

# ANNUAL 2022



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**G48**

**MOS**

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To see the Gen5 lineup and learn more about each, visit [us.glock.com/gen5](https://us.glock.com/gen5)



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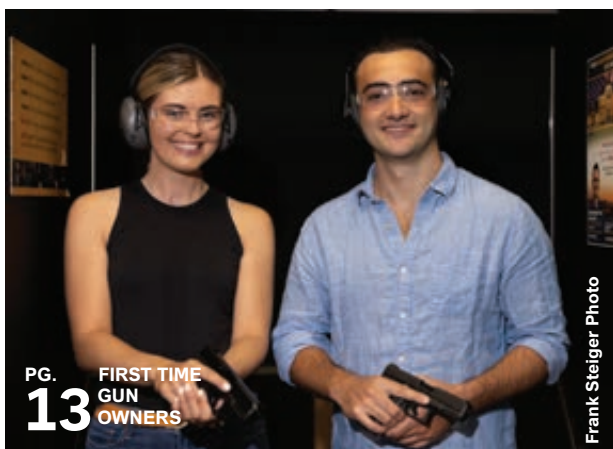
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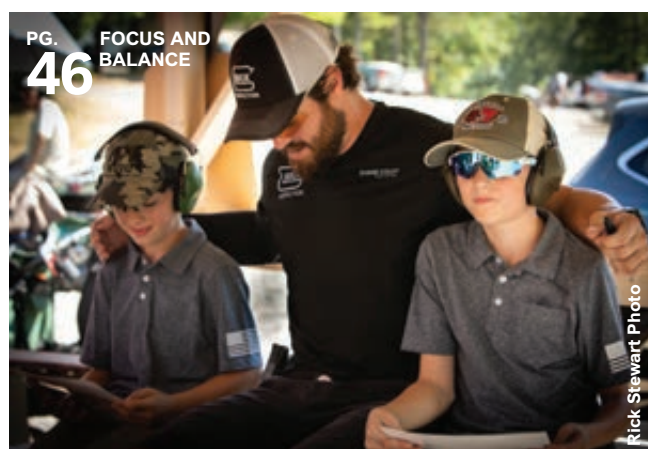
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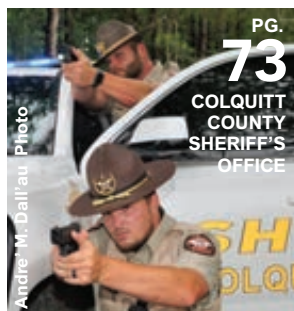
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Eggenberger Photo

## ANNUAL MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

It gives Kathrin and I great pleasure to welcome you, our devoted fans, to another edition of the *GLOCK Annual* magazine.

After a year of uncertainties and a changing political and social climate, one thing has been consistent and that is the loyalty and dedication of the GLOCK community. As we enter 2022, we reflect on another record year of sales and welcoming new members to the GLOCK community. We are grateful to our loyal fans and customers and are proud to say that we have continued to meet the overwhelming demand for GLOCK pistols throughout 2021.

This past year we celebrated 35 years of innovation and accomplishment in the United States with monthly events giving fans a behind-the-scenes look at all things GLOCK. Some of the topics included Team GLOCK, Training, Warranty, Apparel and Accessories, ladies in the industry, and the GLOCK Sport Shooting Foundation. The celebration included the launch of a limited edition, serialized watch that was custom designed and engineered to meet the standards of the GLOCK brand.

As a global leader in firearm manufacturing, our brand extends beyond the sale of pistols as we truly welcome each customer into the GLOCK family. With over 20 million pistols sold worldwide, the GLOCK community continues to grow and we continue to strive to deliver exceptional customer experiences through programs like the GLOCK Sport Shooting Foundation, GLOCK Training, and the GLOCK community forum; GIQ. This year, we are excited to launch the all new GLOCK Sport Shooting Foundation website. GSSF is family friendly sport shooting that is open to all levels and a great place to spend time on the range with your GLOCK pistol. The new site makes registration and participation seamless and easy for customers. Additionally, we have rebranded the GLOCK member forum, GLOCK IQ to allow for a better user experience and top resource of GLOCK information and insider news to the GLOCK community.

In this year's Annual, you will find articles by some of our greatest admirers talking about GLOCK pistols and their capabilities as well as many of the programs we offer.

Whether you are new to GLOCK pistol ownership or a long time member of the GLOCK family, we are excited to be a part of your firearm journey and a part of what makes GLOCK so strong. Together we are GLOCK Strong!

Sincerely,  
Gaston Glock

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gaston Glock".



# KATHRIN GLOCK

## GLOCK PERFECTION IN ACTION





**“Through technology and innovation, GLOCK continuously pursues perfection and meets the ever evolving demands of its customers.”**

**A**s a member of the GLOCK Board of Directors, Mrs. Glock is fully dedicated to ensuring an innovative future for the company while honoring and fulfilling the achievements of its ingenious founder, Gaston Glock. One of her main contributions to the GLOCK brand has been to increase brand awareness and to introduce new customers to the GLOCK community. Her decisions are driven by GLOCK’s Mission and Vision Statement: “People first, Perfection always”. Mrs. Glock emphasizes, that through technology and innovation, GLOCK will continuously pursue perfection and meet the ever evolving demands of its customers. She has also led the way for the company’s environmental initiatives of “prevention, reduction, and responsibility,” and has promoted advances in technology for consumer-facing applications and programs. ☉



Photo by Andreas Tischler

#### **Q&A WITH MRS. GLOCK**

**Q:** Mrs. Glock, how do you feel your first-hand knowledge of the company’s foundation and growth contribute to the success of the company?

**A:** *I have the unique opportunity and mission to provide continuity between the company my husband founded and the company we are building for the future. Working close to Gaston allows me to understand his vision which I am in a position to implement.*

**Q:** How involved are you in the daily operations of the company?

**A:** *Very—I have visibility across the entire operation, but I have to be selective about where I focus my efforts. My primary areas of focus are strategic development, economic decisions, and engaging with our growing customer base.*

**Q:** This one is near and dear to our customers: What is GLOCK doing to meet increased demand for GLOCK products in the marketplace?

**A:** *The development of highly sophisticated manufacturing processes allows us to continue to meet uncompromising quality standards and supply chain excellence. This puts GLOCK in a position to timely deliver product to meet the demands of our customers. Our advanced technology and strategies have been instrumental in meeting increased demand from the marketplace.*



# GLOCK 45 MOS

## ONE PORTRAIT OF PERFECTION

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EDWARDS





Pictured here is a GLOCK 45 MOS with an optic sight mounted. This model offers Gen5 reliability, durability, and firepower with the ability to mount optical sights for accuracy and speed, in all environments.

In early 2021, many foretold a shift among serious shooters to optics-capable pistols, followed by a tidal wave of adoption by the majority. In late 2021, that wave has struck, and the result is revolutionary for operators of the Multiple Optics System (MOS) variants.

GLOCK was an early pioneer of such designs beginning with the 4th generation of GLOCK pistols. The GLOCK MOS pistols were arguably ready before the electronic sights themselves were fully ready! Technology advances, and today we have a number of sights that meet the requirements and needs of sophisticated shooters. GLOCK engineers were not idle either, developing the GEN5 GLOCK pistols and expanding the number of models in the latest generation. This brings us to the GLOCK 45 in an MOS version. Utterly dependable, it has quite the pedigree through its history.

### **MOST MODERN AND MODULAR GLOCK**

The GLOCK Model 45 MOS inherits its qualities from the overarching Gen5 engineering in general, but specifically from the G19X, created for the military and exhaustively tested. It was startlingly successful as tens of thousands sold in just a few months. The G45 MOS has the receiver height of a standard sized GLOCK, with a normal capacity of seventeen 9x19 rounds. Thus, it can take any current G17 magazine. For special circumstances, “plus” base plates or extended magazines also fit and function. There is plenty of firepower on tap with a G45 MOS!

The slide and internal structure follow that of the compact G19, and in so doing, achieve modularity. The other exceptional qualities of the Gen5 line of GLOCK pistols are part and parcel of the G45 MOS:

- I. The G45 MOS is fitted with the GLOCK “Marksman” barrel. This barrel, with tighter internal tolerances and a precisely formed barrel crown, offers accuracy and reliability unseen before its introduction.
- II. Barrel and slide receive the GLOCK nDLC surface treatment. This finish is both highly rust resistant and very smooth, further enhancing function.
- III. The GLOCK 45 MOS has the full complement of Gen5 enhancements: ambidextrous slide stop lever, reversible mag catch, full coverage frame texture and a flared magazine well. A set of back straps to adjust to the individual operators hands are also included. There is a military specification frame rail for mounting lights and/or lasers. The Gen5 GLOCK Safe Action® System provides both safety and efficiency.
- IV. With the shorter slide of the G45, the MOS version has the same “portability,” meaning increased comfort when seated in a vehicle, where a lot of time can be spent. Experienced operators, law enforcement and otherwise, certainly appreciate this, along with perceived faster handling and manipulations.

### **MULTIPLE OPTICS FOR THE MISSION**

The G45 MOS has the flexibility to mount different optics depending on user needs and wants. There is a dazzling array of sights to choose from. Proven manufacturers such as Aimpoint, Holosun, Leupold, Trijicon, and others have many models with designs and features to cover just about any contingency in the field. Dot intensity controls, different reticles (size, shape and color), enclosed or open emitter are



## The GLOCK Model 45 MOS inherits its qualities from both the overarching Gen5 engineering in general but is a direct descendent of the G19X, created for the military and exhaustively tested.

some of the choices available. With the GLOCK-engineered MOS platform, a mounting plate is chosen to match the particular footprint of the optic. It is worth noting that for success, attention must be paid to the mounting process and specifications. After mounting and operator zeroing, the sophisticated combination of GLOCK pistol and optic is ready to be trained and practiced with. Through GLOCK Professional, GLOCK offers specific quality instruction for operating with GLOCK MOS pistols. GLOCK Instructors have years of experience with the systems in real-world applications. Ideally, everyone should train with highly qualified firearms instructors. Visit this link for class descriptions and upcoming options: [www.GLOCKtraining.com](http://www.GLOCKtraining.com).

Proof is in the performance, and a G45 MOS with a quality optic is an unmatched combination. On ranges, this



The G45 MOS has the versatility to mount all designs of red dot sights. This allows the operator to set up the GLOCK pistol for any environment.

combination has been fast and accurate in evaluations such as the GLOCK Operator Standards and precision shots from 25 out to 50 yards! With the ability to mount a compact weapon light, there are few reasonable handgun tasks that cannot be handled.

The GLOCK 45 MOS is the dream gun: all the dependability of the standard GLOCK lineup, with all the versatility you could need. Visit <https://us.glock.com/en/pistols/g45-mos> for exact specifications, and visit <https://us.glock.com/en/dealer-locator-usa> to try one out as soon as they're in stock. The GLOCK 45 MOS is the most versatile firearm that meets modern needs! ☺

## DESIGNED FOR MAKING MEMORIES

### THE G44 .22 LR CALIBER PISTOL

The accuracy and fun you've come to expect from GLOCK™, now in a small caliber pistol.

**Commit to perfection with the new G44.**

Hybrid steel-polymer slide.  
Adjustable rear sight.  
Magazines with loading assist.

[plink44.com](http://plink44.com)





A big factor of being a responsible gun owner is having a gun that fits. Most full-service firearms retailers (like The Alamo in Naples, FL) have experienced personnel who are happy to help with the firearm selection process.

# WELCOME NEW GUN OWNERS!

**FROM ONE NEWBIE TO ANOTHER:  
A FEW ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FIRST TIME GUN OWNERS MAY HAVE**

■ ARTICLE BY MEV CLARK ■ PHOTOS BY FRANK STEIGER

I didn't realize how little I knew about guns until they became my job. I grew up around guns; my grandfather taught us to shoot his "pest-control" rifle in Texas starting at age 7, and my dad got me a 9x19 pistol at 18. I went to the range once or twice a year, maybe. I knew the basic mechanics of a gun and I could tell the difference in a pistol, shotgun, and rifle...and that was about it.

Once I found myself needing to know more about gun ownership, I scrambled to learn as much as I could. Every question answered seemed to lead down a new rabbit-hole of questions, and it took time before I felt any level of confidence in my knowledge. I'm still learning, and there's always something new to dive into. For those of you in the same position, here are a few building blocks that will help you get off on the right foot.

**How much and where should I practice?** "How much" really depends on how much time and ammo you have. Dry-fire (practicing without live ammo) is a quick and easy way to keep up your basic skills, but live-fire practice is important. As for where you should practice, I can practice in my backyard outside city limits (know your local and state gun laws). A range is the best choice in terms of safety and accountability for any potential bad or unsafe habits.



Continued firearm instruction is something all gun owners can learn from. Here, David Patterson, Director of Training at the Alamo in Naples, FL, works with a shooter at an indoor range.

When going to shoot, make sure you have essentials packed that you're comfortable wearing. Shooting glasses, hearing protection, magazine loading tools, etc, all play an important role in the outcome of your training.



**“Get a gun.  
Get trained.  
Be safe.  
And have fun.”**

**Hearing Protection:** After using my brother's pricey electronic earmuffs, I got spoiled. They not only blocked hearing-damaging noises, like gunshots, but they also amplified quiet sounds, which is perfect for hunting and for hearing the range officer's (RO) instructions. They were comfortable for me, but out of my price range. Since my ears don't take to earbuds, I prefer basic and comfortable earmuffs as hearing protection. Try a few things out and get the best and most comfortable option that you can afford. Never shoot without ear protection.

**Do I need to take classes?** A few years ago, I would've said no, but after going to a couple of basic handgun classes, I've changed my mind. GLOCK's Brilliance in the Basics (BIB) course teaches the foundational lessons of safe gun operation in a non-threatening environment. I felt very comfortable with my gun by the end of the day. In addition to the good safety practices and tips for improving accuracy, the BIB course offers the confidence from receiving professional instruction.

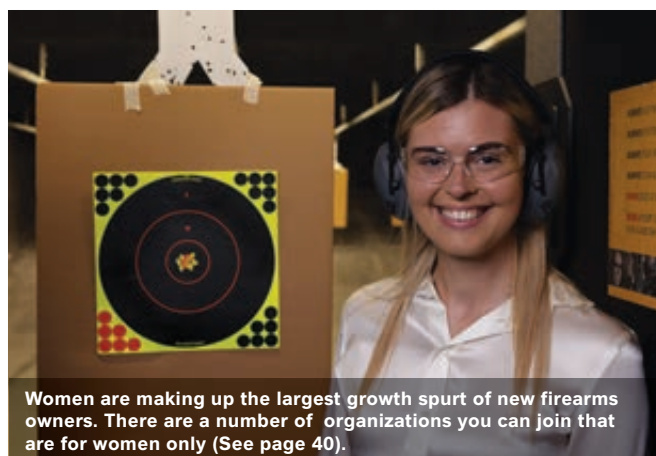
**How do I store my gun?** Firearm storage options vary, widely. A person with children may want their firearms securely locked away in a gun safe, perhaps in a separate location from their ammo. Someone living alone may keep a loaded gun by their bedside. There isn't one right answer, so it's easier to say what not to do. Don't put your gun in a box and forget about it until you need it. Using it is a perishable skill and it needs upkeep to function at its peak if the situation arises that you need it. Owning a gun safe is a smart move; have a place to secure your firearms that offers theft and fire protection.

**Should I carry concealed?** Yes, but there are some caveats and it is a commitment to safety and continual practice. Learn your local gun laws, and the laws of anywhere you intend on carrying. Know how to use your carry gun and be diligent about regular training.

Take concealed carry and shooting courses on a regular basis to make sure your skills are in top form. Consider a GLOCK Professional course (<https://us.glock.com/en/PROFESSIONALS>) or look for concealed carry classes taught at local shooting ranges.



Practice makes perfect. Some shooters like to keep their targets and date them as reminders of the progress they are making.



Women are making up the largest growth spurt of new firearms owners. There are a number of organizations you can join that are for women only (See page 40).

If you're a woman, there are organizations specifically for you (see page 40). Carrying concealed is one of the best ways to keep you and your loved ones safe, but only if you are doing it correctly. It is both a blessing and a responsibility; make sure you understand this and your weapon.

**Should I compete as a beginner?** Absolutely. Many competitions have a skill-level requirement, but if you're a GLOCK owner, GLOCK Sport Shooting Foundation (GSSF) is open to everyone from a novice to a competitor. It's a great place to learn about the community, gain encouragement from fellow gun owners, and be challenged in the best way. See the GSSF website for the next match date and location.

## CONCLUSION

Being a new gun owner can be intimidating. There is a lot to learn. Owning a gun is a responsibility. Training is necessary. But with the resources and the ever-growing, supportive gun-community, it's a challenge nearly anyone can take on. Get a gun. Get trained. Be safe. And have fun. 🎯





# GLOCK BASICS: START RIGHT, SHOOT RIGHT

GLOCK'S THE BRILLIANCE IN BASIC'S COURSE IS PERFECT FOR NEW GUN OWNERS

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EDWARDS

**W**ith the dramatic increase in new gun owners in the U.S., and longtime gun owners all clamoring for GLOCK pistols, GLOCK Professional, Inc. (GP) is there to address their instructional and training needs.

Whether someone has been a gun owner for decades, or they purchased a firearm within the last few days, it's absolutely necessary for them to get competent instruction in the fundamentals of good shooting.

## SHOOTING BASICS WITH A RIMFIRE PISTOL

GP's "Brilliance in the Basics" course (BIB) guides students from taking a pistol out of its box for the first time to putting rounds down range with a G44 .22LR pistol.

Participants in the course are issued all necessary equipment, including eye and ear protection, a G44 pistol, a Safariland holster, a magazine pouch, and ammunition for the range portion of the class.

Following the principle that knowledge is the key to success, the class begins with a review of the Four Rules of Firearm Safety, as all gun safety classes should.

## IN THE CLASSROOM

Throughout the day-long course, students practice living by those four rules during dry-fire and live-fire exercises.

Procedures for the safe handling of ammunition are detailed before instructors define and identify the specific nomenclature of the four main GLOCK pistol controls, including the trigger, magazine catch, slide stop lever, and slide lock. A brief description of the GLOCK Safe Action® fire control system follows, during which its multiple, redundant safeties are

demonstrated and discussed.

Each student is taught how to safely load and unload a GLOCK 44 magazine with inert "dummy" rounds in the classroom, and later with live ammo on the range.

Then comes the core of the course: The "Fundamentals of Marksmanship," during which students are taught proper stance, grip, sight alignment, trigger control, breathing, and follow through. They are then taught to practice these fundamentals with dry-fire drills that can be done any time.

Then, students are then taught, step-by-step, how to properly draw a GLOCK from a holster using unloaded firearms before heading to the range!

## AT THE RANGE

Once they hit the firing line, the students participate in a series of shooting drills designed to build confidence and competence. Class sizes are kept small (usually 10 students), so there is ample opportunity for the GLOCK Instructor to address each and every member of the class.

The course has been received very well. Students have ranged from first time GLOCK owners and people who have never picked up a firearm before, to retired military personnel.

Finally, students are instructed in the proper maintenance of GLOCK pistols.

## WRAPPING IT UP

The GLOCK "Brilliance in the Basics" course awaits! Shooters of all levels and experience can take advantage of this great opportunity to receive expert instruction on safe and effective shooting. To find out how to take the class, visit [glocktraining.com](http://glocktraining.com). ☉



If you've made a decision to purchase a first-time handgun, congratulations! Now, which one? It's unlikely you'll find anyone else who has the exact same lifestyle, career, hobbies, and living conditions as you do. That's why GLOCK makes so many models. Most firearms retailers are equipped to assist you with your decision making. GLOCK's website is helpful as well. Go to: WHICH GLOCK IS RIGHT FOR ME: <https://us.glock.com/en/LEARN/GLOCK-Pistols/Quiz>

# WANT TO BUY YOUR FIRST GLOCK?

HERE ARE SOME PRIME GLOCK PISTOLS FOR EVERY APPLICATION

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EGER

**G**LOCK's simple company motto, "Perfection," stems from the revolutionary blend of safety, simplicity, speed, durability, ease of operation, inherent practical accuracy, superb ergonomics, low maintenance demands, and minimal weight found in every pistol. However, with over 50 different models to choose from, there are a few things to keep in mind when selecting the perfect GLOCK handgun for one's needs and lifestyle.

## FULL-SIZE AND LONGSLIDES

When choosing a GLOCK for duty use, whether it be military, law enforcement, executive protection, or security applications, there are several options to consider. Top on this list are standard-sized models in 9x19, .40, and .45 AUTO, like the G17, G22, and G21, respectively. These models are regularly seen in the holsters of professionals around the globe, adopted after coming out as the king-of-the-hill in grueling torture tests against the most respected combat pistols in the world. As a testament to that fact, GLOCK handguns have been adopted by some 65% of U.S. law enforcement agencies.

To meet the demands of tactical teams and special operators, longslide models allow for exceptional accuracy due to their extended sight radius and lighter recoil impulse. The GLOCK 34 9x19 and GLOCK 35 .40, are both often tapped for use by SWAT teams and the like.

More compact options include the GLOCK 19 9x19 and the GLOCK 23 .40, which, despite their smaller size, boast superior performance and have a respectable magazine capacity while being slightly smaller than standard models.

## CROSSOVER MODELS

One of the most popular new pistols in this category is the GLOCK 45—a 9x19 crossover design that blends a standard-sized frame with the slide of a compact—which was developed specifically for law enforcement. Although shorter and lighter, these pistols still show up for work with the same frame-mounted accessory rails as larger models, enabling them to freely accommodate weapon-mounted lights, lasers, and other accessories.

Moving to a size profile ideal for use by investigative personnel or as a backup piece or off-duty gun for those in uniform, the subcompact G26, G43X 9x19, and G27 .40, are ready for discreet carry while still providing peace of mind for those who keep the peace.

## MOS MODELS

Once reserved for competition shooters and later hunters, military and LE users are increasingly adopting reflex optics systems for their duty pistols, and most of the above-mentioned models are now available in variants using GLOCK's Modular





If you're unsure of a qualified training facility near you, try GLOCK's Firearms Dealer locator. <https://us.glock.com/en/Dealer-Locator-USA>

**“With over 20 million Americans holding concealed carry licenses or permits and permitless carry the law of the land in at least 21 states, there is a large market for ultra-concealable, accurate, and reliable self-defense tools.”**

Optic System (MOS), which allows for the mounting of many popular micro red-dot sights right out of the box.

## PERSONAL DEFENSE AND CONCEALED CARRY

Able to fill an array of home defense and personal protection duties, GLOCK has a broad range of pistols ready for defensive and concealed carry tasks in standard, compact, and subcompact sizes.

Full size models like the G17, G20, G21, G22, G31, and G37 .45 fit the bill and have serious, double-stack magazine capacities in their various calibers. These guns, due to their layout, have more manageable recoil than smaller-framed compacts and subcompacts, allowing for critical follow-up shots under pressure if needed, while the GLOCK SAFE ACTION® system, standard across all the company's models, provides both a consistent trigger pull and three independently operating safeties.

With over 20 million Americans holding concealed carry licenses or permits, and permitless carry the law of the land in at least 21 states, there is a large market for ultra-concealable, accurate, and reliable self-defense tools.

While the adage from defensive pistol instructors is to “carry the largest handgun you are comfortable with,” GLOCK's modern subcompacts offer downright tiny pistols that have passed the same tough standards and torture tests as more full-sized duty guns trusted by police and military forces around the globe. Crowd-pleasing models in this category include the G43X, the slimline G48 9x19, the G36 .45 AUTO, and the G42 .380 AUTO. Among the company's newest pistols, they are the gold standard for today's savvy EDC practitioner.

A big advantage that all GLOCK pistols have over many competitors when it comes to concealed carry is a smooth profile with a minimum of sharp points that can snag on

clothing during a draw. Nobody wants to have to fight off their own wardrobe in the first few seconds of a self-defense encounter after their handgun has caught a shirt tail or cover garment on the way out of the holster.

## CUSTOM FIT

While today's GLOCK Gen4 and Gen5 models both include modular backstrap systems, allowing the user to choose the back strap size that best fits their grip, those who may prefer a smaller compact-sized pistol for defensive purposes are well accommodated in the company's catalog.

There are a bevy of choices for self-defense guns when it comes to compact models. The G45, the G23, G32, and G38 are all great options. These guns still offer a significant double-stack magazine capacity, while being lighter and easier to handle than full-size models.

Smaller still are subcompact personal defense guns like the G26, G27, G29, G30, G33, G39, G42, and G43. While being a little snappier when it comes to recoil management compared to larger models, and at the same time having a shallower magazine capacity—typically under 10 rounds—these guns can be ideal for deep concealment.

## SPORT SHOOTING

Modern practical competitive shooting demands serious handguns that can stack lead on the “X” and ring steel under pressure. GLOCK helps today's competitors get in on the excitement with finely balanced longslide pistols' extended sight radius, which produces a reliable sight picture to get on target rapidly. At the same time, GLOCK Gen5 longslide models, which come standard with the renowned GLOCK Marksman Barrel, deliver increased accuracy due to the GMB's enhanced polygonal rifling and an improved barrel crown.

More classic competitive GLOCKS include the tack-driving G17L 9x19 and the G24 .40. For those who intend to run optics on their race gun, the G34 MOS 9x19 stands ready, as do more versatile models such as the G45 MOS. When moving into the rimfire world, the G44, GLOCK's only .22 LR, is able to join the fray as an economical plinker that can step up for use in local-level Bullseye events.

## HUNTING

Be it for harvesting game or accompanying hunters while in dangerous predator country, GLOCK is ready for any climate. Most popular among sportsmen and women headed to the field is the GLOCK 20 and GLOCK 40, both hard-hitting pistols chambered in 10mm AUTO. The G21 and G41, both in .45 AUTO, and the classic G17 and G19 9x19 pistols can be added to this lineup.

In any case, GLOCK's tried-and-true polymer frames and advanced surface treatments on metal components will stand up to the worst conditions the great outdoors has to offer, while the design's simple disassembly takes the chore out of field stripping for maintenance, cleaning, and inspection, all without tools. The last thing a hunter can afford, miles away from civilization, is to have a handgun that won't work when it is desperately needed.

## TAKEAWAY

GLOCK has been in the business of producing a family of handguns that share the same general characteristics for over 40 years. In that time, the pistols have evolved across several generations, chamberings, barrel lengths, and styles—but in the end, they have remained a tribute, made of polymer and steel, to the concept of Perfection. Regardless of the reason or task, there is a GLOCK out there that is the perfect fit for everyone's needs. 🎯



# GEAR DUMP: FIRST TIME RANGE VISIT

EVERYTHING A NEW SHOOTER NEEDS FOR A GOOD DAY AT THE RANGE

■ ARTICLE BY MEV CLARK

**Y**our first time at the range can be intimidating. Everyone else seems to know what they're doing, and here you are, with your first gun or your rental firearm, trying not to look as green as you are. We've all been there. Being prepared takes a lot of that stress away, so make sure you have everything you need!

**EAR PROTECTION** You can choose either earmuffs or earplugs, or both. You must wear hearing protection when shooting. I prefer earmuffs. Find out what's comfortable for you. You can't take them off once you're on the range, so try them out before you go in and make sure you can wear them for extended periods of time comfortably. At most ranges, you can rent earmuffs or buy earplugs. Foam earplugs alone may not be adequate at an indoor range.

**EYE PROTECTION** You can't shoot without eye protection. Most ranges will rent or sell product. Make sure what you're wearing is comfortable and not scratched up. There are protective glasses made to go prescription glasses. For outdoor ranges, there are also tinted options.

**AMMO** While some ranges prohibit outside ammo, most will allow you to bring your own, or they may only prohibit handloaded ammunition. For target shooting, opt for the less-expensive full metal jacket (FMJ) rounds rather than defensive hollow-point rounds.

**HAT** A cap helps cut down on any glare from inside lights and, of course, from sunlight outdoors. It also protects your head from flying brass and helps hold ear and eye protection in place. I prefer my GLOCK cap!

**GUN** If you own a gun, you will have to bring that along in a hard or soft sided case. Choosing a case that can fit in your range bag is a good idea. If you don't own a gun yet, shooting ranges that also operate as gun shops usually let you try or rent firearms. I bring what I'm going to be using for self-defense for practice. It's also fun to try out different firearms.

**COMFORTABLE CLOTHING** Make sure your clothing covers as much of your skin as possible, but isn't loose enough to get in your way. Hoodies aren't the best idea, as hot casings flying around can easily get stuck in the fabric folds and even burn you. I usually go with a long-sleeved t-shirt and jeans.

**CLOSED-TOE SHOES** Make sure your footwear is comfortable and has full coverage. Good grip will also help; no one wants to be slipping with a loaded gun in their hands! I typically wear sneakers or my western boots. No flip-flops!

**HYDRATION** Depending on how long you'll be at the range, you may want to bring water. Some ranges have vending machines.

**EXTRA MAGAZINES AND MAG LOADER** Having loaded spare magazines will help you use more of your range time shooting and less reloading mags. Depending on the mag capacity and how new the springs are, you can end up having to use some real muscle to get in those last few rounds. Either bring magazine loading device, which will really save your thumbs, or consider only loading six rounds or so at a time when practicing.

**RANGE BAG** A range bag is specifically made for what you'll be carrying and to handle the weight of guns and ammo. 🧡





Carrying a firearm is a lifestyle decision. Like your GLOCK, find the carry method that best suits your daily activity.

# GLOCK: YOUR FIRST CCW

MORE PROFESSIONALS CHOOSE GLOCK AND HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD TOO

■ ARTICLE BY DANIEL CLERMONT

**Y**ou've decided to carry concealed. You're not just exercising your rights, you're protecting yourself and your loved ones. It's a deadly serious responsibility you don't dare take lightly. After professional training, the most important part of your process is purchasing a carry gun. The market is saturated with products and flooded with opinions—and opinions about firearms can be strong, loud, and subject to change whenever the “next big thing” hits the trade show booths or shows up in the bay next door at the range.

GLOCK pistols have withstood the test of time, and today, they set the standard for carry weapons. Sometimes, complex concepts can be boiled down to simple terms. Take gravity for example: all you need to know is, “what goes up, must come down.” The same is true when explaining why GLOCK is the best choice for concealed carry: All you need to know is “GLOCKS work.”

That being said, the real question that you need answered before purchasing a defensive handgun is, “How will a GLOCK pistol work for me?” Let's remove that question mark and give

you the confidence you need to choose GLOCK for CCW.

The most important aspect of a concealed carry pistol is safety. Can you carry the particular handgun and use it safely, one hundred percent of the time? GLOCK's design is, quite literally, safety simplified.

Mastering the four fundamental rules of firearms safety isn't all there is to it. What does “safety” really mean, beyond these rules, for concealed carry?

The only time you want your gun to fire is when you are on target, you've made the decision to shoot, and you press the trigger. Any other time, you absolutely don't want that gun to go off. End of story. This is where GLOCK's SAFE ACTION® system comes in, like three strokes of genius for safe carry, built into every GLOCK pistol. GLOCK SAFE ACTION® involves three mechanical safeties to give you assurance, all built into the fire control system.

You don't have to worry about how to deactivate GLOCK's safety features either, because it happens automatically when you fully depress the trigger.



The choices of how to carry off-body are numerous. Carrying in a purse, briefcase, fanny pack, etc are only some options. No matter what your choice, always practice drawing your weapon in a safe environment before you leave your house.

## HOW THE GLOCK SAFE ACTION® WORKS

First, let's look at GLOCK's trigger safety. This thin lever incorporated into the center of the trigger must be pressed before a shot can be fired. Since this lever is thinner than the trigger and situated right in the middle, only deliberate pressure on the center of the trigger will deactivate it. This feature helps prevent negligent discharges as well as accidents that could arise from an object entering the trigger guard, like dirt, debris, or even someone else's finger.

The GLOCK SAFE ACTION® also incorporates a firing pin safety that will not allow a round to be fired until the trigger is depressed.

Nobody likes the idea of dropping a firearm, but things happen, and when they do, GLOCK's firing pin block will keep you "drop safe." The GLOCK firing pin block is incorporated into the trigger bar's design, which holds onto the firing pin and won't let go until the trigger bar is moved out of the way by—you guessed it—pressing the trigger. Each layered element of this system works together to prevent your GLOCK from firing until you need it to.

## WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

Life-threatening situations are incredibly stressful. These violent incidents occur without warning and without a speed limit. Having no external safeties or other controls to operate on a defensive pistol is an advantage for new and seasoned shooters alike when every split-second counts.

Something else that GLOCK's SAFE ACTION® does is foster confidence for live-fire training. Drawing and presenting a handgun from concealment is a multi-step process. Clearing your cover garment, getting a grip on your gun, drawing from a holster, which may have security devices on it, all while keeping

your finger off of the trigger and your eyes on the target is more than enough to be concerned with. Once again, not having external safeties means less to think about.

## EASY OPERATION

What about ease of operation? GLOCK's streamlined controls allow a user to load, fire, reload, and empty the pistol with simplicity. The slide release performs double duty: It engages a notch in the slide to lock it open when the magazine is fired empty. The only other controls are the magazine catch and the trigger, which includes the safeties. Any shooter can quickly learn these three controls to run a GLOCK with confidence.



Carrying in a vehicle is becoming more popular. The practice of drawing in your vehicle is no different than any other way to carry.



## EASY MAINTENANCE

Maintenance is another reason to go GLOCK. GLOCKs are, hands-down, the easiest semi-automatic pistols to maintain. No tools are required to field-strip a GLOCK and you can learn the process in one minute.

Cleaning and lubrication are quick and easy. Your GLOCK won't need maintenance as often as other platforms and it won't use as much product when you do. You could think of your GLOCK as being "no-fuss, no muss" and other handgun designs as "high-maintenance." A thousand rounds or more can be shot through a GLOCK without needing to perform any maintenance on it, which is crucial when you're trying to get through a concealed carry permit course, or any other training class.

## CUSTOM FIT

A carry gun needs to fit your hands, and GLOCK's Multiple Backstrap System leaves no shooter behind. With small, medium, and large backstraps, in both standard and beavertail options, one is sure to fit.

The lineup of GLOCK models strives to fit every shooter's needs with caliber options starting at .22LR for practice, up to 10mm for hunting, and including everything in between. The GLOCK stable also includes models with frame width and barrel length combinations to suit any body type and all manner of clothing.

## AFFORDABILITY AND RELIABILITY

Another branch on your decision tree may be your budget. Plainly put, GLOCK is less expensive than many other brands. Specialty or economy brands with limited production and distribution capacity tend to frustrate the market with gaps in availability of spare magazines and high costs for parts and service. With GLOCK, you have access to what you need, wherever you go, without paying a premium.

What remains are the most important factors: Reliability and effectiveness. GLOCK reliability and accuracy are legendary. Torture tests and range reports abound for every model and generation of GLOCK.

As a professional gun reviewer, I switched to GLOCKs exclusively because they malfunction less than any other brands I have owned. I can hit my targets rapidly and repeatedly. The same claims are made every day by elite law enforcement and military units around the world.

ABC News recently ran a story about the U.S. Secret Service switching to GLOCK pistols. The story also said more than 65 percent of all law enforcement agencies in the United States are using GLOCK pistols, at federal, state and local levels. Respected officers in these departments said GLOCKs are "better performing, better functioning" and have "fewer issues" than other handguns. They also said the pistols' short trigger pull and short reset were advantageous and that GLOCK pistols had less felt recoil, which aided in faster follow-up shots.

Safe. Simple. Reliable. Effective. These are the essential ingredients that are combined to produce GLOCK carry perfection. Armed professionals overwhelmingly carry GLOCK pistols in their holsters. The reasons they choose GLOCK should give you the confidence to carry one in yours. 🕒

**"The most important aspect of a concealed carry pistol is safety."**



Concealed carry is a lifestyle. If you lead an active life, be sure your wardrobe accommodates your carry options.



GLOCK's Slimline models offer a more narrow overall profile that makes for easier and more comfortable shooting and concealed carry.



# THE GLOCK SLIMLINE ADVANTAGE

**MORE COMPACT PISTOL OPTIONS ENSURE YOU ARE ABLE TO CARRY CONCEALED AT ALL TIMES**

■ ARTICLE BY GUNNER JEFF EBY, USMC (RETIRED)

I have made a conscious decision to carry a self-defense weapon on my body for more than 35 years. I firmly believe I am responsible for my safety, and for the safety of my loved ones. Therefore, this duty requires the personal sacrifice of some comfort regarding the extra weight and bulk of a firearm.

With each departure from my home I am confronted with balancing the requirements of attire appropriate for the occasion with the concealed carry methods and guns available to me. While I prefer to carry my custom GLOCK 19, I do not always have the option to do so, especially in summer months, when the weight and length of the G19 makes it more difficult to conceal beneath a t-shirt and shorts.

Fortunately, GLOCK pistols come in a variety of shapes and sizes, and like the clothes I wear, afford me many options from which to choose for an event.

The dimensions of a firearm impact each of us differently, depending on body size and carry method, so they should be considered individually as well as cumulatively to determine which carry method and gun is best suited for a given activity or manner of dress.

What we choose to wear when heading out to dinner or a movie is typically very different from what we wear working in our yard, on our daily jobs, or while traveling around our

**“Fortunately, GLOCK pistols come in a variety of shapes and sizes, and like the clothes I wear, afford me many options from which to choose for an event.”**

beautiful country. Ideally, having more than one firearm from which to choose will provide you with more options when trying to balance a carry method, whether in an inside-or outside- the-waistband holster, in a CCW backpack, in a fanny pack, purse or any other carry method with suitable attire, while trying to be as comfortable as possible.

As with any lifesaving tool or practice, constant training with various carry methods is essential to ensure safe and accurate habits when a self-defense situation arises. Remember, limited carry options can cause you to go unarmed on some occasions, and that is not good.





**TOP:** Shown here is the GLOCK 42 chambered in .380 AUTO, a popular defensive cartridge.

**CENTER:** The Slimline frame is barely any wider than the pistol's slide.



The GLOCK 43X MOS comes ready to accept the most popular miniature red-dot sights on the market.

## SLIMLINE FOR SUMMER

GLOCK's new Slimline models fill the gap between the G43 and the G19 models and give us more choices to fit our daily options. My previous options for summer carry were limited to the G43 and the G26 in 9x19. The G43 and G26 were of equal length, similar height, but the G43 was thinner than the G26 with a smaller magazine capacity (six versus 10 rounds).

Both of these options were difficult for me to grasp with more than two fingers on the grip without a finger extension on the magazine, and due to my larger hands, I often pinched the palm of my shooting hand while reloading during training. These were great options for me during summer months when it was impossible to hide my G19, but my grip was not the same.



## MORE OPTIONS WITH THE G43X AND G48

With the release of the new Slimline G43X and G48, I now have several slimmer, shorter, and lighter carry options that have the same grip size as the G19 I normally carry. Since I prefer the use of red-dot sighting systems, the available option of GLOCK's Modular Optic System (MOS) on both models gives me more options and saves me time and money.

The G43X MOS also streamlines my training requirements by providing a very similar set up between carry options of the G43X MOS and the G19 with a red-dot that I have carried for more than a decade.

In previous years, I limited myself to the red-dot adorned G19 and had great difficulty hiding it without looking sloppy wearing an untucked oversized shirt. When GLOCK released the G42, I bought several, just as I did with the G43. When carrying the G42 and G43, I always carried two spare magazines to make up for their reduced ammunition capacity, but felt comfortable knowing I had a gun on me with sufficient ammunition to readily address an attack.

When GLOCK released the G43X MOS, I immediately bought two and outfitted each of them with a red-dot sight. I carry mine in an appendix holster where my G19 normally sits and my wife carries hers in a purse designed for quick access. The new 10-round magazine capacity seems sufficient to carry without spare magazines and is much easier to conceal in warmer weather. As soon as the weather permits, I will certainly move back to my G19, but I do not feel short changed in the least carrying the G43X.

Remember, pistol red-dot sights enable you to shoot the way your body will naturally function under stress: Your eyes will lock onto the target, preventing near-range focus on a front sight. A red dot allows you to keep your focus on the target while aiming accurately with the bright dot, and to do it very quickly. No amount of training can overcome this Body Alarm Reaction, so you may as well train the way the body is going to fight and modify your guns accordingly.

## THE TAKEAWAY

Slimline GLOCK pistols provide concealed carriers with more options so they can carry comfortably and effectively, regardless of the clothes they wear or the season they have to dress for, and always be ready to defend themselves and their loved ones. There's a GLOCK model for everyone and for every type of carry, you just have to find yours. To learn more and compare features of the Slimline models, visit <https://us.glock.com/en/slimline>



Slimline GLOCK pistols are a great option for appendix carry, an increasingly popular holster position. Photo by author.



Many modern holsters include features that ensure correct positioning and help prevent printing, like wedges and wings. Some IWB holsters also accommodate a spare magazine.



Inside the Waistband (IWB) Appendix is an increasingly popular holster position among concealed carriers.

# CONCEALED CARRY FOR WOMEN

HOW TO BUILD CONFIDENCE WHILE CARRYING EFFECTIVELY AND COMFORTABLY

■ ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY MONICA NEWMAN

**T**aking our safety into our own hands is one of the most empowering things we can do as women. That being said, it's also one of the most complicated things we can do. When it comes to self-defense, there are so many options and so much information out there, it can be overwhelming!

If you're reading this, you may already own a firearm for self-defense and you may have already begun your concealed carry journey. No matter where you are, there's always something new to learn and different perspectives to consider. In my 3-1/2 years of concealed carrying, I've learned much from other female concealed carriers, as well as from my own trial and error.

Here, I'll walk you through how to build concealed carry confidence, and how to concealed carry effectively and comfortably with my favorite concealment tips and tricks.

## BUILDING CONCEALED CARRY CONFIDENCE

Confidence is an underrated topic in the concealed carry world, but it's one of the most important aspects of our journey and it can be one of the biggest hurdles to overcome. Some women may not carry at all simply because they don't feel confident doing so. Here are three strategies to help you build concealed carry confidence.

### 1. Carry At Home

Getting used to your concealed carry setup is a simple and easy way to build confidence! First and foremost, make sure to

practice the four rules of gun safety at all times, and be extra careful when holstering or unholstering your firearm.

Start by carrying your unloaded firearm around your home with the holsters, belts, and other items you would wear everyday. This will help you get accustomed to the weight and bulk of your gear on your body, and learn what happens as you go about your regular activities.

Watch yourself in a mirror or record yourself on video to observe the nuances of what happens with your setup as you move around. This will allow you to see if there are any issues you may need to address before venturing out into the world. This is also a good time to practice common scenarios that can be a little extra complicated when carrying, like using the restroom.

Once you feel confident carrying at home with an unloaded firearm, take the next step by carrying loaded and chambered around the house. From there, graduate to carrying in familiar places where you feel comfortable, like a friend's house or your favorite coffee shop.

### 2. Get The Right Gear

Quality gear is essential for effective concealment, and it's nearly impossible to feel confident carrying without it. Take the time to do some research to ensure you get the right gear that will meet your needs and enable you to carry effectively. Talk to your concealed carry community (online or in real life) about the gear they use and read product reviews before making a purchase. Put some thought into the why behind the gear you



# “Quality gear is essential for effective concealment, and it’s nearly impossible to feel confident carrying without it.”

are considering, and what a particular product will enable you to achieve.

It’s important to remember that you get what you pay for. Cheap concealed carry gear can often compromise your safety and may contribute to ineffective concealment. Focus on quality and acquire products that will enable you to conceal carry safely and effectively. It may require a little extra time, money, and experimentation, but you’ll end up with reliable gear.



A solid training plan that you stick to is essential for improving handgun skills.

## 3. Train Often

Last but certainly not least, train often! Lack of training often equates to a lack of confidence. Therefore, frequent training is absolutely essential throughout all of our concealed carry journeys. Manipulating a firearm, shooting, clearing malfunctions, and drawing from concealment are

perishable skills. Keeping those skills sharp will not only boost your concealed carry confidence, but will also ensure you can be effective in a self-defense situation.

Just like our gear, training must be quality. Ensure any training you do is purposeful, whether that be dry fire at home or live fire on the range. If you don’t yet have shooting experience or need help building a solid foundation, seek out a qualified instructor.

Quality training early in your journey will ensure that you are building good habits and avoiding bad ones. Look for group classes or one-on-one instruction that aligns with your level of training.

Whether you’re working with an instructor or on your own, develop a training plan, set goals that will challenge you to improve, and track your progress. Ensure that you are setting aside time in your schedule and money in your budget to continue training at regular intervals.

## CONCEALMENT TIPS AND TRICKS

Now that you’re feeling confident carrying, here are some concealment tricks to take it to the next level. Most of the women I know (myself included) find carrying in the appendix position to be the most comfortable, easiest to conceal, and easiest to access. So, these tips are focused on appendix carrying, but some may also translate into other positions.

### Leverage Holster Features

Holsters have come a long way in the last few years. Many now have integrated features to enhance concealment. When shopping for holsters, keep an eye out for the following features:

- A **wing** (sometimes called a claw) extends off one side of the holster and helps pivot the grip of your firearm inward, keeping it close to your body. The wing works best with a sturdy belt.
- A **wedge** helps to ensure that your setup does not tip forward. This is especially beneficial with subcompact

pistols that do not have much mass below the waistband. If you find that your setup tends to tip forward, look for holsters that have integrated wedge-like shapes. You can also purchase a separate foam wedge to attach to your existing holster.

- All **belt clips** are not created equal. If your holster comes with plastic belt clips, swap them out for sturdy metal clips from Discreet Carry Concepts. These minimalist metal clips provide discreet concealment and fantastic retention to keep your setup from shifting as you go about your day.

## Wardrobe Tips

Choosing a wardrobe for concealed carry can be an exciting part of the experience! Experiment with outfits at home and take your concealed carry setup with you when you shop for new clothes. Build your concealed carry wardrobe with staple pieces to make getting dressed for concealed carry easy. Here are a few ways to optimize your wardrobe for concealed carry life.

- Gravitate towards **natural fabrics** like linen, wool, silk, cashmere, and cotton. These will drape nicely over your concealed carry setup, provide more effective concealment, and will hold up better to the additional wear on your clothes from your gear. Look for fabrics that have a bit of structure and can hold their shape.
- Experiment with the **fit and shape** of your tops. Oversized, flowy, or boxy tops will make concealment a breeze. Asymmetrical or unconventional silhouettes will also be fantastic additions to your concealed carry wardrobe.
- Use **color and pattern** to your advantage. Darker colors and busier patterns tend to conceal more effectively than lighter, solid colors—it’s all about the illusion!
- The **rise of your pants** can make a big difference in your comfort and concealment. Depending on your body type, a higher or lower rise may provide you with more comfortable and effective concealment. A 9-10” rise is a common sweet spot for appendix carry.
- A **sturdy belt** will support the weight of your setup and enable concealment features to be effective. If you’re struggling to achieve effective concealment with a normal belt, or even no belt at all, seek out a belt that is designed for concealed carry. For appendix carry, shift the belt buckle off to the side to reduce extra bulk up front.
- A **partial tuck** (sometimes called a French tuck) is my favorite concealment trick! By tucking in part of your shirt in front on the opposite side of the grip of your firearm, your shirt will drape in such a way that creates a little pocket for your firearm. This makes concealment a breeze!
- **Layering** can aid in both comfort and concealment. Layer a camisole between your body and holster to prevent discomfort from the holster or firearm being against your skin. When wearing lighter colors or sheer fabrics, a black camisole will act as camouflage, making your firearm undetectable through your outer layer.
- **The art of distraction** is a big part of concealed carry. Use other elements in your wardrobe to draw the eye up and away from your setup. A fun scarf or statement necklace makes for a great distraction!

As I said, taking our safety into our own hands can be complicated! With the right training, tools, and knowledge, we can overcome those complications and turn concealed carrying into an exciting and empowering journey. 🍷

# EVOLUTION OF THE G45

HOW THE G19 CAME TO BE AND LED TO THE HYBRID G45

■ ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY ROBERT A. SADOWSKI



The GLOCK 45 in 9x19 has a full-size G17 grip and a compact G19 slide: the perfect combination of usability and compact carry.

**T**he GLOCK 19 is one of those unique GLOCK pistols that evolves as needs have changed. It's one of the reasons the G19 and G45 are so popular with Law Enforcement and civilians.

In the mid 1980s, Law Enforcement (LE) had fully embraced the GLOCK 17. This full size pistol completely changed the way we think about a duty gun and how we train with them. But—and there is always a but—the G17 was a bit large for some uses.

Plainclothes cops, detectives, and members of some Federal agencies embraced the GLOCK, but wanted a more compact version. GLOCK developed the G19 in response to the need for a compact version of the G17. In 1987 GLOCK created the first G19 prototype by cutting down a G17 Gen1.

## MAKING CHANGES

GLOCK has always pivoted with Law Enforcement needs or requests, and the G19 Gen1 was soon in the hands of LE professionals as a proof of concept. The grip length of the G17 was reduced to cut down on the overall height of the pistol. They removed a portion of the dust cover, and modified the locking block front rails to accommodate a shorter slide, barrel, and guide rod assembly.

Because of the shorter grip, the magazine also had to go under the saw. It was shortened and its capacity reduced from 17 rounds to 15 rounds. A few months after introducing the G19 Gen1 in March 1988, GLOCK introduced its Gen2 pistols, including an updated version of the G19, meaning there was only a small window of availability for the G19 Gen1.

## CONCEALED CARRY REDEFINED

Just as the G17 completely changed how people thought of full-size LE and military sidearms, the G19 completely reset the standard for compact concealed carry pistols. Law enforcement

welcomed the smaller GLOCK and civilian EDC users embraced the new pistol as well.

The G19 has since become one of GLOCK's most popular models. And why wouldn't it? With a 4-inch barrel and an overall length of 7.28 inches, the G19 is perfect for concealed carry. Plus at just a bit over 30 ounces fully loaded, it is wonderfully lightweight.

Since those first models, the G19 has gone through several updates including the Gen3, Gen4, and Gen5 models, as well as MOS variants for the Gen4 and Gen5 models, which allowed the G19 to be equipped with a red-dot sight without aftermarket modifications. I rotate a G19 Gen5 in my EDC routine regularly and often carry them in a Safariland GLS 575 polymer holster set up for appendix carry.

## ENTER THE G19X AND G45

There must have been an "ah-ha" moment in 2018 when the folks at GLOCK thought of combining the best features of the G17 and G19 pistols. GLOCK calls the G19X a crossover pistol, since it combines the full size frame of the G17 with the shorter slide and barrel of the G19. The G19X is the commercial equivalent of the pistol GLOCK submitted to the US Army's Modular Handgun System tests. The G19X ultimately evolved into the G45.

The G45 offers the magazine capacity of the G17, (17+1) and with the shorter slide and barrel, it is faster out of the holster—plus the larger grip makes the gun more controllable. These are all advantages in a defensive situation, and a thumbs up from LE.

When you hear "hybrid," it sounds a bit like the G45 was Frankenstein-ed together, but that's hardly the case. In the hand, the G45 is an exceptionally well-balanced pistol. The G45 also incorporates Gen5 updates, including a smoother trigger pull, enhanced frame texture, reversible magazine catch, front slide serrations, an ambidextrous slide stop lever, GLOCK's Modular Backstrap System, and the match-grade GLOCK Marksman Barrel. The recoil impulse when shooting the G45 can only be described as sublime.

The G45 is truly a marriage of the best features from GLOCK's first two successful models, the G17 and G19, and proves that the GLOCK design is absolutely ripe for innovation in the 21st century. ☺



The currently produced compact GLOCK 19 Gen5 pistol with front and rear slide serrations and no finger grooves.



# A CUT ABOVE THE REST

## GLOCK CUTAWAY MODELS DEMONSTRATE THE TECHNOLOGY BUILT INTO EACH GUN

■ ARTICLE BY ROBERT SADOWSKI

**Y**ou have no doubt heard the expression: “Show, don’t tell.” That’s exactly what cutaway models of GLOCK pistols do. Cutaway guns put the inner workings of the firearm on display by having strategic pieces of metal and polymer machined and cut away to reveal what’s under the slide and inside the frame.

Firearm manufacturers have used cutaway models to show off the inner workings of their guns for as long as modern firearms have been in development. When GLOCK entered the U.S. firearms market 35 years ago, cutaway models played an important role in demonstrating how the revolutionary GLOCK design operated. They are also a valuable teaching and training aid to help users—law enforcement, military, armorers, and civilians alike—to better understand how the pistol works.

### BENEFITS OF CUTAWAY MODELS

Today, we largely rely on video to demonstrate how things work, and GLOCK certainly has that covered with the detailed videos they produce outlining the workings of their pistols—but nothing compares to what you get from the hands-on experience of a cutaway model when it comes to understanding how the pistol parts work in conjunction with each other. Three decades ago, they were essential.

Imagine it’s 1986 and you are telling a group of police chiefs or military personnel about the new GLOCK 17 pistol and how it has three built in safeties, a DOA (cannot manually cock by racking the slide, must have extended trigger pull) style trigger, a reliable and rugged magazine, and a polymer frame. You get looks of skepticism, disbelief, and downright cynicism from the seasoned and experienced chiefs and military personnel. They have been there and done that and broken a lot of pistols doing it. Why is the GLOCK so special?

Remember, back in the mid-1980s most Law Enforcement (LE) departments were still using DA/SA (double action/single action) revolvers. Why should they change to or even consider a “plastic” GLOCK pistol? Here’s where the “show me” part comes in and the cutaway model proved to be instrumental in demonstrating how a GLOCK works.

GLOCK was able to show how the unfamiliar safeties operate, the firing sequence, the magazine, and nearly every moving part inside the pistol. The skepticism waned quickly. Safety is extremely important for users and the GLOCK did not exhibit the traditional safety features LE and the military expected. The First generation G17 cutaway allowed a lot of organizations to understand those safety features and confidently choose GLOCK pistols for the first time.

### CUTAWAY HISTORY

One of the first cutaway G17 pistols produced was created by two former GLOCK employees. They took it upon themselves to show just how forward thinking and progressive the GLOCK design is compared to other designs. This first



The progressive design of GLOCK pistols has forever changed the firearm industry.

cutaway pistol is known as the “Tarley and Takano” G17 Gen1 among GLOCK collecting enthusiasts. Once the pistols started catching on in the U.S., Austria began exporting G17 Gen1 cutaway models to help demonstrate the radical new design.

GLOCK Collectors Association (GCA) President, Stanley J. Ruselowski, Jr., has a pristine example of one of earliest cutaway pistols produced in 1989 by GLOCK in Austria and says that all cutaway models have a JQ prefix on their serial numbers.

### NOTHING LIKE A CUTAWAY

As the years have passed, GLOCK has manufactured new cutaway models as new generations of GLOCK pistols were introduced for various Gen1 through Gen4 models. New Gen5 cutaway models are expected soon.

William Carmichael, Technical Service Manager at GLOCK U.S., explains that cutaway models are an important teaching and training aid to help show users how the gun operates and how parts work in the gun work together.


An important fact: All GLOCK cutaway models are functioning pistols. You can rack the slide and dry fire them, you can even load dummy rounds in the magazine and insert it.

“During the firing sequence you can see, as the DAO trigger being pressed, that the trigger is cocking the striker and disengaging the safeties one by one,” Charmichael says. “If the shooter stops pressing the trigger, the safeties immediately re-engage.”

You can see on the right side of the cutaway a section machined out of the slide and frame that show the trigger bar in operation. The safeties become disengaged as the trigger is pulled and the trigger bar is moved to the rear and the cruciform moves back as it connect with the striker and continues to move back and down to allow the striker and firing pin to move forward to fire a round.

GLOCK’s cutaway models show how much GLOCK pistols are a cut above the competition.

The GCA ([glockcollectorsassociation.org](http://glockcollectorsassociation.org)) would like to thank GLOCK for its assistance in gathering cutaway pistol information. The GCA is privileged to be a GLOCK insider and help chronicle and share the information on company’s history and pistols. 🍷



GLOCK wrapped 30-plus years of manufacturing firearms with a proven track record before they launched an inexpensive and light-recoiling cartridge that can service so many disciplines. All of the Gen5 attributes are present in the GLOCK 44.

# G44: PERFECTION ON THE RANGE

**THE RIMFIRE GLOCK 44 PISTOL CHAMBERED IN .22LR IS A GREAT  
PLINKING PISTOL AND A WHOLE LOT MORE**

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EDWARDS

**G**LOCK has been developing handguns for military and law enforcement use, competitive target shooting, and civilian self-defense for decades. Some models, like the GLOCK 20 and the G40, both chambered in 10mm, have even proven to be capable hunting handguns and defensive firearms against dangerous predators in the field. GLOCKS are the world standard that all other handgun models are judged by.

One handgun category remained unchecked in GLOCK's product lines: A training and plinking pistol chambered for the ubiquitous .22 Long Rifle (LR) rimfire cartridge. The overall design of the .22LR cartridges is over 130 years old and it's estimated that around 2-2.5 billion rounds are produced each year, much of which is manufactured in the United States.

It is obviously still a popular cartridge, with many variants produced, from precision target match ammo to hollowpoint ammo for hunting. You can even get .22LR snake-shot cartridges meant for use against venomous pests. With

.22LR ammo being relatively easy to find and more affordable than centerfire pistol ammo, it was almost inevitable that GLOCK would address this sector of the handgun world, but GLOCK engineers had their work cut out for them.

## **PAINSTAKINGLY DEVELOPED TO PURSUE PERFECTION**

Many different companies produce .22LR ammunition and it's all over the map in terms of quality. To make the task more difficult, the tiny cartridge has a straight-walled case with a significant rim at its base, which is great for revolvers but presents challenges in designing a magazine for a semi-auto pistol that will feed and function reliably.

An addition hurdle to overcome was that .22LR ammo produces very low pressures, and that means the slide can't have too much mass, or the ammunition won't be able to cycle it back and forth when firing.

So, GLOCK began a long and meticulous design and testing program with the goal of delivering a rimfire pistol worthy of the GLOCK name. The result was the GLOCK 44 pistol.





Aside from the reduced weight of a G44, it's almost not distinguishable from the full-powered line-up of other GLOCK models.

## GLOCK 44 FEATURES

GLOCK used its expertise in polymer fabrication to come up with a lightweight hybrid slide that functions reliably with the rimfire ammo. The GLOCK SAFE ACTION® fire control system provides safety and efficiency in shooting. An almost completely polymer 10-round magazine was exhaustively tested to ensure the best functionality possible. The GLOCK 44 was adorned with a Gen5 Marksman barrel for greater accuracy and with GLOCK adjustable sights to allow for flexibility across a range of .22LR ammunition.

The GLOCK 44 burst into the market place in late 2019, and they have been flying out of the GLOCK factory ever since.

## FEATURES AND FIELD TRIALS

I obtained a sample G44 shortly after its introduction and quickly became enamored with it—I'd almost forgotten how much fun shooting can be!

The G44 brought back happy plinking memories, and the reduced expense of range sessions only added to the enjoyment. Pistol shooting is, to paraphrase Thomas Jefferson, "a moderate exercise, but it gives boldness, enterprise and independence to the mind."

Plus, I have frequently carried a G19 over the years, and the G44 has become a constant training partner. Recency in training is recognized as being essential for skills maintenance, and the G44's economy greatly assists in practicing the fundamentals of marksmanship as often as they should be practiced. The pistol's bantam weight—slightly over 16 ounces with a loaded magazine—makes for easy carry in the field for targets of opportunity.

Since polymer is used to create the G44's frame and the exterior portion of its slide, there should be little concern over potential corrosion. Additionally, the GLOCK Marksman Barrel

(GMB) has a nDLC finish which protects and preserves it. By the way, the accuracy of the GMB is remarkable with quality ammunition.

When it comes to use in the field, one could conceivably harvest small game like rabbits or squirrels for the "camp pot" with the G44. In the Southern and Western United States, hikers and campers frequently run across venomous snakes or other pests, for which the GLOCK 44 is also well suited to address with the proper ammo.

With the G44 in the field, opportunities also arise for informal target practice, an exercise that will always be known as "plinking." Empty cans, plastic containers—which absolutely must be cleaned up afterwards—or even dirt clods or pine cones can serve as safe targets of opportunity and a chance to practice a bit more.

## USEFUL ADD-ONS

The G44 is ready to go "out of the box" with spare magazines, a mag loader, and cleaning rod with brush included, but there are always additional accessories that can be of use. The first, of course, is a holster for the G44, and GLOCK manufactures an elegant and efficient "Sport Combat" holster for belt carry.

Constructed of molded polymer, the Sport Combat holster has good friction retention and carries high and out of the way on the belt. And since the G44's profile is nearly identical to the common G19, finding practically any kind of holster to fit shouldn't be a problem. Also, when choosing mag pouches, it's important to note G44 magazines have the same dimensions of standard GLOCK mags.

On my personal G44, I have added a couple of GLOCK parts, including the extended magazine catch, which I find a bit easier to manipulate, particularly with gloves on.

I once had a very experienced combat veteran tell me that if your personal gear wasn't secured to your body in some way, it might end up gone forever. I'm no combat veteran, nor am I looking to be one, but I would hate to lose my field companion in deep water or down a ravine. Enter the GLOCK lanyard attachment, which simply snaps into the rear of the frame for an added layer of reassurance. As an added bonus, it can double as a mag guide when reloading.

GLOCK also manufactures an extended, threaded barrel for the G44. The added barrel length provides a bit more muzzle velocity, and the barrel's threads allow sound suppressors to be used with the GLOCK 44. On the pistol's accessory rail I added a gun light for any low-light shooting situations that may arise, but you can also use the space for a laser sight or any rail-based attachment you choose.

I found the GLOCK 44 to be an overall faithful rimfire field companion! ☺



Seating the magazine properly in a G44 is not different than any other pistol. Practice makes perfect.



GLOCK designed the G44 magazines with loading assist tabs. This allows shooters to load ten rounds very quickly.

GLOCK pistols are outstanding defensive handguns for use against threats that walk on two legs, as well as those that walk on four.

# GLOCKS FOR PREDATOR DEFENSE

## GLOCK HAS THE SELF-DEFENSE NEEDS OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURERS COVERED

■ ARTICLE BY CWO-5/GUNNER CHRISTIAN P. WADE, USMC (RET.) ■ PHOTOS BY RILEY SABO

Over the past decades, GLOCK pistols have become iconic for serving law enforcement and military professionals with great distinction on the world's battlefields and streets. GLOCK pistols have also become the gold standard for private citizens who wish to defend themselves and their families.

Statistics show that armed citizens most commonly defend themselves against attackers on two legs with one of several GLOCK handguns, but what about self-defense when traveling in places where one might encounter a four-legged threat, like a mountain lion or grizzly bear? Can a GLOCK pistol be employed by hunters and others for defense when venturing into the wilds? As they say in Montana, "You betcha!"

### DEFENSE, AT THE READY, AT ALL TIMES

After 30 years of service as a U.S. Marine, I recently returned to my home in the Rocky Mountains of Montana. I immediately conducted a fresh mission and threat analysis.

I found myself operating in an environment where an engagement with Kalashnikov-wielding enemies, while still possible, is far less likely than a close encounter with a grizzly bear or some other angry or frightened predator.

**"Always choose the right  
GLOCK for the task at hand."**



A GLOCK MOS pistol fitted with a red-dot sight is the best defense tool you can have in any environment.





**“The most critical factor in defending oneself against an apex predator with a handgun is not caliber size, but shot placement.”**

### SHOT PLACEMENT IS CRITICAL

Fortunately, there is also a great deal of evidence produced by brave souls who have defended themselves from animal attacks and lived to tell the tale. In many of these instances, the survivor employed a GLOCK pistol in self-defense, and not only those chambered for larger calibers, but 9x19 models as well.

A clear pattern emerges after examining records and accounts of defensive handgun engagements between armed outdoor enthusiasts and, for example, brown or black bears. The most critical factor in defending oneself against an apex predator with a handgun is not caliber size, but shot placement.

Other important factors are how immediately accessible the pistol is and how reliable it is once deployed.

You must also carefully select the right defensive cartridge with a proper defensive bullet that will penetrate deeply. To that end, you also want to be able to produce a volume of accurate fire.

A GLOCK pistol can check all those boxes. Not only that, but many GLOCK models can pull double duty as excellent hunting handguns for deer, feral hogs, and similarly sized game.

### WHAT TO CARRY AND WHEN

The GLOCK pistol I carry depends on the situation. For example, during that time of year when the grizzlies are hibernating, I carry a GLOCK Gen5 9x19 pistol outfitted with a high-quality gun light and a miniature red-dot sight; when hunting small rodents and pests in the barn, I choose a GLOCK 44 in .22LR with a suppressor attached. Always choose the right GLOCK for the task at hand.

When the local newspapers report the first Grizzly sighting of the year, I ready my exceptional GLOCK 20 Gen4 MOS in 10mm AUTO and move my favorite gun light to its accessory rail. We do not get to choose when a predator will take interest in us, and they often visit us at night. I switch to a 10mm AUTO GLOCK during bear season for the simple fact that grizzlies can stand up to eight feet tall, weigh up to 800 pounds, and can run up to 35 miles an hour.

### THE TAKEAWAY

Based on all the available anecdotal and empirical data, and my own experience, I am most confident that my array of GLOCK pistols can handle any specific and changing requirements I may encounter. Remember, while confidence is critical, it is a subjective feeling that should be grounded in reality and backed up by a great deal of proper training and the selection of appropriate firearms, ammunition, and equipment. Select GLOCK pistols, ammunition, and equipment only after extensive research and then seek credible training—and then train more.

Military and law enforcement professionals and private citizens around the world rightly depend on GLOCK pistols for defense against two-legged threats—and my fellow outdoor adventurers can rely on them as well for defense against potentially lethal predators. With a GLOCK by your side and with the confidence gained through intensive training, there is nowhere on earth one cannot boldly venture. ☉

These days, I routinely find myself deep in grizzly country and in the habitat of black bears, gray wolves, mountain lions, and, from time to time, ornery homo sapiens. Naturally, I wish to tread as lightly as possible and create minimal disruption to the wildlife (including humans) in these areas, but I'm always prepared for things to go sideways.


While it's wise to keep a suitable rifle and/or shotgun as close as possible in our daily lives, a GLOCK pistol carried concealed by a well-trained operator provides excellent close-range defensive capabilities while maintaining a low profile. There are also situations when traveling or hunting, especially bow hunting, in the wilderness where it's impractical or even illegal to carry a rifle or shotgun.

GLOCK Gen5 pistols, with decades of lessons learned and engineering advancements gleaned from combat and police operations worldwide behind them, are extremely well suited for defensive duties in the field.

### CHOOSING A DEFENSIVE GLOCK

Which GLOCK pistol(s) do I employ and why? I will explain my choices and how they fit my personal circumstances so you can answer similar questions about your own defense and choose the optimal GLOCK solution for them.

First and foremost, I have used GLOCK pistols for over 30 years because I demand absolute reliability under the most challenging environmental conditions. The decades of flawless GLOCK performance I have observed, and mountains of data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Customs and Border Protection (US CBP), United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), United States Department of Defense (US DOD), and countless other credible law enforcement and military agencies all support the GLOCK choice. However, all that data is related to human threats.



With over three decades of precise production, GLOCK has established itself as the most reliable pistol ever made.

# WHAT MAKES GLOCKS SO TOUGH

## GLOCK; TOUGH AND RELIABLE

■ ARTICLE BY ANDRE' M. DALL'AU

**T**he stories of GLOCK's reliability and ability to function in adverse conditions are legendary. Not long ago, a Florida police agency recovered a GLOCK 19 from the salty water of Florida's Indian River, close to the mouth of the ocean, where it sat for a year. The ownership could not be established. That specific G19 was stripped, cleaned, and placed into service as a police duty weapon. It was a sworn officer's primary weapon for many years. That officer did not experience any problems with that GLOCK.

Recently, at another sheriff's office, a suspicious person drew a concealed pistol during a field interview, and shot two deputies with a .45 AUTO. This gunfire also hit the frame of one of the officer's GLOCK 22. The slug from the criminal lodged in the grip of this officer's pistol. While injured, the officer managed to clear the damaged magazine, inserted a loaded magazine and ended the fight as the suspect guy was attempting to reload. Luckily, both deputies recovered from their wounds. GLOCK pistols can take abuse and still provide defense.

The excellent reputation that GLOCK enjoys did not come easy. The GLOCK pistol was incredibly innovative when it was introduced. It was radically different and heretical in concept. The GLOCK 17 showed up in retail stores and trade shows in the late eighties. Shooters were astonished to see a new semi-auto design made with polymer materials, no manual safety, an

## "The GLOCK design has revolutionized the world's perspective of pistols"

unprecedented large magazine capacity, and no hammer. This polymer framed innovation that went head-to-head against the established standard steel and wood revolvers, that represented 90% of the market. Over the years, skeptics changed their disapproving attitude to acceptance, amazement, admiration, and then advocacy!

The FBI Miami shootout, in April of 1986, created a need to shift in training and firearms manufacturing. That tragic and violent act was the first act of domestic terrorism in America. Eight, well-trained and well-armed FBI agents attempted to apprehend two known, violent, bank robbers. The result was pure carnage with 150 shots fired. The two bank robbers were killed along with two FBI agents. Five others were wounded and three were critically injured. Overnight, there was a call for new and better weapons, ammunition, and training. This wasn't a call for only the FBI, but all law enforcement and civilian shooters who viewed this kinetic disaster as a wake-up call.

As a knee-jerk reaction, the FBI chose the 10mm AUTO for their personnel. Immediately, they suffered from difficulty





Disassembly of the G44 is no different than other GLOCK models.

in placing rounds on target due to the magnum-power loads from pistols not properly engineered for higher pressures. To adjust to the decline in the pistol scores, the 10mm AUTO was replaced with a round that became the .40 AUTO. This was more manageable. It was soon embraced and widely adopted by many national, state, and local law enforcement agencies and departments.

GLOCK lead the way with pistols in all calibers. GLOCK produced sturdy, accurate and controllable high-capacity sidearms. This consistency provided shooters with reliable and desirable firearms for security, self-defense, sport, and competition. As a result, GLOCK established itself as the premier firearm for law enforcement in regular frame, compact and sub-compact models in almost every pistol caliber.

It all started with an incredibly forward-thinking and radically different approach to firearms design by Gaston Glock. He responded to the Austrian's Army need to replace their WWII era P-38 sidearm with an all-around better, 9x19 pistol. Their requirements included lightweight material, hammer-forged barrel, consistent trigger pull (no single action/double action hybrid), with a high-capacity magazine. Before pistols, Mr. Glock produced knives and parts for grenades and machine gun belt links. He sat down with a blank sheet of paper to design a pistol. He based his concept on good engineering principles and focused on new material he planned to use. He recognized that simplicity enhances reliability, and with that concept he designed his pistol with even fewer parts demanded in the contract with the Austrian Army. Today, each GLOCK is made from an average of (only) 35 parts. Mr. Glock created the GLOCK SAFE ACTION® in lieu of the traditional manual safety. The GLOCK SAFE ACTION® is made of three passive safeties which include the trigger safety, the firing pin safety and the drop safety. Each of these three are designed to release sequentially when the trigger is depressed, and then automatically re-engage afterwards.

The manufacture of GLOCK products is specifically, and organizationally, mandated to be identical regardless of location.

The exceptionally high standards of quality control, quality assurance, manufacturing tolerances, qualifications of personnel and computer software used for engineering and production, are standardized. Every G19 made in Austria, is identical to the same model made in GLOCK's United States facility in Smyrna, Georgia. The United States facility is staffed by hundreds of local employees, most of them long-time employees making GLOCK an indispensable keystone for the area's economy and industrial employment for the past 35 years.

The GLOCK design has revolutionized the world's perspective of pistols. Every major manufacturer of semi-automatic handguns produces clones of striker-fired pistols. A larger percentage of law enforcement and military organizations have adopted GLOCKS. It all started from a singular, futuristic concept that faced massive opposition and decades of resistance. That is gratifying, but the real appreciation comes from how GLOCK handguns have endured and saved lives during the last four decades of use. Consistent manufacturing has produced great pistols for over three decades/ Those pistols have protected millions, worldwide. 🟡



Gaston Glock's pistols have revolutionized the firearms industry.

# HEAD OVER HEELS FOR GLOCK

WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE SHOOTING SPORTS INDUSTRY  
LOVE THEIR GLOCK PISTOLS

■ ARTICLE BY ROBYN SANDOVAL

**F**rom firearms instructors to competitive shooters to law enforcement officers, women throughout the industry love their GLOCK pistols. Although they use different models for a variety of activities, there are recurring themes in their stories: Reliability, durability, and consistency. We asked eight women how they were introduced to GLOCK and why it remains their go-to brand; here are their stories in their own words.

**TIFFANY JOHNSON**  
**FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR**  
**GLOCK 48**

"After dabbling with 1911s and double-action guns, I began carrying a GLOCK pistol a little over 10 years ago. I first considered switching to GLOCK when I noticed that almost all my trainers, almost all the top-performing defensive shooters, and almost all the students in high-round-count, multi-day defensive training classes were carrying GLOCK pistols. I prefer them because of their simple operation, their incomparable reliability, their affordability, and the ready availability of replacement parts, accessories, and aftermarket upgrades.

"In the beginning, my only hesitation was that the design was a little too thick for my short fingers, which compromised my firing grip; however, now that the single-stack models are available, the GLOCK 48 has been my number one choice for defensive carry."

**DAKOTA ADELPHIA**  
**INSTRUCTOR AND COMPETITOR**  
**GLOCK 19**

"My GLOCK 19 consistently performs well in training classes and competitions. In local steel matches, I regularly place near the top with my stock GLOCK.



"Although I have a petite frame, I find it possible to conceal with the proper holster set-up. GLOCK is famous for reliability, and my experience reflects that."

**KAREN COSE**  
**INSTRUCTOR AND COMPETITOR**  
**GLOCK 26**

"When my husband, Ed, was alive, his favorite EDC was a GLOCK 26. I called the little fat-stack pistol his "Block," and successfully side-stepped his efforts to get me to shoot it for nearly 20 years.

"In 2008, my darling was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer and he passed away in June 2009. I became the keeper of the firearm collection, and once I got my hands on his GLOCK 26, I never let go.

"I love everything about my GLOCK—its durability, dependability, and ease of operation. I conceal carry it, I use it for competitive and defensive training classes, and I compete with it regularly. I have several GLOCK models now, but the "Block" is still my favorite."

**FIFI RAYMOND**  
**INSTRUCTOR AND COMPETITOR**  
**GLOCK 17**

"I was given the opportunity through A Girl & A Gun Women's Shooting League to attend the GLOCK Armorer and Operators course in Smyrna, Georgia. I didn't own a GLOCK pistol, so I purchased a GLOCK 17 for the event.

"Through the armorer's course, I was able to learn that the firearm's [design] is what makes it so well known. It may seem simplistic at first, but the safety mechanisms and the opportunity to customize the gun to fit your needs is what makes it an amazing brand, plus GLOCK's simply amazing reputation for reliability.





# **“I trust my GLOCK with my life and the lives of the people around me.”**

“After the experience of getting to know the ins-and-outs of the G17 pistol and running about 900 rounds through it without a single hiccup, I now own many GLOCKS. I shoot them regularly, recommend them to any new student that I have, and guide many women to the slimline models, because they are simply great concealed carry options. I’ll be a GLOCK Girl for a very long time.”

## **ERICA STONE INSTRUCTOR AND COMPETITOR GLOCK 34**

“At a local IDPA match in 2015, a kind safety officer offered me his GLOCK 34 to borrow mid-match. The pistol was instantly comfortable to hold, balanced well in my hands, and went bang after every trigger press, no matter what. For someone new to competition, it was love at first shot!

“Soon after, I purchased my own GLOCK 34, and we have been in a nearly exclusive relationship for 6 years, though I do occasionally shoot my newer GLOCK 19 at matches. I have since customized my G34 by adding a competition trigger, XS Sights, and a custom back plate for the slide. It’s my favorite gun to shoot in both USPSA and IDPA matches and I keep a GLOCK at my bedside for home defense.

“As an instructor, I also regularly use GLOCK pistols to introduce other women to shooting striker-fired guns. The reliability of my GLOCKS through a wide variety of conditions has been impressive, and I want a GLOCK by my side during competitions, training, and potential defensive situations.”

## **BECKY ALSUP GSSF COMPETITOR GLOCK 19**

“Five years ago, at the age of 44, I shot my very first firearm, a GLOCK 19 Gen2, which was my husband’s duty pistol many years prior. Fast forward to today, and we currently own 19 GLOCK pistols!

“Over the past four years, we have built a near-complete collection of his-and-her models. We have invested in our collection because of GLOCK’s reliability and grit; they are not picky about ammunition, and they don’t have to

be babied. If I ever have to use my firearm outside of competition or training, I don’t want to hope it’s going to function, I need to know it will. I conceal carry a G43 for my EDC and use my G19 Gen5 for my weekly tactical training. Plus, I love to compete with my GLOCKS and I’m a Lifetime Member of GSSF.”

## **ALEXANDRA NIKOLOV INSTRUCTOR AND GSSF COMPETITOR GLOCK 17**

“I am a firearms instructor and I see what works in a class and what doesn’t work; I see what breaks, what runs, and what is frustrating to shoot. GLOCK pistols have proven themselves to run reliably and are typically the majority of what I see in a higher-level training class.

“My G17 Gen4 gets rained on, covered in dirt and mud in tactical classes, is run hard shooting thousands of rounds, and it just keeps going! It is always able to do the job intended, while not breaking down or requiring special care, and it fits my needs without breaking the bank.

“I love to compete at GSSF matches and I like to bring as many friends as possible along because it is a wonderful introduction to competitive shooting, especially for new shooters, and it’s an all-around fun time!”

## **JESS BECKNER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER GLOCK 43**

“For the last five years, she’s come with me every day, through everything, and I mean literally everything. We’ve ridden out not only the storms of life, but also natural disasters together. Hurricane Irma, we remember you. Regardless of the weather or situation, I have never once doubted that my GLOCK pistol would function as designed if I ever needed to press the trigger.

“As a member of the law enforcement community, I need a pistol that I can trust with my life and the lives of my brothers and sisters. Believe me, I have put my GLOCK through her paces. We’ve spent hours at the range, on my own and with other officers, shooting from the deck, from the holster, from concealment, with clean, dirty, really dirty ammo that’s both good and junk. She never fails to perform.

“I trust my GLOCK with my life and the lives of the people around me.” ☺

**Share your story on social media using  
#GLOCKStrong.**



# GLOCK'S MISSION & VISION STATEMENT



*Leadership. Determination. Values.*

The GLOCK brand is embodied by a team of passionate individuals driven by the pursuit of perfection. We love what we do and work hard to uphold our company values, foster innovation and make our vision a reality.





“ **Perfection stands for our commitment to uncompromising quality, future – oriented manufacturing technologies, and maximum customer satisfaction. I guarantee this through our status as a private, independent company.** ”

Gaston Glock, Founder



Since Gaston Glock embarked on designing and manufacturing products, he has been guided by a single principle:

***People first, Perfection always!***

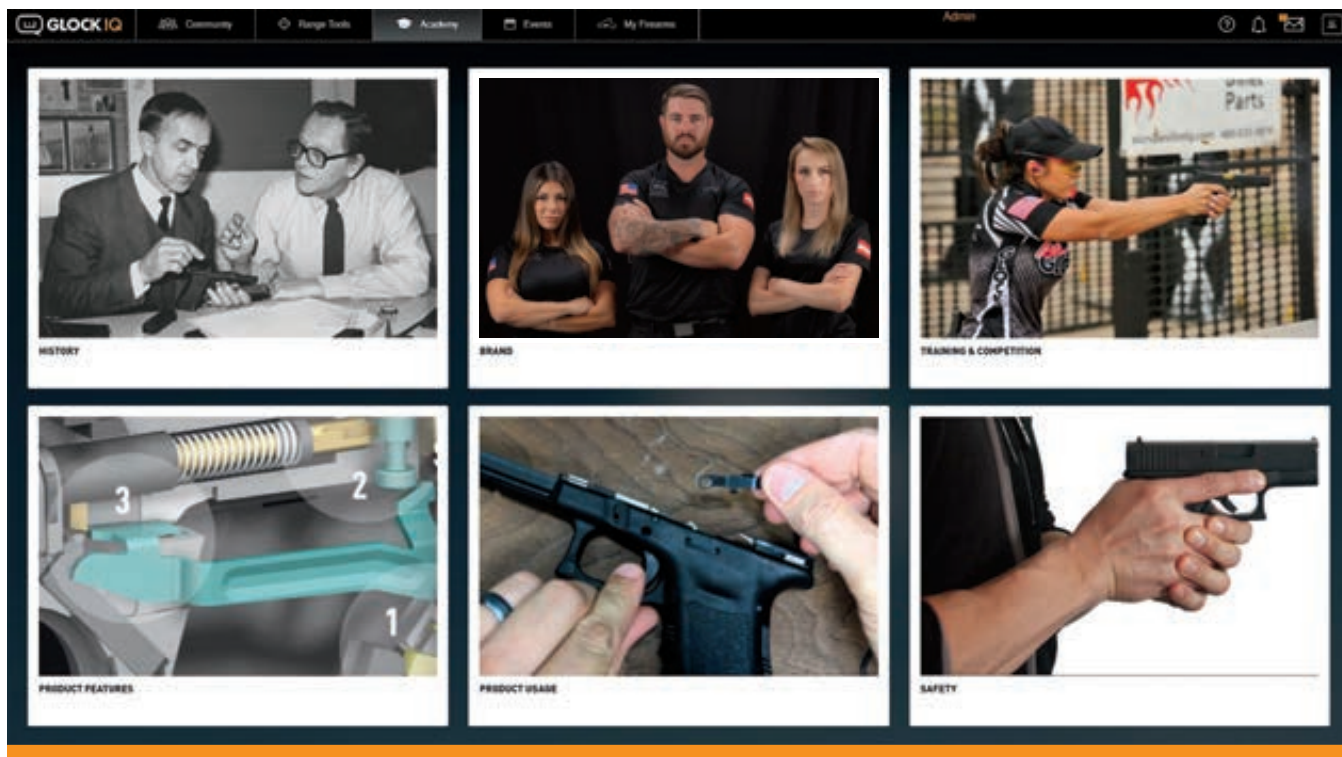
This means producing the best products for every customer need.

Gaston Glock ensures that each product bearing his name fulfills this principle by utilizing sophisticated technology and innovative manufacturing techniques to produce superior products. GLOCK meets these goals while instituting manufacturing processes that minimize adverse effects on the environment. The name GLOCK has evolved to mean more than just a man, a product or a company; it is synonymous with Perfection. This commitment to Perfection is shared by all GLOCK employees, world-wide. GLOCK'S success and customer satisfaction are one and the same. ☺

“ **Perfection remains the priority for GLOCK through advanced research and development driven by customer demands for superior quality products.** ”

Kathrin Glock,  
Chair of the Supervisory Board





# GLOCK IQ

BECOME A PART OF THE GLOCK COMMUNITY

**S**ocial Media was created to be, as it says, “social,” and in many ways, it fills that role. We connect with friends and family, we learn about events, brands, and news, we entertain, we inform, we share. But with all of that can come feelings of being left out, meaningless arguments, and being bombarded with content we don’t necessarily want. That isn’t the community most of us signed up for. Community is essential. It is the backbone of any functioning society, so how can we do that with everything being increasingly digital? What if we want the pros of social media without the cons? To talk to like-minded people? And, since we’re thinking wishfully, perhaps on a platform specifically designed with the gun community in mind?

## GLOCK THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE THE IDEA

For years, GLOCK has provided a forum for gun owners, enthusiasts, and newbies alike through GLOCK ID (GID), but let’s be honest, the idea of online community has continued to evolve, and GID has finally evolved with it.

## INTRODUCING... GLOCK IQ

Do you have favorite firearm forums? Think of everything you like about them. Now, consider if they were tailor-made for the shooting community, and you have an idea of GLOCK IQ (GIQ). We’ve taken all of your favorite aspects of GID and brought them up to date with new features. For those of you unfamiliar with GID, it has been a staple of the GLOCK community for years, providing a platform of all things GLOCK for people to converse and share information, as well as to

build this community of ours. On many occasions, our booth at tradeshow and conventions ended up as a meeting place for groups of people who only knew each other through GID. This is the type of community we aim to foster and expand with new shooters, and GID is the next step.

GIQ has many of the best features of GID, and the addition of a few new ones we’re more than a little excited about. In GIQ, you can post in the different conversation threads: share your achievements, thoughts, and opinions; vote for your favorite contributions in the forums; debate, compare, and congratulate in different threads on topics like your favorite 9x19mm model or the funny meme you saw that you just had to share. Find details about events in your area in the “Events” section, from GSSF matches to GLOCK training courses, or learn about GLOCK brand and firearms in the “Academy” section. Keep track of the firearms you own (don’t worry, this information is yours, and we want it to stay that way), keep a wish list for items to add to your arsenal, and log range time and scores. Because this is a GLOCK-owned site, it’s easier for you, our loyal enthusiasts and fans, to give us feedback so we can best evolve and improve to meet your needs and wants.

In GLOCK ID, at every GSSF match, or any place GLOCK fans gather, the hallmark word is “community.” As much as we’d like to take credit for that idea, it was all from you, our users, our fans, our family. So we listened, we grew, and we’ve created a place to facilitate the growth of the amazing community you’ve already made. GLOCK IQ is ready, and all it needs is you. Login and create your account at [www.GLOCKiq.com](http://www.GLOCKiq.com) today! 🎯



# HOW I BECAME A 'GLOCK GUY'

THIS LONG-TIME SHOOTER AND INSTRUCTOR TRADED IN HIS  
COMPETITION AND CARRY GUNS FOR GLOCK PISTOLS

■ ARTICLE BY JOEL T. NADLER

**A**t first glance, this will undoubtedly sound like an extended advertisement written by GLOCK. You will see words like confidence, trust, and reliability. The fact is, these words are simply the best descriptors of GLOCK pistols that I can come up with after years of use. They are not coming from someone who has always or only shot GLOCKS, actually quite the opposite.

I have been shooting as a civilian in the United States longer than GLOCKS have existed and I come from a family with deep roots in the military and law enforcement. I've also been a firearms instructor for years, primarily teaching civilians basic gun safety, concealed carry, and self-defense. Through these experiences, my exposure to GLOCKS was initially limited, however, my personal biases towards other guns were too deeply held for too long.

## CRUSHING BIASES

During the 80's and 90's, I would never have thought that I'd someday become a "GLOCK Guy." The change started slowly, but once it began, it became an ever-accelerating conversion—a conversion based on firsthand experiences.

The first big step for me was deciding to buy a GLOCK 17 Gen4 soon after it was first released. I was seeing more and more GLOCKS in the classes I was teaching and I figured I should at least become proficient and familiar with one. I have always believed that those who teach something had better also be able to do it.

I adjusted to the GLOCK grip angle and trigger quickly and the more I shot the G17, the better I became with it. As I practiced, I started to build a reluctant admiration for the gun.

## GLOCK NUMBER TWO...AND THREE

I got my second GLOCK only a few months later—a G40 Gen4 that was a gift from my wife. Soon after, a GLOCK 42 joined them in my gun safe. GLOCKS became the guns I was practicing with the most and I had even begun carrying one. I was showing serious symptoms of becoming one of those "GLOCK Guys", but how did this happen?

The biggest factor that won me over was the reliability of the pistols. I tend to shoot a lot, relative to most, and I was putting a lot of rounds down range in practice sessions.

At the volume I was shooting, it was easy to notice how rare any kind of hiccups were with my GLOCKS, and how tolerable of ammunition variances they were. During high-round-count training sessions, I watched other guns fail on the range as my GLOCK just kept ticking.

I started using the phrase "they just work, and work, and work" when defending my fairly sudden conversion to GLOCK pistols, but it was true—their performance never faltered.

**"At every turn I was surprised  
by how clearly different  
GLOCK is as a company."**

## CUSTOMER SERVICE EXPERIENCE

I did have an issue with one of my GLOCKS during this conversion period, but my experience with GLOCK's excellent customer service further won me over. The support I received from my local certified GLOCK Armorer, the local GLOCK representative, and finally from GLOCK directly, was superb and my issue was handled proficiently and quickly.

## UNPARALLELED VERSATILITY

Switching to a GLOCK is one thing, but why did I end up owning multiple GLOCKS? I like to change up what I shoot and what I carry based on different situations. GLOCKS accommodate this perfectly, since GLOCKS of every size and chambering all have nearly identical controls and function. This across-the-board similarity allows me to switch from gun to gun with little to no adjustment on my part.

This versatility led to a bit of a buying frenzy as I replaced my various carry guns with GLOCK models. Even still, I would not have called myself a "GLOCK Guy" yet. That didn't come until I became more familiar with the company behind the guns.

At every turn I was surprised by how clearly different GLOCK is as a company. The Armorer and Operator courses I took at GLOCK's U.S. headquarters were exceptional. Plus, their Blue Label program provides discounted GLOCKS to law enforcement, military, first responders, and GSSF members. That's all in addition to GLOCK's strident support of the shooting sports.

## GSSF MATCHES

I have done a lot of competition shooting over the years, and with my conversion to GLOCK I started shooting in GLOCK Sports Shooting Foundation's (GSSF) matches. I was impressed with both the Indoor Leagues and Outdoor matches and their degree of professionalism and the devotion displayed by the volunteers and GLOCK staff.

Plus, GSSF events are well supported with both random and performance-based prizes. As I competed more, I won more GLOCK pistols and my collection grew.

There's simply no other gun company that compares to GLOCK. In a span of 5 years, I went from being completely ambivalent toward GLOCKS, to carrying them, training with them, recommending them, and competing with GLOCKS pistols. I became, and remain, a "GLOCK Guy." 🎯



More women are realizing the importance of knowing how to use a firearm as well as owning one. There are several women only organizations that help with gun skills, and confidence. Join one now!

# FOR WOMEN

**THESE THREE ORGANIZATIONS ARE HELPING WOMEN GUN OWNERS DEVELOP SKILLS AND COMMUNITY**

■ ARTICLE BY MEV CLARK

It's no great revelation that more men than women own and use firearms. That said, female gun-ownership in the United States is on the rise. The National Sport Shooting Foundation (NSSF) reports an increase in female gun owners, from 13% in 2003, to 25% in 2020 (Keane, nssf.org). As more women became first time gun owners, they found some aspects of the male-dominated industry didn't fit them. A few women saw a need and stepped in to fill the gap by forming organizations dedicated to female shooters and gun owners, like *A Girl and a Gun* (AGAG), and *The Well-Armed Woman* (TAWW). These female-focused organizations strive to provide meaningful teaching, resources, and community to help women of all ages gain experience and thrive.

## FOR WOMEN, BY WOMEN

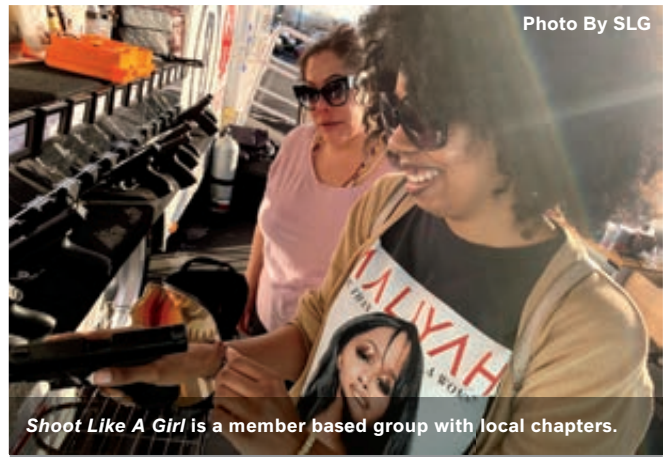
While AGAG and TAWW are member based, *Shoot Like a Girl* (SLG) is a free experience aimed at giving women an introduction to shooting before referring them to local chapter organizations, like TAWW and AGAG. SLG's mobile trailer has stations for learning the basic mechanics of a compound bow, handgun, and rifle. The pistol and rifle stations utilize a simulated range, and there is a pistol counter outside to see which guns best fit a shooter's hands.

Founder Karen Butler praises the quality and dedication of her staff and instructors and attributes SLG's welcoming and educational environment to them. "They're a fantastic group of women with servants' hearts," Butler says, adding that the



Photo By AGAG

Photo By SLG



Shoot Like A Girl is a member based group with local chapters.



Photo By TWAW

The Well Armed Woman is a great place to learn the ins and outs of armed self-defense, and gun ownership.

**“Hesitancy comes from fear. You have to identify where the fear is coming from, whether it’s not knowing gun laws or not knowing how to use the gun or gear. We break it down and make sure you’re confident and prepared.”**

use the gun or gear. We break it down and make sure you’re confident and prepared. If there isn’t a local chapter, there’s an e-chapter that meets virtually, and you can come out to our national and regional events.”

AGAG has added a team pistol challenge to its 2021 Fall Fest. All events will have expanded capacity due to the current demand.

## A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

TWAW’s members have a new executive director in Helen Moore, who says she was struck by the strength of the community after she took the position. “The Arizona State Shoot was my very first event, and the camaraderie and support the women provide each other was really great,” Moore says. “The more experienced shooters cheer on the novices, and vice versa. There is competition, but that’s not the main reason we’re there. We’re there to learn, improve, and support.” Moore is a relatively new shooter, and advises others like her to “get good instruction so you start off with strong basics and with people you feel comfortable with. It’s about taking control of your own safety.”

One of the things highlighted in TWAW’s meetings is how to fit firearms into the business of life and on training on and off the range while developing a strong self-defense mindset and situational awareness skills.

TWAW will soon launch a community app, sponsored by GLOCK, that will allow its members to talk, get involved with sponsors, and have access to a resource library.

More and more women are realizing the importance of effective self-defense skills and tools, and these organizations are beyond important. Women learn better when taught by women. Each of these three organizations is ready to help all shooters flourish in skill and confidence while all holding a common value: community is everything. Learn more about each of these organizations on their websites and on social media. 📍

past year has seen an increase in families coming through their trailer, as well as elderly women. Butler says she advises women to buy a GLOCK 44 in .22LR along with their personal defense pistol, if only for the cost-savings of training with rimfire ammunition.

SLG saw the addition of Hunt Like a Girl though Bass Pro Shops and Cabela’s in 2021, a paid hunting experience for women. They will have five hunts on the books by the end of 2021. Check their Instagram for updates: @slginc2.

## WHERE TO JOIN

Once you’ve decided to make firearms a part of your life, find an organization to join. AGAG includes more than 250 national chapters of women who gather to learn and encourage one another, and not only with firearms. Executive director Robyn Sandoval cites the diversity of their programs as their main strength and says they teach pistol, rifle, and shotgun shooting for everything from home-defense to competition. They also teach first aid, pepper-spray use, and martial arts.

“We cover every part of being empowered,” Sandoval says. She also underscored the necessity of community, saying, “Being part of a community helps make [practice] a priority. You don’t want to sit on the sidelines of your life. We’re about getting you off the sidelines and making you the leading lady, making yourself a priority. Women often have a hard time doing that.”

Sandoval tells all women who are interested but hesitant to own or use a firearm the same thing: “Hesitancy comes from fear. You have to identify where the fear is coming from, whether it’s not knowing gun laws or not knowing how to



# #IamGLOCK

# GLOCK STRONG

Every day, GLOCK receives communication from our fans about their fondness and love of GLOCK products. We are sharing a couple of notes with you here. Please share your experiences with us at #IamGLOCK.

## ■ ARTICLE BY BOB RADECKI

### HAVA: HONORED AMERICAN VETERANS AFIELD

In 2007, a committee of shooting sport executives conceived and organized HAVA to help the healing and re-integration of disabled U.S. Veterans and injured active military back into normal American life through participation in outdoor events. Events include shooting, hunting, fishing, and ATVing.

In July 2021, HAVA sponsored a training event and match for 10 U.S. Military Veterans. This Steel Challenge event was held at the CMP Marksmanship Park in Anniston, Alabama. HAVA is sponsored by various outdoor sports companies and the staff are volunteers. Outdoor sports industry personnel from HAVA, GLOCK, Yamaha, Taurus, MGM Targets, Sig Sauer, and CMP attended to mentor students and do whatever was needed to insure the Veteran participants had a safe, enjoyable and successful experience. Friday was a familiarization and training day using GLOCK pistols. Pro shooters Travis Gibson and KC Eusebio instructed the vets. As an added bonus, CMP

provided M1 Garand rifles for the Vets to experience shooting these iconic historical rifles. Saturday, the local Steel Challenge club hosted a match for our invited vets, mentors, and staff. Several club members, including two champion shooters shot with us so the Vets got a terrific Steel Challenge Match experience. This was a great experience with really awesome people. You can learn more about HAVA at [https:// www.honoredveterans.org/](https://www.honoredveterans.org/)



## ■ ARTICLE BY PETER DIFONDI

I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoy my GLOCK 19 Gen5 pistol. I've fired well over 15,000 rounds through it with zero issues. I am an engineer and I'm always impressed when simple and elegant engineering prevails.

In my opinion, the GLOCK 19 (and other GLOCK models) are just beautiful machines. The guns show up and deliver every time, like the best employee you could ask for.

For context, I live in upstate New York where we are limited to 10-round magazines and can't legally have threaded barrels on handguns. While I wish I could take advantage of accessories like suppressors and drum mags, I'm grateful that my GLOCKS just work, no matter what.

I love my G20 as well, but it's mostly for hunting season. I've put several deer down with the powerful 10mm AUTO pistol, and when I go hunting in Alaska, I plan to pack it for bear protection. Like the G19, it's a masterpiece.

Thanks again for an awesome product. While I own many other brands, I'm already in the market for my next GLOCK.

## ■ ARTICLE BY NATHANIEL "NATE" MISSIMER, DAVENPORT PD

I wish to reach out to GLOCK's developers and employees to express my sincere gratitude and greatest appreciation. Your product literally saved my life.

I am a Police Officer in Davenport, Iowa, and on Feb. 18, 2021 a wanted felon shot at me while attempting to avoid capture; he tried to take my life. Fortunately for me, I had one of your GLOCK 34 9x19 pistols to defend my life. He shot first and I returned fire, striking him and stopping the threat he created.

Luckily, I was not hit by the suspect's gunfire and was able to prevent him from harming me or my partners. The suspect will also survive, and hopefully spend the rest of his life in prison.

The incident and my actions were deemed to be justified, but unfortunately, I have to wait for the investigative agency to return my firearm. My department will issue me a replacement for now, but I will only accept a GLOCK.

I have always trusted your pistols and viewed them as essential, never-fail tools to have on duty. I can confirm now, without a shadow of a doubt, I trust your products with my life.

Thank you for what you do and the lives you save.

## DEAR TEAM GLOCK,

USA Shooting held a side event at the SASP Nationals to introduce the Olympic Rapid-Fire event to the very talented action shooters in attendance. Our goal was to not only introduce the shooters to the Olympic Rapid-Fire event, but to show them how they can get started shooting with steel targets and an out-of-the box .22 pistol....all at a reasonable cost. I must say that the concept was well received, and we are moving forward with SASP to continue this program. We used a number of different .22 cal pistols including the GLOCK 44 that you kindly loaned us for the event.

Ed Fitzgerald came by to visit, as well as Shane Coley. Shane impressed the crowd by pulling out his GLOCK 34 and being able to shoot a perfect series in the time limit! Lots more to discuss but wanted to share this quick overview.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your support for this event and the USA Shooting Team! Looking forward to having some 2024 Olympic Pistol Shooters coming out of this program.

Best regards,  
Buddy (DuVall), CMO USA Shooting







GLOCK Training Instructor Benjamin Rios celebrates with contestants at the 2021 Gunny Challenge at one of CMP Talladega's many outdoor ranges.



GSSF Field Ops Supervisor, Scott Drobnick, with the 2021 Gunny Challenge XVII first place winner, Bryan Whilite.



Resetting the targets is just one of the many ways the Young Marines volunteers kept the GSSF Annual Match XXVIII and Gunny Challenge XVI running.

# 2021 GLOCK ANNUAL MATCH & GUNNY CHALLENGE

## A GLOCK REUNION

■ ARTICLE BY MARY CLARK

"The matches are like a whole family get together... I'm not a stranger to anybody." I heard it first from Andrea Boone, Gunny Challenge competitor and nine-year GSSF participant, but community was certainly the theme of the weekend at the GSSF Annual Match. Despite the rain punctuating the day, everyone had a smile on their face, and everyone was ready to talk about why.

For those that don't know (like myself just a few months ago), GLOCK Sports Shooting Foundation (GSSF) hosts its Annual Match and Gunny Challenge in Talladega every fall. Regular shooting is available for anyone and everyone with a GLOCK, from those who just picked up a GLOCK for the first time to retired LE and military and others who've been shooting a GLOCK loyally for years. There are different divisions for each type of pistols, and there are ranges open throughout the weekend for anyone to walk up and shoot. The Gunny Challenge is a different matter, bringing together the top shooters from the year's previous GSSF events to compete for prizes. 2021 had the biggest group of shooters for the Gunny Challenge, 24 people coming in from across the country to compete, some of them for the first time. Charles Ellison came from Mount Hope, West Virginia, for his first match. When I asked him about what drew him to GSSF, Charles answered, "I had a GLOCK and I was using it, and then I went to a GSSF match and I was hooked. GSSF is a whole lot better to the shooters than other shooting competitions. It doesn't compare. The prizes here are better, the attendance is way better, it's just great, they take care of us." Master Shooter Jeff Buccini underlined the communal aspect, saying "I've met so many awesome people, that's why it really kept attracting me back. It really is a community here. You don't see anyone who isn't a nice person. It's fun, it's like a family."

After a tense and exciting match, Gunny Challenge Winner, Bryan Whilite from Lewisville, Texas, was thrilled by his success, saying, "I've been trying eight years to win the Gunny, and I've finally done it." When asked why he keeps coming back, he promptly answered that "it's a match for anybody. If you're scared, don't be scared. Show up. If you need a gun, ask somebody, they'll probably loan you one." 2nd place went to Danny Clifton, 3rd went to Bryan Balsley, and 4th was newcomer Joey DiCicco.

It would be an injustice to talk about the GSSF Annual Match without mentioning the incredible crew of volunteers. The Young Marines organization has been volunteering their

time and effort to GSSF for so many years that it wouldn't be an Annual Match without the sight of the camouflage-clad kids from eight years old to high school seniors doing everything from setting up to helping on every range. Board Director Gene "SgtMaj" Overstreet spoke extensively about both the worth of the Young Marines and the importance of their relationship with GLOCK. "Community service is a big deal to us; with the shooting community here, we feel we're giving back to the community, and the kids are learning responsibility and to obey orders. GLOCK gives us a lot of support, gives our Young Marines a lot of support, they do things with us and... support our program in a lot of ways, like the participation we get from GLOCK when we do our conferences." Deputy Director Wilson Lee spoke of his own experience with GLOCK and the Young Marines: "For me, the GLOCK family is new. When I first came to one of these events a little over three years ago... I saw the relationship the Young Marines had with GLOCK, and my job is to think, how can we nurture this relationship and also blend it with the learning part with the children, the family and volunteers." Lee sees the Young Marines and their practical experience at the GSSF Matches an invaluable way to spread not only the shooting sport, but good citizenship. "The kids communicate their knowledge to their parents and then bring them to events. This is a no brainer, this is an organization we can work with and they've been very supportive and been a means for safe, quality training and events for the youth." He calls GSSF a "gateway drug" into the shooting sport. Overall, the aim of the Young Marines isn't to encourage military service, though many that go through the program go on to serve, but to promote "citizenship and civics": teaching kids respect, developing work ethic, teaching them how to teach others, and teaching speaking and communication skills. Part of this process is having the older participants teach the younger. They were certainly invaluable to the Annual Match, being a huge part of making the event smooth, safe, and enjoyable for everyone involved.

This was my first time at the GSSF Annual Match, and though I'd read articles on events past, I was skeptical, and a bit nervous given my lack of experience. Calling myself a convert might be a hyperbole, but the entire atmosphere across the ranges was communal, competitive without negativity, and, as Boone said, almost familial. Next year, take Whilite's advice, and "don't be scared. Show up." Find GSSF events near you at <http://gssfonline.com/>. 🍷

# MAKE THE MOST OF GLOCK DAYS

ADDING A WEEKEND GSSF INDOOR EVENT CAN DRAW NEW SHOOTERS

■ ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY JOEL T. NADLER

**G**LOCK DAYS are a staple event at stores that are members of the GLOCK Stocking Dealer Program. Generally held over a weekend, these events highlight GLOCK firearms and GLOCK's exceptional customer support. Though the structure of GLOCK DAYS is standardized by GLOCK, what the hosting store/range adds to these events and how they are locally promoted varies with each location.

One GLOCK Stocking Dealer, Indy Arms Company in Indianapolis, Indiana, worked with GLOCK and the GLOCK Sports Shooting Foundation (GSSF) to take GLOCK DAYS to another level by combining the event with a three-day GSSF shooting competition.

## GETTING STARTED

I began with Indy Arms (IA) as a contracted firearms instructor and eventually became their Firearms Instruction Program Director and Events Coordinator.

Indy Arms joined the GLOCK Stocking Dealer, Perfection, and Range Dealer programs within a year of opening its doors. Each of these programs had clear advantages and there was little question that applying for these programs was a first-year priority.

During Indy Arms' second year, I approached the owner about bringing regular competitions to the store, which already offered retail, range, and training services. Since IA was already a GLOCK Stocking Dealer, it made sense to explore adding GSSF Indoor events. After about two months of discussions, both internally and with the GSSF, who were always helpful, we hosted our first GSSF League match. We would hold two more over the next two months.

Any financial concerns were dispelled after the first match, which fully paid for and justified the staffing and range space needed for the league. Ever since, Indy Arms has sponsored uninterrupted monthly GSSF matches each year broken into four leagues: January-March, April-June, July-September, and October-December.

## PROMOTION EFFORTS

IA took the sponsorship and promotion of the GSSF events very seriously. Details were posted on our website, social media, and in the store. GSSF competitors were also kept well-informed. We created in-store displays that were updated monthly and featured the core rules, past results, and a 'Wall of Fame' of our Perfection shooters who shot perfect scores in Stock or Pocket divisions.

This allowed us to promote the events and make sure they were shooter-focused. Our success was rewarded when IA was selected as the GSSF 2019 Range of the Year!

## ADDING AN ANNUAL WEEKEND-LONG EVENT

The next innovation came in 2019 when the National Rifle Association (NRA) was set to host their annual meeting



The GSSF brings together all kinds of shooters.



Indy Arms was named the 2019 GSSF Indoor Range of the Year.

in Indianapolis. Indy Arms held multiple all hands-on deck meetings about how we could take advantage of the event.

One suggestion was to hold a three-day, three-match, self-contained GSSF Indoor league over the weekend. We didn't want to lure competitors away from the regularly scheduled match, so we surveyed all our regular GSSF shooters and over 90 percent reported they would gladly shoot both. We contacted the GSSF and scheduled a fifth GSSF Indoor League at IA for the year.

It all went wonderfully! The regular league performed at expected levels with no significant reduction in participation, and the special weekend league was an enormous success with our largest turnout yet. More importantly, we drew a few shooters to the competition who were well out of our normal reach. Most of the additional shooters drove for two or three hours to get to IA. For these GSSF shooters, two to three separate trips to participate in a league was too much driving, but a contained weekend league was both feasible and appealing.

## REPLICATING SUCCESS

It was clear that most of our regular shooting competitors really enjoyed the addition of a once-a-year weekend event and there was a lot of interest about another weekend league. We wanted to pair it with a regular event, and the answer was clear: GLOCK DAYS.

Our first GLOCK DAYS combined with a three-day weekend GSSF Indoor league was set for early March 2020, just weeks before Indianapolis began issuing COVID lockdown orders. Fortunately, our regular January-March League was unaffected and well attended and once again, we saw a larger than typical turn out for our GLOCK DAYS/GSSF Indoor League event. It was also one of our more successful GLOCK DAYS events in terms of customer interest, use of our GLOCK Armorers, and last but not least, sales.

The two events naturally provide synergy to each other, boosting the success of both. If your range is not hosting separate or combined GSSF events and GLOCK DAYS events, it is past time to realize the advantages! 🎯





# GSSF'S TWO NEW DIVISIONS

## RIMFIRE AND MOS DIVISIONS MEAN MORE TO SHOOT!

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EDWARDS

**T**he GLOCK Sport Shooting Foundation (GSSF) has been an integral part of the promotion of safe and fun shooting, as well as GLOCK pistols, for nearly 30 years. One continuously evolving aspect of the GSSF program is its ever-increasing number of Divisions, which have a place for all pistols produced by GLOCK.

If someone owns one of the classic GLOCKS, say a GLOCK 17 or G19, the Civilian Division has a spot open for them.

GLOCKS that are designed with features more suited to competitive shooting, like the G34 with its longer barrel, slide, and sight radius, have their home in the Competition division, while pistols chambered for larger calibers, like the GLOCK 21 in .45 AUTO, can go head-to-head in the Heavy Metal division.

Since 1991, every time a new GLOCK comes into the stable, so to speak, GSSF has crafted rules so its members can test their skills with the new model in a competitive, yet fun and relaxed environment. This has led to the creation of 12 Divisions. Additionally, there is a separate division for female competitors, the GLOCK Girls Side Match or GGSM.

This year, after the recent introduction of a new GLOCK model in a new caliber for GLOCK, the G44 chamber in .22LR, a new Rimfire division was added.

The GSSF also realized the Multiple Optics System (MOS) variants of many GLOCK models have become so popular among all shooters, including the "Guardian class (meaning law enforcement and military personnel), that they too deserved their own separate division.

### RIMFIRE TAKES OFF LIKE A ROCKET

The G44 is a semi-automatic, blowback pistol in .22LR and the first rimfire pistol ever made by GLOCK. It comes with 10-round magazines, a magazine loader, cleaning rod, and a .22-caliber brush. The pistol features a fully adjustable rear sight and an optional extended and threaded barrel is available.

Because the G44's overall footprint is nearly identical to that of the compact GLOCK 19 9x19, the G44 serves as an excellent training platform, and also as a great field carry pistol or rimfire competition gun. Tens of thousands of rounds were fired in testing to achieve the best possible functioning and so that the G44 would be utterly reliable.

To say that the G44 is popular would be the understatement of the year. Due to several international and economic factors, centerfire ammunition of most any type has been extremely scarce, and when found, very expensive. As it often has in the past, .22LR ammunition provides a welcome and more affordable training and plinking alternative for shooters of all persuasions.

In GSSF, the new Rimfire division has become one of the most popular in 2021. According to GSSF Supervisor Scott Drobnick, the division ranks third by number of participants and opens up a new way for people to get into the shooting sports with GLOCK pistols that's accessible to anyone, including younger participants and older shooters who may not be as comfortable with recoil as they once were. And let us not forget: it is just fun to shoot a rimfire GLOCK!

### MOS COMES INTO ITS OWN

GLOCK first introduced the flexible MOS option for GLOCK GEN4 pistols and then for GEN5 models, which can accommodate the following array of pistol optics with the appropriate MOS Adapter Plate: Eotech, Docter and Meopta (Plate 01), Trijicon RMR/SRO (Plate 02), C-More (Plate 03) and the Leupold DeltaPoint (Plate 04). The Aimpoint ACRO and certain Holosun red-dot sights may also be mounted with the correct MOS plate.

Previously, MOS GLOCKS would have competed in the Unlimited division. Recently, the number of MOS GLOCKS in both law enforcement and civilian hands has increased dramatically. For users in law enforcement, red-dot sights improve situational awareness in highly stressful situations. Competitors appreciate the easier and faster sighting and potential accuracy improvements that red dots offer. Red-dots are even becoming popular concealed-carry accessories. It only made sense to recognize their popularity with a new MOS division.

This division is specific to the MOS pistols and only stock GLOCK MOS models are allowed; Unlimited remains a distinct and separate division where GLOCKS that have been customized to accommodate a red-dot sight with milling of the slide can compete.

Rimfire and MOS GLOCKS: two new ways to get your GLOCK on! 🎯



The youngest and newest addition to Team GLOCK is the mighty Ashley Rheuark.



Michelle Viscusi wears many hats, including being a wife, a mother, and a professional shooter to only name a few.



Shane Coley is the captain of this remarkable GLOCK Pro team.

# FOCUS AND BALANCE

## TEAM GLOCK PROVIDES INSIGHT ON BECOMING A BETTER SHOOTER

■ ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY RICK STEWART

**A**t most organized shooting events or competitions, competitor's wear logo-covered jerseys proclaiming the names of their numerous sponsors. Like the exterior of NASCAR cars, the fabric real estate on a shooting team's jerseys identifies the names of companies that make doing what they do possible.

From firearm manufacturers to ammunition companies, lubricants to optics, and every accessory you can imagine, many competitors' clothes proudly proclaim just about anything you'd like to know about them in the sport. You don't see this on Team GLOCK jerseys. You'll only see the GLOCK name, along with the American and Austrian flags.

"It's not about arrogance or any other speculated notion," says GLOCK Team Captain Shane Coley. "It's all about focus. We know what and who we represent."

### SECRETS TO SUCCESS

Many interested in shooting are searching for the secrets that make champion shooters great, but the simple truth about their success, beyond the firearm they shoot, is all about focus. It's about eliminating any excuse or distraction that keeps you from your goal or interferes with the pursuit of perfection.

Shane has many high-standards to live by. "Chasing perfection and catching excellence", are quotes he's fond of from the late, great, Vince Lombardi. When Shane isn't on the

range training, he's likely thinking of training.

"It's not how many golf balls you hit at the range, left turns you make on a race track, or bullets that you fire at a target that will define your success in a sport," Coley says. "Success is predicated upon how many of those things you do just right."

### ADVICE ON THE ROAD

Traveling with Team GLOCK over the past year, I have heard many competitors and fans ask for advice on becoming a better shooter. The answers provided by GLOCK shooting team members, collectively and individually, are straightforward. They say things like, "shooting success is about time, commitment, focus, and balance."

Having watched their practices and filmed their daily routines, I can attest to the fact that they all practice what they preach.

The day after a more than grueling regional competition, where she achieved top female shooter in her category, Ashley Rheuark was on the range at 5:45 a.m. to put in the time and commitment to her sport even after the height of success. Ashley Rheuark focuses on the things she must perfect to stay on top. Her attention to detail is remarkable.

### FINDING BALANCE

After watching any of them practice, you quickly learn that nothing they do is routine. Michelle Viscusi says that balance



is really important. The balance she refers to is about the many factors that can influence performance.

"Speed, agility, aim, and conditioning are all important for success," Viscusi says. "But balance is the key to becoming a truly great competitor. If we only focused on speed or aim, but left out agility and conditioning, we would quickly see the negative results in our performance."

"Competitions are held under many environmental conditions, including extreme heat, bone-numbing cold, rain, wind, or any combination of those factors," she adds. "If I only practiced early in the morning to avoid the afternoon heat of the Arizona desert at home, I would cheat the conditioning my body needs for competing in these environments during future shoots. Likewise, if we didn't lift, run, and exercise, the speed and shooting skills we hone would be dramatically impacted over the course of a difficult match."

Both Coley and Viscusi are U.S. Army veterans. Their diligence is admirable and truly inspiring.

The principles of elite military units are more than words and tie in perfectly with Team GLOCK's ideas on focus and balance. Many factors influence shooting, and these factors can separate the average and ordinary shooter from the very elite.

## THE HEAD GAME

"An important part of shooting that shouldn't be overlooked is the mental part," Rheuark says. "Part of the balance we talk about is considering the way stress, mood, depression, and even sleep can impact all of the physical work we put in."

Ashley made a significant move from Little Rock, Arkansas, back to her roots in South Carolina this past year.

"The stress involved in packing, schedules, training interruptions, and everything else that goes into a move can really mess with your routines and could have seriously affected my focus and attention to detail. Not going to lie, I had to work really hard at not letting life become a distraction," she says.

Viscusi is a wife and mother. While her husband supports the travel and time away that are part of her professional calling, she must still find a healthy balance for her girls and family. I've seen her waiting until 10 p.m. to get her workout in, after the kids are in bed. Becoming better at this sport, especially at a competitive level, requires sacrifice.

"There are many stories and articles that address, stance, grip, sight focus, breathing, and the hardware we all use in competitive shooting," Coley said while taking a break during a match in Arkansas. "There's enough well-written advice out there to make anyone a 'book-read expert' on shooting, but there is no substitute for practice and refining those skills."

"You must work on stance; you must make your grip second nature and intuitive, you must practice your draw over and over and over again until you perfect every aspect of that draw from holster to presentation. If your focus is winning, you better be focused on perfecting every aspect of your sport."

Viscusi says "the devil is in the details," with a look and intensity that suggests she means it.

"An important part of that balance we speak about is recognizing and understanding the nuances of those details and putting everything into practice and a perfect practice that leaves nothing to chance," she adds.

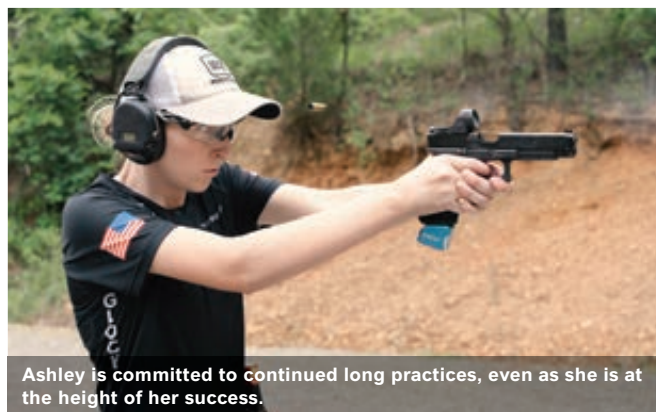
## GETTING STARTED WITH GSSF

Rheuark, who began shooting at a very early age, said, "a great first place to start with shooting, and especially competitive shooting, is selecting a firearm that instills confidence. I represent the GLOCK brand, because it's a brand I truly believe in."

"Having confidence in the form, fit, feel, and function of a firearm that's 100 percent reliable is paramount," she adds. "Nobody experiencing a lot of malfunctions will feel comfortable, gain confidence, or even enjoy shooting, so selecting a pistol like GLOCK is going to eliminate that part of the equation."

"Then find a local range with a competent instructor who can help you with grip and stance as you get started. Finally, never underestimate the value of a camera to film yourself during practice. The camera can pick up things that you don't notice you are doing."

One great piece of advice I can give anyone interested in becoming a better shooter is to get involved with the GLOCK Sport Shooting Foundation, (GSSF). In its 30th year, this foundation brings together people from every walk of life and skill level. GSSF events allow for the opportunity to participate in matches and training opportunities where valuable insight, practice, and the sharing of information not only occurs but is encouraged. It is designed around individuals and the entire family, so there is something in it for everyone. ☺



Ashley is committed to continued long practices, even as she is at the height of her success.



Michelle's natural athleticism along with gymnastics background play a big role with her accomplishments.



Shane eliminates any distractions that may interfere from the pursuit of perfection, on and off a shooting range.



Captain of Team GLOCK, Shane Coley, is known on the circuit for not only being an outstanding shooter, but just a great guy. Shane always welcomes and encourages youth shooters as it was once done for him. Building safe handling skills are the root of solid shooting on any level, and a firearm may just save your life one day.

# BENEFITS OF COMPETITIVE SHOOTING

HOW SHOOTING SPORTS LESSONS APPLY TO EVERY DAY LIFE

■ ARTICLE BY SHANE COLEY

**C**ompetitive shooting has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. My father was a career law enforcement officer who used competitive shooting as a way to continue his education with his firearm outside of his scheduled department training.

Growing up, I always saw how disciplined and responsible my father was around firearms, especially when it came to teaching me the four rules of firearm safety and responsible gun handling. Competitive shooting helped him perfect that level of discipline and responsibility around firearms, and gave him the tools needed to help educate me and continue his legacy.

## LEARNING BY DOING

Competing in USPSA, IDPA, GLOCK Sport Shooting Foundation (GSSF), or even Steel Challenge competitions help all gun owners build confidence when it comes to firearm use. These competitions demand extreme safety and constant

awareness as you navigate the courses of fire, and the fundamentals of weapons manipulation and shooting are key to success. That's the beauty of competing in these sports, they offer so much opportunity to learn and grow, to constantly educate yourself and develop skills that might not be as attainable otherwise.

The atmosphere surrounding the competitive shooting world is extremely welcoming for families, and the people involved are some of the most genuine folks I have ever had the pleasure to meet. It's an honor to compete alongside them. Since I was a young teenager trying to find my way, they have always welcomed me, and so many others, with open arms.

As a professional shooter, I am constantly training and trying to perfect my craft. I spend hours on end breaking down each fundamental and analyzing mistakes that I am making while looking for ways to be more consistent or become faster. This includes breaking down my draw and analyzing how





There's a good chance a concealed carrier of a firearm will never be in a situation where their firearm will have to be drawn or even used. However, like life, we hope for the best and prepare for the worst. Train. And train often.

efficient my motions are, testing new recoil management drills and ensuring my grip or stance aren't causing a breakdown in my ability to mitigate recoil, and challenging the process of movement to be more efficient in body placement and foot placement to help navigate courses of fire.

In a lot of ways, competitive shooting provides instant feedback on our weaknesses as shooters, which makes it much easier to build new training plans and constantly pursue that one-percent-better-every-day lifestyle.

## FEELING THE PRESSURE

Competition is, by nature, stressful. You have one opportunity to perform, one chance on each stage to make the best run possible, and you have to be mentally prepared when that buzzer goes off.

The pressure of competition at any level is one of the hardest things to cope with; you have to learn how to deal with that pressure and use it to your advantage. The shooting sports allow us to feel that type of pressure and gives us the opportunity to mature while becoming more confident and efficient. All that stress and pressure is useful, because it helps replicate the stress you might be under in a real world self-defense situation and prepare for it.

You can also translate the competition mindset into everyday life or work. Gun owners, concealed carriers, and armed officials are always looking to be in that preparedness mindset, constantly readying ourselves for the worst possible situations and plotting out potential courses of action were something to ever happen. That's pressure. Competitive shooting can help us learn how to operate under similar pressure.

## FUNDAMENTALS AND EVERYDAY LIFE

The fundamentals we learn from competing and training are also translatable to our everyday life. When we carry a firearm to fulfill our duty to protect our family and others, we have to be fundamentally sound and disciplined when it comes to carrying that firearm. Everything we learn in competition, we can use in real life to increase our skill set.

If someone (unfortunately), finds themselves in a circumstance that requires them to draw a self-defense weapon, they are responsible for all subsequent actions taken, and it is imperative to have sound fundamentals and be prepared mentally to make decisions and be as effective as possible in order to quickly diffuse the situation.

All the fundamentals and skills learned on the range and in competitive shooting increase an individual's ability to act with confidence and to make the right decisions when the chips are down.

## A HUNGER FOR KNOWLEDGE

With so many new gun owners entering the marketplace, there is a constant hunger for more knowledge and training. Getting new shooters involved in the shooting sports helps them develop skills that will build their confidence as they move forward on their shooting journey. Not everyone has to become a professional shooter, but becoming a more efficient and fundamentally sound shooter should be part of everyone's journey, and I believe competitive shooting is one of the best ways to accomplish this.

There's no reason shooters of every level should be apprehensive about pursuing the shooting sports. There are so many opportunities to grow and the community as a whole will welcome you warmly and offer their knowledge to the best of their ability. Although competition might be seen as just a sport, it's so much more and impacts every aspect of being a gun owner.

We must always be disciplined shooters, and we must always be in a constant pursuit of education to further our skills. Becoming part of the shooting sports community will not only help you build your confidence, but it will help build confidence in those around you and also give you the opportunity to impart knowledge upon others. Find the shooting sport that fits you best, find a range, and enjoy everything that the shooting sports have to offer. 🎯



As good of a shot as you are today should not deter you from continuing to practice, regularly. Professional shooters like Shane Coley, know the importance of keeping your skill set up.

Photo by Rick Stewart



GLOCK offers factory connectors. Non-factory connectors may void the manufacturer's warranty.



These excellent aftermarket sights on assorted GLOCKS do not void the factory warranty.

# GLOCK MODIFICATIONS: WHAT IS OK, WHAT IS NOT

**GLOCK PISTOLS ARE EASY TO MODIFY. WHAT MODS ARE ACCEPTABLE, WHICH ARE UNWISE, AND WHICH VOID THE WARRANTY?**

■ ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY MASSAD AYOOB

**G**LOCK pistols, like AR-15 rifles, have been called “Barbie Guns” because you can dress them up however you want thanks to their modular design. However, like any fine machine, a GLOCK’s parts were designed as they are for good reasons, and those parts work in synergy with one another.

Modifying a GLOCK with replacement parts or changing the components themselves can be counterproductive, according to William Carmichael, GLOCK’s Technical Service Manager, and they will often void the factory warranty.

## TRIGGER WORK

A GLOCK owner who wants a trigger pull that feels like a 1911’s is best served by purchasing a 1911 pistol. Carmichael says, “GLOCK does not approve of anything outside of factory parts. Even the minus connector, we don’t recommend that for concealed carry or duty, only competition use.” A minus connector was first introduced on the GLOCK 17L and is used in some other competition models like the G34. It reduces the trigger pull weight to about 4.5 pounds. If these models are shipped to law enforcement agencies, they come with the standard trigger.

Some aftermarket trigger work is even dangerous because they weaken or bypass safety features, which, in turn makes them unsuitable for defensive use, and will void the manufacturer’s warranty.

## SLIDE MILLING

Cutting or milling a slide will also void the warranty on that slide, Carmichael cautioned. If someone wants to mount an optic on their

GLOCK, they should purchase an MOS (Modular Optics System), which comes pre-cut for red-dot sight bases from the factory.

## FRAME MODIFICATIONS

GLOCK will evaluate stipling and grip reshaping on a case-by-case basis, but this could also void your warranty. Adding a magazine funnel will usually keep the warranty intact, unless the grip is cut.

## OTHER AFTERMARKET PARTS

Carmichael says GLOCK recommends sticking with factory recoil spring assemblies and cautioned some guide rods won’t flex enough and could damage the slide lock. Obviously, aftermarket finishes like Cerakote or hard chrome can’t be warrantied by GLOCK and if applied, one voids the warranty on the factory finish.

When it comes to aftermarket sights, GLOCK is more forgiving. As long as the slide hasn’t been milled or hit with a grinder, the warranty should remain intact. Aftermarket barrels obviously won’t be covered under warranty and owners should check with GLOCK before swapping factory barrels to change a pistol’s chambering.

## BOTTOM LINE

Any of the many experienced GLOCK armorers can probably tell you stories about pistols butchered by modifications made by owners or bad gunsmiths, so it’s best to stick with the stock factory components.

GLOCK earned its reputation for reliability and durability as it came from the factory. It would seem wisest for the end user to keep his or her GLOCK that way as much as possible. Please see GLOCK’s warranty registration page: [glock.com/en/own/warranty](http://glock.com/en/own/warranty)





Average size adult male hand on large frame G21: Pad or tip of finger is most natural placement.



Size of GLOCK vis-a-vis size of hand is a consideration in trigger finger placement. Top GLOCK 45 (large frame) below is a G43



When the decision is made to pull the trigger, make sure your trigger finger is firmly in position.

# MANAGING TRIGGER MANIPULATION

HOW DO YOU RUN A GLOCK TRIGGER? THERE ARE DIFFERENT TECHNIQUES SUITED FOR DIFFERENT SHOOTING PURPOSES.

■ ARTICLE BY MASSAD AYOUB ■ PHOTOS BY GAIL PEPIN

**H**ow do you become a good shot with any handgun? The vast majority of instructors agree that trigger control is the key. There are different methods of trigger manipulation, and your choice may be determined by the relative size of the target, speed required, and even by the size and shape of your hand relative to the size and shape of your pistol.

## TRIGGER FINGER PLACEMENT

The full size GLOCK 17 was designed primarily for military use and to fit the hand of the average adult male whose index finger would contact the trigger at the pad. This is the “mid-point” of the three most likely trigger finger placements: tip, pad, and distal joint.

**Finger Tip:** This trigger finger position was used in the 1800s by shooters who had hair triggers on their pistols that barely had to be touched to fire. With a modern trigger, this finger placement will likely push the muzzle and shot toward the shooter’s weak side. Fingertip placement is a last resort for people with very short fingers who can barely reach the trigger.

**Finger Pad:** The pad of the finger is generally defined as the center of the whorl (the swirl) of the fingerprint. This trigger finger position has become the default recommendation of most firearm instructors when shooting GLOCK.

**Distal Joint:** This is the spot on the palmar surface of the hand where the last phalange of the trigger finger meets the middle phalange. Old-time double action revolver masters called this spot “the power crease,” because it provides more leverage. On a GLOCK pistol, this placement will generally make the trigger pull feel distinctly lighter, for that reason.

## TRIGGER PRESS TECHNIQUES

Picture a bell curve—on one end is “trigger slap,” and on the opposite end is a technique known variously as “riding the link,” “riding the sear,” or “shooting from reset.” In between is “trigger weld.” Let’s explore each.

**Trigger Slap:** This occurs when the index finger comes completely off the face of the trigger, and then returns suddenly, with impact, which tends to jerk the muzzle off the point of aim as the pistol is fired. Occasionally, it will occur so violently that the finger appears to bounce off the inside of the front of the trigger guard.

Unless you are a very highly skilled competition shooter, avoid the trigger slap at all costs.

**Shooting From Reset:** This is a technique that goes back to the early 20th century, when target shooters were, for the first time, regularly competing with semiautomatic pistols like the Colt Woodsman and the 1911. After firing the first shot, the trigger doesn’t have to come all the way forward before it can be pulled again like a revolver trigger does, but just far enough to reset.

Most high level competition shooters shoot from reset and it’s also widely taught for self-defense shooting. However, when people are in the grip of “fight or flight response,” their physical strength increases suddenly and dramatically, but physical coordination often decreases in equal measure. At the same time, vasoconstriction is occurring.

Sense of touch decreases and a person may not be able to feel that reset. Plus, they’ll likely be squeezing harder than usual, and if they don’t let up on the trigger enough between shots, it may fail to reset, which could appear like a malfunction that isn’t one.

**Trigger Weld:** With this method, once the shooting is underway, the trigger finger maintains contact with the face of the trigger, but allows the trigger to return past the reset point and all the way forward until it stops, as if they were shooting a revolver. Even under stress, the trigger finger can feel this and reset has been guaranteed while preventing trigger slap.


## GRIP ISSUES

How we hold a GLOCK pistol has a bearing on how we will pull the trigger. Conventional wisdom says a handgun’s barrel should be as closely aligned as possible with the bones of the forearm for maximum recoil control.

The web of the strong hand should be all the way up into the grip tang. If it is lower, a straight back press on the trigger will cause the muzzle to dip, and the shot will go lower than intended. A high grip also gives the shooter more leverage and control against muzzle rise during recoil.

Also, make sure the pistol is sized for the preferred trigger finger placement. Use the GLOCK Modular Backstrap System to get a better fit or you may have to choose a larger or smaller handgun.

Techniques are tools, and the more you have in your kit, the better you can perform. ☉



The rimfire GLOCK 44 in .22LR is a great option for affordable range practice.

# THE G44 AS A G19 TRAINER

**THIS .22LR PISTOL IS IDEAL FOR KEEPING SKILLS SHARP  
WHEN AMMO IS SCARCE**

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EGER

**T**he G44, GLOCK's first rimfire pistol, was purposely designed to be a dead ringer for the iconic GLOCK 19 pistol. When supplies of centerfire ammunition are scarce, the fun .22LR plinker stands ready to help gun owners keep their range skills in tune.

The gun industry recently experienced a huge surge with 8.4 million people becoming first-time gun owners, according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF). If each of those new gun buyers also purchased just two boxes of ammo, that's a demand increase of 850 million rounds of ammunition beyond normal consumption. That spike left shelves, online inventories, and warehouses bare while ammo manufacturers struggled to catch up.

While ammunition was soon depleted, one of the first calibers to bounce back was the humble .22LR. Mercifully, the rimfire round remained comparatively inexpensive, going for a price of about 12-to-15 cents per round compared to basic 9x19 and .40 AUTO training loads, which were going for about \$1 per round at the height of this latest ammo crisis.

## ENTER THE G44

Introduced in late 2019, GLOCK's polymer-frame, striker-fired rimfire pistol is almost exactly the same length, width, and height as the G19 and G23, while measuring just slightly shorter in length—about 0.72 inches. While the G44 is almost a pound lighter due to its innovative hybrid polymer-steel slide and smaller-diameter barrel, the G44 feels remarkably similar in the user's hand to its aforementioned centerfire cousins.

Better still, it has the same controls and uses the identical manual of arms as the G19, setting the stage for the rimfire to act as a wallet-friendly, sub-caliber training gun at the range when ammo for centerfire models is too expensive or completely out of stock. Although the G44 has many Gen5 features, the same manual of arms applies

to legacy GLOCK Gen3 and Gen4 models as well, and the ergonomics are the same.

Another important benefit of the G44 is that its frame and slide geometry makes it compatible with most G19 holster systems. This allows the .22LR pistol to be a stand-in for the G19 when running drawing and presentation drills from open or concealed carry holsters at the shooting range. And because the G44 has a rail, you can add your centerfire pistol accessories and set it up to be as close as possible to a duty or carry gun.

The G44 sights still features the familiar and time-tested "U-notch" rear sight and a dot front sight combination. The G44's GLOCK Marksman Barrel (GMB) gives it the accuracy of the Gen5 technology advancements.

## DIFFERENCES TO CONSIDER

The biggest difference when shooting the G44 is, of course, the light felt recoil of the .22LR. The ammo capacity is limited to 10+1, which means more frequent reloads and that some shooting drills may have to be adjusted.

One final thing to keep in mind when using the G44 as a proxy for a carry or duty pistol in live firearms training is that its budget-friendly rimfire fodder is generally less reliable than centerfire personal protection or self-defense loads. This means the possibility of an ammunition-induced stoppage is higher with a G44 loaded with rimfire ammo of questionable quality than a G19 running high-quality defensive ammo. Ultimately, this is good for training, as it may present unexpected opportunities to weapon malfunction drills in the safety of a training environment.

In the end, nothing is a pure substitute for live-fire training with a carry or defensive handgun using the holster and ammo the user intends to depend on for daily use. However, the G44 can help bridge the gap and backfill those perishable skills when doing so can be a challenge. 🎯





Purchases of new firearms as never been stronger in the United States than in the past two years.

# 5 MILLION NEW GUN OWNERS AND COUNTING

## GLOCK THE FIRST PERFECT GUN

■ ARTICLE BY JOEL T. NADLER ■ PHOTO BY FRANK STEIGER

**T**he year 2020 will be remembered for many reasons. In the gun world, the year will be remembered for the record setting number of gun sales it brought in the United States. Additionally, estimates from the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) say about 5 million Americans became first time gun owners in 2020. Some reports reflect almost 8 million new gun owners in 2020.

Polls found that the number of gun-owning households in the U.S. increased by 5-7 percent over the past few years, and all indications suggest the upward trends will continue into 2022.

With this influx of new gun owners comes a corresponding increase in the need for instruction tailored to absolute beginners. Some of these students have never fired a shot before, and others may actually be very afraid of firearms. These hurdles have to be addressed and overcome by instructors.

At my company, Tactical Training Associates, Inc. (TTA), we provide civilian, law enforcement, and security firearms training and are the primary instructors at a large range facility in Indianapolis, Indiana where we provide a number of training classes for beginners.

We recently conducted an audit of our introductory courses to make sure they were meeting the needs of new gun owners. When we realized many of our students would be firing their first shot ever, it became obvious that we needed to reevaluate several aspects of our training, including the handguns we use.

We wanted something manageable and easy to operate for our introductory classes that was also not intimidating,

but would offer the students training they could later apply with other handguns. This ultimately led us to GLOCK and the rimfire GLOCK 44 as a training pistol for our first-time shooter classes.

The G44 possess the reliability, functionality and near identical size of the legendary GLOCK 19, which can also be found as a licensed airsoft version for skill-maintenance training that is so important for new shooters. The G44 is the perfect training pistol for first time users. Most full-service retail gun stores, offer the opportunity to train, sometimes with rentals or through courses. This is the ideal path for new gun owners, or for those considering buying a firearm for the first time, go gain knowledge and experience with the perfect pistol.

When we get to the live-fire portion of our classes, the G44 .22LR has very low recoil and noise, making it un-intimidating, even for the most skittish students. The fact that it's so similar to the 9x19 models means that, when the students are ready, the transition to a centerfire pistol will be much easier.

TTA acquired a set of licensed GLOCK 19 blowback airsoft pistols and an equal number of GLOCK 44 .22LR handguns for all our classes.

The reliability, easy use, availability, and options for training made the GLOCK the ideal gun for our training classes. As our students who recently became first-time gun owners were taking their first shots, and having their first positive experiences with GLOCKS in the classroom, it was only natural that many decided on a GLOCK for their first handgun. 🎯



Women have become a significant portion of gun owners comprising about 40% of new gun buyers. In this particular BIB class, there were several women students. One of the students was Savanna, who was the youngest student to take a BIB course.

# TRAINING FOR TOMORROW WITH GLOCKS

**GLOCK PRO SHOOTERS PROVIDE WORLD-CLASS TRAINING AT ALL LEVELS**

■ ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY ANDRE' M. DALL'AU

**A** lifetime of shooting enjoyment begins with learning from the best. Safe and accurate marksmanship is a learned set of skills best taught via organized instruction from good shooters, not only knowledgeable about firearms but effective teachers.

GLOCK shooters can access world-class training through GLOCK Professional, Inc. (GP). When you have the best people determining, developing, and teaching the curriculum, the result is excellent training.

Joseph "Willie" Parent III is the Director of Training and the GLOCK Sport Shooting Foundation (GSSF) at GLOCK, Inc. Like all GLOCK instructors, who must be either sworn law enforcement or military, or both, Willie is a former U.S. Marine Corps Force Recon combat veteran and a civilian law enforcement SWAT instructor with years of instructional experience.

When asked about the quality of the courses, he said, "Our instructors not only have to attend and pass every single class we offer, but work with every department, including warranty and manufacturing, to learn every intimate detail of the products a consumer can come in contact with. There is no better source for training than the GLOCK technicians who manufacture and assemble the pistols. They then pass that along to the students to give them a depth of knowledge that they cannot get elsewhere."

Parent added, "We have instructors located all over the country to handle the training needs of our customers and shooters. We ensure GLOCK students are being taught by the best and most qualified instructors we can find, who not only know every aspect of the mechanical operation, proper and safe use, and background of GLOCK products, but can clearly convey that information one-on-one."





**GLOCK training is for everyone at any ability level. This BIB class had a completely novice shooter. With GLOCK's mentored instruction, she ended the class more confident and very happy with the new knowledge learned.**

**With the simplicity of GLOCK pistols, it provides less chance of mechanical error and explains why they are so inherently robust and never breaks."**

each student gets more experience, their targets show groups that get tighter and tighter.

The remainder of the range time is occupied with drills, during which instructors offer further advice about improving stance and grip, and give other tips for improving accuracy.

### **CLASS DIVERSITY**

The students GLOCK trains are diverse. Some have never fired a pistol before. An increasing number of women who want to take an active role in their safety are also signing up.

Ben Scott is an IT professional who has been shooting long guns for 40 years, but is just now learning about pistols.

"I am amazed by the GLOCK reliability due to its fewer parts," Scott said. "When you have anything with a lot of moving parts, the complexity just increases the probability that something will fail. With the simplicity of GLOCK pistols, there's less chance of mechanical error, which explains why they are so inherently robust and never break."

Student Lambert Villiaume brought his daughter, Savannah, along. She had turned 16 just days before, making her the youngest student to take the BIB class so far.

"I liked being shown how to best handle the G44, how to grip it, the different stances, and the importance of a correct trigger pull," she said, adding that she was impressed by Chris "Gen 1" Edwards, a long-time GLOCK instructor who was responsible for the development of the GSSF.

"Chris had a wealth of knowledge and presented it in ways that really helped and provided the students with takeaways that included not only skills and knowledge but enthusiasm," Lambert said.

### **THE TAKEAWAY**

The BIB course is just one of many courses GLOCK offers to shooters that help them develop their skills, learn about the finest pistols in the world, and provide an enriching experience that will take them from the basics all the way to competitive shooting. For more information about training and scheduling from GLOCK, please visit <https://glocktraining.com>. ☺



**All class participants agreed that the BIB class they took, motivated them to obtain even more training to upgrade and sustain their new skills.**

"To be an instructor for GLOCK, a person must demonstrate excellent teaching ability. Plus, they all must pass our tough shooting skills qualification course of fire annually."

GLOCK Training classes include GLOCK Operator, Armorers, Modular Optic (red dot), Low Profile Carry, Instructor Workshops, and the "Brilliance in The Basics" (BIB) course—and many others are under consideration and development.

### **TOP TRAINING FOR BEGINNERS**

BIB, the newest course, is designed to teach the fundamentals of pistol shooting to both novice and experienced shooters. Students are provided with the rimfire GLOCK 44 in .22LR caliber, which is sized the same as GLOCK's best-selling, compact G19 9x19 and has been purposefully engineered with the same trigger pull, interchangeable backstraps, and magazine catch. It also has the same sight picture of every GLOCK pistol, all to ensure skills learned on the G44 are immediately transferrable to centerfire GLOCK pistols.

First, BIB students are provided with a thorough safety brief, including range commands used during live fire, the proper nomenclature, and how the GLOCK SAFE ACTION® trio of internal safeties work.

Once all that is complete, the students unbox their GLOCKS and are allowed to handle them, unloaded, so they can learn correct stance, grip, and how to obtain a good sight picture.

After lunch, the students head to an indoor range adjacent to the classroom where they are taught how to load, handle, holster, and present their G44 pistols. During these classes, as



Photo by Frank Steiger

Some firearms retailers, like Alamo Gun Range in Naples, FL, offer training as well as sell firearms.

# FOCUSING ON THE FUNDAMENTALS

DRY FIRE PRACTICE IS AN AFFORDABLE WAY TO GET POSITIVE RESULTS

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EDWARDS

**T**he emphasis on the safe handling of firearms has become a hallmark of responsible gun owners and safe handling and competency have to be learned. Historical accounts tell us that “dry firing,” the manipulation of a firearm and its trigger mechanism while unloaded and without ammunition in the immediate vicinity, has been part of the training used by successful shooters for generations.

The Firearms Instructors of GLOCK Professional, Inc. (GP) routinely practice with duty and concealment equipment to demonstrate the practice correctly to their students. Dry firing is a necessary and valuable tool for every GLOCK owner. Follow these tips for success.

## THE PROCEDURE

Safety is first, last, and always mandatory when working with and around firearms. Proper “dry firing” means absolutely **NO LIVE AMMUNITION PRESENT** in the immediate dry fire area.

It was quite valuable for me to observe GLOCK Professional Instructors and how they performed dry fire routines. These are individuals who have served in United States military Special Operations and on elite law enforcement teams. I was told a “negligent discharge” would get one fired from the Teams.

All GP Instructors clear their weapons and visually and physically inspect the chamber, double check, and then clear and check a third time. A technique I’ve adopted is to use my carry pouch (or GLOCK box) to secure ammunition and loaded magazines. Once your firearm has been made safe, it’s time to focus. Isolating oneself as much as possible is important. Phones and other distractions should be outside of the training area.

## FIND A BACKSTOP

A good backstop is also a must. It serves as a place to hang a target to focus on. It should always be a location that is as safe as possible just in case, however unlikely, a negligent discharge should occur. Don’t hang a target on a wall if you share a common wall. Use a solid wall, basement or landscape features as a proper backstop.

Dry firing can be as simple as picking an aiming point, or as complex as setting up a competition stage. Keep it simple, and only work on one or two skills at a time. Choose a specific task for each session for a short period of time, say 5 to 10 minutes. Pay close attention to the fundamentals you’re working on and obtain better results.

## HOW TO TRAIN

Assume a balanced stance and hold your GLOCK with a proper two-handed grip while executing a smooth trigger press. Be hyper-vigilant about where your muzzle is pointed, even when dry firing. Practice presenting your GLOCK pistol from wherever it is regularly carried or stored. For legal concealed carriers, a proper draw and presentation is essential preparation for a self-defense situation.

If a GLOCK pistol is kept in a lock box or gun safe, practice retrieving and presenting it from there. This is essential training for good home defense. You want the process to be committed to muscle memory if something goes bump in the middle of the night and awakens you into a defensive situation. When the dry-fire session has ended, verbally make an announcement: “Dry fire is over. The GLOCK is now loaded.”

I try to practice drawing and dry firing from a concealed carry holster 10 times a day, before I leave the house. Give focused dry fire practice a try and see your handgun competency increase! 🎯



# GLOCK PROFESSIONAL, INC. PROVIDES TOP TRAINING FOR GLOCK PRODUCTS

THE DIVISION RECRUITS THE BEST TRAINERS TO TEACH TOP GLOCK  
SHOOTING AND ARMORER COURSES WORLDWIDE

■ ARTICLE BY WILLIE PARENT

**G**LOCK Professional, Inc. is a little known diamond-in-the-rough. It is commonly known for The GLOCK Sport Shooting Foundation (GSSF) matches held across the country—however, we are so much more. GLOCK Professional also houses the Training Division for all GLOCK products. There are 15 instructors in the United States and three in Austria that train GLOCK's customers around the world.

## TYPES OF COURSES OFFERED

GLOCK Professional Instructors run courses for the use and armoring of all GLOCK products. Our team provides continuing education for Law Enforcement and Military Firearms Instructors in the U.S. with the Instructor Workshop and MOS Instructor Workshop in a 2-1/2-day format.

For non Law Enforcement or Military Firearms Instructors, we offer the Operator Courses, which are skill-building courses that cover everything from drawing from a holster and pistol presentation to shooting on the move. In the U.S., the class follows a two-day format that makes this training readily accessible for people who have to take off from work and travel to participate.

The Low Profile Carry Course specializes in Concealed Carry techniques and the monthly Brilliance in the Basics Course is held at GLOCK Professional in Smyrna, Georgia, for first-time firearm owners who want to begin their journey with safe and proper training.

There are more courses on the horizon as the Training Division grows to meet the needs of our customers. GLOCK Professional can also customize training courses. GLOCK Professional does not teach legalities or tactics, we teach techniques that are proven to be safe and efficient in any situation.

## HOW GLOCK INSTRUCTORS ARE CHOSEN

Who are the instructors of GLOCK Professional? We are a diverse group of people carefully vetted to ensure you receive the best possible training possible.

These instructors from the U.S. and Austria have backgrounds in Law Enforcement, SWAT, and Special Forces. If they are not on the road running courses, they often seen at local and state shooting competitions. This mixture of skillsets provides a bevy of different perspectives.

GLOCK Professional believes that to be a great instructor, you must always be a great student. Our instructors stay abreast of the latest techniques and methods of instruction by sharing knowledge gained all over the world. It is essential for us to continue perfecting our craft on the range and in the classroom so we can provide the best training in the world to our clients.



Our instructors are some of the best, which is largely the result of our stringent vetting process. Potential candidates are required to qualify on two separate courses of fire and conduct a classroom presentation just to get an interview. GLOCK Professional does not contract our instructors. GLOCK is adamant about maintaining the highest levels of quality, both in our products and our team.

## GATHERING FOR BIENNIAL MEETINGS

Biannually, all GLOCK instructors gather to share knowledge at our International Training Meeting. We conduct different shooting courses. It's our way of making sure our customers receive the same quality of training anywhere in the world.

Every instructor must qualify on three separate courses of fire to remain on the team.

We gather for technical training on the latest GLOCK products and updates. We regularly update and modify our GLOCK Armorer Courses and manuals based on feedback from the team about what they've encountered. Team members must then pass an in-depth Armorer exam each year to ensure all Training personnel are knowledgeable and familiar with all of GLOCK's products.


## GETTING GLOCK PROFESSIONAL, INC. TRAINING

GLOCK Professional, Inc. is dedicated to perfection, and making sure everyone, from new to experienced shooters, has the solid foundation needed to excel in competitive shooting, protecting our communities, or protecting themselves and their families.

Whether shooting is your lifestyle and you know your GLOCK pistol inside and out, or you've just picked up your first GLOCK handgun, GLOCK Professional, Inc., is perfect for you. To see the schedule for GLOCK Professional training courses, visit our site at <https://glocktraining.com/>.

For those in the United States or Canada who want information on the requirements for the GLOCK Courses or on how to attend or host a GLOCK course, go to [www.glocktraining.com](http://www.glocktraining.com).

For all other countries, contact The Austria Training Department for requirements and to schedule training at: GP@ GLOCK.AT or call +43(0)2247 90 300 ☎



The author with a Leupold DeltaPoint Micro red-dot sight mounted on a GLOCK 19 pistol. An RDS offers quick target acquisition in stressful self-defense situations.

# THE RED-DOT SWITCH

THE ADVANTAGES OF DITCHING IRONS FOR A RED-DOT SIGHT AND WHAT TO CONSIDER WHEN BUYING ONE FOR YOUR GLOCK

■ ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY GUNNER JEFF EBY, USMC (RETIRED)

**G**enerally, there are three reasons people begin to consider making the leap from iron sights on their pistol to a red-dot sight (RDS).

For some, it's the arrival of the magic age of 45 and admitting your eyes will only allow you to focus on the front sight post or the target, but not both at the same time.

Some people are looking to get into competitive shooting or dedicate themselves more to competition, and the fact is most people shoot faster with an RDS than irons, and at two to three times the distance. This is thanks to only having to focus on two focal planes, the dot and the target, instead of a rear sight, a front sight, and the target.

Others may be considering adding an RDS to their carry gun after reading the studies by the Violence Policy Center that reveal people in high stress situations can't help but lock both

eyes on a threat. This makes it nearly impossible to focus on the front sight of a pistol in such a situation. An RDS allows for accurate and quick aiming on target under extreme stress—perfect for self-defense.

## DECISIONS, DECISIONS

Once you make the commitment to go the RDS route, the first decision you must make is whether to retrofit your existing pistol by adding a rear sight adapter plate. Of course, you can always buy an MOS (Multiple Optics System) version of your favorite GLOCK pistol.

A rear sight adapter plate can be installed without any gunsmith help—it's simply a mounting plate that is fitted into the existing dovetail on the slide that holds the gun's rear sight. Tap out the rear sight, tap in the adapter, and you're ready to go.



## **“An RDS allows for accurate and quick aiming on target under extreme stress—perfect for self-defense.”**

Be sure to buy the correct adapter plate or mounting plate that will fit your RDS of choice.

There are also alternative options, like the Leupold DeltaPoint Micro RDS, which is a low-profile sight unit that slides directly into the rear-sight dovetail on the slide without the need for an adapter plate or milling. This also helps keep the RDS as low as possible—and the closer the sight is to the bore axis, the better it will perform.

I recently had the opportunity to run the DeltaPoint Micro RDS on a pistol and compare it to several other RDS sights. First-shot target acquisition was lightning fast, as were split times between shots with no degradation in accuracy.

Of course, the simplest way to make the switch from irons to an RDS is to choose a new pistol from GLOCK's MOS line of handguns. The new slimline GLOCK 43X MOS and GLOCK 48 MOS are just as reliable and easier to conceal as the iconic GLOCK 19 MOS and GLOCK 45 MOS. My motto is, “When in doubt, I always say, buy a new gun.”

### **CHOOSING AN OPTIC**

When shopping for an RDS, the paramount concern is choosing a durable optic built to be rock solid so you can rely on it to perform when you need it most. Other things to consider are battery life, dot size, and whether or not you can use backup iron sights with the RDS (this is called co-witnessing or partial co-witnessing). Some other things to consider are the sight's weight, how its batteries are changed, and, if the RDS will be mounted on a carry gun, how easy it is to find an accommodating holster that you're comfortable with.

RDS housings can be made of polymer, 6061 aluminum or 7075 T6 aluminum, carbon fiber, or even titanium. If you will be using the RDS in a severe environment, you're going to want the most durable housing material possible, but that also means it will be more expensive. If the RDS will be on an every-day carry gun, you should consider the aluminum, carbon fiber, or titanium as all would provide better crush resistance against inadvertent drops or impacts than polymer.

There are also two options when it comes to RDS lenses: polycarbonate or glass. Glass is more scratch resistant than polycarbonate and is a better choice for a daily carry gun, but the downside is that glass is heavier. It's not really important in terms of adding to the overall weight of the gun, but on smaller caliber semi-automatic pistols, like a .32 ACP or .38 AUTO, an RDS mounted on the slide that's too heavy may inhibit the proper operation of the firearm.

### **BATTERY LIFE AND BACKUPS**

These days, you should expect an RDS to have a battery life of at least two years, if not more. Many red-dot sights will come with an auto-off feature that will save battery life if you leave the sight turned on. After the sight senses it hasn't moved for a predetermined amount of time, it will shut itself off.

The big concern with relying on an RDS only is that it could potentially fail and just become a window without a dot. Some models will allow you to co-witness your stock iron sights as a backup option, but this is difficult on a pistol as the irons usually sit too low. Suppressor-height sights are available for



The author takes aim with the Leupold DeltaPoint Micro RDS mounted on a GLOCK 42 pistol.

most pistols and allow you to choose to align your irons in the lower 1/3 of RDS window or to achieve a full co-witness, meaning the red dot and irons perfectly align when aiming.

### **ALWAYS CHOOSE DURABILITY**

If you face a choice between a sight with a good warranty and one that's extremely durable, remember it's about more than price. A lifetime warranty for a sight that breaks often could see you without a working sight when your life's on the line. The best option is a durable optic that does not break rather than a fragile optic always in need of maintenance or repair.

### **THE RIGHT DOT SIZE**

I recommend choosing a red dot that is 3-4 MOA in size (MOA stands for “minute of angle” and this measurement means the dot will cover a space equivalent to 3-4 inches on a target at a distance of 100 yards). As your skills progress and your target distance increases, the larger sizes start obscuring the target, but very small dot sizes can be difficult to acquire quickly, especially in brighter light.

A sight with an auto-brightness feature is great to have, but you will want to be able to adjust the brightness manually as well, in case you are shooting in a situation where you are, for example, standing in the dark and looking into the light. You want to adjust the brightness based on the target background, not the lighting conditions the gun is in.

### **CONSIDERING PRICE**

While price is always a big factor when choosing any optic, quality usually follows price. Expect to spend at least \$200 for a quality RDS. Make that your baseline, and go up from there as much as you can afford. Let durability, reliability, and availability—in that order—drive your decisions. Practice often and you will never regret joining the growing number of people mounting red-dot sights on their GLOCK pistols. 🍷

# GLOCK

## THE GUN OF THE LAW

### HOW GLOCK PISTOLS BECAME THE WORLD LEADER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT DUTY GUNS

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EDWARDS

**F**rom the last two decades of the 20th Century to the present day, the number of GLOCK pistols in the holsters of law enforcement (LE) has experienced a meteoric rise in both the United States and around the world. Let's trace this trajectory from the first delivery to U.S. law enforcement to the present day and GLOCK's current dominance in the field.

GLOCK met the critical needs of LE officers and agents from the very beginning and continues to make improvements that meet the needs of today's LE professionals worldwide.

#### THE BEGINNING

In 1986, GLOCK opened an office in Smyrna, Georgia, to begin importing GLOCK 17 9x19 Gen1 pistols. At the time, American law enforcement was experiencing a dramatic transition. Departments and agencies, large and small, were trading in their revolvers for semi-automatic duty guns, and GLOCK offered a product with qualities attractive to them.

With their safe and efficient manual of arms, reliability that would become legendary, and exceptional magazine capacity for the time, GLOCK pistols stood out from the rest. Additionally, customer service to both individual LE personnel and agencies was a priority from day one and remains so to this day. Mr. Glock himself stated that his commitment to perfection included "maximum customer satisfaction".



Photo Courtesy Aimpoint





Photo Courtesy Aimpoint



Photo Courtesy Aimpoint

## DEDICATION TO SERVICE

GLOCK stationed company personnel across the country who could and would respond to customer needs and requests. As part of its LE support, GLOCK established a Training Division, which provided Armorer training and shooting instruction for organization personnel.

Instead of staying in Georgia, GLOCK Instructors would travel directly to the customer and provide training locally. This service continues today all over the world.

In the 1990s, GLOCK continued to quickly respond to LE needs, even as they changed. When LE officers in the U.S. wanted additional caliber offerings, GLOCK responded with new pistol models chambered in larger calibers.

U.S. Federal Law Enforcement agencies exhaustively tested these new GLOCKS. The pistols surpassed their standards and were adopted by many agencies. In just a few years, GLOCK pistols were in the holsters and hands of the majority of law enforcement agencies at the Federal, state, and local level. Around the world, other law enforcement agencies began to take notice and they, too, adopted GLOCK as a service sidearm.

## GLOCK AND LAW ENFORCEMENT TODAY

In the opening decades of the 21st century, GLOCK continues its commitment to law enforcement around the world. Mr. Glock has said that quality is not to be compromised in the manufacture of his pistols and GLOCK pistols continue to meet and exceed the standards of LE professionals—and forward-looking manufacturing technologies allow for rapid responses to changing requirements.

The latest GLOCK Gen5 pistols certainly exceed LE needs across the globe, with features like the GLOCK Marksman Barrel (GMB), state-of-the-art finishes on steel parts, and other improvements that set them apart. As GLOCK “Perfection” continues, the company is ready to meet all customer requirements and exceed their expectations with uncompromising quality and customer service. 🟡



The headquarters of Pinal County Sheriff's Office in Florence, Arizona.

# GLOCKS OF THE DESERT

**PINAL COUNTY PROTECTS THE WEST AND THE BORDER WITH GLOCK PISTOLS**

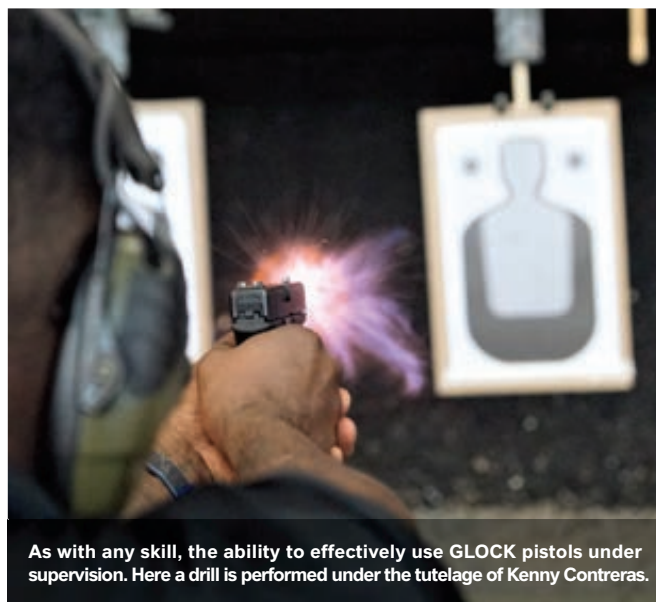
■ ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY ANDRE' M. DALL'AU

**P**inal County, Arizona, is located just north of the Mexican border in the desolate Sonoran Desert. Though there are few areas of the planet less hospitable to human life—summers routinely send the mercury to 106 degrees in the shade, if there were any—it is the third most populated county in the state.

Every rock, wall, and even the dirt radiates heat like an open furnace. Exposed surfaces become too hot to touch and a fine, swirling dust penetrates everything. The extreme environment requires every tool and machine to be the best in quality and specifically made to withstand the unique stresses presented by this location.

Modern highways like Interstate-10 cut across Pinal County through the desert, providing unfettered access to the heartland of America. That route and others like it are primary transportation arteries for both commerce and, on the other side of the law, for smuggling goods and people.

The flow of illegal drugs and weapons across the nearby border, coupled with major roadways through the desert, create modern criminal threats and challenges in Pinal County, and every encounter for law enforcement becomes uncertain.



As with any skill, the ability to effectively use GLOCK pistols under supervision. Here a drill is performed under the tutelage of Kenny Contreras.



**“If you are going to get into a gunfight then you want to have the best firearm possible,”**

### **CHOOSING GLOCK**

The GLOCK pistols chosen by the Pinal County Sheriff's department for its more than 230 deputies and nearly equal number of detention officers more than meet both the challenges of unrelenting and merciless heat, and the sometimes hot criminal activity in the area.

The PCSO primarily adopted the G17 Gen5 9x19 model as its main duty pistol, a descendent of the first GLOCK pistol ever made, along with three additional GLOCK models for different circumstances.

The department is composed of several divisions, including Patrol, Investigations, Motorcycle, Civil, Anti-Smuggling, SWAT, K9, and Aviation, along with several specialized task groups. The PCSO also has both auxiliary deputies and a volunteer organization called “The Posse”, composed of 50 civilians who assist the department by performing limited duties. They wear uniforms and receive 100 hours of firearms instruction so they can carry privately purchased GLOCK pistols.

### **THE BENEFITS**

“We had five different companies present their firearms to our firearms instructors who tested them all,” says Pinal County Sheriff Mark Thomas Lamb. “Based on what they saw, the results of their evaluation, and the opinions of our firearm experts, GLOCK pistols were chosen.”



**Pinal County Sheriff Mark Lamb is a dedicated GLOCK lover and carries his own G34 as his preferred everyday carry (EDC). His choice is based on a lifetime of seeing what works best in law enforcement.**



**Deputy and SWAT Team member Rusty Fernando uses his GLOCK during a shooting drill at the Casa Grande Police Department indoor range under the supervision of Sgt. Rory Skedel.**

That was fine by Lamb, who says, “I love it, they are reliable, accurate and are an all-around excellent handgun. I have been using GLOCKS for my entire law enforcement career, both on patrol and on SWAT. I now carry the G43 and have put countless rounds downrange and never had any failures. GLOCK is my gun of choice.”

“If you are going to get into a gunfight then you want to have the best firearm possible,” he adds.

Chief Deputy Matthew Thomas says the office has issued G17 pistols to most of its deputies, and that the smaller G43 MOS and G48 MOS with optics are also used for undercover work, while some members of the SWAT team also use the G43. The G19 has also been allowed for use by those with smaller hands.

“That is one of the great things about GLOCK pistols,” Thomas says. “You have a wide variety of choices within a caliber based on your need and hand size. We selected Federal 147-grain HST 9x19 for our duty ammo and we’ve had no problems.”

After joining the department seven years ago with no previous experience with handguns or shooting, the first firearm Deputy Rusty Fernando ever shot or carried was a GLOCK.

“I like it! I enjoy shooting the GLOCK. The G17 and G19X that I carry off-duty both are in 9x19, which helps a lot with recoil management,” Fernando says. “The GLOCK design makes the pistol easy to take apart, easy to clean, easy to manage and it is ready to shoot whenever you unholster.”

Rory Skedel is a SWAT team leader as well as the sergeant in charge of PCSO's Criminal Interdiction and their K9 units. He also supervises the breaching team for the regional SWAT team. He carries the GLOCK 17 when on duty with a GLOCK 19 for off-duty carry. His use of GLOCKS is based on seeing what has worked best during his 20 years in law enforcement.

“The GLOCK is great! It is easy to manipulate and easy to





Deputy Christopher Santos with his GLOCK in the Sonoran Desert with its unique Saguaro and organ pipe cactus. What cannot be shown is the 116-degree heat that makes any exposed surfaces too hot to touch except the polymer grip of the GLOCK that keeps cooler than steel framed firearms.

use and is ergonomically comfortable,” Skedel says. “Recoil management, shot placement, round accountability and being able to hit what you intend to hit are the biggest benefits.”

## TRAINING AND QUALIFYING MADE EASIER

When it comes to training, Skedel says that 9x19 GLOCKS offer a huge advantage

“Using 9x19 GLOCKS reduces the time it takes to qualify and prevents shooters from having to make multiple attempts to qualify,” he says. “When some shooters have to try over and over, it actually turns the qualification course into a training event when it should be a test. Now that we’ve switched to GLOCKS, qualification usually takes just a single session.”

Sheriff Lamb sums it up by saying, “What I love about GLOCK pistols is that they work. I have been carrying a GLOCK for years, on duty and off. I’ve used them in SWAT and never had a failure with any GLOCK. They always work. It’s made so all you have to do is point and shoot, and it works. Every time!”

Sixty miles from the border, across the blazing and arid Sonoran Desert, thousands of migrants make their way where they ditch their camouflaged clothing, back packs and carpet shoes, before moving north. Approaching deputies never know what they will find. Some migrants are in desperate need and others can be violent offenders.



GLOCKS in service with the PCSO.

The few issues have been resolved with a quick and easy part swap made even easier by GLOCK’s exceptional customer service.

Mortensen says his love for the GLOCK brand stems from the pistols’ robust construction and “because the design has just three small springs. It is mechanically simple, but reliable and easy to shoot and maintain, not only by the shooter, but most importantly, by those of us who have hundreds of GLOCK pistols to keep in service.

“If the guns were difficult to maintain,” he adds, “we couldn’t have the confidence that we do in the protection they provide the deputies and our citizens.”

“The GLOCK was designed to be simple and easy to work on. It can take a beating and still function even when dirty,” Contreras says. “When deputies and officers do not clean their GLOCKS, their pistols still will work and work well. If a gun gets muddy or dusty—around here everything gets covered in dust every time you roll down a window—all the GLOCK really needs is to be wiped down and you are back in business. I have seen other models that just can’t do that and would jam under similar conditions.”



PCSO Deputies Kenny Contreras (left) and Paul Mortensen (right) are PCSO designated GLOCK Armors, trained and certified by GLOCK.

## THE PCSO GLOCK ARMORERS

Detention Officer Paul Mortensen and Firearms Coordinator Kenny Contreras serve as the PCSO’s two certified, GLOCK trained armors. Combined, they have decades of experience working with GLOCK pistols—and both armors admitted that mostly they just perform simple disassemblies and cleanings because almost nothing has gone wrong with the hundreds of





Prince William County (VA) Sheriff's Office (PWSO) has 94 sworn employees and 16 civilian employees. They cover 350 square miles and they were established in 1731. Their motto is "Putting Citizen's First" and it's evident that is what this department does.

# GLOCKS ARE ON DUTY IN NORTHEAST VIRGINIA

**THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE HAS RELIED  
ON GLOCK SINCE TRANSITIONING FROM REVOLVERS**

■ ARTICLE BY SEAN CURTIS ■ PHOTOS COURTESY PWSO

**P**rince William County Virginia is located in the northeast region of the state, just 36 miles from Washington D.C. This busy hub has two major law enforcement agencies and a distinguished history that dates all the way back to 1731. The Prince William County Sheriff's Office (PWSO) handles specific law enforcement tasks within the county and they have relied on GLOCKS since the days of revolvers.

The county, with its seat in Manassas, has an area of roughly 350 square miles, and within those borders live approximately a half-million citizens. Established in 1731, the PWSO is one of the oldest law enforcement entities in the area.

The PWSO was the primary law enforcement agency in PW County until July 1, 1970, when a police department was created for the county as it grew. The sheriff's office still held many of its traditional responsibilities until the 1980's, when the local jail became a regional facility.

Master Deputy Bakalov, who has 19 years service with the agency under his belt, says that today, the agency's primary functions included providing courthouse security, serving civil process, and handling warrants and transportation. The PWSO, which has had state accreditation since the 1990s, is a secondary law enforcement agency when it comes to responding to calls for service. Its deputies are POST certified

peace officers who attend the same academy as other agencies. Deputies can still respond to calls, but they do not hold the primary responsibilities.

The PWSO, composed of 94 sworn employees and 16 civilian employees, also offers great community outreach programs, such as Project Lifesaver, which aids people who suffer from various conditions that make them prone to wandering into potentially dangerous situations, like Alzheimer's disease, various forms of dementia, and citizens with autism or Down syndrome, using GPS trackers.





PWCSO has a long-standing relationship with GLOCK and GLOCK products.



PWCSO take firearms training seriously and they want to work with only the finest products available to keep their officers, and territory, as safe as possible.

**“...many deputies carry GLOCK off-duty as well as on, and they often come out to qualify with their off-duty GLOCKs. He estimates roughly 90% of them carry GLOCK pistols only.”**

## GLOCK SINCE 2000

The PWCSO has a long history with GLOCK and it issues the GLOCK 21 Gen4 as its duty sidearm, with the G30 as an option for certain staff members. The office's off-duty policy includes a few more options, but Bakalov said many deputies carry GLOCK off-duty as well as on, and they often come out to qualify with their off-duty GLOCKs. He estimates roughly 90% of them carry GLOCK pistols only.

Several generations of GLOCKs have come through the PWCSO since Bakalov started there in 2003. He noted deputies were using Gen2 models in those hoary days before they upgraded to Gen3 models. Finally, he said the agency kept upgrading, ultimately adopting the most recent version of the G21. The GLOCK 21 was the first GLOCK adopted and that occurred in 2000.

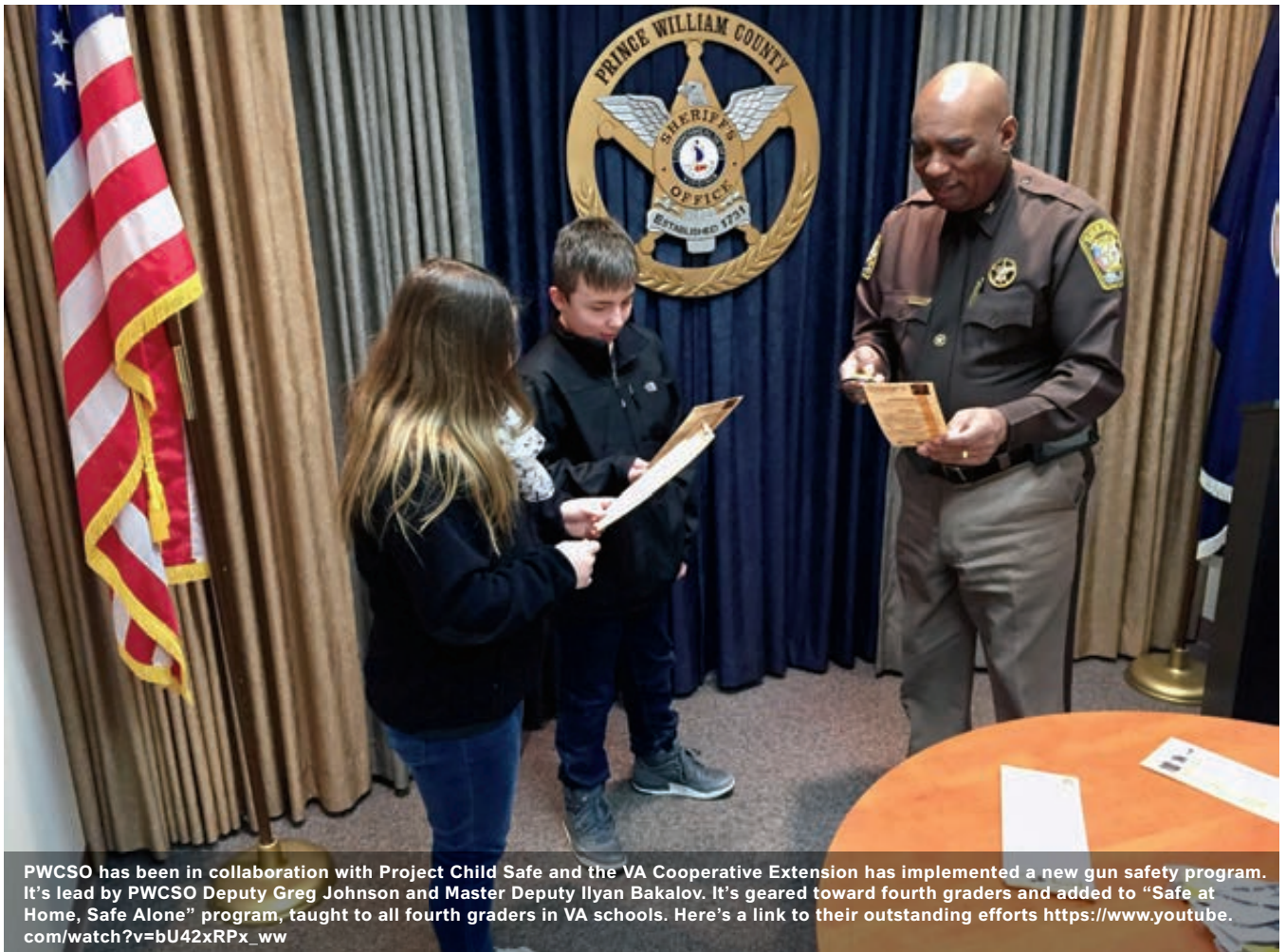
Most of the law enforcement organizations in the surrounding area have moved back to 9x19, if they ever moved away from it.

## PROVEN SOLUTIONS

“They don't fail,” that is what Bakalov says.. Giving his reason for why the PWCSO has stuck with GLOCKs for so long. He used to be the office's lead firearms instructor, so he should know. While he had to replace parts in the department's AR-15s, he didn't have to do so with their GLOCK pistols, which continue to last and perform.

While its deputies don't currently use weapon lights on their pistol rails, the office's Eviction Squad is about to add them to their loadout, in addition to magazine pouches, a glove pouch, handcuffs, a collapsible baton, OC spray, and a flashlight.





PWCSO has been in collaboration with Project Child Safe and the VA Cooperative Extension has implemented a new gun safety program. It's lead by PWCSO Deputy Greg Johnson and Master Deputy Ilyan Bakalov. It's geared toward fourth graders and added to "Safe at Home, Safe Alone" program, taught to all fourth graders in VA schools. Here's a link to their outstanding efforts [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bU42xRPx\\_ww](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bU42xRPx_ww)

## A LONG HISTORY OF SERVICE

For some, it's tough to imagine that GLOCK pistols have been around for 40 years, for others, it's tough to imagine there was a time when GLOCKS weren't the duty gun standard. To those of us who have been in law enforcement for some time, the brand is a well-established icon which has continued to evolve, and like the PWCSO it has seen many changes, but several constants remain as reasons more LE agencies choose GLOCK over any other pistol.

**Accuracy:** As a lead firearms instructor, Bakalov was intimately familiar with the PWCSO deputies' qualifying scores when shooting with their duty weapons. He said while about 10% shoot in the 70s, the rest all shoot in the 80s and above.

**Simplicity:** When an agency brings new people into the fold, the ease-of-use GLOCK offers makes training much easier. Trainees don't have to worry about de-cockers, hammer, or external manual safety, they only have to focus on drawing, presenting, and firing their weapon. The straightforward nature of the GLOCK simply saves time and makes better shooters, faster.

**Reliability:** Bakalov made it clear that the office's relationship with GLOCK has been one of dependable service. Despite having a GLOCK parts kit on hand, he has not used it. His direct quote summarizing his experience with the weapons over the last 19 years was succinct, "They don't fail."

These core attributes combine to provide something invaluable to the deputies of the Prince William County Sheriff's Office, the ability to trust their duty pistols completely. Regardless of what they face in their mission, they can count on GLOCK being by their side. 🍷

These fourth graders receive a 30-45 minute presentation and video discussing what to do if they see a firearm. **STOP, DON'T TOUCH. LEAVE. TELL AN ADULT.**



PWCSO educates fourth graders on the differences between a real gun and a toy gun. They focus heavily on making sure the children know what to do if they see a gun.



Fresno P.D. serves a diverse community of more than a half-million residents in this sprawling town on the banks of the San Joaquin River.

# FRESNO PD SELECTS THE G45 MOS

**THE CALIFORNIA POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS CHOSEN GLOCK  
AFTER AN EXTENSIVE TESTING AND EVALUATION PERIOD**

■ ARTICLE BY LARRY FORD ■ PHOTOS COURTESY FRESNO P.D.

**F**resno, California, is a city with an interesting history. Originally founded by the Central Pacific Railroad Company in 1872, the location for the town was uninviting and harsh, with barren sand plains in all directions. Leland J. Stanford, the railroad's director at the time, is credited with selecting the location of his new station. The year before, he noticed a wheat field belonging to A.Y. Easterly. It was a lush, green oasis in the middle of the dry prairie. Upon taking it in, Stanford exclaimed, "Wonderful! Here we must build the town!"

Stanford's Fresno Station was named for the Spanish ash trees lining the San Joaquin River, located in the county of Fresno. The original county seat in Millerton, California on the river was destroyed by a flood in 1867. Some residents rebuilt while others moved on.

## A TOWN GROWS

By 1872, the rapidly growing Fresno Station was considered for the county seat, and the City of Fresno was officially incorporated in 1885.

In the 1880's, Fresno was known as a wide-open town, and the business owners of the time said they needed unregulated

saloons, gambling dens, and brothels. Times changed, and over the next 135 years, besides being known for very hot summers, Fresno County gained a reputation for its agricultural output, with crops and commodities totaling \$7.88 billion.

## A NEW DAY FOR THE FRESNO PD

Policing in the 21st century has obviously changed dramatically from what it was when Stanford was alive. These days, "there's a new sheriff in town," as they say—well, a new Chief, anyway. Paco Balderrama was officially sworn in as the Chief of the Fresno Police Department (FPD) on January 11, 2021.

Chief Balderrama brings with him the promise of hope and change to the city of over 530,000 residents. He is committed to building relationships with the community members, improving public trust and providing the highest level of service to keep citizens safe.

Community policing is at the heart of the department's efforts, and it's emphasized at every level of the partnership with those they serve. The top priorities for all members of the FPD staff are fostering relationships through dignity and respect, mentoring young people, and solving neighborhood problems.





**“The team also gave the nod to the G45 MOS and its GLOCK Marksman Barrel (GMB) after conducting accuracy and reliability testing.”**

Before he left the office, Balderrama's predecessor, Chief Andrew Hall, made an evaluation of the department's aging equipment, including the department's sidearms, and recommended updates and upgrades.

The FPD's service pistols were nearing the end of their useful service lives, so Hall issued a department directive to begin testing and evaluating new service pistols and to generate a feasibility study for transitioning to a new pistol.

### SEARCHING FOR A NEW SERVICE PISTOL

Sgt. Mike Gebhart and Sgt. Justin Hoagland, along with members of the FPD Regional Training Center's range staff, conducted the evaluation, and gave strong consideration to the harsh demands that daily-carry service pistols must endure. They also wanted a versatile firearm.

One of the new sidearm candidates was the GLOCK 45 MOS (Modular Optic System). The team quickly concluded that the G45 MOS had many advantages over the department's previous service pistol, and they were impressed with the GLOCK SAFE ACTION SYSTEM® and the GEN 5 improvements featured on the G45. They were also impressed with the rounded corners on the pistol's slide, which makes the gun easier to re-holster.

The magazine well is flared for easier and faster reloads under stressful conditions, which was another plus, along with cocking serrations on the front of the slide that allow officers an easier way to safely perform a press check. The ambidextrous slide release allows left- or right-handed officers to use the pistol with ease, which was another big selling point.

Choosing the MOS version of the G45 would allow officers the option of adding a red-dot sight to their duty gun, which has been shown to greatly increase target acquisition speed and overall accuracy in stressful situations.

### CHOOSING THE GLOCK 45 MOS

As the testing and evaluation period neared its end, the agency selected a diverse group of officers to test-fire the final sidearm candidates. When the testing was concluded, the

consensus among the test shooters was that they preferred the feel and ergonomics of the G45 MOS over the other pistols they tested. The team also gave the nod to the G45 MOS and its GLOCK Marksman Barrel (GMB) after conducting accuracy and reliability testing.

Finally, the evaluators reviewed studies conducted by the FBI and other law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and determined that the 9x19 cartridge provides acceptable ballistic performance when compared to the larger .40. It appeared they had made a final choice.

By the time the T&E had concluded, Balderrama had taken over the chief spot and was happy with the change to the G45 MOS. He had carried a GLOCK 17 as a law enforcement officer in the Midwest for more than two decades and was very familiar with the serviceability, functionality, and reliability of GLOCKS as law enforcement duty guns.

Today, the agency is meeting the challenges of policing with the help of GLOCK's latest Gen5 technologies in the form of the GLOCK 45 MOS. ☺





# A HISTORY OF SERVICE

**WHY GLOCK IS THE ONE AND ONLY CHOICE FOR THE CHEROKEE SHERIFF'S  
OFFICE IN CANTON, GEORGIA**

■ ARTICLE BY SEAN CURTIS ■ PHOTOS BY RICHARD KING



**“It was partly the C.S.O.’s dedication to professionalism that led to the agency selecting GLOCK as its firearm of choice.”**

**More law enforcement agencies in the United States choose GLOCK for their duty pistols than any other handgun.**



**One of the special units at the Cherokee Sheriff's Office is its K9 Unit, seen here in action. Other special units include a SWAT team and a Hostage Negotiations team.**

**R**oughly 50 miles north of Atlanta lies Cherokee County, Georgia. While only 434 square miles in size, the area boasts a robust population of approximately 255,000. Based in the county seat of Canton, the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office C.S.O. provides law enforcement services to this constituency and they have relied on GLOCK pistols for decades to accomplish their mission.

In order to understand how this was accomplished, I spoke with Capt. John Gunning and Lt. William Thompson, both members of the department's training division. These gentlemen have impressive experience (both individual and combined) and they describe C.S.O. as a full service law enforcement agency with five uniformed patrol precincts, an adult detention facility, and a criminal investigations division.

Additionally, the office has specialized units such as SWAT, Hostage Negotiations, a Traffic Enforcement Unit, a K9 Unit, Reserves, and a Warrants division. The agency also holds jurisdiction in the Cherokee County Justice Center. With this breadth of responsibility and specialization, it isn't difficult to understand the diverse types of calls the C.S.O. handles (over 115,000 calls for service in 2020).

Gunning says that what a typical shift looks like really depends on the assignments being worked, but, like many other law enforcement agencies, there are regular responses to and investigations of theft, traffic accidents, homicides, burglaries, and domestic disputes. To handle this call load, the C.S.O. has 455 dedicated employees, approximately 390 of which are sworn officers.

Despite the responsibilities this office handles, the C.S.O. became one of the first nationally accredited Sheriff's Offices in the state of Georgia in November of 1996. National accreditation is a professional standard achieved by only 3 percent of law enforcement agencies in the entire country.



**The C.S.O. has approved several GLOCK pistols for on-duty use, including the GLOCK 17, G22, G34, and G35.**



A SWAT officer holds a GLOCK 17 Gen5 9x19 pistol. The G17 has been a popular duty gun since it was introduced in the 1980s.

## GLOCK BEGINNING TOUR

It was partly the C.S.O.'s dedication to professionalism that led to the agency selecting GLOCK as its firearm of choice. Thompson, who has been with the agency for 22 years, only ever recalls the C.S.O. using GLOCKS. He said he transferred in from another agency and was used to carrying a steel-framed handgun that was larger and heavier. He recalled being skeptical about switching to a "plastic" gun initially, but quickly grew to love the GLOCK once he had been trained on it. He owns several now.

Today, new C.S.O. deputies are introduced to GLOCK as soon as they come on board. Academy graduates or laterals from other agencies who aren't familiar with the firearm go through a one-week transition course that is more advanced than the skills learned in the academy. This is where new students get their first indoctrination to the GLOCK pistol. Thompson described the transition as being seamless.

C.S.O. also holds two additional in-service training sessions in the spring and fall each year. The fall training session also includes additional training for low-light shooting. Deputies are able to come to an open range several times a month for additional training.

## APPROVED FOR DUTY

While Gunning says the C.S.O. only authorizes GLOCK for duty carry, deputies can choose from a few different models, including the G17, G22, G34, and the G35. The G22s that the office uses are Gen4 pistols or older, but the G17s are a mix of Gen4 and Gen5 handguns.

The C.S.O. allows deputies to carry pistols made by other approved manufacturers when off-duty, but that the easy-to-conceal G42 and G43 are also included in the list. All off-duty firearms must be inspected and the carrying deputy must qualify with the weapon.

## STABLE FUTURE

Gunning is pleased with the performance his agency has seen from GLOCK pistols, saying that some of their greatest attributes are their overall quality as well as ease and simplicity of operation. The captain also praises GLOCK's accuracy and reliability, saying that nine times out of ten, if there is some type of malfunction, it can be attributed to operator error.



A pistol that rides in a duty holster every day to only needs to be tough, but also dependable to the extreme.

The C.S.O. keeps roughly 10 armorers certified to service GLOCKS, and they have five that also hold advanced certifications. They mostly replace sights, install optics, or conduct annual inspections as required by policy.

Gunning says he appreciates GLOCK's customer service as well. On the rare occasion that there was something wrong, they were able to drive the short distance to Smyrna, GA (only 18 miles away) and they were taken care of with priority service. He adds that if there were any questionable parts, GLOCK simply replaces them.

I asked the captain what type of customer service he might expect for agencies who did not live in such convenient proximity to GLOCK. He said he assumed they could anticipate the same level of care.

## A LEGACY OF QUALITY

Capt. Gunning and Lt. Thompson made it clear that GLOCK Safe Action® pistols were the only choice of the Cherokee Sheriff's Office. The deputies holding the line on all fronts rely on their duty weapons should they become needed during their shift, and the heads of the training unit made it clear why this was the case: GLOCKS are reliable, simple, accurate, and easy to train new recruits on.

Combine this with outstanding customer support and you have a package that will serve the needs of an agency, and its community, for decades. 🍷





Deputy Justin Searcy is both in the Colquitt County drug intervention unit and commander of the SRT Team. He is a fifteen-year veteran and is also part of the Federal Marshals task force.

# GLOCKS OF THE SOUTH

## WHY THE COLQUITT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN GEORGIA SWITCHED TO THE GLOCK 45 AND GLOCK 43X PISTOLS

■ ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY ANDRE' M. DALL'AU

If there is a heart of the American South, it is in Colquitt County, Georgia. Once a hub of aviation training during WWII and the Cold War, today the county is full of rural farmers who have made their sandy, pine-laden land into an agricultural goldmine.

This southwest corner of the Peach State is protected by Sheriff Rod Howell and the Colquitt County Sheriff's Office. On a day-to-day basis, Howell's deputies deal with issues like those in many communities, such as the substance abuse and illegal drug trafficking that invariably lead to crimes against property and people.

To defend citizens and tourists who visit the county's businesses and game preserves, like the beautiful quail-filled Boggy Pond Plantation, the Sheriff's office has recently armed themselves with the new industry standard service pistol: the GLOCK 45 9x19 handgun.

A GLOCK Crossover design, the G45 has the full and blended frame of a G17 topped with a smooth-edged, front and rear-serrated G19 slide. As with all other GLOCK Gen5 pistols, the G45 comes with the GLOCK Marksmanship Barrel (GMB) for added accuracy and an exceptionally crisp trigger with a fast reset, as well as an ambidextrous slide stop lever, a reversible magazine catch, a grip frame with no finger grooves, an nDLC finish on steel parts, a flared magazine well, and magazines with orange followers and extended baseplates.

As with every GLOCK pistol, the G45 uses the fully automatic GLOCK SAFE-ACTION® consisting of three independently operating, passive mechanical safeties. All three safeties disengage sequentially as the trigger is pulled and automatically reengage when the trigger is released.



The Colquitt County Sheriff's office has transitioned to the GLOCK 45 as their duty sidearm.

### EASY TRAINING FOR G45 WITH THE G44

While the Colquitt County Sheriff's Office has switched to the GLOCK 45 as its general service pistols, some undercover deputies are getting the GLOCK 43X. Lt. Ronald Jordan is the chief investigator for the Criminal Investigation division and Drug Enforcement Team and handles Firearms Training—and a competitive shooter.

"We just transitioned to GLOCK 9x19 pistols in light of the rising costs of ammunition, and because of the ease of training and better range scores from 9x19 pistols," Jordan says. "We wanted the best 9x19 pistol around."

As his department's firearms instructor as well as



Deputy Justin Searcy knows how good the G45 is on the streets as well as during room clearing and special operations.

rangemaster, Jordan has used his own GLOCK 44 .22LR pistol as an especially useful training tool to help new shooters better grasp the fundamentals of pistol marksmanship.

"The GLOCK 44 is a near clone to the GLOCK 45 with a similar trigger, grip, grip angle, sight picture, sight alignment and magazines for reloads, so the mechanics of using the pistol can be transferred right to the GLOCK 45," he says.

Lt. Jordan provides an example: "One shooter (trainee) was having consistent difficulty with a pre-ignition flinch and was having a serious problem getting on the target at longer range. So, we had to bring it back to the basics and the G44 is perfect for that. I let the trainee use my pistol, because once you can master using the GLOCK 44 with the light recoil from the .22L.R., every-thing that was learned can be directly passed on to the GLOCK 45 9x19"

The student's scores improved, and they easily qualified with the GLOCK 45.

### BETTER SCORES OUT OF THE BOX

Deputy Ivon Folsom is a narcotics investigator, SRT Team Leader, and former U.S. Marine who believes GLOCK pistols are the best for service and duty.

"GLOCK pistols are easy to use, easy to maintain and accurate to shoot," Folsom says. "Personally, I find them to be reliable, easy to take apart, and easy to clean and service. And since they are so popular, parts and accessories are available from many local sources."

When asked how his shooting was with the GLOCK 45, Folsom admits, "When I first got my GLOCK 45 I was shooting a qualifying score of 270, but with some experience, I was soon shooting 300 (a perfect score)."

Nathan Cato, another Colquitt County Deputy, also mentioned a similar increase in his qualification scores after being issued the GLOCK 45.

**"The GLOCK 44 is a near clone to the GLOCK 45 with a similar trigger, grip, grip angle, sight picture, sight alignment and magazines for reloads, so the mechanics of using the pistol can be transferred right to the GLOCK 45,"**

"I couldn't believe that it was possible," he says, "but my shooting immediately improved from 270 to 300 using the GLOCK 45 the first time I shot for a score."

### CHOOSING THE G45

Sgt. Justin Searcy wears many hats as a law enforcement officer. He's a senior narcotics investigator, Commander of the county's Special Response Team (SRT) and has been attached to the U.S. Marshal Service. He always carries a GLOCK for all his duties.

"From day one, I have carried a GLOCK through my whole 15-year career in law enforcement," Searcy says.

He explained how the Colquitt County Sheriff's Office selected the GLOCK 45. "We shot several different pistols and the GLOCK 45 was the smoothest shooting with an extremely comfortable grip," he says. "All the way around, it was a better shooting pistol than any I have ever shot, and in my time in uniform, I have shot a lot of different firearms!"





While serving a warrant, the Colquitt County SRT and drug agents effective use their GLOCK pistols and their high-speed training to ensure a quick and non-violent resolution.

"I have had almost every kind of pistol you can imagine, but the simplicity of the GLOCK, how they sit in your hand and provide an immediate sight picture just amazed me," he adds.

Searcy says the GLOCK design allows for no loss of muscle memory when transitioning among different models.

"If you have been trained on a GLOCK you can run any model and any caliber," he says. "And because they are identical across the board for the most part, the way you carry it, the way you grip the pistol, and the sight picture you are used to seeing is transferred as well. With that immediate sight picture, crisp trigger, and reliability, the G45 is a night and day difference compared to other pistols that I've used."

#### IN THE STACK

The Colquitt County SRT uses ballistic shields during opposed entry operations to provide cover and protection. The shields provide protection from pistol fire and have been proven

to allow safer and more dynamic flow of a trained team through a structure containing one or more armed suspects.

Each shield holder supports the shield with one hand while keeping his pistol out in front of the bulletproof viewing port. That means both the shield holder and the entire team stacked behind are staking it all on that pistol to quickly defeat any immediate threat that presents itself. That also means that their G45 pistols must be reliable accurate and easy to control.

Searcy likes that the GLOCK pistols makes his job easier by providing his team with a reliable, and accurate pistol that's easy to operate, allowing his team to focus on movement, communication, and teamwork during training and operations. "Think with a gun in your hand, and train as a complete, single unit so that the team has confidence that each member knows what the guy in front of you, beside you and behind you is going to do, so that each team member is in sync with the stack. That is essential for a smooth and safe entry. The GLOCK 45 provides us with that ability," Searcy says. On a personal note, Searcy says the G45 helped him up his scores at the range, too.

"I was a consistent 290 shooter during qualification with our previous pistol, but the day I got the new GLOCK 45 9x19 pistol, I shot a 300 right out of the box," he says. "That is the first pistol that I've ever picked up and shot so effectively and accurately. After shooting the G45, I just packed up my other pistols and holsters and put them away! I stuck my new G45 in my waistband holster and have been carrying it ever since." ☺

**"GLOCK pistols are easy to use, easy to maintain and accurate to shoot,"**



The Colquitt County SRT trains with ballistic shields for dynamic and opposed entries and room clearing. Their G45 pistols out front must be reliable and accurate to protect civilians as well as the entire entry stack.



Spokane County Sheriff's Office covers close to 1,800 square miles, and protects over 525,000 residents. Their number one goal is to have a successful and healthy relationship with their community. They, like GLOCK, strive for nothing less than perfection.

# LAW ENFORCEMENT IN TODAY'S WORLD

## HOW THE SPOKANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE HAS HANDLED CHANGING PERCEPTIONS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

■ ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY RICK STEWART

**W**hen I heard the Spokane County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) was preparing to switch from the GLOCK 21 pistols they had carried for many years to the newer GLOCK 45 MOS, I decided to travel out there to investigate.

While pistol optics aren't for everyone, more and more in law enforcement are gravitating toward red-dot sights on duty pistols, and the G45 MOS affords them this option.

Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich and several SCSO deputies had great things to say about their service pistols. He talked about the confidence they have in their sidearms, the reliability of their duty guns, and even the department's process for selecting the new pistol.

Knezovich leads the men and women of the SCSO and during his more than 30 years of law enforcement experience, he has seen and done just about everything related to the profession. He has also watched the political pendulum swing in both directions when it comes to the public perception of law enforcement.

### NATIONAL POLITICS COME HOME

Knezovich says many of the negative perceptions people have of law enforcement can be improved with direct sunlight and accountability. More than ever before, working in law enforcement requires an unimpeachable level of transparency and enhanced standards of conduct.

"I am blessed to have some of the finest men and women in the country serving with me for Spokane County, and the positive relationship that we share with the vast majority of the citizens in our county is no accident," Knezovich says.

Spokane County is located on the eastern edge of Washington State and runs along the Idaho border. Serving over 525,000 people in 1,781 square miles, the Sheriff and his office provide coverage from their county seat in Spokane, the second-largest city in the state.

It's a beautiful place to live with four distinct seasons and a diverse population. It's an all-American city that still has a small-town vibe. However, not unlike any other large city in the



# **“I am blessed to have some of the finest men and women in the country serving with me for Spokane County.”**

country, it has experienced its share of radical influences from extreme groups on varying sides.

“All politics may be local, as the saying goes, but that doesn’t seem to apply to news coverage and law enforcement,” Knezovich says. “These days, with cell phones, social media, and the endless drum of 24-hour news channels, the law enforcement community is under a microscope whenever a shooting or an incident involving the police takes place, even if it’s thousands of miles away.”

## **THE ROAD TO REFORM**

I first interviewed Sheriff Knezovich several years ago about a battle he was having with legislators in his state. He was one of the very first in the nation to institute sweeping reforms and high standards of accountability in his department related to the conduct of his deputies, the standards and protocols related to arrests, and the interactions with deputies and citizens. He established a Citizens Advisory/Review Board (CAB), and began working to keep the media and the public aware of any issues in his office with as much transparency as the law allows.

“People don’t often wait for all the details,” Knezovich says. “While the media wants the story now, the law often requires due process and a complete and thorough investigation, which takes time. We want the public to know as much as we can, as fast as we can, yet we also want the facts to be accurate. We cannot speculate to fit a media timeline. That’s how we lose trust.”

When Knezovich first took office, one of the first challenges he faced was a situation where a deputy had exposed himself to a barista in a coffee stand, and then shortly after that, a corrections deputy in the county jail made an inmate do jumping jacks naked. One of the deputies was someone he considered a friend, but he could not excuse the poor decision-making and the utter lack of common sense and professionalism.

Both deputies were terminated. However, after they appealed their terminations, both deputies were reinstated by the Civil Service Commission, over the Sheriff’s objections.

“The very people who are clamoring the most about accountability and police reform today are the same people who fought against me to hold bad apples accountable,” he says. Ozzie, along with all 38 other elected sheriffs in the state, tried to enact a police reform bill, only to see it stonewalled for political reasons by the same politicians who are outraged every time something hits the news related to bad conduct or the questionably shooting by a law enforcement officer.

## **AN ONGOING STRUGGLE**

In his book, *The Price Of Honor: Are We Who We Say We Are?*, Knezovich writes: “Good leaders know that good people don’t want to work with bad people. When those sworn to uphold the law fail to uphold the standards of their oath, their uniform, or the law itself, no self-respecting member of an organization wants to share the same badge and uniform with them.”

“If you would have told me when I took this job that I would have fired over 80 deputies in 15 years, I would have said,

‘No way,’” he says. “Firing a person and taking their livelihood from them is about the worst thing you can do to someone. I have never done so lightly. That said, the easiest way to lose the respect of those that uphold the highest standards of the job is to allow those without integrity to break them without consequence. Say what you mean, mean what you say.”

Deputy Skye Ortiz, a U.S. Army veteran who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, now has 10 years in law enforcement under his belt.

“I grew up with a desire to help others,” he says. “The military and law enforcement are all about culture. There is a chemistry or commonality found in those who don a uniform; people willing to risk and sacrifice their lives daily for the betterment of others. In my service both in the military and law enforcement, I have seen first-hand the evil that exists in the world.

“I’m not much for sitting on the sidelines. It has been hard to see the men and women I serve with getting such a bad rap for the actions of a few. So much of our reputation portrayed in the media is based upon a handful of law enforcement officers that didn’t make the right choice.

“Out of more than 800,000 law enforcement officers faithfully serving, we get judged by the very few that dishonor the uniform. Yet, despite the press and the scrutiny, the vast majority get up every day and continue to serve and continue to risk their lives for others.

“While recruitment is down and retirements are up, I’m still proud of our calling and those who do this job. It’s all about culture. I think the only way we can bridge the gap between law enforcement and the public is to have a culture of a higher standard, the willingness to hold that high standard and a positive example regardless of anyone else’s actions or opinions. The SCSO has maintained that high standard from our Sheriff down to the newest deputy, and it’s seen in the support we get from our community.”

## **WORKING FOR CHANGE**

Deputy Phil Pheifer, a 20-plus year veteran with the SCSO, tells me that the job has changed significantly since he first joined.

“Not the serving of others part, not the protect and defend part, but the level of negative sentiment that has been fostered by others toward those who honorably serve in law enforcement,” he says. “The overwhelming majority of us joined to serve the community and honestly care about the people we do this job for.

“People forget we live here, our families live here, our children go to school here, so we want the same things from a safety and security point of view as the community we serve wants. We deal with things every day that most people never see. Most of the public is insulated from crime and criminals, because we do this job. They would be surprised to know how much we deal with some of the same bad apples every day.

Pheifer says there are a lot of reasons recruitment numbers are down.

“It’s hard to get people to come into this profession today,” he says. “The risk, liability, and backseat 20/20 hindsight of people who don’t understand the risks we face make those close to retirement want to bail, and those who once dreamed about becoming law enforcement officers do not want to do the job at all.

“One of our greatest assets in law enforcement has always been our word; we must work hard to eliminate anyone doesn’t uphold the responsibility that comes with that.”

Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich has fought the good fight and his deputies are highly praised and widely respected. Success wasn’t an accident and like the GLOCK’s they carry, success was built in the pursuit of perfection. For more information, visit [GLOCK.com](http://GLOCK.com). ☉



Quincy Police Department Captain Richard McCusker (pictured here) was instrumental in the recommendation of GLOCK pistols to Chief Keenan. McCusker, along with other knowledgeable and experienced firearms instructors, including, Garrett Greenwood (not shown) and Quincy police officers, believe in the reliability, accuracy, and serviceability that GLOCK brings to their department.

# QUINCY MA POLICE GO GLOCK FOR BEST DELIVERY OF SERVICE

**THIS NEW ENGLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT CONVERTED TO GLOCKS  
AFTER TEN PLUS YEARS WITH ANOTHER BRAND.**

■ ARTICLE BY ANDRE' M. DALL'AU ■ PHOTOS COURTESY QUINCY P.D.

**L**ocated directly south of Boston and Northwest of Cape Cod, Quincy Massachusetts is an area that has historically been a nexus of national power and Americanism. Quincy is called "The City of Presidents" because its sons and daughters includes second President of the United States John Adams and his wife Abigail, their son and sixth President of the United States John Quincy Adams, 44th Secretary of the Navy Charles Francis Adams III, and Charles Frances Adams, Jr., a Civil War general and president of the Union Pacific Railroad.

Recently, the historic Quincy Police Department (P.D.) transitioned from another brand of pistols that they used for over a decade. Based on a detailed and comprehensive evaluation to select the best sidearm for their officers and staff, the Quincy P.D. is providing approximately 140 GLOCK 45 MOS 9x19, 30 GLOCK 41 MOS .45 AUTO and 50 GLOCK 43X 9x19 pistols to be the new duty and undercover sidearms for the about 220 sworn officers and staff of the agency. The department started the search. The determination was based on their organizational effort to have every officer possible provide their opinion and input into the decision to find the perfect pistol.

## THE SEARCH FOR A NEW PISTOL

The department started the search knowing that the best pistol is the one that functions the same despite the diverse needs of each situation, time of day, and individual shooter. Every shooter is unique in their ability, training, physical size, and even their dominant hand. Pistols are going to be worn in different ways: carried on a patrol officer's gun belt, concealed from view for undercover or plainclothes work, and as part of a SWAT officer's kit.

The situations an officer might face range from confronting an active shooter in a crowded building to responding to an unknown call to a residence in the dead of night, or making a vehicle stop on a busy street. On top of those considerations, police need to be responsive to community concerns that use of force is accurate and literally on-target, mandating the requirement that law enforcement selects the most accurate pistol for ALL their officers, ensuring accountability for every shot fired. That important priority and complex task was brilliantly addressed by the Quincy Massachusetts Police Department, who selected a trio of GLOCK pistols. They selected the GLOCK 43X for concealed carry and staff use. For patrol duty and SWAT operators,





**“Our greatest challenge is to work with our citizens to provide the best delivery of service to our community.”**

Quincy P.D. chose the GLOCK 45 MOS and GLOCK 41 MOS based on intent to provide holographic sighting optics, commonly called “red dot” sights to be purchased, installed, and trained on by the department.

## THE SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process for the new Department Firearm was conducted as an eighteen month, 4-phase process consisting of Discussion, Timeline, Testing, and Final Selection. The primary data was based on firearms handling results, including accuracy, maintenance, and daily use from Firearms Instructors, Patrol Officers, Specialty Officers (including Detectives), and Staff. The Decision Matrix included the requirements of a reliable Firearm capable of mounting a micro red-dot (MRD) optic and mount a flashlight for the non-concealed carry duty pistols. Caliber selection was based on the ability of the selected firearm to provide officers the immediate ability to stop a deadly threat, provide accurate shot placement, and ease of manipulation under stress. Additionally, the multi-mission of the department acknowledged that carry and use between Patrol vs. SWAT vs. Specialty Officer was vastly different and required different applications and calibers, as well as ensuring the best durability, reliability, and maintainability. Several of the Quincy P.D. officers have attended the GLOCK Armorer’s course and have been certified to work on their department’s pistols. Firearms instructor Dan Francis, who is not only a patrol officer, but is a sniper on the SWAT team, took the course and remarked “I really enjoyed the class and learning about the GLOCK. What really impressed me was how easy it is to work on and it’s simplicity compared to other types of pistols.”

Quincy Police Department Officer and firearms instructor Terry Downing was asked about the Quincy officers’ opinion of the GLOCK, and he said “We started this process awhile back

and had the rank and file come out on multiple range days to shoot the pistols that were in consideration based on what the department needed. After shooting the various pistols, the overwhelming favorite by the officers was the GLOCK pistols.” Based on criteria such as accuracy, ergonomics, and reliability, approximately eighty percent of the Officers who handled the GLOCKS during the evaluation process selected them over the other types tested. Results of the tests and survey were presented by the Firearms Committee under the leadership of Captain Rick McCusker in a comprehensive decision brief to Chief Paul Keenan recommending that GLOCK Models 45 MOS, Model 43X and Model 41 MOS replace their current sidearm and other less-capable pistols being considered.

## MOS WAS A MUST

One of the hard-and-fast requirements was Quincy Police Department’s desire to transition to an optic ready duty firearm, so the Glock Modular Optic System (MOS) Feature was a key criterion in selection. Starting with GLOCK Gen 4 and now with Gen 5, selected GLOCK models offer the Modular Optic System that is system for OEM, with a factory slide cut for a direct optic mount (G43 and G48) or using a set of four attachable/detachable plates that fit most of the popular electro-optical MRD sights offered. The ability to choose what kind of sighting system best suits a particular need and expectation, plus the ease of training and increased accuracy with MRD optics made the decision to have the Department transition to an optic-ready GLOCK that will enable Officers to have better performance under stress a very logical and strong choice. That choice was the G45 MOS pistols to be issued to patrol officers and the G41 MOS for the SWAT operators. A twenty-two-year veteran of the Quincy P.D., SWAT and firearms instructor Sergeant Garrett Greenwood noted, “The red dot sight will provide accurate shot placement regardless of conditions.” Firearms instructor Officer Mike Foley said, “the ability to put the red dot sights on the GLOCK models that we wanted, as well as the quality of the pistol put the decision over the top as far as I was concerned.”

## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Other requirements that Quincy Police Department specified were a higher capacity magazine than the eight rounds that the previous duty sidearm had, and the new pistol for their patrol and SWAT officers had to have a lower rail for a light to be mounted to ensure accuracy in low-light encounters. The GLOCK 41 has a thirteen round, the G43X a ten round, and the G45 a seventeen round magazine capacity, with the G41 and G45 having a under barrel, frame mounted rail that provides shooters with the ability to mount a variety of powerful flashlight systems. This provides not only target illumination and identification, but the ability to maintain a consistent two-handed grip on the firearm so that no change in grip or juggling of a hand-held light in a night-time engagement is required. Every one of Quincy’s P.D.’s new pistols will have GLOCK’s reversible, ambidextrous magazine catch. These features, plus the excellent design of the GLOCK, including the GLOCK SAFE ACTION® system (Gaston Glock’s trifecta of passive safeties that are immediately but sequentially released with a purposeful depressing of the trigger that has been in every GLOCK pistol ever made), made their selection of the G41 MOS, G45 MOS and G43X perfect for their needs. As Captain McCusker noted, “Our greatest challenge is to work with our citizens to provide the best delivery of service to our community. That is a fluid and vital effort that we have helped address with our new GLOCK pistols so we can better achieve being responsive to ensure the safety and security to our residents and visitors.” 🍷



GLOCK instructors practice moving their primary weapon to the side on its sling and then drawing and firing their GLOCK pistol in one set of motions.

# TRANSITION

## NEW GLOCK PROFESSIONAL COURSE FOR ARMED PROS

**MORE AND MORE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY PERSONNEL NEED QUALITY INSTRUCTION ON SWITCHING TO A HOLSTERED PISTOL**

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EDWARDS

In the most extreme situations, it pays to have had instruction, training, and practice covering as many scenarios as possible. In the context of modern law enforcement and military special operations, the primary weapon will most often be some sort of long gun—a rifle, carbine, or shotgun of some kind, or perhaps a submachine gun.

For these operators, a handgun is considered a secondary weapon to serve as backup for the primary weapon if it is lost, if it malfunctions in some way, or if all ammunition is expended. A

GLOCK pistol, waiting quietly and reliably in a holster, would be most welcome if anyone should find themselves in any of those dire situations.

This leads to a specific training requirement: Practicing the transition from a long gun to a handgun as smoothly, quickly, and reliably as possible while under duress. This transition is not an intuitive process—the mechanics of it must be demonstrated, learned, and practiced.

The idea is to get the long gun out of the way, while also making sure the handgun is still accessible from its holster,





A GLOCK instructor performs a speed reload drill when the magazine in his GLOCK MOS has been fired empty. His left hand is reaching for a fully loaded magazine.

**“This transition is not an intuitive process—the mechanics of it must be demonstrated, learned, and practiced.”**

and then drawing the handgun for a clean presentation, all in one concise series of movements. That’s a lot easier to say than it is to do, and being competent in long-gun to handgun transitions takes a lot of repetition.

### THE GLOCK WAY

Fortunately, GLOCK Professional, Inc. (GP) has a cadre of instructors who have hard-earned experience in both law enforcement and military situations and have used that experience to expand the suite of courses available to GLOCK pistol users. GLOCK instructors not only have a wealth of knowledge from their past, but they are required to closely study emerging trends.

Currently, courses for GLOCK pistols equipped with GLOCK’s Modular Optics System (MOS) for the mounting of micro red-dots are available across the globe, including courses that focus on MOS pistols and concealed carry. GLOCK

**“Qualified LE and military members should waste no time securing a spot.”**

instructors offer the GLOCK Transition Course to qualified individuals and organizations that have a desire and necessity to work with multiple weapons systems. These days, security organizations are commonly issuing long guns to their personnel and the need for this course has increased.

### TRAIN BEFORE YOU TEACH

GLOCK Professional, Inc., under the leadership of Joseph “Willie” Parent, has consistently maintained a high level of expertise amongst its instructors. The GLOCK Instructors Conference is an annual event where the instructors gather and train together. New courses are introduced, and the instructors hone their individual and group skills together.

In 2021, there was a great deal to do in just a few days. Joining the American contingent were members of GLOCK Austria Training, who deploy outside of North America to instruct international users of GLOCK pistols.

Willie Parent executed a workup of GLOCK pistol shooting skills, which included work with GLOCK MOS pistols equipped with both electronic red-dot sights and iron sights. All GLOCK instructors are expected to be competent with both sighting systems.

Instructors carried pistols in Level 3 retention duty holsters and concealment rigs during the conference. They worked on manipulations, malfunction clearances, and reloads, but the centerpiece of the week’s training was the introduction of the new GLOCK Transition Course.

### EVALUATING THE COURSE

GP Critical Skills Training Manager Charles “Chuck” Evans has had extensive real-world experience with long guns and went through the Transition Course with all instructors to demonstrate the specific procedure that would be taught, and to test the course itself and critically evaluate the lesson plan.

Some instructors had a bit of experience with long guns, but the vast majority of their recent work had been almost exclusively with GLOCK pistols—but all true professionals consider themselves to be perpetual students as well. So, some time was devoted to reviewing the manual of arms of AR-style rifles.

### IMPORTANCE OF THE SLING

A sling is to a rifle as a holster is to a handgun—and having a sling on a long-gun makes transitioning to a handgun much easier, and makes the accurate firing of the handgun after the transition easier as well, but it’s not essential. The basic idea is to move the long gun out of the way when it stops shooting as fast as possible, and simultaneously access the GLOCK sidearm. Evolutions were performed both with and without a sling on the long gun. Without a sling, the primary weapon must be held out of the way with the support hand while the GLOCK pistol is drawn and fired with the strong hand.

GLOCK instructors are well versed in all aspects of pistol shooting, and the drills increased in complexity over two days.

The GLOCK Transition Course is now officially a part of GP’s repertoire. Organizations and qualified LE and military members should waste no time securing a spot. It quite literally could be the difference between success or deadly failure. For more information, visit [GLOCKtraining.com](https://GLOCKtraining.com). 📍



Police K9 units are on the frontlines everyday across the country.



# K9 OFFICERS IN THE LINE OF DUTY

HOW FOUR-LEGGED OFFICERS ARE UTILIZED IN TODAY'S MILITARY  
AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ENVIRONMENTS

■ ARTICLE BY CHRIS EGER



Photo By Mike Weaver





Photo By Mike Weaver

**“Working dog and K9 teams have matured over time to become invaluable assets that require dedicated and continued training to be effective.”**

“I ran red-dot optics. I ran a light. Honestly, if I only had a pistol, I would want a laser on there as well,” says Jean-Claude Leblanc, President of the non-profit American Tactical K9 Association. Leblanc has 26 years in the military under his belt, all of it within special operations, with the last half of his career dedicated to being a dog handler. “Not only do you have the normal applications of laser and flashlight when it comes to your shooting, but you can also utilize that stuff to help direct the dog.”

He says this takes the standard off-leash directional voice commands issued by the handler to the next level.

“You can teach that dog directionals utilizing a laser and get it to go exactly where you want it to go as opposed to it just takin’ it’s time and figuring stuff out on its own, I can direct that dog, ‘Go there,’” he says.

Leblanc stresses the use of night vision equipment to help the interaction with his dogs. He says they would “run into scenarios where you can see the dog’s having difficulty seeing, so that’s when I would just give it a quick little hit with a white light to help that dog out.” Increasingly, dogs are being used in dynamic new ways, such as in assault work.

**Training and development of law enforcement K9 tactics have expanded the mission sets of such teams.**

**A**round the world, men and women in uniform, law enforcement or military, often work side-by-side with highly trained partners who just happen to have four legs rather than two. Working dog and K9 teams have matured over time to become invaluable assets that require dedicated and continued training to be effective. They also need the right equipment.

## THE MILITARY SIDE

The use of canines in combat dates back at least 1,800 years to the Roman war dogs of Marcus Aurelius, and they remain a staple of the military in the 21st century. Military working dogs (MWDs) are used for patrol duties, drug and explosive detection, and specialized mission functions by the U.S. Department of Defense and other government agencies. Their role continues to evolve from the old school “sentry dogs” of World War II and the Cold War to animals with dedicated skill sets, such as counter-terrorist search assets used in force protection and security throughout the world. They also work as combat trackers and assaulters, trained to help ferret out enemy insurgents, IED makers, and snipers.

## LASER SIGHTS, GUN LIGHTS, AND NVGS WITH DOGS

Technology helps today’s peacemakers meet such constantly evolving threats in ways that would be unthinkable to the dog teams of even 20 or 30 years ago.



Photo by Richard King

**K9 partners are a vital tool for the modern law enforcement team.**



“That’s a huge life-saving tool, because you’re giving those assaulters that extra bit of time, kind of like a distraction that goes in that room prior to the assaulters, and bad guys just can’t help but look at the dog,” he says. They look at the dog and their attention goes off that door and it allows the assaulters to come in and do what they have to do without being engaged by the bad guy. So, it’s a huge lifesaving tool that the military and now a lot of SWAT teams are starting to incorporate as well.”

## THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SIDE

The formal use of dogs in police work dates back at least to the late 19th century, with reports from Belgium, Germany, and Great Britain all detailing specially trained canines helping with search and patrol work during the era. Today, the use of law enforcement K9 teams, trained for everything from explosives and narcotics detection to tracking fugitives and assisting in apprehensions, is common. However, the work K9s do with police is quite different from what they do in the military.

“I believe when it comes to the law enforcement side one, you’re handling something that’s got a brain of its own and you not only have to worry about yourself, but you have to worry about what that animal’s going to do as well,” say Leblanc, who now spends much of his time to training law enforcement officers. “Now you have a variety of different concerns, whether it’s the dog’s wellbeing and safety when you deploy him, or the public’s safety, or the safety of the suspect.”

Being prepared for that means having the proper equipment and being skilled in its use with the animal.

“Make sure you devote the training time to dealing with those worst-case scenarios. A real-world situation is not the time you want to figure stuff out, to find out whether things work or don’t work. You should already have that hammered



The role of military working dog teams has matured over the years. (Photo: Jean-Claude LeBlanc)



Today, you see MWD teams involved in combat tracking and assaulting in addition to past jobs such as sentry duty and detection. (Photo: Jean-Claude LeBlanc)





These four-legged warriors are on the tip of the spear.  
(Photo: Jean-Claude LeBlanc)

out,” says Leblanc. “You have to find out what other handlers have encountered throughout the country, take the time to study what happened, and then replicate in training so you’re prepared if it should happen to you.”

This includes gunfire neutralization, which means making sure that the animal is neutral to any sort of gunfire rather than trained to be aggressive at the sound of gunshots.

“Whether the bad guy’s shooting or I’m shooting, they just listen and do what I tell them to do,” he says. “If I tell them to go apprehend the suspect, they go apprehend them, but until then, I just want the dog to be calm and obedient.”

## SHOOTING WITH DOGS

Donald Meece, a lead trainer and K9 handler for the Cincinnati Police Department, explains that something as simple as learning how to incorporate a leash into an officer’s everyday activities is crucial, and requires a lot of training and effort to build up vital muscle memory and prevent it from throwing an officer off on the streets.

“It gets difficult, but the main drill that we do that maybe a lot of other officers don’t do, is we practice reloads with a leash in our hands,” said Meece, who has been working with K9 teams since 2008. “So, even without the dog, we’ll be on the line, and we’ll have a firearm in the shooting hand and a leash in the other. A dog’s not attached to it, but we’ll hold that leash because the addition of that half-inch strap of leather in your hand could affect your ability to get the magazine out of its magazine pouch and properly insert that magazine in the pistol and get a good seat.”

Meece explains that in his agency, because K9 handlers will have to control a dog with one hand or the other, they practice one-handed and off-hand shooting extensively. They also train to shoot with a modified two-handed grip while incorporating the animal. They will put the dog in a down position and shoot two-handed with enough slack in the leash to get a good raise and good lockout for accurate fire.

## IT’S ALL ABOUT TRUST

Like most things in life, trust plays a huge part with K9s in the line of duty. They have trust with their handlers, and vice-versa. Rest assured, K9 handlers have faith in their dogs. GLOCK has a proven track record for decades, of being a reliable partner, in the line of duty. ☺

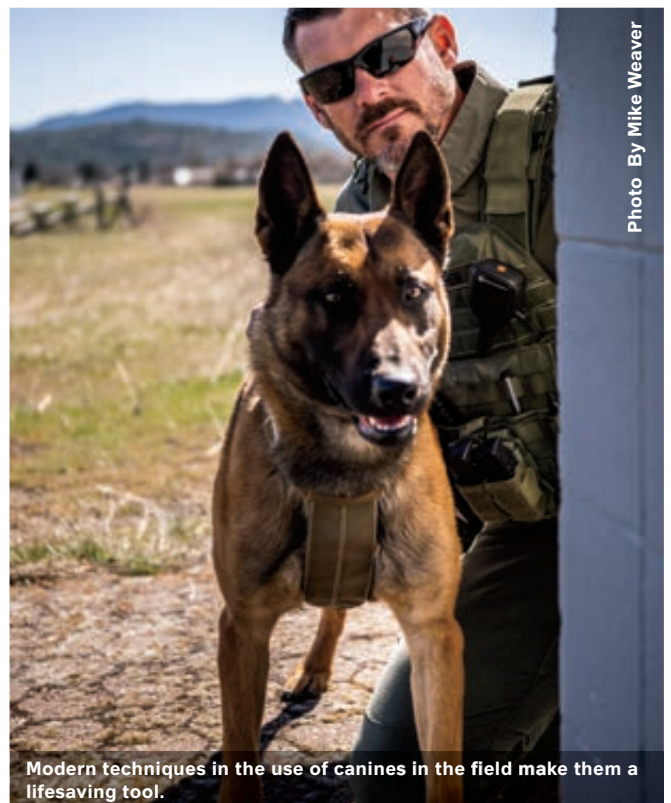


Photo By Mike Weaver

Modern techniques in the use of canines in the field make them a lifesaving tool.





# PORTUGUESE SPECIAL SECURITY FORCES

**P**ortugal's Prime Counter Terrorism unit (CT) recently adopted the GLOCK 19X. This Special Operations Unit is called the Grupo de Intervenção de Operações Especiais known as the "GLOE" which is a Special Operations Intervention Group. They are part of a major Security Force in Portugal, called the GNR.

The Portuguese National Republican Guard (GNR - Guarda Nacional Republicana) is a Militarized Police, equivalent to other European Gendarmerie units. Members of the GNR are military personnel who are subject to military law and organization. In times of peace they serve under the Ministry of Internal Administration and in times of war or national emergency, they can serve under the orders of the Minister of Defense.

The GLOE was previously issued the GLOCK 19 Gen3. GLOCK was already the brand that completely fulfilled the GLOE requirements due to its superior reliability, safety, accuracy, resistance to corrosion, easy maintenance, and long life of its parts.

The GLOCK 19X was chosen because of its remarkable features. The full size handgrip allows for controllable shooting while using gloves. The extra size allows the use of the entire hand to aim the pistol. The use of the full-size magazines is very important. Having the same size slide of the GLOCK 19 brought several advantages. First, the unit could use their previously issued holsters. The unit recognized the brilliant hybrid design of the GLOCK 19X. Its standard size grip and compact size slide allows for much faster reacquisition of the target while shooting. As a well-known firearms instructor says, "You can shoot as fast as you pull the trigger, but you can only hit as fast as you aim." The smaller mass of the G19X

slide gets less kinetic energy transmitted to the hands of the gunfighter while having a better grip. This allows a shooter to get their sights back on the bad guy faster. Inclusion of the Tritium sights was also an important consideration and the marksmanship barrel has further improved accuracy. All of the G19X Gen5 attributes were desirable.

## STORY

In Portugal, the decision to create a GNR unit capable of guaranteeing a specialized response to situations of concerted violence was taken on October 24, 1978.

It resulted from tragic events that took place in Munich. Earlier, in September 1977, several inmates mutinied and dominated about two dozen officials, including the prison director in the Prison Establishment of Custódias. There was an attempted escape and hostages were used as shields. The GNR regular forces sent to the site did not intervene. They were not prepared for that level of violence and danger. The operation report stated that "in such circumstances only highly prepared and specialized personnel endowed with appropriate means could carry out any action with acceptable probability of success".

Based on these events, the GNR General Commander gave orders to instruct a group of soldiers to be prepared to intervene in specific cases of criminal activities of "high violence."

The initial period of intensive instruction was divided into 3 phases: basic preparation, advanced preparation, and specialized preparation. The objective was to train its operatives and make them physically resourceful and psychologically prepared. Some of the requirements were to instituted controlled aggressiveness, advanced decision-making skillsets,

progressive use of weapons and other equipment, and to develop combat actions with special characteristics. It involved subjects such as: individual combat technique, team combat technique, physical preparation and sports, military swimming, rescue, diving, martial arts, military application gymnastics, shooting, CQB, breaching, handling of explosive devices, topography, transmissions, under the fire, first aid, and topography.

New weapons, equipment, and special uniforms were procured. On the training side, they sent a delegation to the counterpart unit of the French Gendarmerie Nationale (GIGN) in order to obtain knowledge that would improve the Group's capabilities. They began training at the Special Operations Instruction Center (CIOE) of the Portuguese Army.

The Portuguese Army Special Operations provided the GNR unit with special Mindset that can only be obtained with the Army interoperability training.

Currently, the GIOE is an elite force especially dedicated to combating terrorism and intervening in high risk situations.

## MISSION

Due to the military nature of this unit, the GIOE works both in national territory as well as abroad, being able to carry out Special Operations missions, according to the requirements of the Portuguese Armed Forces, NATO, and the European Union, due to the ambivalence of their training.

On national territory, the GIOE operates in the Guard's area of responsibility, which comprises 96% of the national territory and 56% of the Portuguese population, supporting, when necessary, the remaining GNR Units scattered throughout the country.

The panoply of capabilities that support the complex mission of the GIOE can be grouped into core intervention activities, highlighting the following:

- Tactical response to tactical-police incidents
- Intervention in counterterrorism actions
- Static security with snipers
- Safety and protection of people, infrastructure, and major events
- Support of the territorial device in the fulfillment of arrest warrants
- Strengthening the Coastal Control Unit in maritime operations
- Investigation of especially violent, serious, group, or itinerant crime
- Command, control, and coordination of negotiation activity in tactical-police incidents
- Participation in international missions.

## EQUIPMENT AND WEAPONS

GIOE has the Mindset, technique, technology, weapons, and gear necessary to carry out Special Operations missions and to investigate complex crimes. Personal protection is steadfast concern. These soldiers are permanently subject to risk, whether in training, with, live ammunition, or during operational activity.

It is extremely important that military personnel involved in highly dangerous and risky missions feel safe, especially in terms of ballistic protection, as the correct use of this equipment can make the difference between life and death.

There are also a set of special technical means, depending on the sub-specialties and the tasks they develop, for example: the breacher uses mechanical, hydraulic, ballistic, thermal, explosive, or combined means, in order to guarantee instant

access of the intervention force, giving it a surprise effect and reducing the opponent's responsiveness; the snipers, specialists in long-range precision shooting, have sniper rifles fitted to each sniper and use the appropriate weapon, optics (Night vision and Thermal included), ammunition, equipment and uniform for the mission.

The GIOE also has vehicles for the most diverse missions assigned to it, including a Mobile Command Post, vehicles for transporting personnel and equipment, uncharacterized vehicles for rapid displacement and follow-up, surveillance, among others; or maritime means, and respective equipment and individual uniform, to respond to incidents in the aquatic environment, in the fulfillment of GNR's mission in the territorial sea under its responsibility.

In terms of uniforms and personal equipment, the GIOE military use a uniform and personal protective equipment in stone gray olive color (RAL7013) for most missions performed in the national territory, and may wear another type of uniform or clothing in specific situations, such as security and personal protection missions, which may require the use of formal attire. For international or covert missions, they can wear a camouflage uniform according to the region of the world they are operating at.

## OPERATIONS

The technical and tactical preparation have allowed high levels of performance in the theaters of operations where GIOE troops have participated: Afghanistan, Iraq and Timor-Leste are examples of this. With several high-risk missions where they were employed, among which we can highlight the protection and rescue of the President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste – Dr. Ramos Horta, after an assassination attempt, or the rescue of Italian soldiers in Nassyria – Iraq, who were ambushed and cornered under heavy fire from armed terrorist groups.

In a national context, since the creation of the current structure, the GIOE has resolved an average (annual) of 7 to 11 complex tactical-police incidents and developed about 100 other actions, which include operations to support the GNR's territorial units in detention of dangerous individuals, reconnaissance and surveillance operations, and personal security actions.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE

The GIOE currently integrates several structures of international cooperation in the area of special police operations and maintains close links with similar units including the UEI of the Guardia Civil in Spain and the GIGN of the Gendarmerie Nationale in France. There is collaboration with the Fuerzas Especiales of the Gendarmeria Nacional Argentina, the GOPE of the Carabineros of Chile, and the BOPE of the Military Police of Brazil.

The unit has collaborated in the training of staff of the national police of Afghanistan through the SWAT Course (NTM-A – 2012 to 2014), as well as the police forces of Timor-Leste (PNTL), being responsible for building counterterrorism capabilities, as well as for security and protection of senior entities in the latter (UNTAET – 2000 to 2003; UNMIT – 2006 to 2013).

Since 2018, the GIOE has also participated as a counterterrorism training in the GARS-SAHEL training project. The project aims to empower Sahel African countries with human and material resources capable of combating the threat of terrorism and violent crime in that region, namely through the preparation of specialized units in the various countries that are capable of interoperating with each other. 🟡





# COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE TRAIN WITH GLOCK

**G**LOCK Professional Inc. (GP) has had the pleasure and responsibility of training law enforcement and military organizations across the globe, teaching them the intricacies of using their GLOCKS to equip them to protect both themselves and their communities. Most recently, Members of the Colombian National Police Force underwent a week of thorough training under the dedicated eye of GP Instructors in the fall of 2021.

The Colombian police officers were focused on learning as much as they could about the latest GLOCK pistols and technology, and they first chose the rigorous schedule of the GLOCK Armorer Course to meet this goal.

Once they were confident knowing the ins and outs of the pistol itself, it was time to turn to use, and the officers dove straight into the signature GLOCK Operator Course, an intensive in the use of GLOCKS specifically for operators, taught over the course of several information and training-packed days. The comprehensive course covers safety, the fundamentals of marksmanship, and practical manipulations. GP Instructors reviewed each topic and had each officer practice until it became second-nature.

The officers performed well with the thousands of rounds they fired at GP's modern indoor range, and by the end of their courses, were more than pleased with the expertise of the instructors, the bounty of knowledge they gained, and their time with GP as a whole. They go back to Colombia well prepared to deal with the challenges of their job, and their community is the safer for it. 🍷





Meet Brazil's Team GLOCK. From left to right: Akira Yamaguchi, Guilherme Klaime, Graciela Aquino, Mauro Thompson, Márcio Arendola and Álvaro Neto.

# MEET BRAZIL'S TEAM GLOCK

**T**eam GLOCK Brazil is made up of five members, plus Mauro Thompson, the Team captain. The team includes exceptionally talented shooters.

First on the team is Mauro Thompson, who is a legend in the shooting sports world, and he is the captain of GLOCK's Brazilian Team. He is one of the founders of the Brazilian Practical Shooting Confederation (CBTP). He has participated in ten World Shoots carrying several titles in his curriculum. The most prestigious award was his achievement as World Champion in the Standard Team Senior at the 2008 competition in Bali, Indonesia. In 2014, he placed second in the Super Senior Production division at the World Shoot held in Frostproof, Florida. Mr. Thompson is also one of the greatest GLOCK connoisseurs in the country. He is a walking encyclopedia of GLOCK's history, parts and functionality.

The team also includes Akira Yamaguchi, who competes in the Production division. He is a three-time Brazilian National champion. Next, we have Álvaro Neto, who currently ranks first place in Nationals. In addition to being a Brazilian team member, Mrs. Graciela Acquino is also in law enforcement and is an instructor at the Federal Police. The Federal Police is the equivalent of the Brazilian FBI. Last, we have Márcio Arendola and Guilherme Klaime, who both compete in the Production Optics division. They placed first and second in this year's Nationals.

All members shoot a GLOCK 17 Gen5 or a GLOCK 17 Gen5 MOS. They are all dominating the Brazilian shooting



sports scene. The Brazilian team is anxious to meet the US GLOCK Team, whom they consider to be an inspiration.

## GLOCK TRAINING CENTER OPENS IN BRAZIL

In the past few years, GLOCK sales have boomed in Brazil. Due to increased sales, there is a demand for qualified armorers. To meet this demand, GLOCK opened up a training facility at one of the largest shooting clubs in Latin America called The Base. Initially, the space will be used for GLOCK law enforcement training.

To inaugurate the space, Franco Giffone, GLOCK do Brazil CEO, conducted a special class to GLOCK do Brazil and Base employees. During the 4-hour presentation, Mr Giffone showcased GLOCK's history and all that encompasses GLOCK's Perfection mission statement. 🍷





# Perfect Your Skills Train with the Best

GLOCK™ Professional, Inc. offers training to law enforcement, military members, licensed security officers and other personnel throughout the U.S. and Canada. Learn how to utilize the GLOCK SAFE ACTION® system to its maximum potential through in-classroom and live-fire range trainings.

To learn more and register for a class, visit [glocktraining.com](https://glocktraining.com)

## AVAILABLE COURSES

- **Armorer Course**  
(8 hours)
- **Brilliance in the Basics Course**  
(8 hours)
- **Low Profile Carry Course**  
(16 hours)
- **GLOCK Instructor Workshop**  
(20 hours)
- **GLOCK Operator Course**  
(16 hours)



# GSSF

## Sport Shooting for Everyone

Ready for a friendly competition out on the range?

GLOCK™ Sport Shooting Foundation is a great place to test your skills and compete with your GLOCK pistol. It's open to all skill levels.

For information about becoming a member, visit **GSSFonline.com**

**GLOCK**

1. Promote safe, active participation in the shooting sports
2. Promote stock pistol competitive shooting as a sport
3. Promote firearms safety and awareness
4. Promote the positive aspects of firearms
5. Inform and educate about individuals' rights to own firearms

