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Exercising the Right

"Either Him or Me"

Fox Carolina reported out of Gaffney, South Carolina, on April 6 about a failed home invasion that resulted in one of the perpetrators being killed. Police say 41-year-old Charles Shannon Alley knocked on the door of a house in the middle of the night and forced his way into the residence while wielding a shotgun after the male homeowner opened the door. Alley and an accomplice physically struggled with the homeowner inside the house. While the men were fighting, a female occupant retrieved a firearm and fired two shots at Alley, who suffered a gunshot wound to the head and was later pronounced dead at the scene. Alley's accomplice ran from the house and is still being sought by authorities.

Tim Anthony was later identified as the homeowner who fought with the shotgun-wielding home invader. Anthony recalled the details of that fateful night for Fox Carolina: "I went to crack the door open and they barged, at least two of them, barged through the door and knocked me through the wall." Anthony said his girlfriend fired two shots at Alley while they were in the midst of a life-and-death battle in the living room. "It was either him or me."

Sending a Criminal Fleeing

In a similar story, Fox Carolina reported out of Walhalla, South Carolina, on April 4 about an intruder who was stopped by an armed female homeowner. The suspect had broken in to the woman's house and begun taking some personal property when the female homeowner confronted him. The woman was armed with a handgun, which she pointed at the burglar. The suspect ran as soon as he saw that he was staring down the barrel of a loaded gun. The scared criminal fled the scene, but was later apprehended by authorities who responded to the woman's 911 call.

The woman, Keri Reeves, later spoke with Fox Carolina about the terrifying ordeal, telling them that she was grateful that she was armed: "I immediately thought, he's going to get a gun he's about to shoot me, I'm not about to die in my own house.... This could've been a very different situation had I not been properly armed." Reeves called 911 soon after the suspect fled, but she broke down in tears as the realization of what just occurred sunk in: "I'm one of those people that can go from zero to a hundred in 2.5 seconds and I'm not a nice person normally, but as soon as I got on the phone with the sheriff's department he was out of sight. The severity of it hit me, and I was in hysterics. I was crying, I was scared, I was very shaken."

Thirty-three-year-old Ralph Jake Goss, Jr. was later arrested after he was located in a nearby area with some of the stolen property in his possession, as well as the tools that he allegedly used in the burglary. Goss was charged with burglary second degree, petit larceny, and possession of burglary tools.

Seat of His Pants

KOB.com reported on April 3 about a burglar who ended up getting shot in the seat of his pants. The incident unfolded in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where a homeowner was checking in on a property that she was looking to put up for sale soon. The woman and her boyfriend were going over to clean it up prior to putting it on the market, but when they entered the house, they discovered there was a man already there! The boyfriend cornered the man between the front door of the house and an outside



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security door, and the squatter pulled out a knife and swung it at the boyfriend's face. The boyfriend pulled out the handgun he was carrying and fired at the intruder, hitting the man in the buttocks.

Police were soon called to the scene and discovered the injured suspect, who was later identified as 57-year-old Michael Dunn. Albuquerque Police Department Public Information Officer Simon Drobik told KOB.com, "The guy pulled a knife on him and took a swipe at his face [and] that homeowner decided to defend himself." Drobik added, "We don't advocate shooting anybody, of course.... But in this circumstance, he was defending himself."

Dunn was later charged with aggravated burglary and aggravated assault.

IHOP, Uber, and Armed Self-defense

The successful ride-sharing company Uber has expanded its service offerings to include food delivery. Customers can now order food and have it delivered via Uber Eats. Some thugs recently decided to target an Uber Eats driver for a robbery attempt. *The Commercial Appeal* reported on March 29 about the crime, which occurred in Whitehaven, Tennessee.

The Uber Eats driver pulled into the parking lot of an IHOP to pick up a meal, which he was slated to deliver to a potential customer. Little did the unsuspecting driver know that he was being watched from a distance by three criminals, who were hoping to surprise him and steal both his vehicle and his money.

As the driver exited the IHOP with his food and attempted to reenter his vehicle, the criminals sprang into action. One man ran up to the driver and pointed a gun at him. The armed robber demanded the Uber driver's keys and his cash. The driver reacted quickly and pretended to reach into his vehicle to comply with the robber's demands, but instead, the driver retrieved his own firearm. He pulled out a handgun and fired twice at the armed robber, seriously injuring him. The wounded suspect fell to the ground, where he remained as his two accomplices fired at the Uber driver.

The Uber driver's wife, who was in the passenger seat of the car, ducked down on the floor of the vehicle as the exchange of bullets flew through the air.

The Uber driver fired back at the two other armed robbers, who fled from the gunfight. The uninjured Uber driver hit one of the other two men who were shooting at him. The injured second assailant was later arrested at a nearby hospital, where he went for treatment for his injury. Authorities were called to the scene, where they discovered the one injured suspect lying in the parking lot. Police are still investigating and are looking for the third suspect, and they believe these three men are connected to another robbery that occurred in the area.

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