



# NRA LAW ENFORCEMENT QUARTERLY

## 2016 NRA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

It is with great honor and pride that the National Rifle Association recognizes Officer Jason F. Falconer, of the Avon Minnesota Police Department, for his valor, heroism and quick, life-saving actions by naming him the 2016 National Rifle Association Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

On the evening of September 17, 2016, Officer Jason Falconer was off duty in plain clothes at the Crossroads Mall, co-located in the City of St. Cloud and City of Waite Park.

While shopping, Officer Falconer's attention was drawn to two loud, sharp noises and saw some shoppers running and screaming. An individual dressed in a security uniform then walked up to him and asked him if he was Muslim. Officer Falconer answered no. As the individual turned, Officer Falconer could see that he had a large knife in each hand. Without hesitation for his personal safety, Officer Falconer immediately drew his concealed off-duty handgun, announced he was a police officer, and ordered him to drop the knives.

Unbeknownst to Officer Falconer, the subject had started a stabbing spree outside the mall, where he had asked numerous shoppers if they were Muslim, and if not, assaulted them, shouting "Allah Akbar." The suspect then entered the mall and continued stabbing 10 shoppers in all and punching many others in the head, back, neck and face. There was so much chaos that after-action reports showed that 95 separate 911 emergency calls came into the emergency communications center.

Rather than dropping the knives, the knifeman turned and ran through the mall and into a crowded major department store with Officer Falconer in pursuit. The suspect abruptly turned, stopped, and then laid down as instructed by Officer Falconer. Seeing that the knifeman had not dropped the knives, Officer Falconer kept ordering him to do so. Just as abruptly as the suspect had stopped, he jumped up and charged at Officer Falconer with the knives.

Coming under immediate attack, Officer Falconer fired his off-duty handgun several times at the suspect while backing up to create distance between them. Officer Falconer fell down briefly, and the knifeman fell after being struck, but he did not drop the knives.

Witnesses confirm that Officer Falconer continued to issue commands to the attacker to stay down and drop the knives, identifying himself as an off-duty officer verbally and by displaying his police badge while he kept the knifeman covered at gunpoint.

Just as the incident seemed to be over, the knifeman suddenly rolled off of the floor and began moving between clothing racks, circling as Officer Falconer continued to order him to drop the knives and get down. Instead, the suspect charged, with Officer Falconer firing additional rounds at him head-on. The suspect turned and walked backwards towards the officer, acting as though the rounds could not strike him if he was not facing the officer.

Surveillance videos and witnesses confirmed that, after several more hits, the knifeman fell to the floor on his stomach, only to get up on his hands and knees and crawl towards Officer Falconer with a knife in hand. The knifeman finally dropped face down, and Officer Falconer moved to a position to block the knifeman from the open area of the mall until responding police arrived.

Officer Falconer's heroic actions under the most stressful and confusing circumstances while off duty ended a crazed knifeman's melee, clearly saving lives and stopping the severe injury of countless innocent shoppers. His actions are a credit to himself, his department, and the community he serves and are in keeping with the highest traditions of law enforcement.



***"I join the 5 million members of the National Rifle Association in honoring Officer Falconer as the 2016 NRA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for his uncommon bravery, quick thinking and heroism," said NRA President Allan D. Cors. "Officer Falconer is the ultimate example of a law enforcement professional and responsibly armed citizen exercising his Second Amendment rights to not only defend himself, but to protect those around him from harm."***

Forms for nominating candidates for the NRA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award may be downloaded at <http://le.nra.org/documents/pdf/law/leoy.pdf>.

For more information about NRA's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award and its Law Enforcement Division, call (703) 267-1632 or send an e-mail to [LE@nrahq.org](mailto:LE@nrahq.org).



# LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SAFETY ACT

## A simple law we make complicated

BY GLEN HOYER  
DIRECTOR, NRA LAW ENFORCEMENT

As a career law enforcement officer, I can personally attest that we can be our own worst enemies. We're accustomed to building cases for court and take great pains to cross every "t" and dot every "i," and cover all the bases to make an airtight case. The more we document and the more detail we provide, the better our prosecutors liked it!

Then, along comes the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act. It's a simple law, and our federal legislature clearly wanted to allow qualified law enforcement officers the privilege of carrying a concealed firearm across the United States. What can go wrong? Well, there are a few things.

First, if an agency doesn't want its officers who meet the criteria to have the privilege afforded under LEOSA, they just don't issue the needed credentials. If that's the case, there's nothing the qualified retired law enforcement officer can do. The law doesn't have a mandate that credentials must be issued; that would be an unfunded mandate and illegal. However, your state could pass a law requiring it for officers who retired in the state, and a recent U.S. Court of Appeals case out of the District of Columbia may help.

But some agencies issue credentials and then do a background check on the retired officers, or require a mental health check every year before you qualify. Why? When an agency issues a retired creden-

tial, they're merely stating that you were employed there and have either retired or met the 10-year service mark. That's it. When an agency starts conducting background checks or goes beyond what the law requires, it now may be incurring liability.

Second, and more commonly, we make requirements where none exist and read into the law things that are not there.

For example, your agency might want to record the make, model, caliber and serial number of the firearm you qualified with as a retired officer. The law doesn't require it, but your agency could say, "We always record the serial number of the firearms our officers are issued or carry." However, the retired officer doesn't work for the agency any more, and the agency's policy doesn't pertain to them.

The agency creates liability where none existed by doing more than is required by the law. Then comes the question, "How do we know the retired officer is carrying the firearm he qualified with?" My answer is, "Who cares?" The law does NOT require you to carry the same firearm you qualified with, so why would the agency worry about it?

"But what happens if they qualify with a revolver and carry a semi-automatic pistol?" Again, who cares? LEOSA says you must carry the same type of firearm you qualified with. What is the definition of "type"? In the LEOSA law, it does not say, but if you refer to the statute in the same section, "type" is pistol, rifle or shotgun.

If you read the LEOSA law, you'll notice that it says "may carry a concealed firearm." Nowhere does it say "pistol," "handgun" or "revolver." Additionally, it specifically mentions that you cannot carry "any machine gun," but it doesn't say you cannot carry a rifle or a shotgun. The law doesn't limit your concealed firearm to a handgun.

When an agency qualifies a retired officer, the agency is not accepting any liability. It is proctoring a test – the qualification. If you pass, then you get a card or some verification that you qualified, as the law requires.

For agencies that think they have a liability, remember that the retired officer doesn't work for your agency. If they shoot someone, they are on their own. Think of this analogy: Your state administers a drivers test to you so you can obtain your drivers license. You pass the test, and the state issues you your license. A month later, you are involved in a traffic accident and are at fault. Can the other party sue the state because it gave you a drivers license? Of course not; it administered a test, and you passed it. The same is true with LEOSA.

Here are some of our Frequently Asked Questions; more can be found online at <http://le.nra.org/leosa/frequently-asked-questions.aspx>:

**The agency who qualifies me wants me to shoot their uniformed officer course of fire, rather than an off-duty or back-up course of fire. What does the law require?**



### Discounted Self-Defense Insurance for Retired and Off-Duty Officers

NRA Endorsed Insurance Program offers discounted self-defense coverage for retired law enforcement and off-duty police officers. It starts at only \$50 annually and is limited up to \$250,000. Coverage includes criminal and civil defense costs, the cost of civil suit defense and criminal defense reimbursement.

Order online in minutes at: [LawEnforcementSelfdefense.com](http://LawEnforcementSelfdefense.com)  
Or call one of our representatives at 877.672.3006.

Program administered by Lockton Affinity, LLC | (877) 672-3006 | NRA Member dues or contributions are not used for this promotion, program or any other related expenses.

The law is not clear and only requires an individual to meet the active duty standards for qualification. An individual exercising their rights under LEOSA is not provided with the authority to act as a law enforcement officer and is simply authorized to carry a concealed firearm based on their status. Accordingly, it would be advisable for agencies to use the off-duty or backup course of fire. Mandating the use of uniformed standards requires an individual to meet standards designed for law enforcement purposes, while an individual carrying a firearm under LEOSA is not acting as a law enforcement officer, as they are either retired, or out of their jurisdiction.

**I have a Concealed Carry Permit/License issued by my state. I am also active/retired law enforcement. Am I allowed to carry in all states?**

No. A state-issued concealed carry permit or license is entirely different from the ability to carry a concealed weapon under LEOSA and has no relation to your service as a law enforcement officer. Your state's permit may qualify for reciprocity with other states, but it does not qualify you to carry in all states. Check with the state police or the state's attorney general's office before carrying a concealed firearm in any state exercising reciprocity with the state of your permit/license, as laws change frequently and a state which previously recognized your permit may have changed its law.

One thing I always mention to retired law enforcement officers is: Unless you have private insurance, you do not have any liability protection. Do not believe your homeowners' policy will protect you – it is for accidents. If you shoot someone in self-defense, that is not an accident.

I highly recommend that you obtain a self-defense liability policy for your protection. I have one that allows me to select my attorney, not one provided as part of the coverage. If you have a policy that provides an attorney to you by the insurance company, you may want to reconsider that policy. You have no idea what you're getting for an attorney. It could be someone who graduated law school and passed the bar last week. No thank you – I want my guy!

As you can see, the Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act is a simple law; it doesn't mandate much at all. Don't make it complicated!

# OFFICER DOWN!

## Every Second Counts

Law enforcement has always been a dangerous profession but the recent number of officer shootings and ambush scenarios has been raising awareness about officer safety. Oftentimes, officers are not getting the rapid response they need when involved in a gunfight. There are even cases where a passerby sees a downed officer and has to make the call for help. This threatening environment has been the driving force behind the Automatic Injury Detection (AID) technology. AID is made of a thin, flexible, sensor



panel that helps save lives by sending an automated call for help whenever the sensor has been pierced – from a bullet, knife, shrapnel or other object.

When an officer is shot, a quick and precise reaction is critical for saving his/her life and often for obtaining help to eliminate the threat. It is difficult and sometimes impossible to communicate that an officer has been hit and to provide the exact location. The situational stress alone will minimize the effectiveness of voice communication. AID was designed to help solve that problem by automatically requesting help and sending the officers location to the entire force within seconds of the attack. This provides a common operating picture (COP) and situational awareness updates in real time.

Sensor attack notifications, without any user input, establishes a critical infrastructure that is far more secure and robust; improving the agencies effectiveness and their response to active shooter(s).

A faster coordinated agency response to a single shooter or awareness of a coordinated attack reduces the time and threat to the public our law enforcement officers are sworn to protect.

The AID sensor slides inside the front and back of an officer's protective vest. The sensor is made up of a printed material that can fit a variety of shapes and sizes. AID pairs with a Bluetooth-enabled smartphone or portable radio so that the alert, officer information, injury zone and location data can be sent over the existing communication infrastructure. All officers and dispatch will receive the emergency notification within seconds and be able to respond accordingly.

Wearable technology such as fitness wristbands has become very popular over the last few years. Those devices may be good for improving your health but they don't match the life-saving potential of the AID technology.

The ability of AID to help save lives within the Montgomery County, VA Sheriff's Department was recently featured on the news. Sheriff Hank Partin of MCSO was the 1st in the nation to deploy the SES AID Technology. See: <http://www.virginiafirst.com/news/local-news/montgomery-co-sheriff-invests-in-life-saving-technology/648531279>

For further information, visit [www.selectengineering.net](http://www.selectengineering.net)



The National Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors Association (NLEFIA) is a relatively new organization that launched in January 2015. Since then, the association has become a driving force in advanced certifications and continuing education for professional firearms instructors.

Its three-day Advanced Firearms Instructor Certification course has been getting phenomenal reviews across the country from both new instructors as well as instructors with 20+ years of experience. Here are just a handful of comments from the members:

*“Congratulations to NLEFIA for being who they say they are! This Advanced Instructor course is just what this industry needs. This type of training is long overdue in our industry.” – ES, Idaho*

*“State of the art training! This should be included in every basic firearms instructor course, contains material that every instructor should know from the start.” – BV, Pennsylvania*

*“I been a FI since 1993, and have attended other FI instructor courses, but never has it been broken down like this course. The formula they present will make it easier to come up with drills and lesson plans.” – CC, Texas*

*“NLEFIA is the new “Standard” for LE Instructors that are concerned with officer Safety! By far one of the best LE Instructors course I have attended.” – IK, New York*

*“As with most instructors, I have taken many firearms instructor courses and can say without a doubt that Jason is the real deal. He has put together an unbelievably impressive course that will advance instructor skills considerably. What incredible learning. I could not recommend this course any higher!” – RA, Colorado*

NLEFIA’s three-day Live-Fire CQB/ Shoot House Instructor Certification course has also been getting great reviews. NLEFIA recently launched a three-day Low Light Shooting Instructor Certification course, and a three-day Concealed Carry Instructor Certification course is set to be launched later this year.

In addition, NLEFIA offers a variety of Instructor Development Courses (IDC) that can range from one to three days. Live-Fire Training Casualty Care, Advanced Coaching and Diagnostics, and Live-Fire Vehicular Engagements are some of the many courses that are developed and presented by the NLEFIA Staff Instructors.

The executive director, Jason Wuestenberg, is a career law enforcement officer who spent 14 of his 22+

years as a full-time firearms and tactics instructor for the Phoenix Police Department. Wuestenberg does not believe in “institutional inbreeding” and has spent much of his time seeking training from various sources outside of his department. This is why he has been instrumental in many changes to his department’s firearms and tactics programs. Wuestenberg has been a sergeant for the past eight years and is expected to retire in June 2017 and apply his passion for quality training to NLEFIA full-time.

The executive director has hand-picked some of the top national trainers to be on the association’s board of advisors (BOA). The BOA exists to ensure that NLEFIA stays current with information and training that is presented.

NLEFIA’s motto is “Advancing the Knowledge and Skills of Professional Firearms Instructors,” and their Mission Statement is:

*NLEFIA will provide a network of information sharing, continuing education and training, and advanced certifications to professional firearms instructors to help further the advancement of firearms training programs in an effort to reduce the number of law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty annually from the unlawful use of deadly force and firearms-related training accidents.*

There are many benefits to being a member of NLEFIA. However, NLEFIA is not open to any firearms instructor. NLEFIA members are current or former law enforcement/military firearms instructors. Private sector firearms instructors can become members if they meet two criteria: They must have a LE/military firearms instructor certification, and they must work for a company that provides LE/military firearms training. In addition, NLEFIA allows international membership for LE firearms instructors from other select countries.

NLEFIA is a new organization, but it is growing and plans to become one of the most prolific law enforcement associations in the nation. For more information about NLEFIA, visit its website at [nlefia.org](http://nlefia.org). You can also follow NLEFIA on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

# New Law Enforcement Products at the Program Materials Center

## **NRA LAW ENFORCEMENT TACTICAL KOOZIE**

Law enforcement officers know how important it is to wear their body armor.

Now you can protect your bottled drink and keep it cool at the same time with our Tactical Koozie! Made to look like an external tactical ballistic vest, including Velcro strap adjustments.

It also bears the NRA Law Enforcement Division logo on the front. Don't go on patrol without your body armor, or your tactical koozie.

To order, visit our Program Material website:

<http://materials.nrahq.org/law-enforcement.html>



## **JUST ADDED: LUGGAGE/RANGE BAG TAGS**



This subdued U.S. flag with the "Thin Blue Line" has a quick-release clip so you can transfer it from bag to bag easily.



## Why can't I access the NRA Instructor portal?

NRA certified Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors can't sign into NRAInstructors.org. That site is for NRA civilian instructors only, so they can post their training classes.

We realized recently that it wasn't made clear that the site is only for civilian instructors, so a note has been added: "NOT AVAILABLE FOR NRA LAW ENFORCEMENT INSTRUCTORS."

For reasons of security, we wouldn't post law enforcement officers' information where it could be viewed by the public. If you have, or obtain, NRA civilian instructor certification and wish to train civilians, you may then have access to NRAInstructors.org.

## How do I contact NRA Law Enforcement Certification?

Email [LECertifications@nrahq.org](mailto:LECertifications@nrahq.org) or call 703-267-1634.

If you need a replacement or an additional Law Enforcement Instructor Certification Card, there is a \$10 fee, but you have to contact the Certifications Coordinator.

If you have questions about recertification or continuing education requirements, visit our website at <http://le.nra.org/training/recertification.aspx>



Support America's law enforcement survivors through C.O.P.S.!

Presented by:



Join Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) on June 9, 2017 for the 3rd Annual Suzie Sawyer Golf Classic in Chesapeake, VA.

Registration will open at 7:00 a.m. at The Golf Course, followed by a shot gun start at 8:30 a.m.

Entry fee is \$300 per 4-Person Scramble (\$75 per person) and includes golf, lunch and all the fun.



Register online at [www.nationalcops.org](http://www.nationalcops.org).

Registration Deadline: May 8, 2017

# 2017 NRA Law Enforcement Firearm Instructor Development Schools

<http://LE.NRA.org/Training> • [LE@nrahq.org](mailto:LE@nrahq.org) • (703) 267-1640

New schools are added often. Check website frequently for current Training Schedule.

Range fee, if any, is payable to some hosting agencies; amount varies.

**NRA Tuition = \$645 per person**

## HANDGUN & SHOTGUN

May 15-19 Garden Plain, KS  
May 15-19 Clarion, PA  
May 22-26 Chino, CA  
May 22-26 Tuscaloosa, AL  
May 22-26 Shreveport, LA  
Jun 5-9 Victorville, CA  
Jun 19-23 Oakdale, PA  
Jun 26-30 Upper Marlboro, MD  
Jul 17-21 Pittsford, VT  
Aug 7-11 Monroeville, PA (public LE only)  
Aug 7-11 Tupelo, MS  
Aug 14-18 Homestead, FL  
Sep 11-15 Las Vegas, NV  
Sep 11-15 Florence, AL  
Sep 11-15 San Diego, CA  
Sep 25-29 Valhalla, NY (public LE & military only)  
Sep 25-29 Columbus, MS  
Oct 9-13 San Antonio, TX  
Oct 16-20 Defiance, MO (public LE only)  
Oct 23-27 Lucerne Valley, CA  
Oct 30-Nov 3 Pearl, MS  
Oct 30-Nov 3 Sugar Creek, MO  
Oct 30-Nov 3 Leesport, PA  
Nov 13-17 Florence, AL  
Nov 27-Dec 1 New Smyrna Beach, FL  
Dec 4-8 San Diego, CA  
Mar 19-23 '18 Leesport, PA  
Mar 19-23 '18 Summerville, SC

## HANDGUN

Apr 24-28 Littleton, CO  
May 15-19 Sopchoppy, FL  
May 15-19 Richmond, CA  
June 5-9 San Diego, CA  
Jul 17-21 Brainerd, MN  
Aug 21-25 Garden Plain, KS  
Sep 18-22 Macomb, IL  
Sep 18-22 Fort Scott, KS  
Oct 2-6 Richland, WA  
Nov 13-17 San Antonio, TX

## PATROL RIFLE

May 8-12 Danville, PA  
May 8-12 Gunnison, CO  
May 15-19 Florence, CO  
May 22-26 Ozark, AL  
June 5-9 Mexico, MO  
June 12-16 La Junta, CO  
June 19-23 Garden Plain, KS  
June 19-23 Bahama, NC  
June 26-30 Howell, NJ (public LE and military only)  
July 10-14 Littleton, CO  
July 10-14 Newport, OR  
July 31-Aug 4 McKinney, TX  
Aug 14-18 Conshohocken, PA  
Aug 21-25 Tuscaloosa, AL  
Aug 28-Sep 1 Elizabethtown, PA  
Sep 11-15 Bethlehem, PA  
Sep 11-15 Hoquiam, WA  
Sep 25-29 Defiance, MO (public LE only)  
Oct 2-6 Florence, AL  
Oct 2-6 Pearl, MS  
Oct 2-6 Monroeville, PA (public LE only)  
Oct 9-13 Richland, WA  
Oct 9-13 Poteau, OK  
Oct 9-13 Elizabethtown, PA  
Oct 16-20 Summerville, SC  
Oct 16-20 New Smyrna Beach, FL  
Oct 23-27 Sugar Creek, MO  
Oct 30-Nov 3 Staunton, VA  
Nov 13-17 Las Vegas, NV  
Aug 20-24 '18 Leesport, PA  
Oct 1-5 '18 Summerville, SC

## PRECISION RIFLE

Jul 17-21 Alden, NY  
Sep 18-22 Rock Hill, SC  
Sep 25-29 Las Vegas, NV  
Sep 25-29 Spooner, WI  
Oct 23-27 Shreveport, LA  
Nov 13-17 New Smyrna Beach, FL

## SELECT-FIRE

Jul 10-14 Garden Plain, KS  
Aug 28-Sep 1 Meridian, MS  
Oct 9-13 Grand Island, NE (public LE & military only)  
Dec 4-8 Florence, AL

## TACTICAL SHOOTING

May 15-19 Richmond, CA  
Jun 5-9 Rio Rancho, NM  
Jun 12-16 Pearl, MS  
Jun 19-23 Shreveport, LA  
Jul 10-14 Cuyler, NY  
Jul 24-28 London, OH  
Aug 7-11 Redding, CA  
Aug 7-11 Plano, TX  
Aug 14-18 Chehalis, WA  
Sep 18-22 Bethlehem, PA  
Oct 2-6 Littleton, CO  
Oct 2-6 Ottawa, KS  
Oct 16-20 Florence, AL  
Oct 23-27 Florence, CO  
Oct 23-27 Egg Harbor Twp, NJ  
Oct 30-Nov 3 Las Vegas, NV  
Oct 30-Nov 3 Summerville, SC  
Dec 4-8 Ft. Meade, MD  
Dec 4-8 San Antonio, TX  
Mar 26-30 '18 Leesport, PA  
May 7-11 '18 Emmett, ID  
Oct 29-Nov 2 '18 Summerville, SC

## TACTICAL SHOTGUN

Jun 19-23 Valhalla, NY (public LE & military only)  
Jul 24-28 Tuscaloosa, AL  
Aug 14-18 Littleton, CO  
Sep 11-15 San Antonio, TX  
Oct 23-27 Chino, CA  
Nov 27-Dec 1 Las Vegas, NV  
Jun 11-15 '18 Leesport, PA

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Law Enforcement website:  
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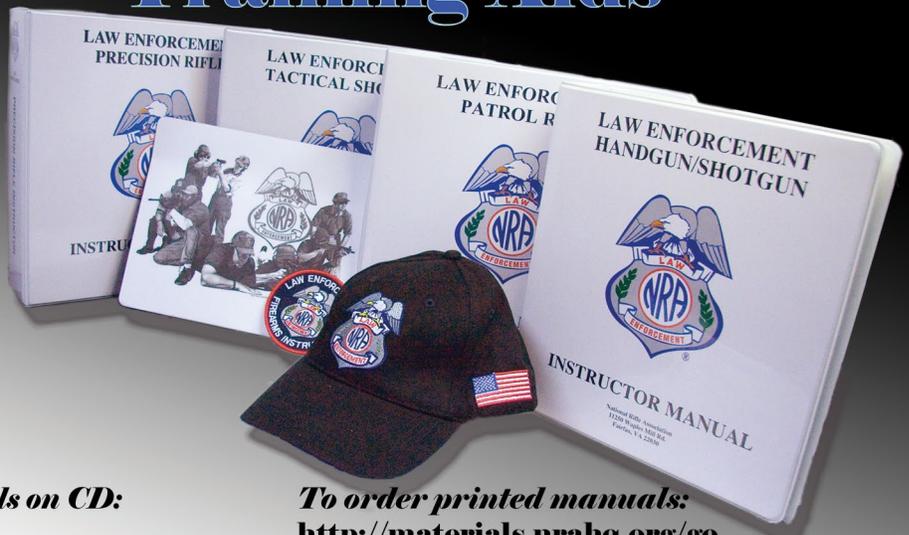
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# NRA Law Enforcement Firearm Manuals and Training Aids



**To order training aids and materials on CD:**  
<http://LECDs.nra.org>

**To order printed manuals:**  
<http://materials.nrahq.org/go>



# NRA



**DISCIPLINES AVAILABLE:**  
**Handgun Handgun/Shotgun**  
**Patrol Rifle Tactical Shotgun**  
**Precision Rifle**

Sales of these items are restricted to NRA Certified Instructors, sworn Law Enforcement Officers, bona fide Law enforcement agencies, armed security companies, and the U.S. military. Once your order is received, you may be contacted by a member of the Law Enforcement Activities Division to verify eligibility.