



Exercising The Right

“Too Many Dumb Questions”

Mlive.com reported on a no-nonsense homeowner who defended himself from an intruder and then didn't have much patience for a 911 operator afterward. The incident occurred in Augusta Township, Michigan, when a burglar tried breaking in to a house in the early morning hours of June 15. A 63-year-old homeowner was in the house at the time and initially thought there was an animal at his back door. However, it didn't take long for the homeowner to realize that it was a human being outside, so the man armed himself to defend against the intruder.

The homeowner hid around a corner as the suspect forced opened the back door and entered into the kitchen. The homeowner came out from behind the corner and shot the suspect twice, sending the wounded intruder falling backward into a bathroom. The homeowner then called 911 to report the shooting, but according to a Michigan State Police report obtained by *The Ann Arbor News*, the homeowner hung up because he got frustrated by the 911 operator “asking too many dumb questions.”

Police soon arrived on the scene and learned that the suspect had previously performed some contract work at the residence, although the homeowner said he did not recognize the man. The suspect was soon identified as 24-year-old Kip Elrod. He was taken to a nearby medical facility, and after nearly two months of medical treatment, Elrod entered a plea of no contest for second-degree home invasion and is scheduled to be sentenced November 18.

Hair Today and Tomorrow

A man is alive today because he was armed and prepared to defend himself against robbers, according to the chief of the local police department in Yeadon, Pennsylvania. WPVI reported about the incident in which a young entrepreneur who sells high-end hair extensions was contacted by two women who said they wanted to make a purchase and arranged to meet the man behind an apartment building.

The salesman drove his car there and encountered a woman named “Bernie” and another woman, later identified as 37-year-old Jhimeia Mimi Harrell. Bernie told the victim that she needed to get her money to pay for the extensions and walked away from the car. At that moment, two men emerged from the shadows and tried robbing the hair-extensions salesman. One of the suspects, later identified as Omar Thompson, literally jumped into the car through the driver's side window and shoved a gun into the victim's stomach and demanded everything in his vehicle.

Fortunately for the victim, he was also armed, and he pulled out his own firearm and shot at the suspect three times, with one of his shots fatally wounding the suspect in the head. Once the shooting was over, the other male suspect grabbed his accomplice's gun and joined the two female suspects in a nearby Buick to flee from the scene.

Yeadon Police soon arrived, and the victim told them what happened. The investigation not only eventually identified Harrell, but the other male suspect: 26-year-old Tyrone Chub Madison. Madison was arrested in Philadelphia on October 11 by Yeadon Police and U.S. Marshals. Yeadon police are still looking for Harrell and the other female suspect, known only as Bernie.

Yeadon Police Chief Anthony Paparo told the CBS affiliate in Philadelphia that their investigation



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determined the shooting was a justifiable homicide and that the victim was “lawfully ... in possession of a firearm.... The DA’s Office has reviewed the case in reference to the victim and has determined this is a justifiable homicide.... He’s a good kid who went through a very traumatic experience and it’s probably going to be affecting him for a long period of time.” Chief Paparo stressed the need to meet prospective buyers in neutral third-party locations, such as the parking lot of a police department, to scare away potential criminals, and he also noted that the victim being armed most likely saved his life. Chief Paparo also told WPVI, “Based on what I know, he likely would have lost his life had he not done what he did.”

#MeToo + Second Amendment?

The *Reno Gazette-Journal* reported on May 2 about an attempted sexual assault foiled by an armed woman. “Police say the incident occurred in the early morning hours of April 20 when 29-year-old Josue Oconitrillo allegedly approached two women who were crossing a street and tried sexually assaulting one of them. Both women fought back against the man but were unable to physically stop him.” That is until one of the women introduced her gun into the equation. The woman carried her gun in her purse and pulled it out and demanded the suspect stop. Police say Oconitrillo ignored her verbal commands and continued the assault, so she opened fire and hit him in the torso.

When police arrived at the scene, they discovered the injured suspect lying on the ground with a gunshot wound to his chest. Oconitrillo was transported for medical treatment but died a week later. The woman who shot him was initially arrested and charged with “intoxication with a firearm,” but after detectives concluded their investigation, they determined that the shooting was a justifiable homicide and the charges were dropped.

Not a Helpless Victim

The Associated Press reported on September 22 about a hearing-impaired woman who defended herself from a burglar. The crime occurred in Rock Island, Oklahoma, when a man broke in to a house and refused to leave when confronted by an armed female homeowner. The woman yelled for the man to exit the home, but he ignored her warnings and allegedly continued to move toward her. The woman was in fear for her life, so she discharged her weapon and shot the suspect one time.

Police soon arrived, but the suspect was pronounced dead on the scene. Le Flore County Sheriff Rob Seale said the woman did not sustain any injuries during the break-in and the investigation is still ongoing.

— Patrick Krey



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