




# Tactical Talk

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**Borrow money from pessimists-- they don't expect it back.**

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## U.S. Shootings

There are various sources for information about violence and its results in the United States. By piecing together data from various sources, we can get a more realistic look at the threat level, and get a feel for the “average” defensive gun use (DGU). Various researchers have come up with estimates of the total number of annual defensive gun uses in this country. These estimates vary from 775,000 incidents a year, to as many as three million incidents per year. These figures vary so wildly due to methodology differences, and to the fact that if no one is actually shot, many DGU’s go unreported, for a variety of reasons. Here is some info from some pretty diverse origins regarding shootings and DGU’s in general.

Centers for Disease Control (CDC)- In 1994, there were 134,445 gunshot wounds treated at U.S. hospitals (that’s an average of 368 per day). In 1997, the average hospital stay for a gunshot wound was six days. In 2000, there were a total of 28,663 fatal shootings in the US.

- 16,586 were suicides.
- 10,801 were homicides.
- 270 were suspects killed by police.
- 776 were unintentional shootings.

In the case of intentional assaults with firearms, 21.6% were fatal, four out of five were non-fatal. In the case of unintentional/accidental shootings, only 7.3% were fatal. The death rate for head shots was 61%; the death rate for shots to other body parts was only 18.7%. By contrast, the stab wound death rate was 4%.

FBI- In 2000, there were 75,685 non-fatal shootings in the course of criminal activity. That’s an average of 207 per day.

US Department of Justice- From 1987 to 1992, there was an average of 83,000 crime victims each year who used a gun to defend themselves. In 75% of these cases, the citizen was defending himself against a violent crime (rape, robbery, aggravated assault, etc). 25% of these DGU’s involved a burglary or theft. The burglaries and thefts typically occurred at the victim’s home, but the crimes of violence typically take place away from home. Since 3 out of 4 of the incidents were the type that primarily happen away from home, the lesson is obvious- wear your gun whenever you are away from home. In 38% of the cases, the defender actually fired his gun. In 62% of the cases, the attacker was scared off by simply producing the gun. In an average year, not counting shots fired BY criminals, there were 31,540 cases of citizens actually firing their guns in self defense, an average of 86 per day. One citizen out of every 3500 in the country fires a gun at a criminal each year. One out of every four U.S. citizens will either be the victim of, or a witness to, a violent crime in his lifetime. Please note that these DOJ statistics were compiled during the Clinton administration, when the Dept of Justice did everything it could to downplay the legitimate use of guns by citizens. They still found 83,000 cases a year.



## Thomas Jefferson, Gun Nut

Thomas Jefferson was the author of our nation's Declaration of Independence, one of the principal authors of the Constitution, and our second President. He was also a devout and faithful proponent of the right of the individual American to be armed. Here are a few quotations from letters Jefferson wrote.

**"The constitutions of most of our States assert that all power is inherent in the people; that...it is their right and duty to be at all times armed."** —Thomas Jefferson to John Cartwright, 1824

"One loves to possess arms, though they hope never to have occasion for them."  
—Thomas Jefferson to George Washington, 1796

***"Laws that forbid the carrying of arms disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes... Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants; they serve rather to encourage rather than to prevent homicides, for an unarmed man may be attacked with greater confidence than an armed man."***

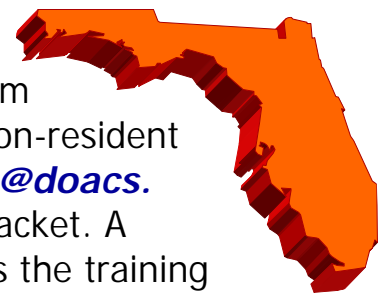


## Carry Permit Changes

As of July 12, Ohio has entered into a reciprocal agreement with Tennessee on Handgun Carry Permits. A Tennessee permit is now valid in Ohio. This brings to 27 the number of other states which honor a Tennessee permit.

One major Eastern state which does not is Pennsylvania. I go to Pennsylvania a couple of times a year to teach, and I am covered there by my non-resident Florida permit. A Florida non-resident permit can be obtained completely by mail. Contact [springb@doacs.](mailto:springb@doacs.state.fl.us)

[state.fl.us](http://state.fl.us) and request an application packet. A Rangemaster certificate of training meets the training requirement, and your fingerprint cards can be completed locally. The permit costs \$117.00 for a five year period.



# Special August Courses

**Annual Three Day Firearms Instructor Development Course**, August 6-8, Friday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each day. This course meets the accreditation requirements for a license as a State Certified Handgun Instructor in Tennessee. There is both classroom and range instruction. Students will fire several hundred rounds of ammunition (provided by Rangemaster) through a variety of handguns, and each student receives a huge reference manual. Tuition is \$399.00.

**Level IV Handgun**, August 14-15, Saturday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. both days.

## Combative Pistol Courses

August 21-22, Pine Barrens Range, Westhampton, LI, New York

August 28-29, Bluegrass Indoor Range, Louisville, KY

September 18-19, Strategic Weapons Academy of Texas, Ennis (near Dallas)

## Chuck Taylor Advanced Combat Handgun

Chuck is one of the premiere firearms trainers in the U.S. He served as a Ranger Captain in Viet Nam, in addition to operational experience in Africa and Latin America. He was the Operations Manager at Gunsite in the early days, and was on the US World Team in IPSC competition.

Chuck will return to Rangemaster on Sept. 11-12th, Saturday-Sunday, to conduct an intensive advanced handgun course. Tuition is only \$349.00 and the class is already half full. Call 901-370-5600 to register.

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Ladies need self defense skills as much or more than anyone else.  
Here, several ladies take part in a Level II handgun course at Rangemaster.

*"The usual road to slavery is that first they take away your guns, then they take away your property, then last of all they tell you to shut up and say you are enjoying it."*

—James A. Donald