



Exercising the Right

Female Intruder

WBIR.com reported on February 10 about a woman in Knoxville, Tennessee, whose death was ruled a justifiable homicide. The incident unfolded in the early hours of the morning when the woman tried forcing her way into an occupied house. A resident who was home at the time of the break-in fired at the woman, fatally injuring her. The Knoxville Police Department responded to a 911 call and discovered the woman lying outside the house. Emergency medical technicians arrived on the scene and took the injured suspect to the University of Tennessee Medical Center, but doctors pronounced her dead upon arrival. The deceased suspect was later identified by law enforcement as 38-year-old Stacie Mundy. The Knoxville Police Department later issued a press release that stated that the homeowner shot Mundy “in defense of his life.” The release stated that the homeowner would not face any charges in relation to the shooting.

A review of Mundy’s arrest records showed that she and four other people were charged with “possession of drug paraphernalia and manufacturing, delivery, sale and possession of Schedule I drugs” after being arrested with 18 grams of suspected methamphetamine, 4 grams of suspected heroin and 68 Xanax bars in their possession in December of 2016. Mundy was also arrested for “simple possession/casual exchange” and possession of drug paraphernalia earlier that same year. Her obituary stated that she was a registered nurse.

Bar Owner Pops Popp

WQAD.com reported on January 30 that a bar owner in DePue, Illinois, shot an intruder who refused to comply with his demands. Chuck Casford is the owner of The Junction Tavern and lives in an apartment adjacent to the bar. He was awakened by the sounds of someone breaking in to his bar around 5:30 a.m. on a Saturday. Casford retrieved his pistol and entered the tavern, where he witnessed a man, later identified as 42-year-old Jackie Popp of Ohio, Illinois, rummaging through the bar looking for valuables.

Casford told WQAD.com that he confronted Popp, who put his hand in his pocket and began walking toward Casford in a menacing manner. “When I confronted him he turned around, put his hands in his pockets and I gave him verbal commands and he just kept coming, he kept coming at me.... I gave him another verbal command three or four times and he just kept advancing you know, at the time I was fearing for my life.”

When Popp refused to comply with Casford’s lawful orders, Casford fired at Popp, hitting him in his upper right leg. Casford said Popp fell to the floor and began crying for help. “He was begging for air, that’s when he kind of crawled over towards the door and started asking for water, so I went back in my residence and got a couple bottles of water and held his head up, kept him hydrated and did whatever first aid I could until the emergency personnel could show up on the scene,” Casford told WQAD.com. Authorities were called to the scene and took Popp to a nearby medical facility. Casford regretted firing his gun, but felt that he was forced to do it: “I gave him every opportunity to, you know, not go the route he did. He could have came at me, if I didn’t react the way I did, he could have overpowered me took my weapon and used it against me.”

Law enforcement later discovered that Popp had previously been convicted for burglary, and was out on



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parole with the Illinois Department of Corrections for a 12-year sentence for burglary in Whiteside County from 2010.

Oops, Cop

KABC.com reported out of Downey, California, on January 30 about an off-duty Los Angeles police officer who was the victim of an early-morning burglary. The officer was asleep at 1 a.m. when he heard the sounds of intruders in his house. He quickly grabbed his service revolver and went to investigate the source of the strange sounds. The police officer then came face-to-face with two burglars who began physically attacking him. The officer fired his weapon and shot both men. He called in the incident and radioed for backup. More police soon arrived on the scene. Responding officers discovered the injured suspects at the scene, and the two men were airlifted to a nearby hospital for medical treatment. The Downey Police Department is still investigating what occurred, but they believe the Los Angeles police officer “was assaulted and discharged his weapon.” Los Angeles Police Department Captain Andy Neiman said the suspects’ injuries are not life-threatening. The officer did suffer some minor injuries but was treated at the hospital. The two suspects are both in stable condition and are expected to recover.

Owing to the unusual nature of the incident, two police departments are reviewing the details. The Downey Police Department is performing a criminal investigation, and the Los Angeles Police Department is conducting an administrative probe. According to department protocol, the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office is also launching an investigation into the burglary and shooting.

Large-caliber Revolver

The *Tampa Bay Times* reported on February 16 about a man in St. Petersburg, Florida, who tried victimizing an elderly woman, but ended up getting more than he bargained for. St. Petersburg police said the man tried entering a 66-year-old woman’s house through a side window. The woman witnessed the man trying to enter her home and quickly grabbed her loaded large-caliber revolver. She yelled for the man to stop and warned him that she was armed. The persistent burglar ignored her warnings and continued to enter through the window, so she shot him. The injured suspect fell to the ground and was taken to the hospital by emergency medical technicians. Authorities plan to charge the man with occupied residential burglary when he is released from the hospital and booked into the nearby jail. The wounded suspect has a history of arrests in nearby areas and appears to have pled guilty to drug charges in 2014.

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