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Exercising the Right

Armed Repercussions

WFLA.com reported out of Haines City, Florida, on January 27 about a burglary attempt that was interrupted when a homeowner returned to his residence.

Haines City Police Chief Gregory Goreck explained what occurred in a press conference, stating that the homeowner and his girlfriend returned to their residence around 1:45 a.m. only to discover two intruders in the kitchen. The homeowner was lawfully carrying a concealed firearm, so he pulled it out and shot at the suspect closest to him. The homeowner then ran from the house, along with his girlfriend and their dog, and called 911.

The homeowner cooperated with arriving officers, and Chief Goreck said that based "on the totality of the evidence at this time, it does appear to be a case of Stand Your Ground." Goreck also said that when police arrived at the house, the suspects had fled but police were able to follow a trail of blood droplets outside the home.

Law enforcement used dogs to track the scent to a nearby park, where they discovered a wounded suspect suffering from four gunshot wounds. "Even though this was a felon who had been illegally inside someone's house, [police] immediately changed focus, changed gears, and went from a search and locate and apprehend, to saving this individual's life.... They were able to stop the bleeding enough so that when he was finally airlifted to a trauma center ... that at this moment he's still alive," Goreck explained in the press conference.

The suspect was identified as a career criminal with a long record of theft, burglary, and prowling, and is now facing charges of burglary to a residence and grand theft. The investigation is ongoing, and police are still looking for the second suspect. Goreck warned would-be burglars, "If you are brazen enough to enter into someone's residence and it is not yours, with intent to commit an unlawful act, there may be repercussions.... We live in Florida, and more so, we live in Polk County, and most people are armed."

Carjacker Gets Gun Snatched

Fox News reported on December 10 about a carjacking in North Las Vegas that ended with a shootout after the victim grabbed the carjacker's gun. A woman and her female friend had driven to another friend's house and were parked in the street waiting to get out of the car when another car parked right in front of them. Two men jumped out and tried stealing their vehicle, pulling both women from the vehicle at gunpoint. One of the carjackers jumped into the driver's seat.

The woman who had been driving noticed the would-be carjacker was struggling with starting the car, since it was a push-to-start vehicle. He even placed his gun on his lap as he tried to figure it out. The woman then grabbed the gun from his lap and ran, telling her friend to run, too. The carjacker jumped out of the car and tackled the woman to get his gun back, but she fired a shot to stop him from attacking, mortally wounding him. The other man began shooting at the woman, who ran and hid in a nearby yard. The man then jumped into the vehicle he originally arrived in and drove away, leaving his accomplice dying in the street.





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The North Las Vegas Metropolitan Police soon arrived to find the deceased suspect and the woman hiding nearby. After a lengthy investigation, the accomplice in the carjacking was arrested and charged with "kidnapping, conspiracy to commit robbery, attempted robbery with a deadly weapon, burglary with the use of a deadly weapon and attempted grand larceny of a vehicle." He is being held on bail.

Naked Woman Meets Gun

Breaking 911 reported on March 6 that a homeowner in Austinville, Virginia, got an unexpected visit from a stranger wearing her birthday suit.

The homeowner heard a noise coming from the rear of his house, and when he went to investigate, he found a naked woman entering his house through the back door. The woman then began striking the homeowner with a cast-iron frying pan. The man fought back and shoved the woman back out of the house, but she wouldn't stop her attack. She then began shutting off electrical breakers from the back of the house and pounding on the kitchen window while screaming about how she was going to kill the homeowner. The homeowner was in fear for his life, so he retrieved a firearm and shot the woman in the leg.

The woman was treated for her gunshot wound, and was later charged with "felony breaking and entering, assault and battery, and property damage." Law enforcement officials confirmed that they believe the shooting was in self-defense, and they do not expect there to be any charges against the homeowner.

"The National Gun of America"

While some Democrats are doing everything in their power to make AR-15-style rifles seem dangerous and scary to average Americans, some Republicans are pushing back and embracing the so-called assault weapon as a symbol of defiance. WHNT reported on February 22 that Representative Barry Moore (R-Ala.) introduced a bill that would make the AR-15 the "National Gun of America."

Representative Moore promoted his bill on Twitter, tweeting that "The #SecondAmendment is as American a right as freedom of speech, religion, & the press.... Today I unveiled my bill to make the AR-15 the National Gun of America. We must send a message that we will meet every attack on any of our constitutional rights."

The move came after some Republicans caused an outrage among anti-gun leftists by wearing AR-15 lapel pins. Representative Andrew Clyde (R-Ga.) took credit for the pin on Twitter, where he posted that he has been giving "it out to remind people of the Second Amendment of the Constitution and how important it is in preserving our liberties. If I missed you on the House floor, please stop by my office [because] I have plenty more to give out!"



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