



**May 14, 2016 - Wisconsin FORCE Gun Show**  
**Outagamie County Fairgrounds/Seymour Speedway, Seymour, WI**  
**Flier, Vendor/Exhibitor Flier, show rules are posted on our website.**

For more information contact:

Chuck -- Ph. 920-833-6668 [chuck@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:chuck@wisconsinforce.org)

Jeff -- Ph. 920-687-0505 [jeff@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:jeff@wisconsinforce.org)



**Central Wisconsin Gun Collectors Association Gun Show - April 16 & 17, 2017**

Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds, 495 Martin Ave, Fond du Lac, 54935 [Click Here!](#)

**Special - Friends of NRA - Daniels Defense Raffle AT the SHOW – more on page**

Stop in and see Wisconsin FORCE and pick up a free chamber flag or pocket constitution while they last.

On your way in and out you will see our Juniors; check out their raffles!

**Support our efforts to keep our ranges an asset to their community and have a chance to win!**  
**Tickets available at the Wisconsin FORCE and Fond du Lac Gun Shows and Fox Valley Firearms!**

As a member, you can help by selling raffle tickets! We have two great items being raffled off to support our range assistance! **Presentation Hogue Automatic Knife** - EX01 – Lazer engraved with WI



State Seal and bill signing date. Designed by Allen Elishewitz, overall length 8," blade length 3.50" - \$269.95 MSRP

Made in the USA. **Glock 42** Semi-Auto, Safe Action, 380 ACP, Cap. 6+1

Winner of either must comply with all State & Federal laws. Drawing Sat. May 14, 2016, 3 p.m. at the Wisconsin FORCE Gun Show, Seymour, WI Need not be present to win! Glock 42 winner must be 21 years of age and Hogue EX01 must be legal to possess to win.

Contact [jeff@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:jeff@wisconsinforce.org) 920-687-0505 for details! Need not be present to win!

**\$10 each - 3/\$20** (You can mix and match 3/\$20) **Limited to 300 Tickets for each item!**

**Tickets available - Wisconsin FORCE and Fond du Lac Gun Shows, and Fox Valley Firearms**

Corner of Perkins St. & W. College Ave., Unit – E, Appleton, WI 54914 - PH 920-733-4867 <http://www.foxvalleyfirearms.com/>



**VOTE - F.E. (Buster) Bachhuber Jr. for NRA Board of Directors**

As you know, Buster has always been a supporter of gun rights, the NRA, and Wisconsin FORCE. He has served Wisconsin well as an NRA Board of Director and for Wisconsin FORCE, as a past president, long time advisor, and board member. Buster was a driving force at the NRA's regular meetings to institute Wisconsin's Armed Forces Camp as a national program. He continues to represent Wisconsin at the NRA, advising and supporting Wisconsin FORCE. NRA voting members received their ballots in their NRA magazine.

**2016 Wisconsin FORCE Junior Raffles -- All Proceeds support the Wisconsin FORCE Juniors**

**Winchester Model 1885** EXCLUSIVE TO THE MIDWAYUSA FOUNDATION



1885 Single Shot was the first and perhaps greatest of all the John Moses Browning designs.

243 Centerfire Drawing held Wisconsin FORCE Gun Show Sat. Sept. 17, 2016, 3 p.m.

Outagamie County Fairgrounds/Seymour Speedway, N 637 Main St., Seymour, WI 54165

**\$10 each - 3/\$20 Only 300 Tickets will be sold!**

ALL FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS APPLY to ALL RAFFLES – NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN!

Purchase – Wisconsin FORCE Gun Show or contact [juniorservice@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:juniorservice@wisconsinforce.org).

## From the Executive Director

I actually had a reporter ask me if we were disappointed that only 300,000 permits were acquired. Really? The reporter went on to say it is only 5%. As the average percentage of people that will acquire a concealed carry permit is 4-6%, we fall right in the norm and exactly where we told legislators we would be.

Do you support people that do not support or want to deny your rights?

Property rights are part of the backbone of this country. Property owners have the right to restrict who enters their property. Like many of you, I do not patronize businesses that "post." The same is true for family member homes and the rare gun club that posts their clubhouse. Why would you patronize those that think you are irresponsible? One area we are continually working on is public buildings (other than those that are restricted by law) and monopolies that post, denying their owners and users access.

Another area that always amazes me is the people that pay for the so called news. The bias in the media is so obvious, but still we have members that quote what is in the paper, wasting valuable time and money. The same is true of other so called "pro-gun" groups. They mainly look for and cause problems, wasting NRA and Wisconsin FORCE resources and, even worse, asking for funding that should go to those that actually get things done. Don't fall into the trap. Promote Wisconsin FORCE to everyone you know and get your club to step up and donate to help us continue to support your safe place to shoot.

Board Member Chuck Stellmacher resigned his duties on the Board (he was our Secretary) to focus on the Wisconsin FORCE gun shows and promoting the association. Chuck was awarded the 2015 Wisconsin FORCE Person of the Year. He is one of the hardest working Board members I have worked with over the last eight years. Chuck has my deepest appreciation, and I look forward to working with him in the future.

According to the DOJ, the first batch of concealed carry renewal notices (yes, it has already been five years) will be mailed to the address you have on file with DOJ approximately 120 days before expiration. This is 30 days sooner than the 90 days designated. This is being done as it was one of the busiest application periods. The renewal fee should be \$22 for the next five year period, but pay the amount listed in the notice. I highly suggest that you return it as soon as possible after receiving your notice to ensure there are no complications. Those that allow their permit to expire for more than 90 days must submit an entirely new application. Also remember that once it expires you no longer have a legal permit and cannot carry concealed.

This month's picture is of Massad Ayoob, David Maglio, and myself out for dinner at a great Italian restaurant in Saukville - Messina's. As one of his top instructors, David brings Massad into the state to run Massad's 20 hour immersion course, Armed Citizens Rules of Engagement. For many years Massad has been recognized as one of the Nation's top resources in self-defense. I highly recommend any and all of his courses, and Deadly Force: Understanding Your Right to Self Defense is a must read for all. Teach Freedom - Jeff



# The Sound of Freedom is heard here!

## Education, Training, Safety, & Marksmanship

### On the Range - Jeff Nass

Wisconsin FORCE is the top resource in the state on range operation and consultation on upgrades and improvements. We advise private clubs, all the state ranges, and continue to work with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as we have since before they actually had any expertise in the operation, design, and use of ranges. As witnessed by the very successful upgrades at public ranges statewide, our partnership and advice has worked well.

Work continues on the newly proposed rules with the DNR. These new rules must ensure that our rights are not restricted or denied and that our state parks and ranges are open to be safely used by all. Muzzle loaders to machine guns, single shot to belt fed, "All rounds must impact the backstop" and "No uncontrolled fire" are two of the top rules on all ranges. The right to defend yourself cannot be denied and mere possession of alcohol such as in your vehicle, for a picnic in the park after shooting on the range, should not be a violation.

Ranges provide the community with a great place to meet, learn, and practice safe firearms handling and marksmanship.

Whether it is practicing or sighting-in for a successful fall hunt, plinking with the kids, or improving the safe handling and proficiency with a firearm used for home or carried self-defense, ranges are where that happens. As educators, we emphasize that repetition is the key to becoming proficient in marksmanship and safety.

Ranges have an exceptional safety record, especially for their neighbors. Although some individuals have enough private property for safe practice, many do not. Ranges by design allow large amounts of rounds to be fired safely and efficiently. Firearm Ranges are where shooters teach and learn firearms safety formally, such as in classes, and informally, by following range operating procedures and general use of the range.

Don't be fooled by poor reporting in the media. Wisconsin FORCE does not waver, we are in the fight every day. We will continue to fight as we have the last eight years, becoming the top State organization, stopping the bad, promoting, and achieving great things in Wisconsin.

For Range and Club issues contact Jeff at [jeff@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:jeff@wisconsinforce.org) / 920-687-0505 **Not for Profit doesn't mean Not Prepared!**

1. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
2. Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
3. Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.
4. Always treat a firearm as if it were loaded.



## Have a great time while supporting our shooting heritage!

Special items available ONLY at your local Friends event!

Dates, locations and information, [CLICK HERE!](#)

Make sure to check the event flier for special deals!

### Direct NRA Contact

NRA Field Rep. Scott Taetsch

[STaetsch@nrahq.org](mailto:STaetsch@nrahq.org)

715-873-3360

Wisconsin FORCE

[contact@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:contact@wisconsinforce.org)

920-687-0505

ILA Midwest Field Rep Suzanne Anglewicz

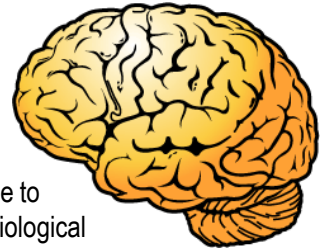
[Suzanne@nrailafrontlines.com](mailto:Suzanne@nrailafrontlines.com)

703-346-7124

### YOUR BRAIN ON SURVIVAL – Field and Stream - Brad Fitzpatrick – April, 2016

*(Ed: Although this article is about survival outdoors, it may give you some insight on survival in general.)*

Psychologist John Leach, a specialist in human responses to emergency situations, developed his "10/80/10 rule of survival" after examining a variety of crises and human reactions to them. According to Leach, 10 percent of people facing an emergency control their fears and act rationally. Eighty percent find themselves stunned and relatively unprepared to respond. The last 10 percent, Leach concluded, become hysterical, unable to cope with the situation at hand. To ensure you land in that top 10 percent, you should first understand the physiological processes your brain and body undergo during an emergency.



**THE SITUATION** - You're hunting the backcountry and you've become separated from your party. A big storm is blowing in. Alone and lost, you realize you won't make it back to camp before dark.

**HOW YOUR BODY RESPONDS** - 1 - The sympathetic nervous system, which stimulates the fight-flight-or-freeze response, takes control of the body. As a result, three key hormones are released into the bloodstream: adrenaline, norepinephrine, and cortisol. 2 - Adrenaline and norepinephrine prepare the body for battle. You receive a high-octane energy boost from increased glucose production and release. But this increase in glucose production burns valuable resources in the body. 3 - Your heart rate increases and the lungs expand to take in more oxygen (a process known as bronchial dilation). Pupils dilate, narrowing your vision. 4 - Blood is channeled away from the digestive system and the skin toward the major skeletal muscles for quick action and strength. 5 - Cortisol is released more slowly than adrenaline and norepinephrine, and it helps sustain the fight-or-flight response over an extended period of time. The digestive and immune responses are slowed in anticipation of a fight. 6 - Over time, the engaged sympathetic nervous system depletes the body's energy reserves of glycogen and fat stores. If it goes on too long, you could experience a crash that leaves you feeling cold and tired. The more primitive portion of the brain, the limbic system, takes control from the more developed frontal lobe. Thoughts become less logical and more visceral. This can lead to impulsive and irrational behavior. 7 - Over time, when panic subsides, frontal lobe activity increases and rational thought returns.

**HOW TO SURVIVE** 1 - Utilize your frontal lobe: "A common thread among survivors is the ability to prioritize and maintain focus on the task at hand," says Kyle Allred, an experienced wilderness survival instructor. "Spend a few moments assessing your situation. Resist the temptation to act hastily. Instead, break down the larger task of survival into mini goals that can be performed one by one to help maintain focus." 2 - Gear up: "Know which tools you have in your kit and know how to use them," says Allred. The simple act of building a fire with your fire-starter can build confidence. If you think logically, use the tools in your pack, and find shelter, you'll survive a night (and maybe longer) alone in the back country.



### NRA-ILA FrontLines™ Wisconsin - NRA-ILA staff will be on-hand at the upcoming May 14 - Wisconsin Force Gun Show.

Stop in for one of our brief 2016 Election Action Meetings during the show and to pick up your Second Amendment Activist materials, as well as meet your local NRA-ILA Wisconsin staff. All materials are free and light refreshments will be served. It's never been more important to build strong pro-gun networks as we prepare to Stand & Fight during a very critical election year in Wisconsin!

More information on the [www.wisconsinforce.org](http://www.wisconsinforce.org) NRA-ILA FrontLines Wisconsin tab after April 21.

Join our FREE NRA-ILA FrontLines™ Volunteer Program in Wisconsin go to: <http://www.nrailafrontlines.com>

If you are interested in serving in an expanded role for NRA and would like to hear more about the volunteer program in Wisconsin, please contact [Suzanne@nrailafrontlines.com](mailto:Suzanne@nrailafrontlines.com) Suzanne Anglewicz, NRA-ILA Midwest Field Rep/Staff Attorney



### Go Wild! Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Report summary for March 17, 2016

Wisconsin's new [Go Wild](#) system for issuing fishing, hunting, conservation patron and other licenses and permits went on line March 17. By the end of March, people will also be able to use the system to register boats, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles and to sign up for hunter and other safety education classes. The online system is accessible through personal computers, smart phone and other mobile devices and at more than 1,000 vendors statewide through <http://GoWild.Wi.Gov>.

## 2016 NRA F-Class Nationals Update

NRA Shooting Sports - John Parker – 3-17-16

The 2016 [NRA F-Class Nationals](#) will be held in Lodi, WI at the Winnequah Gun Club beginning September 23, 2016. The championship website was [recently updated](#) with useful information such as the match program. Silver Mountain [Electronic Targets](#) will be used for both championship matches. Before the championship, match officials will be conducting a mandatory class on the operation of the electronic target monitors.

Pictured above is 2015 NRA F-Class Champion Bryan Litz (left).



Match fees and the schedule are as follows:

- Mid-Range – Individual entries all individual matches - \$230 -Mid-Range – Each Team match (pay at range) - \$80
- Long Range – Individual entries all individual matches - \$230 -Long Range – Each Team match (pay at range) - \$80
- Combined Individual entry Mid-Range and Long Range - \$400

**F-Class Mid-Range Nationals** - Sept 23 – Practice – Sept 24-26 Individual – Sept 27 4 Man Team

**F-Class Long Range Nationals** - Sept 27 pm – Practice – Sept 28-29 Individual.– Sept 30 4 Man Team – Oct 1 Ind. Champ Day

## Army Chief Eyeing Glock Pistol as Service's Next Sidearm –

Military.com - 3-23-16 - Matthew Cox

The U.S. Army's chief of staff is searching for alternatives to the multi-year Modular Handgun System effort, to include piggy-backing on Army Special Operations Command's current pistol contract.

Gen. Mark Milley has used recent public appearances to criticize federal acquisition guidelines that all services must follow when choosing and purchasing weapons and equipment.

Pictured: A Special Forces soldier fires a Glock 19 pistol at a range during joint training with Hungarian special operations forces. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff SGT. Tyler Placie)



During a March 10 speaking engagement at a conference in Washington, D.C., for instance, Milley chastised a bureaucratic acquisition system for making it overly complicated to field equipment in a timely manner, citing the service's Modular Handgun System, or MHS, effort as a prime example. The Army launched its long-awaited XM17 MHS competition in late August to replace its Cold-War era, M9 9mm pistol. Milley criticized the program's 356-page requirement document and lengthy testing phase slated to cost \$17 million for technology that has existed for years. "The testing itself is two years long on known technology," Milley told law makers at a March 16 House Armed Services Committee hearing. "We are not talking about nuclear subs or going to the moon here. We are talking about a pistol."

But behind the scenes, Milley has moved beyond criticism and taken steps to select a new sidearm for soldiers, including exploring the possibility of bypassing the MHS effort altogether. Milley recently asked the Army Special Operations Command's G-8 office, which oversees fielding of equipment, if there is room for the Army to join its pistol contract to buy Glock 19s, according to a source who asked to remain anonymous because he is not authorized to speak to the media.

The compact Model 19 is one of Glock's most popular handguns. The striker-fired, 9mm pistol features a four-inch barrel and has a standard capacity of 15 rounds, although 17-round magazines are available. The polymer frame features an accessory rail for mounting lights. New Glock 19s retail for \$500-\$600 each. USASOC is currently paying a base price of about \$320 for each Glock 19, the source said. With that price, the Army would pay about \$91.8 million if the service were to buy 287,000 pistols, the quantity requirement outlined in the MHS effort. Currently, the MHS program is projected to cost about \$350 million, Army officials maintain. But choosing the Glock 19 would abandon one of the major goals of the MHS effort -- to adopt a pistol chambered for a more potent round than the current 9mm. The U.S. military replaced the .45-caliber 1911 pistol with the M9 in 1985 and began using the 9mm NATO round at that time.

Most special operations forces, however, use 9mm pistols and a new Defense Department policy that authorizes "special purpose ammunition" now allows the military to use expanding or hollow-point bullets, experts maintain.

Military.com contacted Milley's office and USASOC for comment but neither office responded by deadline.

Milley has also asked Defense Secretary Ashton Carter to grant authority to the service chiefs to approve the acquisition of equipment that does not require new technology or research and development, the source said. "I think it's absolutely ridiculous that you don't have the authority to pick a pistol for the Army," Rep. Austin Scott, a Republican from Georgia, told Milley during last week's House Armed Service Committee hearing. All of the service chiefs were present. "I would bet that the four of you in uniform could probably in 10 minutes come up with an agreement on what that platform should be," he said. "I would think that with a quick click or two on an iPad that you could figure out what the retail price of the pistol was, what a decent price for that pistol was and what we should be paying for that pistol if we were buying it in the quantities that we were buying it in." The congressman added, "I want you to know that I do believe that you should have that authority." Milley told lawmakers that the "secretary of the Army and I do have the authority to pick the weapon, but that's at the end of the day; the problem is getting to the end of the day." Scott agreed with Milley that the current acquisition system needs simplifying.

"I can't help but wonder that if it's this bad with a pistol, what about optics, what about rifles; all of the things we are buying? How much bureaucracy is in there? What we could remove that would allow you to equip your men and women better, faster and with less money?" he said. Scott encouraged Milley, and the other service chiefs, to come up with "specific language you would like to see in the National Defense Authorization Act that would help you cut through that red tape."

## 6.1 CMP Service Rifle Rules

Any Service Rifle that complies with this rule may be used in National Trophy Rifle Matches and CMP-sanctioned Service Rifle Matches.

6.1.1 M16/AR15-Type Rifles The rifle must be an M16 U. S. Service Rifle or a similar AR15-type commercial rifle that is derived from the M16 service rifle design.

The following specific rules apply to this type of rifle:

- Must be chambered for the 5.56 x 45 mm NATO (.223) cartridge.
- Must be designed or modified so that only semi-automatic fire is possible.
- The gas operating system must be fully operable and adhere to the original M16 rifle design (i. e. Stoner design, gas impingement system) or have a piston-operated gas system.
- The receiver and handguard must be machined as separate parts.
- The barrel may be no longer than the standard A2 barrel length of 20 inches (measured from the bolt face to the end of the barrel); flash suppressors are not required, but if the barrel has a flash suppressor the total length of the barrel measured from the bolt face to the end of the flash suppressor shall not exceed 21 1/4".
- Quad rails or similar hand guards may be used. The front sling swivel may be attached to the hand guard, but must be fixed and located 13 in. (+/- 0.5 in.) from the forward edge of the magazine well on M16 configured rifles or 8.0 in. (+/- 0.5 in.) on M4 configured rifles.
- Upper receivers and/or barrels may not be changed during the firing of any event.
- The trigger pull must be at least 4.5 pounds.
- Metal or synthetic (polymer) magazines, standard issue or commercial equivalent, straight or curved, with standard service 20 or 30-round box magazine dimensions must be attached during the firing of all courses and in all positions. A 10-round magazine with the same external dimensions as a standard service 20-round box magazine may be used. A dummy magazine with a ramp for single shot loading may be used if this magazine has the same external dimensions as the standard service 20-round box magazine.  
*Editor: We called both the NRA and CMP and received confirmation that the curved 20 round magazines are now legal.*
- The rifle may have an optical sight (reflective sights are considered optical sights) with a maximum power of 4.5X installed on the receiver. Variable scopes with a maximum of 4.5X are permitted. Only commercially manufactured scopes that were produced with a maximum magnification of 4.5X and that have a maximum objective lens diameter of 34 mm may be used. If an optical sight is used, the same optical sight configuration must be used in all stages of a course of fire (changing sights or sight mount configurations is not permitted). The centerline of an optical sight shall be no higher than 3.5 inches above the centerline of the bore.
- Alternatively, the rifle may be equipped with either an issue style fixed front sight assembly, removable front sight, or a collapsible front sight. All types must utilize a sight post and have a maximum sight radius of 20.5 inches. Metallic rear sights, if used, must have an M16 type sight design with the rear sight in the carry handle.
- Butt-stocks may vary in length and be either fixed or collapsible. Collapsible or adjustable length stocks may be adjusted during an event, but butt stocks that allow for other adjustments such as the cheek-piece height or butt-plate location may not be used.
- Only standard A1 or A2 type pistol grips may be used.
- An extended bolt release is permitted.
- Left-handed receivers that reverse the operational design features of M16/AR-type rifles are permitted.
- No full heavy barrels allowed. No portion of the barrel forward of the gas block or front sight assembly shall have a diameter exceeding .75".
- No adjustable gas block.
- Gas block without front sight are permitted.



## Can Gun Inscriptions Be Used Against You in Court? OutdoorHub - Daniel Xu - 3/18/16

Thinking of getting an inscription or engraving on your firearms? One of the first questions that many gun owners often ask is if these inscriptions could be used as evidence against their character in court. Since many people purchase firearms primarily to protect themselves, this can be a big concern—and as one case in Arizona shows, those inscriptions can certainly be used against you. Mesa police officer Phillip Brailsford is currently charged with the second-degree murder of Daniel Shaver, who was involved in an on-duty shooting earlier this year. According to [Tuscon News Now](#), the shooting happened in a hotel room after police received a call about an armed man on the fifth floor of the La Quinta Inn. Prosecutors say that the weapon was actually a pellet gun used by Shaver



for his pest control job. Officers found Shaver at the inn and ordered him onto his belly, during which he reached for his waistband and Brailsford shot him five times. The shooting was recorded on a body camera worn by the responding officers. In court on Tuesday, Brailsford pleaded not guilty to the charges, but a new piece of evidence may hinder his defense. A police investigation following the shooting turned up a service rifle used by Brailsford that had an inscription on the inside of the rifle's dust cover. Officials say that Brailsford personally purchased the rifle and used it for police duties. It is believed to have been the weapon used to kill Shaver. "Inscribed on the officer's gun, and I hate to use profanity, but it said, 'you're f\*\*\*\*\*,'" Laney Sweet, Daniel Shaver's wife, said. Sweet's lawyer argued that the inscription implied that Brailsford "was enthusiastic" about using the rifle to kill people.

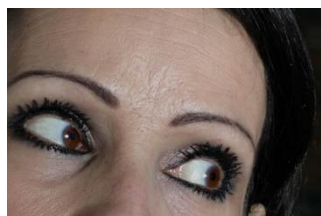
## Why Wisconsin FORCE is a necessity every single day.

Our friends in Louisiana are fighting some really bad bills. **Louisiana** - Sponsored by state Representative John Bagneris (D-New Orleans), to make it a crime to purchase or sell firearms from or by a licensed dealer without a 10-day waiting period from purchase to delivery.

- Sponsored by state Representative Barbara Norton (D-Shreveport), would create the offense of operating a motion picture theater without a metal detector or other electronic screening process for detecting firearms and would make it unlawful to carry a firearm for self-defense on the premises of a motion picture theater.

- Sponsored by state Representative Jimmy Harris (D-New Orleans), would expand "gun free zones" to include property used as a public park, playground or recreational facility -- including municipal parks, state parks operated by the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, and many other areas that could be closed off, without effective notice, to those otherwise lawfully carrying firearms for personal protection. These bills are ill-conceived and a direct assault on the Second Amendment and property rights.

**Wisconsin FORCE's every day presence in Madison helps stop bad ideas before they get started.**



## Self-Defense Tips: Living In "Condition Yellow"

*Sheriff Jim Wilson - NRA Publications - March 23, 2016*

Some years ago, Col. Jeff Cooper began to use the "Color Code" to signify conditions of awareness as it pertains to potential threats. White referred to a total lack of awareness. Yellow was used to signify relaxed alertness. Orange referred to having identified a potential threat. And Red was used when the *potential* threat was identified as an *actual* threat. Condition White should only exist when a person is sound asleep.

However, we see people operating in total oblivion every day. The person who walks down the busy sidewalk with all of their attention focused on their smart phone. Even worse, we see drivers paying more attention

to their phones than to their driving. Others will answer a knock at their front door without first having looked out to see who is there. I would even suggest that the person who gets caught in a police radar trap is not being as alert as they could, or should be.

For these people, their first inclination that a criminal attack is about to take place is when the criminal gets right in their face. These folks don't have a personal defense plan and, even if they have one, it is generally way too late to put it into practice by the time they realize they're in trouble. Their only hope of avoiding the confrontation is if the crook is so inept that he leaves them an opening to respond defensively. This really doesn't leave a person much hope of avoiding the conflict.

To begin to live in Condition Yellow (relaxed alertness) usually requires [a real-life change for many people](#). They learn to function with their heads up, actually observing what is going on around them. They learn to prioritize what they are doing so that minor distractions are dealt with in an appropriate manner. They are not the people who stop in the middle of a busy sidewalk to send a text message; they are the ones who step out of the foot traffic and stand against a building to return a short text. Or they don't respond at all until they are in a more secure location.

When we practice relaxed alertness, we are able to see the suspicious group of young men while they are still a block away, and we have plenty of time to cross to the other side of the street. We also observe that the freeway traffic is becoming congested and are able to slow down and make the proper lane change long before we get to the accident that has caused the problem. We also notice that something is just not right in that late-night convenience store and we are not going to go inside until we know more about the situation.

I am always entertained by the Internet Commandos who claim that they are always in Condition Yellow. They are either trying to fool us or fool themselves. We all have times and circumstances where we are not as alert as we should be.

Consider that you have had a difficult, tiring day at work and now you have to stop and do some serious grocery shopping before going home. You are mentally fatigued, your feet hurt, and all you really want is to relax in your favorite chair with your favorite beverage. Do you really check out that dark grocery store parking lot like you should? Do you really pay attention to the other shoppers and those just hanging around in the store? No, I didn't think so.

Just recently, I stopped at a local ATM to get some cash. After completing the transaction, I stood by my vehicle counting my money. When I finally looked up, it was to see a man standing some 10 yards away from me. I have no idea where he came from, nor how long he had been standing there. Fortunately for me, he was a peaceful fellow. I could try to make all sorts of excuses for my oversight. However, the simple fact is that I was in Condition White. I simply wasn't paying attention.

By being conscious of the need for relaxed alertness, we are able to maximize the times that we are in Condition Yellow. And this should be our goal. It's isn't about "living in fear" any more than a good driver lives in fear of getting in an accident.

One of the best ways to increase our understanding of a need for awareness is to spend time in a busy shopping mall. Sit down, have a cup of coffee, and just watch the crowds. Make note of the number of people who are clearly in Condition White and the various things that they are doing that distract their attention. What should they be doing to correct this mistake? What would you do in their place?

Another good method is to discuss the Color Code with a friend, spouse or co-worker who is also interested in increased awareness and alertness. Share ideas and observations on a regular basis. Keeping the subject in your conversation and thoughts will encourage you to stay in Condition Yellow for longer periods, and to recognize those times when it is most important.

The more that we are in a state of relaxed awareness, the more problems we can avoid entirely. Criminal attacks, car wrecks, even traffic tickets, are really nice things to avoid completely. The ability to avoid them depends upon your ability to alter your habits and lifestyle and become more aware of what is going on around you. It is a life change that is worth making.

## USMC Match .45 Load - NRA Shooting Sports - Scott Engen - April 7, 2016

**WARNING:** All technical data in this publication, especially for handloading, reflect the limited experience of individuals using specific tools, products, equipment and components under specific conditions and circumstances not necessarily reported in the article and over which the National Rifle Association (NRA) has no control. The data has not otherwise been tested or verified by the NRA. The NRA, its agents, officers and employees accept no responsibility for the results obtained by persons using such data and disclaim all liability for any consequential injuries or damages. Reprinted from the June, 1998 issue of [Shooting Sports USA](#), this article is still quoted by retired Marine and 12-time NRA [National Pistol Champion Brian Zins](#).



**The wind blows.** It rains cats, dogs and small livestock. The .45 ACP 1911 automatic pistol in your hand bucks like a half-crazed bronco on steroids. The aiming black of the 50-yard slow fire target dances through the shimmering mirage in your dot scope like Little Egypt. You're going to pull the trigger 270 times in this competition, and every shot is going to count for score. That's NRA Conventional Pistol competition, sometimes called three-gun pistol, bullseye pistol, or precision pistol, and for over a century it's been the most popular of the bullseye pistol events fired in this country. Civilian, military and police shooters alike are endlessly intrigued, challenged and frustrated by this shooting game. It puts every shooter and his or her equipment to a difficult test each time the range officer's whistle sounds and the targets turn.



*Marine Corps shooters, using the .45 cal. accuracy loads, have been a dominant force on the firing line at Camp Perry.* Each NRA Conventional Pistol competitor is interested in squeezing every possible extra point and "X" out of their equipment and personal performance in the three-gun pistol events. Equipment is modified to suit the individual shooter and ammunition is carefully matched to each gun—all in hopes of shaving a few fractions of an inch off the average group size, giving the shooter a bit more margin for error and hopefully a better score in the process. Because .45 Caliber stages of the NRA Conventional Pistol competition format make up two thirds of the potential match score, and because many if not most shooters shoot the same .45 ACP gun in both of these stages, the intrinsic accuracy of ammunition for the .45 ACP becomes of paramount importance. "Good" isn't good enough in the .45 ACP accuracy department.

**USMC Shooters** For much of the history of NRA Conventional Pistol competition, the service team that has set the pace for everyone else has worn the uniform of the United States Marine Corps. Over the past several years [Editor's note: *This article was originally written in 1998.*], the U.S. Marine Corps Pistol Team, headquartered at Quantico, VA, has undertaken extensive research and testing to develop a match-quality handload for the .45 ACP that has proven to be second to none in accuracy and reliability. Rumors and speculation about the actual make-up of this load, along with its accuracy potential, have been making the rounds of firing lines across the country since USMC Pistol Team members won their recent back-to-back National Individual Conventional Pistol Championships.

This is the inside story of how that load was developed, and how you can build it at your own loading bench, just in time for your next big three-gun match or for [Camp Perry](#).

**Handload Consistency** Capt. Dan O'Connor, Officer in Charge of the team in 1996, had been receiving reports on the erratic accuracy of the factory match loads then supplied to the Marine shooters for their .45 ACP wadcutter match guns. One batch would shoot the center out of the X-ring at 50 yards all day long, while the next batch would open the group up to twice the size of that fired with the best ammo lots. During this time frame, USMC Pistol Team members also were engaged in their ongoing mission of conducting training clinics and firing schools for competitive shooters at matches across the country.

*The accuracy of the USMC match .45 load is clear.*

"The one constant thread in the comments of clinic and school participants nationwide was the belief that handloaded ammunition had the edge over factory match ammunition in the .45 ACP," said O'Connor. "This widely-held belief was based on the idea that the careful hand assembly of quality components was the key to intrinsic accuracy in match ammunition. I instructed our staff to do a cost/benefit analysis of the possibility of building a match-grade .45 ACP handload in-house that would help give the USMC Team an edge in competition."



**Dorman Load** O'Connor tasked team member Gunnery Sgt. Randall C. Lawless to investigate how such a load could be developed. During this research, Lawless recalled a sample .45 ACP load that had been shared with him at a match in Sommersville, WV, several years earlier by Al Dorman, a 2670-level shooter and former National Civilian and .45 Caliber Conventional Pistol Champion. Dorman had developed the .45 ACP match load using input from a number of sources, including several benchrest rifle shooters and from former USMC match pistol armorer Michael Curtis.

The Dorman load was put together on a Dillon progressive press using: New Winchester primed brass, trimmed to a consistent length; the relatively new Nosler 185 grain JHP; 4.1 grains of Vihtavuori N310 to a loaded cartridge overall length of 1.20". Dorman used only virgin Winchester primed cases for his long line (50 yards) loads, and once- or twice-fired WW cases with Winchester WLP (Winchester Large Pistol) primers on the short line (25 yards). Dorman noticed some clear differences in accuracy between the virgin and once-fired cases out of a machine rest as he was developing this load. Test accuracy initially was on the order of 1 5/8" out of Dorman's guns at 50 yards from a machine rest. During informal tests at the West Virginia match, the Dorman load grouped well for the Marines, but didn't function well in their guns because of their heavier recoil spring rates. Dorman recommended a 14-pound spring in the five-inch 1911 with this load.

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**Load** continued .....“I called Nosler and asked them about this bullet.” said Dorman. “The Nosler people said the 185 JHP didn’t start out as a match bullet, but they just got very lucky on this one in the accuracy department.” The only downside to the Nosler 185 JHP load that Dorman was able to identify was the rounded nose of the hollow point cavity tends to cut a smaller hole in the target paper, usually about .32 to .38 cal.

“You have to be careful scoring this bullet and make sure both you and your scorer have a set of .45 cal. overlays, as a shot that looks well out may be touching or even breaking the next higher value scoring ring.” Dorman observed. “This load does make for some interesting discussions when scoring.”

Lawless thoroughly covered all the possible angles, investigating 37 different variations of the basic Dorman load with different charge weights, cases, primers and bullet seating depths. Extensive test lots of ammo were fired at 50 yards from several different Marine 1911 match guns mounted in Ransom machine rests. This exhaustive testing resulted in substantially similar accuracy results to those experienced by Dorman.

This handloaded match ammunition’s velocity is reported by several sources to range from 770 FPS up to 830 FPS in a tight match barrel, with most competition guns shooting at the upper end of this velocity range. Ten shot groups in the neighborhood of 1” center-to-center at 50 yards are the norm in the USMC match prepared 1911 pistols when fired out of a machine rest. Unlike Dorman’s original accuracy tests, the once-fired Winchester cases using the WLP primer are also reported to produce levels of accuracy in the USMC guns that are nearly identical to those put together with new Winchester brass. The Marines’ 1911 recoil spring rates range from 12 to 14 pounds depending on the individual gun and shooter. Recoil is reported by many to be softer than expected for a load producing these velocities. Marine match ammunition specialists handloaded approximately 58,000 rounds of .45 ACP match ammo for the USMC Pistol Team in 1997.

**Caution Urged** Both Dorman and Lawless, along with the author, urge handloaders to use caution in the assembly of this ammunition (or any other handloaded ammunition, for that matter) as the relatively small powder charge weight and volume of N310 does not take up much space in the large .45 ACP case, and a double powder charge is possible if proper powder charging, handloading and quality control procedures are not carefully followed for each round during every loading session. Always visually verify that only a single charge of powder is in each case before seating the bullet.

Concerns over the potential of such a double charge, and its disastrous effect on both gun and shooter, may be the reason no loads for the .45 ACP using N310 appear in the latest January 1998 edition of the Vihtavuori loading manual. N310 loads using a jacketed 185-grain bullet for the .45 ACP cartridge are reported by Dorman to have been published in earlier editions of the Vihtavuori manuals. The author has verified that this load information exists in an earlier, undated Vihtavuori manual, although it lists a velocity of 919 FPS.



Although the reloaders interviewed reported excellent success and full safety with this load, those readers who elect to try this load data should follow all standard load development procedures, such as starting with powder charges reduced 10 percent from those listed as maximum, and work up to the indicated load slowly while monitoring for signs of excess pressure or other problems. The author did not personally handload, test fire or chronograph samples of this .45 ACP load during the research and preparation of this article.

**JHP Bullet** According to both Dorman and Lawless, the Nosler 185 JHP bullet has shown itself to be more accurate than either a cast lead semi-wadcutter or a jacketed semi-wadcutter in the .45 ACP. O’Connor, Dorman and Lawless all indicate that this accuracy stems from the nature of the manufacture of the JHP bullet. “A jacketed hollow point bullet is built from the base out so the concentricity is true, unlike the full metal jacketed bullet which is built from the nose out,” said Lawless.

“I just machine-rest tested 15 of our new 1911 match-prepared pistols,” continued Lawless. “All but one fired 10-shot groups with 9 Xs or better at 50 yards, and that’s with all nine or ten bullets being deep inside the X-ring. The one gun that didn’t shoot up to snuff went back to the armorer for a rework.”

Nosler affirmed that the 185 JHP is manufactured to their normal production standards. After the bullet tooling is set-up, test ammo samples built with several different loads are fired from a test barrel fitted to a fixed breech receiver to ensure that the tooling and set-up is correct. Only then is the set-up approved for a bullet production run. Nosler declined to give specifics regarding accuracy standards required for production run approval on the 185 JHP, but based on the demonstrated match accuracy of this bullet, it would be reasonable to assume they are very high indeed.



**Problem Smithing** *Unlike the full metal jacketed bullet with its exposed lead base shown on the left, a jacketed hollowpoint bullet is built from the base outward, which tends to produce a more inherently accurate projectile.* At this point, many readers may wonder about the feeding reliability of a jacketed hollow point bullet in a 1911 match pistol. Improved accuracy is all well and good, but if the points so gained are eaten up in alibi strings, it’s all for naught. According to Lawless, feeding is not a problem in a properly throated 1911 match barrel. The few reliability problems that did become apparent during development were traced to the Winchester case having a bit larger rim diameter than the Federal match cases then in use. The breech face on the Marines’ match 1911 slides was too small to allow the larger Winchester case rim to fully rise from the magazine, slip under the extractor hook and align with the barrel chamber properly as the slide went into battery. Opening the face of the slide to accommodate the larger case rim cured the problem.

“My own .45 match gun was the biggest reliability problem we had on the team,” said Lawless. “Once we opened up the slide’s breech face, it’s been 100 percent. I haven’t had a single misfeed all season.”

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**45 Load** continued .....

O'Connor mentioned that Black Hills Ammunition has shown some interest in producing a similar match load for competition shooters, and has been producing exceptionally accurate ammunition for both rifle and pistol shooters for some years. According to O'Connor, Black Hills is also producing an excellent match load in 9mm Parabellum which has shown tremendous accuracy potential in the Beretta Model 92/M9 series pistols now being brought online for interservice pistol matches. We can expect to see more of the Model 92/M9 series on firing lines in the future, as service armorers begin to turn more time and attention to building this series of pistols into match-capable firearms.

**Barrel Work** Lawless and O'Connor also gave credit to the quality of barrels provided by Bar-Sto Precision Machine out of Twentynine Palms, California. Lawless indicated that these USMC barrels were chambered to a depth of approximately .904", a bit beyond the SAAMI specs of .898". In his research, Lawless found the new Winchester brass was well short of this measurement, and in the future new lots of USMC barrels may be chambered to a depth in the neighborhood of .896" to .894". This helps create something of a short-throat barrel situation which can be very accurate with matching length cases, or can be lengthened if needed with a finish chamber reamer. Always check case length against chamber depth to avoid pinching a bullet in the case and creating a dangerous over-pressure situation. Bar-Sto Precision confirmed the special nature of the barrels they have been supplying to the USMC Pistol Team armorers for some 15 years. Each starts out life as a billet of 416 stainless steel, and is machined to USMC match specs, with a longer length barrel hood, a special depth on the first locking lug recess, and plenty of extra metal for the USMC match armorer to remove it.

**Editor's Note: Keep in mind that this article was written in the late 1990s. While the load data is still relevant, minor facts such as Bar-Sto's relocation to Sturgis, SD, additional cartridges now being offered by Black Hills Ammunition, the new [Beretta M9A3](#) etc. should be noted.**

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