

Written by **Patrick Krey** on November 5, 2018





# **Exercising the Right**

### **Crime Spree Cut Short**

KFOR.com reported out of Nichols Hills, Oklahoma, on October 11 that an intruder involved in a string of break-ins was shot on his last stop. Nichols Hills Police Chief Steve Cox told the news that police had gotten calls about many residences and automobiles being broken in to before they got the report of a shooting. The officers rushed to the scene and discovered the wounded suspect a few houses away from where the shooting took place. The injured man was lying on the ground in the backyard of a neighbor's house pleading for help with his gunshot wound.

Authorities are still investigating, but the police believe that the suspect was involved in a series of crimes that night before being confronted and shot by a homeowner. "We believe the suspect was confronted by a homeowner, some type of altercation took place. Suspect was shot at least one time.... While officers in the area were looking for the suspect, it was determined we started getting several calls of other residences and autos being broken into," Chief Cox told KFOR.com.

### **Starbucks Shooting**

Fox13 reported on October 4 about an incident in Millcreek, Utah, that shows, once again, a good guy with a gun can be a real lifesaver. Authorities say a shooting occurred in the early morning hours at a Starbucks when a deranged man began accosting employees of the store. Police were already en route to the scene because the mentally ill man had just caused a scene at a 7-Eleven convenience store across the street.

Paula Nafus, the owner of the 7-Eleven, said she was concerned about the way the man was acting and she had been on edge lately due to the increased presence of homeless people in the area. Nafus explained to Fox13 that since neighboring Salt Lake City cracked down on homelessness, it has driven a lot of those types of people to nearby Millcreek. As soon as the police pulled into the 7-Eleven parking lot, the homeless man fled across the street to Starbucks. Once inside the Starbucks, the man immediately began physically assaulting a female store employee. A customer at the coffee shop witnessed the attack unfolding and grabbed his pistol, which he was carrying on him. Before he could even pull it out, the homeless man charged at him, so he fired one shot, which hit the homeless man in the chest.

The police then cornered the suspect, who still needed to be tasered to be subdued. Police Detective Ken Hansen told Fox13 that the homeless man was so aggressive and violent that his officers weren't even aware that he had been shot. "Our officers came over here and were outside in the process of taking him into custody, they had to taser him to do that." First responders transported the injured suspect to a nearby hospital for treatment, and he is expected to survive. Police are still investigating and reviewing surveillance footage of the shooting.

### **Armed Burglar Smashes Through Window**

WBIR.com reported out of Knoxville, Tennessee, on October 11 about a burglar who was shot while breaking and entering into a house. The Knoxville Police Department is still investigating, but all the evidence so far shows that the suspect tried breaking in to the house late at night by first pounding on





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the front door. When the occupants of the home did not open the door, the man then turned his attention to a nearby window and shattered it.

Officers say the man was armed with a handgun. Police say it was when the window broke that one of the homeowners armed himself and confronted the trespasser. Fearing for his life and the lives of the other occupants of the house, the homeowner fired at the armed burglar, fatally wounding the man. Investigators have identified the deceased suspect as 24-year-old Christopher Austin Desmarais from Knoxville. Police are still investigating, and the homeowners are cooperating with their efforts.

### **Shot on the Patio**

KDVR.com reported out of Colorado Springs, Colorado, on October 11 about a violent break-in wherein the suspect was shot by a homeowner. Police are still investigating, but they believe the burglar broke in to the house but was quickly discovered by the husband and wife who lived there. The wife called 911 while the husband sprang into action, loaded a handgun, carried it with him to confront the suspect, and fired at the intruder, fatally wounding him.

Arriving officers discovered the wounded suspect on the patio of the house. He was transported to a nearby medical facility for treatment, but succumbed to his gunshot wound. Police identified the suspect as 30-year-old Houston Malachai Cookson, who they say was trying to break in to the house and had items in his possession that investigators think had been stolen in a different criminal incident. Police are still investigating, but they believe the homeowner acted lawfully and do not expect to charge him.

### **Monkey Attack**

The Associated Press reported on September 29 out of Shallotte, North Carolina, about a wild incident involving an exotic pet that apparently "went bananas"! Police say the incident unfolded when a monkey that a woman was keeping as a pet escaped its cage and went on a berserk rampage. Shallotte police say the monkey attacked its owner and bit and scratched her, leaving her with serious injuries. The animal then fled the house and began terrorizing neighbors. At one of the nearby houses, the monkey began loudly banging on a glass door. A repairman who was working at the residence witnessed what was unfolding and grabbed his pistol to defend himself. When the animal locked eyes with the repairman, it charged him. The repairman fired at the monkey, fatally wounding the animal. Detective Sergeant John Holman of the Shallotte Police Department told the Associated Press that the monkey was killed by one shot from the repairman's gun, and that the repairman was licensed to carry the pistol and his actions in shooting the monkey also appeared to be lawful.

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