BEATING BACK FATHER TIME: FIREARMS TIPS FOR SEASONED OFFICERS

Continued from page 34

entirely reliable and durable enough for the hard knocks of law enforcement and, like it or not, red dots are the wave of the future.

Like many old-school types, I was somewhat resistant to the concept of red dot sights. Throughout my early experiences, I felt that hitting at extended distance was both faster and easier, but my performance suffered at close range. At typical combat distance, I felt I was going in slow motion. Considering that most police action shootings occurred inside of conversational distance, I was less than impressed.

A few years ago, I had an epiphany of sorts and began to look at red dots in a new light. In order to remain relevant, I went to an MRDS instructor class and gained a whole new perspective. It took me a while to get comfortable with this new technology and I did have to unlearn some old habits, but, after working with it a bit, even this old yokel has been able to perform.

So what might be in this for seasoned officers? Unlike traditional iron sights, MRDS require but a single plane focus. You simply look at the target, place the dot where you want the bullet to go and press the trigger. Iron sights require a multiple plane focus with the eyes shifting to the

front sight, to the rear sight and back to the front. Granted, this happens very quickly, but can come unraveled when one is subjected to extreme stress. This is especially true if you have old, tired eyes.

At the present time, MRDS options include open or closed emitters, different size dots and a choice between a red or green aiming point. My agency is currently evaluating new pistols for possible adaptation in the near future and, rest assured, it will include a removable plate for mounting an optic. A few officers have outfitted an MRDS on personally owned pistols and the feedback I have gotten has been very positive.

Over the last few months, I have been running a Frankenstein GEN 3 GLOCK 17 with a HOLOSUN SCS and couldn't be more pleased. This gun was cobbled together with a mismatched slide, frame and barrel and was sent off to Bowie Tactical Concepts to have the slide milled and the optic fitted. The optic sits low enough in the slide so that the factory height sights can be used.

I'm not suggesting that red dots are the solution for everyone, but they remain a consideration, especially for users who might have a tough time defining traditional



A HOLOSUN® SCS affixed to a GLOCK® 17 proved to be a real game changer for tired, old eyes.

iron sights. Make no mistake about it, the better units cost about as much as a good pistol and, if you cut your teeth on iron sights, you will also have to put in some serious practice time to get comfortable with them. If your vision isn't what it used to be, a red dot optic may be the answer.

GRIP STRENGTH IS THE KEY

The importance of maintaining a high level of grip strength cannot be overstated. Not only is a strong grip important for shooting, it's important in other vital areas, too, including weapon retention, defensive tactics and various lifesaving skills such as dragging an injured person out of harm's way.

A while back, I noticed that I was getting more than a few errant shots on my target

FORENSCOPE

Available Exclusively From **EVIDENT**

www.ShopEVIDENT.com




Mobile Multispectral Forensic Tablet

Mobile Multispectral Contactless Fingerprint Detection System



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

Weights only 11 lbs.

Full Extension in Only 7 Pumps.

Other Spreaders Require Up To 30 Pumps.

Truly a one man operation.

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: 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**

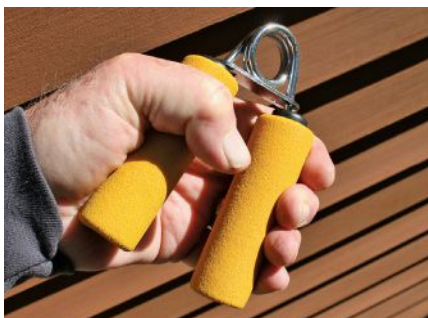
Mini Pro-Bar -
knurled grip, type "A" lockp and gas shut off on fork. Length: 3 lbs., Ship. wt. 4 lb

FIRE HOOKS UNLIMITED, INC.

1827 Old Mill Road, Wall, NJ 07719

PHONE: (732) 280-7737 • FAX: (732) 280-7792

www.firehooksunlimited.net



A hand grip trainer is a great aid from which both young and older officers can benefit.

printing right of my point of aim (I shoot left-handed). I quickly diagnosed the problem as a weak support hand grip. If I slowed down my game, I could move those shots back to the center of the target, but I had to make a conscious decision to do so.

The good news is that you can make some pretty rapid improvements in grip strength in relatively short order. Strength builders such as a hand grip trainer, finger bands, swinging a kettle bell, and even squeezing a tennis ball can all pay dividends. Hand injuries are hardly unusual among cops and, more than once, I used a hand grip trainer to get back up to speed.

So, team, if your grip isn't what it used to be, it's time to get busy. For years, my grip trainer hung from the steering column of my government ride where I could access it in idle moments. With just a little effort, you can be back at the top of your game.

BIGGER MAY NOT BE BETTER

Like many shooters of my generation, we were programmed to believe that the big bore cartridges were far superior to the .38 Special or 9mm. If your handgun wasn't chambered for a cartridge which began with a "four," you were at a serious deficit. In the early 1990s, the FBI came to the same conclusion and their extensive study of handgun ammunition effectiveness strongly favored the big bores. Almost overnight, there was a mass transition away from the medium bores to cartridges such as .40 S&W and .45 ACP.



Micro 9 pistols such as this 9mm Springfield Armory® Hellcat® OPS™ are lightweight and more pleasant to shoot to a higher standard than old-school snubs.

However, we began to see a reversal of this trend which, oddly enough, was promoted by the FBI. The Bureau acknowledged that the big bores do indeed have a greater wounding potential; however, greater felt recoil and muzzle flip make them more difficult to control for many shooters. In the end, the FBI concluded that better shooter performance outweighed the benefits of a slight bump in wounding potential and, once again, the 9mm is king of the hill.

Suffice it to say, handgun ammunition designed for the police market is far superior to what was available a generation ago. Today, my primary carry pistols are chambered for 9mm while my big bores are now safe queens.

Thirty years ago, I thought nothing of running a couple hundred rounds through a Colt® LW Commander or S&W Combat Magnum®. Right now, that would be more than I could bear. But, with the light kicking 9mm, I experience no such problems. In smaller guns carried off duty or for plainclothes assignments, a micro-size 9mm which fires from a locked breech is actually more comfortable to shoot than an old-school .380 ACP with a blowback action or a snub revolver.

Sometimes, less is more. If you have some latitude in the handgun you carry, a cartridge which offers good stopping potential, yet is easy to control, just might be the way to go.

FINAL THOUGHTS

With a little forethought and planning, there is no reason that the skills we worked so hard to refine have to slip into the abyss. There is no getting around the fact that the law enforcement profession can be physically demanding at times, but, if we put our mind to it, we can run right through that tape at the finish line. As we move into the sunset of our careers, we might have to push a little harder, but you will still be able to run with the big dogs. **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.

OFFERING LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS A CHOICE!



Restraint Chair



Nylon Control Strap



DuraGuard Bench



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

How to Evaluate Your Law Enforcement Training Plan

As a law enforcement agency or trainer, you want to ensure that your officers are well trained and prepared to face the challenges and risks of their job. You also want to make sure that your training plan is effective, efficient and aligned with your goals and objectives.

EUGENE NIELSEN

With this in mind, how do you know if your training plan is working? How do you measure its impact and outcomes? How do you identify areas for improvement and make adjustments as needed?

Benefits of Evaluation

One way to answer these questions is to conduct a systematic evaluation of your training plan. Evaluation is a process of collecting and analyzing information to assess the quality, value and effectiveness of a program or intervention. Evaluation can help you:

- Demonstrate accountability and transparency to your stakeholders, such as funders, community members, partners, and staff.
- Provide evidence of your training plan's achievements and challenges, as well as its strengths and weaknesses.
- Learn from your experiences and improve your practices and processes.
- Support decision-making and planning for future training activities.

Types of Evaluation

There are different types of evaluation which can serve different purposes and answer different questions.

Formative evaluation is conducted during the development or implementation of a training plan to provide feedback and guidance for improvement. It can help you answer questions such as:

- Is the training plan well designed and aligned with the needs and expectations of the officers?
- Are the training activities relevant, appropriate and engaging?
- Are there any barriers or challenges which need to be addressed?



Summative evaluation is conducted after the completion or delivery of a training plan to measure its outcome and impact. It can help you answer questions such as:

- Did the training plan achieve its intended goals and objectives?
- What changes or benefits did the officers experience as a result of the training?
- How did the training plan affect their knowledge, skills, attitude, and behavior?

Process evaluation is conducted to examine how a training plan is implemented and operated. It can help you answer questions such as:

- How well did the training plan follow its design and schedule?
- What resources and inputs were used for the training?
- How satisfied were the officers and trainers with the training experience?

Impact evaluation is conducted to assess the long-term effects and consequences of a training plan on the officers, the agency and the community. It can help you answer questions such as:

- How did the training plan contribute to improved performance, safety and professionalism of the officers?
- How did the training plan affect the quality of service delivery, community relations and public trust?

Key Steps

To conduct a comprehensive and credible evaluation of your training plan, you need to follow some key steps:

Define the purpose and scope of your evaluation. What are you trying to achieve

with your evaluation? What are the main questions you want to answer? Who are the intended users and audiences of your evaluation results? How will you use your evaluation results for learning and improvement?

Develop an evaluation plan. An evaluation plan is a document which outlines the details of your evaluation such as:

- What type of evaluation are you conducting (formative, summative, process, or impact)?
- What are the specific objectives and indicators of your evaluation?
- What methods and tools will you use to collect and analyze data?
- How will you ensure the quality, validity and reliability of your data?
- How will you protect the confidentiality and privacy of your participants?
- What are the roles and responsibilities of your evaluation team?
- What are the timelines and budget of your evaluation?

Implement your evaluation plan. This involves carrying out your data collection and analysis activities according to your evaluation plan. You may need to recruit participants, obtain consent forms, administer surveys or interviews, observe or record training sessions, review documents or records, etc. You may also need to clean, organize, code, or categorize your data before analyzing them using appropriate techniques (such as descriptive statistics, inferential statistics, content analysis, thematic analysis, etc.). You should document your data collection and analysis procedures and results in a clear and consistent manner.



The evaluation of law enforcement training plans is an important component of quality assurance and accountability.

Evaluation Methods

The evaluation methods which are employed are important to ensure that the training objectives are met and that the resources are used efficiently. Some of the methods which may be used are:

- Pre- and post-tests: These are assessments which measure the knowledge and skills of the participants before and after the training. They can help to identify the learning outcomes and gaps of the training program.
- Feedback surveys: These are questionnaires which collect the opinions and perceptions of the trainees and trainers about the training. They can help to measure the satisfaction and

engagement of the participants and identify the strengths and weaknesses of the training delivery.

- Observation: This is a method which involves watching and recording the behavior and performance of the trainees during or after the training. It can help to assess the application and transfer of learning to real-world situations.
- Interviews and focus groups: These are methods which involve asking questions and facilitating discussions with the trainees and trainers about the training. They can help to gather in-depth and qualitative information about the training experience and outcomes.

Communication and Implementation

- Report and disseminate your evaluation results. This involves communicating your findings, conclusions and recommendations in an accessible and understandable format. You may need to prepare different types of reports or products for different audiences (such as executive summaries, technical reports, presentations, infographics, etc.). You should highlight the main messages and implications of your evaluation results, as well as any limitations or

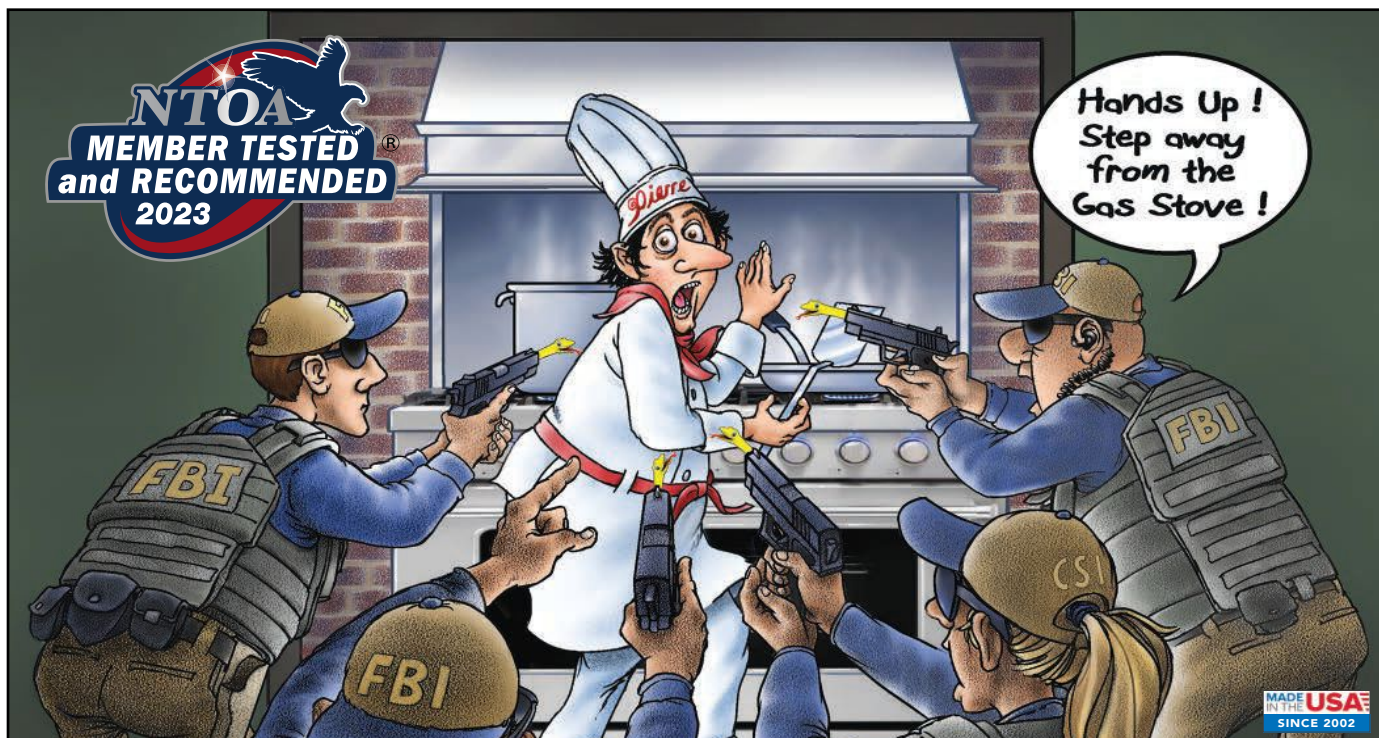
challenges. You should also acknowledge any contributions or support from others involved in your evaluation.

- The evaluation results are of no benefit unless the lessons learned are implemented. Use your evaluation results for improvement. This involves applying what you learned from your evaluation to enhance or modify your training plan or practices. You may also need to share or discuss your evaluation results with your staff.

To Sum Up

Evaluation of law enforcement training plans is a crucial step to ensure that the objectives of the training are met and that the outcomes are aligned with the expectations of the stakeholders. Evaluation can help identify the strengths and weaknesses of the training plan, as well as the areas for improvement and modification. Evaluation can also provide feedback to the trainers and the trainees, as well as evidence of the impact and effectiveness of the training. **P&SN**

Eugene Nielsen owns and operates a private intelligence and security consulting firm. He has a BA degree in political science from the University of California at Santa Barbara.



At least Pierre knows he's safe with the sight of **CHAMBERSNAKE™**... and fortunately for him it's just a Big Government exercise... and why our 2nd Amendment Rights are so important to our **FREEDOM & Safety!**



CHAMBERSNAKE™
Your Gun Guardian



Photo Courtesy of MILO

Why Your Agency Should Combine Virtual and Physical Training

RON LAPEDIS

Research conducted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) has revealed that training specifically for de-escalation has resulted in a nearly 30% reduction in use-of-force incidents; an approximate 30% reduction in injuries to community members; and a 40% reduction in law enforcement officer injuries.

With the villainization of law enforcement, training which is proven to lower injuries to community members is positive indeed. However, even with thorough training, situations can still deteriorate. That's why it's essential to go beyond de-escalation and consider various "what if" scenarios, such as dealing with an unarmed or armed confrontational suspect, handling shots fired, managing hostages, or addressing a domestic situation.

Students have the opportunity to employ virtual training for practicing the fundamentals of engaging with a suspect, emphasizing non-confrontational approaches. With modern simulators supporting branching scenarios, the training officer can cause the virtual suspect to react to the student's commands and body language. And, depending on the student's actions and what the simulator supports, the suspect can back down and be released; become belligerent, but cooperative; or can go full "Hulk" on

the student.

Rather than seeing virtual training as a waste of their time, officers need to look at it as a way to ensure that they and their fellow responders, suspects and victims can all go home to their families.

A virtual simulator can be like a quiz or final exam. Students need to be trained and practice the skills before they can pass a test based on those skills. Some skills cannot be practiced or honed using only a simulator, but require a move back to the physical world.

First Steps

Assuming that your officers took criminal justice training and went to the academy (which may not be the case in some communities), they should be well-versed in the power of arrest; firearms training; and, of course, arrest and control which includes how to safely approach, subdue, cuff, and put the suspect into a vehicle for transport.



POLICEAMMO FROM THE GUN SHOP



Force on Force® and SIMUNITION® TWO BRANDS – ONE FAMILY



- **Force on Force and Simunition are interchangeable in Simunition guns.***
- **Force on Force can be stocked by distributors for immediate delivery in territory.**
- **We will fill your request or help you find your local distributor!**



* 5.56 Simunition will not work with Force on Force bolts.

60 Main Street #D | Vincentown, New Jersey 08088-8870
Tel: 609-859-1997 | Fax: 609-859-3099 | info@policeammo.com



Systems which incorporate additional simulated equipment such as flashlights and OC sprays enhance the level of realism. (Photo courtesy of VirTra)

In addition to “book learning,” officers need to practice arrest and control techniques using dummies and live opponents. While standing in front of a simulator conversing with a suspect can help with de-escalation skills, an armed and belligerent suspect requires a different set of skills and tools, such as the use of cover or concealment along with the possible use of a baton, TASER®, firearm, OC spray, or more aggressive methods of restraint.

Every one of these skills needs to be

practiced until the officer can safely take a suspect into custody without injury to themselves or other parties. It is also important to develop a “spidey sense” to help figure out if there are more suspects waiting in the shadows; if you are about to lose control of the situation; or, even worse, have your firearm taken.

Next Steps

Once an officer can demonstrate competent firearms skills including the use of cover and concealment; the successful use of de-escalation skills; and can take down a belligerent suspect without injury, it is time to put them together into a comprehensive scenario – just like real life.

To be fair, the scenarios should not only be realistic, but they also need to be repeatable. Like using the same firearms exercise repeatedly until a student can qualify, repeating the same unsuccessful scenario until the student is successful helps build confidence before moving on to other scenarios.

The importance of using a good simulator cannot be stressed enough. While a 300 degree wraparound simulator is

nice to have, three screen or even single screen simulators will work as long as they offer realistic, repeatable scenarios with sufficient branching to allow the scenario to change based on an officer's response.

Multiple companies offer simulators with on-screen reaction to modified firearms which can malfunction or force a reload. If the simulator doesn't support modified firearms based on the sidearm your officers carry, students can build bad muscle memory. A unit which can also simulate flashlights and TASERs is an added plus.

Keep It Up

Interaction with a suspect can move from one stage to another in the blink of an eye. Your officers need to be able to shift gears instantly as any hesitation can lead to losing control of the situation.

For the most realistic training, your students need to be able to switch from the simulator to physical interaction in an instant which implies that training mats, dummies, RedMan suits, CPR and bleeding control dummies, and so on need to be located close to your simula-

THE NEW DEFINITION OF TRAINING

FOR RECON INTERACTIVE TRAINING SIMULATION SYSTEMS

RECON LED

VIVID COLOR AND CLARITY

MAXIMUM 4K RESOLUTION

RECON LED VIDEO WALL AVAILABLE NOW FOR THE

RECON CORE / 180 / 300



1-800-634-1836
www.TiTraining.com

TRAINING
THAT GETS
YOU HOME...

Up-and-coming Training Technology Announcements Unveiled at 2023 IACP Conference

Recently at this year's IACP Conference in San Diego, three well-known companies unveiled a range of innovative virtual training solutions. These companies are recognized for their expertise in delivering essential training systems covering critical incident response, de-escalation techniques, tactical judgment, and firearms proficiency. Included are the following new tech announcements:

MILO VR

MILO Range has introduced MILO VR, a virtual reality solution which immerses trainees in life-like environments, replicating real-world scenarios to provide invaluable hands-on experience.

This new system has been designed to enhance and improve critical thinking, verbal communication and de-escalation techniques while sharpening decision-making skills. MILO VR seamlessly aligns with mission-specific training objectives, offering a flexible solution which adapts to specific needs.

Current users can integrate MILO VR with their existing MILO Range simulators. This integration empowers the MILO Range system to focus on muscle memory and physical skills training, such as marksmanship and defensive tactics, while MILO VR is utilized for intellectual and knowledge-based exercises like de-escalation and cultural awareness.

Agencies benefit from the flexibility of MILO VR through its customizable scenario creation feature, enabling easy crafting, customization and refinement of training content. This includes the ability to adjust characters and environments according to individual requirements. Similar to MILO Range simulators, MILO VR offers adaptive learning through branching scenarios. Instructors have the capability to escalate or de-escalate situations based on trainees' responses, ensuring a personalized learning experience for each user.

MILO VR also provides pre- and post-scenario debriefing capabilities utilizing After-Action Review (AAR) tools. Instructors can utilize this comprehensive platform to thoroughly analyze trainee performance, pinpointing specific areas for improvement.

This new system supports a wide range of tools and devices, both lethal and less-lethal, including pistols, rifles, flashlights, batons, and CEW devices, further enhancing its versatility and applicability in various training scenarios.

milorange.com



MILO VR

VirTra V-XR®

VirTra, Inc. unveiled its Extended Reality (XR) training system, V-XR, at the recent IACP Conference. The V-XR is not a "shoot-don't-shoot" marksmanship trainer; this new

platform focuses on essential skills such as communication, de-escalation and the recognition of mental health conditions, including autism spectrum disorders. V-XR sets itself apart from other solutions through its flexible modes: Educate, Experience and Engage. Each mode delivers transferable information on multiple topics for comprehensive training. "Educate" provides an enhanced lesson plan with voice, images and videos. "Experience" allows users to participate in a scenario in a virtual V-300® on a curved screen. The final is "Engage" which allows interaction with volumetric video characters.

Unlike traditional virtual reality solutions, V-XR utilizes characters captured using VirTra's volumetric studio, the V3™. With three-dimensional human characters, users can now discern nuanced facial expressions and subtle micro-cues which greatly enhances realism.

VirTra's new V-XR provides flexibility, adaptability and a small physical footprint it provides agencies of all sizes with a scalable, modular and customizable platform.

virtra.com/overview/v-xr



VirTra V-XR®



RECON LED

Ti Training

Another IACP announcement is the RECON LED, an immersive high-resolution screen display by TiTraining. This newest display architecture features Gullwing configuration technology, a patent-pending innovation which allows the 34.5 foot wide surface to seamlessly transform into a 180 degree immersive environment. The RECON LED maintains precise calibration during any movement, while offering superior visual quality, clarity and definition. Designed for real-world scenario replication, the RECON LED is compatible with CORE, 180 and 300 models. The 11'5" x 6'6" individual screens support 4K resolution with a high refresh rate of 3840hz and a brightness of 1500 NITS. Utilizing NovaStar VX600 Video Processors, it boasts a remarkable lifespan of 100,000 hours and provides remarkable definition and clarity in dark or light environments. titraining.com

tor. Since most simulators can evaluate firearms skills, you might not need your range nearby unless you want to transition to a shoot house for a gunfight or a car for pursuit.

To prevent damage to the simulator, physical activity should be performed well away from it and with the appropriate mats and safety gear. A comprehensive virtual-physical training scenario could include:

- Students sprinting 200 yards in patrol gear to simulate a chase before entering the simulator.
- Exiting the simulator to restrain and search a suspect on the ground after they move into a cuffing position, considering the possibility of the suspect resisting arrest.
- Exiting the simulator to secure and search a suspect on the ground after they have been TASED.
- Practicing the administration of naloxone in the event of a suspect overdose.

- Exiting the simulator to practice takedowns with a partner if a simulated suspect attacks the student.
 - Exiting the simulator to let K9 students practice takedowns with their furry partners, preferably outside the building with the “suspect” wearing protective clothing.
 - Practicing safe approaches to a vehicle in relevant scenarios.
 - Training for officer down situations by exiting the simulator and dragging a fellow officer to safety without endangering oneself.
 - Exiting the simulator after shooting a suspect to secure them and provide medical assistance.
 - Concluding an active shooter simulation by exiting the simulator and collaborating with other first responders to assess and provide aid.
- Using these suggested scenarios compels trainees to build the muscle memory needed to create a single response chain which will let them transi-

tion from encounter, an attempt at de-escalation followed a rapid move from left of bang to right of bang. This just isn't possible with your simulator and physical training locations separated.

Summary

Co-located simulator and physical training equipment lets you combine physical and virtual training into the same session, helping officers make a smoother transition between the different stages of incident response. While scenarios need to be repeatable until an officer responds correctly more than once, don't be afraid to mix things up afterwards because life on the street never repeats. **P&SN**

Ron LaPedis is an NRA certified Chief Range Safety Officer; NRA, USCCA and California DOJ certified instructor; is a uniformed first responder; and frequently writes and speaks on law enforcement, business continuity, cybersecurity, physical security, and public/private partnerships.



T4E
TRAINING FOR ENGAGEMENT

READINESS COMES
WITH PRACTICE
NOT COMPLACENCY

T4E® is a platform of high impact, cost-effective training pistols and rifles. Designed to the specs of their firearm counterparts, these markers provide an authentic feel to training exercises. Firing paint, powder or rubber rounds, the T4E platform allows for force-on-force training at a fraction of the cost of other popular methods.

© 2023 UMAREX USA, INC. TRAIN WITH T4E

TRAINING.T4EGUNS.COM

UMAREX USA
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS



**TO
SERVE
AND
PROTECT**

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

STRATTON
— HATS —

Stratton Hats is the nation'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.

MADE IN USA 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

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

Advertiser Index

Page #	Advertiser	Web Site
8.....	Accu-Shot	accu-shot.com
39.....	Ammo-Safe, LLC.....	chambersnake.com
34.....	Black Hills Ammunition.....	black-hills.com
5.....	BlueRidge Armor.....	blueridgearmor.com
31.....	Dragon Skin	hi-tec.qc.ca
36.....	EVIDENT, Inc.....	shopevident.com
24-25.....	FN America, LLC	fnamerica.com
36.....	Fire Hooks Unlimited, Inc.....	firehooksunlimited.net
13.....	Gamber-Johnson, LLC.....	gamberjohnson.com
16.....	Golight, Inc.....	golight.com
41.....	Gun Shop, The.....	policeammo.com
33.....	Hardwire, LLC	hardwirellc.com
37.....	Humane Restraint Co., Inc.....	humanerestraint.com
15.....	iPRO Americas, Inc.....	i-pro.com
14.....	Instant Armor, Inc.....	instantarmor.com
17.....	John Jones Police Pursuit	Vehicles policepursuitvehicles.com
Cover 3.....	Jotto Desk.....	jottopublicsafety.com
23.....	Leonardo/ELSAG ALPR Systems.....	leonardocompany-us.com
Cover 2.....	OnStar	onstar.com/publicsafety
32.....	Pearce Grip, Inc.....	pearcegrip.com
18.....	Printek LLC.....	printek.com
Cover 4.....	Pulsar.....	pulsarnv.com
21.....	Santa Cruz Gunlocks, LLC	santacruzgunlocks.com
7.....	Setina Manufacturing Co., Inc.....	setina.com
29.....	SHOT Show 2024	shotshow.org/psn
35.....	Springfield Armory	springfield-armory.com
44.....	Stratton Hats.....	strattonhats.com
44.....	T4E	training.t4eguns.com
19.....	TacMed Solutions, LLC.....	tacmedsolutions.com
42.....	Ti Training	titraining.com
9.....	WaterShed, LLC.....	wearewatershed.com
27.....	WaterShed, LLC.....	wearewatershed.com
8.....	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!

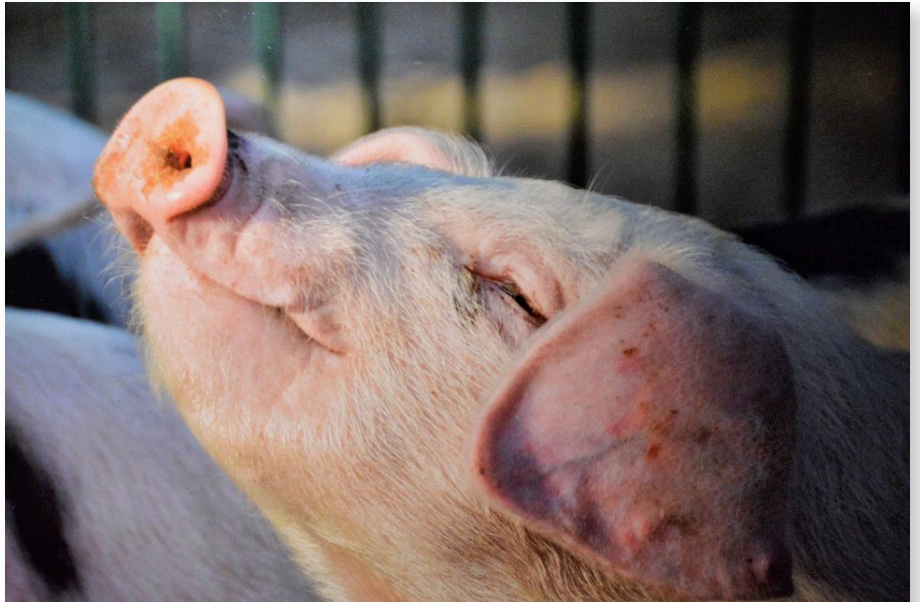
JAMES L. MCCLINTON, PH.D.

A mother and son bonding – BAIL BONDING... A California mother and son were cited for reckless driving after they were caught racing each other on Mother's Day. According to the Fresno Police Department, officers with the Street Racing Team spotted the two vehicles racing each other and clocked them in at 80 mph. Officers said the two were seen driving dangerously, weaving around each other while on the road before they were pulled over by police. The FPD says the mother and son both lost their vehicles for 30 days and were issued citations for driving recklessly. (*They're catching the bus together now.*)

Not exactly "The Happiest Place on Earth"... Two families recently went on a rampage of violence, attacking one another at Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom – the reason for the brawl was a disagreement over who could stand next to a sign commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Disney Company. According to police, one family was standing in front of the sign when another group wanted to snap a photo. When the second group asked the first to step aside, punches were thrown. At least one person was treated for injuries at the site. (*A feud between the families of Goofy and Dumbo...*)

So, basically, he was on a "date."... A member of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners who was caught in a car with a prostitute by law enforcement is claiming that the incident is a "big misunderstanding." Wayne County Sheriff's Office deputies said they found the official in his car at about 7:15 a.m. engaging in a sex act with a prostitute. Undercover narcotics officers were in the area at that time and saw him with a woman who was known to them. He has since denied the allegations as a "big misunderstanding." "I'm done talking about it; that's just not what happened," he told a Detroit newspaper. The official, who previously served as chair of the police watchdog group, released a statement saying that he would take a step back from participating in board meetings. (*Hopefully, he'll be "defunded" in the near future.*)

REAL STORIES OF GENUINE ABSURDITY



He's a picture of government spending – runaway pork!...

Police in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, went "hog wild" as they attempted to capture a culprit who was reported scurrying around a Hamilton Park neighborhood. "As it turns out, pigs are fast...and elusive...", the Manheim Township Police Department began earnestly in a lengthy news release about the pursuit of a large hog they named Hamilton. Police said that, after days of numerous calls from neighbors, a man reported an "enormous pig" was sleeping under a trampoline in his backyard. Three officers and one civilian police aide all responded, but were unable to catch the sneaky swine. Officers called for backup from the Lancaster Farm Sanctuary who showed up with "personnel and pig-catching stuff...which we believe is the correct terminology." "A foot pursuit of the escaped swine ensued and, yes, we see the irony in three cops chasing a pig," the department continued. "As it turns out, Hamilton wasn't as tired as we thought because we're fairly certain he's the fastest pig alive." Workers from the farm sanctuary managed to corral Hamilton inside a dog crate and he was loaded onto the sanctuary van. (*The pig was just hamming it up.*)

Lookin' for love in all the wrong places... A 43-year-old bachelor from Janesville, Wisconsin, has grown weary of dating apps and has decided to try a new tactic. He took out a billboard featuring a photo of himself. Next to that are the words (in all caps), "DATE ROBERT," followed by "Wisconsin's #1 Eligible Bachelor." The sign states that Robert is "looking for a local, honest woman." The targeted lucky lady can reach him at the number plastered on the billboard. If you do reach out to Robert, you might want to ask him about the restraining order which was put in place against him last year, according to online court records, which is set to last for four years. Oh well, that's probably nothing to worry about, so, ladies, grab your phones! (*I'm sure he'll end up with the woman he deserves.*)

Little known fact: This was the original plot for The Shawshank Redemption... The Newport News (VA) Sheriff's Office (NNSO) said two inmates who broke out of their jail cell managed to taste sweet freedom for only a day before they were caught at an IHOP® miles away. The NNSO said two inmates were missing during a head count and it was discovered that they had used "primitive tools," including a toothbrush and rebar, to dig a hole out of their cell wall and then scaled a wall to make a daring escape. The two then made it to an IHOP seven miles away, opting for the pancake house instead of a Waffle House located just a few blocks away. The NNSO said that private citizens notified law enforcement when they saw the men at the IHOP. (*"We would like the jailbreak special, please."*) **P&SN**

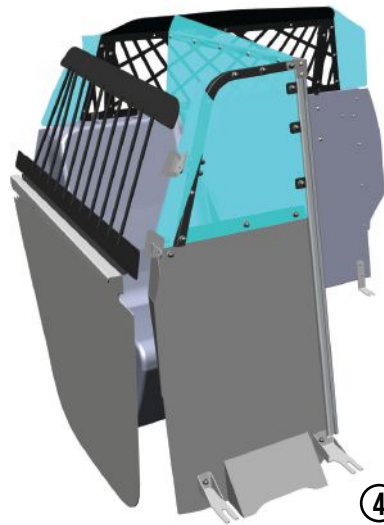
DGS CONTOUR CONSOLE



MAMBA MOUNT CONSOLE SIDE MOUNT



SINGLE CELL PRISONER CONTAINMENT



ZRT GUN RACKS



For nearly 30 years, Jotto Desk has offered a variety of high quality products that are specifically engineered and thoughtfully designed to enhance the organization and ergonomics in the public safety "mobile office"...the vehicle.

SPACE CREATOR

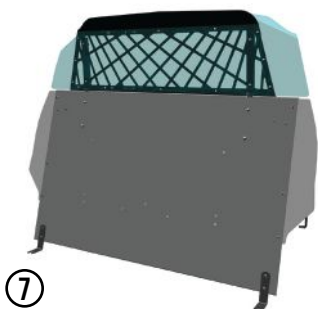
VEHICLE PARTITIONS



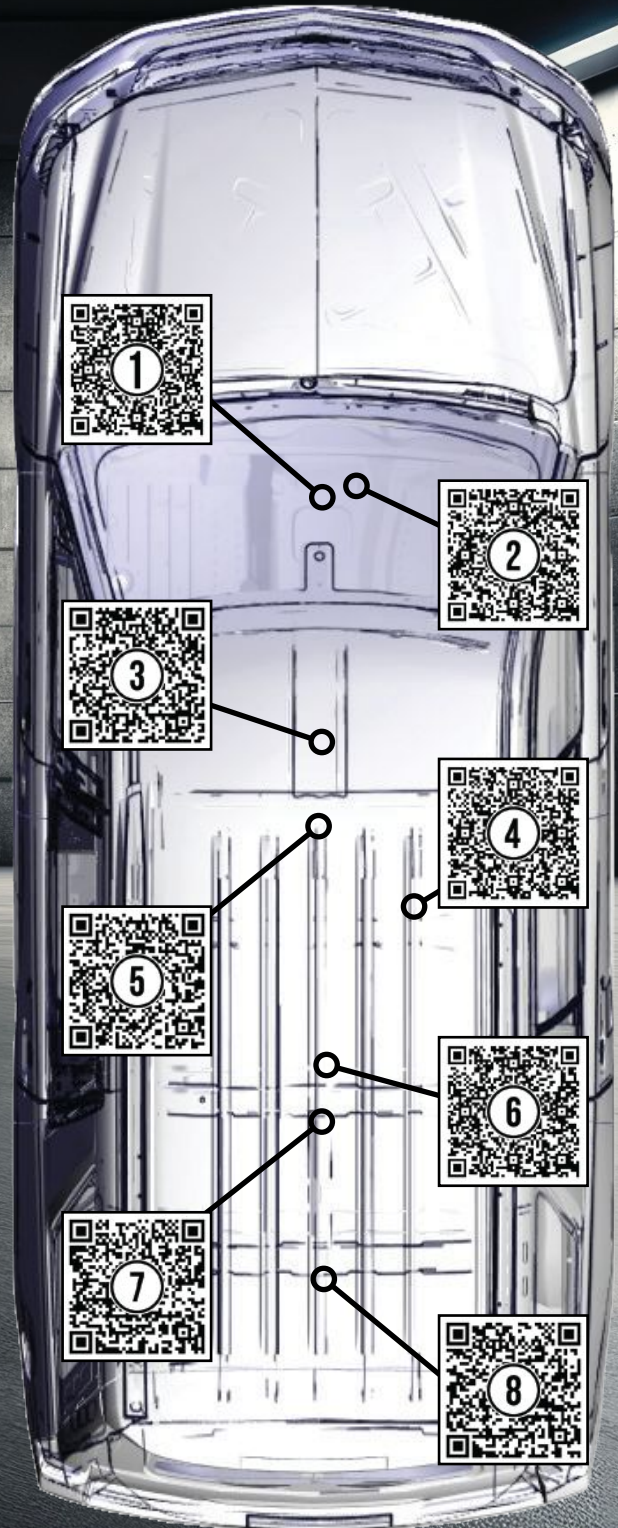
ABS SEATING



CARGO BARRIER



CARGO COVER/EQUIPMENT TRAY





Goes Anywhere.

AXION 2 LRF XG35

Thermal Imaging Rangefinding Monocular

THERMAL
IMAGING

The latest in thermal technology now fits in the palm of your hand with the Axion 2 LRF XG35 from Pulsar. Small enough to fit comfortably in a patrol bag or cargo pocket, this latest generation handheld thermal monocular is both lightweight and feature rich.

The Axion 2 LRF XG35 is equipped with a long distance laser rangefinder. Capable of detecting objects more than a thousand yards away, this robust system is perfect for search and rescue personnel, forest rangers, long range precision shooters, or L.E.O.s. Nothing with body heat escapes the Axion 2 LRF XG35's 640x480 high resolution microbolometer sensor. With multiple palettes, Pulsar's Axion Monocular helps Law Enforcement and First Responders detect heat, even in adverse conditions.



www.pulsarnv.com | 817-225-0310 | sales@pulsarnv.com



Mobile App

Google play

Available on the
App Store