



SAGA Snippets

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Looking Ahead to Women's Month with SAGA

A number of exciting events are being planned in August for Women's Month in partnership with SAGA and a number of other wonderful supporters including:

Beretta
CHS Guns
Clay Busters
False Bay Firearm Training Academy
False Bay Sport Shooting Club
George Sport Shooting Club
Krav Maga Supremacy
Multi-Discipline Shooters Assoc

National Hunting & Shooting Assoc
Pegasus Ammunition
Quenets Hunting & Fishing
Real Deal Resources
SA Tactical Institute

3 August: My Mom is my Bodyguard At Colt Shooting Range

An exciting self-defence and shooting day organized by SA Tactical Institute.

Price: R500 per woman including ammo and refreshments. No prior experience needed.
R150 access available per male shooter on the next range.
To book email: info@satactical.co.za or phone 072-324-7357

9 August: Women's Day Event At Bellville Pistol Club Range

Organised by Real Deal Resources this event includes breakfast, a theoretical session on firearm basics, self-defence basics, vehicle safety, a



range session to learn how to safely and responsibly handle a firearm followed by lunch and a prize giving.
Price: R850
To book WhatsApp Hamish on 082-320-3309

10 August: Women's Day Shooting Experience At False Bay Sport Shooting Club Range

A popular ladies-only event at False Bay Sport Shooting Club to experience the thrill of target shooting.
From 09:00 to 12:00.

Price: R350 per person includes breakfast and lunch.
To book email: secretary@fbssc.co

17 August: Women's Introduction to Firearms At George Sport Shooting Club Range

This ladies-only event run by the George Sport Shooting Club is intended for those with no or limited firearm experience and includes an introduction to firearms, sport shooting and self-defence aspects & a Mysery event.

From 9am to 2pm.
Price: R150 per entry. Only 40 spots available. Includes Goodie Bag and light refreshments.
To book WhatsApp 082-417-6861

SAGA Snippets July 2024

Special points of interest:

- Women's Month with SAGA
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First SAGA Certificate of Appreciation

The first SAGA Certificate of Appreciation was presented to the Designated Firearms Office at Da Gamaskop SAPS on 4 July 2024.

SAPS Designated Firearms Offices are an integral part of the FCA requirements with regard to registration and licensing of legal firearms. As such, SAGA has embarked on a pilot project to identify areas of exceptional service to the firearms community and officially recognise these offices for their efforts, and as an inspiration to others.

Key criteria are:

Exceptionality – going beyond the call of duty/extra mile.

Consistency – multiple commendations from firearms owners using the office.

Impactfulness – effect on firearms owners and their likelihood of speaking positively about the experience.

Attitude – professionalism, supportiveness and friendliness in assisting the applicant.

Presentation – the state and appearance of the police station in general and especially the DFO office in terms of organisation, booking and application systems/procedures.

The Designated Firearms Office at Da Gamaskop SAPS has thus been recognised for their attitude, consistency and impactfulness on the Mosselbay firearms community.

This is no small feat and the police station, its command, personnel, and especially the designated firearms officers, should be rightfully proud of this achievement and accolade. On behalf of the firearms community, we thank the Da Gamaskop DFO's for their service.

With thanks to SAGA Trustee and Representative Shaun and Jane Lyle for starting and running with this initiative.





SAGA Corporate Membership List

SAGA Corporate Members professionally representing Firearm owners, Dealers & Associations at the highest level.

The members listed below and over the page are all proudly 2024 SAGA Corporate Members.

ASSOCIATION

CLAY TARGET SHOOT ASSOC
 KAAPJAG (CAPE HUNTERS & GAME CONSERVATION ASSOC)
 KZN HUNTING & CONSERVATION ASSOC
 MILNERTON SHOOTING ASSOC
 MOSSC SPORT SHOOT ASSOC.
 NAACCSA
 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RESPONSIBLE FIREARM OWNERS
 NATIONAL HUNTING & SHOOTING ASSOC
 PHASA
 PWAV/PAAA
 SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOC
 SAAACA GAUTENG
 SAAACA KZN
 SAAACA MPUMALANGA
 SOUTH AFRICAN TACTICAL SHOOTING ASSOC
 SOUTH CAPE HUNTERS & CONSERVATION ASS
 WESTERN SHOOTERS OF SA
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CLUB

BORDER HUNTING CLUB
 BROADWAY SHOOTING CLUB
 BUFFALO RIVER SHOOTING CLUB
 CAPE SPORTING RIFLE CLUB
 CLAY PIGEON ADVENTURES
 DALTON RIFLE & GUN CLUB
 EYE SHOOT SPORT SHOOTING CLUB
 FALSE BAY SPORT SHOOTING CLUB
 GEORGE SPORT SHOOTING
 HILLDALE SHOOTING CLUB
 IMPALA SHOOTING CLUB
 KOKSTAD SHOOTING CLUB
 KWAGGA JAG & AVONTUURKLUB
 LION MOUNTAIN RANGERS



MODDERFONTEIN SHOOTING CLUB
 MONTANA PISTOL CLUB
 NYATHI ANTI POACHING UNIT
 RICHARDS BAY SPORT SHOOTING CLUB
 ROCKY RIDGE SHOOTING CLUB
 SABIE CLAY PIGEON CLUB
 SHOOTING STUFF
 SOMERSET WEST PISTOL CLUB
 VEKTOR SHOOTING CLUB

DEALER

ARMS KING
 ART OF AMMUNITION
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 EXECUTIVE DECISIONS
 SA TACTICAL INSTITUTE

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

HARLYN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
 HILLCREST PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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Continued...SAGA Corporate Membership

SECURITY

A.O.G SECURITY
ALPHA SECURITY & PATROLS
PANGOLIN SECURITY PRODUCTS
PREMIER SECURITY
SECURITY RESPONSE GROUP
STAR RAPID RESPONSE
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**Please support those that support
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Find out more about Corporate
Membership by contacting us:

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EMAIL saga@saga.org.za

SAGA Personal Membership

SAGA annual Membership fees are:

Adult R300
Pensioner/Junior R180
Family: 1x Adult @R300 plus any number of family
members @ R100 each

Join via our website at www.saga.org.za

By being a member you keep us in 'business' and we are
able to continue working for fair and just firearm rights for
responsible firearm owners in South Africa.

Do you know someone who supports the right to own a
firearm for lawful purposes? **Get them to join SAGA today.**

The SAGA office is now available on WhatsApp on our cell-
phone number **066 003 9226**.





So What's Next?

https://www.shootingillustrated.com/content/so-what-s-next/?utm_source=newsletter

by Sheriff Jim Wilson

23 July 2024

So, you have just completed a week-long, introductory, defensive-pistol class. What you have learned, if you applied yourself, are the basics of defensive-pistol shooting. You've been exposed to proper marksmanship, pistol presentation, reloading techniques and malfunction clearances.

But, you can only do so much on the standard square range among a group of other students. In truth, your defensive education is just beginning. When you get home, you should certainly practice the techniques that you have been taught, but you should also be considering ways to deal with a criminal threat in the real world.

For example, in that square-range class you probably did very little work from a sitting position. And yet, think about the time that you spend every day, sitting in your car, at your desk or in your easy chair. Does your particular carry position allow you to draw and engage targets without getting up? It should. Imagine a threat approaching from the rear of your car, on the driver's side, but not coming all the way up to the driver's window. He can shoot you. Could you hit him if you had to?

One also might consider how to get the gun into action while lying flat on your back. Getting knocked down early in a criminal attack is not beyond the realm of belief. Do you carry in such a way that you can get your gun into action while you are down?

Another issue to consider is that crooks don't always approach you from the front and stand squared away like that silhouette target was located. They may make their attack from one side, or the other, or from directly behind you. It would be a really good idea to work out a way to turn and address the threat without getting your feet tangled up. And, believe me, this is something that one has to practice in order to respond quickly and effectively.

Many of these techniques designed to address a surprise threat are best worked out and practiced during a dry practice session. It is certainly safer, and you don't really need a loaded gun to practice the turning and other physical movements that allow you to address a threat.

Another practice session might involve shooting under low-light conditions with, and without, a flashlight. Yes, I know that defensive lights are mighty handy to have. But do you always carry one? Is getting a light out, along with drawing your gun, a regular part of your practice? And what do you do if the batteries have failed?

So in addition to practicing what was taught at that good school you just attended, it is also a good idea to spend a little time and think of the realistic, worst-case scenarios you might encounter and practice ways of dealing with them.

The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Concealed Carry



<https://www.shootingillustrated.com/content/the-seven-habits-of-highly-effective-concealed-carry/>

By Kevin Creighton
4 July 2024

Carrying a defensive firearm means making changes in our lifestyle. Some of them are easy to make, and some require more thought and effort. Here are seven things to consider once you've decided to become your own first responder and carry concealed on a regular basis.

Have an appropriate level of situational awareness for your surroundings. The Cooper Color Code is a fantastic tool to help make this happen. The easiest way I've found to describe this idea is "Pay attention to what you're paying attention to."

As I write this, I'm sitting at home in my easy chair, writing on my laptop. Am I expecting something bad to happen? Oh heck no. I'm quite relaxed, actually. Do I have that same level of relaxation and bliss when I'm driving on a busy street in the city? No, I pay much more attention to what's going on then. Situational awareness means applying those same levels of awareness when you drive to when you're not driving.

2. Pre-visualize what could go wrong.

Pre-visualization means, in essence, that we accept the fact that violent encounters can happen, and we pre-plan our responses. It's not being paranoid, it's having at least one response ready to go based on what's around you.

To go back to the driving metaphor for a bit, pre-visualization means checking your mirrors to see if you can make a quick lane change if something bad happens in front of you. That's not being paranoid, that's being prudent.

Also, pre-visualize how the rules of gun safety apply to your life, and follow them every moment of every waking day.

3. Commit to having a gun with you wherever and whenever possible. This is absolutely crucial, as everything else you've done to defend against an armed attacker is moot if you don't have an appropriate response ready to go.

In fact, a Georgetown University study showed that 81.9 percent of the time, just showing that you were armed ended an armed violent armed encounter. Those are good odds, but you only get to play those odds if you have a gun ready to go at a moment's notice.

4. Figure out how much effort you're willing to make in order to have a gun with you as often as possible. For a lot of my friends, this question is moot. They "dress around the gun" and carry duty-sized pistols festooned with lights, red dots and all manner of gadgets, and choose their wardrobe around that fact.

However, not everyone is willing to do that, at least at first. Maybe pocket carry is right for you, or some form of off-body carry. Whatever you decide, make sure you can access your gun quickly if needed, and always be on the lookout for a better method of carry.

5. Adjust your attitude. John Farnam is a legend in the firearms training world, and he came up with Farnam's Rules for avoiding bad situations: Avoid going to stupid places to do stupid things at stupid times with stupid people.



Continued...7 Habits of Highly Effective Concealed Carry

There are restaurants near me that have some amazing food, but they are located in neighborhoods where I wouldn't go to on a Saturday night with anything less than a squad of Marines as a company.

An easy rule of thumb is, if you're going someplace where you think you might need a gun, don't go there.

6. Expand your options. Chuck Haggard said it best: Carrying pepper spray gives you an option between harsh words and a gun. A flashlight lets you show the bad guys that you know they might be out there and lets you light up a potential threat before it becomes a real threat. The fact is, a violent criminal encounter may very well require something other than a ballistic answer, so have one ready to go.

7. Relax and have fun. My friend Melody Lauer says, "Don't let your desire to protect your life stop you from having a life worth living," and I agree 100% with that idea.

Shooting guns is fun, so go to the range and practice. Mastering a new skill is fun, so take a shooting class. Relax in the knowledge that you've started on a journey called "effective concealed carry," and the end destination is a peaceful life for you and your family, no matter what may happen.



SAGA Corporate Membership

Any institution lives or dies by its clients, customers and members, and in a non-profit's case this is even more critical.

At SAGA more members means the more we can do for firearm owners, the industry AND the stronger our lobby group is when fighting the critical firearms fight with the highest levels of government.

HELP us help you and sign up your company or business as a Corporate Member. Please don't be put off by the word 'Corporate' it simply means any business entity no matter how small or big - it does not refer only to JSE listed entities!

Our Corporate members include a variety of types of businesses and clubs/associations ranging from small one-man-band businesses, through small to medium clubs to massive shooting associations and distributors.

All Corporate Members appear on the monthly list in Snippets which is circulated to members and allied entities throughout the firearms community. Let's all stand together to ensure our collective voices are heard.

If you have a business or are a decision maker in an organization then please encourage membership -

- Clubs R750pa
- Small Businesses R750pa
- Associations R950pa
- Firearm Dealers R950pa
- Other Businesses R950pa

Simply use the QR code here or email the team at SAGA at saga@saga.org.za

It's quick, it's easy, it's painless and you will make a huge difference to the cause.



Carry Laws Don't Increase Gun Theft, Decrease Police Effectiveness

8 July 2024

Note from SAGA: The law in SA requires gun owners to carry concealed. This article was written in the USA which has different laws. The relevance of the research findings is what is appropriate.

Gun-control groups campaign against right-to-carry laws by claiming that guns carried in public pose a substantial threat to public safety, and that concealed carry permitting laws lead to more violent crime, not less. Giffords, for instance, alleges that "the dangers of permissive public carry laws" include an increase in gun thefts and "other undesirable outcomes," with absolutely no counterbalancing public safety benefits.

Professor Carl Moody and Dr. John Lott of the Crime Prevention Research Center (CPRC) have just released an updated paper, *How Does Concealed Carrying of Weapons Affect Violent Crime?* (May 31, 2024). These researchers examined information related to claims that carry concealed weapons (CCW) laws indirectly increase violent crime by driving up firearm thefts or by decreasing police effectiveness. Using a unique new data set that employs the number of permit holders as the variable of interest, the authors found no evidence that CCW laws are associated with significant increases in gun thefts or impact the effectiveness of police.

On gun thefts generally, an existing government source on how criminals obtain their firearms suggests that only a small amount of crime guns are acquired by theft. A Bureau of Justice Statistics report, *Source and Use of Firearms Involved in Crimes: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (Jan. 2019) shows that only 6.4% of state and federal prisoners who had possessed a firearm during the offense for which they were serving time listed "theft" (burglaries, thefts from retail sources or a family/friend, or "other") as their gun source.

Previous literature from the CPRC indicates that CCW permit-holders are unlikely to be violent criminals – in fact, as a class they tend towards the extreme opposite end of the

law-abiding spectrum. In jurisdictions where information on crimes and permits is available, it shows that permit-holders are less likely to drive recklessly or under the influence than non-permittees, and permit-holders are "convicted of firearms-related violations at one-twelfth the rate of police officers."

Professor Moody and Dr. Lott analyzed the theft question (whether CCW permit holders are a significant source of stolen guns beyond the amount expected due to the existing burglary rate) using variables that included the number of CCW permits (and a dummy variable for constitutional carry laws), the number of stolen guns, and the burglary rate as a control. "Stolen guns," they conclude, "are apparently independent of CCW permits or permitless carrying." The evidence revealed that neither the number of CCW permits nor the effect of constitutional carry laws had a significant impact on the rate at which guns are stolen. Constitutional carry states do not have significantly higher gun theft rates but, because most of the constitutional carry laws are relatively recent (since 2015), "it may be too early to draw any conclusions" on their impact.

The second issue examined was whether CCW permit-holders were associated with declines in police effectiveness, measured as the clearance rate of violent crimes. Variables included the clearance (arrest) rates and the number of crimes recorded for several given violent crimes types. Here, too, the analysis showed that "police effectiveness is unrelated to either the number of CCW permits and or existence of constitutional carry laws."

These results confirm – that despite all the spurious rationalizations advanced against lawful carrying, CCW permittees and others carrying responsibly are not the ones who threaten public safety or produce more crime.

Extracted from: <https://www.nraila.org/articles/20240708/crime-prevention-research-center-carry-laws-don-t-increase-gun-theft-decrease-police-effectiveness>

Strengthening Your Weak Links

Extracted from:

https://www.shootingillustrated.com/content/strengthening-your-weak-links/?utm_source=newsletter

By Chris Cypert
15 July 2024

To many armed citizens, if you say the words, "self-defense," their mind immediately goes to "armed self-defense" and the idea of protecting themselves with their carry gun.

Truthfully, across the entire spectrum of self-defense, the ability to use our carry handgun is only one link in the metaphorical chain mail that forms the "armor" of reliable self-protection.

As a firearms/self-defense instructor, one of my more popular classes is a scenario-based "force-on-force" class. Armed with an airsoft handgun and other inert training tools, attendees navigate simulated scenarios based on real life events and deal with role-players portraying contentious strangers in interactions that may or may not lead to violence.

Observing several hundred of these scenarios play out over the last four years, I can count on one hand the occasions someone faced negative scenario outcomes because they couldn't handle or shoot their gun well enough. If someone's self-defense scenario went poorly, it was typically for reasons other than their pure shooting skill. Attendees rarely leave pledging to practice shooting more, and instead typically realize there are other completely neglected areas in which they need to improve. I'd like to examine some of the areas I see people routinely make mistakes and perhaps help some readers identify areas that might be weak spots in their own preparation for self-defense.



Legal Use of Force

Perhaps the most routine and catastrophic area where I see people make mistakes is legal use-of-force. No matter how good you are with your carry gun, if you want to remain an ethical good guy and non-incarcerated free citizen, then you must use your handgun only within the boundaries of the prescribed laws concerning self-defense.

While many concealed carry license holders have sat through a class covering use-of-force law and use of lethal force in self-defense, different states have different requirements, and for many citizens it has been many years since that training. Thus I've seen lack of understanding on use-of-force law negatively impact students in many different ways in the class scenarios.

The most common area one might think of is overreacting and using lethal force when it is not justified, or continuing to use lethal force beyond the point of justification. I also see a lack of understanding of the law lead to underreaction, where a person in the scenario had every justification they needed to use lethal force but either hesitated or used less-than-lethal means because they did not understand that what they were facing constituted lethal force.

Continued...Strengthening Your Weak Links

I am not a lawyer, and this article doesn't constitute legal advice, but I am advising you to seek out authoritative sources on use-of-force law generally and specific to your area if it is available.

Less-Than-Lethal Force Options

Another area where I see armed citizens lacking is in their knowledge and use of less-than-lethal tools for self-defense. Why would a private citizen need these tools or to know how to use them? Not every self-defense problem is a lethal force problem, and if you overreact to a sub-lethal force problem with lethal force, you can find yourself in a pretty poor legal situation. So it pays to have some tools and knowledge that can solve self-defense problems that are not gun problems.

Quality pepper spray, also called "OC spray" (short for oleoresin capsicum) is a fantastic tool within its appropriate use spectrum. In my experience, pepper spray is far more reliable than stun guns or tasers, and generally avoids the legal murkiness so common with impact weapons like batons, saps, and blackjacks, which are regulated very differently from state to state, both in their possession and use. A few states have conditions/restrictions on possession and use of pepper spray, so check your state and local laws.

If you find yourself dealing with a scenario where someone is assaulting you or assault appears imminent, but death or serious bodily injury is unlikely to occur (say, someone shoving you during a parking lot dispute), then it's almost universally not a gun problem. Pepper spray can be a proportional response to sub-lethal force imposed on you, diminishing your attacker so that you can break off from the encounter while staying within the law.



For any self-defense problem we face where lethal force is not justified, but we want to avoid intimate physical contact (i.e. boxing or grappling) with the aggressor as we seek to remove ourselves from the situation, OC/pepper spray is an excellent less-than-lethal tool of choice for the private citizen. I recommend any armed citizen get a quality pocket-sized pepper spray canister as well as an inert training unit of the same type from the same brand, so they can practice with it, and take a formal pepper spray class from a reputable trainer if you can find one.

Medical/First-Aid

Another area that I find most armed citizens have some gaps in their knowledge is in medical/first-aid response. Even among those that do have some medical first-aid knowledge, they often do not incorporate any medical gear into their everyday carry (EDC) kit, either on their person or in a bag or vehicle.

In the aftermath of a violent encounter, it is possible some people may be injured. Even if you win the fight you, your loved ones, or innocent bystanders may have been seriously injured during the event. In such a case, basic knowledge of lifesaving first aid, and the basic tools to take life-saving steps is of paramount importance. The ability to stop bleeding and/or keep someone breathing until emergency medical



Continued...Strengthening Your Weak Links

services arise is a skill every bit as lifesaving as being able to stop an attacker with your concealed handgun. It would be a miserable turn of events to win your fight with a crazed bad guy only to bleed out, or watch loved ones or innocent bystanders bleed out waiting for the ambulance to arrive.

Emergency medical knowledge and tools can also save lives outside of encounters with violent criminals. If you ask anyone who is trained and carries medical as part of their EDC gear, they're likely to tell you they've used their medical gear and knowledge to help injured people, whether a family member or coworker in a workshop accident or a stranger upon driving up on an injured motorcyclist at an intersection. So if our goal is to keep ourselves, our loved ones, and our neighbors alive, it is prudent to also take a medical/first-aid class, such as the excellent Stop The Bleed courses, and keep an individual first aid kit stocked with basic life-saving tools (tourniquet, chest seals, gauze) handy, whether for routine accidents or the aftermath of a violent encounter.

Conclusion

These topics are not exhaustive, and we didn't even touch on the subjects of situational awareness, recognizing pre-assault indicators, verbal agility/de-escalation skills, empty-handed fighting skills, or physical fitness, but those topics will have to wait for another article.

Carrying a gun and being skilled with it is part of self-defense, but not the only part. We must know the law and how to act within it. We should have tools at our disposal to deal with sub-lethal force, such as OC/pepper spray. We should bolster our first-aid medical skills, and have medical gear accessible in an emergency. Most importantly, we should all habitually take stock and strive to identify the weak links in our training and practice habits, so that we don't ignore critical skills we need to keep our loved ones and ourselves safe.