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# **Exercising the Right**

### Papa John's Stands By Pizza Delivery Person

Pizza delivery drivers are routine targets of criminals since they typically carry large amounts of cash. <u>WSBTV.com</u> out of Atlanta, Georgia, reported on January 13 about a Papa John's Pizza driver who showed some criminals that the drivers sometimes fight back.

Captain Stephen Fore of the DeKalb County Police Department said that a female pizza delivery driver was called to a location for a pizza delivery but was instead confronted by a man with a handgun. Fore told <u>WSBTV.com</u> that the driver "arrived at the location and a male began approaching the vehicle she thought was there to pick up the pizza.... When he got to her he produced a handgun and forced her out of the vehicle and on to the ground." Fortunately, the driver had her own pistol in her pocket and had the courage to reach for it and fire at the armed robber. The shot hit the attacker in the face, and police later located 24-year-old Donquaz Stevenson in the yard of a nearby home suffering from the wound. Captain Fore told <u>WSBTV.com</u> that the gun might have saved her life. "She had no other choice. She must have been in fear for her life and she reacted."

An accomplice of the injured robber was able to commandeer the driver's vehicle and drive away before the police arrived. Authorities are still looking for the second suspect. Stevenson is recovering from his wound and has been charged with armed robbery.

<u>WSBTV.com</u> reported that the mother of the pizza delivery driver told the station that the driver was shaken up by the event and worried she would lose her job since Papa John's has a strict policy prohibiting employees from carrying guns while working.

Fox News would later report that the Papa John's Pizza franchise stood by the actions of the pizza delivery woman who opened fire in an act of self-defense. The company has said the woman will not be fired for her actions. Papa John's does prohibit its employees, including delivery drivers, from carrying firearms while on the job, but the pizza giant said she would not be let go from the company and instead will be reassigned to another role. "The safety of Papa John's employees is a top priority for our company.... Company policy prohibits employees from utilizing firearms in the performance of their duties. We plan no changes to our current policy, which is designed to protect customers and employees.... Upon investigation and considering the specific facts of the situation, we have reassigned the employee to work in the store and are offering her counseling to help her recuperate from the incident," the company said in an e-mail to Fox News.

### Second Time Is Not the Charm

The Fox affiliate out of Warrior, Alabama, reported on December 15 about some criminals who returned to the scene of the crime and paid the price. WBRC reported that a family's house was burglarized the previous week and that the criminals apparently decided to attempt to rob the same house again.

In the earlier burglary, surveillance video at the home of the Wyatt family showed a woman knocking on the door, and after there was no answer, a male accomplice kicked the door open and the intruders then helped themselves to several of the Wyatt family's Christmas presents. The footage then showed the burglars, three in total, fleeing in a black pickup truck.

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Two days later, Sarah Wyatt called police to inform them that her husband, Chris, had found the suspects who had broken in to their house and was holding them at gunpoint. Chris Wyatt told WBRC that the suspects "happened to drive by and we seen [sic] them drive by and we knew it was them and we stopped them." The Wyatts were home when they saw the vehicle from the surveillance video drive down their rural road. Mr. Wyatt immediately recognized them and followed the suspects' vehicle before blocking them in. Chris Wyatt told local law enforcement that he held the suspects at gunpoint until police could arrive on the scene. He told WBRC that the suspects "tried to say that they were lost and we corrected them where they were." Authorities arrived shortly afterward and took the suspects into custody. Police did find some stolen items inside the suspects' truck. The suspects have been charged with third-degree burglary and second-degree theft of property. The Wyatt family is hoping that the other items stolen from their home will be recovered as well. "Sure hope so, if they don't at least we're all safe and in one piece and they are off the street for now," Sarah Wyatt told WBRC.

## "Shoot House"

The CBS affiliate WTSP out of St. Petersburg, Florida, reported on January 14 about a new concept to prepare gun owners for armed self-defense in their homes. The idea is called the "Shoot House," which allows shooting simulations in a house-like environment, and it's based in Sarasota, Florida. Marc Pezella, owner of Advanced Defensive Concepts and one of the instructors at the Shoot House, told WTSP that you "will have to react to whatever happens.... just like [a] real life situation but you don't die, you practice and you learn." The Shoot House concept is based on active shooter training that military and law enforcement receive, but it's geared to the average citizen.

WTSP reported about a woman who was going through the Shoot House routine. She was armed with a Glock modified to shoot plastic rounds filled with paint. The paint pellets allow the users to see where their shots went, after the simulations are done. The woman acted out a routine where an intruder was breaking in to her home. She used her Glock to shoot a man posing as an intruder, but Pezella pointed out that the woman shot too low to actually disable the man. Pezella explained that the woman hesitated "but that is normal.... That's what the scenarios do ... put you in real speed real time situation and you have to react." Pezella explained that with more instruction, the woman will be programmed to react the proper way. "It's truly the next level of self-defense," Pezella told WTSP. The Shoot House will have its grand opening on February 14, and classes cost \$200 dollars for a three- to four-hour course for one person and \$350 dollars for a family of four.



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