



Exercising the Right

Self-defense Shootings on the Rise in L.A.

The Fox affiliate in Los Angeles reported on July 9 about a brazen midday home invasion in North Hollywood. The incident occurred a little after 3:00 p.m., when police say two men attempted to force their way into a home. There was only one male resident home at the time of the attempted break-in, but he was armed with a handgun and confronted the trespassers. The criminals tried assaulting the homeowner with pepper spray, but the man, in fear for his life, opened fire on the burglars. One of the suspects was hit multiple times and collapsed at the scene, where he was later identified by Los Angeles Police Department investigators as 35-year-old Chucks Chukwudi. The wounded Chukwudi was taken to a nearby medical facility for treatment and is expected to survive.

The investigation is ongoing, but police say Chukwudi has a lengthy criminal record that includes past charges for burglary, robbery, and firearm possession. Authorities also said evidence indicates that Chukwudi and his accomplices were behind other burglaries in the area.

The homeowner told responding officers that he might have shot the other suspect, but police were unable to track the fleeing suspect's trail, and they have not located him or the getaway driver they believe was waiting just outside the house.

Neighbors interviewed by Fox11 were shocked that such an incident would occur in the middle of the day, but Captain Kelly Muniz of the LAPD told the press that crime has been steadily rising in the neighborhood.

As evidence of the surge in criminal activity in Los Angeles, Fox11 added that there has been a series of recent self-defense shootings in Los Angeles. FrumNews.com reported on June 30 about a self-defense shooting that occurred outside a kosher bakery in North Hollywood. Police investigators say a 52-year-old homeless man began attacking the owner of the bakery and his son, and the owner shot the suspect in self-defense. FrumNews reported that the homeless man died at the scene of the crime, and that the bakery owner is cooperating with the police investigation. Law enforcement believes the shooting is justified.

NBC Los Angeles reported July 9 about a robber who was shot by one of his intended victims in a similar self-defense shooting in the city. As of this writing, the Glendale Police Department was still conducting their investigation into what occurred, but they said a responding officer found a man dead of a gunshot wound in the middle of the street. Based on witness accounts and other evidence, they believe that the deceased suspect was armed and attempting to rob two people sitting in an SUV when the driver of the SUV pulled out his own gun and opened fire. "It's a bit of a bizarre situation. You typically don't see that happening," Sergeant Vahe Abramyan, spokesman for the Glendale Police Department, told NBC.

Abramyan said that even though the shooter and his passenger drove off after the shooting, police are so far viewing their actions as lawful and do not believe they will face any criminal charges for their actions. "Everything's possible, but at this point, it appears that they are victims," he said.

Abramyan explained that evidence indicates that the actions of the shooter were justified under applicable law, adding, "If somebody finds themselves in a situation where their life is in danger or



Written by [Patrick Krey](#) on July 23, 2024

Published in the August 12, 2024 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 40, No. 15

someone else's life is in danger, I as a, you know, community member, as a citizen, would do whatever I could to protect myself and anybody else.... You are responsible ultimately for the actions that you commit, but if it's a life-or-death situation, that's going to be a judgment call on that person."

Neighbor Terri Robertson told NBC that she witnessed the shooting. "I saw the EMT do the chest compressions — like, furiously — had no idea what was going on, and then a minute later, they're covering him with a sheet" she said. She added that even though the events were shocking, she was not surprised due to the sharp rise in crime in the area, and that she also supported the victim's actions. "I would say they have to, I would say they have to, because crime is getting really crazy everywhere," Robertson said.

Russell Stuart, the owner of Beverly Hills Guns, told Fox11 that he's seeing increased traffic from customers who are responding to the spike in crime by arming themselves. He explained, "We had a woman who came in today that wanted to buy a pistol because her apartment building was just broken in to, and she was terrified so she wanted to own a gun.... We're seeing new people every single day. We're seeing people that own several firearms come in every single day. Personal protection is the number-one topic, and unfortunately they do not have the trust in law enforcement or the [district attorney] to keep bad guys away so they're going to guns for their own personal safety." Fox11 concluded their report by noting burglaries are up 20 percent.

Pokemon Game Interrupted by Robber

Fox59.com reported on July 11 about a wild incident in Anderson, Indiana, where a man playing a Pokemon game on his smartphone was violently assaulted by a homeless man. Madison County Prosecutor Rodney Cummings explained to the media that the victim was deeply engrossed in his game when "he was approached by a homeless person who punched him in the face and stole his cell phone." The attacker then made violent threats, and the would-be victim pulled out a gun and fired at the man in self-defense.

Prosecutor Cummings explained how the man's actions appear to be justified under state law. "Everything that's been presented to me it looks like a very strong self-defense case.... You can use deadly force to defend yourself or your property if you have reason to believe you could be injured or killed.... I mean this is one where someone defended himself and it could have been worse had he not had a gun, but gun violence is really over the top in the community and this town," he said.



Written by [Patrick Krey](#) on July 23, 2024

Published in the August 12, 2024 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 40, No. 15

Subscribe to the New American

Get exclusive digital access to the most informative, non-partisan truthful news source for patriotic Americans!

Discover a refreshing blend of time-honored values, principles and insightful perspectives within the pages of "The New American" magazine. Delve into a world where tradition is the foundation, and exploration knows no bounds.

From politics and finance to foreign affairs, environment, culture, and technology, we bring you an unparalleled array of topics that matter most.



[Subscribe](#)

What's Included?

- 24 Issues Per Year
- Optional Print Edition
- Digital Edition Access
- Exclusive Subscriber Content
- Audio provided for all articles
- Unlimited access to past issues
- Coming Soon! Ad FREE
- 60-Day money back guarantee!
- Cancel anytime.