

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

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North Dakota House Bill 1319

Over the past year or so, our association has discussed the benefits of what is commonly called "Castle Doctrine" Legislation in North Dakota. At our last Board meeting and at our annual meeting, our officers and general membership unanimously voted to endorse an effort to pass legislation in North Dakota that would clarify the existing law in North Dakota concerning use of lethal force in self defense. We also hoped to add a protection from civil and criminal prosecution for those who have to use lethal force in self defense.

We were most interested in protection for a North Dakota homeowner who found it necessary to use lethal force when confronted by a criminal who entered the home to threaten the homeowner or the homeowner's family. Under the existing North Dakota law, the language about retreat is ambiguous. Existing law states that "the use of deadly force is not justified if it can be avoided with the safety of the actor and others, by retreat or other conduct involving minimal interface with the freedom of the person menaced". Clearly, this section of the law requires that the homeowner retreat from the criminal.

Later in the existing statute, we find language that states that no person is required to retreat from his dwelling or place of work. Reading these two sections together, we are certainly left with the requirement that the homeowner retreat but not necessarily retreat to the outside of his own home.

House Bill 1319 was introduced by Representatives Porter, Carlisle, Klemin, and S. Meyer and also sponsored by Senator Homberg and Potter. I went to Bismarck to testify in favor of the bill in its first hearing in the House Judiciary Committee. The house hearing included a great deal of negative testimony by some North Dakota States Attorneys as well as the Peace Officer Association. Some amendments were made to the bill after the house hearing.

The amended bill was passed from the House to the Senate.

In support of the amended bill, I again went down to Bismarck to testify in the Senate Committee hearing. That hearing included testimony from a number of parties including the National Rifle Association and again amendments were offered to the legislation to satisfy some of the concerns of the State Attorneys.

This Senate amended version of the bill was then sent back to the House Representatives, and the House has accepted the amended bill. The bill has now been signed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. We hope that the Governor's review and signature of House Bill 1319 will take place shortly and that the changes incorporated in House Bill 1319 will become North Dakota law by the time you read this.

The changes proposed in House Bill 1319 strongly reinforce the individual right to self defense in the State of North Dakota, and that is a good thing. Our North Dakota law has included language about self defense since the beginning of this state.

None of us wants to be confronted with the need to act with deadly force to defend ourselves or our family. However, the changes made by House Bill 1319 will protect a homeowner who uses deadly force in defense of himself or his family. Almost none of us live close to a law enforcement officer who could act in our defense. We must rely on our own ability to defend ourselves and our family from a criminal who might seek to do us harm.

In their testimony against this bill, the states attorneys testified that they feel passage of HB 1319 will somehow encourage our North Dakota citizens to become callus and use deadly force in circumstances where it is not warranted. I am personally angered by their attitude that our North Dakota citizens would deliberately disregard the value of someone's life simply because House Bill 1319 will allow us to use deadly force in self defense without first retreating from the criminal.

The North Dakota Fraternal Order of Police even offered a letter implying that the passage of House Bill 1319 would cause our citizens to shoot a suspect in the back as he is running away from a crime scene. Again, this attitude shows little respect for our state citizens who have generously shown great restraint when confronted by home invaders in the past.

In his recent newspaper column, Charley Reese made my point very clearly by listing what he and I feel is the first mistake made by those who favor more restrictive gun-control laws. His column included the following well stated comments about those who he calls the gun-control crowd:

"First and foremost, it fears and distrusts the people. What the gun-control crowd is saying to you is even though we've never met, I don't trust you to own a firearm. I'd like to prevent it, but if I can't do that, I want to make it as difficult and as expensive as possible.

Thomas Jefferson observed that no matter what their age or what they called themselves, people always fall into one of two groups. One fears and distrusts the people; the other loves and cherishes the people."

I am personally proud to have been involved in the effort to pass the provisions of House Bill 1319 into North Dakota law. I believe the people of North Dakota are trustworthy. The bill's passage through the legislature certainly required a lot of effort on the part of its sponsors and I hope that you will all take time to thank your senators and representatives who supported the passage of this bill.

Rick Jorgenson

Editorially Speaking

Again thanks to Sam for his excellent contributions to this newsletter. This winter edition is late (it is spring) in spite of my best intentions, but I will keep doing my best to catch up and am working on our next issue right now. If you have an article you would like to share with our membership, please email it to me ASAP. I appreciate all of your help and input to make this newsletter informative and worthwhile.

I am in the mood to speak to the choir and anyone else who wants to listen about self defense and the right to carry a concealed weapon in North Dakota.

Those of us who have secured a concealed carry permit are as close to certified good guys as we can get without joining the law enforcement ranks. Many of us are Hunter Education instructors as well and have gone through yet another background check to be identified as a good guy. It seems to me that we who are certified good guys should be encouraged to carry concealed 365 days a year in any location. The gun-control crowd says that only the police should have firearms, and that the police can protect us from those criminals who prey on those weakest members of our society. The police were on the Virginia Tech campus when the mass murder took place there recently. They did not prevent the murders of 32 people.

When we are face to face with a criminal, we are on our own. If the criminal is armed, and those of us around him are not armed, we are all weak and will suffer serious injury if we do not comply with his wishes. As we see from the murders at Virginia Tech, we who are unarmed may suffer simply because we are in front of a criminal bent on murder.

Many of us have the strong belief that the only thing that would have stopped the murders at Virginia Tech was another gun in the hands of a certified good guy such as one of the professors or a student with a valid concealed carry permit.

The police are not everywhere, and North Dakota is so sparsely populated that law enforcement personnel are likely to be a long distance from any criminal act.

Self defense is best accomplished by the defender with the ability to meet force with force. When the only option for self defense is prayer or retreat, the criminal will most likely succeed, and will also most likely be around to perpetrate another criminal act on another person or group on another day.

If there is one thing that we should have learned by now, it is that gun-control is the placement of bullets from the gun on the target at which the gun is aimed.

The appearance of the gun, its magazine capacity, and its rate of fire should not be the subject of state or federal legislation.

If you do not already have a concealed carry permit, I encourage you to secure one and join the ranks of certified good guys. If enough of us carry concealed, the criminals will go elsewhere to find their prey.

Citizens with carry permits are more law-abiding than the general public. Only 0.01% of nearly 1.2 million permits issued by Florida have been revoked because of firearms crimes by permit holders. Similarly low percentages of permits have been revoked in Texas, Virginia, and other Right To Carry states that keep such statistics. The Right to Carry Concealed is widely supported by law enforcement officials and groups.

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The 1911 Corner

In our last edition of "The 1911 Corner" we discussed the things to look for in the adjustment of the extractor to positively get the fired case out of the chamber. The next event that has to occur along with extraction is ejection, or in other words, getting this case out of the gun. Most all of you have probably experienced a fired case that wasn't ejected out of a gun and it gets in the way of the next round's journey into the chamber. This, of course, causes a malfunction which isn't pleasant and sort of messes up your day during a rapid fire string, especially if you have already used your alibi for that match.

So, how is this ejection to be done? Well, the extractor has done part of its job by extracting the case from the chamber, but its job is not done yet as we mentioned or alluded to in the last edition. It has to "hang on" to the case after the case is out of the chamber and hold it tight enough so that as the slide continues its rearward movement, the rear of the case runs into the ejector which then forces the case to pivot off of the extractor and out of the gun. The slide continues rearward until the slide's recoil spring tunnel reaches the recoil guide's flange which is sandwiched between the tunnel and the recoil surface of the frame. The slide then reverses direction and moves forward and the bottom of the slide's breech face strips the top most round out of the magazine. This round is then funneled into the chamber by the frame's feed ramp, the barrel's ramp and the very top of the chamber. The ejection of the fired case has to be complete prior to the slide reversing direction to chamber the new round. In addition, with many guns wearing scopes, this ejection has to be more horizontal rather than vertical so that the spent case does not hit the scope or the scope mount.

So, why is this so complicated? What are the possible causes of a 1911 to fail in ejection? In our last installment of this column, we outlined the first place to look, but another likely cause is extractor tension. In the above paragraph, we talked about the extractor hanging on to the case after it has been extracted from the chamber. Extractor tension plays an important roll here along with all the other aspects of adjustment that we talked about in the last edition. When extractor tension is insufficient, the ejection path of the spent case is higher and everything else being correct, can cause the case to hit the scope mount on the way out. This can damage some scope mounts.

The biggest other factor is an obstacle in the path of ejection. Those who have fired what we call rack grade military 1911s will know what I am talking about. The slide's ejection port is very high on this gun and the case has to go up and out. There is always a brass mark on this ejection port where the case has hit on its way out. If you inspect a case fired from guns with the high ejection port, the case mouth will be dented or bent where it has hit this ejection port. The ejector on these guns has a shorter nose and has a slanted back shape to the nose designed to direct the case upward and out. We can then imagine that as the case hits the inside of the port it could bounce back into the gun and cause a malfunction. The scope or a scope mount can also act as a similar obstruction, but primarily in a 1911 suffering with insufficient extractor tension as mentioned in the above paragraph.

To cure this obstruction the port needs to be opened and an extended ejector with a flat nose needs to be installed to get the spent round started out earlier and on a more horizontal path. Jack Weigand, who makes the dust cover saddle type scope mount, says we are to open the port to .375" from the bottom of the slide and then bevel the inside of this opening at a 45 degree angle. He then says, as we talked about in the last edition, to adjust the extractor tension from 22 to 28 ounces using his extractor tension measuring tool. His last recommendation is to use the longest nose ejector we can find. He also mentions that fooling around with the angle of the face of the ejector nose doesn't have a great effect on ejection. Since we are talking about the ejection port modification in this paragraph, "the Gold Cup flare" needs to be mentioned here. This is the flare or cutout on the back side of the ejection port, and I read once, that it is to allow the case to continue the pivotal motion as it gets to the outside of the port. Is it necessary? Absolutely not, as I know of some guns that have only malfunctioned once in 80,000 rounds without this flare. The more modern version of that is just to put a bevel or round the entire vertical area at the rear of the port, which if there is any functional aspect to this, will do just as well or better. My thought on this is that most people just like the looks of the Gold Cup flare.

Jack also mentions that the final piece of the puzzle is the recoil spring. If you have brass flying forward of the gun at a right angle to your port, your spring is too light. What is happening is that your slide velocity, notice I said slide velocity not bullet velocity, is too great thus actually punching the brass off the extractor and not allowing it to pivot as it should in proper extraction. Conversely, the opposite is true when you have brass dribbling over your shoulder or landing on your bare arm. Ouch! In this case your spring is too heavy thus dropping your slide velocity below acceptable levels. We can eliminate this problem by installing a 14 or 15 pound recoil spring for our target loads and by installing a 17 ½ or 18 pound recoil spring for our hardball loads.

I say the final piece of the puzzle is how you hold the 1911. We all know that it is meant to be held firmly with the elbow and the wrist locked. Yes, I know that is not the way Jeff Cooper held his 1911 and he is the 1911 expert. I cannot explain how he managed to shoot the 1911 with his bent elbow. That aside, a firm grip combined with a locked wrist and elbow is required for the 1911 to function well.

OK, so there we have perfect ejection. All that is necessary is to have a properly shaped and adjusted extractor combined with an extended ejector properly installed, an open ejection port, and the correct recoil spring and the correct grip. Why didn't I just say this in paragraph one and be done with this? I don't know, but hope the dialogue was a bit helpful and maybe explained why things happen as they do.

Here is wishing you only 10's & X's and if I can be of any help with your 1911, please call me at 258-2360 or e-mail at snmmay@bis.midco.net.

States with Right To Carry laws have lower violent crime rates. On average, 22% lower total violent crime, 30% lower murder, 46% lower robbery, and 12% lower aggravated assault, compared to the rest of the country. The seven states with the lowest violent crime rates are RTC states. (Data: FBI)

Spring Highpower Clinic – May 4, 2007 and Spring “Warm-up” Matches

(Also known as the 5 buckle overshoe matches)

Once again, the Bismarck/Mandan Rifle & Pistol Association hosted a highpower clinic at the ND Game and Fish Headquarters in Bismarck on Friday, May 4th. All facets of highpower competition were covered at the clinic including rifle, equipment, rules of the game, safety, getting your rifle zeroed, firing positions, equipment suppliers, etc. The goal of the clinic is to introduce new shooters to the sport to help get them through their first match. They also discussed the new F-Class competition. North Dakota Shooting Sports Association (NDSSA) leased firearms were inspected, issued and/or re-issued at the clinic. These firearms are available for lease to individuals interested in highpower competition. If interested in leasing a firearm, contact Dennis Coulter (Grand Forks) at 701-746-6959. You **MUST** be a member of NDSSA in order to lease a State Association rifle. The clinic was followed by a long range match on Saturday, May 5, and an across-the-course match on Sunday, May 6.

We look forward to have a match report for our next issue.

Correction

Ken Heier contacted us about our listing of the 2006 BPCR Silhouette State Champion in the last issue. Ken advised that the **2006 State Champion was Mark Heochst** from Bismarck with a 47/80 (not Dave Logosz).

The Top 3 finishers were:

State Champion - Mark Hoechst Bismarck 47/80
2nd Place - Steve Brooks Waterville, Mt - 46/80 (not eligible for state award, of course)
3rd Place - Dave Logosz - Dickinson 41/80

I sure wish I had been able to compete in the match. I look forward to seeing everyone at the approved BPCR Silhouette match in Bismarck on May 19, 2007 and at the BPCR Silhouette State Championship also in Bismarck on September 22 & 23.

Today, 48 states have laws permitting concealed carry, in some circumstances.

Forty-states, accounting for two-thirds of the U.S. population, have Right To Carry laws. Thirty-six have “shall issue” permit laws (including Alaska, which also allows carrying without a permit), three have fairly administered “discretionary issue” permit laws, and Vermont (and Alaska) allow carrying without a permit. (Eight states have restrictive discretionary issue laws.) Most RTC states have adopted their laws in the last decade.

Crime declines in states with RTC Laws.

Since adopting RTC in 1987, Florida’s total violent crime and murder rates have dropped 32% and 58%, respectively. Texas’ violent crime and murder rates have dropped 20% and 31%, respectively, since its 1996 RTC law. (Data: FBI)

Concealed Carry Reciprocity with Other States

North Dakota has reciprocity with the following states, which means that a North Dakota concealed weapon permit is valid while in these states, and permits from the following states are recognized as valid in North Dakota. Individuals must be familiar with and obey the laws of the state in which they are traveling.

“While North Dakota state law allows for concealed weapon permit reciprocity with other states, it is the ultimate responsibility of the permit holder to contact the state in which they would like to carry a concealed weapon, to insure carrying the weapon concealed in that other state is, in fact, lawful.”

- Alabama
- [Alaska](#) (must be age 21 or older, will not recognize permits held by those ages 18 - 20)
- [Arizona](#) (must be age 21 or older, cannot have ever been convicted of a felony, or is under indictment for a felony)
- [Colorado](#) (must be 21 or older, handguns only)
- [Delaware](#) (please review Delaware’s website for information on those prohibited)
- [Florida](#) (must be age 21 or older and North Dakota residents only)
- Idaho
- [Indiana](#)
- Kentucky
- [Louisiana](#)
- Michigan (North Dakota residents only)
- [Missouri](#)
- [Montana](#)
- New Hampshire (North Dakota residents only)
- [New Mexico](#)
- [North Carolina](#)
- [Oklahoma](#)
- [South Dakota](#)
- [Tennessee](#) (handguns only - no other firearms or weapons authorized)
- [Texas](#) (handguns only - must be age 21 or older)
- [Utah](#)
- Vermont (recognizes the North Dakota permit, however, the State of Vermont does not issue concealed carry permits)

The Civilian Marksmanship Program is requiring that all state associations return the M-14’s that were loaned to the associations for competitive purposes. The CMP says that very few persons are using M-14’s in High Power Competition. The CMP has concluded that the M-14’s are not needed and that AR 15’s should be substituted. The CMP loan deposit can be used to purchase an AR 15 at a discount, but our association will end up with about 1 ½ AR 15s in place of those 14 M-14’s that have been returned. Clearly, this is another lesson about life. We must all make good use of our opportunities, or we are likely to lose them.

Summer Schedule of Opportunities

Date	Event	Location	Contact	Phone
May 19	Blackpowder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette	Bismarck	Ken Heier	701-255-0675
May 20	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
May 20	IHMSA	Williston	Ray Utter	701-572-6642
Jun 2, 3	ND Outdoor Smallbore Prn. State Champs	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Jun 2	Cowboy Lever Action Sil., IHMSA Pistol	Bismarck	Tim Frank	701-663-3856
Jun 3	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Jun 9, 10	Palma (Sat), Highpower X-Course (Sun)	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
June 10	IHMSA	Williston	Ray Utter	701-572-6642
Jun 16	Silhouette Rifle Match	Bismarck	Tim Frank	701-663-3856
Jun 17	Pistol Regional w/Leg	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
Jun 23, 24	Highpower Regional w/Leg, Team	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Jun 30	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Jul 7, 8	Palma (Sat), Long Range State Champ (Sun)	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
July 8	IHMSA	Williston	Ray Utter	701-572-6642
Jul 14, 15	Highpower, X-course and Garand Match	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Jul 21, 22	ND Highpower State Champ w/Leg, Team	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Jul 29	ND Outdoor Pistol State Championship	Valley City	Bill Brackin	701-282-7158
Aug 4	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Aug 11	State 4H Shooting Championship	Bismarck	Al Ulmer	701-883-5301
Aug 11 & 12	IHMSA State Championship	Williston	Ray Utter	701-572-6642
Aug 18, 19	ND Silhouette State Champs	Bismarck	Tim Frank	701-663-3856
Aug 25	BPCR – Target State Champ	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Sep 8	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Sep 15, 16	Highpower Long Range Regional	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Sep 22, 23	BPCR - Silhouette State Champ	Bismarck	Ken Heier	701-255-0675
Sep 29, 30	Bruce Alexander Memorial Highpower Match	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Oct 6, 7	Bismarck 8th Annual Sighting In Days	Bismarck	Sam May	701-258-2360
Oct 7	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454

-Application-

North Dakota Shooting Sports Association

P O Box 228, BISMARCK ND 58502-0228

Also join via the web: <http://www.ndssa.org>

Yes, to protect my right to keep and bear arms; I would like to join the NDSSA and support the legislative efforts of the NDSSA. My dues for a membership as noted are enclosed.

Please return this form. Print name and address as you wish it to appear in our records.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Interests

Legislation Jr. Program
 Hunting Conservation
 Collecting
 Bullseye Pistol
 Air Rifle Hi-Power Rifle
 Air Pistol Smallbore
 Police PPC Other
 Rifle Silhouette
 Pistol Silhouette
 Hunter Safety

Membership Dues Schedule-(Effective July 1, 2003)

Life.....\$200.00 One Year\$15.00 Clubs One Yr.....\$15.00
 5 Year.....\$60.00 Junior.....\$5.00 Club 5 Yr..... \$60.00

Make check payable to: North Dakota Shooting Sports Association and mail to above address. (July 2006)

For Sale

Our Association has some used M-14 parts for sale on a first come first served basis:

M-14 Magazines --- \$35.00 M-14 Barrels --- \$80.00

Please contact High Power Rifle Chairman Denny Coulter to arrange purchase.

Hall of Fame Nominations should be presented to our Association's Board in writing with the basic credentials (shooting accomplishments and service to the shooting sports) of the nominee included for the Board's consideration no later than August 31st. Nominations should be made by affiliated clubs or by individual members of our Association.

Parting Thought

Earlier in this newsletter, I pointed out that those of us who have secured a concealed carry permit are thereby certified "good guys". The vast majority of gun owners are law abiding citizens and good guys without the concealed carry permit to document their status. You might think that the good guys would receive favorable or at least fair treatment by the laws of our nation, states and cities. Unfortunately, that is not really the case.

I have read that there are over 20,000 gun laws in the United States that govern our activities involving storage, use and transportation of firearms. None of us are likely to be aware of each and every gun law. A large percentage of these gun laws do not just apply when we intend any criminal act with the firearm. Should we mistakenly violate one of these gun laws, we will likely be prosecuted to the full extent of the law regardless of our intent. We are unlikely to be given any slack because we are "good guys" who just did not know that we were violating a gun law that we didn't know even existed.

On page 4, we have a current list of those states with which North Dakota enjoys reciprocity for the Concealed Carry of a firearm for self defense. You will also note on page 4 that "it is the ultimate responsibility of the permit holder to contact the state in which they would like to carry a concealed weapon, to insure carrying the weapon concealed in that other state is, in fact, lawful." Be very careful when you decide to enter a college campus or any other school. Many states and cities have enacted laws that prevent firearms or any weapon on school property. In fact, some city and state laws make it a felony violation of law to simply have a firearm in the passenger area of your automobile while driving through their city or state.

**North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, Inc.
PO BOX 228
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