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Citizens Association for Responsible Gun Ownership = CARGO

[www.cargogunclub.org](http://www.cargogunclub.org)

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Hello Fellow CARGO Members,

**The scheduled CARGO meeting on Thursday, May 21st has been cancelled.**

I hope that you are all well and surviving the situation as best you can. Please use the [CARGO@att.net](mailto:CARGO@att.net) email or the CARGO Facebook page if you need to get in touch with the club.

We are looking forward to a point when we can meet again.

Take care and be safe,

Paul

**P.S. Community BBQ has received their alcohol license so we can no longer do show and tell at their restaurant. We will look for another venue for our next meeting and will let you know what we find.**

## Waco, Ruby Ridge, Fast and Furious, Benghazi and the list goes on...

<https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/operation-fast-and-furious-and-the-romanian-cugir-wasr-10-63/>

### Operation Fast and Furious and the Romanian Cugir WASR 10/63

by WILL DABBS on OCTOBER 4, 2019



The US Border Patrol has responsibility for securing the vast swaths of rugged wasteland separating the United States from Mexico. Agent Brian Terry had been with the agency three and one-half years by the end of 2010.

On December 14, 2010, Border Patrol Agents William Castano, Timothy Keller, Gabriel Fragoza, and Brian Terry were patrolling the Peck Canyon region of Santa Cruz County, Arizona, some eleven miles from the Mexican border. The Border Patrol team had been in the field for two days pursuing a rip crew.



Mexican drug cartels have made the border areas some of the most dangerous real estate on earth. Mexico saw more than 8,000 murders in the first three months of 2019.

Rip crew is the term applied to groups of heavily armed criminals who roam the border scrub preying on illegal immigrants and marijuana smugglers. They are themselves typically associated with rival drug cartels. These bloodthirsty mobs of narco-terrorists are legendarily ruthless.



Brian Terry was mortally wounded during a firefight with heavily armed drug cartel shooters.

Upon contact, the Border Patrol team deployed nonlethal beanbag rounds. The Mexican killers were not constrained by rules of engagement, so they responded with Kalashnikov rifles. One of the criminals was hit in the subsequent firefight and apprehended at the scene. Agent Terry caught a 7.62x39mm round to the pelvis. Terry was medevac'd to an area hospital but succumbed the following morning. He was forty years old.



Brian Terry's entire life was characterized by service.

Brian Terry was a sheepdog. He was a Marine veteran who had served as a uniformed police officer in Lincoln Park, Michigan, before assessing into the Border Patrol. His entire adult life was defined by service to his country. On the night he was murdered, Agent Terry was taking down bad guys indirectly armed by the US government.



The Romanian WASR 10/63 is a popular and relatively inexpensive AK variant rifle.

When the dust settled two Romanian Cugir WASR 10/63 semiautomatic Kalashnikov rifles were recovered. The bullet that killed Agent Terry was a 7.62x39mm round like those fired by these WASR rifles. The government designated the mangled bullet as a piece of evidence Q6. The projectile was too badly damaged to allow a definitive connection to a particular weapon.



The stated mission of Operation Fast and Furious was to apprehend senior-level gun traffickers for Mexican drug cartels. It didn't quite work out that way.

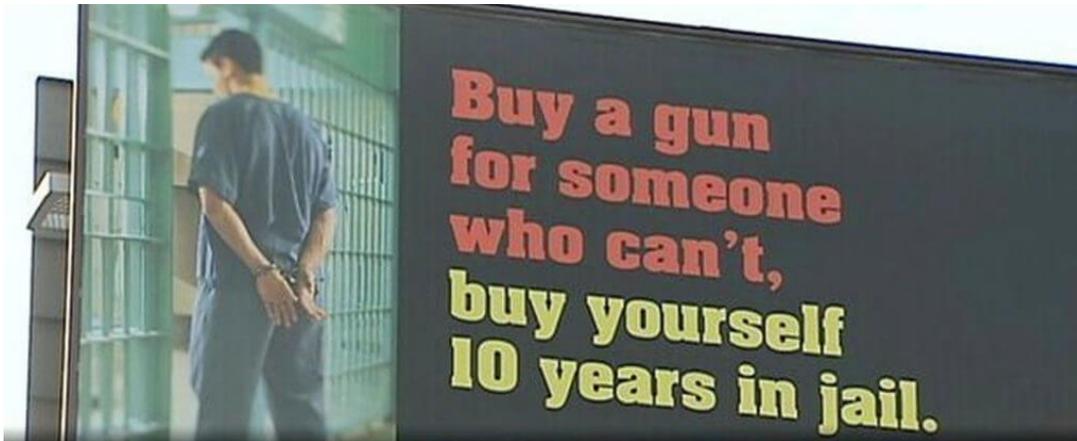
These two guns had been sold through a Glendale, Arizona, gun shop as part of Operation Fast and Furious. The advertised intent was to allow straw buyers to purchase firearms and then track them until BATF agents could apprehend high-level arms dealers.



The US government knowingly fed thousands of weapons directly to Mexican drug cartels while simultaneously telling us the nation was in dire need of stricter gun control laws.

The rub is that these guns, though knowingly sold to criminals, were never actually tracked. A Mexican drug cartel member shot Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry that December night in 2010. However, it was a partisan, inept, and politically weaponized US Government under President Barack Obama that gave him the tools.

## Fast and Furious



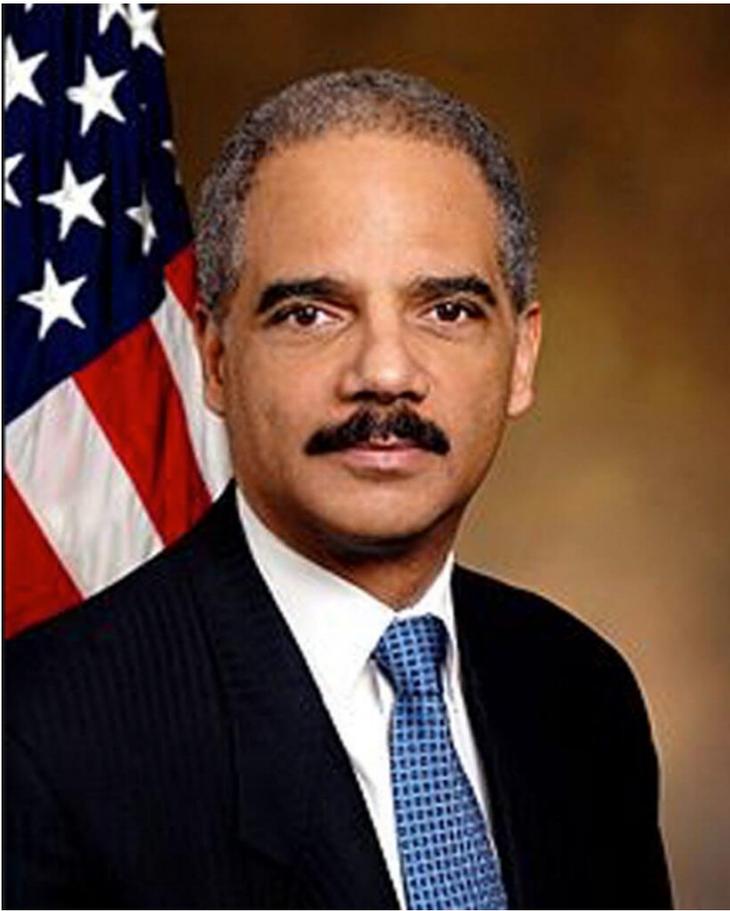
A nationwide BATF ad campaign makes straw buying of firearms seem like a pretty big deal.

A straw buyer is someone who purchases a firearm from a gun dealer with the intent of transferring that weapon to someone who would otherwise not be legally permitted to possess it. Apprehending straw buyers can seem relatively straightforward given the volume of information you must supply to purchase a gun. We FFL holders are directed to report any buyer who seems suspicious so that BATF agents can investigate.



The US government allowed thousands of guns to flow into the hands of Mexican drug cartels.

However, a straw buyer is a small fish. This is frequently a relative or girlfriend of a criminal. The party line from the Department of Justice was that the BATF intentionally allowed these weapons to pass into the hands of criminals so they could catch the higher-level traffickers. The problem is that little to no effort was made to actually follow the guns once they were sold.



Attorney General Eric Holder initially denied accusations of gun-walking until he was confronted with incontrovertible evidence of the practice.

The DOJ initially denied everything but then recanted when presented with the facts. The sundry sordid details are beyond the purview of this article, but they are adequate to make you ill. Attorney General Holder and President Obama denied any knowledge of Fast and Furious before Agent Terry was killed and the scandal broke.



Eric Holder's refusal to cooperate with congressional investigators resulted in his being held in contempt of Congress.

Holder's unwillingness to provide supporting documents resulted in the first incidence in our nation's history of a sitting Attorney General being held in contempt of congress. President Obama claimed executive privilege and refused to release detailed records of the operation.



FN Five-Seven pistols were popular cartel guns based upon their high capacity magazines and armor-piercing capabilities. Fast and Furious supplied dozens of these lightweight polymer pistols to cartel hitmen.

Fast and Furious moved about 2,000 firearms. Of these, 389 were recovered in the US. Another 276 were seized in Mexico. The remaining 1,300 or so ended up predominantly in the hands of the Sinaloa Cartel as well as the El Teo and La Familia organizations. Most of these weapons were Kalashnikovs and AR rifles. However, there were thirty-four .50-caliber anti-materiel rifles and a large number of FN Five-Seven pistols.



The Barrett .50BMG is a popular weapon in the hands of drug cartels fighting Mexican government forces. Operation Fast and Furious transferred nearly three dozen powerful .50-caliber rifles to criminal users.

Fast and Furious guns have since turned up at around 170 crime scenes. Criminals have thus far used these weapons to kill at least 300 people to include Mario Gonzales Rodriguez, the brother of Mexico's Attorney General. One Mexican military helicopter was engaged by a Fast and Furious Barrett .50 wielded by cartel gunmen.

## The Brian Terry Guns



The WASR 10/63 is a common Kalashnikov variant in the hands of American civilian shooters.

The WASR 10/63 is a reasonably priced Kalashnikov rifle. WASR stands for Wassenaar Arrangement Semi-automatic Rifle, whatever that really means. The WASR guns are built in the Cugir Arms Factory in Cugir, Romania. This is a state-owned defense company that traces its origins back to 1799 and the Austro-Hungarian Empire.



The easiest way to differentiate a WASR from other AKM variants is the lack of pressed dimples in the sides of the magazine well.

The WASR 10/63 is an adaptation of the Romanian Model 63 and GP75 Combloc AKM military rifles. WASRs originally fed from proprietary single stack magazines. As a result, the pressed receivers of the WASRs lack the characteristic dimples a traditional AKM uses to stabilize the standard steel box

magazine. Instead, the WASRs employ internally welded spacer plates. These WASRs were imported by Century Arms and subsequently milled to accept standard capacity magazines.



The WASR 10/63 is resurrected from military surplus parts adapted to meet American import specifications.

The WASR 10/63 features a chrome-lined barrel, a side-mounted scope rail, and traditional wooden furniture. The fire control components on early WASR guns were notorious for producing trigger slap. This is a condition wherein the cycling action thrusts the trigger back into reset with sufficient vigor as to be painful. Substitution of a Tapco Intrafuse G2 American-made trigger group rectified that problem.



WASR 10/63 rifles are identified based upon the original military serial numbers pressed into their barrel trunnions.

WASR 10/63 guns were assembled using Romanian surplus parts stripped from military weapons made from the 1960s through the 1980s. The resulting civilian rifles were transferred based upon the serial numbers taken from those original Romanian trunnions. The two guns seized at the scene of the Brian Terry murder were serial numbers 1971-CZ3775 and 1983-AH3977.

## Trigger Time



The Kalashnikov rifle is the most prolifically produced firearm in human history. It is legendarily reliable.

The WASR 10 is a relatively crude rendition of the classic AKM, and some versions had reliability problems. Inconsistencies in widening the magazine well to accept standard capacity magazines were typically to blame. However, like most AKs, the vast majority of these Romanian guns are reliable performers.



The AK rifle is remarkably easy to use.

Magazines have to be rocked into place, but this allows a full mag to be seated easily with the bolt closed. The charging handle reciprocates on the right side as part of the bolt carrier. This allows the operator to cycle the action manually if it ever gets sticky.



The 7.62x39mm round is a powerful cartridge for such a compact firearm. While thoroughly controllable with proper technique, this .30-caliber intermediate round does bounce around a bit more vigorously than might a 5.56mm M4.

The WASR 10/63 is about as small and lightweight as one might want a gun firing the relatively heavy 7.62x39mm round to be. These weapons typically push a 123-grain jacketed bullet to around 2,400 feet per second. Running the gun is not quite as fast as the same chore with an M4, but that doesn't mean the WASR 10/63 is a poor performer. In the hands of a determined operator, the WASR 10/63 is a devastating close-combat tool.

## Aftermath



From left to right, Jesus Rosario Favela-Astorga, Ivan Soto-Barraza, Heraclio Osorio-Arellanes, and Lionel Portillo-Meza (photo unavailable) are wanted in connection with the murder of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry.

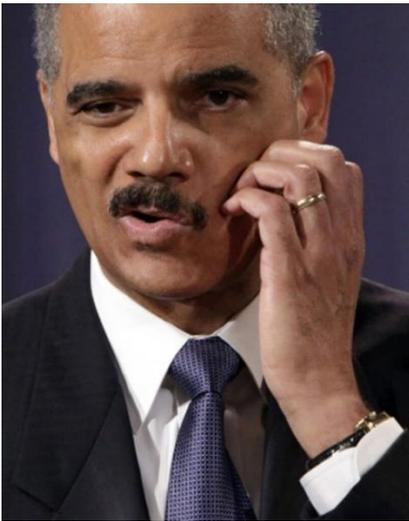
The members of the rip crew that killed Agent Brian Terry were eventually arrested.

Jesus Rosario Favela Astorga, Heraclio Osorio-Arellanes, Jesus Leonel Sanchez-Meza, Ivan Soto-Barraza, and Rosario Burboa-Alvarez were eventually apprehended, extradited, tried, and convicted in the American court system for the roles they played in the death of Brian Terry.



Government officials spouted all the right platitudes in the aftermath of the Brian Terry killing.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano announced, “The fatal shooting of Border Patrol Agent Brian A. Terry last night is an unconscionable act of violence against the men and women of the Border Patrol...we will leave no stone unturned as we seek justice for the perpetrators.”



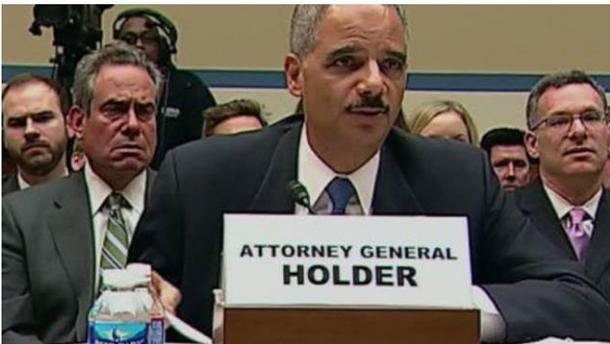
The US government knowingly armed Brian Terry’s killers.

That sounds great, but it apparently wasn’t true. The Obama administration had no interest in explaining why such a gun-averse administration had placed some 2,000 serious tactical weapons into the hands of criminals. As a result, from the top to the bottom government officials deflected, obfuscated, and, in some cases, outright lied.



The official narrative pinned the blame for the Fast and Furious debacle on mid-level BATFE managers operating an unsanctioned gun-walking scheme.

The truth was never definitively established. One version was that BATF supervisory personnel were so breathtakingly incompetent as to authorize the transfer of 2,000 tactical firearms directly into the hands of violent Mexican drug cartels without informing their superiors. That's Eric Holder's version. A few players were reassigned or retired, but no one was ever really held accountable.



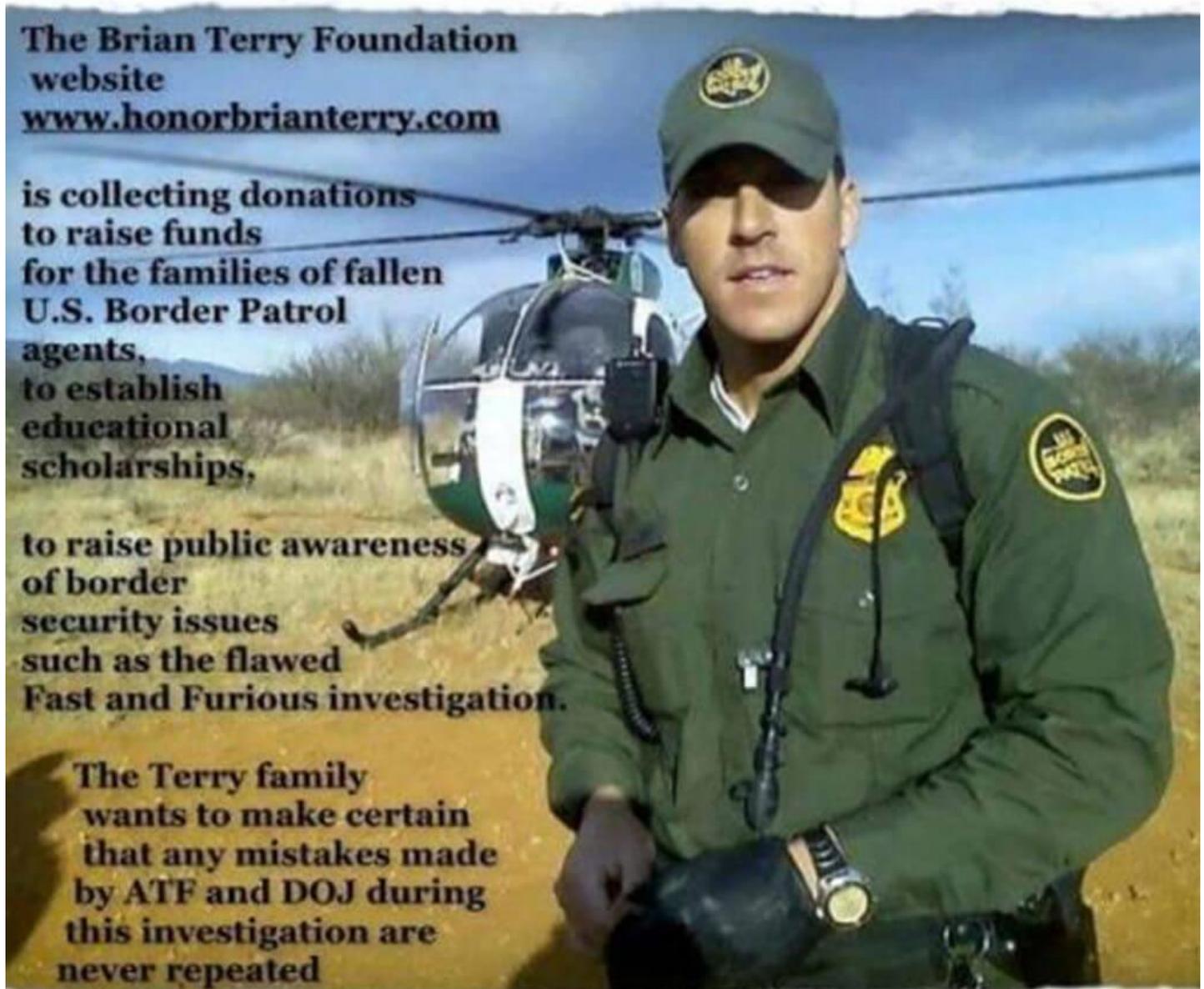
Nobody ever determined for certain where the gun-walking idea originated or how far up it went.

Apparently, somebody in the government wanted to convince American voters that the legal firearms trade in the United States was the primary source of armaments for Mexican drug cartels. An email dated July 14, 2010, five months prior to Agent Terry's death, between two BATF supervisors, stated, "Bill- Can you see if these guns were all purchased from the same FFL and at one time. We are looking at anecdotal cases to support a demand letter on long gun multiple sales. Thanks, Mark R. Chait Assistant Director Field Operations."



Operation Fast and Furious represent one of the greatest government failures in the history of our republic.

Conspiracy theorists believe that gun-walking to influence public opinion in support of further gun control measures began at the highest levels of power. Apologists attribute the whole sordid affair to simple overzealous incompetence. The truth is likely somewhere in between.



**The Brian Terry Foundation  
website  
[www.honorbrianterry.com](http://www.honorbrianterry.com)**

**is collecting donations  
to raise funds  
for the families of fallen  
U.S. Border Patrol  
agents,  
to establish  
educational  
scholarships,**

**to raise public awareness  
of border  
security issues  
such as the flawed  
Fast and Furious investigation.**

**The Terry family  
wants to make certain  
that any mistakes made  
by ATF and DOJ during  
this investigation are  
never repeated**

Brian Terry was an American hero who gave his life on a noble mission. The leadership at the time clearly did not deserve to command such men as this.

Operation Fast and Furious is a perfect example of what happens when activists in positions of responsibility convince themselves that the ends justify the means. That it ultimately cost the life of a patriot of Brian Terry's caliber, as well as hundreds of Mexican nationals, make the whole sordid mess one of the most egregious government failures in American history.

## Racist Ralphie Signs Gun Control Bills



Racist Ralphie is at it again. The governor of Virginia, best known for his tasteless blackface photo, signed five bills that are intended to violate the rights of Virginians. Included is a red flag bill, a one handgun per month restriction, stiff penalties for negligently allowing a kid access to a gun, and a bill that punishes victims of firearm theft if they wait too long to report it. We reported on these bills (subscribe to arfcom news!) when they passed so I know you aren't remotely surprised. Everybody knew Racist Ralphie would sign them, but now it's official.

The tsunami of authoritarian control freak legislation proposed in Virginia was mostly defeated, but a few bills made it through. Bloomberg's strategy was to throw everything on the wall to see what he could get to stick. It worked, but that doesn't mean it's over. There will be court fights to strike down these obviously unconstitutional laws and Bloomberg's henchwomen are surely working right now to draw up their plans for the next season. For our part, we need to continue to donate our time and money to the organizations that do the real work to fight laws that infringe on human rights, and we need to continue to assertively engage our elected public servants. Making sure they understand the issue of gun rights is your top priority and that you intend to vote against any candidate in the primary if they won't fight for your rights.

Guns & Ammo Staff - May 06, 2020

## Canada Bans Common Shotguns

Canada, the great Duck Factory to the north and the proving grounds for so many historical waterfowl hunting shotguns and ammunition products over the decades, is under attack from anti-gun government officials who have passed laws that essentially ban most shotguns.



Earlier this week Guns & Ammo reported that Canada, under the leadership of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, banned hundreds of models of firearms and categorized them under the label “assault weapons.” The list of banned firearms includes many semiautomatic rifles and .50-caliber rifles or other firearms with bore diameters exceeding 20mm. Upon further examination of the published regulations, it has been discovered that the latter prohibition could effectively ban many, if not most, shotguns used for sport shooting and hunting.

According to a legal opinion drafted by Ontario attorney Edward Burlew on behalf of the Canadian Sporting Arms and Ammunition Association (CSAAA), the ban extends to many common 12- and 10-gauge shotguns. A 12-gauge shotgun has a nominal bore diameter of 18.51mm, making it exempt from the rule, but there is a catch. According to CSAAA’s written legal opinion, “The definition of a barrel is the tube thorough [sic] which a projectile travels. The bore of a firearm barrel is the largest internal diameter of the barrel tube through which a projectile travels.”

The opinion cites a forensic standard for measuring a shotgun barrel in Canada, and this standard calls for removing any choke tubes before the barrel is measured.

“In the examination of 12-gauge shotgun barrels with screw in choke tubes, the chokes are removed and the bore at the muzzle typically equals or exceeds 20mm.”



If Mr. Burlew is correct, Canadian shotgun owners have a serious problem. Whether this was a back-door effort at banning a swath of firearms or a simple technical error that did not consider the consequences, is unknown. Since the rules were published only days after the tragic mass shooting that provided the political cover for the ban, the words may have been drafted in-haste. In a press release, CSAAA said that “Minister Blair is either too inept to comprehend the scope of his regulations...or he lied to the Government and Canadians.”

**There’s more:** In order to ban .50-caliber and similar rifles, the recent ban imposes a restriction on firearms that produce muzzle energies in-excess of 10,000 joules. Muzzle energy is established by a formula that combines bullet mass and muzzle velocity. According to our calculations, a number of big-game hunting cartridges including the .460 Weatherby Magnum and .600 Nitro Express exceed the 10,000-joule threshold and are therefore prohibited. These hunting guns are hardly the “assault weapons” that Trudeau has demonized.

Will the Canadian government move to fix these rules, or will Canadian hunters, gun owners and outfitters become criminals and lose their livelihood due to a technicality?

## **Gun owners are living through another history lesson.**

May 06, 2020



Too many Americans were cringing in the first weeks of March when the COVID-19 pandemic began to grip the nation. Grocery stores had their shelves stripped bare, the stock market went into freefall, and government officials began talking in tones that sounded a lot like a prelude to martial law. Law and order within our crowded, complex society started to feel as tenuous as it always is, though human nature prevents most of us from acknowledging it because it's too unsettling.

Many of today's new gun owners have developed a self-defense mindset, but they haven't had any real guidance or motivation to act beyond making the decision to purchase a gun. With the COVID-19 crisis, those who did not act may be experiencing regret.

### **LOOKING BACK**

In the third week of March, governors began to issue "stay-at-home" orders and closed all businesses that were not deemed "essential." Most, even in those states considered radically anti-gun like Illinois, Connecticut, and Hawaii designated firearm-related businesses as essential but others in New York, Massachusetts, and even New Mexico refused and ordered their closure. New Jersey and Pennsylvania initially closed all gun stores but soon reversed course.

New Jersey's governor badly wanted to keep his citizens from acquiring firearms but reluctantly submitted after the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), the firearm industry trade association, was successful in its work with the Trump Administration. At its request, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a second set of non-binding guidance to states that included those who are part of the firearm and ammunition industries naming their workers as essential in the effort to maintain the nation's key

infrastructure. The NSSF's work at the federal, state, and local levels was instrumental in keeping many gun stores and ranges open across the country.

Cities and counties generated their own orders if governors chose to keep their powder dry and refrain from statewide mandates. Gun shops in places like Dallas, Austin, and Houston, all in what is generally deemed the pro-gun state of Texas, were ordered to close by local officials. They knew they were violating the states' strong firearm preemption laws, thanks to the lobbying work of the NRA through the years, but arrogance prevailed in certain areas. After a few days of chaos, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton slapped his local tyrants across the chops with a formal opinion citing the unambiguous state law prohibiting them from restricting gun sales in any manner. Governor Greg Abbott also issued his own statewide order that recognized gun stores and ranges as essential, pursuant to the NSSF-won DHS guidance.

The clear lesson from all of this is that anti-gun government officials will act with craven disregard for individual rights and the Constitution if they think they have justification to do so. Because of the gun store closures in New York, Massachusetts, and New Mexico, 10 percent of the country's population – more than 30 million people – live in places where they cannot buy firearms. Even buying a firearm from a willing neighbor is not possible because each of these states have imposed universal background check laws. Americans are literally being prevented from exercising their right to keep and bear arms.

In these states, businesses like dry cleaners and liquor stores remain open as essential, but the stores that sell the only explicitly protected property named in the Constitution are forcibly shuttered. If social order ever collapses and violence results, at least those who sought the protection offered by a firearm can wear a freshly starched shirt and have a bourbon in hand as the trouble comes. The NRA and other groups have filed lawsuits, but they will be resolved long after the COVID-19 emergency has passed.

# NICS Firearm Background Checks: Month/Year

November 30, 1998 - April 30, 2020

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
1998											21,196	871,644	892,840
1999	591,355	696,323	753,083	646,712	576,272	569,493	589,476	703,394	808,627	945,701	1,004,333	1,253,354	9,138,123
2000	639,972	707,070	736,543	617,689	538,648	550,561	542,520	682,501	782,087	845,886	898,598	1,000,962	8,543,037
2001	640,528	675,156	729,532	594,723	543,501	540,491	539,498	707,288	864,038	1,029,691	983,186	1,062,559	8,910,191
2002	665,803	694,668	714,665	627,745	569,247	518,351	535,594	693,139	724,123	849,281	887,647	974,059	8,454,322
2003	653,751	708,281	736,864	622,832	567,436	529,334	533,289	683,517	738,371	856,863	842,932	1,008,118	8,481,588
2004	695,000	723,654	738,298	642,589	542,456	546,847	561,773	666,598	740,260	865,741	890,754	1,073,701	8,687,671
2005	685,811	743,070	768,290	658,954	557,058	555,560	561,358	687,012	791,353	852,478	927,419	1,164,582	8,952,945
2006	775,518	820,679	845,219	700,373	626,270	616,097	631,156	833,070	919,487	970,030	1,045,194	1,253,840	10,036,933
2007	894,608	914,954	975,806	840,271	803,051	792,943	757,884	917,358	944,889	1,025,123	1,079,923	1,230,525	11,177,335
2008	942,556	1,021,130	1,040,863	940,961	886,183	819,891	891,224	956,872	973,003	1,183,279	1,529,635	1,523,426	12,709,023
2009	1,213,885	1,259,078	1,345,096	1,225,980	1,023,102	968,145	966,162	1,074,757	1,093,230	1,233,982	1,223,252	1,407,155	14,033,824
2010	1,119,229	1,243,211	1,300,100	1,233,761	1,016,876	1,005,876	1,069,792	1,089,374	1,145,798	1,368,184	1,296,223	1,521,192	14,409,616
2011	1,323,336	1,473,513	1,449,724	1,351,255	1,230,953	1,168,322	1,157,041	1,310,041	1,253,752	1,340,273	1,534,414	1,862,327	16,454,951
2012	1,377,301	1,749,903	1,727,881	1,427,343	1,316,226	1,302,660	1,300,704	1,526,206	1,459,363	1,614,032	2,006,919	2,783,765	19,592,303
2013	2,495,440	2,309,393	2,209,407	1,714,433	1,435,917	1,281,351	1,283,912	1,419,088	1,401,562	1,687,599	1,813,643	2,041,528	21,093,273
2014	1,660,355	2,086,863	2,488,842	1,742,946	1,485,259	1,382,975	1,402,228	1,546,497	1,456,032	1,603,469	1,803,397	2,309,684	20,968,547
2015	1,772,794	1,859,584	2,012,488	1,711,340	1,580,980	1,529,057	1,600,832	1,745,410	1,795,102	1,976,759	2,243,030	3,314,594	23,141,970
2016	2,545,802	2,613,074	2,523,265	2,145,865	1,870,000	2,131,485	2,197,169	1,853,815	1,992,219	2,333,539	2,561,281	2,771,159	27,538,673
2017	2,043,184	2,234,817	2,433,092	2,045,564	1,942,677	1,901,768	1,742,546	1,925,146	1,967,104	2,030,391	2,382,788	2,586,138	25,235,215
2018	2,030,530	2,333,193	2,767,699	2,223,213	2,002,992	1,935,691	1,835,318	2,073,296	1,956,681	2,086,895	2,393,043	2,543,385	26,181,936
2019	2,165,094	2,053,886	2,644,851	2,334,249	2,349,309	2,312,309	2,030,661	2,366,824	2,207,312	2,393,609	2,574,752	2,936,894	28,369,750
2020	2,702,702	2,802,467	3,740,688	2,911,128									12,156,985
2021													

TOTAL 345,161,051

In the beginning, dealers rationed gun and ammo sales in an effort to ensure as many customers as possible could find the protection they desired. March set an all-time record for the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) associated with gun purchases in a single month at 3.74 million. That is 34 percent more than February and 12 percent more than the previous record in December 2015. The month of April 2020 settled slightly to more than 2.91 million.

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2008	942,556	1,021,130	1,040,863	940,961	886,183	819,891	891,224	956,872	973,003	1,183,279	1,529,635	1,523,426	12,709,023
2009	1,213,885	1,259,078	1,345,096	1,225,980	1,023,102	968,145	966,162	1,074,757	1,093,230	1,233,982	1,223,252	1,407,155	14,033,824
2010	1,119,229	1,243,211	1,300,100	1,233,761	1,016,876	1,005,876	1,069,792	1,089,374	1,145,798	1,368,184	1,296,223	1,521,192	14,409,616
2011	1,323,336	1,473,513	1,449,724	1,351,255	1,230,953	1,168,322	1,157,041	1,310,041	1,253,752	1,340,273	1,534,414	1,862,327	16,454,951
2012	1,377,301	1,749,903	1,727,881	1,427,343	1,316,226	1,302,660	1,300,704	1,526,206	1,459,363	1,614,032	2,006,919	2,783,765	19,592,303
2013	2,495,440	2,309,393	2,209,407	1,714,433	1,435,917	1,281,351	1,283,912	1,419,088	1,401,562	1,687,599	1,813,643	2,041,528	21,093,273
2014	1,660,355	2,086,863	2,488,842	1,742,946	1,485,259	1,382,975	1,402,228	1,546,497	1,456,032	1,603,469	1,803,397	2,309,684	20,968,547
2015	1,772,794	1,859,584	2,012,488	1,711,340	1,580,980	1,529,057	1,600,832	1,745,410	1,795,102	1,976,759	2,243,030	3,314,594	23,141,970
2016	2,545,802	2,613,074	2,523,265	2,145,865	1,870,000	2,131,485	2,197,169	1,853,815	1,992,219	2,333,539	2,561,281	2,771,159	27,538,673
2017	2,043,184	2,234,817	2,433,092	2,045,564	1,942,677	1,901,768	1,742,546	1,925,146	1,967,104	2,030,391	2,382,788	2,586,138	25,235,215
2018	2,030,530	2,333,193	2,767,699	2,223,213	2,002,992	1,935,691	1,835,318	2,073,296	1,956,681	2,086,895	2,393,043	2,543,385	26,181,936
2019	2,165,094	2,053,886	2,644,851	2,334,249	2,349,309	2,312,309	2,030,661	2,366,824	2,207,312	2,393,609	2,574,752	2,936,894	28,369,750
2020	2,702,702	2,802,467	3,740,688	2,911,128									12,156,985
2021													

TOTAL 345,161,051

## SEE PHOTO GALLERY

NOTE: These statistics represent the number of firearm background checks initiated through the NICS. They do not represent the number of firearms sold. Based on varying state laws and purchase scenarios, a one-to-one correlation cannot be made between a firearm background check and a firearm sale.

Even in states where gun stores remain open and supply has not been depleted, the ability to actually buy a gun has been far from guaranteed. NICS has been overwhelmed for the volume of gun purchases. As usual, any checks that do not get an immediate approval from a database search go into “delay” status to allow time for an investigation. This might be due to a past arrest with no clear disposition or a customer’s name and date of birth are too similar to a someone who is actually prohibited.

Federal law specifies that the background investigation may take up to three business days. After these three days, the dealer can transfer the firearm to the customer, approved

or not. This is a critical component of law that keeps government officials from unilaterally and indefinitely delaying firearm transfers through never-ending investigations. A “business day” is considered a day when the offices in the state where the transfer is occurring are open for official business. No state has completely shuttered all state offices during the COVID-19 crisis.

Regardless, the FBI has been giving gun dealers a Brady Transfer Date that is as many as 28 days out from the date the background check is requested by the dealer. There is no legal authority for the FBI to do this and it is another example of the United States government behaving badly during times of uncertainty. Even gun dealers in small towns who know their customers refuse to transfer guns after the three days specified in law because they fear the consequences of disobeying the FBI’s extralegal guidance.

The appropriate and legal act that the FBI should have done while tens of thousands of investigations piled up was to simply tell gun dealers, “You know you have the right to transfer the firearm(s) to the customer after three business days. However, we kindly *request* that you wait until \_\_\_\_\_ to transfer the firearm(s) in order to give us time to deal with this mess.” It chose not to do this, which is why citizens are right to be suspicious of the government’s growing power.

There are about 20 states including Nevada where gun dealers must first go through state officials for the background check before it is sent to the FBI for the national check. These are called “Point of Contact” states. Nevada’s Department of Public Safety (DPS) runs the state’s portion of the background check. It is so overwhelmed that Nevada’s DPS simply stopped answering calls from gun stores. Dealers began to FAX customer information out of desperation, but the FAX machines were often ignored.

Under federal law, a background check that has been initiated by a dealer expires after 30 days. The delays in Nevada, due to the overwhelmed DPS, have been so bad that dealers must often call customers back into their shop to start the process over again. All of this has made a mockery of the so-called “instant” background check system. Many would-be new gun owners living in Nevada and other places have not been able to get past the administrative blockade associated with the background check system that gun control advocates want to expand.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

Between the manufacturers’ supply challenges to distributors and retailers, state and local governments’ orders to shut down gun stores, and the broken background check system becoming so overwhelmed that it ceases to function, law-abiding Americans can never be certain that they’ll be able to buy guns when they need them most. The lesson here is to buy guns, ammo, and other essentials long before you actually need them.

Brad Fitzpatrick - May 08, 2020

*Five things gun owners should remember when fear empties a gun store's shelves.*



By now you've felt the effects of the coronavirus pandemic and are weary of it. You may not have the disease, but the near-global shutdown will continue to be felt for some time. Millions of people have reconsidered the importance for ensuring their own personal safety, which has prompted many law-abiding citizens to buy a gun — or at least try to buy a gun. For some, purchasing firearms and ammunition is not an option due to local restrictions or a lack of supply.

Guns & Ammo has been discussing what's to come with firearm and ammunition manufacturers, and though most won't divulge specific numbers of specific items sold, one fact is clear: guns and ammo are continuing to sell, and there's no indication that demand will let up anytime soon. To be honest, manufacturers are now facing their own supply issues of key ingredients or the unavailability of small parts and components. Finding guns and ammo is likely to become more challenging before. Here are five considerations to successfully navigate periods of high demand.

## 1. Demand during periods of panic buying is focused.



Gun store owners, firearm and ammunition manufacturers and retailers share a similar story: The demand in a panic buy is focused on defensive handguns, AR-type or black rifles, and pump shotguns are experiencing the most sales and demand. Legislation aimed at taking away specific firearms — AR-15s and magazine-fed semiautomatics are the most common target — causes gun sales to boom. What dealers have seen, however, are that panic buyers aren't typically connoisseurs. You can still find guns and ammunition for excellent defensive-worthy cartridges such as .357 SIG, .38 Super, 10mm Auto, and .44 Special. There's also a higher demand for affordable guns and high-quality pistols and rifles higher price tags. Whereas some cost-conscious customers may have been reluctant to purchase a pistol from Ed Brown, Nighthawk Custom or Wilson Combat, we're hearing that people are starting to reconsider these as options with more firearms being sold in the \$1,500 to \$2,500 range than usual.

## 2. Ammo outsells firearms when panic strikes.

Not surprisingly, 9mm and 5.56 NATO/.223 Remington loads are the hardest to find with .380 ACP, .38 Special/.357 Magnum, .40 S&W and .45 ACP handgun ammo are almost gone, especially near urban populations. The post-COVID-19 lesson for the rest of us is to be sure we stock up on ammo — especially range loads such as those from American Eagle, Fiocchi, Hornady Frontier, Remington UMC and Winchester's white box. These loads fly off store shelves first. If the effects of the pandemic lasts for a year or more, you'll want to have plenty of ammunition to enjoy or train with.



As brisk as gun sales have been over the last couple weeks (NICS background checks are up about 300 percent from this time last year), we've found that ammo is at the heart of the current buying spree. [Brownells.com](https://www.brownells.com) typically stocks dozens of loads of 9mm ammo, but our choices are currently down to one brand as of this writing. There are load for .380 ACP, .40 S&W and .45 ACP ammo still available, but supplies are so low that the remaining products could be gone in hours. There are still pistols available for sale in every one of those sold-out calibers, however. The takeaway is that ammo supplies dry up faster than firearms during a panic buy.

### **3. Understanding the supply chain is important.**

Not many consumers understand how the supply chain for guns and ammunition works. Firearms and ammunition are made or assembled from third party sources (depending on the company) and then shipped to retailers or distributors who then either sell the items directly to customers or to other, gun stores. Understanding the supply chain can help you get your hands on what's available among the in-demand items.

"Large retailers usually fill out requests sooner than smaller ones, and that means they'll often get product first," said Hornady's Neal Emery. "It's a good idea to get on a waiting list at places like Brownells, Midway USA, Mid-South, Natchez Shooters Supply, and others. Because those companies do high sales volumes at all times, they have to be thinking ahead constantly. So, their orders have already been placed, and that can move you to the front of the line.

#### 4. This will affect hunting season.

Without question, the current demand is about to impact the 2020 hunting season. Just because you don't hunt big game with a 9mm or 5.56mm chambering doesn't mean that you won't feel the aftershocks of the current buying spree either. While resources are being centered around meeting demand for high-volume products, you can expect that production of other products will slow, too.



“It takes time to swap out a bullet press,” Emery said. “That means right now there’s not a lot of incentive to set up a machine that’s making .30-caliber bullets to suddenly start making .25-caliber bullets.” That is bad news for .25-'06 fans, among others.

If you want ammo for use this fall, you'd better start keeping your eyes open right now and decide to buy if you're going to need it. It doesn't mean that you won't find any of your favorite centerfire hunting ammo, but if production on high-demand items continues at the current pace, odds are that restocking depleted hunting stores of low-volume hunting ammo won't be an immediate priority for the ammunition manufacturers.

#### 5. Acting quickly is key.

In a panic-buying situation, products arrive at the retailer when the manufacturer can ship them. Oftentimes, the retailer doesn't know exactly when this will occur, so it's on you to stay vigilant. Recently, I was discussing the current dearth of 9mm ammo with Brownell's Roy Hill while a shipment of 9mm arrived at Brownell's from Aguila. All of it was snatched up as quickly as it was inventoried and stocked. (No, it wasn't me who cleaned out that shipment.) It's very important to keep an eye on what's available. At the very least, it'll take your mind off of those depressing news headlines.

# 6 Concealed Carry Insurance Options To Protect Your Six (2020)

By **Gun Digest Editors** - August 12, 2019



**Six major concealed carry insurance programs are now available to the millions of Americans who carry concealed.**

What are some of the concealed carry insurance organizations offering plans for responsible armed citizens?

- [United States Concealed Carry Association \(USCCA\)](#)
- [Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network \(ACLDN\)](#)
- [U.S. Law Shield](#)
- [CCW Safe](#)
- [Second Call Defense](#)
- [Firearms Legal Protection](#)

According to a recent estimate by the Crime Prevention Research Center (CPRC), more than 15 million Americans are now licensed to carry a firearm in the United States.

With that many and more legally licensed citizens — including those who keep guns strictly in the home for domestic protection, along with people who open carry or live in one of the dozen states that do not require licenses — the odds

are increasing that someone will have to use their firearm to defend against a serious crime.

Realizing this possibility, at least six organizations have recognized the need for some type of coverage plans for the armed citizen who might someday act in self-defense. Unlike television, stopping a villain with lethal force isn't the end of the drama — it's often just the beginning.

Stepping up to the plate with protection programs are the United States Concealed Carry Association, Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network, U.S. Law Shield, CCW Safe, Second Call Defense and Firearms Legal Protection. Each has a slightly different approach to the challenge, because in this game, there are problems and there are solutions.

The hard truth is that most armed citizens simply have no idea of the legal minefield they step into the second they press the trigger. As more than one of the people we interviewed explained, from that moment, your life is changed forever.

Even if no criminal charge is filed, because we live in a litigious society, there are attorneys just chomping at the bit to make life miserable for armed citizens in civil court. That's the reality. Defending a life with a firearm can break people — it can destroy life savings, families and jobs.

## What You Need To Look For In CCW Insurance

Whether home, auto or concealed carry, insurance policies cover only certain things. In turn, you need to take the time to consider exactly what each option offers and if it will fit the minimum you need to protect you after a righteous shooting.

While many concealed carry insurance policies cover several expenses you'll possibly encounter (we'll get to those shortly), there are coverage areas that are essential in a good plan.

**Attorney Fees:** This is the meat and potatoes of any CCW insurance plan and should be where you put most of your consideration. Criminal and civil defense doesn't come cheap and if your case goes to trial you might find a bill that runs up to six figures. It is a good idea to review if a policy covers retainer, criminal defense and civil defense and damages.

**Bail Bond:** Whiling away in a jail cell is a miserable experience, and can be detrimental. You need to earn a living, consult with your attorney and put your affairs in order. All of these are difficult to accomplish behind bars, which is why bail-bond coverage is typically part of a sound concealed carry insurance policy.

**Coverage Across State Lines:** Insurance laws differ state to state, which can cause problems if you travel with your defensive firearm. If you tool around the country you must read the fine print of where each policy covers you.

**Expert Resources:** One of the best ways to protect yourself from the legal ramifications of a lethal-force event is understanding the law and your rights. Access to solid and well-researched resources on these topics and [concealed carry training](#) prove invaluable and make you a more proficient armed citizen.

## Other Areas Of Concealed Carry Coverage

In many cases, CCW policies go well beyond legal expenses and cover some other aspects you might not have considered, but you'll possibly be on the hook for:

- Crime Scene Clean Up
- Negligent Discharge
- Spouse And Family Self-Defense
- Property Damage
- Firearms Replacement
- Work Loss Coverage
- Personal Use Of Firearm (non-defensive)

You'll find there are other areas covered by some concealed carry insurance plans worth contemplating. Many of them fall within the policies themselves, however, some cost extra. Certainly, they'll make a plan more expensive, but are heartening, given how quickly expenses can add up if you're involved in a self-defense situation.

## Policy Caps

Insurance, no matter what it covers, has caps. In short, there is a set amount of money it will cover, then you're on the hook for the rest. This goes for any of the add-ons you might select for your plan, as well.



Your budget dictates how much you can afford in a CCW insurance plan, but you want to make certain you don't undercut yourself when it comes to coverage. On the surface, something along the lines of \$250,000 coverage for attorney's fees might sound solid, but could potentially shelter you from only a fraction the total expense.

# Concealed Carry Insurance Options



## The United States Concealed Carry Association (USCCA)

### Pros

One of the most established and largest – 285,00 paying members – concealed carry insurance companies, [United States Concealed Carry Association](#) brings a lot a gravitas to the game. Also flexibility.

With three levels of coverage to choose from, you can tailor your policy to your budget and needs. It also gives you the freedom to choose your attorney, in and outside their network.

### Cons

The only upfront payments you receive if you enact your policy are for bail bond and criminal defense. And your bail is deducted from your criminal defense cap, along with your lawyer's retainer – which can quickly eat away at the total. Not a deal-breaker, but something to consider when shopping level of coverage. Also, if you live in New York or Washington state, you're out of luck – USCCA coverage isn't available in those states.

## Gold Membership

\$22/month or \$247 annually

## Legal Protection

- Civil Defense & Damages Protection: \$500,00
- Criminal Defense, Bail Bond Funding & Attorney Retainer: \$100,000
- 24/7/365 Critical Response Team
- Your Choice of Criminal Defense Attorney
- Up-Front Funding for Criminal Defense & Bail Bonds
- Protection for Use of All Legal Weapons

## **Concealed Carry Magazine**

- Complete Print + Digital Subscription
- 1 Year Archive Online Access to Back Issues

## **Education**

- CCW Reciprocity Map With Permit Expiration Reminders
- Member-Only USCCA App Features
- Weekly updates on news, changing laws and gear reviews
- 10 Lifesaving Checklists
- 15 Digital Guides and eBooks

## **Training**

- Weekly Training Drills
- Live Training Broadcasts
- Nationwide USCCA Certified Instructor Network Access
- Proving Ground Training Series Online Videos

## **Community**

- Community Giving Program
- 24/7 Access to Expert Member Services Team
- Free Daily Entry to USCCA Concealed Carry Expo

## **Perks**

- Spouse Membership Discount
- Carry Confidence Kit
- Member-Only Discounts on USCCA Training & Gear

- Early-Bird Access to Brand-New Training & Gear
- Discounts from Industry Partners

## **Platinum Membership**

\$30/month or \$347 annually

## **Legal Protection**

- Civil Defense & Damages Protection: \$1,000,000
- Criminal Defense, Bail Bond Funding & Attorney Retainer: \$150,000
- 24/7/365 Critical Response Team
- Your Choice of Criminal Defense Attorney
- Up-Front Funding for Criminal Defense & Bail Bonds
- Protection for Use of All Legal Weapons

## **Concealed Carry Magazine**

- Print + Digital Subscription
- 5 Year Archive Online Access to Back Issues

## **Education**

- CCW Reciprocity Map With Permit Expiration Reminders
- Member-Only USCCA App Features
- Weekly updates on news, changing laws and gear reviews
- 10 Lifesaving Checklists
- 30 Digital Guides and eBooks
- Interactive “Ask An Attorney” Monthly Webinar

## **Training**

- Weekly Training Drills
- Live Training Broadcasts
- Nationwide USCCA Certified Instructor Network Access
- Proving Ground Training Series and Situational Awareness Online Videos

## **Community**

- Community Giving Program
- 24/7 Access to Expert Member Services Team
- Free Daily Entry to USCCA Concealed Carry Expo and advanced entry

## **Perks**

- Spouse Membership Discount
- Carry Confidence Kit
- Member-Only Discounts on USCCA Training & Gear
- Early-Bird Access to Brand-New Training & Gear
- Discounts from Industry Partners

## **Elite Membership**

\$47 monthly; \$497 annual

## **Legal Protection**

- Civil Defense & Damages Protection: \$2,000,000
- Criminal Defense, Bail Bond Funding & Attorney Retainer: \$250,000
- 24/7/365 Critical Response Team
- Your Choice of Criminal Defense Attorney
- Up-Front Funding for Criminal Defense & Bail Bonds
- Protection for Use of All Legal Weapons

## **Concealed Carry Magazine**

- Complete Print + Digital Subscription
- Lifetime Archive Online Access to Back Issues

## **Education**

- CCW Reciprocity Map With Permit Expiration Reminders
- Member-Only USCCA App Features
- Weekly updates on news, changing laws and gear reviews
- 10 Lifesaving Checklists
- 70 Digital Guides and eBooks
- Interactive “Ask An Attorney” Monthly Webinar and archive access

## **Training**

- Weekly Training Drills
- Live Training Broadcasts
- Nationwide USCCA Certified Instructor Network Access
- Proving Ground Training Series, Situational Awareness and When To Use Deadly Force Online Videos
- eLearning Training Systems: Concealed Carry & Home Defense Fundamentals and Emergency First Aid Fundamentals

## **Community**

- Community Giving Program
- 24/7 Access to Expert Member Services Team
- Free Daily Entry to USCCA Concealed Carry Expo, advanced entry and VIP Experience

## **Perks**

- Spouse Membership Discount
  - Carry Confidence Kit
  - Member-Only Discounts on USCCA Training & Gear
  - Early-Bird Access to Brand-New Training & Gear
  - Discounts from Industry Partners
  - Elite Concierge Line
-

# Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network (ACLDN)



## Pros

There are some weighty names from legal, self-defense and firearms areas at your disposal with the organization. In turn, you have some true firepower if you go to trial. Right off the bat, with Armed Citizens' Legal Defense Network you get up to \$25,000 for bail and \$25,000 for an attorney, of your choice, for both criminal and civil cases. As legal proceedings go on, the network can provide more monetary support for criminal, civil, appeals and retrials. Furthermore, it's an inexpensive organization to become a part of, \$135 your first year and \$95 per year after.

## Cons

ACLDN is not an insurance plan – it's a pre-paid legal service – so its coverage isn't as extensive as many others. It doesn't cover civil damages or compensation while you're in court or firearm loss protection. Additionally, further monetary support, past the initial \$25,000, goes through a review board before it's awarded. And there's no tiering to the program – it's one-size-fits-all.

## Membership

- \$135 Initial 1-year Membership; \$95 1-year Renewal
- Legal Resources
- Up to \$25,000 paid to the member's attorney by the Network if the member has been involved in a self-defense incident
- Further grants may be available
- Up to \$25,000 to post bail on behalf of a member who has used force in self-defense
- Access to Network's affiliate lawyers
- Case review by network's experts
- Access to Network's expert witnesses

## Other Resources

- Eight-DVD set of lectures explaining the use of deadly force for self-defense, the legal aftermath of using a gun in self-defense, and how attorneys prepare the court case defending one who used deadly force in self-defense.
  - Monthly journal
-

## U.S. Law Shield



### **Pros**

What you get for the price of the plan is among the biggest selling points of U.S. Law Shield (originally known as Texas Law Shield). Essentially, there is no cap on the coverage of legal fees, both for criminal and civil proceedings. This is incredible peace of mind, given how quickly those expenses add up. For \$10.95 monthly payments and \$19.95 set up fee, that's a lot of coverage. No wonder the Texas-based program has some 235,000-plus members and keeps growing.

### **Cons**

First and foremost, you have to use an attorney from their network that they choose. This is potentially a turn off for many, with good reason. In all likelihood, this will be the most important lawyer you'll ever hire and you'll have little on who it is. The other issue, many of the coverage areas that come standard in other policies are add-ons, geographically limited or are unavailable. A good example, nationwide coverage costs another \$2.95 a month, which may or may not make a difference to you. Finally, the plan is only available in 44 states, residents of Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, New York and Rhode Island are excluded from purchase.

## **Membership**

Individual \$10.95 monthly/\$131.40 annual; Two Adults \$21.90 monthly/\$240 annual

## **Legal Resources**

- No cap on attorney fees criminal and civil
  - 24/7/365 access to Attorney-Answered Emergency Hotline
  - Non-emergency access to independent program attorneys
  - Option to purchase Bail Bond and Expert Witness add-on coverage
-

## CCW Safe



### **Pro**

No cap for criminal and civil legal defense, both covered up front, is the most eye-catching aspect of the CCW Safe plan. Up to \$100,000 in bail bond protection doesn't hurt either. These are generally the meat and potatoes of any concealed carry insurance program and this one has them in spades. In addition to that, the plan has up to \$1 million of civil damage protection through their basic permit-holder plan. CCW Safe also offers a multitude of options, including policies for constitutional carry states, home-defense and active and retired law enforcement. Note, the coverage differs plan to plan, so read the fine print.

### **Cons**

While the plans overall are among the most comprehensive, there are a few cravats. You can choose your attorney, however, they must be vetted by CCW Safe first – this may or may not be a con, depending on how you look at it. The constitutional carry plan only works in your state, so your naked once you cross the state line. And there are certain conditions CCW Safe spell out up front that will negate your policy, such as the use of force against a family member or someone in your residence with your permission.

### **Protector Plan**

\$149 annual

### **Eligibility**

Retired/Active Military and Law Enforcement with a concealed carry permit

### **Legal Resources**

- Access to our 24-hour emergency hotline
- Critical Response Team on site
- \$500,000 bail coverage
- Vetting of Attorneys by National Trial Counsel
- Unlimited Attorney fees covered up front
- Unlimited Investigators covered up front
- Unlimited Expert Witnesses covered up front
- All trial fees covered up front
- Firearm Replacement during trial
- Spouse and children under 18 covered in home only
- Up to \$250 a day work loss while in criminal or civil trial
- Up to 10 sessions (up to \$4k) for a licensed counselor
- Up to \$3k for crime scene clean-up home
- Appeals and expungements covered

## **Add Ons**

- Spouse \$100
- \$1MM bail coverage \$50
- \$1MM dedicated civil liability \$220

## **Defender Plan**

\$179 annual

### **Eligibility**

Valid Carry Permit

## **Legal Resources**

- Access to our 24-hour emergency hotline
- Critical Response Team on site
- \$500,000 bail coverage
- Vetting of Attorneys by National Trial Counsel
- Unlimited Attorney fees covered up front
- Unlimited Investigators covered up front
- Unlimited Expert Witnesses covered up front

- All Trial Costs covered up front
- Firearm Replacement during trial
- Up to \$250 a day work loss while in criminal or civil trial
- Up to 10 sessions (up to \$4k) for a licensed counselor
- Up to \$3k for crime scene clean-up home
- Appeals and expungement covered

## **Add Ons**

- Spouse \$100
- \$1MM bail coverage \$50
- \$1MM dedicated civil liability \$220

## **Constitutional Carry**

\$299 annual

### **Eligibility**

Constitutional Carry States

## **Legal Resources**

- Access to our 24-hour emergency hotline
- Attorney fees
- Investigators fees
- Experts
- Appeals and Firearm Replacement during trial
- Up to \$250 a day work loss while in criminal or civil trial
- Up to 10 sessions (up to \$4k) for a licensed counselor
- Up to \$3k for crime scene clean-up home

## **Home Defense**

\$299 annual

### **Eligibility**

In-Home Coverage For You And Family

## Legal Resources

- Access to our 24-hour emergency hotline
- Attorney fees
- Investigators fees
- Experts
- Appeals and Firearm Replacement during trial
- Up to \$250 a day work loss while in criminal or civil trial
- Up to 10 sessions (up to \$4k) for a licensed counselor
- Up to \$3k for crime scene clean-up home

## HR218

\$399 annual

### Eligibility

active, retired, and former law enforcement officers that meet the requirements for the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA)

## Legal Resources

- Coverage for Criminal, Civil and Administrative Actions
- Access to our 24-hour emergency hotline
- Critical Response Team on site
- \$1Million bail coverage
- Vetting of Attorneys by National Trial Counsel
- Unlimited Attorney fees covered up front
- Unlimited Investigators covered up front
- Unlimited Expert Witnesses covered up front
- All trial fees covered up front
- Firearm Replacement during trial
- Spouse and children under 18 covered in home only
- Up to \$250 a day work loss while in criminal or civil trial
- Up to 10 sessions (up to \$4k) for a licensed counselor
- Up to \$3k for crime scene clean-up home
- Appeals and expungements covered
- Dedicated \$1MM Civil Liability coverage

## Second Call Defense



### **Pros**

Of all the options, Second Call Defense perhaps offers the widest spectrum of tiering. You can get in their entry-level plan for \$9.95 a month or choose their “Cadillac” plan for \$34.95 per month. The top-tier plan is fairly comprehensive, offering \$100,000 of coverage for criminal defense attorney fees and \$1,000,000 for civil. Furthermore, in the top-end plan, you’re eligible for up to \$250,000 in civil damage protection.

### **Cons**

The entry-level plan is pretty close to “better than nothing.” It doesn’t cover any legal fees pertaining to a civil case against you, and is very limited in its criminal defense – \$10,000 toward your attorney fees, \$2,000 for a retainer and \$1,000 for bail bond. Is that worth \$10 per month? You’ll have to decide that for yourself.

### **Basic**

\$9.95 monthly; \$119 annual

### **Insurance Protection**

Criminal Defense Protection – \$10,000

### **Financial Support**

- Immediate Cash for Bond – \$1,000
- Immediate Attorney Retainer – \$2,000

## **Rapid Response Team**

- 24/7 Emergency Legal Hotline
- Personal Crisis Manager
- Nationwide Attorney Network Access
- Local Attorney Referral within 24 hours
- Emergency Contact Notification

## **Training & Education**

- Member Newsletter
- Self Defense News

## **Add Ons**

Spouse \$48 annual

## **Defender**

\$14.95 monthly; \$179 annual

## **Insurance Protection**

- Civil Suit Defense Protection – \$500,000
- Civil Suit Damages Protection – \$50,000
- Criminal Defense Protection – \$50,000

## **Financial Support**

- Immediate Cash for Bond – \$5,000
- Immediate Attorney Retainer – \$5,000
- Aftermath Cleanup – \$1,000
- Compensation While in Court – \$250/day

## **Rapid Response Team**

- 24/7 Emergency Legal Hotline

- Personal Crisis Manager
- Nationwide Attorney Network Access
- Local Attorney Referral within 24 hours
- Emergency Contact Notification
- Expert Witness Coordination
- Gun Retrieval or Replacement
- Psychological Support 7 – 20 sessions
- On-Site Assistance

## **Training & Education**

- Member Newsletter
- Self Defense News
- Online Training

## **Add Ons**

Spouse \$60

## **Ultimate**

\$34.95 monthly; \$399 annual

## **Insurance Protection**

- Civil Suit Defense Protection – \$1,000,000
- Civil Suit Damages Protection – \$250,000
- Criminal Defense Protection – \$100,000

## **Financial Support**

- Immediate Cash for Bond 4 – \$25,000
- Immediate Attorney Retainer – \$10,000
- Aftermath Cleanup – \$2,000
- Compensation While in Court – \$500/day

## **Rapid Response Team**

- 24/7 Emergency Legal Hotline
- Personal Crisis Manager

- Nationwide Attorney Network Access
- Local Attorney Referral within 24 hours
- Emergency Contact Notification
- Expert Witness Coordination
- Gun Retrieval or Replacement
- Psychological Support – 40 sessions
- On-Site Assistance

## **Training & Education**

- Member Newsletter
- Self Defense News
- Online Training

## **Add Ons**

Spouse \$80 annual

## **Ultimate Plus**

\$54.95 monthly; \$599 annual

## **Insurance Protection**

- Civil Suit Defense Protection – \$1,500,000
- Civil Suit Damages Protection – \$300,000
- Criminal Defense Protection – \$150,000

## **Financial Support**

- Immediate Cash for Bond<sup>4</sup> – \$25,000
- Immediate Attorney Retainer – \$10,000
- Aftermath Cleanup – \$2,000
- Compensation While in Court – \$500/day

## **Rapid Response Team**

- 24/7 Emergency Legal Hotline
- Personal Crisis Manager
- Nationwide Attorney Network Access

- Local Attorney Referral within 24 hours
- Emergency Contact Notification
- Expert Witness Coordination
- Gun Retrieval or Replacement
- Psychological Support – 40 sessions
- On-Site Assistance

## **Training & Education**

- Member Newsletter
- Self Defense News
- Online Training

## **Add Ons**

Spouse \$108 annual

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# Firearms Legal Protection



## Pros

A bit overshadowed by some of the larger players, Firearms Legal Protection nonetheless offers impressive coverage. Again, a tiered program, FLP allows armed citizens to choose a plan that best fits their budget and needs. And as far as entry-level options go, they offer an impressive one: uncapped attorney fees for civil and criminal defense for \$12.95 a month. As you go up the ladder, the more expensive plans offer some of the total coverage many look for, such as firearm loss protection, compensation while in court and the choice of your own attorney. Also, an interesting and timely twist, all FLP plans cover against Extreme Risk Protection Order, or “Red Flag” laws, accusations.

## Cons

As far as the entry-level program is concerned, it’s only applicable to a self-defense event that happens in your state. You can get nationwide coverage, however, you’ll have to spend more. Also, it’s presently only available in 30 states, so Firearms Legal Protection is somewhat limited geographically.

## Basic Individual

\$12.95 monthly; \$139 annual

## Eligibility

Coverage for one person in their home state.

## Legal Resources

- Uncapped attorney fees for defense for criminal and civil cases
- 24/7 emergency hotline
- Extreme Risk Protection Order Coverage

## Premium Individual

\$21.95 monthly; \$239 annual

## **Eligibility**

### **Multi-State Coverage**

## **Legal Resources**

- Uncapped attorney fees for defense for criminal and civil cases
- 24/7 emergency hotline
- Extreme Risk Protection Order Coverage
- Bail bond protection up to \$250,000
- Expert witness/investigator fees
- Lost wages reimbursement
- Firearm confiscation payment
- Incident scene clean-up fee
- My FLP mobile app

## **Premium Family**

\$39.95 monthly; \$399 annual

## **Eligibility**

Multi-state comprehensive coverage for member, spouse and minor children

## **Legal Resources**

- Uncapped attorney fees for defense for criminal and civil cases
- 24/7 emergency hotline
- Extreme Risk Protection Order Coverage
- Bail bond protection up to \$250,000
- Expert witness/investigator fees
- Minor children coverage
- Lost wages reimbursement
- Firearm confiscation payment
- Incident scene clean-up fee
- My FLP mobile app

## Conclusion

That, essentially, is what each of these self-defense insurance plans offer: an advocate rather than just a public defender who might, or might not, have a full grasp of self-defense, much less any sympathy for an armed citizen. It might come as no shock at all to many people, but not all attorneys sympathize with gun owners who fire in self-defense.

People can take their chances with a public defender, or they can rely on the experts associated with these self-defense insurance membership programs. Clearly, a lot of thought went into each of these efforts, and the ultimate beneficiary is the armed citizen.

<https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/sig-p365xl-romeozero-tlr-6/>

## SIG P365XL, ROMEOZero and TLR-6 Combine to Optimize Concealed Carry

by MARK MILLER on MARCH 7, 2020

SIG's P365XL is a sub-compact that performs like a full-size pistol. Big enough to handle serious self-defense but small enough to carry concealed. The optics ready XL model features an enhanced frame, flat trigger and increased barrel length while retaining the concealability of the original P365.

Integration is what makes the XL so special. There is a specifically designed red dot optic, a fifteen round magazine, a conformal minimalist light/laser combo, custom ANR holsters, a training academy and even special 365 ammunition optimized for the P365. SIG doesn't make all of this but it is the fruit of SIG's push for product integration and nobody does it better.

Comparisons have been made to other guns, but the XL is really in a class by itself for size and performance.



The XL features a flat blade trigger with a 90-degree break. The XSeries grip module sports an extended beavertail and a flush-fit flared magazine well for carry.

I have never been a fan of little guns. There are people who carry guns and people who shoot guns. People who carry guns like small. People who shoot like big. People who carry and shoot struggle to find a small gun that they can shoot well. Small guns are hard to hold and usually have small sights with a short sight radius. You have to work hard to get practical accuracy.

Sub-compact 9mm's have pretty much eliminated the caliber argument. If you can carry a sub-compact 9mm, why would you go with a smaller caliber which is more expensive and less available? When the Glock 43 came out, I tried it and found that I could manipulate and shoot it. I started to carry my first sub-compact. The major drawback was low magazine capacity, but I planned for that.

When the Glock 43X was introduced, I didn't see a reason to dump my carry gun for four more rounds. When the P365 appeared, the reasons were more compelling, but I held on to what was familiar. Then SIG released the P365XL.



**SIG PISTOLS**  
**P365 XL**  
**XSERIES**





XSeries P365 Grip Module with Integrated Carry Magwell and Extended Beavertail



Flat Trigger with a 90 Degree Break



Optic Ready Slide Compatible

<b>P365 XL</b>	
9MM	365XL-9-BXR3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ XSeries P365 Grip Module with Integrated Carry Magwell and Extended Beavertail</li><li>▶ Flat Trigger with a 90 Degree Break</li><li>▶ Optic Ready Slide Compatible with Romeo and RMSc Optics</li><li>▶ XRay3 Day/Night Sights</li><li>▶ 3.7" Barrel for Increased Accuracy While Retaining Concealability.</li><li>▶ (2) 12rd Steel Magazines</li></ul>	
<b>SKU#:</b>	<b>365XL-9-BXR3</b>
<b>UPC:</b>	<b>798681618798</b>

I am not a gun of the month club guy. It takes a lot of time, ammo and effort to get comfortable with a carry gun. I want to know where it hits and how it works so that I can perform with unconscious competence under stress. It takes a significant improvement to change my gun.

I recently attended the [Ultimate Concealed Carry](#) class at the SIG Academy. It was an extensive 2-Day course covering practical considerations for concealed carry. There was a balance of classroom and range training. Some of the topics covered are legal considerations, methods of carrying, selecting a concealed carry firearm and holster. Range training focused on the safe presentation of the firearm from concealment and defensive pistol marksmanship fundamentals with close proximity shooting techniques and utilization of cover. You can bring your own gun or use SIG's guns. I got to shoot the XL in an ANR holster. The instructor had an XL set up with a red dot and a TLR-6 light/laser. It was a very impressive combination of capabilities.

What made the P365XL stand out? Most importantly, the P365XL was optic ready and Streamlight had a compact light that fit it perfectly. Once I got my P365XL kitted out with a ROMEOZero and a TLR-6, there was no going back. It is a tremendous advance for sub-compact handguns. The red dot makes sight radius irrelevant.

The slightly longer grip and longer slide give me more room for my hands. The flush magazine well lets me load smoothly and drop magazines free without shifting my grip. Twelve and fifteen round magazines more than doubled capacity.

Fit, trigger, and sights are the essentials of shootability for any gun. The P365XL frame fits my hands (and many other's) better than other small guns. It is a striker-fired pistol with the clean trigger pull. The ROMEOZero red dot sight is easy to install and integrates perfectly by design.



# P365 XL

## XSERIES

PRODUCT DETAILS		
SKU#	365XL-9-BXR3	
CALIBER	9MM	
FRAME MATERIAL	STAINLESS STEEL	
GRIP MATERIAL	P365 XSERIES POLYMER	
SLIDE MATERIAL	STAINLESS STEEL	
SLIDE FINISH	NITRON	
MAGAZINE CAPACITY	12 ROUNDS	
SIGHTS	OPTIC READY WITH XRAY3 DAY/NIGHT SIGHTS	
TRIGGER	STRIKER FIRED XSERIES FLAT	
MEASUREMENTS	IMPERIAL	METRIC
OVERALL LENGTH	6.6 in	168mm
OVERALL HEIGHT	4.8 in	122mm
OVERALL WIDTH	1.1 in	28mm
BARREL LENGTH	3.7 in	94mm
SIGHT RADIUS	5.6 in	142mm
WEIGHT W/MAGAZINE	20.7 oz	588g

The P365XL is my best option for personal defense and concealed carry. With 12+1 rounds of optimized 365 defensive ammo, a ROMEOZero, and TLR-6. I don't have to compromise performance for size. It is not the smallest pistol in its class but it is small and light enough to carry each day.

I have put over one thousand rounds through my XL over the last six months. It has performed very well and I have had no issues. Shooting is surprisingly accurate from such a small gun. Adding the ROMEOZero made things even better, facilitating shots at 50 yards and beyond.

I love simplicity, but the capability of the red dot sight makes it worth the risk. It allows target focus and intuitive sighting. I have heard people say they have difficulty finding the dot. With co-witnessed sights, the red dot magically appears with the same presentation used for iron sights. If you aren't picking up the dot, your sight is probably mounted too high.

There is a great deal of redundancy built into my gun. The ROMEOZero is rugged and has a 20,000-hour battery life. The rear of the sight has a sight notch which lines up perfectly with the XRay3 tritium front sight for co-witnessed backup irons (well, half-iron and half weapons grade polymer). If I can't see my sights, the TLR-6 has a red laser I have co-witnessed at seven yards. I have options.

SIG claims that their ROMEOZero is "The fastest, most accurate, ultra-compact micro reflex sight... optimized for everyday concealed carry." While it fits other sub-compact pistols and guns with thinner slides like single-stack 1911s and High Powers, it is literally made for the XL. The XL slide is also compatible with RMsC Optics which have the same footprint.



The ROMEOZero is available with either 3 or 6 MOA dots. Daytime illumination is user-configurable with eight vivid daytime settings. The point source LED emitter is highly efficient and parallax free, offering a much crisper dot than other conventional red dots.

SIG specifically designed the ROMEOZero for the P365 XL. The stippling pattern incorporated on the optics housing is made to precisely match the P365 and P365XL to give a cohesive and integrated look.

No other handgun company makes its own optics and this makes for a perfect match with warranties covering the whole system. The ROMEOZero is 100% assembled, collimated, inspected and packaged in Wilsonville, Oregon.

Installation is as simple as four screws. The XL comes with an optics-ready slide cover, two screws remove it and two others attach the ROMEOZero. I co-witnessed the dot to the iron sights and headed for the range. The whole event took less than 15 minutes counting reading the directions.

While not designed for police and military duty use, SIG made the ROMEOZero strong enough to survive everyday carry. The Weapons Grade Ultralite Polymer housing is light so it doesn't slow the slide down and it carries easily. The weapons-grade polymer can absorb punishment that would crack and bend other materials. SIG claims that their Spectra Coat HD Polymer Lens system offers 10 times the resistance to impact over other traditional glass lenses.

To understand the durability of a polymer lens, think of impact-resistant plastic safety glasses. The plastic may not be as crystal clear or as scratch resistant as glass, but it is more durable and shatter-resistant. The polymer lens and polymer housing can withstand the sharp recoil impulses generated from snappy guns like a micro 9mm, much better than glass.

## **Specifications for Sig Sauer Romeo Zero Red Dot Sight:**

- Sight Window: .72" x .61"
- Reticle: 3 MOA or 6 MOA
- Dimensions: .93" Tall | 1.6" Long | .93" Wide
- Weight: .4 oz.
- Battery Type: CR1632
- Windage: 120 MOA / Elevation: 120 MOA
- MSRP \$249.

The ROMEOZero was not designed to be a drop-proof optic. It was designed to be a micro-compact, lightweight and value-oriented red dot to mount directly to a P365XL slide and survive the violent recoil associated with it. If you drop your gun a lot, you need a rugged pistol mounted red dot meant to drop onto concrete; get a ROMEO2.

SIG claims a 10-year battery life for extended use. Motion Activated Illumination System (MOTAC) technology powers up the dot immediately when it senses motion and will power down when the optic is still. It also saves the last setting the optic was on when it powers down so that it powers back up at the same setting.



Five rounds at fifty yards were quite doable with a ROMEOZero and careful trigger press. The 365XL trigger is very good.

Accuracy was exceptional for a sub-compact. Rapid headshots at seven yards and fast upper center of mass at 25 yards were simple and intuitive. The more you work with red dots, the less you think about aiming, it just happens.



This is a one half scale target shot quickly at 25 yards. I could have slowed to produce a tighter group, but this level of accuracy is more than acceptable for self-defense and easy with the P365XL/ ROMEOZero combination.

Shooting steel at 50 and even 100 yards is doable. It takes great attention to the trigger, but the great XL trigger makes it easier. Good sights won't pull the trigger, but they do add precision, especially for folks with less than perfect vision.

Some shooters are distracted by the movement in the dot as they aim. It is best to focus on the target and smoothly press the trigger. If you concentrate on the dot, it is much harder.

I don't have anything interesting to say about reliability. I have fired seven different brands of ammunition with different bullet shapes and everything feeds and cycles with tedious regularity in both 12 and 15 round magazines.



The TLR-6 is made from a durable advanced polymer. It is impact-resistant tested to one meter and IPX4 rated for water-resistant operation. 2.5 inches in length, it weighs 1.12 oz.

Streamlight's TLR-6 weapon light has a model specifically designed to conform to the rail and trigger guard of P365 subcompact handguns. This makes for the best utilization of space for concealed carry.

The tiny TLR-6 was a real challenge because size and weight were at a premium, but performance was required. Designed to maximize visibility and targeting capability, it mounts an ultra-bright power LED and an integrated red aiming laser. It shines in a variety of concealed carry, home defense, and tactical applications.

Like other TLR-6 models, the new TLR-6 for P365 handguns delivers 100 lumens and 2,000 candles over a beam distance of 89 meters. Its parabolic reflector produces a balance of beam and peripheral illumination along with an integrated 640-660 nm red laser.

The control buttons in the front are well placed and intuitive. With a trigger finger or support hand thumb, I can easily pulse the light or set it for constant on. The light has three lighting modes (changeable by pushing both side buttons simultaneously): LED Only, LED/Laser, and Laser Only.

Operating run times are one hour for the LED Only and LED/Laser modes, and 11 hours for the Laser Only mode. All modes automatically shut off after ten minutes to conserve batteries.

The TLR-6 is powered by two 3 Volt CR-1/3N lithium coin batteries. The integrated battery door permits batteries to be replaced with the light mounted on the gun, eliminating the need to re-sight the laser after a battery change.

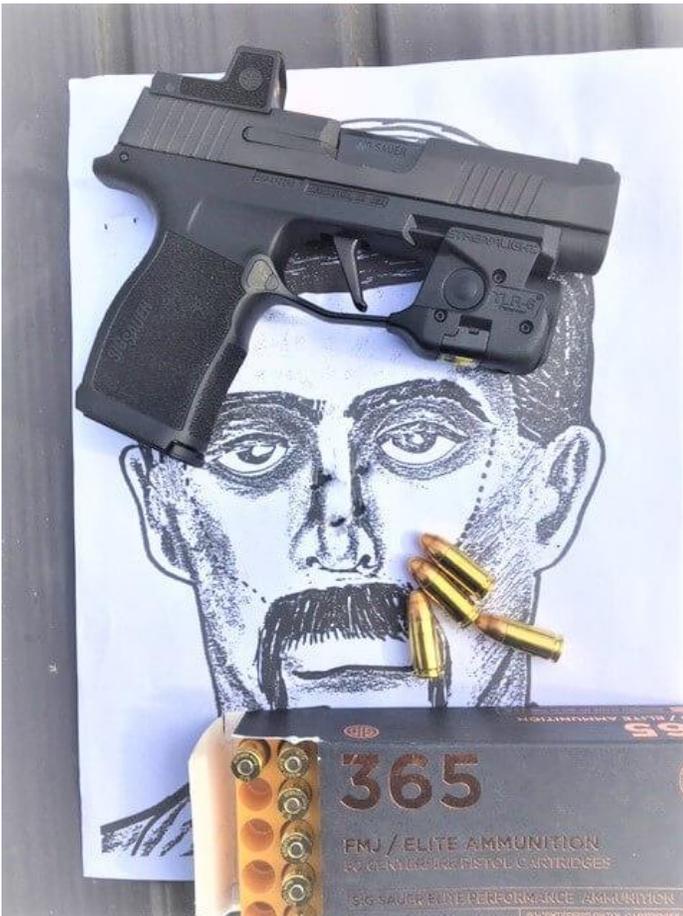
The TLR-6 for SIG SAUER P365 weapons has an MSRP of \$187.43. It comes with Streamlight's Limited Lifetime Warranty.



SIG's 365 ammo and the P365XL are made for each other.

One of the concerns about small guns is that a short barrel produces lower muzzle velocities and less energy. This can result in hollow points which do not expand and reduced terminal effect. SIG specially crafted 365 V-Crown Handgun Ammo to provide superior terminal performance in short-barreled concealed carry handguns.

The innovative V-Crown bullet features a stacked hollow-point with a wide opening along with a V-shaped jacket scored to expand at all effective distances and velocities. A locking groove around the bullet holds the jacket to the core ensuring maximum weight retention for optimum penetration. Performance ammunition is expensive.



At seven yards, I am spot on. SIG 365 FMJ Elite Performance FMJ ammunition is ballistically matched with their V-Crown hollow points so you know where you will hit in a fight.

To reduce the cost of training, SIG ballistically matched its cost-effective 365 Elite Performance FMJ ammunition to the 365 V-Crown. The FMJ load uses bullets of the same weight and shape, as well as the same powder charges to ensure an identical point of impact, recoil, and cycling as the V-Crown personal defense load.

There are many legitimate concerns for concealed carry. Many people fear that adding an optic and a light to their carry gun will make it bulky and difficult to draw. The XL with a ROMEOZero and TLR-6 is thin and light. These are not random add-ons but specifically designed enhancements.



[ANR Design](#) makes custom holsters for SIGs and other guns. They make a perfect holster which accommodates the ROMEOZero and TLR6.

The combination of this optic and TLR-6 with the P365XL is easy to conceal and comfortable to carry. I did not notice a difference in concealability or presentation with this configuration, but my capabilities in accuracy, speed, and low light engagement were dramatically improved. A fifteen round extended magazine as a reload makes it even better.

The SIG P365XL has some unique features and the integration of accessories and support is unmatched. Design compromises produced a carry gun that shoots well. The difference is dramatic.

## Springfield Armory announced the newest addition to the SAINT Victor line, the Springfield SAINT Victor Pistol in .308.



[SEE PHOTO GALLERY](#)

Purpose built for defensive use, the SAINT Victor Pistol in .308 is a serious use firearm, featuring an HPT (High Pressure Tested) and MPI (Magnetic Particle Inspected) bolt to confidently handle a heavy round count schedule. From its Melonite finished barrel, to its pinned low profile gas block, to its crisp and grit free enhanced nickel boron coated, single stage flat trigger, the SAINT Victor Pistol in .308 adds a potent defensive platform to the SAINT pistol family.

This new SAINT pistol packs .30-caliber power into a 10.3" CMV-barreled package that measures just over 28" with the SB Tactical SBA3 five-position brace fully collapsed. Round that out with excellent appointments such as a BCMGUNFIGHTER Mod 3 pistol grip, 20-round Magpul PMAG Gen M3 magazine, a patented, rock solid, free float M-Lok handguard, and an SA 2-Piece Blast Diverter, and you have a pistol that easily tames the .308 cartridge while remaining handy and compact.

“The SAINT Victor Pistol in .308 gives shooters a premium featured AR pistol that delivers serious power in a small, lightweight and easily maneuverable platform,” says Steve Kramer, Springfield Armory’s Vice President of Marketing. “If you want a SAINT Pistol that offers more power than 5.56, then this is the one for you.”

[SEE PHOTO GALLERY](#)

The forged lower receiver features Springfield Armory’s Accu-Tite Tension System for a tight, zero-movement fit with the forged upper, and the Picatinny rail allows you to mount the optic of your choice. For iron sight use, the slim, interrupted free-float handguard has Picatinny rail at the muzzle to mount a front sight.

## Springfield SAINT Victor Pistol in .308 Specs

- **Caliber:** .308 Win.
- **Magazines:** (1) 20-Round Magpul PMAG Gen M3
- **Barrel:** 10.3" CMV, Melonite , 1:10
- **Muzzle Device:** SA 2-Piece Blast Diverter
- **Trigger:** Nickel Boron Coated Flat GI
- **Upper Receiver:** Forged 7075 T6 Aluminum, Type III Hardcoat Anodized, Forward Assist
- **Lower Receiver:** Forged 7075 T6 Aluminum, Type III Hardcoat Anodized, Accu-Tite Tension System
- **Hand Guard:** Aluminum Free Float w/ SA Locking tabs, Forward Handstop, M-Lok
- **Gas System:** Direct Impingement Carbine-Length, Low-Profile Pinned Gas Block
- **Receiver Ext:** SA Carbine
- **BCG:** .308 BCG w/ 9310 Steel Bolt, HPT/MPI, MELONITE
- **Buffer Assembly:** Carbine "H" Heavy Tungsten Buffer
- **Weight:** 8 lbs., 6 oz.
- **Charging Handle:** GI Style
- **Forearm Brace:** SB Tactical SBA3
- **Safety Switch:** Single side
- **Trigger Guard:** Integral to receiver
- **Pistol Grip:** BCMGUNFIGHTER Mod 3
- **Length:** 28.25" - 30.5"
- **MSRP:** \$1,363

For more information, visit [springfield-armory.com](http://springfield-armory.com).

# First Look: .50-Caliber Remington R2Mi Bolt-Action Rifle

By Elwood Shelton - May 15, 2020



**Pitching the mighty .50 BMG, the Remington R2Mi takes your long-range game to the next zip code.**

Have a passion for long-range that the average 6mm or 6.5mm isn't satisfying? Perhaps it's time for an upgrade. In that case, look no further than Remington Arms.

Newly minted, the R2Mi bolt-action in .50 BMG is engineered to dust your average precision rifle's range by a country mile. One of the advantages of pitching 600-plus-grain projectiles. Pleasantly enough, Remington has tweaked the massive rifle in a few distinct ways to set it off from similar options on the market today. None stand out more than its bolt handle.

Situated on the left of the receiver, the handle allows the right-handed shooter to operate with his support hand, thus not break position when cycling the gun. A small design point, but a weighty one—especially when follow-up shots are at a premium. Interestingly, the R2Mi still spits out the empty cases to the right. The other major aspect worth noting is the simplicity of the .50-caliber. Two integral pins lock the upper and lower receivers, making its disassembly similar to AR-style rifles, which in a word is easy.

As to the specifics of the R2Mi, it boasts a Lothar Walther free-floated match-grade barrel, an 8-groove bore with a 1:15 twist and ACC muzzle brake, which accepts a Cyclops suppressors. As to the receivers, they're made of machined aircraft-grade aluminum and mated with a vented handguard. Mercifully, Remington includes a bipod in the package. To the rear of the gun, the R2Mi is outfitted with a Magpul PRS Gen3 buttstock, both adjustable for length of pull, cant and comb rise. The rifle feeds off a 10-round magazine and also has a full-length Picatinny rail to facilitate the quick addition of an optic.

Now, on to a little issue of price. Expected, the Remington R2Mi demands a princely sum—\$4,599. Face long-range isn't cheap, extreme long-range does nothing to temper the price tag. Although, if you need a few extras to pry your wallet open, "Big Green" throws in a Pelican Storm Case, hearing and eye protection, as well as a cable lock with the gun. All you have to figure out after that is how to pay to feed it.

For more information on the Remington R2Mi, please visit [remington.com](http://remington.com).

## Building A Backyard Range

by KRISTY TITUS on MARCH 7, 2020



More than 50 million people enjoy shooting sports in the United States and yet finding a local gun range to shoot is becoming increasingly more difficult. Many states are working to increase legislation on ranges making it extremely difficult to participate in shooting sports and train with your firearm. Building a range at your own property can be the perfect solution giving you the freedom to shoot when you want without interruption and construct a range that allows you to train how you want.

A few years ago, I began searching for a property that would accommodate constructing my own shooting range. With my dreams in action, I finally made it happen. It is a continual work in progress. To help get you started in the right direction, below are a few tips from my journey that I hope will help you construct your own backyard range.

### Laws

Before you begin construction on your range, you will need to visit with your county planning department. While there, thoroughly review your state and local laws and zoning ordinances as well as any potential neighborhood covenants, codes, and restrictions that may be in place regarding the recreational use of firearms on your property. You will also want to identify, if any, Environmental Protection Agency restrictions on lead ammunition or regulatory requirements for reclamation of spent lead ammunition.

This is also a great time to discuss your construction plans with the planning department in the event that you need to apply for permits or update your property site plan.

Additionally, you may consider having a conversation with the local code enforcement personnel to inform them of your plans to construct a range on your property and that you have verified that it is

legal and in accordance with local zoning ordinances. This will help them manage neighbor complaints that they may receive once your range is established and you start shooting.

## Resources

The National Rifle Association has an online [Range Development and Operations](#) course that is designed to educate people that are looking to build a public range or private range. The comprehensive course that gives helpful information regarding environmental concerns along with indoor and outdoor range construction. For a much lower price point, the [NRA Range Source Book](#) retails for \$59.95 and has over 30 chapters that will help you get started on your indoor or outdoor range.



Clearing your shooting lane may require the use of heavy equipment.



The foundation of the 100 & 200 yard line upon completion.



The addition of creosote railroad ties for the backstop will complete this pistol range.

## Location

One of the basic rules of firearm safety is to be certain of your target and what's beyond it. The first determination to choosing the location of your gun range is identifying a location that you have a safe natural backstop or the next option which is to build a backstop. If you are going to construct a backstop, do some research as there are a myriad of ideas online that will help to determine the perfect backstop for your intended use.

Generally speaking, constructing a safe backstop will require heavy equipment and the possibility of bringing in top-soil. Creosote railroad ties are highly recommended for backstops when coupled with a hill or dirt behind it. When solidifying your range location, keep in mind how far the bullet could potentially travel if it misses the target and or ricochets in another direction.

## Construction



The two-story shooting facility allows for two consecutive courses of fire and maximizes space. How you decide to build your range is going to depend on how much space you have and of course what type of shooting sports you participate in. Regardless, staying out of the elements certainly lends itself to shooting more comfortably and frequently. With that in mind, you may consider modifying a shipping container into an indoor shoot house. The type of shoot house that you may consider building will once again vary depending on your end-use. For me, I wanted to create a place that I could get out of the elements and zero my rifle, collect data and do some training all while staying on a budget.



To spruce up the interior of a used container, simply add a fresh coat of paint and foam flooring. There are several major advantages of using shipping containers as an accessory building. The first is that they are very affordable to acquire and are quite clean inside, water-tight and rodent proof. Often times, permits are not required to place a container on your property which can save you thousands of dollars over a newly constructed building.

The other great attribute about shipping containers is that they can be stacked atop one another. The layout that I chose placed two of the containers parallel with each other and the third container horizontal on top of the two. This configuration allows the opportunity to run two active lines of fire concurrently. Roofing kits can also be acquired and erected creating a shop out of your containers.

For my construction project, I purchased three 40' High Cube shipping containers, a set of used windows off Craigslist, a used commercial man door, and three eight-foot commercial garage doors. Once I determined my window sizes and door openings, I had fabricators cut out the openings, framing them with steel in order to maintain the integrity of the structure. Keep in mind, if you plan to install roll-up doors, you may want to invest in a high cube container to allow adequate roof space for the garage door hardware in the ceiling of the container.

For sound reduction, consider adding foam floor tiles to the interior of the building and/or foam acoustic panels to the ceiling. Regardless, always wear adequate hearing protection while shooting from within the container.



## Shooting Bench & Props

The addition of a traditional shooting bench will provide a stable place to shoot while zeroing a rifle or gathering data. Adding items to your range like a barricade, rooftop, tank trap, or plastic water barrel will add a tremendous amount of value to your shooting and training experience for many types of shooting sports, especially if you are a hunter or precision shooting competitor. Training with these props will decrease your stage preparation time, decrease your transition time all while increasing your accuracy which is critical while afield in a hunting situation or in competition.

## Targets



My dad and I built two target stands. One for the 100 & 200 yard lines.

The type of targets that you choose to add is a personal preference. For my range, we constructed mobile target stands out of pressure treated 4×4's and 2×4's. The 1×2 target supports are easily replaced when necessary. And the sturdy construction should last for many years while exposed to the elements. Adding small steel targets to this board creates a dynamic training experience.



JC Steel Slotted Hook Target System with a 66% IPSC.

When it comes to steel targets, JC Steel is an industry leader in quality AR500 steel targets and target hanging systems. One of my favorite target systems is the slotted hook system which attaches right over the top of a standard t-post. This system is extremely affordable yet provides a durable target that will last for years.



JC Steel KYL Rack.

Other popular targets would include a KYL rack, which is a target rack consisting of 5 different sized steel plates. This is a very fun target system because it challenges the shooter.

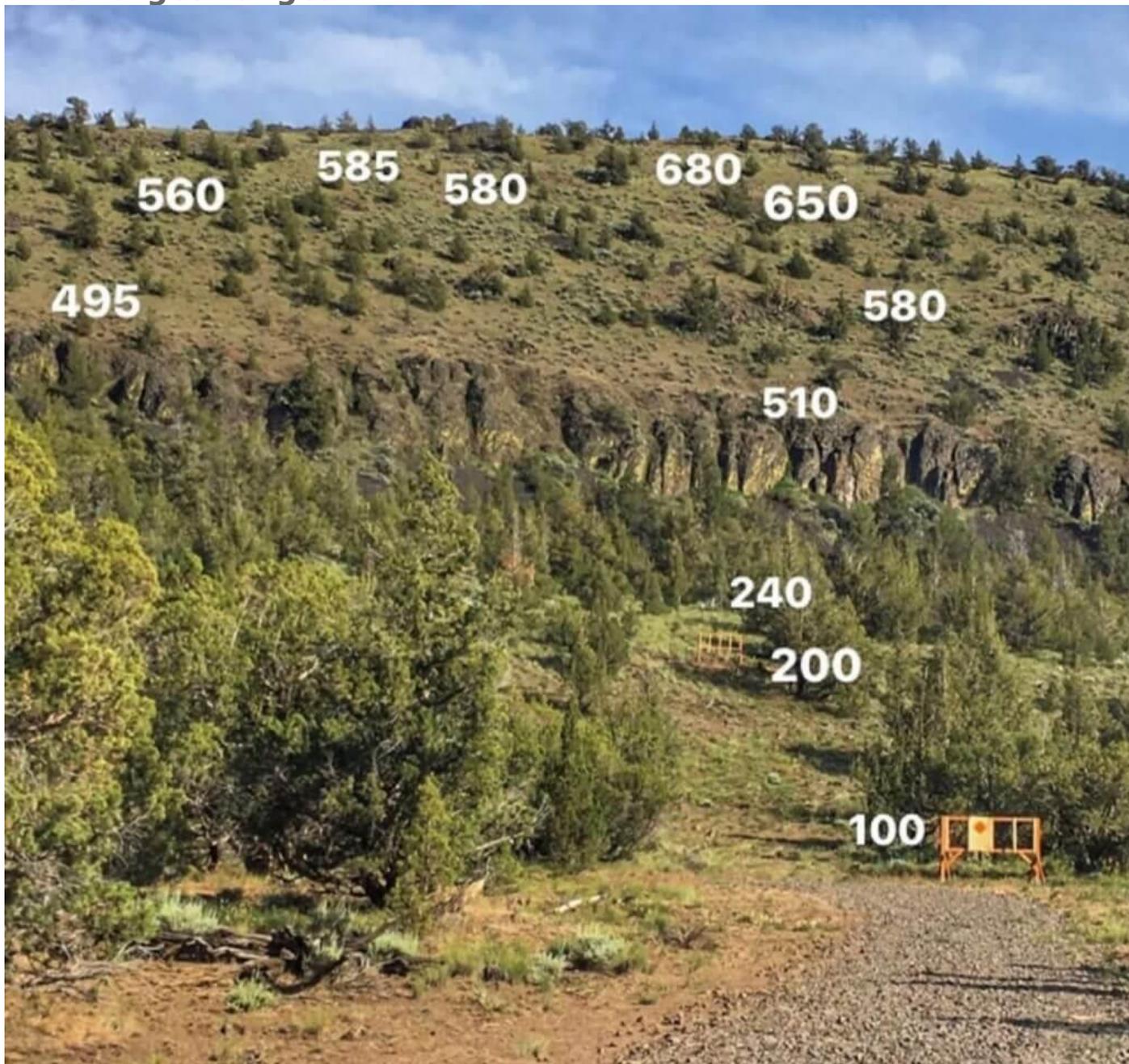


The addition of creosote railroad ties will complete this pistol range build.



For pistol, I really like shooting the Poor Man Plate rack, the 6-target dueling tree and Texas star to name a few.

## Rifle Target Ranges



Don't be discouraged if you are limited on the distance you can shoot. A 100-yard range can provide exceptional training value for a precision shooter or hunter. To challenge yourself, simply reduce the overall size of your targets. Many precision competitions have 2 MOA target sizes which at 100 yards equates to a 2" target. Use this general rule of thumb in your training. Focus on becoming more efficient with your stage prep, focusing on smooth transitions, shot cadence and overall hit ratio.

If your dream is to be a lead farmer, building a backyard range is a worthwhile endeavor. This is truly a labor of love. When you have steel targets spread out across your range and an assortment of training stages, your backyard will be the go-to place for family and friends to come and train or simply enjoy shooting sports.

\*Please note this is a private shooting range. Memberships are not sold and it is not available for events or lease.

# Long-Range Shooting: Becoming Your Own Spotter

By

**Frank Galli**

February 28, 2020

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**You won't always have a buddy on the glass next to you, so becoming your own spotter is key for consistent long-range shooting success.**

## Why It's Important To Become Your Own Spotter:

- On a miss, it gives you data for your correction.
- Properly doing so means your correctly managing recoil.
- It improves your focus, which is a key element in making a long-range shot.

I always put a heavy focus on the fundamentals of marksmanship in my articles. One of these fundamentals is natural point of aim, which we describe as rifle pointed to the target, body pointed to the rifle.

If we go back in time and look at sling shooting, we notice that the shooters were positioned to one side behind the rifle with their dominant leg kicked up. The purpose of this position was to align the support arm directly under the rifle. You need proper bone support; and, in an unsupported, or sling-supported prone, that means your forearms are aligned straight under the stock.

Fast-forward a few dozen years, and we've moved from shooting with a sling to shooting with a bipod and rear bag. The shooter's body position needs to change now to manage the recoil in a straight line. Recoil management tells the bullet where the barrel is upon releasing the shot. This controls your zero, because each person will manage it in a slightly different way.



Alternate positions use the same type of recoil management techniques. The style of rifle or type of support changes very little.

By eliminating angles in your body position, we line up directly behind the rifle, our spine parallel to the bore. When the shot is fired, recoil will exit out the legs, and the rifle will stay straight and in line with the target.

This concept sounds simple, right?

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Going further back in time, I can't help but think about my USMC days, when I was a young scout sniper. The mindset was that the senior member of the scout sniper team was assigned as a spotter, and the junior member of the team was the trigger-puller. Setting up as a two-person team, you have the shooter in position, awaiting instructions from the senior member. All directions come from the spotter. The only job of the shooter is to execute his commands ... and that's not a very good way to do business.

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Today, I question taking the senior man out of the fight. Why give the most effective member of the team a spotting scope? We have learned so much since 2001—and recoil management is probably the most significant of all lessons learned. Through recoil management, we can put both members behind a rifle in the fight.



When shooting off a bench, get square behind the rifle and plant both elbows on the bench. It's not a bad idea to place a block forward to press the bipod into. If the target is of such high priority, why not use a set of "talking" guns instead of just one?

## Get On Target With Precision Shooting:

- [Mils vs. MOA](#): Which Is The Best Long-Range Language?
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## Two Scenarios

**Scenario 1:** The spotter lines up the target for the shooter. The spotter instructs the shooter onto the mark and gives him the current wind call. The shooter fires

on command, and the wind call is wrong. The spotter observes the impact while the shooter is running the bolt, and correction is given. The adjustment is made, and a second shot rings out, impacting on target. This is a typical shooter/spotter dynamic.

**Scenario 2:** Both members are on their rifles. The same calculations are made—except this time, when the shot misses, the second shooter sees it. He immediately adjusts his rifle and fires the shot before the first shooter has time to react. If things go south in any way, there are now two shooters in the fight, versus just the one.

## **Becoming Your Own Spotter**

Spotting your own shots isn't difficult, but it does take practice and understanding. It's all about recoil management, which focuses mainly on technique and body position, in addition to lining up straight and square behind the rifle and eliminating those angles I spoke about earlier.

These techniques work in a variety of situations, and they allow the individual competition shooter to spot his own impacts and correct on the fly. With most tactical-style precision rifle matches, you don't have a spotter helping you, so it's up to the individual to master these techniques from a variety of positions.



Don't overlook having someone knowledgeable watch you place the buttstock of the rifle into your shoulder pocket. Aligning the rifle straight back into the pocket helps keep recoil in line.

In alternate positions, such as a barricade, it's about being straight and square behind the rifle. You don't want to shoot bladed off to the side, as many will do off a bench. Step in square and lean over a bit, placing the shoulders in front of the hips. This may sound strange, but if you chronograph your rifle from the prone and then chronograph it from a bench using a tall, bladed position, you'll see a change in muzzle velocity. Try it; the results might amaze you.

When we shoot off a bench, we first turn the benches to remove the cutout. Next, we choke up tall in the seat and lean forward so that both our elbows are square out from our body and positioned equally on the bench. We are up high and leaned forward to manage the recoil. This position lets us spot our shots from the sitting position. As opposed to prone, it's consistent.

If you picture your upper body in the prone, the goal is to translate that same upper body position to the alternate positions we might encounter.

## The Bipod

Bipods matter; their purpose is to maximize accuracy and manage recoil efficiently. If we take the lowest common denominator in a bipod—the Harris—we see a stiff, stamped metal device with springs and legs that are not necessarily square.



Here, a hunter is taught to shoot properly from a bench. This position contradicts the way many shooting benches are actually built. By changing the bench to be square, we can see the results of our own shots downrange without the aid of a spotter.

Loading a Harris is probably the most difficult for a new shooter to master. Because the Harris does not have any flex in the system, it's hard to understand just how to load it. Most people want to push forward with their shoulders, misunderstanding that the load comes from the core. In other words: Stack your belt buckle behind the rifle—not your shoulders, because they need to be relaxed.

With a Harris-style bipod, a little goes a very long way. The best way to accomplish this is to pull the rifle back into the shoulder pocket and maintain that pressure to the rear. At the same time, raise your chest up a few inches and bring the legs backward a small amount. While elevated, settle down into your

position. The bipod is now loaded. It's a swift up-and-down motion to load a Harris.

With other bipods, such as the [Atlas](#)—which has a small amount of slack in the leg system—you're similarly removing that slack. You're placing the rifle in the shoulder pocket and then adding that forward pressure to the slack in the leg system to drop down behind. It's much easier, because you can see and feel the flex in the bipod. If we look back to the old Parker Hale Versa pod-style bipods, they have a ton of slack in the system to load the bipod so the rifle can recoil in a straight line of that movement.

## Managing Recoil

To practice this, start on a target with a berm behind it, preferably at 400 yards out. When you consider recoil and time of flight, this is the "sweet spot." The goal should be to see the results of your shot: hit or miss.

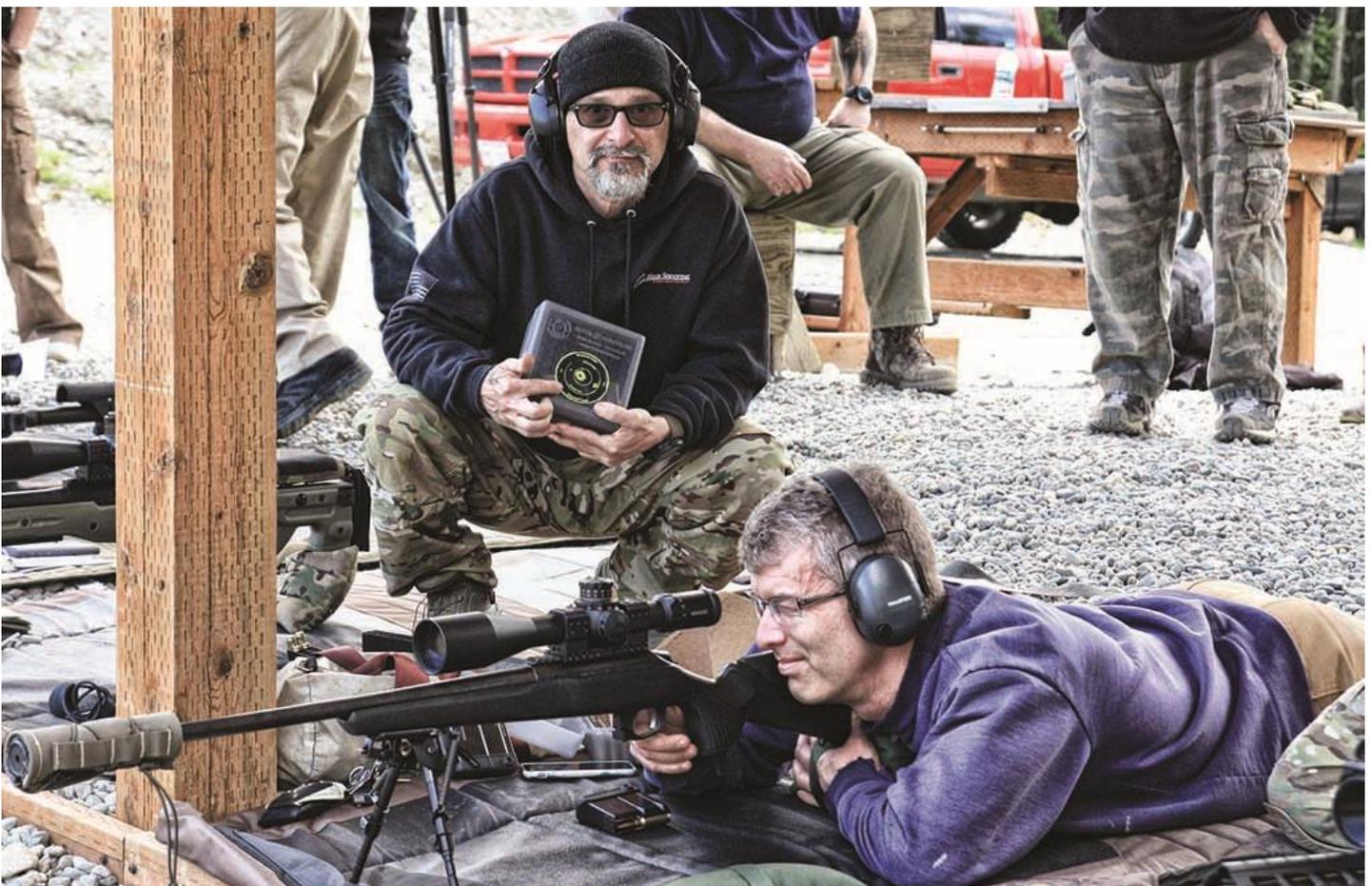


Former USMC scout sniper instructor Marc Taylor demonstrates recoil management with a .338 Lapua Magnum. Note the angle of the bipod legs: The load is visible from a distance.

Next, you have to drive the rifle through recoil and put 100 percent of your focus on the reticle. The relationship between the target and reticle is critical. You need to “see” what’s going on with the shot; and you can’t do that without looking through the scope.

Some people might whiteout or blackout for a millisecond when the shot breaks, but if you look, you should see it. Don’t forget to back your magnification down a bit too—there’s no reason to do this on maximum power. Stick to something such as 12x or 15x, not more. Less is better when it comes to managing the recoil.

Writing about this is a lot harder than demonstrating it. There’s a host of my videos on YouTube and at least 45 minutes’ worth in my “Online Training” section of Sniper’s Hide—45 minutes that concentrate solely on recoil management instruction. That should tell you something about its importance to the modern precision rifle shooter.



A student with a Harris bipod shoots under the watchful eye of the instructors. The proof is in the groups, which—from a factory rifle—are outstanding. Being able to see the results of your shot and then immediately follow up with a correction comprise a critical skill set. So, let’s break it down one more time:

- Line up straight and square behind the rifle. This means the bipod is correctly adjusted for the shooter's height. It should not be too high or too low.
- Bring the rifle straight back into the shoulder pocket, applying as much weight to the rear as possible, because the rifle is heavy. You want the spine parallel to the bore.
- Stack your core weight behind the process; don't push from the shoulders. You need to be a "slab of meat" behind the rifle and not influence anything with excess muscling.
- With the bipod in the shoulder pocket, raise up, removing the slack from the bipod leg system. If you're using a Harris, knuckle its feet under itself.
- Put your focus on the reticle-and-target relationship and follow the bullet to the target.

The "Zen moment" in precision rifle shooting is when you see the hole appear at 100 yards in the paper ... and that's when you've correctly snatched the pebble from my palm, young Padawan.

The article originally appeared in the November 2019 issue of [Gun Digest the Magazine](#).

## FN 509 Compact MRD Unboxed at the Gun Counter

by ADMINISTRATOR on FEBRUARY 18, 2020

FN America just released the new FN 509 Compact MRD featuring the FN Low-Profile Optics-Mounting System and fully ambidextrous controls. It comes with a soft sided case, a 12 round magazine with pinky extension, and a 14 round extended magazine. States with magazine restrictions will receive their FN 509 Compact with 10 round magazines. Other extended 509 magazines can be used with the 509 Compact, just make sure to use them with a sleeve to prevent over-insertion.



The FN 509 Compact MRD fits well in the hand and the magazine with pinky extension is just long enough to accommodate a full grip.

The Low-Profile Optics-Mounting System includes several plate adapters which allows for the direct mounting of over 10 different optics. The FN 509 Compact MRD is the fourth model released in the FN 509 series and is available in both black and flat dark earth finishes.



FN gives you everything you need to mount your optic.

The FN 509 Compact MRD is striker-fired and chambered in 9mm with a 3.7-inch barrel. The barrel is cold hammer forged stainless steel with a recessed target crown, and polished chamber and feed ramp. The slide is made from stainless steel and coated with an FNC (ferritic nitrocarburizing) black finish. Front and rear slide serrations make it easy to rack the slide.



A recessed barrel crown prevents unwanted damage and increases accuracy.

The external extractor also doubles as a loaded chamber indicator allowing operators to see and feel if the gun is loaded. Steel front and rear sights are dovetailed into the slide. The sights are blacked out and have serrations for glare reduction. They are taller than standard sights for co-witness use with optics.



Blacked out sights allow for easy co-witness with red dots.

The slide sits on a polymer frame with steel slide rails and features fully ambidextrous slide and magazine releases- both of which are easy to use. A standard picatinny rail will accept a variety of different pistol accessories. There are three different texture patterns on the grip section of the frame for improved control and grip. Two interchangeable back straps are included with the FN 509 Compact MRD. The two-piece trigger has been updated with a flatter face for a more comfortable trigger pull and cleaner break. There is a built-in trigger safety that will prevent discharge if pulled incorrectly. The 509 series feature four passive safeties.



Different grip textures make the FN 509 Compact easy to control and comfortable to hold.



The 509 has truly ambidextrous controls.

MSRP on the FN 509 Compact MRD is \$799. Find one from your local dealer on [GunsAmerica](https://www.gunsamerica.com) for less.

## Serious Punch! 50 Caliber Airforce Airguns' Texan LSS .50 CF – Reviewed

by RILEY BAXTER on MAY 4, 2020

Airguns are not limited to what they used to be: guns for training children on gun safety. These days, airgun technology is advancing to the point where we can shoot heavier projectiles faster than ever before out of production rifles. Because of this, they are a great option to take out hunting! This [Texan LSS .50 CF](#) will produce up to 800 ft./lbs of energy, which is as much as a .357 Mag or 44 Mag in some cases. Yes, this is hard to believe, but not when you are holding a 600-grain slug in your hand.



Airforce Airguns' Texan LSS .50 CF is a powerhouse, and should not be taken for granted simply because it is powered by air. Up top, I have a Meopta Optika6 scope mounted in order to be able to dial for longer-ranged shots.

### What Can I Do With A 50 Cal Air Rifle?

I want to begin by warning you that this is not a backyard friendly, neighborhood air rifle. I know that some people like to shoot in the confines of their backyard against the cedar fencing that keeps nosy neighbors out but do not attempt to with this 50 caliber rifle. Not only do you risk dangerous ricochets, but you WILL shoot through your fence. I found that most mid-weight slugs will penetrate about 10-12 inches of solid pine when fired at maximum pressure.

The [Airforce Texan LSS .50 CF](#) was designed to be the ultimate hunting air rifle. Yes, I know some of you cringe when reading that statement, but we airgunners are no more nutty than an avid bowhunter or pistol hunter, so open your mind a little. As mentioned, this rifle can produce up to 800 foot pounds of energy using just lead and the air that you breathe. Coupled with respectable velocities reaching 1,100 FPS, the large diameter .510 caliber soft lead projectiles wreak havoc once they enter tissue. They even pack enough energy to smash bone. This makes for quick and humane kills.



The action/receiver of the Texan LSS .50 CF. Note the integrated 11mm dovetail optic rail.

## Local Laws And Airgun Hunting

Put simply, I do not know each state's status on the legality of airgun hunting... It is still a relatively new sport. Typically though, shooting varmints, coyotes, and feral hogs is largely unregulated and opportunities can be found there. However, my home state of Idaho has just revised their laws last year, making airguns a legal method of take for any game animal. I expect that we are not the first or last state to make this change. If hunting is an interest of yours, please consult your state's Department of Game and Fish (or whatever they call themselves in your home state) to make sure that your activities are within the law.



Hunting with Airforce Airguns' Texan LSS .50 CF.

## Rifle vs Firearm

Ok, now to discuss the firear.... I mean rifle. Because the Texan LSS .50 CF is an air rifle, and consequently NOT A FIREARM, this 50 caliber rifle can be purchased by anybody with enough funds and shipped directly to their home address. Because the Texan LSS .50 CF is not a firearm, that means that the baffle system that it features is not a firearm suppressor, thus no aspect of it can be controlled or regulated by the ATF. Ah, yes... a glimpse of the original American dream.



Here, you can see the two baffles removed from the sound moderator (raw aluminum), and the diffuser that is located on the end of the barrel which redirects gas back into the barrel shroud. This system is very effective at reducing the blast of the shot.

### **How is the Texan LSS Different?**

The Texan LSS .50 CF is the heaviest and longest model of the Texan that is offered by Airforce Airguns. This is because of the maximum 34" barrel length with the addition of a barrel shroud and removable baffle stack. Yes, the Texan LSS is longer and heavier than the Texan, Carbine, and SS model, but it is also quieter than all of them while maintaining the highest velocities possible using the longest available barrel length. For those of you who do not know, big-bore airguns are very loud: so loud that hearing protection should be used. With the barrel shroud and baffle stack on the LSS, I would compare the sound to that of a suppressed, subsonic 300 blackout (IE very quiet). I have no sound meter numbers to prove this, but I would guess that the LSS is safe to shoot without hearing protection.



The muzzle of the Texan LSS .50 CF.

### **Looking at the Texan LSS .50 CF**

Starting at the back of the gun, you will find a metal butt plate with a rubberized pad that clamps onto the rear of the air tank. This air tank is either aluminum or carbon fiber depending on which you buy. In this case, my Texan LSS is equipped with a carbon fiber bottle that handles higher pressures of 3625 PSI (compared to 3000 in the aluminum). This bottle screws into the rear of the action of the





The trigger on the Texan LSS .50 CF is adjustable for height using that single screw on the side of the shoe. Also, note the safety located in front of the trigger guard.

The last detail to take note of on the Texan LSS 50 is the removable baffle stack at the muzzle of the gun. This unit houses two very large baffles, keeping the pressure and noise exiting the muzzle to a minimum as it redirects the air back and into the barrel shroud.

## Shooting the Texan LSS .50 CF

There are some unique tools that are required for shooting a PCP airgun such as this one. You will need a compressor or pump of some kind and possibly a scuba tank for easy refills in the field. Thankfully, I was hooked up with a [Daystate](#) 4500 PSI compressor through [Airguns Of Arizona](#) that allowed me to fill a scuba tank and do all of my testing at the range. Eric, with [Varminter Magazine](#), was also a big help and wealth of knowledge on this subject; supplying me with tools, scope mounts, and other miscellaneous items in order to get from unboxing to shooting as quickly as possible. As with most shooting activities, it's always best done with friends.



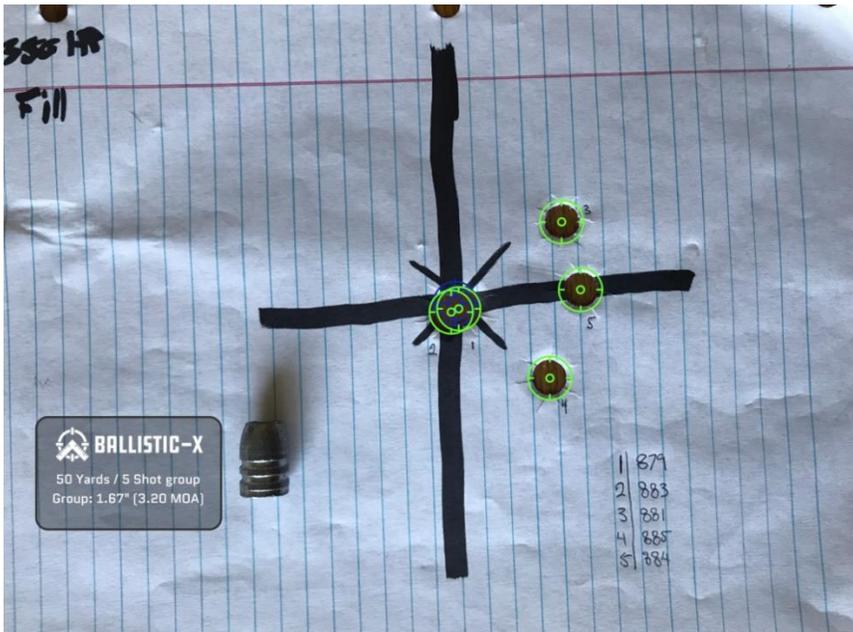
I was able to use Daystate's 4500 PSI 110V compressor to fill my air tank.

I have two different weight slugs from [Mr. Hollowpoint](#); 350 and 500 grain hollowpoints that I am testing. Because this is a true .50 cal of the .510" diameter, these are .510" slugs. I not only wanted to test the accuracy of each of these, but I wanted to see what velocities these two different weight classes reach, how quickly my shot velocity drops, and what kind of terminal performance they offer. For all of my shooting, I chose to place my target at a distance of 50 yards due to having a zero with the 350 grainers that matched up at both 25 and 50 yards with an additional 10" needed to reach 100 yards.

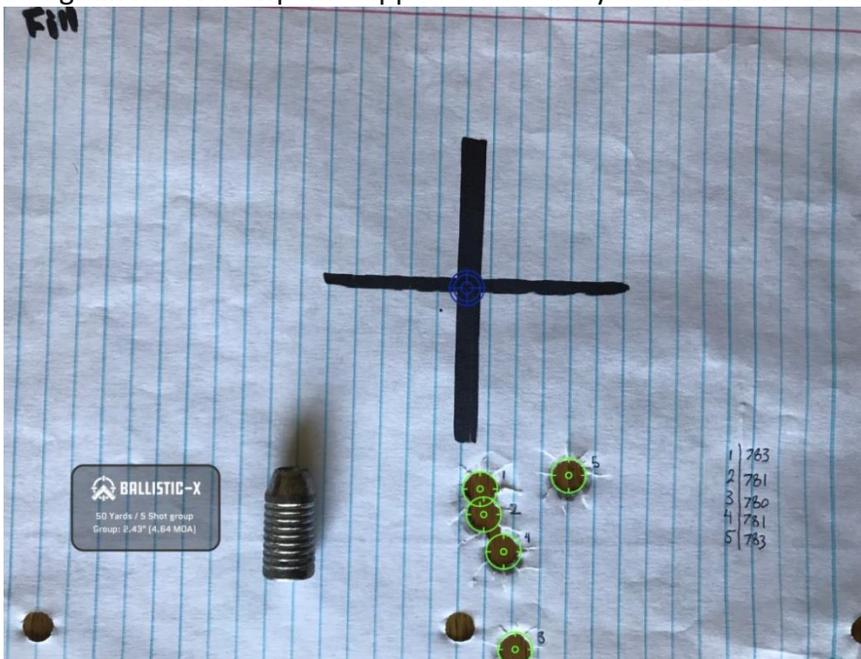


These are the two slug types that I spent all my time shooting. The left slug is a 350 grainer and the two slugs on the right are both 500 grainers from Mr. Hollowpoint. The slug on the far right was recovered in the hillside after shooting a turkey with it.

For my first test, I examined accuracy and noted velocity with a ProChrono Digital chronograph. On this test, I filled the tank on the gun to maximum pressure after each shot. The 350-grain slugs were slightly less accurate than the 500 grainers, but they came out of the barrel at almost 100 feet per second faster, yielding less drop to further ranges. Both slugs showed a very small extreme spread with the 500 grainers only having 3 FPS variation across 5 shots! Because of the cost of the projectiles and the difficulty of obtaining more due to the Corona Virus outbreak, I chose to stick with 5 shot groups for the remainder of the tests. Below, you can see the results of the "topped off" test.

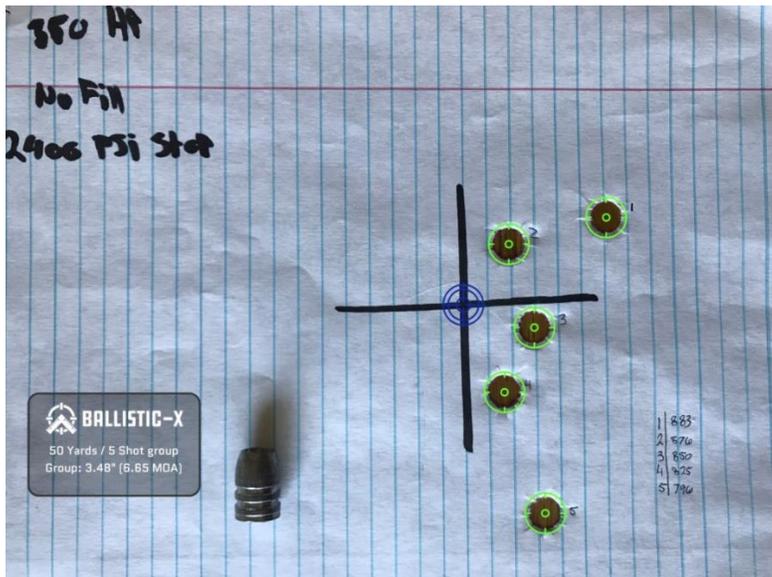


350 grain Mr. Hollowpoint topped off accuracy test. Each shot velocity is noted in the bottom right.

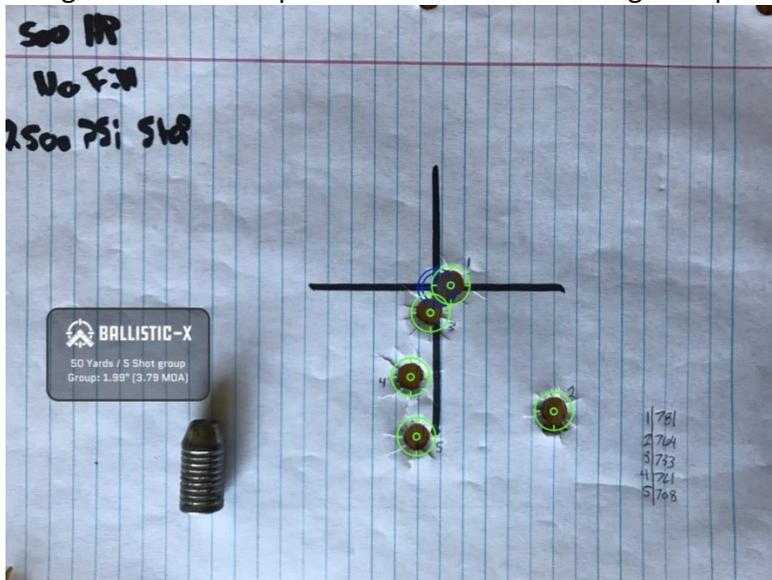


500 grain Mr. Hollowpoint topped off test.

The next thing that I wanted to find out was how many shots I could get on one full tank before I saw the velocity drop below what I deemed ideal. Of course, for this test, I filled the tank to 3625 PSI and went to shooting. After examining the results, I lost less than 100 FPS across 5 shots with both weight class slugs. However, vertical stringing is exhibited and the 350 grainers were apparently more susceptible. After shooting 5 shots, I finished with a fill pressure of 2400 PSI shooting the 350-grain slugs and 2500 PSI shooting the 500-grain slugs. You can see the results of the “no fill” test below.



350 grain Mr. Hollowpoint no fill test with ending tank pressure of 2400 PSI.



500 grain Mr. Hollowpoint no fill test with ending tank pressure of 2500 PSI.

There is a myriad of different weight .510 cal projectiles out there that I wish I could get to play with; ranging from ~145 grains up to ~600 grains. I am told that the 145-grain projectiles can reach speeds of up to 1,100 FPS! These "light" bullets will still yield 389 ft/lbs of energy at that velocity. Compared to the 605 and 677 ft/lbs that my testing showed the 350 and 500-grain bullets to put out respectively. Talk about mind-blowing for an airgun!



Here, you can see the rear of a loaded slug peeking out of the breech. At this moment, it is still supported by the loading tray and will soon be sent down the barrel by a blast of air from the TX2 valve located on the left.

## Specifications

- Power adjustment: None, self-adjusting
- Max fill pressure: 3625 PSI (carbon fiber cylinder)
- Single shot
- 9.3 lbs
- 54.25" total length
- 34" barrel
- .50 caliber (0.510")
- Trigger: two stage, adjustable for position
- Safety: automatic on cocking
- 490cc air tank volume
- up to 1,100 FPS
- 11mm dovetail rail for mounting optics
- up to 800 ft/lbs energy
- \$1,254.95 MSRP



I was able to take a mature tom with a well-placed shot at 81 yards using the Texan LSS .50 CF this spring.

## Final Thoughts

By testing Airforce Airguns' [Texan LSS .50 CF](#), I proved that I can have fun with a 50 cal, no matter what type. I had a blast shooting this airgun because the recoil alone is a contradiction in your brain, making you question everything that you may have thought you knew about what an airgun could be. I proved that the receiving end of the pellet also brings a ton of energy with it by taking it on several, successful hunting trips. I have killed two turkeys with it and a handful of varmints, with a black bear on deck. (Stick around to read that story when it finally happens!)

Besides having a ton of fun shooting stuff with the .50 CF, I also had a great experience just shooting the gun. The trigger is much better than I had hoped it would be, the gun is surprisingly quiet, and it's more ergonomic than it may appear. I have heard other people say that they aren't partial to the way the cheek rest feels because it is too wide being on the bottle, but this isn't a complaint that I developed.



The pressure gauge can be seen on the

left side of the gun near the neck of the air tank.

From my accuracy testing, I can't say that the Texan LSS .50 CF is the most accurate airgun that I have ever used... But, my results are with two different slugs out of a whole slew of offerings. I have no doubt that with some searching, I could shrink those groups further. Even so, for taking large game like bear, deer, and even elk, I would be very comfortable shooting out to 100 yards, or further in some scenarios. Some of you may even be able to make an ethical shot beyond that. Long story short, 10/10 doctors would have fun hunting with this gun.

To Learn More about Airforce Airguns' Texan LSS .50 CF, click [HERE!](#)

**\*\*\*[Buy and Sell on GunsAmerica! All Local Sales are FREE!](#)\*\*\***

### More Pictures:



The butt plate clamps onto the air tank, providing you with a solid cheek weld and interface with the rifle.



The TX2 valve faces the breech, almost butting up against the loading tray.



The carbon fiber air tank holds 3625 PSI.



The tuner is exposed (left) when the cocking handle is opened up.

## A 50 Cal Rifle Shipped to Your Door: AirForce Airgun's Texan .50-CF – SHOT Show 2020

by RILEY BAXTER on JANUARY 22, 2020

New at SHOT Show 2020, [AirForce Airguns](#) has released a monster of an air rifle that is chambered in .50 caliber; the Texan .50-CF! This air rifle is extremely high tech and carries with it the designation of being the most powerful on the market!



This is the carbine length airgun with a sound moderator and aluminum tank, one of the many configurations that you can get a Texan .50 cal in.

Of course, because this is an air rifle it is not constrained by the laws surrounding firearms, which means that there are no age restrictions and you can have it shipped directly to your front door! Also, sound moderators for air guns are not under the ATF's watchful eye, so you can add that on as well.

### **About the .50-CF**

With this version, they are seeing over 800 FPS from a 510-grain slug, producing more than 750 ft/lbs of energy. This gun comes in at only 8 pounds and has an overall length of 48" (rifle length version), making it a reasonably sized .50 caliber offering while maximizing performance.



The cocking lever for the Texan .50 CF is located on the side of the action.

In the Texan .50-CF, you can use any .510" projectile, but lead is recommended over a copper-jacketed projectile because it allows for a better seal in the bore.

This gun is a single-shot rifle and is loaded by placing the slug on the tray once you have opened the breech. At this time, the safety is automatically engaged, preventing accidental discharges while your fingers are near the disaster zone.

Once you have locked the breech down and the bullet is in place, you can squeeze off the adjustable two-stage 2-2.5-pound trigger and release 3,600 PSI to devastate your target. Because of the caliber and amount of energy that this rifle is capable of producing, it would be a great option for hunting.

SEE ALSO: [Texas Woman Stops Five Robbers With Two Shots](#)



Place the bullet on the loading tray, seen here. Also notice the safety located in the trigger guard in front of the trigger. It is in the on position here.

You are able to get about 6 shots out of the Texan .50-CF before you start to lose power, but you can quickly charge the tank in the conventional ways including with a pump or separate tank.



The aluminum tank can be filled to a max of 3,000 PSI while the carbon fiber tank can be filled to 3,600 PSI.

### **Warranty & Custom Orders**

AirForce has an amazing warranty that can be summed up quickly; if you have not modified it yourself, they will replace it or fix it.

AirForce will take basically any order to configure your Texan .50-CF, e.g. carbine length, suppressed, aluminum or carbon fiber tank, etc. just reach out through the [website!](#) Stay tuned for a full review on GunsAmerica.



The buttpad on the Texan .50-CF is banded onto the air tank and features a rubber pad.

## Specs and Features:

- any .510 cal bullet can be used (including muzzleloader bullets)
- 6 full power shots between refills
- 2-2.5 pound 2 stage adjustable trigger
- 34" or 25" barrel
- Velocity: up to 1100 feet per second\*
- Max Fill Pressure: 3625 psi / 250 bar (Only use compressed air or dry nitrogen)
- Action: Single shot
- Weight: 8 lbs
- Length: 48 inches
- Barrel: 34 or 25 inches
- Sights: Open or optical may be installed
- Air Tank Volume: 490cc
- Safety: Automatic on cocking
- Energy: up to 800 foot pounds\*
- high tech seals
- 11mm dovetail optics mount
- Can purchase from dealer or off website
- not a firearm
- Lothar Walther barrels
- MSRP \$1,050 – 1,500 depending on custom configuration
- SHIPPING NOW!



An overall look at the AirForce Texan .50-CF. This model has a suppressor and a carbine-length barrel.



From the muzzle end of the suppressor.



Another look at the trigger and safety



The suppressor connects to the barrel with two bolts.

\*\*\*\*\*

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President - CARGO  
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"If you can read this, thank a teacher. For the fact that it is in English, thank a Veteran."

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