



Written by [Patrick Krey](#) on May 18, 2020

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## Exercising The Right

# Father Saves Family

WGN Television out of Chicago reported on April 7 about a deadly home invasion in Arlington Heights, Illinois, where the homeowner's Ring doorbell camera recorded a lot of the action. The video of the incident shows two men with their faces covered approaching the home. The two men rang the doorbell, and when the father opened the door, they pushed their way in and drew guns. A struggle immediately broke out between one of the suspects and the father, while the other armed suspect chased after the man's wife and kids, who hurriedly ran into an upstairs bedroom and locked the door. The father was clearly able to handle himself in a physical struggle, as the Ring camera showed him forcing the suspect out of the house through the front door and toward the driveway. The father repeatedly pummeled the burglar. The video shows the burglar getting up and running from the scene after receiving a brutal beating.

Then, as reported by the *Daily Herald* (Chicago), the father quickly ran back into the house, where he was physically attacked as he retrieved his own firearm. The burglar struck him in the head. The father and the burglar engaged in a fight, and the burglar shot at him but missed. As the two men struggled, the burglar pulled a knife from his waist and went to stab the father, but the patriarch fired at the suspect, hitting him in the abdomen and mortally wounding him. The family called 911, and arriving authorities discovered the suspect, whom they later pronounced dead at the scene. The father was bleeding from the head when police arrived.

The police identified the deceased suspect as 58-year-old Larry Brodacz, and released a statement explaining that "Brodacz pointed his handgun at the homeowner's wife and children.... Fearing for his life and the lives of his wife and children, the homeowner discharged a round from the family handgun, striking Mr. Brodacz in the abdomen."

Law enforcement soon arrested the suspect who had fled the scene after being beaten up by the father, and identified him as 39-year-old Bradley Finnan. Finnan is now being charged with the death of the other suspect under the state's felony murder law, which holds accomplices vicariously liable for homicides that occur during the commission of a violent felony. The two intruders knew each other through a car lot where they worked. Brodacz told Finnan that he had seen boxes of cash in the house years earlier, and expected to make a haul of \$200,000.

The father who defended his family is the cousin of the extremely popular comedian, Sebastian Maniscalco, and is also named Sebastian Maniscalco. He took to social media to express his gratitude for the support the family received from the community after the incident. Maniscalco wrote, "Please bare [sic] with me through this post, I am still quite overwhelmed. It has been the most challenging last few days for our family. Most are aware of the armed home invasion in Arlington Heights on Saturday, April 4th. Many of you are aware, and for those that are not, this is about our family, OUR HOME. This is an open case therefore I will limit any description of the horror, terror and fear my family had to endure that day and all that continues. There are no words to be found to appropriately define the ongoing aftermath of this event for our family. We are doing our best and praying each following day will bring better than the last. With all of this distress, our family has been blessed with the most incredible outpour of concern for our family. The calls, the texts, the emails, family, friends, neighbors,



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Thomas Middle school, friends we have lost track with over the years and so many of the Arlington Heights community that without knowing us just wanted to help. Unbelievable numbers opening their homes to us for a place to stay during this already unprecedented quarantine time. Offering to get us groceries, prepare meals for our family, get or buy us clothing. Offering to do anything and everything that would HELP. This speaks volumes of the GOOD that is out there. This not only touches our souls, it places hope in our hearts. HOPE that we will heal from this event, HOPE that we will one day feel safe again, HOPE that the images and sounds that currently hold us hostage on replay in our minds will begin to fade. We want each an [sic] every one of you that extended your hand to our family to know, we are forever filled with gratitude and heartfelt emotion. You have no idea how much it means to us and how very much your genuine care & concern for our family has been a monumental part of getting us through these days and our journey in healing moving forward."

## He Made Her Shoot

The Associated Press reported on April 1 about a mother who did not hesitate to use lethal force to protect her family. The woman, a 42-year-old mother of three teenagers, was home with her children when an intruder, later identified as 32-year-old Joseph Roberts, broke in to her house in Volusia County, Florida, despite being repeatedly told to halt.

Roberts broke a front window of the house, which alerted the mother to grab her handgun and call 911. The mother was on the phone with the 911 dispatcher when Roberts climbed into the house through the shattered window. The 911 transcript reveals the mother yelling in a terrified voice "I don't want to shoot him, but I'm going to have to!" right before she fired one shot injuring the suspect. The woman quickly grabbed her children and fled the house.

Responding officers discovered Roberts at the scene, suffering from a gunshot wound. It was at that moment that the injured intruder reportedly told cops a wild story about why he broke into the home. Volusia County Sheriff Mike Chitwood held a press conference where he discussed the incident and explained that Roberts told police "that the dinosaurs were chasing him and he thought he got some bad weed." Chitwood said that Roberts is receiving treatment at a medical facility and his injuries are not life threatening, adding that "he's lucky she was a bad shot." Chitwood also said prosecutors are looking into enhanced penalties for Roberts considering the crime occurred during the COVID-19 national emergency. Chitwood tried to make light of the situation by telling reporters, "I guess the only explanation is watch where you're buying your weed at during this time."



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