



The Concealed Handgun

Quarter 3 2012

Volume 18 Number 3

Official Quarterly Publication of the Texas Concealed Handgun Association
P.O. Box 161713, Austin, Texas 78716 • www.txchia.org

Active Shooter/Killer Course for Civilians

By Chris Bird

With recent mass shootings at the movie theater in Aurora, Colo., and at the Sikh Temple in the Milwaukee, Wis., area, an article on how to cope with active shooters is appropriate. I attended this course last year and wrote about it for *Concealed Carry Magazine*. It is republished with permission.

As a concealed handgun license instructor, I have always advised students not to become involved in third-party disputes. It is a good general rule. You are armed primarily to protect yourself, your family and perhaps close friends. You are not a police officer.

Recently however, I have come to believe there is at least one exception to the rule. If you are in responding distance of what police call an active shooter and you are armed, you have a choice. Do you head to the sound of the gunfire and try to save some lives or do you run in the other direction like everyone else?

At Virginia Tech the police did everything right but it still gave the shooter 10 minutes in which he killed 30 students and faculty in Norris Hall. In 2007, when I was updating my *Concealed Handgun Manual* for a fifth edition, I spoke to Sheriff Wayne Rausch of Latah County, Idaho, about Virginia Tech. Latah County includes a 10,000-student campus of the University of Idaho. In most cases Rausch felt

that armed citizens should only use their guns to defend themselves and their families, but added, "An active-shooter situation is certainly an example of an exception where I would like to see the armed citizen get involved."

When I was updating my book for a sixth edition, I was put in touch with John Benner of Tactical Defense Institute, a shooting school in the wooded hills of southern Ohio. Benner teaches a three-day course for civilians on how to deal with active shooters. He



Female student has shot one "terrorist" and is about to shoot the other in the simulated Wal-Mart parking lot.

calls it an Active Shooter/Killer course. "We are all active shooters but we are not active killers," he said.

The active killers he was referring to are the people who take guns usually into "gun-free zones" and murder as many people as they can before they are stopped. They are the killers of Virginia Tech and

Columbine, of Luby's cafeteria and Fort Hood.

The students were a varied group including doctors, medics, fire fighters and law enforcement officers as well as interested civilians. Of the 23 students, five of them were women.

Benner is an avuncular man in his sixties who usually has a large cigar clamped between his teeth like a trademark. He is a Vietnam veteran and for 20 years was the head of the Hamilton County, Ohio, multi-jurisdictional SWAT team. He was assisted on the ranges and in the shoot houses by up to a dozen

Cont. on page 3

THE CONCEALED HANDGUN

The Concealed Handgun is published quarterly for the benefit of members to provide news and educational information of mutual interest. The association is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or photographs. Comments or opinions expressed in by-lined text should not be considered official views of the association, its officers, or directors. Members are invited to submit material for publication to the following mailing address:

Chris Bird, P.O. Box 29427, San Antonio, TX 78229

Newsletter available on-line in color @ www.txchia.org

The Texas Concealed Handgun Association is a membership organization. Its objectives and purposes are: to promote the continuation and improvement of the Texas Concealed Handgun (CHL) Law; represent the standards and concerns of members to the general public, news media, Department of Public Safety and legislators; to promote responsible firearms safety and ownership; to provide current information to members about the laws, lesson plans and topics related to the Concealed Handgun License program; to promote high standards of instruction and training; and to support the right of responsible, law abiding citizens to own, keep and lawfully carry firearms for personal protection.

Association Officers

President: Rick Mackey

Executive Vice-President: George Pena

1st Vice-President: Dean McCormick

2nd Vice-President: Larry Feille

Membership Secretary: Bill Titus

Recording Secretary: Bobby Clakley

Treasurer: Ron Ryle

Board of Directors:

Larry Arnold, Kerrville

Chris Bird, San Antonio

Rick Mackey, Dallas

Larry Feille, Dallas

Ron Ryle, Dallas

George Pena, Uvalde

Bill Titus, Ropesville

Erwin Ballata, Austin

Austin Davis, Houston

Temporary Newsletter Editor: Chris Bird

Contributors: Larry Arnold

Austin Davis

Michael Arnold

Texas Concealed Handgun Association

P.O. Box 161713 Austin, TX 78716

866-516-5117

Business Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

www.txchia.org

assistant instructors most of whom were active or retired law enforcement.

On our first morning in the classroom, Benner said the police response to active shooters has changed over the years. "We are slow learners," he added.

SWAT teams and police marksmen are useful in hostage situations but they are not the solution to active killers where seconds count. This was demonstrated at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, in 1999, Benner said. The first police officers on the scene set up a perimeter to contain the incident and waited for SWAT. It was 45 minutes later that the SWAT officers entered the building and by that time the two student killers had committed suicide after murdering 12 other students and a teacher, and wounding 24 others.

At Virginia Tech, the shooter chained and padlocked all the entrances to Norris Hall which slowed down the police response. Even if the first officer on the scene goes in and confronts the shooter, there will probably be a response time of several minutes. Therefore the best solution to an active shooter is to train civilians, Benner said.

Referring to civilians, he said: "Seventy-five percent of the time the problem is solved by you guys."

Benner gave us some statistics about active shooter/killers in the United States: 98 percent act alone; 75 percent will have more than one gun; and 90 percent will commit suicide at the scene of their killings.

If you decide to become involved, other people may be depending on you to save their lives. "To them you are the most important person in the world," Benner said.

As you head for the sound of gunfire, you are likely to encounter victims who may be wounded and begging for help. You must pass them by because your primary mission is to put the shooter out of action. Some victims may try to grab you or cling to you. You have to fend them off.

After lunch we did some accuracy training on figure targets at distances from five to 30 yards. Then we faced small head-and-shoulders shaped steel targets which we shot while moving forwards, sideways and backwards. We practiced rounding corners and

shooting from cover.

A group of us went with David Bowie, a police officer and owner of Bowie Tactical Concepts, to one of the live-fire houses where we practiced scenarios with empty guns. One of us would play the part of the active killer while others played victims, cowering or hiding from the shooter. Each of us got a chance to play the good guy or gal.

The next morning, Ed Lovette gave us a presentation on developing our alertness. Lovette has been a firearms instructor for the New Mexico State Police, a CIA officer and a columnist for *Combat Handguns* magazine. He taught us how to detect both criminal and terrorist surveillance.

Lovette described the attack in 2008 in Mumbai when 10 members of a Pakistan-based terrorist group made the attack on India's financial center, killing 166 people and wounding 308.

Greg Ellifritz, a burly police training officer from Columbus, Ohio, gave us a lecture on bombs, recognizing and trying to cope with them. He said bombs are the trend with terrorists.

"It's the cool thing for active shooters to do now," he said. They want bigger and better body counts and high explosives are how they get them, he added.

Homicide bombers and other active shooters tend to have emotionless eyes and walk robotically as though they are in a trance. The only way to take out a suicide bomber is with head shots as a body hit may set off the bomb, Ellifritz said.

In the afternoon we practiced making head shots on the figure target. This was followed by "shooting down an active shooter" aiming for the upper chest. We advanced from 10 yards to three firing as fast as we could make good hits.



Targets on a live-fire range. I shot the guy on the right holding the woman around the neck. He did not appear to be armed.

We trooped along to the live-fire houses where we had to identify and shoot down the active shooter. When it was my turn to take on “the shooter,” I arrived in the doorway of the last room on the right and could see several “people” facing me. The nearest guy was pointing an empty beer bottle at me. It could have been mistaken for a gun. At first glance none appeared armed but behind the white guy with the beer bottle was a black guy wearing bib overalls whose right hand was not visible. As I moved to the right I saw the gun in his right hand and I shot him in the chest three times.

I saw a guy holding a woman in front of him



Author puts pressure bandage on Ernie Husted.

possibly as a hostage. I shot him in the head three times. This was a mistake but I could see by the patches on the guy’s face that I hadn’t been the only one to shoot him. There was no evidence that he was armed.

After going through several other scenarios in the first live shoot house, we moved on to the second shoot house where more scenarios awaited us.

After dinner, we returned to the classroom where Greg Ellifritz demonstrated another of his skills – Tactical Combat Casualty Care. This may be useful during or after a shootout. You may get hit even if you win an armed encounter so you need to know how to treat yourself or others. “You may have to take care of yourself for a little while until the medics get there.”

Ellifritz said most battlefield deaths were the result of blood loss so most of the session dealt with stopping bleeding. We practiced putting on pressure bandages and tourniquets.

We started our third day on the range. Benner explained that if we are heading for the sound of shooting we may well be heading upstream in a river of panicked victims trying to get away from the shooter. He recommended keeping our guns holstered

when heading for the sound of gunfire in case we are mistaken for the shooter and so no one can snatch our guns. When drawn, guns should be held close to the body so they are easy to control. We practiced pushing our way through half a dozen chest-high sandbags representing victims then we advanced on a target, shooting rapidly as we closed.

We moved on to scenarios using Airsoft pistols that shoot plastic BBs. They sting when they hit you. We started at the two-story force-on-force house. Wearing a black face mask and armed with an Airsoft pistol that looked like a Glock, I stood outside the house. Instructor Chris Wallace told me that I had just dropped off my kid at the daycare center. At my age, that was a bit of a stretch. I had just stepped out of the building when I heard shooting – Go!

I pushed my way into the “daycare center.” I was in a large room with a counter on the far side separating it from another room. I could see the “killer” on the far side of the second room beyond the counter. He was shooting his Airsoft pistol at others in our group whom I assumed were representing children or daycare staff. I shot him in the back several times.

Other scenarios included an attack on a doctor’s office and two “terrorists” coming from different directions yelling: “Allahu Akbar” or God is great.

At a clearing in the trees on the other side of the property we practiced outdoor scenarios. Two shot-up old cars and a van were parked in the clearing which represented a Wal-Mart parking lot. In the first scenario, I faced one shooter while the next student had two shooters to contend with. Often terrorists will work in pairs with the backup one attracting no attention unless the first one meets resistance.

Another scenario involved two terrorists who took AKs out the back of one of the cars and headed towards the “Wal-Mart store.” Two students shot the men even though they had not shot or even threatened anyone.

One of the things that impressed me about TDI was the number of students who have returned again and again for training. Only a handful of us had not been to TDI before and some students had been back a dozen times or more.

Chris Bird is the author of The Concealed Handgun Manual now in its sixth edition. He is also author of Thank God I Had a Gun: True Accounts of Self-Defense.

TCHA Annual Conference 2013

March 1 to 3

TCHA is introducing a new and exciting element to the sixteenth Annual Conference. We will offer continuing education to instructors and non- instructors alike. This is the start of a program designed to improve the knowledge and skills of CHL holders. The goal of this program is to set a standard of excellence that may become the normal requirement within the CHL community. Outlined below is the conference theme, information regarding the classes offered, and pricing.

HOW TO SURVIVE A SHOOTING

Advanced Training for the CHL Holder

Four ninety-minute courses will be offered:

1. **ABC Self Defense - Erwin Ballarta**
2. **Emergency Gun Shot Trauma Treatment - Rudy Salazar**
3. **The Law & the CHL Holder - Dan Griffin**
4. **Low Light Self Defense - Austin Davis**

Each student who completes a course will receive a “suitable for framing” Certificate of Completion. Each student who completes ALL 4 COURSES at the 2013 Convention will receive a “suitable for framing” INTERMEDIATE CHL CERTIFICATION from the TCHA. The certificate will be awarded at the convention’s Saturday Night Dinner.

Friday, March 1

2:00 to 3:30 pm., Rudy Salazar will teach Emergency Gun Shot Trauma.

4:00 to 5:30 pm., Erwin Ballarta will teach ABC Self Defense.

Saturday March 2

1:00 to 2:30 pm., Dan Griffin will teach The Law & the CHL Holder.

3:30 to 5:00 pm., Austin Davis will teach Low Light Self Defense.

All classes will be taught in the main room.

Total Package (per person, including certification classes, luncheon, banquet) \$129.00

Life Members (including all of the above) \$99.00

Luncheon, banquet only \$89.00

Fun Shoot (not included in above) \$20.00

Please note these are rates for 2013, there will be another increase in 2014 to \$149 as we continue to offer more certification classes.



GOT A GUN? GET THE RULES!

Approved by Texas DPS for CHL training.

Every gun law word-for-word *and* described in **Plain English**;

it is “Excellent” - TX St. Sen. Jerry Patterson

Far better than notes DPS gives out.

A great tool, easy to read, just \$14.95

BLOOMFIELD PRESS

Big trainer discounts!

Other books too! Ask for our free color catalog.

16th Annual TCHA Conference Registration Form
March 1, 2 & 3, 2013
YO Ranch Resort Hotel & Conference Center - Kerrville, Texas
2033 Sidney Baker Street - 877-967-3767
Open to Everyone

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Total Package (Includes certification classes, luncheon, banquet) _____ participants @ \$129.00 ea. _____

Life Members (including all of the above) _____ participants @ \$99.00 ea. _____

Luncheon, banquet only _____ participants @ \$89.00 ea. _____

Optional Fun Shoot _____ participants @ \$20.00 ea. _____

Additional donation _____

Total paid _____

<p>Payment method: Check No. _____ Mail Registration Form and Check made payable to T.C.H.A to: T.C.H.A Seminar Registration PO Box 161713 Austin, TX 78716</p>	<p>Credit/Debit Card Card Issuer: [] MC [] Visa Name on Card: _____ Card #: _____ Exp. Mo: _____ Yr: _____ CVW#: _____ Billing Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____</p>
---	---

Early registration helps us plan better accommodations.
We've added more events for this year's conference, to begin on Friday afternoon.
Check the website for schedule updates.

This year's lucky drawing winner will receive a pink snub-nose .38

Handgun Drawing Ticket
16th Annual Texas Concealed Handgun Association
Seminar/Banquet – 2013

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

\$10 per chance. Mail check and ticket to: Texas Concealed Handgun Association

Making a donation or purchase is not required and will not increase your chances of winning.

Print as many tickets as you like
As in the past, we are requesting ticket donations of \$10.00 each.
To donate, enter amount above as 'Additional Donation'.
Drawing to be held March 2, 2013 • Need not be present to win.
Making a donation or purchase is not required and will not increase your chances of winning.

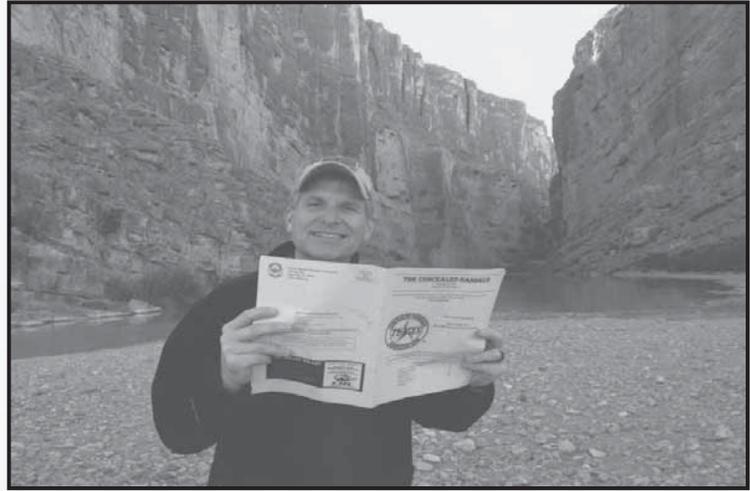
Top 10 Lessons Learned at Low Light Instructors School

By Austin Davis

It is Day Two and at least the 10th gun fight. The protective mask is hot, the multi room shoot-house is very dark and there are one or more people somewhere inside this labyrinth waiting to shoot me if given even the slightest chance. The task at hand is to make sure that with proper tactics my Simunitions loaded Beretta will find and deal with them first. However, I increasingly finding myself asking “Why am I here?”

The “here” is Sure-Fire Institute Low Light Instructors School in California. The same people who arguably design and manufacture the world’s finest Sure-Fire illumination tools also run a world class low light fighting instructor school. The best flashlight in the world won’t help if you have poor tactics and the Institute is designed to change that training shortcoming by creating a low light instruction program of the highest level and build instructors to pass on the knowledge.

It is estimated that about 80% of defensive use of firearms takes place in low, altered, or insufficient light. About 25% of low light shootings are mistake-of-fact shootings (unarmed or innocent). Low light fighting is both a highly specialized and very perishable skill. Learning to fight in low light presents many challenges. Due to urban encroachment, not all ranges let you shoot after dark. Training safely can be an issue in low light and having even attended some of the best “big name” shooting schools, all treated low



light as nearly an afterthought to be tacked on at the end of a mid week training day.

The Institute is run by some *very* real world experienced instructors who truly care about advancing the state of the art of low light fighting. The Institute trainees range from Tier One Military Units to all levels of Law Enforcement. Therefore, the lessons often flow both ways. What the training Cadre can teach in just 20 fast paced hours is amazing.

Only the first few hours of **Day One** were classroom. The course is principal-based since principles are adaptable to any situation. Once you learn the principles, the tactics will follow naturally. Once we had the basics presented then the rest of Day One was live fire at a very nice indoor range. “Crawl, Walk,

CHL MUST READ!

At last you can know that you will have financial peace of mind if you are involved in a self defense action involving the use of your handgun and have a current concealed handgun permit.

CHL Protection Plan provides you with protection in your defense through the Grand Jury Process with No Deductible, and Competent Criminal Defense Attorneys.



CHL Protection Plan
Protection In Your Defense

Sign Up Today!

Please Call 866.851.9744

or Visit Our Website

www.chlpp.com

Run” was the rhythm of training.

Crawl: Basic marksmanship/gun-handling were thoroughly covered to make sure everyone was shooting up to standard and safety rules were well in place.

Walk: Then it was on to hand held lights and shooting, though still in a very well lit environment.

Run: Once we were all shooting well with hand held lights in all four basic grips, it was lights out.

Usually when you train in low light there is enough light to see what you are doing. The flashlight is nice, but really you can see the outline of your targets. Not at Sure-Fire. Dark is dark – as in “not see your hand in front of your face” dark. We learned the value of a well placed beam and learned some valuable lessons that progressed in a very logical order. By the end of day one, we were shooting, moving, and communicating very well on square range with a strong emphasis on shooting safely in close proximity to others. A skill subset we would use heavily in the next day in building clearing force on force.

Day Two was all about hunt and the lessons built on the Crawl-Walk-Run model of instruction.

Crawl: First we were briefed on room clearing.

Walk: Search out against hidden paper shoot/no-shoot targets in light.

Run: Then it was on to force on force training in the dark.

When targets get to think, move and shoot against you, it is a major motivational tool in taking to heart Day One core principals. The fights are sometimes short and over quickly. Some of them drag on as you have to clear room after room to find the threat or threats. Lessons leaned and principles from class come to life and are fully debriefed after every fight.

Although difficult to explain in written form, there are ten main training points I took away and would like to share:

1) One light is good, two is much better: Lights have a tendency to fail and in high risk situations redundancy is a beautiful thing. A back up light can be a life saver. Even daytime can present a low light situation with power outages or unlit indoor areas especially with one’s eyes not dark-adapted so even coming into a relatively bright light environment can seem very low light. You can’t shoot what you

can’t see. If you see the threat in a super bright beam of light, you might not have to shoot to resolve the situation. One is none, two is one so carry a spare!

- 2) Proper use of a tactical flashlight is amazingly effective:** When you are in the role of “Bad Guy” and being hunted by high intensity lights being strobed on and off with horizontal and vertical displacement, your ability to know where the good guys are and ability to plan is severely limited. The lights are so bright (500 lumens) that light penetrates even tightly closed lids. Good technique and the modern high output white lights are a force multiplier. It was difficult to get off a well aimed shot when hunted by smart operators once you are in their beam.
- 3) Read the light:** Learning to differentiate between light levels suddenly creates places for you to hide. Know where to look and figure out places you don’t want to be for long. All dark holes have threats and a blast of white light clears the hole and can provides a now-secure place to lay up for your next move.
- 4) Light and move:** Time in the light is time as a target. A light always on or always off is probably never the right answer, but painting with light and moving with light off leaves you able to see in a flash of light and then your movement in darkness leaves your attacker clueless as to your new actual location.
- 5) There is no one “best” flashlight technique:** There are 4 basic handgun/light techniques. Each has their place when you are operating in a low light environment: “Neck Index” is quick. “Harries” is good for certain corners. “Rodgers” for other corners. And, lastly, the “FBI Technique” allows you not to keep the bright shiny bullet magnet near your body as you search. The more you practice transitions from one grip to the other the smoother your ability to light and move. While every shooter will have their favorite, all the techniques could be needed in a full-on low light fight.
- 6) Don’t crowd corners:** It is amazing with training how even in the confines of the shoot-house

hallways and modest sized rooms, proper cornering gave plenty of room to read and engage. Corners can have a “magnetic” draw but especially in the dark they create real problems up close while offering opportunity from a distance. At school, it is taught to address corners as soon as possible and it paid off big time with force-on-force in low light.

7) Take your time: Hurry almost always leads to bad results. It can be hard to take it slow and steady, but unless it is an active shooter situation and you are going to the sound of gunfire, low light fighting is an activity that often rewards patience. If you get winded or tired, lay up in a secure dark spot and listen, smell, and get your bearings.

8) Weapon mounted lights are great but no substitute for a handheld light: You cannot point a gun at anything you are not willing to kill or destroy (life safety rule #2) so a hand held light is still essential. Once you have a threat, the weapon mounted light is King. The ability to search around and still cover the contained suspect will quickly convince you just how helpful it is to be able to shoot with a weapon mounted light. But the rail mounted light will never offer the versatility of a hand held light. Both have their place and it’s your job to figure out the pros and cons offered by each system in each situation.

9) Be The Hunter not The Hunted: It is easy to feel overwhelmed in a dark environment but timidly poking about will cause hesitation so we need to relax, focus, and flow. The best method for that is most likely to envision yourself as The Hunter not The Prey. Best to not be too aggressive in that hunter role and become reckless in pursuit but to carefully stalk and force your opponent(s) into an ever decreasing area of operation.

10) Force-on-Force is a great Instructor: A flat range with targets that never shoot back can never drive the lessons home like the sting of Simunitions.

The pace of training was fast and focused. Level 2 is in mid October and 40 hours long. I am already registered and have much training to do on my own before then to get the foundation learned in level one. I cannot speak highly enough about the level of training offered by Sure-Fire and the quality of their lights. In short, the most valuable thing I learned was how much more there was to learn.

**Austin Davis is the Owner of
KangarooCarry.com
Holsters and DavisSeminars.com**



KANGAROO CARRY.COM
since 1996
Best Holster You Will Never See

SMALL TO 4XL
4 DIFFERENT
MODELS
(LCP TO JUDGE)

LEFT HANDED & **RIGHT HANDED**

**Please visit our website
to find unique solutions for your student’s
toughest concealment problems.**

WWW.KANGAROOCARRY.COM

Questions & Answers

Larry Arnold



Q. My CHL expired on 5/13/12 . Will I have to take the written course again in order to have my license renewed?

A. The bad news is that, since your license is expired, you can't carry. The good news is that you still have until 5/13/13 to renew. Check your renewal letter. If it's your first or second renewal you'll need to take a 4-hour renewal class. If it's your third, you may only need to complete the online renewal forms and pay the fee.

Q. I am trying to get some information and hoping you can help me. We have a hunting lodge with a gun range and we want to host a concealed hand gun class by a licensed instructor here at our gun range. First, are there any permits or licensing (for the lodge or range itself) we need to have to be able to host this here at our gun range?

A. CHL instructors are no longer required to register or certify ranges.

Minimum requirements are:

1. The range must be safe.
2. Shooters must be able to fire at standard B-27 targets from 3, 7, and 15 yards.
3. The range must be in Texas.

You can find local TCHA instructors at <http://www.txchia.org/inst.htm>.

Q. I am a CPL(CHL in Texas) holder from Michigan and I moved to Dallas eight months ago. I plan on living in Dallas for quite some time, but after spending almost \$250 in Michigan I was hoping to be legal in Texas due to the reciprocity laws. Some police officers said I had to get a Texas CHL, some said they were not sure. I know it's only \$100 for a Texas CHL, but I just wanted to know the actual law, not someone's opinion.

A. Welcome to Texas!

I am not a lawyer. Under Texas law you can carry on a Michigan permit even if you are a resident of Texas. There are a couple of disadvantages: a number of states, including Michigan, don't honor out-of-state permits. In fact, according to a quick read of Michigan CPL requirements you might have to be a resident of MI to qualify for a MI CPL. You might want to check and see if your license is still valid. If I ever got into a self-defense situation I wouldn't want to have to explain to a jury why I lived in Texas but hadn't bothered to go through the Texas class (which teaches the Texas laws you have to follow) and get a Texas CHL. Also, unless you're a veteran or senior citizen the fee for a Texas CHL is \$140.

Q. I visited your site for the first time yesterday. I am a recent CHL holder and obviously still have questions knowing where I can and cannot carry. I noticed in your "Where can I carry a gun" chart, it states it is legal

to carry in a religious place of worship and hospital, as long as they do not have a 30.06 sign. However, in the state law PC 46.035: Unlawful Carrying of Handgun by License Holder, numbers (4) and (6) specifically say it is unlawful to carry into these places. You can see my confusion. Can you please clarify?

- A.** This is the most confusing issue in Texas concealed carry, unless you know the secret. Check out PC 46.035 (i). Restrictions in these locations do not apply unless you have 30.06 notification.
- Q.** My name is Lorelei and I live in Lubbock. I've become interested in taking the chl courses & purchasing a handgun for protection. My question to you is what are the requirements for ranges for those of us that cannot stand for more than 5-10mins or even those of us who are in wheelchairs? Also, does Texas have separate laws for the disabled that I need to be aware of?
- A.** Welcome to concealed carry! Texas CHL laws don't have any special requirements for those who are physically challenged. Accommodations on the range vary somewhat by instructor. In my classes if a student needs to sit between exercises we take a chair with us. I've taught a handful of people who shot from their wheelchairs, without any problems. Our main hitch seems to be getting across the gravel parking lot. I encourage you to check with your local instructors. (There's a list at <http://www.txchia.org/inst.htm>.) Please don't hesitate to ask for what you need. In addition, the shooting sports in general are inclusive. If you want to get into shooting competition the NRA can issue you a waiver of the required shooting positions so you can fairly compete in shooting matches. In fact, the newest member of Team Smith & Wesson is a paraplegic. (<http://www.theoutdoorwire.com/features/225842>.) And he's from Texas.

	<h2>Tac Pro Shooting Center</h2> <h3>Accuracy International Authorized Dealers</h3>	<p>Bill Davidson - Owner 35100 N. Hwy 108 Mingus, TX 76463 Ph: (254) 968-3112 • Fax: (254) 968-5857 email@tacproshootingcenter.com www.tacproshootingcenter.com</p>
--	---	--

	<h2>Get CHL recognition and reciprocity data, maps and more on your iPhone!</h2>	<h3>Covers all 50 States!</h3>	<p>www.chlapp.com</p>
			

BOOKS

THE CONCEALED HANDGUN MANUAL - 6TH EDITION BY CHRIS BIRD	\$24.95
THANK GOD I HAD A GUN BY CHRIS BIRD.....	\$19.95
TEXAS CONCEALED HANDGUN LICENSE PRIMER BY DAN GRIFFIN	\$19.95
THE MARK OF ABEL BY LARRY ARNOLD.....	\$15.95
TEXAS GUN OWNER'S GUIDE BY ALAN KORWIN.....	\$14.95

DPS APPROVED VIDEO LIST

DVD'S - \$19.95 each except where otherwise noted

A Woman's Guide to Firearms	\$ _____
Original Concealed Carry - <i>Techniques & Secrets of The Pros</i>	\$ _____
Way Advanced Concealed Carry Techniques Practical Concealed Carry	\$ _____
Basic Self Defense Volume 1.....	\$ _____
Practical Concealed Carry	\$ _____
Handgun Basics - <i>For Self Defense & Target Shooting</i>	\$ _____

TCHA Standardized CHL PowerPoint Lesson Plan The definitive lesson plan dealing with the Texas CHL program DVD	\$49.95	\$ _____
--	----------------	----------

Mail Orders To: **T.C.H.A. Merchandise**
PO Box 161713
Austin, TX 78716

Sub-Total \$ _____
 Shipping \$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____

Ship To:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ St. _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____

Shipping Costs \$0.00 - \$19.99 = \$4.00 \$20.00 - \$49.99 = \$5.00 \$50.00 - \$74.99 = \$7.00 \$75.00 - \$99.99 = \$8.00 \$100.00 and up = \$9.00
--

TCHA Membership Number: _____

Charge Credit Card: [] Visa [] Mastercard [] Discover [] American Express

Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CVV# _____

Signature: _____

Merchandise

- Texas Concealed Handgun Association Shirt \$30.00** \$ _____
 Association Logo Embroidered on a Two-Button Cotton Shirt
Red or Black...S...M...L...XL: \$32.00 for 2XL - 5 XL
- Texas Concealed Handgun Association Hat \$10.00** \$ _____
 Instructor Association Logo Embroidered on a Solid Color Mesh Cap
 One Size Fits All. **Red, Black, White, Blue, Camo**
- Texas Concealed Handgun Association Patch \$5.00** \$ _____
 3" Round Patch. Red, White and Gold on a Blue Background
- T.C.H.I.A. Life Membership Patch \$5.00** \$ _____
 4" Patch (Red, White and Gold on a Blue Background) with Rockers
 Announcing Your Membership Commitment. **Available to Life Members ONLY!**
- Texas Concealed Handgun Association Window Decal \$3.00** \$ _____
 3" Round Instructor Association Decal. Red, White and Gold on a Blue Background
- T.C.H.A. Standardized CHL Lesson Plan/Workbook** \$ _____
Jan. 2012 Edition \$65.00 - Sold in sets of 10 (\$250.00 Sets of 50)
 The Definitive Lesson Plan/Workbook Dealing with the Texas CHL Program
- T.C.H.A. Standardized CHL Lesson Plan/Workbook** \$ _____
Single Copy \$10.00
- Traveler's Guide to the Firearm Laws of the Fifty States \$10.00** \$ _____
 The Most Definitive and Informative Book on Being Able to Carry Firearms
 in the Fifty States. Written by a Lawyer in 'Plain English'. 2011 Edition

Mail Orders To: T.C.H.A. Merchandise
PO Box 161713
Austin, TX 78716

Ship To:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **St.** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

TCHA Membership Number: _____

Shipping Costs	
\$0.00 - \$19.99	= \$4.00
\$20.00 - \$49.99	= \$5.00
\$50.00 - \$74.99	= \$7.00
\$75.00 - \$99.00	= \$8.00
\$100.00 and Up	= \$9.00

Charge Credit Card: [] Visa [] Mastercard [] Discover [] American Express

Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ **CVV#** _____

Signature: _____



TEXAS CONCEALED HANDGUN ASSOCIATION

Membership Application or Renewal Via Newsletter

Membership Category: *(Check / ✓ / All That Apply)*

Date: _____

- (Texas Concealed Handgun License Instructor) Inst. # _____
- (Texas Concealed Handgun License Permit Holder) Lic. # _____
- (Out-of-State Concealed Handgun License Instructor or Permit Holder) # _____
- (Active or Retired Law Enforcement Officer)
- (Concerned Citizen) (Current Member) Member # _____

Membership: *(Check / ✓ / Appropriate Box)* Cash Check Credit Card

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV# _____

Signature: _____

- New Member \$20 Annual Membership \$20 3-yr. Membership \$55
- Cond. Life Membership \$400 (\$100 down / \$100 ea. qrt.) Life Membership \$ 400

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ St. _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Bus. Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

As a member of the Texas Concealed Handgun Association, I will:

- 1) Promote informed responsible handgun safety, ownership and education.
- 2) Uphold the Federal and Texas Constitutional rights and privileges of every law-abiding person to own, possess and use of firearms.
- 3) Support the Texas Concealed Handgun Association's legislative and regulatory advocacy mission.

Enclosed are my dues for membership in the Association. *If you are a Texas CHL Instructor please submit a copy of your Texas CHL Instructor Certificate with this application.*

Options

By Michael Arnold

Under the laws of most states, if I use deadly force to defend myself or another from a felonious act, my actions can be considered justified. Sounds, to me, like a pretty reasonable system.

On the other hand, if I use deadly force against someone who is not, at the time, engaged in some felonious act against me or another I can be charged with a criminal offense, tried in a court of law, and, if found guilty, I can be punished. Now, there's another system that sounds reasonable, to me.

As most of us are aware, in 2007, the State of Texas passed what is commonly referred to as the Castle Doctrine. One of the effects of that legislation was that it removed the obligation to retreat before using deadly force, as long as you were in a place where you had a legal right to be, etc...

The Castle Doctrine put the legal burden where it belongs, on the felon.

Whether it's called the Castle Doctrine, or Stand Your Ground, the concept of being able to defend yourself, without first taking the time to consider retreat, is under attack.

The usual suspects are salivating over legislation to make law abiding citizens be kinder and gentler to criminals.

Also, on May 29, 2012, Cheng & Hoekstra, of Texas A&M University, released a report on their study, "Does Strengthening Self-Defense Law Deter Crime or Escalate Violence? (Evidence from Castle Doctrine)."

One of the conclusions reached by Cheng & Hoekstra, in their 35 page report, was:

"We find no evidence that the castle doctrine deters crime."

With all due respect to the Aggies on my mailing list, my response is, "So what?"

The conclusion of Cheng & Hoekstra reminds me of a quote that I've always been particularly fond of:

"I'm not entirely convinced that capital punishment acts as an effective deterrent to violent crime. I do, however, believe that it is an excellent way to make bad people dead."

My point, here, is that if I find myself in a life threatening situation, my overriding concern is for defending my life. Of little or no concern, in such a situation, would be whether or not my defensive action was predicated on a method that might have a general deterring effect on crime. When you are up to your butt in alligators, it's hard to be too concerned over your job of draining the swamp.

But, how, then, do we deal with Stand Your Ground problems, like in the cases of Raul Rodriguez in Houston, TX, or George Zimmerman in Sanford, FL?

We don't. The courts do. We get out of the way and let the system work.

Where does that leave the idea of retreat? The idea of retreat is alive and well, right where it's always been. It's just another option.

Not that many years ago, a Texas DPS instructor, friend told me that defending yourself is all about 'options.' The more options you have, the higher will be the likelihood of a successful defense. That statement not only made good sense to me, but it has also had a profound effect on my view of the Castle Doctrine:

The Castle Doctrine removed only the obligation to retreat.

It did not remove the 'option' to retreat.

A reasonable person will consider every option at his disposal, prior to the use of deadly force. Retreat is just one of the options that a reasonable person will consider.

If retreat is what it will take to keep you alive, RETREAT.

Retreat not because of the law, but because it will help you Stay Alive.

Remember too, the law is not what makes a person reasonable.





Texas Concealed Handgun Association
P.O. Box 161713
Austin, TX 78716
www.txchia.org



Help the Association Save Money...Check your membership expiration date and RENEW your membership NOW!



To keep updated on Texas reciprocity, check DPS website at:
http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/crime_records/chl/chlsindex.htm
or Texas Concealed Handgun website at: <http://www.txchia.org/ recip.htm>

**Be sure and check out the CHL forum on our website
www.txchia.org**

TCHA Standardized CHL PowerPoint Lesson Plan The definitive lesson plan dealing with the Texas CHL program DVD	\$49.95
---	----------------