



## **Exercising The Right**

### **The Hypocrisy Is Rich!**

Former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg used his ample fortune to run for president, but he encountered a lot of resistance from rank-and-file Democrats who thought his prior positions were not sufficiently progressive. But one area where Bloomberg was always walking in lockstep with the Left was gun control, which he has constantly promoted. AWR Hawkins, writing at Breitbart News on February 3, reminded his readers about Bloomberg's double standard on guns. "Billionaire Democrat presidential hopeful Mike Bloomberg is a staunch proponent of gun control for America with one caveat — he gets to spend his days surrounded by good guys with guns to keep him safe. Bloomberg's use of armed guards has been seized upon again and again by gun rights supporters through the years. They point to the guards in an attempt to show his habit of pushing laws that would deny self-defense tools to poor families while allowing Bloomberg to benefit from being protected by men with firearms."

Hawkins explained how Bloomberg has an entire security detail that works for him while he continues to "push gun control for average Americans.... But Bloomberg moves through life surrounded by good guys with guns; by men who are armed to be sure he is safe as he goes about his daily business."

### **Golden Stop Was Robber's Final Stop**

The *Signal* reported out of Santa Clarita Valley in California on February 13 about an attempted robbery of a liquor store that resulted in a close-range shootout. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Lieutenant Robert Westphal told the *Signal* that the incident occurred shortly after 8 p.m. when a suspect ran into the Golden Stop liquor store and pointed a handgun at the storeowner working behind the counter. Thankfully for the storeowner, he had his own loaded pistol easily retrievable and was able to pull it out and open fire on the armed robber. Detectives investigating the crime say that the two men exchanged multiple rounds shooting at each other within the store. The suspect was hit multiple times in the upper torso, and the owner was only hit once, in a "lower appendage." Surveillance video from the store shows the owner crawling from the store before responding officers were able to help him.

The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene, and investigators believe the store-owner acted in self-defense. "It'll be presented to the district attorney," Lieutenant Westphal told the *Signal*, although he said he doubted there will be any charges levied against the storeowner for his actions. Westphal also said that investigators are trying to ascertain whether the deceased suspect was involved in other crimes in the community.

### **Home Invasion Suspects Posed as Sheriffs**

KFSN reported on February 5 about an attempted home invasion in Fresno, California, that involved suspects posing as members of local law enforcement. Tulare County Sheriff's Lieutenant Joe Torres told KFSN that a family was at home when they heard loud banging on their front door. Torres told KFSN that residents of the home could hear one of the suspects "yelling 'Sheriff's Office, Sheriff's Office.'" The father of the family immediately suspected foul play because of the time of the night, so he prepared both himself and his family for the worst. The suspects didn't wait any longer, and kicked the door in and forced their way into the house.



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The father could plainly see the intruders were not police officers, so he grabbed a nearby firearm and began shooting at the armed home invaders. A flurry of bullets flew through the air, and one of the suspects was fatally wounded in the chest, while the other suspects fled from the scene. Police soon arrived and discovered the body of the one deceased suspect on the scene. Lieutenant Torres credited the fast actions of the father and his good aim for preventing a dangerous home invasion from being even worse. Torres told KFSN, “Although we are in the early stages, it was a home invasion that went terribly wrong.... There were four people in the residence, along with a 13-year-old that could have all been killed if it wasn’t for the homeowner taking action.”

## **Mysterious Intruder**

*The Columbian* out of Clark County, Washington, reported on February 19 about a deadly shooting that occurred in the middle of the night. The Vancouver Police Department is still investigating the incident, but they believe an intruder broke in to a home by kicking in a rear door. The homeowner was awakened by the sounds of the door being busted in and grabbed a firearm. The armed homeowner confronted the intruder, who the homeowner said charged at him. Police say the homeowner fired one shot, which hit the suspect in the torso. The injured suspect succumbed to his wounds and was later identified as 19-year-old Franson J. Take. Vancouver Police Department spokeswoman Kim Kapp sent an e-mail to the press about the incident and told reporters that “based on some safety concerns for the homeowners and the unknown factors why their home was broken into with such force, we are not releasing their information.”

## **Two Out of Three Ain’t Bad**

The *New York Daily News* reported on February 19 about a break-in at an apartment complex in Austin, Texas. Austin Police Department Public Information Officer Vino Cadenas told reporters, “The preliminary investigation indicates that at approximately 10:30 p.m., three suspects entered an apartment in what we believe, suspect, to be a home invasion robbery.... The homeowners that were inside the apartment responded with firing shots at the three subjects who were entering their apartment.” The shots found their mark on all three suspects, and the gunshot wounds proved fatal for two of the three suspects. “Two of the three subjects are deceased.... The third suspect was transported to the hospital,” Cadenas told reporters. The investigation is ongoing, but it appears that the actions of the residents of the apartment were well within the legal confines of justified self-defense.

— Patrick Krey



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