



Written by [Patrick Krey](#) on March 5, 2018

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Exercising the Right

Rescuing a Cop

The Fox affiliate out of Salt Lake City reported on February 3 about how a man with a concealed pistol came to the rescue of a police officer in need. The incident began when the officer noticed feet sticking out of a donation bin in Springville, Utah. The cop yelled for whoever was in the bin to come out, and a man later identified as Paul Douglas Anderson emerged. Anderson was acting erratically, and the officer immediately suspected something was awry. According to the police report, Anderson lunged at the officer and began pummeling him. That's when a charitable passerby entered the picture.

Derek Meyer was driving by when he observed police lights from the officer's cruiser. Meyer stopped to see what was going on and witnessed the violent assault in progress. Meyer exited his vehicle and drew his pistol. He pointed his handgun at Anderson and yelled for him to stop his vicious assault. Anderson stopped and ran from the scene as police backup arrived. Authorities pursued the suspect and arrested him not far from the scene of the original assault, hiding under a flatbed trailer.

Corporal Cory Waters of the Springville Police talked to FOX13 and heaped praise on Meyer for coming to the aid of a fallen officer. The officer suffered a fractured eye socket and lacerations near his eye in the beating, but was treated at a nearby hospital and is expected to make a full recovery. Corporal Waters expressed sincere gratitude for Meyer's actions, which Waters says may have saved the officer's life. "Had he not been in the right place at the right time, who knows what would have happened.... But he definitely stopped the attack from continuing and becoming much worse. He might have even saved either one of their lives. It could have gone really bad, even for the suspect."

Meyer has a concealed-carry permit and told FOX13, "I carry a gun to protect me and those around me, but primarily I carry a gun to protect my family first and foremost.... Outside of that, if I were to use my gun to protect anyone it would be law enforcement or military personnel." Meyer also told FOX13 it's good that people hear about his story since the news doesn't cover enough "good stories from responsible, gun-owning people."

Knife-wielding Man at Bar

The *St. Louis Post Dispatch* reported on February 1 about an off-duty Velda City cop who found out that his law-enforcement training even came in handy off the clock. The incident occurred in a St. Louis bar, where a man became extremely intoxicated and got into a heated argument with two women. The bar employees told the irate and drunken man to leave. The man did finally leave after their repeated pleading, and the employees locked the door to prevent him from coming back. Unfortunately, the deranged drunk soon returned armed with a knife. He began violently kicking at the door and shattered the glass. He was able to open the door through the broken glass and entered the bar, menacing its occupants with his knife. The off-duty cop immediately sprang into action and confronted the knife-wielding miscreant as he was trying to slice the bartender. The officer identified himself as a police officer and drew his personal firearm. The cop told the suspect to drop the knife, but the intoxicated suspect brazenly attempted to stab the officer. The policeman was left with no other option but to fire his gun, shooting the suspect one time in the upper body. The injured suspect fled the bar, still armed with his knife. The officer pursued him and again yelled for him to drop the knife. The drunken suspect



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ignored the officer's commands and attacked him again, resulting in the cop shooting him multiple times.

Velda City Police Chief Daniel Paulino released a statement defending the off-duty cop's actions and cited eyewitness accounts of the shooting. "The officer did everything he could to defuse the situation and gave the suspect numerous opportunities to drop the knife before being forced to defend himself and the lives of the bartender and other customers," Paulino wrote.

A Soldier Shoots

WTVD reported out of Fayetteville, North Carolina, on February 1 about a Fort Bragg soldier who was forced to fatally shoot a man attacking his wife. The events unfolded just before 10 p.m. on a Tuesday night when the soldier's wife went outside their apartment to smoke a cigarette. While the wife was smoking, the suspect came up to her armed with what appeared to be a gun (but was later determined to be a pellet gun) and demanded she let him into her apartment. The woman complied with the suspect's demands, but her husband immediately confronted the suspect and shot him with a real gun. Police were called to the scene, and an investigation is ongoing.

"I'm not alone"

ABC7 reported out of Mitchellville, Maryland, on January 31 about an elderly man who shot a home intruder. The suspect broke in to the man's house through a basement window and came upstairs into the senior citizen's bedroom. Eighty-three-year-old homeowner Joseph Parker, Sr. told ABC7 that he initially thought some type of wild animal was in his attic from all the noise he was hearing. "Then I realized, 'I'm not alone in this house.'" Parker quickly retrieved his firearm, which he referred to as his "friend under the pillow," and prepared himself for the worst. Parker thought that if the burglar just stole things from his house without entering his bedroom, he would "give him a pass. But if he comes into this room. I'm not going to give him a pass." Unfortunately for the burglar, the black-clad suspect entered the bedroom only to have Parker fire at him multiple times. "I didn't want a murder on my hands. I didn't want to kill anybody. But I didn't want to be killed," Parker told ABC7. The suspect was injured and fled the scene but was later apprehended by authorities, suffering from a gunshot wound. He was taken to a nearby medical facility for treatment, and is expected to be charged with first-degree burglary.

Parker was grateful that things turned out the way they did. "I'm just so glad that the good Lord woke me up when I did because if he had come into that room when I was asleep, this story could have ended far, far differently."

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