

If for some reason, you no longer wish to receive these e-mails please accept our apologies and respond to this message with REMOVE in the subject line and we will remove your name from the mailing list.

Citizens Association for Responsible Gun Ownership = CARGO

www.cargogunclub.org

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Hello Fellow CARGO Members,

The next meeting will be held at Napoli's on **Thursday, July 20th.**

We will meet at Napoli's in Wylie.

Napoli's

701 N Highway 78 # A

Wylie, TX 75098

For the dinner portion of the meeting, we will be in the meeting room between 5:45 and 7:00 for food and fellowship. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and run until about 9:00.

Under the new Texas Open Carry Law, you could be committing an offense if you remove your pistol from its holster while open carrying. While at Napoli's DO NOT remove your pistol from its holster unless it is an emergency.

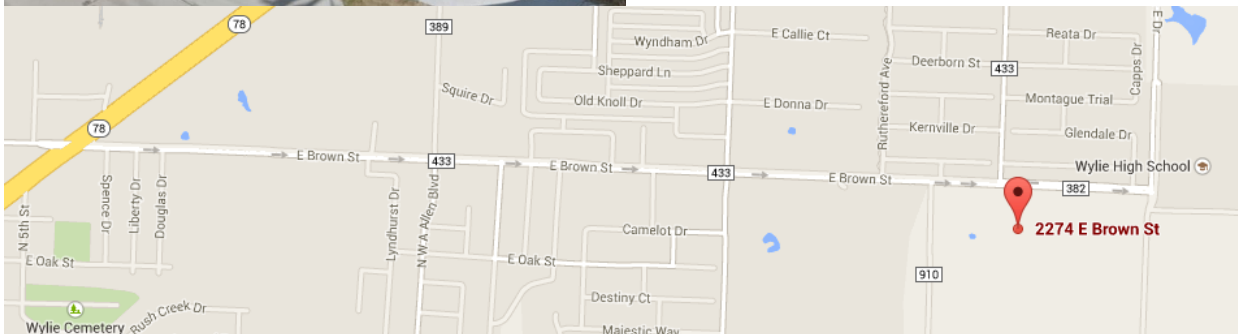
Member Don Bridges has volunteered his shop for the meeting. There are a very limited number of chairs at the shop, so please bring a camp chair for the meeting. We will meet there from 7:00 (ish) until 9:00 (ish)

The address is:

2274 EAST Brown Street in Wylie

While heading east on Brown Street, it is 1/2 mile past stop sign that's at the intersection of Brown Street and Kreymer Lane on the right hand side.

The shop is behind a small white house with a picket fence around the front yard.



Meeting gun topics:

- For show and tell, if you have any firearms manufactured by the following:
 - **O.F. Mossberg & Sons** began in March of 1919 in a rented loft on State Street in New Haven, Connecticut.
 - **Random – (Fabryka Broni "Łucznik")** The company was founded in 1922 and was the Second Polish Republic to produce arms for Wojsko Polskie.
 - **Crosman Rifle Company** was founded in 1923 in Rochester, New York, when Bertram Fenner, Operations Manager for Crosman Brothers Seed Company, reached an agreement with William McLean to produce pellets and an airgun based on McLean's own patented design
 - **High Standard Co.** Founded in Connecticut in 1926. In 1932 the company purchased Hartford Arms and Equipment Company. It was purchased by Leisure Group in the 1960s and subsequently bought out by the management in 1978. In 1993, the company was acquired by High Standard Manufacturing Company Inc.
 - **Browning Arms Company** was founded in Utah in 1927. It offers a wide variety of firearms, including shotguns, rifles, pistols, and rimfire firearms. They also offer sport bows. The company was founded to market the sporting (non-military) designs of John Browning, one of the more prolific firearms inventors.
 - **CZ** originated in 1936 when Czechoslovakian arms production was moved away from the German border due to fears of invasion. Initially, the factory produced anti-aircraft guns, but later began manufacturing small arms.
 - **Taurus Firearms** was founded in 1939 and is a manufacturing conglomerate based in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Founded as a tool and die manufacturer, the company now consists of divisions focusing on firearms, metals manufacturing, plastics, body armor, helmets, and civil construction.
- Have anything non-firearms related to share? Got a great knife that you just picked up, an air-rifle or Pistol, a new tactical flash light or red-dot scope? The club always enjoys seeing this as well.

If you have any suggestions for future speakers or topics please send your feedback to CARGO@att.net.
When was the last time you visited our web site? Please take some time to go to the CARGO website at www.cargogunclub.org

Texas Legislature Ends Session with 7 Pro-Gun Bills Passed

by [Bob Price](#) 2 Jun 2017 Austin, TX

The Texas Legislature ended its 85th session, passing seven pro-gun bills. Governor Greg Abbott promptly signed two of them into law. The body also protected gun owners' rights by blocking five anti-gun bills.

Governor Abbott signed two of the seven pro-gun rights bills into law. Both laws become effective on September 1, 2017. The first, Senate Bill 16, reduces the cost to Texas gun owners wanting to obtain a State-issued License to Carry (LTC). This bill, a priority bill for Lt. Governor Dan Patrick, reduces the LTC fee for new and renewal licenses to the lowest cost in the nation, according to a statement obtained by Breitbart Texas from the [National Rifle Association's](#) (NRA) [Institute for Legislative Action](#) (ILA). Abbott signed the bill into law in a ceremony at a gun store just before the end of the legislative session, Breitbart Texas [reported](#).

"No law abiding Texan should be priced out of the ability to exercise their Second Amendment rights," Governor Abbott said following the bill's signing. "I'd like to thank Senator Robert Nichols and Representative Phil King for their work in expanding liberty in Texas."

Lt. Governor Patrick called the bill a [top priority](#) for the legislature when Senator Nichols introduced the bill in January. "SB 16 will make lawful carry more affordable for law-abiding citizens across the state," the Lt. Governor stated. "No Texan should be deprived of their right to self-protection because of onerous licensing fees imposed by the state."

Abbott also signed House Bill 1819 into law. The bill, authored by State Representative Drew Springer (R-Muenster) provides protection for gun owners purchasing a sound suppressor. "If the Hearing Protection Act that eliminates this federal requirement were to pass Congress before the Texas Legislature meets again in 2019, suppressor owners would have no way of complying with state law and could be guilty of a felony offense without this important change," ILA officials stated. State Senator Charles Perry (R-Lubbock) authored companion Senate bill, SB 842), and guided HB 1819 through the Senate for final passage.

During the final stages of the bill's debate, State Senator Craig Estes (R-Wichita Falls) added an amendment clarifying that a short-barreled firearm with a pistol grip (not non-Class 3 National Firearms Act) is legal to sell an own in Texas. The senator added an amendment to clarify questions about the legality in the Lone Star State relating to the [Mossberg 590 Shockwave](#). Prior to the passage of this law, Texas was one of only two states where the gun could not be legally sold, ILA officials stated. State Representative Poncho Nevarez (D-Eagle Pass) assisted in the House's adoption of the Senate's amendment. In 2014, Mossberg [expanded](#) its manufacturing capacity with a new facility located in Eagle Pass, Texas.

Five other bills passed by the Legislature await the governor's signature. The governor has until June 18 to sign or veto the bills. The ILA details those bills as:

Senate Bill 263 (companion bills HB 372/HB 403/HB 782) – This measure repeals the minimum caliber requirement (.32) for demonstrating handgun proficiency during the range instruction portion of the License To Carry course. This unnecessary provision negatively impacts LTC applicants with hand injuries or arthritis who would benefit from being able to use a smaller caliber handgun. Sent to the governor on May 28. If signed,

would take effect on September 1. *Please thank Sen. Charles Perry & Rep. Drew Springer for sponsoring this legislation, as well as Rep. Matt Shaheen (R-Plano) for authoring HB 782.*

Senate Bill 1566 (includes language from SB 1942/HB 1692) – Rep. Cole Hefner (R-Mount Pleasant) successfully added a House floor amendment containing the language from his HB 1692 and Sen. Bryan Hughes’ (R-Mineola) SB 1942 to SB 1566, a bill relating to the powers and duties of the boards of trustees for independent school districts. HB 1692 & SB 1942 allowed employees of school districts, open-enrollment charter schools and private elementary or secondary schools who possess valid LTCs to transport and store firearms out of sight in their locked cars and trucks. These employees had been left out of the 2011 law banning employer policies restricting the lawful possession of firearms in private motor vehicles. Sent to the governor on May 30. If signed, would take effect on September 1. *Please thank Rep. Hefner & Sen. Hughes for sponsoring HB 1692 & SB 1942, respectively, and the authors of SB 1566 – Sen. Lois Kolhorst (R-Brenham) and Rep. Ken King (R- Canadian) – for agreeing to the amendment to their bill.*

Senate Bill 2065 (includes language from HB 421/HB 981) – Rep. Matt Rinaldi (R-Farmers Branch) successfully added a House floor amendment containing the language from his HB 421 and Rep. John Wray’s (R-Waxahachie) HB 981 to SB 2065, a bill relating to the licensing and regulation of certain occupations and activities. HB 421 & HB 981 allowed volunteers providing security at places of worship to be exempt from the requirements of the Private Security Act. This could include License To Carry holders approved by congregation leaders, since the prohibition on possession of firearms by LTCs at places of worship is only enforceable if the location is posted or verbal notice is given. Sent to the governor on May 30. If signed, would take effect on September 1. *Please thank Rep. Rinaldi & Rep. Wray for sponsoring HB 421 & HB 981, respectively, and the authors of SB 2065 – Sen. Kelly Hancock (R-North Richland Hills) & Rep. John Kuempel (R-Seguin) – for agreeing to the amendment to their bill.*

House Bill 1935 – This legislation repeals the prohibition on the possession or carrying of knives such as daggers, dirks, stilettos and Bowies, by eliminating them from the prohibited weapons section of the Texas Penal Code. Restrictions remain in place for possession or carrying of knives with a blade over 5 ½ inches long in public places and penalties are enhanced for carrying those in the same locations where the possession of firearms is prohibited, generally. Sent to the governor on May 30. If signed, would take effect on September 1. *Please thank Rep. John Frullo (R-Lubbock) for sponsoring and passing this legislation.*

House Bill 3784 (includes language from SB 138) – Sen. Van Taylor (R-Plano) successfully added a Senate floor amendment containing the language from his SB 138 to HB 3784, a bill allowing persons approved by the Texas Department of Public Safety to offer an online course to cover the classroom portion of the required training for a License To Carry. SB 138 exempts active military personnel and veterans who have received firearm instruction as part of their service within the last 10 years to be exempt from the range instruction portion of the LTC course. Sent to the governor on May 28. If signed, would take effect on September 1. *Please thank Sen. Taylor for sponsoring SB 138 and the author of HB 3784 – Rep. Justin Holland (R-Rockwall) – for agreeing to the amendment to his bill.*

Two pro-gun bills did not pass through the legislative process successfully. Those bills include [House Bill 1911](#) by Representative James White (R-Hillister) that would have allowed gun owners to carry without a license. That bill passed out of the House Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee chaired by House Representative Phil King (R-Weatherford) on April 18, but died in the House Calendars Committee chaired by State Representative Todd Hunter (R-Corpus Christi).

White’s bill is the first “constitutional carry” bill to receive a favorable hearing from a House committee.

A similar bill, House Bill 375, authored by State Representative Jonathan Stickland (R-Bedford) had a hearing in the Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee but did not receive favorable consideration. The bill was left pending in the committee after its hearing.

Five bills classified by the ILA as anti-gun legislation were blocked from passage by the Texas House. The ILA details those bills as follows:

House Bill 234 gutted portions of SB 273 from last session by limiting 30.06 signage restrictions and fines for improper posting to governmental property that's occupied only by governmental agencies. This would have excluded any public property occupied by private persons or entities on an occasional or recurring basis from the provisions of the law that passed in 2015.

House Bill 255 expanded the locations where License to Carry (LTC) holders would no longer be able to legally protect themselves to include facilities such as golf courses, amphitheaters, auditoriums, theaters, museums, zoos, civic centers and convention centers, provided they are posted off-limits. *This would have included the convention center in downtown Dallas, where NRA's Annual Meeting will be held in 2018.*

House Bill 866 allowed certain persons to petition for a lethal violence protective order against an individual based on allegations that the person has engaged or is engaging in behavior that the petitioners subjectively deem to be dangerous. Patterned after California law, individuals against whom such orders are issued could have been forced by the courts, without a hearing or key due process protections, to surrender personally-owned firearms to a law enforcement agency.

House Bill 899 repealed the current 30.06 and 30.07 signage requirements that apply to LTC holders and directed the Department of Public Safety to adopt rules and specifications for posting that couldn't exceed the size of an 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper – all in an effort to make it easier for property owners to restrict law-abiding license citizens' personal protection options.

House Bill 3989 broadened the prohibition on possession of firearms by LTC holders in "amusement parks" by expanding the definition of such venues to include short-term events that offer amusement rides to the public – such as the Texas State Fair. This could also have included any parking or loading areas available inside the entry points to such events.

Numerous other anti-gun bills that died in various House committees without a hearing. Those include so-called "terror watchlist", "gun show loophole", and "opt-out" legislation for public universities from campus carry and municipalities of certain sizes from open carry – as well as at least a dozen other misguided proposals attacking our Second Amendment rights, "the ILA reported.

[Bob Price](#) serves as associate editor and senior political news contributor for Breitbart Texas. He is a founding member of the Breitbart Texas team. Follow him on Twitter [@BobPriceBBTX](#) and [Facebook](#).

Canadian special forces sniper kills an ISIS fighter from TWO MILES away in the longest confirmed kill shot in history

- Bullet was fired from a McMillan TAC-50 rifle set up on a high-rise tower in Iraq
- The sniper disrupted an ISIS fighter who was attacking a group of Iraqi soldiers
- Smashes record set by British soldier Craig Harrison, who hit target at 1.54 miles

By [Rory Tingle For Mailonline](#)

Published: 05:44 EDT, 22 June 2017 | Updated: 08:17 EDT, 22 June 2017

A [Canadian](#) sniper has beat the record for the longest confirmed kill in military history by picking off an [ISIS](#) fighter from a staggering 11,319 feet.

The bullet was fired from a McMillan TAC-50 rifle set on a high-rise tower and took 10 seconds to travel the 2.14 miles towards the fighter, who was attacking Iraqi soldiers.

This smashed the last record set by a Briton Craig Harrison, who killed a Taliban soldier with a 338 Lapua Magnum rifle at a range of 8,120 feet (1.54 miles) in 2009.



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A Canadian sniper has broken the world record for the longest kill shot. Pictured: A Canadian sniper team in southern Kandahar, Iraq (file photo)

A military source told [The Globe and Mail](#) the kill was verified by video, adding: 'This is an incredible feat. It is a world record that might never be equalled.'

The third longest kill was by Canadian Corporal Rob Furlong, who shot down an Afghan insurgent from 7,972 feet (1.51 miles) in 2002 during Operation Anaconda.

And prior to that, Master Corporal Arron Perry hit a terrorist from 7579 feet. He was also Canadian and serving in the same operation.

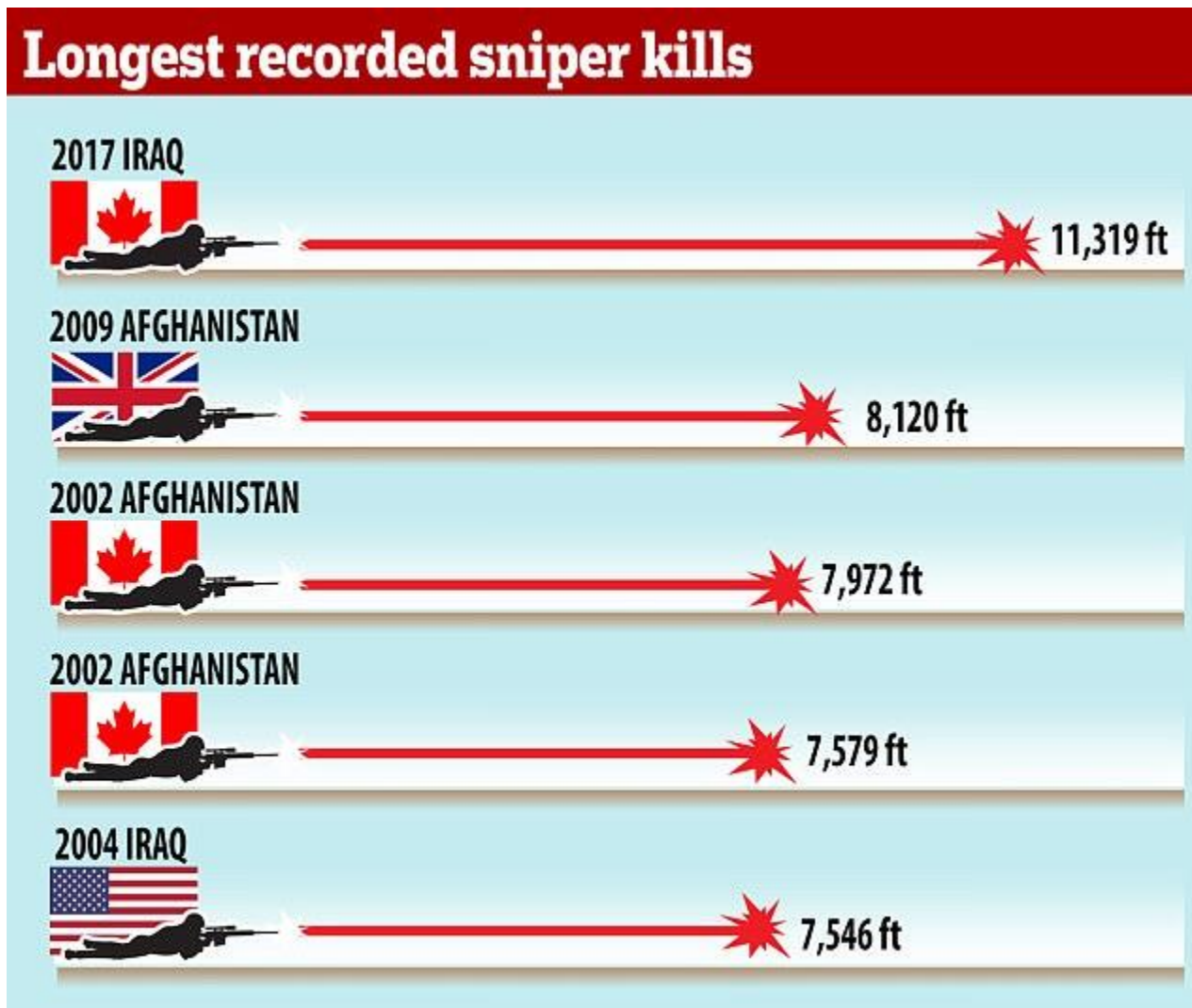
The longest kill from a US sniper was done by sergeant Bryan Kremer, who hit an Iraqi insurgent at 7,546 feet (1.42 miles) with his Barrett M82A1 rifle in 2004.

The Canadian who achieved the longest kill was operating with Joint Task Force 2, which is training Kurdish forces to fight IS.

Few details are available about their operation, but their last reported location was in the north of Iraq, where a major operation is underway to recapture Mosul.

The sniper has not been named for security reasons and the exact location of the kill has not been confirmed.

Canada's special forces are known for the high skill of their snipers, who are considered among the best in the world.



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The Canadians dominate the list of the world's longest confirmed sniper kills. The country's special forces are known for the skill of its snipers



•
The outstanding accuracy of the Tac-50 makes it the choice long-range weapon of the Canadian Army since 2000

They have been fighting in the Middle East for several years, and were involved in the first confirmed ground battle between ISIS and western forces in January 2015.

Soldiers visiting front-line positions with Kurdish Peshmerga forces came under heavy mortar and machine gun fire.

McMillan Tac-50: Killing machine with lethal range of 2.3miles

The outstanding accuracy of the Tac-50 makes it the choice long-range weapon of the Canadian Army since 2000. It is used mainly against individual enemy targets, but can also take out light armoured vehicles.

Designed in Arizona in the 1980s, it weighs 26 pounds and is 57 inches in length. The magazine can hold five cartridges, with dimensions of 12.7 x 99mm.

The grooved barrel is designed to dissipate heat, allowing regular firing, while a muzzle break reduces recoil. It has a metal finish and comes in black, olive, grey, tan, or dark earth.

The rifle has seen action in the Afghan War, Syrian Civil War and Iraqi Civil War.

The Canadians used sniper fire to 'neutralise' the ISIS threat without taking any casualties.

Brigadier General Michael Rouleau said the troops, whose job it is to train the Iraqi military, fired back only in self-defence.

He added: 'My troops had completed a planning session with senior Iraqi leaders several kilometres behind the front lines.'

Special forces fighting in Iraq and Syria regularly make use of sniper rifles, as they are considered a more accurate way of targeting insurgents than airstrikes.

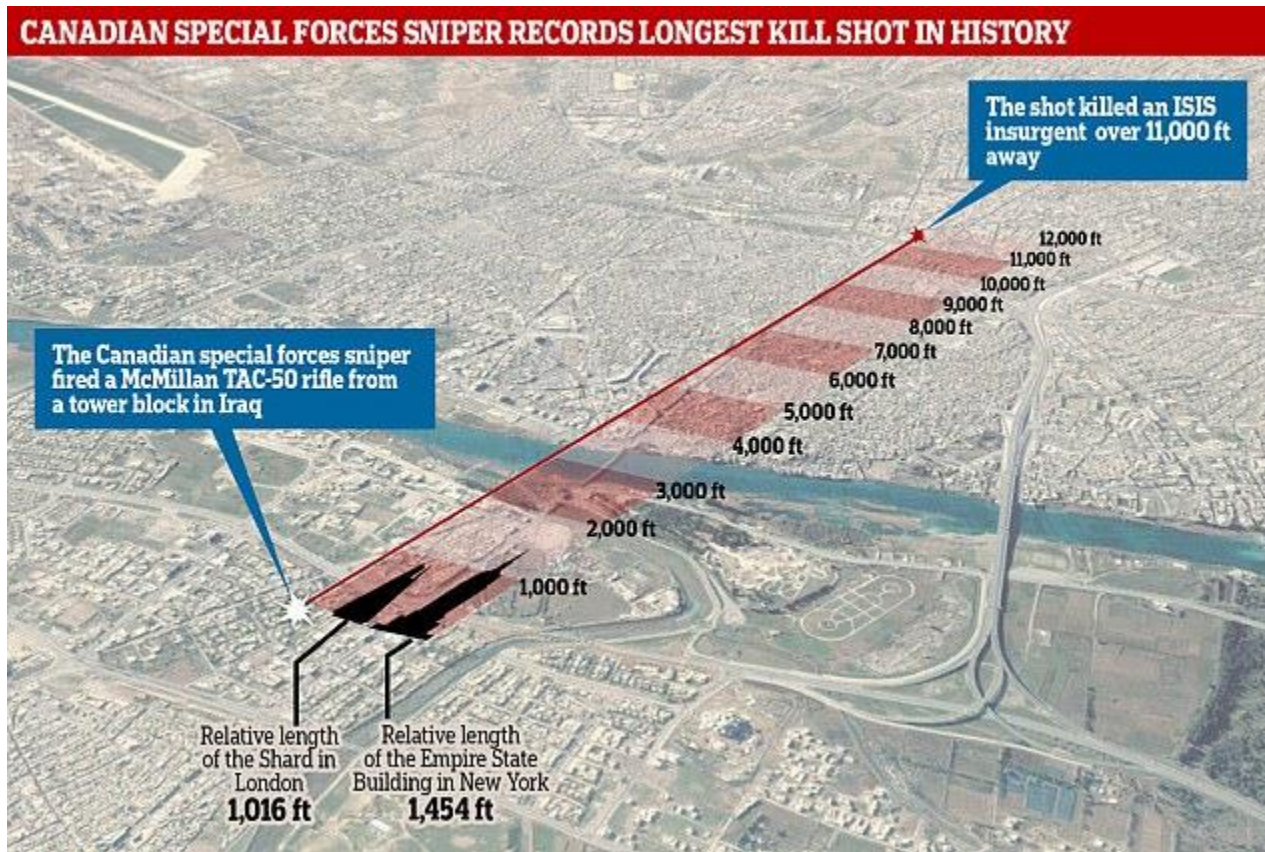
Last month, a British SAS sniper is said to have shot dead an ISIS jihadi from 7,920 feet (1.50 miles) away using the world's most powerful rifle.

The kill was unconfirmed by the military so is not included in the league table.

It took three whole seconds for the bullet to reach its target - the throat of an Islamic State terrorist in the Iraqi city of Mosul.

The British marksman was using a CheyTac M200 Intervention gun which is produced in South Carolina and retails at \$13,800 (£10,500) and can vaporise a person's organs from 8,200 feet.

As the terrorist was leaving a burned-out building two weeks ago, the SAS gunman is said to have pulled the trigger, registering one of the most difficult kills in the regiment's history.



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This graphic shows the distance from which the Canadian sniper hit the ISIS fighter. It includes a relative comparison to the Shard in London and Burj Khalifa in Dubai

Widely regarded as the most powerful rifle on the planet in its class, it has a working range of up to 9,842 feet and holds the record for the world's longest shot.

The soldiers is said to have only taken a single shot to take down his man, living up to the gun manufacturer CheyTac's motto of 'Make every shot count'.

A source told [The Star on Sunday](#): 'It was a classic counter-sniper operation. The ISIS gunman was moving all the time to get into the best position to get a kill.'



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This smashed the last record set by a Briton Craig Harrison, who killed a Taliban soldier from 1.54 miles.
Pictured: An Iraqi fighter clashes with ISIS in Mosul, Iraq, on May 21, 2017

Disconnecter Safety Notification

Daniel Defense is committed to the highest level of quality and safety. In keeping with that commitment we are issuing a safety notification related to a condition we identified with the Disconnecter in the Fire Control Group. This safety notification applies to certain firearms manufactured between April 1, 2016 and March 3, 2017. In a few cases, a double fire condition has occurred with a single pull of the trigger. In the Company's spirit to always do the right thing, Daniel Defense will correct any and all potential conditions at no cost to the consumer as part of our 100% Satisfaction Guarantee.

Does This Safety Notification Apply to My Firearm?

Daniel Defense firearms containing a single-stage Fire Control Group, manufactured between April 1, 2016 and March 3, 2017, MAY fall within the scope of this Safety Notification.

This is an important Safety Notification and should be followed by all owners of Daniel Defense firearms.

IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

1. Enter your firearm's serial number in the box below. (The serial number is located on the left side of the lower receiver.)



2. If your firearm's serial number is indicated to be within the scope of this safety notification **STOP USING THE FIREARM IMMEDIATELY** and follow the Corrective Action Process.

CORRECTIVE ACTION PROCESS

1. **REMOVE THE MAGAZINE, CLEAR THE FIREARM** and always follow the NRA Gun Safety Rules.
2. [Click Here](#) to fill out the Return Merchandise Authorization Form.
3. A Daniel Defense representative will contact you as soon as possible to provide you with shipping instructions, including a pre-paid and pre-addressed UPS shipping label and box.
4. Remove the upper receiver from the lower receiver by removing the front pivot pin and the rear take down pin. Reference the Daniel Defense [owner's manual](#) at Section 3.7, p. 11 for more detailed instructions.
5. Ship the lower receiver to Daniel Defense using the pre-paid and pre-addressed UPS shipping label and box.
6. Daniel Defense will inspect and perform a corrective action in the most expeditious manner.
7. Once the inspection is complete and any necessary corrective action is taken, the lower receiver will be shipped back to you and tracking information will be provided.

Daniel Defense is required by ATF regulations to return the lower receiver to the owner and their mailing address as initially provided by the consumer. All shipments are subject to an adult signature requirement.

Note - For more information regarding this Safety Notification, please see the following video.

NRA GUN SAFETY RULES

1. The fundamental NRA rules for safe gun handling are:

ALWAYS Keep The Gun Pointed In A Safe Direction

This is the primary rule of gun safety. Common sense dictates the safest direction, depending on different circumstances.

ALWAYS Keep Your Finger Off The Trigger Until Ready To Shoot

When holding a gun, rest your finger alongside the frame and outside the trigger guard. Until you are actually ready to fire, do not touch the trigger.

ALWAYS Keep The Gun Unloaded Until Ready To Use

If you do not know how to open the action or inspect the chamber(s), leave the gun alone and get help from someone who does.

2. When using or storing a gun, always follow these additional NRA rules:

Know your target and what is beyond.

Be absolutely sure you have identified your target beyond any doubt. Equally important, be aware of the area beyond your target. This means observing your prospective area of fire before you shoot. Never fire in a direction in which there are people or any other potential for mishap. Think first. Shoot second.

Know how to use the gun safely.

Before handling a gun, learn how it operates. Know its basic parts, how to safely open and close the action and remove any ammunition from the gun or magazine. Remember, a gun's mechanical safety device is never foolproof. Nothing can ever replace safe gun handling.

Be sure the gun is safe to operate.

Just like other tools, guns need regular maintenance to remain operable. Regular cleaning and proper storage are a part of the gun's general upkeep. If there is any question concerning a gun's ability to function, a knowledgeable gunsmith should look at it.

Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.

Only BBs, pellets, cartridges or shells designed for a particular gun can be fired safely in that gun. Most guns have the ammunition type stamped on the barrel. Ammunition can be identified by information printed on the box and sometimes stamped on the cartridge. Do not shoot the gun unless you know you have the proper ammunition.

Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate.

Guns are loud and the noise can cause hearing damage. They can also emit debris and hot gasses that could cause eye injury. For these reasons, shooting glasses and hearing protection should be worn by shooters and spectators.

Never use alcohol, over-the-counter drugs or prescription drugs before or while shooting.

Alcohol, as well as any other substance likely to impair normal mental or physical bodily functions, must not be used before or while handling or shooting guns.

Store guns so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons.

Many factors must be considered when deciding where and how to store guns. A person's particular situation will be a major part of the consideration. Dozens of gun storage devices, as well as locking devices that attach directly to the gun, are available. However, mechanical locking devices, like the mechanical safeties built into guns, can fail and should not be used as a substitute for safe gun handling and the observance of all gun-safety rules.

Additional Safety Precautions

Be aware that certain types of guns and many shooting activities require additional safety precautions.

Cleaning

Regular cleaning is important in order for your gun to operate correctly and safely. Taking proper care of it will also maintain its value and extend its life. Your gun should be cleaned every time that it is used.

A gun brought out of prolonged storage should also be cleaned before shooting. Accumulated moisture and dirt, or solidified grease and oil, can prevent the gun from operating properly.

Before cleaning your gun, **make absolutely sure that it is unloaded.** The gun's action should be open during the cleaning process. Also, be sure that **no ammunition is present in the cleaning area.**

GAO Denies Glock Protest of Army's New Sidearm Pick

TOPICS: [Army MHS](#)



This is the Army's new Modular Handgun System. It's a version of Sig Sauers' P320 pistol. (Photo courtesy Sig Sauer)

Posted By: [Matthew Cox](#) June 5, 2017

The Government Accountability Office today denied a protest filed by Glock, Inc., against the U.S. Army's decision to select Sig Sauer, Inc., to make the service's new Modular Handgun System.

In early January, Sig Sauer beat out Glock Inc., FN America and Beretta USA, the maker of the current M9 9mm pistol in the MHS competition to replace the M9.

[Glock, based in Smyrna, Georgia, filed the protest with the GAO on Feb. 24](#), challenging the Army's interpretation of the solicitation regarding the minimum number of contract awards required by the Request for Proposal, according to a statement by Ralph O. White, managing associate general counsel for Procurement Law at GAO. Glock also alleged that the Army improperly evaluated its proposal.

“GAO denied the challenge to the interpretation of the solicitation, finding that the RFP allowed the Army to make only one award, although up to three awards were permitted by the RFP's terms, White wrote. “GAO also denied the challenge to the Army's evaluation of Glock's proposal on the basis that any errors did not prejudice Glock in the competition.”

The Army launched its long-awaited XM17 Modular Handgun System competition in late August 2015 to replace its Cold War-era M9 9mm pistol.

[The Army awarded Newington, New Hampshire-based Sig Sauer the MHS contract Jan. 19](#), selecting a version of its P320 to replace the Beretta M9 service pistol. The decision formally ended the Beretta's 30-year hold on the Army's sidearm market.

GAO stated that the contract is worth up to \$170 million, but the Army's announcement described the deal as being worth up to \$580 million. The reason for the discrepancy was not immediately clear.

The 10-year agreement calls for Sig to supply the Army with full-size and compact versions of its 9mm pistol. The pistols can be outfitted with suppressors and accommodate standard and extended capacity magazines.

The [Army and the other services intend to buy 421,000](#) MHS pistols. Army weapons officials announced recently that the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) will be the first unit to receive the new service pistol.

GAO's "decision was issued under a protective order because the decision may contain proprietary and source selection sensitive information," White wrote.

"GAO has directed counsel for the parties to promptly identify information that cannot be publicly released so that GAO can expeditiously prepare and release a public version of the decision," White added.

Texas: Governor Abbott Signs Remaining Pro-Second Amendment Bills from 2017 Regular Session



Your NRA-ILA previously reported that Governor Greg Abbott signed two important pro-Second Amendment measures passed by the Texas Legislature during the recent 140-day session into law: **Senate Bill 16**, priority legislation of Lt. Governor Dan Patrick that slashes the cost of an original License To Carry from \$140 to \$40 and reduces the price of a renewal LTC from \$70 to \$40 to bring fees down to among the lowest in the nation; and **House Bill 1819** which revises Texas statutes to track federal law regarding ownership and possession of firearm sound suppressors. [The Texas Penal Code currently requires these devices to be registered with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives. If the Hearing Protection Act that eliminates this federal requirement were to pass Congress before the Texas Legislature meets again in 2019, suppressor owners would have no way of complying with state law and could be guilty of a felony offense without this important change.] An amendment was added to HB 1819 in the Senate to clarify that non-NFA, short-barreled firearms with a pistol grip -- such as the Mossberg 590 Shockwave -- are not unlawful to sell or own in Texas. The Lone Star State is one of just two states where this particular gun cannot currently be sold lawfully. Both laws take effect on September 1, 2017.

Governor Abbott has now also signed the following bills into law, which also have an effective date of September 1:

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proficiency during the range instruction portion of the License To Carry course. This unnecessary provision negatively impacts LTC applicants with hand injuries or arthritis who would benefit from being able to use a smaller caliber handgun.

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https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/true-german-made-hk-semi-auto-subgun-street-legal-9mm-sp5k-full-review/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20170612_BlogDigest_228&utm_campaign=/blog/true-german-made-hk-semi-auto-subgun-street-legal-9mm-sp5k-full-review/

A True German-Made HK Semi-Auto Subgun? The Street-Legal 9mm SP5K – Full Review.

by Jon Hodoway on June 8, 2017



The SP5K from Heckler & Koch gives U.S. civilian HK enthusiasts a chance to own their own street-legal version of a true German submachine gun classic.

In 1956, Heckler & Koch GmbH (HK) designed the G3, a 7.62×51mm NATO battle rifle. After the success of the G3, HK began to develop other variants. In the 1960s the 9mm MP5 was started, and soon it was adopted by the German Federal Police, Border Guard and Army Special Forces.

In the 1970s, the MP5K (K from the German word for “short”: Kurz), a shortened version of the 9mm MP5A2, was introduced. The K gun had a cap with a sling loop where the stock was attached on the full-sized version. The bolt and receiver were shortened, along with the barrel and cocking handle. To help control the gun, a vertical foregrip replaced the standard handguard. The K gun was intended for CQB by special operations and personal protection missions.

In 1980, the MP5 was made famous in the hands of the SAS during a 17-minute raid when they stormed the Iranian Embassy in London, they rescued all but one of the remaining hostages, and killed five of the six hostage-takers. Operation Nimrod was so successful that the MP5 became the go-to gun for special operation and SWAT teams worldwide.

The SP89 (Sport Pistole M1989) was introduced as a semi-automatic version of the MP5K. To comply with the National Firearms Act, the vertical foregrip was removed, along with the pushpin lower receiver. The SP89 was sold until the early 1990s, when its importation was restricted.



With classic HK lines and a rock-solid roller locking operating mechanism, the SP5K is great gun for fans of the design.

At the 2016 NRA Annual Meeting and Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky, HK announced that they would be producing the [SP5K](#). This would be a semi-auto pistol based on the famous MP5K submachine gun.



The SP5K packs in German-made quality into an attractive and appealing package. It is not cheap, though.



Anyone familiar with the G3 family of HK guns will be right at home with the SP5K.

SPECS

- Chambering: 9mm
- Barrel: 4.53 inches
- OA Length: 13.9 inches
- Weight: 4.2 pounds

- Grips: Integral, plastic
- Sights: Ringed front post
- Action: Semi-auto
- Finish: Matte black
- Capacity: 30+1
- MSRP: \$2,699

Unboxing

The SP5K arrived in a Pelican-style custom-fitted, lockable, carrying case. Inside the case was the SP5K, two 30-round magazines, a sight adjustment tool, a bungee cord sling, an instruction manual and a gun lock. This was much nicer packaging than the original cardboard box with an expanded polystyrene insert that the SP89 was shipped in.

Upon inspection of the gun, I found the rock solid roller-delayed blowback operating system that is at the heart of all the descendants of the G3 rifle. This system offers accuracy and reliability that are still the envy of many guns today. The handguard has a new ergonomic design that provides much of the stability of the vertical foregrip on the MP5K without running afoul of the BATF. One accessory that was long overdue is the Picatinny rail scope mount, which comes attached to the upper receiver where the novel claw mount attaches. This new mount adds new versatility while maintaining a low profile for mounting optics. The entire gun is manufactured in Heckler & Koch's Oberndorf factory in Germany, and it shows with the quality for which German manufacturers are famous. Most of the components are taken straight from the MP5K, including the cold-hammer forged barrel. The SP5K is backed by Heckler & Koch's limited lifetime warranty.

Article continued below:

This gun is a diminutive personal defensive weapon or a bulky pistol depending on how you employ it. However, it is not awkward or clumsy, but rather well-refined; it works well when held with two hands. The redesigned foregrip provides a very positive lock on the front of the pistol. The pistol grip allows for comfortable control of the selector and trigger.



The SP5K comes packed in a really nice hard case with accessories and two magazines.

On the Range

I was particularly eager to get this gun to the range. You see; I have owned many HK guns over the years. I currently own an MP5 submachine gun with a three-lug barrel and a matching can. I have made several attempts to buy an SP89; I once offered \$3,200.00 and was turned down flatly. My obsession to finally get a turn on the pistol was almost to the point of greed. Not in the sense that I wanted one at someone else not having one but more like gun lust.



The SP5K sports a charging handle along the top right side of the tube above the barrel. Note the HK-pattern sights.

The first thing I wanted to try out was the new Picatinny rail scope mount. I selected the Meprolight- MEPRO RDS red dot sight. This optic is rugged and offers a huge display window. I attached the bungee sling to the swivel on the rear plate. With the sling around my neck, and then under my arm, the gun was held mid-chest and was easy to bring up to the eye. This was not quite the same as having a buttstock but it was way better than just using two hands.



The author was really impressed with the Picatinny rail optic mount, upon which he mounted a Meprolight RDS.

In terms of accuracy, the gun over delivered in every case. I easily managed ½” groups at 25 yards, no matter what ammunition the gun was fed. I began to shoot some steel, and decided that a steel torso would be the bench mark. While shooting, the gun was held with the support hand on the forearm and the other on the pistol grip, utilizing the sling to add stability. I began at the 25-yard line and decided to walk back until I reached the limit of the gun. The only problem with this plan was that I ran out of range at 100 yards! I have no doubt that the red dot facilitated this performance, but the SP5K was quick on target, and felt more like a rifle than a pistol. My choice of ammunition was the white box Winchester 115 gr FMJ. I believe that almost any quality brand would perform similarly in the SP5K. The 30-round magazines ran flawlessly, without a single malfunction

I had others shoot the gun, and their experiences were quite similar. There were no malfunctions or accuracy complaints, and plenty of fun was had by each shooter. There was a reasonable learning curve required to hold the gun out and rely on the sling to stabilize it properly. Once that was out of the way, there were no issues. There was quickly that lightbulb moment I get this and it works for me then it was just a matter of keeping magazines going. One point that must be explained in the manual of arms is the bolt does not hold open after firing the last round.



The SP5K has an integral polymer pistol grip and standard paddle-style selector located above the trigger.

Conclusion for Fun

This is clearly a new gun for the American market. I will admit that I have some bias here, based on my history with HK guns and my long-standing desire to own this model.

I do fear that the SP5K may fall short in a few areas. First, modularity is limited to only the new Picatinny rail scope mount. There is no provision to mount lights and lasers, or an (aftermarket) arm brace. These factors will make comparisons to other 9mm pistols in this class problematic for the SP5K. Second, when the gun left the market in the 1990s, others began to offer American-made clones. Their quality was poor in the beginning, but while prices have dropped some their quality has increased. Heck, you can even make your own from kits, if you are so inclined. Finally, with a retail price of \$2,700.00, it is the most expensive offering in its class by a sizeable amount.

These shortcomings cannot be ignored, and will likely have an impact on this gun's sales, but this is a boutique gun more than a mainstream offering. It will appeal to HK fans, and those (like me) who never got to own one the first time around. This is also a rock-solid, proven design that all others must aspire to emulate. This gun is still a bargain compared to an original SP89, and I think is a better option based on how it comes equipped. If you want the real thing, it is definitely for you.

From Gun Insider:

Report: ATF's Break-In Alert System Not Working

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' automated phone call system that alerts firearms dealers about break-ins at gun stores nearby is not working, The Trace reported.

The agency said "fFlAlert" is supposed to contact federally licensed firearms dealers, or FFLs, when a store has been robbed in their county. But many of the calls are not getting through, according to licensed dealers operating in Kansas, Florida, Kansas, Wisconsin, and Washington.

At 21 of 25 stores, the manager or owner told The Trace they did not receive a warning call when there was a theft nearby. Many dealers said they heard of break-ins on the news or by word of mouth, while a handful said they received visits from law enforcement following the burglaries. Seven said their first alert of a theft was from The Trace.

The ATF launched fFlAlert in 2016 when there were over 500 burglaries at gun stores nationwide.

"The system is designed to call each FFL once," ATF spokesperson Mary Markos said. "Unfortunately, we do not have a system in place to continue calling until someone answers, but the system does leave the information on voicemail. As it is a new program, we will continue to modify and refine it to increase its effectiveness."

SHUSH Act Takes Aim at Suppressor Restrictions

TOPICS: [suppressors](#)



The SHUSH Act, legislation introduced in Congress in late June, aims to loosen restrictions on suppressors so they are treated as firearms accessories. Photo: Matthew Cox, Military.com.

Posted By: [Matthew Cox](#) July 12, 2017

In case you guys missed this, there is a new effort to help loosen restrictions on firearm suppressors and it's called the SHUSH Act.

The Silencers Helping Us Save Hearing, or SHUSH, Act has two versions – House Bill H.R. 3139 and Senate bill [S.1505](#). Both versions the legislation are aimed at reclassifying suppressors so they are treated as firearm accessories.

Currently, suppressors are heavily restricted under the National Firearms Act of 1934. The NFA classifies suppressors the same way it does machine guns and requires buyers to go through a lengthy registration process and pay a fee of \$200.

Suppressors are also regulated by the Gun Control Act of 1968, which treats them as regular firearms and requires retail purchasers to go through a background check.

In the past, suppressors were the tools of movie assassins and secret agents. Now their popularity continues to grow among recreational shooters as well as hunters.

Unfortunately, there is not much information yet on the either version of the SHUSH Act except that both versions were introduced June 29. There's not even a summary available.

The SHUSH Act should not be confused with the Hearing Protection Act, which was introduced Jan. 9 in the House as [H.R. 367](#) and the Senate as [S. 59](#).

The HPA keeps all regulations under the Gun Control Act — which treats suppressors as ordinary firearms — but it removes suppressors from the National Firearms Act. If passed, buyers would not have to pay the \$200 fee.

Kitup is going to try to provide updates on both of these efforts as soon as we hear of any action taken on Capitol Hill, so stay tuned.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/born-for-combat-refined-for-edc-first-look-at-the-new-fn-509-9mm-full-reviewutm_sourceemailutm_medium20170417_blogdigest_220utm_campaignblogborn-for-combat-refined-for-edc-first-look-at-the-n/

Born for Combat, Refined for EDC: First Look at the New FN 509 9mm – Full Review.

by Jon Hodoway on April 16, 2017

We here at GunsAmerica first heard about what would become the FN 509 back in January, 2016 at SHOT Show. There were plenty of looks back and forth between the FN folks, followed by a polite “We’ll get back to you” when asked about it. Fast-forward 12 months to the 2017 SHOT Show, and FN responded with an invitation to a meeting at an undisclosed location in Las Vegas. At that meeting, we were given the opportunity to fire a few hundred rounds through the FN 509. We received our sample of the 509 a few weeks ago after promising not to discuss it publicly until April 17th, 2017.



The new FN 509 pistol brings 17+1 firepower to a reasonably compact package for EDC enthusiasts. Image courtesy of FN.



Note the ambidextrous controls of the pistol. Image courtesy of FN.

The Birth of the FN 509

Army Contracting Command released the official MHS RFP on August 28, 2015. The XM17 Modular Handgun System competition was a request for a new Army and Navy handgun to replace the M9 handgun. The list of requirements was demanding, to say the least.

- Compatibility with accessory items, to include tactical lights, lasers, and sound suppressors.
- Fully ambidextrous controls.
- Ergonomic designs that could accommodate female shooters.
- Pistols that can service higher chamber pressures (over 20 percent greater than SAAMI specification for the cartridge) without degradation of reliability.
- 2,000 mean rounds between stoppages, 10,000 mean rounds between failures, and a 35,000-round service life.
- 90 percent or more chance of hitting in a 4-inch circle out to 50 meters, consistently, throughout the weapon's lifetime.
- Ergonomic design minimizing recoil energies and controlling shot dispersion.
- Modular features to allow for the adaption of different fire control devices, pistol grips, and alternate magazine options.
- Incorporation of detection avoidance by having a non-reflective neutral color.
- Modularity, reliability, and durability in all environments.



The pistol proved to be rugged and reliable and delivered great results for the author.

There were eight entries to the initial test.

Company	Gun	Caliber
Beretta	APX striker-fired pistol	9mm
CZ	enP-09 MHS	9mm
FN Herstal	509	9mm
Glock	17 and 22	9mm / 40 S&W
KRISS USA	Sphinx SDP	9mm
SIG Sauer	P320 MHS	9mm
Smith & Wesson	M&P	9mm
STI and Detonics Defense	STX	9mm

The Army Times reported on January 19, 2017 that the competition for the new U.S. handgun had been won by SIG Sauer Inc. on January 18, 2017. The resulting P320 is a great gun, but more than one person has asserted that Sig Sauer owes its victory to the price point. The P320 comes in at \$207 a unit—more than \$50 cheaper than the M9. As expected, Glock is still protesting Sig Sauer’s win, as their pistol’s box clearly says “Perfection.”



The pistol came in a zippered nylon case along with two steel 17-round magazines.

Why Second Place Might Be Better Than First

Sometimes, second place can be more valuable than first. If you are in second place, you have reason to improve and better yourself, as well as an example of what to work towards. If you're in first, you have no incentive to improve. FN took a hard look at their pistol and decided to use it to pursue the civilian market with the 509. This pistol has plenty of potential to disrupt the current leader in consumer and Law Enforcement sales, especially considering that Glock came to the 2017 SHOT Show with approximately zero new pistols to showcase. I asked about the Glock 17M and was told we might see it next year.

The 509 is well-equipped for the task it has been assigned. It is a striker-fired, polymer-framed 9mm pistol. The four-inch, stainless steel, cold-hammer-forged barrel sports a recessed target crown. There is a slide and magazine release on each side of the gun, accommodating both right and left-handed shooters. FN offers three choices of interchangeable back-straps, and a tapered grip with texturing. The slide has cocking serrations both in the front and rear, along with a left-side-mounted takedown lever. There is an optional ambidextrous manual safety mounted at the rear and top of the frame. The dust cover has a Picatinny rail for accessories. The trigger guard is elongated and rounded, to allow firing with gloved hands. The trigger is a metal two-piece design with a pivot in the middle.



The dust cover area of the polymer frame has a strip of Picatinny rail for accessories.

Unboxing

My gun arrived wrapped in shipping paper to protect the plain cardboard box—Christmas came early! Upon opening the box, I saw a zippered black case that resembled a day planner from back in the era of pen and paper. The FN logo embroidered on the outside was a clear indication that the contents were not dreary notes and scribbled appointments. Instead, the case contained the FN 509 and two 17-round magazines. This gun was not your typical FN pistol; in fact it looked more like FN and Sig had worked together to design a Glock 19. The 509 was not big and boxy, but simple and compact. The fact that FN had built a pistol with a capacity of 17-plus-1, and yet smaller (in most respects) than a Glock 19, was impressive. The standard sights were metal, and all the controls were present on both sides of the gun. The gun fit nicely in my hand, and the trigger was better than I expected from a polymer service pistol.



The magazine of the FN 509's steel magazine (right) holds 17 rounds of 9mm. Shown next to a Glock 19 magazine for comparison.

SPECS

- **Chambering:** 9mm
- **Barrel:** 4 inches
- **OA Length:** 7.4 inches
- **Weight:** 26.9 ounces
- **Grips:** Polymer, integral
- **Sights:** Three-dot, luminous
- **Action:** Striker-fired
- **Finish:** Matte-black
- **Capacity:** 17+1
- **MSRP:** \$649

On the Range

I was not able to get the 509 to the range for a couple of days, so when the time finally came I had my plan ready. I brought a slew of 9mm rounds to run through the gun, along with a few trusted friends who would not break the embargo on the new pistol.

SHOOTING RESULTS (20 YARDS)

Sig	RN FMJ	115gr	1.21"
Sig	V Crown JHP	115gr	.82"
Hornady	FTX	115gr	1.66"
American Eagle	RN JMJ	115gr	1.15"

The 509 was passed around like a collection plate on Sunday morning, with each person trying it in the hand, working the controls, and finally testing the trigger before handing it down. The two magazines were loaded up and the fun began! I would guess that the first 200 rounds of my ammunition were run through the gun in a matter of a few minutes. Once everyone had had a turn on the New 509, I asked the "Well, what do you think?" question. Everyone responded with general approval, save one person who took issue with the feel of the trigger. I asked what he was referring to, we arrived at the conclusion that the trigger's smooth rounded convex face was throwing him off. He had never shot a gun without a Glock style trigger before. His opinion was it was not bad, but different.



The pistol shot tight groups at 20 yards with loads from Sig, Federal and Hornady.

Next on my agenda was speed shooting. I had set up some steel plates and other steel targets down range. We all started at the 10-yard line and worked our way back. Our ability to keep control of the pistol under pressure was due in part to the three different kinds of checkering on the grip of the 509. We took turns shooting faster and farther away until we had all exceeded our abilities. I believe the gun had more potential than we did, in terms of speed and accuracy.



The pistol features a modular, removable back strap system for customizing the grip to individual shooters.

As my merry band of helpers departed, I took stock. We had fired 500-plus rounds of practice ammunition, and the FN 509 had suffered no malfunctions. While I had taken the gun apart to inspect it prior to shooting, I did not apply any oil or perform any maintenance; it went from box to range without fail.

I wanted to test the accuracy of the FN 509, so I put a target out at 20 yards and made some marks with my sharpie. What I discovered was that the gun will do its part if you can do yours. I chose three loads from three

separate brands, and the table of my results shows that the gun performed consistently with all the ammunition choices.

The FN 509 is going to be a factor in LE gun purchases. I also predict that it will be the pistol that gains FN widespread acceptance in the civilian market. I hope that FN has already loaded the distribution chain to avoid the wait time we often see for new guns.



Note the steel locking block and frame rails for strength within the polymer shell.

The Bottom Line

The 509 makes sense to me, and I welcome a new take on the polymer service pistol. It is clear to me that this gun is not lacking anything. This is a gun that I personally will be running, as it fits in a compact footprint with a full-sized capacity. You can get a gun developed for the military world, but refined for the civilian self-defense market. It will work equally well from either hand, without needing to change over parts. The price is competitive, and from a company that will stand behind their products. I think the 509 could be a serious competitor in the largest category going.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/mega-capacity-sig-sauer-p320-211-full-size-x-five-9mm-full-review/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20170612_BlogDigest_228&utm_campaign=/blog/mega-capacity-sig-sauer-p320-211-full-size-x-five-9mm-full-review/

A Mega-Capacity Sig Sauer P320? The 21+1 Full Size X-Five 9mm – Full Review.

by Justin Opinion on May 24, 2017

Top gun makers have churned out so many variants of their products over the past few years that it can sometimes be hard to keep up. SIG Sauer has certainly done its part to use every possible combination of letters and numbers in their SKU collection, making my safe bulge and my wallet shrivel. And just when we thought they might sit back on their laurels for bit – along comes another configuration of the P320 Series – the “X”. Available in three configurations: X-Carry, X-Five, and X-VTAC (a Talo exclusive). While they are all true P320 pistols at heart, they each sport a newly designed and shaped polymer frame, each has some amount of lightening cuts in the slide, and each caters to a different purpose of use. This review focuses on the [X-Five](#) – the full-sized competition oriented model that will be the flagship of this trio.

My first thought when reading the breaking news of this new lineup (right here on GunsAmerica, of course) was that SIG was making some neat looking cosmetic changes to the pistol and maybe a bell here or a whistle there. It wasn't until I received the test sample of the P320 X-Five and immediately tore it apart before I realized that the mad scientists at SIG had done much more than that! It is a P320, and shares the same internal serialized chassis (or fire control group) as the rest of the series. But in just about every other way it is a completely new and different gun.



SIG P320 X-FIVE

- Chambering: 9mm
- Barrel: 5" Heavy barrel
- OA Length: 8 ½"
- Weight: 34.7 oz (w/empty mag)
- Grips: Polymer
- Sights: Dawson Precision Adj.
- Action: Striker fired
- Finish: Nitron
- Capacity: 21+1
- MSRP: \$ 1,005.00

THE DESIGN AND SPECS

SIG has used the “X” moniker before, but for the P-Series steel framed pistols. Those guns are highly prized and jealously guarded by their owners. Bringing the “X” to a polymer framed gun certainly has created a high expectation. An expectation that I think SIG has met. Let's look at the overall build info.

Currently available only in 9mm, the striker-fired X-Five is a noticeably large handgun. Its 8½ inches of overall length flirts with the limits of allowable dimensions for IDPA, but it is the 6½ inches of height that make it a no-go for that sport. IDPA rules state that a gun must fit in a standard box with specific dimensions with the

longest magazine that will be used inserted in the gun. In the case of the X-Five, that magazine is a 21-round extended mag (of which a generous four are provided), which gives the gun its disqualifying height. I'll talk more about magazines in a bit. The pistol tips the scale at 34.7 ounces with an empty magazine. That's heavy for a polymer-framed gun, but there is a little secret lurking within that helps explain that. In the rear of the grip, just behind the magazine well (think of where a mainspring would be on a hammer-fired handgun) there is a block of metal inserted. I don't know for certain the metallurgical composition of the material, but it is non-magnetic so it's not steel. Add to that the extra heft of the bull barrel, and that helps explain why you're over two pounds even with all that material removed from the slide.



The pistol has a blockier overall shape than the original P320 as well as numerous upgrades and enhancements.

Although the slide itself is barely more than 1-inch wide, the ambidextrous slide stop/release control puts the maximum width at about 1.350 inches. The enhanced beavertail certainly accounts for some of the overall length, but we are still given a nice long sight radius of 6.8 inches. And those sights are Dawson Precision with the rear fully adjustable for windage and elevation, and the front contains a bright but very fine fiber optic. As mentioned, SIG redesigned the frame of this pistol to be SIGNificantly different from the standard P320 lineup. The X-Five is squarer and consists of lines and angles rather than curves. The pistol has a different feel than that of its siblings. I like it, but I might prefer the rounder ergonomics of the standard P320. "Differently good" is probably the best I can do to describe it at this point.

SIG put a flat trigger in the X-Five, in holding with the tradition of that name. It is also very much like the flat triggers of the Legion pistols. There is something about the flat trigger that makes me feel as if I'm pulling the front sight directly through the rear notch much better than usual. It could be all in my head, but I think not. At the break, the trigger is perfectly vertical – and this just feels like a natural finish position to my finger. There is a flared magwell extension that is worthy of a race gun, and acts as a funnel in which you can shove the next magazine. It is easily removable for those times you don't want it or can't have it. The magwell is steel and will take punishment. The slide has been lightened via three rectangular cutouts in the top, which is done to assure that lighter powered loads (typical for competition) will still cycle the action even with a recoil-managing spring.



The X-Five comes with four 21-round magazines. That's what I call match ready.

Shooting The P320 X-Five

The first thing I noticed when I started shooting the P320 X-Five was the sight picture. That makes sense, I suppose because that is where your visual attention tends to be, and your mind always gives priority to visual stimuli. But it also says a lot about what getting my attention, like the ergonomics of the gun. The X-Five slipped into my hand naturally and my finger found the trigger – right on the sweet spot. The hand goes up high on this gun naturally, and the elongated beavertail gives you a great wedge to lock into. The undercut trigger guard helps you keep the high hold with the best grip angle. So, with all of those important elements on auto-pilot for the time being I was able to concentrate on the sights. The Dawson Precision sights on the pistol are nice ones. The rear is a custom fit into the cutout that we're told will accept the Romeo1 optic if the sight is removed. I have a P320RX and was able to eyeball that size and shape, and it looks like it would indeed fit. What I didn't see was an easy way to remove the sight without making a project out of it, so I did not test the theory. The rear Dawson is blacked out (my preference on a match gun) with anti-glare serrations. It is fully adjustable for windage and elevation. The front sight, also a Dawson, is very narrow with a fine green fiber optic installed. There is ample air space between the front blade and rear notch to really focus on those precision shots. The sights seemed pretty well zeroed out of the box.



The flat trigger measured just under 5 lbs. on my scale, and helps promote good trigger control.

At some point during the shooting, perhaps while doing some “two to the body, one to the head” drills – I began to really notice the balance of the X-Five. The pistol has a very well-engineered balance that feels like 50/50. But what impressed me was that as I ran through magazines loaded with 21 rounds the balance didn’t seem to change. The gun got lighter of course, but it felt like a boat lifting in a rising tide – the bow and the stern rose as one. My simple non-engineer mind attributes that to the combination of the very heavy bull barrel and the added weight that has been tucked into the backstrap of the grip. It is also my understanding that these weights could be user-changed. That could mean serious balance customization for competitors.



The Dawson Precision sights are very well suited to competition or target shooting.



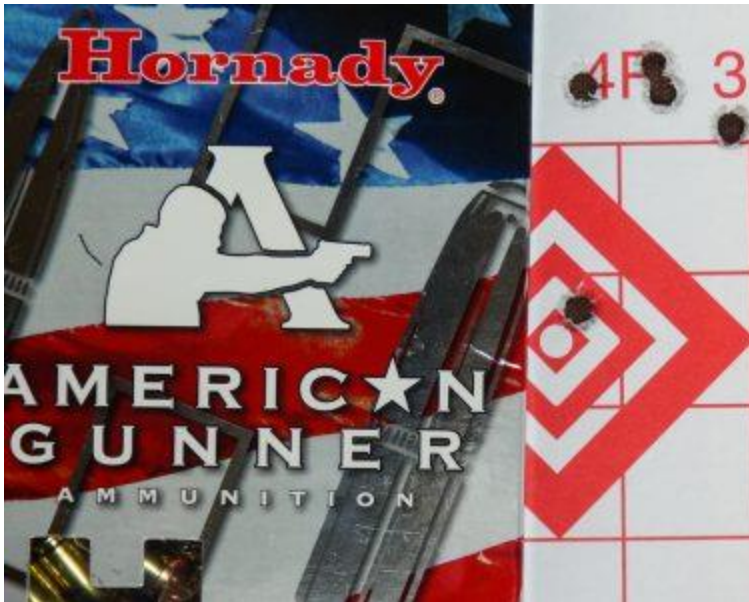
Helping with the weight and balance management of the X-Five are the lightening cuts in the slide.

25 Yard Best Performers
SIG Sauer P320 X-Five 9mm

Ammunition Brand	Ammunition Type	5-Shot Group (inches)	3-Shot Group (inches)
Hornady American Gunner	115 GR. XTP	1.946	0.558
Speer Gold Dot	115 gr. JHP	1.628	1.386
SIG Sauer Elite Performance	124 gr. V-Crown	2.157	0.620
Averages		1.910	0.855

The accuracy potential of the pistol seems to be the precision that the target consumers will demand. However, I did notice a fairly wide spread in results with different brands and types. The best groups at 25 yards were produced with Speer Gold Dot and SIG’s own V-Crown JHP ammo, while surprisingly the SIG Elite Performance FMJ ammo was erratic. I never did pin it down to a particular bullet weight or design.

My advice is to put in the time to match the ammo to the gun and it will shoot ragged hole groups all day. My own handload competition ammo performed great, with 124-grain plated round nose bullets and just enough powder to qualify – this should be encouraging. Never could get the gun to malfunction, no matter what I fed it.



The X-Five shot the tightest three-shot group with the American Gunner ammo from Hornady



The pistol shot its tightest five-shot group with the Speer Gold Dot load.

Compatibility

I would be remiss if I didn't offer some information and thoughts on the compatibility of the X-Five with the rest of the P320 line. First, holsters. If you have a P320 full size that came with a holster when you bought it – take heart, the X-Five will fit. There is a smidgeon of air space at the back of the trigger guard but the trigger is fully protected. The sight channel also is just barely large enough to accept the Dawson front sight, but it does. For my range work I used a Multi Holsters rig that was made for the P320RX, and it was a great fit. Magazines on the other hand, are not compatible between other P320s and the X-Five. At least not easily. The box magazine is identical to the extended 21-round P320 mags, but the baseplates are different. They could be swapped out, but unless you have a large supply already it might not be worth trying to get baseplates. The good news is that you can use the X-Five magazine in the P320. So, if you have both – or plan to have both – be sure

you buy 21-round X-Five magazines and you'll be good. The X-Five also shares a number of other parts with its fellow P320s, including the serialized chassis. Might there be future kits available to build different X-Fives?



The P320 X-Five is a serious competition package, not just a P320 “with extras”.

Just My Opinion

Seems like the X-Five is everything the hype indicated, and that's not always the case in the firearms industry. This gun is not just a slight variant of the P320, but is really a redesign of the way this modular system can be employed. SIG is no stranger to competition, even though they have greatly reduced their footprint in that arena. The company has not abandoned the handgun competitor – quite the contrary, in my opinion. I think the X-Five demonstrates SIG Sauer's willingness to offer a product to an enthusiastic segment that is not likely to drive high sales numbers. However, where I think SIG has missed the mark is to design a gun that disqualifies itself from IDPA, the leading shooting sport in terms of participation. Even with the magwell removed I could not use the 17 round magazine from a P320 in the X-Five. Swapping baseplates would not help because of the height of the plate. Perhaps flush-mount X-Five baseplates will be produced in the near future? I hope so, and I hope SIG sells them cheap. Or, perhaps they don't want to compete with themselves and figure the P320 has already become a strong contender in IDPA (I see them everywhere) but a USPSA or Steel Challenge type gun was needed. I won't second guess the development team on that one. You don't make a gun with all 21 round magazines to go after the IDPA market, where the maximum capacity for any gun is 10+1.



In addition to the usual P320 components, the X-Five sports a bull barrel, flat trigger, and speed magwell.



The 360-degree throating of the barrel all but guarantees no misfeeds.

If you're a SIG enthusiast, you'll want this gun. It's nice – very nice. If you're a USPSA or Steel shooter you need to give it a look too. There is much more to the P320 X-Five than first meets the eye.

https://gundigest.com/handguns/concealed-carry/gun-review-smith-wesson-mp45-shield?utm_source=wir&utm_campaign=gd-dwb-wir-170504-concealed&utm_content=941397_EDT_CC170504&utm_medium=email

Gun Review: Smith & Wesson M&P45 Shield

By Brian McCombie - April 18, 2017



Smith & Wesson's new M&P45 Shield packs the firepower of the potent .45 Auto cartridge into the manufacturer's classic single-stack carry pistol.

First introduced in 2012, the M&P Shield line of pistols has been a huge success for [Smith & Wesson](#), with the company selling 1 million Shields by November 2015. Slim and trim, the single-stack 9mm and .40 S&W models are a favorite with concealed carriers. But if there was one complaint, it was that the Shield wasn't available in a larger caliber. Until now.

At the NRA Annual Meetings, Smith & Wesson launched the M&P45 Shield chambered in .45 ACP. It is a bit heavier than previous models but has essentially the same proportions as its smaller-caliber cousins.

"We were often asked at trade and consumer shows, 'When are you coming out with a Shield in 45?'" said Jan Mladek, Smith & Wesson's director of marketing. "Listening to our consumers, combined with our own market research, made it clear that we needed to develop an M&P Shield to chamber the popular .45 Auto."



I received a 45 Shield for testing and can say without hesitation that it is accurate and reliable. It will be on many people's short list for carry, especially for those who want a smaller pistol with the ability to pack 6+1 or 7+1 rounds of the mighty .45 ACP.

For accuracy and function testing, the .45 Auto ammunition brands I used were American Eagle's Syntech 230-grain FMJ, Creedmoor Ammunition 230-gr. FMJ, and Remington UMC 230-grain FMJ.

Also, for general shooting practice and functionality, I added two more .45 ACP loads to the mix: Dynamic Research Technologies 150-grain HP frangible and SRPS Team Never Quit Ammunition's 155-grain HP frangible.

With well over 300 rounds through the M&P45 Shield, I experienced zero malfunctions. Every round fed fine and ejected positively; the slide stayed open when each magazine was empty.



The slide and the barrel on the .45 Shield are both stainless steel and are finished in black Armornite, a very durable and corrosion-resistant finish. The M&P45 Shield came with two seven-round magazines, one a flush-fit model, the other an extended model.

Once I began firing the pistol, the first thing I really noticed was the texture on the pistol's butt. As Mladek told me, "The 45 Shield has a new, more aggressive texture compared to our other Shield models, and it was developed for the heavier recoil of the .45 Auto round."

I find the recoil on most mid-sized 9mm and .40 S&W's snappy — sharp and mostly up — including Shields. The recoil on the M&P45 Shield is more substantial than these smaller calibers, of course! Yet, it's more of a shove back into the hand versus the snappy up-pulse of the 9mm and .40 S&W Shields. The new texturing on the .45 Shield grabs the skin of the hand in a way that directs the recoil more or less straight back toward the forearm.

Of course, there is muzzle flip. You are firing a .45 Auto load out of a 3.3-inch barrel, after all. But that texturing helps you get back on target quite fast.



Much of my range work with the new Shield was done in temperatures in the upper 80s and low 90s, with very high humidity. Sweaty hands didn't affect the superior grip on the Shield a bit. I also did my own "water test," pouring water onto my hand and the butt of the pistol, rubbing the water into the texturing and then popping off two magazines fairly fast. My grip was still rock solid; my hand might as well have been dry.

The M&P Shields were known for pretty good triggers, and Smith & Wesson went one better with the 45 Shield, incorporating a lighter, crisper trigger; the striker-firing system makes for a fast reset, too. The trigger is also hinged, and it won't pull back unless the tip is first engaged. A Lyman Trigger Pull Gauge measured the Shield's trigger pull at 5.6 pounds.



The M&P45

Shield can be had with or without a thumb safety. Mine had the safety, and it actually snapped in and out of the safe position with my thumb (not always the case with some semi-autos). The magazine release worked fine, popping out the magazine easily. I found the slide stop a little tough to engage at first. You have to move the slide all the way back to get it to engage, and it takes some practice to time the back movement of the slide with your finger pushing up on the slide stop.

PERFORMANCE

MANUFACTURER	AVG. VELOCITY (fps)	STD. DEVIATION	AVG. GROUP (25 yards)	AVG. GROUP (10 yards)
American Eagle Syntech .45 ACP 230-gr. FMJ	698	9.8	2.38 in.	1.56 in.
Creedmoor Ammunition .45 ACP 230-gr. FMJ	698	17.9	1.87 in.	1.50 in.
Remington UMC .45 ACP 230-gr. FMJ	698	9.2	2.42 in.	1.49 in.

Chronograph readings taken with a PACT Professional Chronograph XP measured at 5 yards.

To test accuracy, I did 25-yard shots from a rest, firing five-round groups and printing three to five groups per brand of ammunition. For a short-barrel semi-auto, I thought the accuracy was impressive. This was especially true with the Creedmoor Ammunition, a relative newcomer to the ammo industry, which laid in two five-shot groups at just over 2 inches, one at 1.83 inches, and — the overall winner of all the ammo tested — a 1.49-inch group.



I decided a more complete testing of accuracy would need to include the M&P45 Shield at closer ranges, too, so I did the same five-round groups with the same ammo brands at 10 yards, firing from a rest. Not surprisingly, groups shrunk, by nearly a full inch.

I also used the M&P45 Shield for my daily concealed carry for the better part of a week. I used an inside-the-waistband Sticky Holster (Model MD-4) and tucked it into the small of my back. I found the 45 Shield comfortable to carry. That aggressive texturing also makes it easier to grab onto and withdraw than a number of other carry pistols I have tried.

All in all, the Smith & Wesson M&P45 Shield is one fine pistol — slim and concealable, easy to use, accurate and packs that .45 Auto punch. I've got nothing against smaller calibers, but if an armed confrontation is coming my way? Well, in that case, I'd much prefer a carry pistol that can launch .45 ACP self-defense loads downrange versus 9mm or even .40 S&W. That's my personal preference, and it is a comforting one.

Specifications:

Smith & Wesson M&P45 Shield

Type: Semi-auto, striker-fired

Frame Size: Compact Slim

Caliber: .45 Auto

Capacity: 7+1, 6+1

Barrel: 3.3 in., stainless steel, Armornite finish

Overall Length: 6.45 in.

Trigger: 5.6 lbs. (as tested)

Sights: steel, white three dot

Width: 0.99 in.

Height: 4.88 in.

Grip: Polymer, textured
Weight: 20.5 oz. (empty)
Frame: Polymer
Slide: Stainless steel, Armornite finish
Finish: Black
MSRP: \$479
Manufacturer: Smith & Wesson

Editor's Note: This article is an excerpt from the December 2016 issue of [Gun Digest the Magazine](#).

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/taming-ten-reverse-recoil-10mm-kriss-vector-gen-ii-full-review/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20170417_BlogDigest_220&utm_campaign=/blog/taming-ten-reverse-recoil-10mm-kriss-vector-gen-ii-full-review/

Taming the Ten: A Reverse-Recoil 10mm? The KRISS Vector Gen II – Full Review.

by Justin Opinion on April 13, 2017

When it comes to firearms, there are many reasons to choose various kinds of guns related to the intended purpose of the tool. There are hunting guns, concealed carry guns, home defense guns, duty guns, competition guns, and collectible guns – just to name half a dozen. But when it comes to the pistol caliber carbine (PCC) those lines and reasons can become blurred, and the obvious use of the gun can be less obvious. Why one might want the size and weight of a long gun with the ballistic properties of a handgun is a topic worthy of the kind of debate that ends with the bartender saying, “You don’t have to go home, but you can’t stay here”.



The flat top of the Vector has 13” of Picatinny rail and includes the Magpul flip-sights. The author had ample room to mount his Aimpoint PRO.

The KRISS Vector revolutionized the PCC concept with the release of the first model, chambered in .45 ACP. A carbine in .45 ACP wasn’t very revolutionary – even Bonnie and Clyde had one of those – but what was revolutionary was the operating design of the Vector. KRISS created the “Super V” system that sends the bolt slightly rearward and then sharply downward during recoil. This bolt movement is accompanied by an inertia block and it sends significant recoil energy downward, rather than directly back to the shooter. The theory is that this not only reduces the felt recoil impulse, but also nearly eliminates muzzle lift. KRISS followed the .45 caliber with the offering of 9mm, as part of the Gen II redesign.



The Vector field strips easily and without tools, simply by removing four pins.

All the while, I was admiring the KRISS Vector from afar, being curious and appreciative of its design but never having an opportunity to shoot one, or feeling overly compelled to acquire it. Back to the argument about why to own a PCC, for me it has always been considered a range toy with some prospect for home defense. Most handgun ammunition is engineered to optimize its performance in handguns, and most handguns have barrels less than five inches. While a rifle length barrel can and does usually increase velocity a little bit, it is usually not significant enough to alter the effectiveness of the round. There are some exceptions, however, and the one that always comes to mind for me is the 10mm round. Properly loaded, the 10mm leaves a pile of unrealized performance on the table when fired from a handgun, even one with a six inch barrel. But put that same powerhouse cartridge through a 16-inch barrel that allows for full burn and optimized gas push, and you might be talking about a real increase in performance. At the same time, the weight and operating properties of a carbine absorb much of the energy of a hot round. And finally, the Super V system of the Vector sending that energy downward and not back into the shooter – makes this the perfect marriage of carbine and pistol caliber. The announcement that KRISS was going to offer the Vector in 10mm got me out of my chair. Now I'm more than just interested! I have to try this one!



KRISS VECTOR CRB

- Chambering: **10mm**, 9mm, 45ACP
- Barrel: 16" Black Nitride finish
- OA Length: 35.25" – 38.5"
- Weight: 8.0 lb.
- Grips: Polymer (MOE)
- Sights: Polymer flip-up (Magpul)
- Action: Closed bolt, delayed blowback
- Finish: N/A as tested
- Capacity: 15+1 (as tested)
- MSRP: \$ 1,519

THE SPECS

The Vector is available in several configurations: the SBR (short 5 ½-inch barrel rifle); the SDP (pistol with arm brace); and the one being looked at here, the CRB (carbine with 16-inch barrel). Oh wait, I forgot to mention the SMG... which is the submachine gun variant. Available only to military and law enforcement – darn it. While I agree that there is a place for the SBR in a pistol caliber, I prefer the full-length barrel. Arguably the SBR is a more maneuverable tool for home defense, but with a 5.5-inch barrel I don't see any advantage over a Glock 40. But speaking of the Glock 10mm handgun – the standard G20/G40 magazine is the feeding device used in the KRISS Vector. While it would be nice to have a 30-round magazine available, I take my solace in knowing that I can always get the G20 mags at good prices with immediate delivery. And if the sales of the 10mm Vector are healthy, I'm sure KRISS will eventually offer an extension, as they do for the .45 ACP.

The 16-inch barrel on the CRB is not a replaceable/changeable part – at least not for the unskilled. The carbine consists essentially of the original 5.5-inch barrel with a permanently attached extension to 16 inches. Enthusiasts who like to tinker and transform their rifles might find this objectionable. And while the faux-suppressor looking barrel shroud can be removed, the barrel is not threaded – making your suppressor options “faux or no”. If these two issues are insurmountable for you, then the SBR version is for you. I prefer the ballistic performance, so I'm okay with it.



The bolt, inertia block, and recoil spring assembly. Unconventional – but effective.

The action is operated by delayed blowback, and the bolt pushes an inertia block downward just behind the shooter's support hand and then a recoil spring returns it up and forward, stripping and feeding the next round and locking the bolt into battery. This placement of the action just behind the magazine and shooter's support hand theoretically optimizes the balance and stability there and helps reduce the recoil impulse further. I do try to avoid the over-use of adjectives, clichés, and buzzwords – but this does qualify as a revolutionary innovation. But it hasn't been without its trials and tribulations. The first generation Vectors were reported to have

numerous malfunction consistencies and many considered the gun to be little more than an expensive conversation piece. Good manufacturers pay attention to what's going on in the field and listen to their customers and detractors, and make changes. KRISS did just that, and made a number of design changes for the Gen II Vector. Those changes include deleting the flashlight port out front, adding some optional Cerakote finishes, redesigning the pistol grip and buttstock to Magpul furniture, some redesign of the trigger and safety, etc. Far more than a simple cosmetic makeover.



Located just in front of the action, the magazine well takes standard Glock mags and is nicely textured for grip.

ERGONOMICS AND FURNITURE

The ergonomics of the KRISS Vector Gen II are certainly different from the ubiquitous AR platform. But as true as that is, and as different as the design is, the carbine is remarkably intuitive to shoot and operate.

The KRISS Vector might look a bit like a duck-billed platypus, but the feel of the gun and the placement of the controls is generally intuitive and comfortable. As noted, the furniture is primarily Magpul polymer components, specially made for the Vector. The signature appearance of the pistol grip is probably enough to make that connection, but if you turn the carbine upside down and see the “MOE” stamp on the cover of the grip story area, all doubts are gone. The collapsible M4 style stock has six positions. It sits on a mil-spec tube that is fastened with a traditional castle nut. The stock is good quality and has a nice rubber butt pad. But if you prefer the Gen I folding stock, you can buy one and swap it out – they are compatible. In fact, the right side of the lower receiver still has the catch to latch the folding stock to. One important thing absent from the stock, for me, is some padding. I’ll go into why in a bit, when I talk about shooting the Vector.



A questionable choice was making the ejection port out of plastic. You can already see wear from ejected cases. KRISS even warns in the manual that when field stripped the hammer could break it if the trigger is pulled.

The unique design of the Vector also provides a natural grip area for the support hand. In fact, there are really two – one vertical and one horizontal. The front of the magazine housing is nicely textured for grip and is large enough and wide enough that it makes a comfortable hold point for people with nearly any size paw. Just in front of that, the grip curves into a horizontal section of Picatinny rail. If you opt to leave that rail empty, it offers a nice second hold point. You can also attach a vertical grip here, as many do. One of the most common complaints about the Vector is that the bolt-hold lever can be accidentally depressed by the shooter's grip and inadvertently cause a stoppage by locking the bolt back prematurely. I experienced this for myself a few times, and became mindful of where I was placing my hand. I have small to medium sized hands, so I can imagine this is a more serious issue with bigger folks. Making me wonder why KRISS doesn't just put a vertical grip on the Vector right off the bat. They even show one being used in their own marketing photos! Was it a big problem for me? No. But I can understand how it might be for some.

This brings me to the next frequently heard complaint about the controls placement on the KRISS carbines – the magazine release. It seems to be a common concern that the forward grip hand is going to depress the magazine release button and unintentionally drop the magazine. The placement of the control certainly makes that a legitimate concern, but no matter how hard I squeezed or at what angle I placed my forward hand, I could not make that happen. Your mileage may vary, but I'm calling that a non-issue. But in terms of using the mag release for its intended purpose, it is one of the best. It has just the right amount of resistance without being too stiff, and the button is large and serrated. Using the left thumb to press in the button and then sweeping the hand downward to strip out the empty magazine is effective and very efficient.



This illustration, taken from the KRISS website, shows the unique design of the action. Image courtesy of KRISS.

The fire control group on the KRISS Vector is somewhat of an oddity, or at least a departure from the conventional. The trigger is part of the upper receiver and is located above the bore axis. The hammer swings down like a pendulum to strike the firing pin. Think of it this way – a traditional hammer swings like... well, like a hammer! The pivot is at the bottom and the striking force is at the top. The Vector is the reverse of this, like a croquet mallet – with the pivot at the top and the striking force at the bottom. Mechanically there is no difference... it's just not what we're used to. The trigger itself is a decent one. The shape and length of the trigger are helpful in easily finding that sweet spot. The trigger is more flat than most, helping to give the stroke a more linear feel. It breaks at a pretty crisp 6 lbs. and the reset is decently short and very tactile. If I were going to consistently shoot groups with this 'rifle', I would want some tuning done to lighten it and take out some of the creep, but for a PCC and its applicable uses I find it sufficient.



The barrel shroud is designed to improve the looks of the Vector. While it might resemble a suppressor, it is not one.

The Vector has an ambidextrous safety. One of the changes from Gen I to Gen II was to shorten the required stroke of the safety, which now requires only about a ¼ throw. I find the location of the lever somewhat awkward. It seems like it needs to be either lower or further forward... or something. I often used my trigger finger to manipulate it rather than my thumb. The charging handle and bolt catch are paired together on the carbine very nicely, and work together exceptionally well. The charging handle folds close to the body of the gun when not in use, and the operator pulls it briskly to the rear to draw back the bolt, and then releases it to allow the internal spring to push the bolt forward, strip a round from the magazine, and lock the bolt in battery. However, if you are using the charging handle to clear the firearm or to lock the bolt open, you can simply press in on the bolt catch when you reach the rear of the charging stroke. It is intuitive and simple to do, unlike the contortions I find myself in trying to lock the bolt open on many semi-auto rifles. To release the bolt, you simply press the other end of this see-saw type lever. Easy peasy.



The Gen II stock does not fold, but can easily be replaced with the original folding stock, via a single pin.

SHOOTING THE VECTOR

Until I received my copy of the KRISS Vector and started range work for this review, I had never touched one before, so this was truly a first for me. This gives me the advantage of putting words down after a fresh and somewhat different experience – and the experience of shooting the Vector, at least in 10mm, is different. Let's start with recoil. If you read the industry hype and marketing material, it will have you believing that you can't tell the KRISS from an Airsoft replica recoil wise, due to the "V-Power" action design. As already described, this system sends significant energy downward rather than straight back into the shooter's shoulder. And that is true. But that does not mean there is no recoil, or that it is insignificant. Again, we're talking 10mm here. I'm sure the 9mm version is an entirely different experience. After just a few magazines I became aware of something that I was not used to – pain in my cheek. In fact, by the end of the first day of shooting, my right cheek was so sore that it hurt without touching it.

Being the curious type, and knowing I would have to describe this to you, I have a theory. Ever since the first person shouldered a gunpowder fired weapon (back in ancient China presumably), that connection of long gun to shoulder has been the common pivot point. When the gun recoils, the energy is pushed straight back (mostly, because things like grip and the shape of the gun come into play) into the shooter's contact point. The shooter becomes a barrier to that motion, which then pushes the energy upward and gives us the muzzle lift we are all used to.



Note that the trigger is slightly above the bore. This puts the shooter's grip much higher than a conventional rifle or carbine.

The Vector sends a majority of that energy downward at a steep angle to help reduce muzzle lift. And it works. But the laws of physics are not repealed and all that energy must dissipate. What brings the bolt back into battery is a recoil spring that sends it up and forward with sufficient force. That energy lifts the gun back upward and slightly forward. So, what you have is an almost rocking motion (that can be plainly seen in slow motion video) that sends the butt of the gun not straight back, but downward and then sharply upward. It is literally smacking you in the face with every shot. I tried holding tighter, altering my position, everything I could think of. I immediately did an Internet search for a pad to place on the top of the stock. At least for the 10mm version of this carbine, KRISS should install one as standard equipment. I found that raising the scope by using a spacer did help by giving me a much better position on the stock. It also gave me much better eye relief. The Vector's flat top sits very low.

Other than the part about going 3 rounds with Mike Tyson every time you take the Vector to the range, it shoots like a dream. The Super V system really does work as advertised in keeping the muzzle lift under control, and even with the potent 10mm round, follow up shots in quick succession are easy and stay right on target. The trigger, while certainly not match grade, is very good and is easy to control properly. The flip-up Magpul sights that sit on the 13" of Picatinny up top give you a nice sight picture and were close to zero out of the box. Aside from the tendency to sometimes interfere with the bolt catch by placement of the support hand, the controls are perfect and top quality. There were no malfunctions of any kind with over 400 rounds down range.



The forward grip area is convenient and comfortable, but many users find that their support hand interferes with the magazine release and bolt catch.

The 10mm round is one of the most inherently accurate pistol calibers. It is also, in this writer's opinion, one of the few pistol calibers that can truly benefit from the carbine. First, let's look at the accuracy of the Vector with an assortment of ammo. At 25 yards doing sight-in work, I was able to refine the combination of the Vector and the Burris AR-5.56 scope to printing consistent all-holes-touching groups. Moving out to 50 yards, things opened up considerably but still made respectable groups with most ammo, the best being the LAX 180 grain and the SIG Sauer Elite Performance 180 grain – both jacketed flat points. Just for fun, I moved to the 100 yard range but with low expectations. Those expectations were right on the money – because at the century mark using the LAX ammo, the hits were literally all over the target. The good news is that none of them missed paper. My tests are certainly not conclusive or anywhere near exhaustive, but I would recommend this PCC for inside 50 yard use – which is pretty much what most PCC's are intended for. I achieved essentially the same group size results with the Aimpoint PRO mounted at 50 yards as I did with the Burris, further strengthening my opinion that it is ideal for close quarters to medium range.



The six-position buttstock is good quality and standard M4 compatible. Note the traditional castle nut attachment.

50 Yard Results - Rested
KRIS Vector Gen II 10MM

Ammunition Brand	Ammunition Type	5-Shot Group (inches)	3-Shot Group (inches)
SIG Sauer Elite Performance	180 gr. FMJ	2.135	1.149
LAX (bulk packed)	180 gr. FMJ	1.243	0.427
Remington UMC	180 gr. FMJ	4.218	1.330
SIG Sauer Elite Performance	180 gr. JHP	3.308	2.512
Averages		2.726	1.355

I mentioned that the 10mm round is one that can benefit from the added length of a pistol caliber carbine. There are a few schools of thought on stretching the barrel for handgun ammo: First, that the extra barrel will create more friction and thereby slow the velocity of the round; second, that the added burn time behind the projectile will increase the velocity significantly; and third, some folks don't think it matters either way. My opinion on this, based part on observations and part on my own sense of logic, is that most handgun ammunition is loaded to optimize its performance in a handgun. A 4" to 6" barrel is most common and likely the range the ammo is developed to unless it's a boutique load. Why? Because the big ammo makers want their ammo to perform well in the guns that are going to shoot 99% of it, and they also don't want to see money flying out of the end of your barrel in the way of unburned powder or big fire balls. So, adding length to the barrel for 9mm may not pay huge dividends, but for a hot round like the 10mm it can. To prove this, I tested the LAX ammo – first through the Glock 40 with a 6" barrel, and then

through the KRISS Vector with its 16" barrel. I intended to test several ammo types, but due to a mishap that stopped that work, I wasn't able to. Watch the companion video review for that. From the Glock, the LAX produced 1128 fps average velocity (5 shots at a distance of 12 feet). The same ammo yielded an average of 1327 fps when fired from the KRISS. That's roughly 18% more velocity and that is nothing to sneeze at. It should be noted that the number for the Vector was only the average of two shots. If you want to see a bonehead gun writer shoot his own chronograph... watch the video.



The charging handle is sturdy and well located. Operation is simple and allows the shooter to easily lock the bolt open.

JUST MY OPINION

I am a fan of the pistol caliber carbine for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that they are great fun at the range, and make viable home defense weapons. What has interested me about the KRISS from the onset was the unique approach to its design and the willingness to innovate. Some of the early concerns for reliability have been well addressed with the Gen II, as well as improvements to the ergonomics. In 10mm, the recoil of the carbine is not unlike an AR-15 in snap, but the Vector system makes it more a bounce than a push straight back. This took some getting used to while I got a sore cheekbone from it. But after some adjustments to the equipment and my technique that improved. The KRISS Vector sits at the high end of the price range for a PCC, and that may deter many would-be adopters in the civilian market.



A big change for the Gen II was to significantly shorten the stroke of the manual safety from 120 degrees to just 45.

I find the gun to be mostly out-of-the-box ready, but I will be adding a vertical grip immediately to avoid some of the areas where controls and my grip are competing for real estate. I think it would be a smart addition for KRISS to put one in the box. The use of Glock magazines seals the deal, making them plentiful, affordable, and reliable. In this respect, the lack of innovation is to be applauded.

For me, the Vector excels with a good red dot sight on it and an expected use of less than 50 yards. Inside that circle, this would be a defensive option that is hard to beat, especially with some hot JHP loads. The gun ran everything I fed it with no stoppages or malfunctions of any kind. For 9mm, I think there are better options that weigh less and cost less, but in .45 ACP and especially in 10mm the KRISS Vector Gen II has set the bar.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/easy-diy-gun-refinishing-step-step-review-duracoat-aerosol/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20170417_BlogDigest_220&utm_campaign=/blog/easy-diy-gun-refinishing-step-step-review-duracoat-aerosol/

Easy DIY Gun Refinishing? A Step-by-Step Review of DuraCoat Aerosol.

by Ian Kenney on April 12, 2017

Just as some people like to work on their own cars, I like to work on my own guns because the process can be fun and rewarding. One project that I like to do from time to time is to refinish firearms to give them a better appearance and long-lasting protection. For most of my refinishing projects, DuraCoat has been my go-to brand for a number of years for many reasons. For the longest time, DuraCoat only came in a two-part finishing system that required you to mix the paint and hardener at specific ratios and it could be kind of intimidating for first timers. Then there were the additives to thin the mixture out or help give it a more matte appearance but again, it required specific mixing ratios so that everything cured properly. A few years ago DuraCoat introduced a product that would change all of that and greatly simplify the process for the do-it-yourselfer, [DuraCoat Aerosol](#). This is literally DuraCoat in a can that makes the process of refinishing a firearm about as easy as 1,2,3. Follow along as I go through the process of refinishing a [Mossberg 590](#) using DuraCoat's Aerosol product.

DuraCoat, The Paint

As I mentioned before, at its heart DuraCoat is a two-part urethane finish that utilizes a paint and a hardener that has been mixed and sprayed onto the surface of an object. The properties of DuraCoat that I appreciate as it applies to the hobbyist is that it is an air cure product that doesn't require any specialized equipment. There's no need for a curing oven or blast cabinet, pretty much all of the necessary equipment can come from the local hardware store. When properly applied, DuraCoat dries to the point that you handle the parts within an hour and within 24 hours you can reassemble the painted items. After that initial 24 hours the finish is impact- and chemical-resistant enough for use, however over the course of two weeks, on its way to being fully cured, the properties of the finish gain most of their strength.





When all of the paint has been removed, it is time to prep the components by cleaning, degreasing and taping off the areas you don't want paint to go.

Almost as important as having the right materials to work with is having a good space to use for painting. I prefer to paint in the garage because it offers good lighting, good ventilation, and plenty of space for me to work. It's important to have good ventilation any time that you are refinishing a firearm or accessory because it's no fun to get a headache or become nauseated from the paint fumes. I also learned the hard way that while the outdoors provide plenty of space, it doesn't pay to try to paint outside unless the conditions are just right. I can almost assure you that the wind will blow dirt or debris into the paint and it's likely to catch a stray insect as well. In the garage, I prefer to work off a small card table because it keeps the items up off the ground as I'm getting them ready and afterward while I'm reassembling everything. I prefer to hang the items to paint; I use an old photography background frame but there are lots of different ways to skin that cat. Just make sure that what you are using is strong enough to support the items and stable enough not to be easily knocked over.

Before we can apply the DuraCoat we want to ensure the surface is free of grease, oils, rust, or anything else than can inhibit paint adhesion. In the particular case of this Mossberg 590 shotgun, I had previously coated it with an OD Green Krylon—nothing fancy, but it had to be removed completely. To accomplish this I used Citistrip paint stripper as it's easy and safe to use indoors, but there are a number of methods that can be used to strip semi-permanent paints from materials. The aim of this article though is to talk about the necessary steps to use DuraCoat so I'm not going to dwell on the topic of stripping the paint anymore.



Cotton rounds and regular acetone do a good job of cleaning the metal and getting it prepped to accept the DuraCoat.

After the paint has been stripped off but before I could begin prepping the surface of the metal I put those nitrile gloves on so that my hands didn't contaminate the surface. Using the scuffing pad, available in just about any hardware or grocery store, I rubbed the surface of the receiver, barrel, and anything else I was going to paint. The aim was to roughen the surface to give it some texture and something for the paint to bite onto. I only needed to scuff the surface of the material, not go all the way down to bare metal, so this is a pretty quick process.

Cleaning and degreasing the surface of the material is a vital step to making sure the end result is a clean-looking paint job. I like to use acetone since it's readily available but you can just as easily use denatured alcohol as well to make sure the surface is clean and dry. I used cotton rounds, the type used for make-up, which you can abscond with from your wife's side of the vanity or just go buy at the store. I soaked the rounds with acetone and I only used a single cotton round for one or two passes before I discarded it. The reason was that by continually using clean cotton rounds I could gauge how clean the surface was. It took about five or ten minutes to get the surfaces clean and ready for the next step of sealing off any areas that I didn't want DuraCoat to get into. I used a combination of quality blue painter's tape and Play-Doh to seal off the muzzle, chamber, action and magazine tube. The Play-Doh and tape will ensure that I have good clean lines when it's all said and done.



After the final coat of paint, the parts can hang for about an hour to then be dry to the touch.

Now, Get To Painting

The moment had finally arrived. The parts of the 590 had been stripped, cleaned, degreased, taped off, and were ready to be DuraCoated. Believe it or not, this was pretty much the beginning of the easy part since a majority of the time doing a refinishing job is in the preparation.

The DuraCoat Aerosol can needed a fair bit of shaking to get it ready, a few minutes before releasing the hardener inside the can and a few minutes after to mix the paint and hardener together. From this point, the mechanics of using the aerosol can are just the same as using a normal can of spray paint. I like to keep the nozzle anywhere from 10 to 12 inches from the surface of the material and use smooth, deliberate passes over the surface. I wanted the paint to build up gradually, going too fast and trying to cover the entire surface in one go will result in blemishes in the paint that have to be corrected later. After each coat I gave the paint about five to ten minutes to flash off before starting the next coat of paint. The time between coats can be reduced by using a regular blow dryer to help the paint flash a little quicker making the time between coats more like three to five minutes. I try to go slow and move around the materials that are hanging up so that I'm getting equal coverage all over the parts. In between coats, I inspected the parts with a bright LED flashlight that would reveal any thin spots that needed to be addressed. This process of spraying and inspection went on until I was satisfied that the parts had a sufficient coating of DuraCoat. After this I let them hang overnight before coming back and reassembling the parts back into a functional Mossberg 590.



It took almost the entire can of DuraCoat Aerosol to finish the Mossberg.



DuraCoat Aerosol is available in a wide range of color options.



The author selected “Combat Gray” for the Mossberg project.



By applying coats lightly so they build up a little each time allows small details like this Mossberg logo to show up.

Final Thoughts

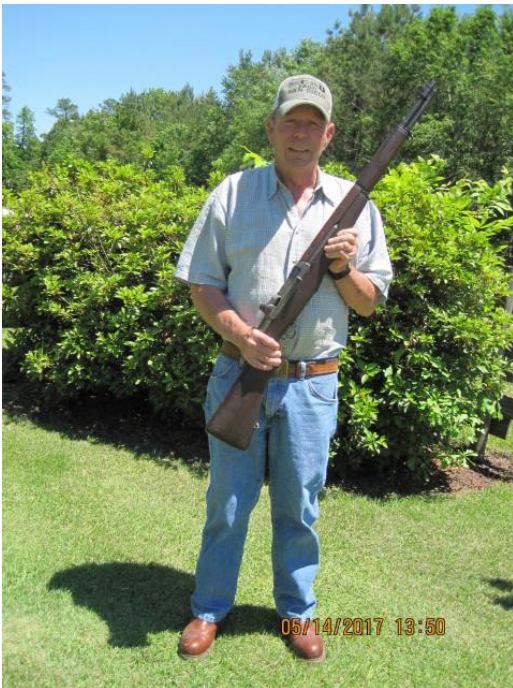
As you can probably tell from the photos this refinishing project finished up very well, the Mossberg has a new look that is both durable and resists corrosion. The Aerosol paint made the entire process much easier and from start to finish, this project was easily accomplished in a weekend. If there's one criticism that I have for the DuraCoat Aerosol product is that it doesn't seem to have the volume of their paints that come in the bottles. The can of paint that I had was enough to do the barrel, receiver, magazine tube, rear sight guard, and the magazine cap of the Mossberg with a little left over for any touch ups. In my opinion, this makes the Aerosol product perfect for jobs like refinishing an AR-15 receiver set, the barreled action of a rifle, or a couple of pistols. Any more than that, such as adding in a stock, hand guard, or other accessories would almost dictate needing another can. DuraCoat Aerosol retails for right around \$40 and is available in over 300 colors, which I think makes it ideal for anyone looking to give their firearms and accessories a new look or match an existing color scheme.

Man Reunited with Rifle from His Youth with Help from the CMP

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

Pat Farmer hadn't felt the weight in his hands in almost 60 years. After five decades, the memories flooded back as his fingertips grazed the wood of the stock and gripped it tightly. It was a piece of his personal history, and the history of his country, that his eyes hadn't seen since he was a teen – and now, it's a relic he'll be able to keep for the rest of his life.

“I had never dreamed it would be in the CMP (Civilian Marksmanship Program) warehouse,” he said. “I had just hoped to possibly start a search beginning with the CMP.”



After almost 60 years, Pat Farmer was reunited with the M1 Garand he used while serving his country.

The 74-year-old from Jacksonville, N.C., is a retired military member who served 26 years in the armed forces. He was raised on a farm in Nebraska where he became familiar with guns at an early age, but his first true rifle range experience wasn't until he entered the U.S. Marine Corps after high school.

As a teen, Pat became impressed by the Marines and enlisted his senior year on a delay program. On Aug. 30, 1960, he officially left for the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif., to attend boot camp – where he celebrated his 18th birthday, unfortunately, without a cake.

Upon arrival he was issued M1 Garand #4305638. The firearm soon became a close companion as he spent countless hours with it on the "Grinder" – a Marine Corps term for a deck or parade ground used for drill and formations.

Pat was eventually selected for aviation school after infantry training and shot on the rifle team while attached to a Reserve unit. He went on to shoot expert rifle at the Camp Mathews rifle range, what is now known as the University of California in the San Diego neighborhood of La Jolla, and he also shot competitively at a local club.

“It was some of the best and most rewarding years of my life,” he said.

Many years later, Pat one day went through an old locker box and found his custody receipt from Jan. 27, 1961, when he turned in his boot camp rifle before transferring to aviation school. Curiosity set in as he wondered whatever became of M1 Garand #4305638 – and the idea of finding it overcame him.

“I had purchased a few rifles from the old DCM and also CMP, so on a whim I decided to contact CMP to see if my old M1 had ever passed through their system,” he explained.

In October 2013, he contacted CMP customer service and was put in touch with Jennifer Smith, the serial number/inventory clerk. To Pat’s amazement, he soon learned that the very same rifle he used in boot camp was being stored at the CMP facility, but was still Army property. Unable to distribute the rifle until the Army formally turned it over to the CMP, Jennifer informed Pat that it may take some time until he’s able to see his rifle again.

With 32 requests currently held at the CMP, Jennifer says individuals often call looking for rifles that they or a family member carried during a time of military service. Unfortunately, with thousands of them around the world and heavy restrictions, success in locating specific rifles is rare. Of course, the staff members within CMP still do everything they can in the hopes of finding each distinct rifle.

“I have been in the serial number/inventory department for approximately eight years, and there have only been about five rifles that have been reunited,” Jennifer said. “If we do not find the rifle in our current inventory when we are contacted, we keep the serial numbers and periodically will search again in case it has been received in new shipments.”

As she explains, a rifle can be tagged for an individual if it’s in inventory. At that point, it’s still a waiting game until the day the Army releases the item to the CMP. After being released, staff members are able to verify the serial number, inspect and grade the rifle, then send it off for purchase.

Unfortunately, as in the case of Mr. Farmer, it can take years for the process to carry out, depending on how deep the crate is buried in the warehouse.

After Pat heard that CMP indeed had his rifle, he was anxious to get it back but understood the possibility of a long delay.

“He was very patient,” Jennifer remarked.

Pat was in contact with Jennifer about every six months to see if anything had changed – if his rifle had been released. Then, a little over three years later on March 20, 2017, true to her word, Jennifer contacted Pat and told him the Army had released more rifles – including his.

After a short period of processing and grading, on April 24, 2017, Jennifer contacted Pat again, asking him to send in his paperwork so he could, after 56 years, be issued his rifle again.

Finally – a few weeks later, on May 8, 2017, Pat was reunited with M1 Garand #4305638.

“I was elated,” he said. “It felt familiar.”

“Fifty-six years ago, we drilled and did the manual of arms with M1s as if they were matchsticks. It seems much heavier now!” he added, with a laugh.

Bringing it back to life, Pat began to fieldstrip the rifle. As he got to the trigger housing of the gun, he found something that he couldn’t believe – tape with his name and markings on it. It read, “Farmer 20/8L.” Pat believes it was his 500-yard “dope” – twenty clicks elevation, eight clicks left windage.



Pat plans to fire the M1 Garand he was recently reunited with, then store it in his safe and eventually pass it down to one of his grandsons.

The visible inscription is proof of the rifle’s limited use after it was issued to Pat. And now that it is back in his hands, he intends to give it a couple of nostalgic trigger pulls, then put it in a place where its history can be admired for years to come.

“I’m going to shoot a few rounds, clean it and put it in the safe,” he said. “I’ll take it out occasionally, and try to do the manual of arms correctly. One of my grandsons will eventually get it.”

Pat also mentioned his heartfelt ‘Thank You’ to the CMP for everything the staff managed to do to make the reunion possible, but he especially acknowledges Jennifer for her patience and all of her help in getting back a sentimental piece of his life.

“Searching our records for past service rifles is only a small part my duties, but it is one of the most rewarding ones,” Jennifer said. “While anyone in our department could have assisted Mr. Farmer, I am glad it was me who was able to do so. I was able to share his story with my family, and it helped show them why the CMP, and my job here, is so special.”

Jennifer says that she has personally been able to help reunite three individuals with their M1s during her time at the CMP, confessing each story has been special. Not only does she keep these individuals in her memory,

she also keeps pictures of each of them with their rifles in her office to remind her of the unique and life-changing benefits her job can provide.

“It is very rewarding to be able to reunite someone with a part of their past that they thought had been lost forever,” she said. “It is not just the rifles, but the stories and memories surrounding them that make them so sentimental to an individual.”

“Not many people have the opportunity to reunite someone with a piece of history after fifty-six years,” she added.

If you have a serial number carried by you or a close relative that you think might be stored within the CMP warehouse, feel free to contact the Civilian Marksmanship Program and Jennifer Smith at jsmith@thecmp.org.

[From Cargo Member Rod McCoy in April:](#)

ATF NRT Activated to Investigate Lake City Army Ammunition Plant Explosion

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. — The National Response Team (NRT) of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) arrived on-scene Wednesday to join agents from the Kansas City Field Division to investigate the fatal explosion that happened early Tuesday afternoon at the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant.

The explosion killed one plant employee and caused significant damage to a production area. The Lake City plant manufactures the majority of small arms ammunition used by all branches of the U.S. Military.



<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/447224/nra-child-gun-safety-program-left-slams-even>

Fearing Eddie the Eagle

Atlanta — At the National Rifle Association’s annual meeting this Friday, one of the featured speakers was former White Sox first baseman Adam LaRoche, who famously quit professional baseball when his team wouldn’t let his son Drake join him in the team clubhouse before and after games. LaRoche talked about the importance of fatherhood, his joy in teaching his son hunting, and his work with charities fighting sex trafficking. His remarks concluded, Chris Cox, executive director of the NRA’s Institute for Legislative Action, gave father and son gifts on behalf of the organization, a pair of Daniel Defense AR-15 rifles with suppressors.

Cox made a quick joke about how the gift of the gun to the younger LaRoche was just to annoy the media, and there was a knowing chuckle throughout the crowd.

In a post-Columbine world, quite a few Americans are unnerved by the sight of any gun, even unloaded, in the hands of anyone who doesn’t look like an adult. At the NRA convention’s massive floor show, it is not hard to find parents — usually dads — walking around with their kids and holding up and getting a feel for the various models. (The firing pins are removed from all firearms on display, and they cannot be fired.)

Guns cannot be purchased directly at the convention; browsers window-shop and, if they find one they like, apply later at a federally licensed gun dealership, where background checks are required. These licensed gun dealers cannot sell any firearm or ammunition to any customer the dealer “knows or has reasonable cause to believe is less than 18 years of age.”

Despite the lack of danger — the only way those guns could harm the child or anyone present is if they were dropped one on his toes — the image of a child with a gun hits a strong emotional chord in plenty of Americans. Numerous file photos of the convention from news agencies feature the perhaps unexpected image of a young child examining or holding up a firearm at the display of one among the multitude of gun manufacturers.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation offered a photo essay of the convention’s kids last year. Politico, MSNBC, and the Houston Chronicle all featured images of children holding guns — perfectly accurate photojournalism, but an image that no doubt was selected to stir a particular emotional response.

The New York Daily News featured a wide selection of these shots in 2013, denouncing the organization’s “Youth Day” as “sick” and quoting one activist: “They shouldn’t be teaching kids how to use guns. What happens when they get older? They might become like that Connecticut killer.” This position is as unreasonable as a nationwide ban on private gun ownership, with equally specious logic: Because of the actions of a particularly disturbed individual, no one should ever be taught how to use a gun. — ADVERTISEMENT —

Parents — usually fathers — have been hunting with their sons with firearms for about as long as there have been firearms. Most of America’s gun owners have the four universal rules of gun safety drilled into their head early on, and can recite them on demand:

- Always treat all guns as if they are loaded.
- Never point the gun at anything you are not willing to kill.

- Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on target (and you are prepared to shoot).
- Be sure of your target and what is beyond it or behind it.

If everyone in America followed these rules, we would never have an accidental shooting, ever. The National Rifle Association doesn't want young children handling guns, and so it runs the "Eddie Eagle GunSafe" program for schools, designed to teach kids four steps they should take if they find a gun: Stop, don't touch, run away, and tell a grown-up. This is absolute common sense, and the sort of message that every kid in the country should hear. Nothing in the program encourages kids to want guns, purchase guns when they're older, or shoot guns. The potential harm of a gun in the wrong hands — and unprepared hands are the wrong hands — is made clear.

Despite the utterly innocuous message, some voices on the left object to the Eddie Eagle program. In Jacksonville, a mother complained that she wanted to teach her children that "all guns are bad." She complained that "they've just undone seven years of parenting in one hour."

The same media voices who are relentlessly opposed to private gun ownership are largely unwilling to give the Eddie Eagle program any credit or praise, often hitting it with nonsensical criticisms. At the Huffington Post, Mike Weisser dismissed the program as a "cynical and craven marketing ploy." (Marketing what?) The Brady Campaign contends that Eddie Eagle "normalizes the presence of guns in kids' lives from a very early age." (Isn't telling the kids to run away from them and tell a grown-up the opposite of "normalizing" them?) Like everything else that doesn't fit with the worldview of the studio audience of a New York City comedy show, Eddie Eagle has been mocked by Samantha Bee. What's never quite explained is why the Eddie Eagle program is bad, or something to be opposed in schools.

One objection is that the Eddie Eagle program is insufficient; gun-control advocates point to a 2004 study involving eleven children ages four to five that concluded that kids would recite the safety rules but then not use them in real-life situations (when the children didn't know they were being monitored). But a 2007 study found that the program was effective "when paired with in-situ training [teaching the skill in the natural environment] for teaching firearm injury prevention skills to 8- and 9-year-old children."

Gun-control advocates contend that the proper way to prevent accidental shootings is to pass new laws punishing gun owners if they don't keep their guns in locked safes. That's debatable; what's never quite explained is why the Eddie Eagle program is bad, or something to be opposed in schools. Even the skeptical study of 2004 noted that the children all absorbed and recalled the safety rules.

It's just an article of faith that any NRA program involving children must be some sort of subtle indoctrination or manipulation. Where's the harm in having a giant anthropomorphic animal teaching kids to avoid touching guns and to report any abandoned firearm to the nearest responsible adult?

Everyone wants to see a world with no accidental shootings involving anyone, and particularly a world where no children are harmed by firearms. But America's gun owners have an opposition that won't cooperate, won't give them the benefit of the doubt, accuses them of sinister motives, and that actually tries to block their efforts in this area.

When the opposing side finds a six-foot-tall eagle mascot a menace, every child attending a gun show a potential mass shooter, and every safety presentation a nefarious trick to undo years of parenting, it's very hard to have a conversation, much less ever reach agreement.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/first-look-springfields-new-saint-ar-rifle-full-hands-review/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20170612_BlogDigest_228&utm_campaign=/blog/first-look-springfields-new-saint-ar-rifle-full-hands-review/

First Look! Springfield's New Saint AR Rifle – Full Hands-On Review.

by Clay Martin on June 11, 2017

Springfield Armory has just released an updated version of the SAINT <http://www.springfield-armory.com/saint-series/>, which is going to make a lot of people happy. All of the change is in the upper receiver, which gives the new version a much more modern feel. The original SAINT was built like a classic battle rifle, including an A-frame front sight post and a heat shielded hand guard. The hand guard had modern touches, like Key Mod, but it felt like the evolution of an original AR-15.



A folding iron sight is one of the features of the new SAINT rifle.

SPECS

- **Chambering:** 5.56
- **Barrel:** 16 inches
- **OA Length:** 35.5 inches
- **Weight:** 6 pounds 9 oz
- **Frame:** Aluminum
- **Grips:** BCM polymer
- **Sights:** folding
- **Finish:** Melonite
- **Capacity:** 30+1
- **MSRP:** \$1,029

The new version has gone with a low-profile gas block, which allows the use of a 12-inch free floating hand guard. The extra length is a lot more conducive to modern AR shooting technique, and features enough M-LOK slots for a swiss army knife of add-ons. The new hand guard lacks a heat shield, but that is the price of progress. In my testing, it was able to go about 90 rounds of rapid fire before it was no longer fun to hold, like pretty

much every other AR on the market. This is a far cry from the 7 magazine combat load mag dump I did on the original, but for most purposes that won't matter.

Article continued below:



The barrel of the new SAINT rifle is free-floated in the new railed hand guard.

The free-floating hand guard is secured with patent pending locking tabs, which makes me think other hand guard options will be released in the future. The top of the rail has integrated picatinny rail, so you have plenty of space for lasers etc. So that was the good.

Now, for the bad. No idea why Springfield Armory went with a 12-inch rail instead of a 14- or 15-inch rail. It does make a difference for shooting, at least if you are taller than 5'10". Maybe this was a weight savings for smaller people, but I wish it was longer. Those 2 inches do matter here, as they do a lot of places in life. The hand guard is also extremely small in diameter. With a wrist over grip, my fingers touch my thumb with ease. This might be a benefit to small handed shooters, but it also means your hand is very close to the barrel. Without heat shielding, that matters too. It might not make a huge difference in how long the gun is comfortable to shoot, but it makes some difference.



The new SAINT (top) has a rail-ready hand guard as opposed to the polymer hand guard of the original model (bottom).

The last thing on this list was the accuracy. I thought with a free float hand guard, the SAINT's groups might shrink a bit. I was only able to choke out one 1.5 inch group in my tests, with most groups around 2 inches at 100 meters. ([Freedom Munitions Pro Match](#) with a 77 grain Nosler projectile, in case you were wondering.) This was with the factory trigger and factory stock, which are not exactly ideal for precision work, so there is that. This is really close to the 1 3/8ths group I posted with the original SAINT, so it seems like the free float hasn't improved anything in this department. 1.5/ 2 inches isn't bad for a rifle at this price point (which, by the way is \$1,029), and certainly better than some. But it also isn't fantastic.



The new SAINT takes everything that was good about the original rifle and adds more.

For normal shooting conditions, I paired the new SAINT with [a Bushnell Elite Tactical SMRS 1×6.5](#) with an illuminated reticle. This is to me a pretty ideal set up, and the Bushnell is by far my favorite of the economy 1×6 market. 6.5 magnification is great for the realistic ranges of a rifle like this, and the 1x power on the Bushnell model is fantastic. The illumination is easily daylight bright, and in a cantilever mount the eye box is extremely forgiving. If you are looking for the one gun solution, and on a budget, the SAINT with the Elite Tactical is an excellent set up.



The SAINT features forged alloy upper and lower receivers for durability.

How about the rest? This is a pretty solid gun, and the market says people have been largely happy with the original SAINT. This is a lot of rifle for an MSRP of \$1,029, which pretty much assures a street price of under \$1,000. It has all the things we liked about the original SAINT, including the Nickel Boron coated trigger and BCM furniture. And now it has a modern upper receiver assembly.

Thank you,
Paul Curtis
President - CARGO
www.cargogunclub.org

"If you can read this, thank a teacher. For the fact that it is in English, thank a Veteran."

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