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RANGE • MASTER

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# RANGEMASTER

DEFENSIVE TACTICS  
FOR THE **REAL** WORLD

## Firearms Training Services

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A few years ago, Rangemaster instructors Tom Givens, Cecil Booker, and Steve Palmer attended a full day seminar for church security teams from around the country. There were some very interesting blocks of instruction from various law enforcement and church organizations.

One of the points that really stood out was how little public awareness exists of this problem. As one of the pastors of a large church stated, many churches

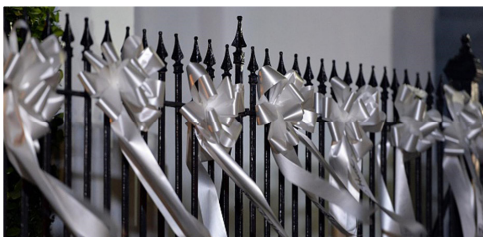
refuse to report crimes against them, or try hard to keep them quiet for fear of scaring the members from attending services and other church functions. Despite this, reported serious incidents at churches have increased by 200% in just the past five years.

According to a spokesman from the Shelby County Sheriff's Department's Homeland Security office, from January 1999 to 2013 there were 473 major incidents in US churches, resulting in over 200 fatalities. These range from mentally ill persons assaulting or killing pastors to religion-based hate crimes. Robbery accounted for 27% of the

serious incidents, since churches are known to have cash on hand, especially during services. In those 473 incidents, 596 people were killed or seriously injured.

This serves as a reminder that violence can occur wherever there are people. Thinking you are "safe" just because you are in a house of worship is naïve. You are safe where you make yourself safe, and nowhere else. Discretely conceal your personal emergency safety equipment and have it on you at all times. That is really the only way to actually have it when the need suddenly arises. ■

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS



by Tom Givens

## SANCTUARY?

“Thinking you are 'safe' just because you are in a house of worship is naïve.”



# All in the Family

By Lynn Givens



**A**s a woman, I have found that daily concealed carry is more complicated for me than it is for men. Tom dresses essentially the same way nine days out of ten, so he can wear one holster and the same gun every day, everywhere. But I have to wear different clothing types to fit into different environments and activities, which also requires changing handguns at times.

I firmly believe that one should stay with the same handgun type to the greatest degree possible. The whole purpose of repetitive practice is to ingrain movements to the point that they can be accomplished without conscious thought. This means our handguns can be of different sizes, but the controls should be located in the same place and work the same way from pistol to pistol. For these reasons, I selected the Smith & Wesson M&P line of handguns several years ago as

my “family” of carry pistols. I have examples of each size variation among the 9mm versions of the M&P line, and I use each according to my needs.

For high round count classes and for matches, I use a 5” barrel M&P Pro model, in an OWB belt holster. My most commonly carried gun is a 4.25” barrel standard service model, usually worn IWB. I have an M&P Compact for times when my clothing won’t adequately conceal my service size pistol. For times when I’m just in shorts and a blouse, I have an M&P Shield. The Shield also fits into a small handbag when evening wear won’t allow a holstered pistol.



All of these M&P’s have all controls (magazine release button, slide latch, etc.) in exactly the same position and all have the triggers set up to be the same weight and feel. All have the same steel sights. This way, no matter which gun I have at the time, all of my training and practice has been consistent, and the skill transfers from one variation to the others seamlessly.

Of course, other makers offer similar handgun “families.” With Glocks, for instance, you could use a G17 on the range, a G19 for standard carry, and a G26 for minimal clothing. The point is not the specific brand, but making all of your carry handguns as similar in operation as possible. If I have to reach for my pistol for real, I don’t want to have to remember what kind of pistol it is! ■

“The handgun is an interesting artifact, and its mastery is a notable accomplishment. Those who master it achieve a peculiar satisfaction, for they partake in some measure of one of the attributes of the gods – the ability to point the hand and smite at a distance. This idea existed millennia before anyone ever saw a pistol. So it must be an innate human aspiration, independent of technology.... As the handgun has no evil of its own, it has no skill of its own; however, in a master’s hands, its efficiency is almost unbelievable. As with all instruments, it is the man, not the tool, that makes the difference. The more subtle the tool, the greater the difference. Skill with a shovel makes less difference than skill with a violin. The handgun lies somewhere between.”

- Col. Jeff Cooper

# HYBRID HOLSTERS

by Tom Givens

COMFORTABLE

CONCEALABLE

SECURE

FAST

JM  
CUSTOM KYDEX



For the past couple of months, Lynn has been using a pre-production sample of a new hybrid Inside Waistband (IWB) holster from JM Custom Kydex, in Reno, Nevada. "Hybrid" refers to the fact that the holster is made from both leather and Kydex. The backing of the holster is made of thin but firm leather. This allows the holster to conform to the wearer's hipbone for both comfort and concealment ease. The part that encloses and holds the gun is made of Kydex, for speed of presentation. A good concealed carry holster has to meet four criteria, all at the same time. It must be Comfortable, Concealable, Secure, and Fast. This new holster meets these requirements in spades. Highly recommended! If you're interested in trying one of these hybrid holsters, please contact Tony at JMCK. ■



**JM Custom Kydex**

775.686.8431

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[jmcustomkydex@yahoo.com](mailto:jmcustomkydex@yahoo.com)

## Last Call!

In September, we had an outstanding Firearms Instructor

Development Course in Nappanee, Indiana. We had instructors from 12 states, from as far away as Utah and Texas, plus all over the Midwest. We had a good mix of law enforcement firearms instructors and private sector trainers, and 16 out of 20 successfully completed all the requirements and became Rangemaster certified instructors.

Two of the graduates posted detailed reviews of their experiences in class. Paul Sharp, both a law enforcement and private sector trainer of some note, posted a detailed video review at [sharpdefense.me/2015/09/17/mdoc-tip-of-the-week-091615/](http://sharpdefense.me/2015/09/17/mdoc-tip-of-the-week-091615/). Another trainer, Rolf Penzel, posted a written AAR at [onedefense.net/the-blog/](http://onedefense.net/the-blog/).

The last Firearms Instructor Development Course for 2015 will be held October 30 – November 1 in Wilmington, Ohio. To register, please visit [eventbrite.com/e/rangemaster-firearms-instructor-development-course-ohio-tickets-14141504621](http://eventbrite.com/e/rangemaster-firearms-instructor-development-course-ohio-tickets-14141504621).



The tip of the week is train with Tom Givens. Find a way. I don't care what you've got to do, what guns you have to sell, cars, whatever. Get yourself into one of his classes, and get your learn on.

- Paul Sharp (Sharp Defense)

**Eventbrite**

INSTRUCTORS



establishing

a

# dominance paradigm

January 8-10, 2016  
Shawnee, OK

William Aprill



Craig Douglas



Tom Givens



One of our newest specialty classes is called “Establishing a Dominance Paradigm” (EDP). For those of you who missed the inaugural class in early 2015, we will be presenting it again on January 8-10, 2016. The venue is the BDC Gun Room in Shawnee, OK, about 30 miles east of Oklahoma City. There are several hotels within minutes of the range. The BDC Gun Room is a brand new modern indoor training complex with two classrooms, two indoor pistol ranges, and a large, open training area.

Each of the instructors will conduct training in his area of expertise. William Aprill is a psychologist and former LEO. He will lead the classroom instruction on various mental preparedness factors, including self-deselection and criminal psychology. Tom Givens will be conducting live fire

training with an emphasis on accuracy at speed, under duress, with a handgun. Craig Douglas (Southnarc) will conduct Simunitions force-on-force scenarios with trained role players, giving students a chance to apply their threat management training in a very realistic environment. The entire program flows together well, with a good balance of academic information, skill drills, and holistic practical application exercises.

This is not a course for beginners. You should have prior formal handgun training, and prior training such as MUC or ECQC with Craig would be highly desirable. Follow this link to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/establishing-a-dominance-paradigm-tickets-18500599792>. This unique course is already filling up, so don't delay. ■

“I had a general idea that there was going to be range work, classroom instruction, and scenario-based training, however there's a lot of novel stressors placed on students, and you really get a chance to see whether your skills are validated under pressure when you're forced to react to the unforeseen....”

Sign up today on our Eventbrite page!

**Eventbrite**

- Nick Engle (North Carolina)  
U.S. Marine Corps, 2015 EDP Graduate



# DEFENSIVE REVOLVER

**Saturday, November 7, 2015  
Franklin, TN**

On Saturday, November 7, 2015, we will offer a one day Defensive Revolver Course. This is a full day of training on the wheelgun, the proper operation of which is almost a lost art. Whether you use the revolver as a back-up gun or as a primary defensive weapon, you need to know its quirks and how to maximize its potential. You will come away from this class with a better understanding of revolver selection, modifications and accessories; reloading techniques; and shooting skills. You will need a revolver, a holster, and 200 rounds of ammunition.

You may use speedloaders, Speed Strips, or other reloading methods, which will be covered in detail.

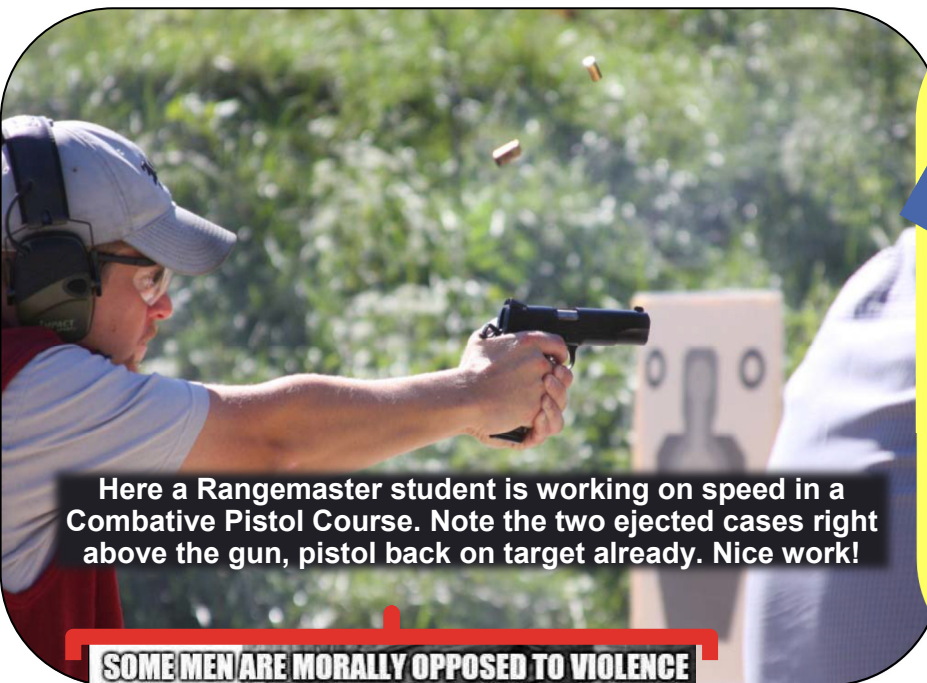
# DEFENSIVE SHOTGUN

**Sunday, November 8, 2015  
Franklin, TN**

The next day, Sunday, November 8, we'll be doing a one-day Defensive Shotgun Course. The shotgun is one of the most effective fighting tools available to the average citizen or police officer, and it can be devastating in trained hands. This course debunks a lot of myths and legends about the social shotgun and covers Shotgun Selection, Modifications, and Accessories; Ammunition Selection and Capabilities; and Shooting Technique. You will need a good pump or semi-auto shotgun (Remington 870 is the gold standard), with a barrel length of 18" to 22". You will need 150 rounds of birdshot, 50 rounds of buckshot, and 10 slugs. A workbook will be provided.



Both classes will be held on a very nice private range near Franklin, Tennessee, very near Nashville. Directions to the range will be sent to registered students. For more information on these classes or to register for either, please visit <http://www.eventbrite.com/o/tom-givens-6762296023>.



Here a Rangemaster student is working on speed in a Combative Pistol Course. Note the two ejected cases right above the gun, pistol back on target already. Nice work!

facebook

## QUIZ TIME!

Which of the following fake student names did Tom once write on a sample handgun course certificate?

- A. Neverhit, Jack S.
- B. Uranius Johnson
- C. Jed I. Knight
- D. Shagnasty McClutchbutt, Jr.

Post the correct answer on our Facebook page and you'll get a nifty surprise in the mail!

**SOME MEN ARE MORALLY OPPOSED TO VIOLENCE**



**THEY ARE PROTECTED BY MEN THAT AREN'T**



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