



Exercising the Right

Two Armed Civilians Stop Active Shooter

ABC News reported on May 25 about a shooting that the NRA would later claim was evidence that “the best way to stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun.” Investigators say the incident unfolded when suspect Alexander C. Tilghman approached an Oklahoma City restaurant and opened fire.

Twenty-eight-year-old Tilghman was reportedly wearing protective glasses and hearing protection that is typically worn at shooting ranges before he began shooting into Louie’s Grill & Bar, hitting three patrons inside the restaurant. The active-shooter situation quickly came to an end when not one, but two armed civilians sprang into action.

ABC News reported that 35-year-old Juan Carlos Nazario and 39-year-old Bryan Whittle both witnessed the shooting and ran to their vehicles to retrieve their own firearms. The two men opened fire on the armed suspect, fatally wounding him. Oklahoma City Police Captain Bo Matthews heaped praise on the two men for their brave actions. The three people who were shot by Tilghman received medical treatment for their injuries and are all expected to survive. Matthews told ABC that the two men were “people that stopped a very tragic situation from going any further.” While Matthews declined to refer to them as “heroes,” he agreed that it was correct for the media to describe them that way. “You can say they’re heroes, which is a very good thing to say,” Matthews said during the news conference. Matthews said the two civilians did not know each other and that they appeared to have acted in accordance with the law, and he doubted that charges would be filed against them.

The investigation is still ongoing, but police believe it was a random event. Matthews could not stop stressing how awful it could have been had those two men not stepped up and put their own lives on the line to defend the lives of others. “It could have been really tragic. Again, we’re really blessed that only three people were shot and didn’t lose their lives,” Matthews told reporters.

“He Saved Us All”

In a similar story involving a “good guy with a gun,” the Fox affiliate in Seattle reported about how a dangerous shooting on Father’s Day at a Walmart was ended by a 47-year-old father who was carrying concealed. The violence at the Walmart was the culmination of a series of violent acts by a reckless criminal who seemed all too willing to kill anyone who was unfortunate enough to get in his way.

Police received a report of an attempted carjacking near a gas station around 4:40 p.m. on June 17, Father’s Day, in Tumwater, Washington. As authorities raced to the scene, they received additional reports that the suspect in the attempted carjacking had raced away from the scene on the nearest highway but was driving in the wrong direction, toward oncoming traffic. The criminal drove off the highway and crashed his vehicle in front of Tumwater High School. He then began trying to carjack other vehicles, and he fired his gun into the vehicles when his intended victims refused to comply with his demands. The carjacker eventually did steal a car, which he drove to a nearby Walmart. He hopped from his vehicle and ran into the store, where he apparently stole ammunition from the glass case in the hunting section where it was locked up.

Authorities were trying to trace the carjacker through the trail of injuries and destruction he had left in his path as the suspect, now loaded up with ammunition he stole from Walmart, began trying to carjack



Written by [Patrick Krey](#) on July 23, 2018

Published in the July 23, 2018 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 34, No. 14

a new vehicle in the Walmart parking lot. The suspect shot one driver who refused to give up his vehicle and then targeted another driver before a bystander pulled out his own concealed handgun and opened fire on the suspect. The suspect was fatally wounded in the shooting and was posthumously identified as 44-year-old Timothy Day. Witnesses who were at the Walmart when the shooting started lauded the actions of the father who confronted and shot Day. The brave bystander was apparently at the Walmart with his own family when the shooting began, and he pulled his own weapon and raced toward the sound of the gunshots in order to save the lives of others.

A witness to the shooting, Bryan Adams, was inside the Walmart when the shooting began, and he and other customers began running from the store once they realized that the loud sounds they heard were gunshots. Adams then saw the armed suspect shoot the driver of a car he was attempting to steal. Just when Adams thought he was doomed, he saw the father pull out his own concealed weapon and shoot the suspect dead. "He is a hero.... He took action. I really think more people could have been shot.... He saved us all.... If this customer hadn't done what he did ... yeah, yeah. He's a hero. I don't know how else to describe it," Adams told Q13 Fox.

Day had a lengthy criminal record in the area, with arrests dating back to 1992. One of his ex-wives posted on social media that he struggled with drug addiction. Sadly, Day seriously injured one of his shooting victims, leaving the victim paralyzed from the neck down.

Homeowner Shoots Pyromaniac

The *Morning Call* reported out of Pennsylvania on June 17 about a home invasion in Schuylkill County where an intruder broke in to a house and then doused it with gasoline before being shot by the homeowner. Police are still investigating what preceded the incident, but the suspect entered the house through the garage, where he had grabbed a can of gasoline that he then poured all over the floor of the house. The 57-year-old homeowner confronted the intruder and tried physically removing him from the house, but the two became embroiled in a struggle. The intruder got the better of the homeowner and knocked him to the ground. Fortunately, the homeowner's daughter quickly gave him his handgun, which he used to shoot the intruder. The wounded suspect collapsed at the scene, where he was discovered by authorities responding to the daughter's 911 call. The wounded suspect was transported to a nearby medical facility for treatment and will soon be charged with burglary, simple assault, and arson.

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