



Training Minute: Shotgun Combat Reload

Following up on last month's video covering the basics of shotgun stance, watch lead Tiger Valley instructor T.J. Pilling demonstrate combat shotgun reloading techniques.

[Click here.](#)



Be Water Wise

As the weather begins to warm in the next few months, be prepared, and "Be Water Wise" by watching this video from our friends at United States Navy Special Warfare / Special Operations. [Click here.](#)



Handguns in the Real World

by T.J. Pilling

I was instructing a CHL class recently and had the opportunity of observing the myriad of weapons and calibers present. What struck my eye first was that several female shooters were shooting .40 and .45 caliber pistols. The .40 was a compact and the .45 was a full size, large frame of popular brand. The shooter with the .40 lacked the hand strength to cycle the action, much less lock the slide to the rear. The women with the full size .45's hands were so small that she was gripping the bottom half of the weapons grips causing the weapon to recoil violently, almost jumping from her hands. I purposely didn't mention the makes of the weapons because I don't want to confuse the issue or start fan clubs reeling at the thought that I am bashing a particular weapon system. A large percentage of the male shooters in this class, as others, were using .45 pistols in one configuration or another. After 50 rounds of bucking, jerking and bodies being pushed violently around we retired to the classroom. Once there the topic of caliber and weapon type quickly got bantered around. Almost all bought into the concept that the .45 was the man stopper. That rounds from this weapon system stopped bad guys dead in their tracks.



I'm not a brain surgeon, and most people around me for any length of time will attest to that fact. What I try to do is pull from things that I have personally seen. I related to the class that my first six weeks on the job I was to three

police shootings, two were good shootings and one was bad.

The first shooting I was at was a Viet Nam vet who was having flashbacks. He was standing in his front yard with a K-bar threatening anything and everything around him. We had four officers in a semicircle, yes, great for cross fire with the nut in the middle. The Sergeant, in his infinite wisdom decided that we needed to deploy an old cargo net that he had in his truck, kind of like dragging for salmon in the Pacific Northwest. I asked my Field Training Officer (FTO) if this was "training on the fly" since I had never trained in netting a suspect. Long story short, the nut charged on officer standing next to me, he turned and shot over his shoulder with a 9mm Smith model 59, striking the suspect in the pelvis, breaking it as well as his charge. The suspect lived.



The next shooting involved burglars in a flea market. My FTO and myself were the second team in the building after the burglars. As we worked our way into the isles the suspect jumped out of a display at the first team. The suspect had watches up and down his arms and the officers saw the glint and thought it was a gun. Officer #1 fired two rounds from a .357 magnum, striking the suspect in abdomen. The suspect, still standing, was then shot by the second officer, in the same spot with #4 buckshot, ripping into his arm. He lived; six months later Dallas caught him doing another roof job with a colostomy bag and a gimp arm.



In my sixth week we got a call to back up another city serving a warrant in our city. We pulled up to see another officer from my department putting the suspect on the back of a station wagon. The suspect was big, six foot four and 300 pounds. He was standing with a cigarette in one hand and a beer in the other. Back in those days our weapon systems closely followed Hollywood. Needless to say Clint Eastwood was the man, so probably 40 percent of the department carried a .44 magnums. Training not what it is today, the officer who spun the drunk onto the station wagon screwed the .44 magnum into his short ribs. He had to let him know who was boss. To stress the point further he cocked the weapon and reinforced the issue with some vague threats. Well, the drunk was well educated in street law. He pushed off the station wagon saying "you can't shoot me for a misdemeanor warrant", and in doing so also stepped on both of the officer's toes. The officer started falling backwards and clenched his off hand, doing so he also clenched his weapon hand discharging his weapon into the suspect's lower back. The round exited his clavicle blowing lung and ribs all over the roof of the station wagon. The suspect turned and looked at the officer who had just shot him and said, "you just shot me". He lived with a contact wound from a .44 magnum 240 JHP.



Lessons learned in my first six weeks: Shoot a weapon that you can shoot accurately and fast, and there is no "magic BB". If you are lucky, and I do mean lucky, the shot will break a major bone or sever the central nervous system and the suspect will be stopped. If you shoot well with a .45 and better with a 9mm, go with the 9mm. Odds on the suspect won't be able to tell you what caliber he was just shot with or probably even know that he was shot.

Tiger Valley at the 2008 SHOT Show

Along with over 1,800 other vendors, Tiger Valley will have our own presence at the 2008 Shot Show, held at the Las Vegas Convention Center from February 2nd to the 5th. Our booth is number 24101 and we are right next to Calvary Arms. Make sure you stop by and say hello!

Information on the SHOT Show, including a vendor map can be found [here](#).



Equipment Spotlight

P60L Lamp Assembly from SureFire

Unless you have been stranded at sea for the last few years, you are no doubt aware of the revolution in tactical lights brought about by SureFire. The revolution continues today, and no other range of tactical products can match the pace of innovation taking place with tactical lights.

The SureFire P60L is a replacement lamp assembly that can drop in a myriad of existing SureFire lights, including the P6, G2, and C2. The P60L utilizes a Seoul Semiconductor LED, allowing the light to run brighter and longer. The assembly is a simple "drop-in" replacement to the existing incandescent lamp.

The result is a light with a brighter "hot-spot", a much brighter spill of light surrounding the hot-spot, and a runtime of up to 12 hours. In addition, the LED has a far longer time in service before needing replacement and is less likely to be damaged from being dropped or other hard impacts. This lamp decreases your cost of ownership, increases the odds that your light will be ready when you really need it, and makes for a brighter overall light.

For details, examine the picture on the right. The left light is from a conventional P60 bulb, the one on the right utilizes the new P60L.

The P60L is a major upgrade for many of your existing SureFire lights. Recommended. Find them on the web [here](#). Those attending gun shows in the Dallas/Fort Worth area can find them sold by the folks at Bladerunner (817-579-0512).



Previous Newsletters Now Available Online!

Check out our previous newsletters for fantastic training videos, equipment reviews, and special articles. Find them [here](#).

Upcoming Events

January

- 12-13 [Sniper Team Challenge \(Waco\)](#)
- 16 [Subgun Match \(Elm Fork\)](#)
- 26 CHL Class (Elm Fork)
- 30 [Low Light Pistol - Evening \(Elm Fork\)](#)

February

- 2-5 [Shot Show \(Las Vegas\)](#)

- 9-10 [Level 1 Pistol \(Elm Fork\)](#)
9-10 [Level 2 Carbine \(Waco\)](#)
13 [Subgun Match \(Elm Fork\)](#)
16-17 [Level 2 Precision Rifle \(Waco\)](#)
23-24 Tactical Convergence (Memphis, TN)

March

- 1 [Women's Pistol \(Elm Fork\)](#)
7-9 [FCSA \(Waco\)](#)
15-16 [Banned of Brothers \(Waco\)](#)
22 [F-Class Match \(Waco\)](#)

April

- 5-6 [Level 1 Pistol \(Elm Fork\)](#)
12-13 [Level 1 Carbine \(Waco\)](#)
12 [Open Shoot \(Waco\)](#)
26-27 3-Gun Match, Sponsored (Waco)

May

- 3-4 [Level 1 Precision Rifle \(Waco\)](#)
10-11 [Level 1 Pistol \(Elm Fork\)](#)

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Tiger Valley LLC.
Range Address: Hwy 84 at Joe Russell Rd. | Prairie Hill, TX 76678
Mailing Address: 6309 Scottsboro Ln. | Garland, TX 75044
Cell: (972)977-9512 | Office/Fax: (972)530-6510