



MALEFI

Minnesota Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors

www.creatingorder.com

July, 2002

From The Editor

I have lots of small points of information and reminders, so lets hop to it. First of all, some of you, or if you know another Malefi member, that didn't get the last newsletter, it is because of a limited time of forwarding by the Postal Service. I update addresses, of those that I can, that the Post Office returns to me. However, members have either moved to anther residence or department, and neglected to give Malefi their new address. If you move, please get someone in Malefi, your new address, and they will get it to the Editor or Secretary. Another option is to periodically check our website, at: www.creatingorder.com

Thank you.

Questions about Malefi or conference? Email editor at: onemorecast@wcta.net

If you have not paid your dues, please get them into the secretary, ASAP. The dues form, for current and new members, is on our website, along with the address, and where to send them.

Hotel reservations for the conference will be taken until 08/10/02. (\$65.00 per night) Contact Country Suites, 155 Coon Rapids Blvd., Coon Rapids, Mn, 55433, Tel. 763-780-3797. The range we will be using, is the Minnetonka

Game and Fish Club, in St. Francis, and will be about 20-30 minutes from the hotel. Their web site is: www.mgfc.org

We should have maps at the Conference, to get you from the hotel, to the gun range. If you want to find directions on your own, use mapquest.com, and type in the hotel address listed above, with St. Francis, Mn., as a destination.

Don't forget to bring all web gear, handgun, ammo, ear/eye protection, shotgun, and duty rifle, (carbine, SMG, etc.), for **John Farnam's patrol rifle class.**

Tom Aveni, one of our upcoming conference presenters, has an article in the June, 2002 Law and Order Magazine, entitled, "The Persistence of Questionable Shootings" Check it out!

Editor

Taser Neutralizes Situation

About a month ago, my partner and I got a call about midnight, from the manager of an apartment. She stated that there was a male party staying there, that was not on a lease, and she wanted him removed, as he was banging on the apartment wall, knocking pictures,

etc., off the wall of the next apartment. We went to the apartment complex and the renter wouldn't let us in. The manager opened the door and we went in, finding the male hiding in the entry closet behind the door. We advised him to leave, and not come back, or he would be arrested for trespassing. He hesitated, but we watched him leave, walking along the parking lot, off the property. We left. About five minutes later, a renter called, (who lived next door), stating that male party waited for us to leave, and then returned to the apartment. Concerned about such a quick return to the apartment, I strapped on the taser,

We again approached the apartment door where the suspect had been before, knocking repeatedly. We thought he was in the apartment, but weren't positive, or we would go in. We weren't sure until the male party said, "Get a warrant". We then were let into the apartment by the manager, this time finding the male suspect hiding in a closet in the rear bedroom. He was arrested, searched, and handcuffed, transported by a Deputy. We then went to arrest the female Native American, for obstructing legal process. This is where the situation took an immediate turn.

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Special points of interest:

- Taser gets job done
- Conference is looking good!
- Conference Information
- Conference Application
- Proposed Conference Itinerary
- Tidbits on presenters/instructors at Conference
- Jim Hovda speaks out
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CONFERENCE HOTEL AND GUN RANGE INFO.!

The **hotel** for the conference will be at the Country Suites, 155 Coon Rapids Blvd., Coon Rapids, Mn. 55433. Rooms will be held until 08/10/02. The cost is \$65.00 per night. The hotel telephone number is: 763-780-3797.

The **RANGE** is the Minnetonka Game and Fish Club, located in St. Francis, about 20-30 minutes from the hotel. The range also has a web site, www.mgfc.org

"The taser saved us from a plain old-fashioned fight, where either one of us, or the suspect could have gotten hurt" Brian Goldammer.....

The editor could use some "new material", including stories, of your daily happenings.

The material may be a story of a "close call" you may have had, a learning experience, or something comical that happened to you or a joke you may have played on a fellow Officer.

Please send this material to the editor, Brian Goldammer, at:

Onemorecast@wcta.net
THANKS!!

TASER NEUTRALIZES SITUATION (Cont. from page 1)

The female suspect continued to ignore our commands. She continued to talk on the telephone. I unplugged the telephone from the wall. (My partner has been in Law Enforcement for 3 years, is very fit, and is our department DT instructor)

Jeanette was standing in front of her couch, and we had crowded in around her, continually telling her she was under arrest. Now, she and her male friend had been out to the bar, consuming alcohol, so she was somewhat intoxicated. Suddenly, she dropped, (sat), on the couch, and immediately began striking my partner in the chest, with frontal thrust kicks, and struck him in the side of the head with either her fist or the telephone, we aren't sure. (but he had a big knot behind his left ear). She stood up again, swinging at my partner, Scott. He backed up and maced the individual. Well, as fate would have it, there was an oscillating fan on a stand, directly behind all of us, which blew the airborne mace, into my face, and my partners face. I then drew out my taser, deploying the taser, using a contact strike, on the left shoulder of the female suspect, as she again went toward my partner. Her body went down, but her feet were as if they were glued to the carpet. She **immediately** became co-

operative. She landed on her stomach and was immediately handcuffed, and placed in one of our squads by the same deputy that had transported the first male suspect. And that was a good thing, as we spent a few minutes in the hallway, coughing and spitting, trying to get our breath back. So, as one can see, a situation can change suddenly. It doesn't always mean to a deadly force issue, but one officer would have had a fight on their hands. The female suspect later told the jailer that the taser, "didn't feel good". The female suspect was totally cooperative in jail, and not known to be violent, and "didn't know what came over her", she quoted. The taser saved us from a plain old-fashioned fight, where either one of us, or the suspect, could have gotten hurt.

Brian Goldammer-editor

REBUTTAL BY MALEFI MEMBER (AN OPPOSING VIEW)

To the readers of the MALEFI newsletter, I must apologize for my long delay in responding to Scott Mattison's letter to the editor **REPLY TO LTC GROSSMAN**. In that letter, (March 2001), Scott takes exception to LTC Grossman referring to police officers as "Warriors".

Scott Mattison would have MAEFI readers believe that soldiers conduct battles from afar. Never directly confronting their foes. Operating under a system of impersonal and robot leaders and a

non-caring system. Nothing could be further from the truth. It certainly was not the army I served in for nearly twenty years. I have to take exception to the majority of thoughts expressed by Officer Mattison. I'm unaware if he (Mattison), has had the opportunity to listen to the audio tapes, *The Bullet Proof Mind*, by LTC Dave Grossman. If he has not, he should. LTC Grossman hits the nail right on the head in his appraisal of cops needing a "warrior" mentality during confrontations involving the potential use of deadly force. Mental preparation and "attitude" are key factors in becoming a "winner" or "loser" in any battle with the bad guys, regardless of the force used. LTC Grossman, in my humble opinion, never equated cops as warriors except when the "warrior" mentality was need to survive. Not only survive the incident, but survive post incident matters as required. Without making this a several page litany, I would challenge some of Mattison's points he makes in his letter to the editor.

"Our force is not delivered from 40,000 feet, nor from 4 miles...most frequently, it is delivered from four feet to contact". LTC Grossman and I will tell you that many soldiers "warriors" engage our combatants at distances well less than 200 feet. Close enough to look your enemy in the eye when you pull a trigger, kill him with a bayonet, or with your hands. Untold numbers of soldiers have lost their lives because they refused to fire on their enemy because they were not mentally prepared for their responsibilities and duty.

We do not have the luxury of being indemnified nor justified by rules of engagement or by ops orders" Really!!!! If MN Statues governing the use of deadly force is not a rule of engagement, I don't know what is. (cont. on page 3)



Rebuttal (cont.)

Ops orders, (Operations orders), are a S.O.P., or were, of the Minneapolis Police Departments Emergency Response Unit, during all operation 100's. And Scott, whether you know it or not, you usually self answer all the questions raised in a five-part operations order during the course of any police call. If you can't, you should not be there. And, Scott, for the record, ops orders are frequently written **minutes** before many operations.

Lastly, Scott talks about his problem with the "warrior" mentality is the killing part of deadly force. At least that is what I got out of a long dissertation tying warriors, or the warrior mentality into the police business. I interpret Mattison's thoughts as once you pull a trigger,

or use deadly force, your opponent will die. Not so. Most cases of deadly force use, our opponents usually survive. No Scott, most cops do not have prior personal contact or know their opponent. These dirtbags come from all corners of our geographic area. And, deadly force may be used to prevent the commission of certain felonies, and to prevent the escape of certain felons. In the quoted case Minnesota Statute says nothing about fearing for you life or that of another. (MS 609.066) (State vs. Pendleton N.W. 2nd 265 Minn 1977)

In closing, Mattison says, "do we have anything in common with the warrior? Absolutely. We need to learn from the warrior,

evaluate the lessons to be learned, and apply "that which makes sense for our roles. I agree. Chill out Scott. That is what Lt. Colonel Dave Grossman was talking about. I think Scott Mattison should consider teaching social sciences at U.S.C., Berkley, instead of cop work. The last paragraph in Mattison's letter says more in concert with LTC Grossman than the rest of his article does in nitpicking it. Have a safe shift, all.

Sincerely,

James A. Hovda

Minneapolis Police Officer (Retired)

1SG United States Army (Retired)

RANGE BAG-Measuring Trigger Pull

By Rollin Goldsberry

One simple task that may be overlooked by many firearms instructors during their inspection of department firearms, is the measurement of the firearm's trigger pull. It may seem a small thing, but as we all know, small things can get to be big things-*especially following an officer-involved shooting*. This is the time when questions might require fast and positive answers. You can guess what the questions will be. Getting the answer, of course, will require a little time and the proper equipment. It may also require a change in the procedure for performing firearms inspections within your agency. For starters, review your firearms inspection procedure. Determine how measuring each firearm used by department personnel can be performed as part of your routine inspection of individual officer's and department-owned firearms. The next step is to identify what the manufacturers' specifications are for each of the types and models of firearms used by department personnel. Some of this information may be contained in the firearm's user manual. If not, check the manufacturer's web site or send a FAX or e-mail message to them requesting this information. Glock Inc., puts the trigger pull weight information on the ID sticker located on the end of their plastic boxes. If your agency issues only one make and model of handgun, your job will be greatly simplified. If officers provide their own duty firearms, (and they are able to select from a variety of manufacturers and models), your work will be expanded slightly. Regardless, all firearms should be checked in order to determine how many pounds of force are required to fire the gun and make the trigger "break". Next, you will need the proper tools. For specialty firearm tools and equipment, I look to see what the Brownells Inc. catalog, {515-623-5401, BrownellUSA@aol.com} has to offer. For measuring the number of pounds of force required to move a firearms trigger, they have several options. Purchase considerations may include how precisely you want to measure these triggers and what types of firearms you will be measuring and how much you want to spend for a device to measure this? The most economical and compact trigger-pull gauges look similar to the standard spring-type weight scales.

There is a ring on one end of the gauge and a rod with a bent hook on the other end. The bent hook on the end of the rod is what sets onto the trigger. There will also be a scale with a moving indicator/pointer that will show what the number of pounds and ounces are when the trigger breaks. Some spring scales have a sliding piece that remains at the final pull weight. This type of gauge may be more difficult to handle when used on long guns, (shotgun, H&K, MP5, M16, etc.)

The earliest in technology is the trigger weight set. These are nothing more than a stack of metal discs of known weight, (usually 2 lb, 1 lb, 1/2 lb, 1/4 lb, etc.) The nice thing about this style of measurement device is that it is durable: a rod and some metal discs. Difficult to damage, but weights could be misplaced. Some measuring instruments or gauges come with set upper limits: they will only measure up to six pounds or twelve pounds. This might be a problem if your needs run to higher trigger weights. Electronic trigger pull gauges can provide reading to 1/10th of an ounce and display in either English or metric scale format. Prices for the spring-type gauges range from \$20-\$80. Prices for the trigger weight-type gauges range from about \$80-\$130. A Lyman electronic trigger pull gauge costs about \$59.95 (Lyman Marketing-800-632-2020, ext. 328). You may want to note the following information during your inspection: [1] firearms owner, (Officer/department owned), [2] make & model, [3] serial number, [4] recorded weight @ double action pull, [5] recorded weight @ single-action pull, [6] name of inspector, [7] date of inspection. These inspections may require measuring several trigger pulls and then recording only the average of the number of pulls taken. For a more accurate reading, the "finger" portion of the measuring device that makes contact with the firearm's trigger, should set on the same part of the trigger where the shooter's finger would also make contact. A fixture that will hold a firearm steady and place the trigger in the appropriate position for measurement is recommended if measuring a variety of firearms. A wood worker's vise with padded jaws could be set up to facilitate this task. Hand-holding each firearm may be all that is required for most persons. What ever works best for you. You can always test a firearms trigger pull the old fashioned way-dry firing the firearm and relying on the sensitivity of your "experienced finger" to tell you if the firearm feels within the manufacturer's specifications. Or, you can actually measure it and know precisely what the trigger weight is. Easy Choice.

July, 2002

**PROPOSED CONFERENCE
ITINERARY
(May Be Subject To Change)
(POST credits applied for course)**

For questions, problems, etc., contact:
The Editor,
Brian Goldammer

Email: onemorecast@wcta.net



We're on the
Web! [www.
creatingorder.
com](http://www.creatingorder.com)

Monday, Sept. 9th. 1900 hrs., Board Meeting at Conference Hotel

Tuesday, Sept. 10th Conference Hotel

0730-0800 Conference Registration for Those not pre-registered

0800-1200 Questionable Police Shootings: Why They Persist

Tom Aveni, Police Policy Studies Council

1300-1500 Officer Involved Shooting-Edina Bank Robbery,

Scott Kuyper, Edina PD

Armored Fire Indoor Range

1500-1700 Live Fire Segment (CAPS Machine) of Police Shootings

Dave Young, Inventor of CAPS MACHINE

Wednesday-Sept. 11th Minnetonka Game and Fish Outdoor Range

0800-1200 Patrol Rifle* John Farnam, Defense Training International

1300-1700 Teaching Opposite Sex Shooters*-Vicki Farnam-Defense Training International

1800-2100 Conference Banquet (at Hotel)

Thursday-Sept. 12th. Minnetonka Game and Fish Outdoor Range

0800-1200 Close Quarter Shooting Skill Development - Scott Mattison, Swift Co. S.O.

1300-1700 Development of High Speed Pistol Skills, Marty LeRette, Duluth PD

1700-1730 Final Remarks

MALEFI Fall Conference-2002

When: Sept. 10-12, 2002

Where : Country Suites, 155 Coon Rapids Blvd., Coon Rapids, Mn.

(Rooms held until 08/10/02)

Range: Minnetonka Game and Fish Club, St. Francis, Mn.

Conference Fee: \$135.00

Name _____ telephone number (H) _____ (W) _____

Home address _____

Your Affiliate organization/dept. _____

Dept. address _____

Method of payment, (check one) _____ check _____ dept. purchase order

Return this form with payment to: Mark Erickson
c/o Olmsted County S.O.
101 4th. St. SE
Rochester, Mn. 55904

Bring duty belt/weapon, web gear, shotgun, rifle, ammo for each, and ear and eye protection!!