



Written by [Patrick Krey](#) on January 5, 2015

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## Exercising the Right

### Pastor Defends His Family

[KSN.com](#) reported out of Valley Center, Kansas, on November 30 about a man who was forced to shoot a burglar to defend his wife and three children. It was early in the morning when the man heard the sounds of someone trying to break in to his house. The father, later identified as a local pastor, called 911 to report the sound of breaking glass and his security alarm going off. The pastor did not wait for the police to arrive. He grabbed his handgun and went to investigate.

The burglar had shattered the kitchen window, which set off the house alarm. The pastor confronted the burglar, who was right outside the broken window. The homeowner yelled for the intruder to stop, but the suspect began crawling into the house. The father fired his handgun, and the bullet grazed the suspect's head. The injured assailant hurriedly ran from the home.

A neighbor, Dave Duncan, told [KSN.com](#) that he would have done something similar to protect his family, as well. "Probably the same thing, hopefully they wouldn't have needed a body bag, I mean I think the fellow, the guy who was trying to break in is real lucky," Duncan told [KSN.com](#). The suspect was later captured and treated for his injuries at a hospital. Authorities then charged the wounded suspect with aggravated burglary.

### "Done the Right Thing"

[WCHSTV.com](#), the ABC affiliate serving the Charleston-Huntington television market, reported on November 5 about a man in his 60s who was burglarized twice in 24 hours but who was prepared the second time. The deadly encounter occurred in Campbells Creek, West Virginia, where neighbor Fred Morris recounted the details for [WCHSTV.com](#). Morris said the first incident took place when thieves broke in to the man's home when he wasn't there, and the crooks made off with an air compressor. Then, less than 24 hours later, the man heard a noise coming from his garage and went to investigate, armed with his handgun. Kanawha County sheriff's deputies said the man confronted an intruder, and there was a brief struggle before the homeowner fatally shot the suspect.

Corporal Brian Humphreys of the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office told [WCHSTV.com](#) that they believe the burglaries were related and that there has been a recent uptick in crime in the area. "There's been a lot of information passed around (to deputies) and there's been an effort trying to stop these from occurring.... Of course this led to this tragedy but we are going to continue to see if there's any links between the other crimes and this event this morning," Humphreys told [WCHSTV.com](#).

Morris was adamant that his neighbor acted appropriately. "I think he done the right thing.... If you can't protect what you got what the use of working and having it if someone is going to come in and take it?" Morris told [WCHSTV.com](#). Morris also had a warning for any other would-be thieves. "I got a pistol on my porch and if I catch somebody around my house I will shoot them."

### Gangbanger Meets Fatal End

The *Tennessean* out of Nashville, Tennessee, reported on November 5 about a masked intruder who was fatally shot during a brazen home invasion. The victims in the case were a husband and wife who were at home watching TV when a man wearing a bandanna over his face barged in through an



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unlocked screen door. The husband, Jonathan McCormick, told the *Tennessean* that his children were home with him that day but were outside playing. The children “were running in and out playing with the neighbors’ children. As I was sitting there, I heard the door open again and I looked up to tell the kids to close the door and quit running in and out, and a guy walked in with a mask. He had [a] bandanna on. All you could see was his eyes and his pistol.”

The man demanded all of their cash and other personal belongings while brandishing a 9 mm handgun at them. The husband complied and gave him the \$30 he had on him, but the intruder demanded more money. While the suspect was distracted by the man’s wife, the husband was able to retrieve a .45-caliber pistol. The intruder turned his own gun toward the homeowner, but the husband opened fire, hitting the suspect. The masked burglar fled the scene but collapsed in the front yard. Authorities arrived and transported the injured assailant to a nearby hospital, but he was pronounced dead. The deceased suspect was later identified as a man under indictment for home burglary and theft charges who also had two prior convictions for felony theft and two prior convictions for felony evading arrest, as well as a reputation as a known gang member. Police also discovered multiple items in his car that were stolen in a string of Davidson and Robertson County burglaries. Authorities even believe that the 9 mm pistol the deceased suspect was wielding was recently stolen as well.

## **Not Tightly Tied**

The *News Tribune* reported on November 19 that one burglar’s inability to tie a good knot would prove fatal. Three intruders forced their way into a home in Lakewood, Washington, that was occupied by a husband and wife. One of the intruders was armed with a gun while another was armed with a knife. The intruders pistol-whipped the husband and tied him up. The wife sustained cuts to her hand in the terrifying ordeal, as she was likewise assaulted and tied up. The suspects then began rummaging through the home, leaving the couple unattended. In their search for valuables, the robbers exited the house. The husband was able to take advantage of being left alone and untie himself and his wife. He grabbed his handgun and closed the door to the bedroom where he and his wife were left by the burglars. Once the burglars realized their victims were free, they reacted violently. One of the assailants fired his weapon through the door. The husband returned fire back through the door.

All three intruders fled the scene after the exchange of gunfire. The suspects would later prove the old saying that there is no honor among thieves, as police found the body of a man they suspect was one of the intruders dumped near an apartment complex, presumably by his accomplices.



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