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# **Exercising the Right**

#### Fake Gun Used to Rob Fake Hair Store

WIBW.com out of Wichita reported on January 22 about a robbery at a wig shop that ended with the suspect being shot. A store called Honies Wig and Beauty Supply was targeted by an armed robber, who burst into the store demanding cash. The store clerk working behind the counter grabbed his own handgun and fired at the suspect, hitting the man multiple times. The suspect was taken to a nearby medical facility with non-life-threatening injuries and is expected to survive. Investigators later determined that the suspect's weapon was actually a toy gun and, much like the hair in the store he targeted for a robbery, it was only a replica of the real thing.

#### Video Goes Viral

In a similar story out of West Compton, California, a private security guard at a convenience store faced off with two would-be robbers who were armed with what was described as a "fake" gun. Video of the incident was posted to YouTube, where it quickly went viral and was viewed more than 1.5 million times in less than a week.

WGNTV.com reported on January 19 about the incident, which had many comical elements that added to its popularity. The video opens with the two suspects walking into the convenience store and jumping over the counter to rob the store clerk and take money from the cash register. One of the suspects is armed with what appears to be a semi-automatic handgun. Then the security guard, who was posted outside the store, enters and opens fire at the suspects, hitting them both.

A hilarious verbal exchange follows in the video. In the immediate aftermath of the shooting, one of the suspects pleads with the security guard, saying that his gun is fake, to which the security guard replies, "Oh well. Mine's real!" The security guard continues to use other colorful language, including obscenities, as he yells at the suspects and detains them until police arrive.

The aggressiveness of the security guard in the video led many commenters to add their own jovial take on the incident in the comment thread. One commenter wrote, "That's one rent-a-cop worth every dollar. Bravo."

The suspects were later identified as being juveniles around 16 years old, and they received treatment at a nearby hospital for injuries that were not life-threatening. Both suspects were charged with robbery and are being held without bail.

## **Anti-gun Candidate Mugged on Campaign**

The *Chicago Tribune* reported on January 12 that Illinois attorney general candidate Aaron Goldstein was robbed while taking promotional photos for his campaign. The robbery took place in the middle of the day, shortly after Goldstein began a photo shoot, when three men approached the victims. One of the suspects pulled out a handgun and demanded all their money and equipment. Goldstein and his crew were completely helpless and complied with the demands. The thugs stole their money, camera equipment, and cellphones. Goldstein's campaign manager described the crime as "a totally random act of violence in the community."

Second Amendment advocates can't help but snicker when they hear what happened to Goldstein,





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because his campaign website promotes gun control. What happened to Goldstein is perfect evidence that when you are not armed for self-defense, you may end up as a helpless victim to be preyed on by criminals. In this case, Goldstein and his associates are fortunate that the robbers left them alive, as we have an abundant number of news stories in which criminals physically attack, rape, and even kill their victims after the initial robbery.

## **No Good Deed Goes Unpunished**

A good Samaritan who went out of his way to help a homeless man ended up having to shoot the man after he became dangerous. KSAT.com reported out of San Antonio on January 18 about the sad incident. Sixty-three-year-old Ralph McKinley was the good Samaritan in this story, and he knew the suspect, 33-year-old Willie Allen Boudry. Boudry is a homeless man who is apparently struggling with his own personal demons. McKinley knew Boudry from church, where they attended together for around five years, and described him as "a good kid." McKinley said he gave Boudry \$20 after finding him sleeping outside McKinley's apartment complex. McKinley went to his apartment and fell asleep. He was awakened around 1 a.m. by Boudry kicking on his apartment door. Boudry was armed with a large butcher knife and appeared deranged. McKinley, in fear for his life, grabbed his 9 mm pistol and sheltered in place while he called 911. Boudry kept kicking at the door until it burst open. With Boudry standing in the now-open doorway, McKinley was left with no other option but to fire at him. Boudry was hit in the leg and fell to the floor. Police soon arrived, and Boudry was taken for medical treatment. He was later charged with burglary of a habitation with intent to commit assault, and his bond was set at \$20,000.

McKinley said that despite what happened, this scary incident won't stop him from helping those in need. "God told me to help, so I will help," he told KSAT.

### The Great Equalizer

The elderly are routinely targeted by criminals, since they usually make perfect victims. For the most part, someone who is older is usually not as well-equipped as someone who is younger to defend himself from a violent attack, as both strength and speed decline as we age. At least that is what 24-year-old Timothy Coker might have been thinking when he allegedly broke in to a house in Kanawha County, West Virginia. WOWKTV.com reported on January 13 about the attempted burglary by Coker. Police say Coker broke into the garage of a home owned by an 82-year-old man. The homeowner was in the garage at the time of the break-in. This octogenarian was no helpless victim, though, as he was armed. The homeowner shot Coker, who died at the scene.

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