

Podcast #188 – Shoot-Don't Shoot

Jeff: Hello, everyone. This is Jeff Anderson, Editor for *Modern Combat and Survival Magazine* and Executive Director of the *New World Patriot Alliance*, with another podcast to help you better prepare for any threat you may face in your role as a protector and a patriot. My guest today is my good buddy and legendary—yes, I say legendary—reality-based self-defense innovator, Peyton Quinn, who was instrumental also in our *Bulletproof Legal Self-Defense* program and other things that we've done. I love working with Peyton. I'm glad to have him on here. Peyton, thanks for coming back to the podcast man.

Peyton: It's good to be here, Jeff.

Jeff: I love getting insights that you have. You're a real brainiac when it comes to this topic. We talk about this a lot. This is very, very critical. I think a lot of people don't get this kind of training. They don't think about this kind of thing. I know that from just going online. We're going to talk about a lot of the mistakes that people make about that.

Listen, everyone. If this is your first time listening to one of our podcasts with Peyton, or one of our other broadcasts, Peyton really is a true legend in the combatives industry. In fact, Peyton is seen as a pioneer in training for how to effectively use reality-based self-defense strategies, as well as firearm tactics, in light of your body's natural response to life or death scenarios, in what's called the adrenaline stress response. He's produced several DVDs and books on these topics. The one common theme you'll find in all of his training is that it really is all based on real-world experience, not fantasy martial arts theory or fantasy gunfights that you see in Hollywood.

Peyton has done hard time as a bouncer for some of the toughest biker bars and seedy dives in the country, and discovered what really works for surviving a violent attack when there's nothing between you and a prison-hardened thug except for your hands and your wits.

Fortunately for us, Peyton took all that same research and development, focused it into a gunfight as well, creating one of the most intense and realistic force-on-force gunfight training seminars available anywhere.

In fact, we took a bunch of our *New World Patriot Alliance* members out. Actually, it was the ISCQC at the time. We took them out to Colorado to his training facility. We had military contractors in there. We had an FBI agent in there. In other words, we had people with a lot of training. And we had

complete beginners, including my teenage son who came out with us at that time also.

Everybody said that it was the best training that they had received ever in what really happens, not only in the “shoot-don’t shoot” decision, but how to deescalate violence, as well as when to pull the trigger, when not to pull the trigger and what really works in close quarters where you’re being ambushed. I highly recommend it. You can go over to his site, to be able to check out his next training schedule and more on Peyton, over at www.stresshooting.com.

All right, Peyton. Let’s get started. This is one of my favorite topics to talk about. Because I do know that very few gun owners even think about this stuff, let alone get any training for it.

The first thing I’d like to do is really just ask you. I know you look at a lot of the real-world stories that are out there reported in the news. Good guys with a gun going to jail for bad decisions that they made. A lot of times we can see trends in this and see the major mistakes that people make, or the myths that they fall prey to.

So what would you say are—maybe if you could give me the three worst pieces of misinformation that you see floating out there about shooting in self-defense. What are they, that you see that could really put somebody in jail from these bad decisions?

Peyton: Well, Jeff, I hope I can live up to that intro. The first mistake is a rather sweeping one, because all the other mistakes really flow from it. That is simply that most people have not been realistically trained, if trained at all. They don’t know what they don’t know, to make it simple.

They don’t understand the real way shooting incidents occur or how the criminal element thinks and operates. They are also, I’d say very often fuzzy at best on knowing the law about the use of lethal force. As a result, as you suggested, they can be sent to jail for just displaying their gun, even if they don’t fire it. Because really, the legal standard for displaying your gun as a deterrent is just a hair’s breath away from the legal circumstances that exist to shoot.

So it’s not a one-size-fits-all or clear cut deal, and you’re going to be under high stress. What I’m saying is also that common mistakes and ignorance of the law can send them to jail or prison for just displaying the gun. They all stem from a lack of realistic training. Of course, they can also get killed.

At the range you’re shooting at paper targets. You can’t even shoot and move on a firing range. Most firing ranges won’t allow that. And understandably, for safety reasons. You just stand there and try to make good groups. Just standing there

could be fatal in a gunfight. Most people train for the wrong things, and not the true skill set you need to know in real-world attacks.

Jeff: **Those are three right there, that I think just on their surface, people really need to understand that. So the three I got out of that was, one, know your enemy. This is really—I know you’ve done a lot of interviews with convicted felons, murderers. You went into prisons and interviewed them to find out what makes them tick. How do they choose their targets? How do they get close to their targets? When do they attack their targets?**

So knowing the enemy, and knowing what their mindset is, helps you to know how that gunfight could possibly play out so that you know when to make the decision, you know when to get to your firearm, you know when an attack’s going to happen. That’s going to save your life and it can help you make that legal decision that you need to make also.

So one, know your enemy. Two, know the law. I think most people just assume that the law—I think they think there’s one law. If somebody’s attacking me and I’m afraid for my life, that I can pull out my gun and shoot them. There’s a whole lot more to law than that and very few people ever really even think about that.

Then the third one I got from you is this myth that you don’t need legal type training, or training that is designed to at least show you the legal implications of your decisions because they think that they know the law or the law is always going to be on the side—because everyone just assumes the bad guy is always going to be clear and evident, and it’s going to be clear that I pulled out my gun and I stopped him, case closed.

One of the things I found in firsthand experience from your training course is that even with these people who are FBI agents and military contractors, like you said, you don’t know what you don’t know.

For example, I would also say—one of my own myths I would add to that is, and I think it’s a real clear insight into how traditional gunfighting lore and myths have permeated our industry, is the Tueller Drill, the 21 foot rule, which is always misunderstood anyway, even as what it’s put out there as.

But essentially, for those people that don’t know about it, it’s essentially the way that the industry looks at it, that a person is a threat if they are 21 feet or closer to you. That’s the zone where they are a lethal threat to you. That they can close that distance before you can get to your weapon, basically. So anything within that 21 foot is what people see as, okay, that’s the lethality zone.

But we’ve done force-on-force training at Peyton’s firearms training center where we put guys 60 feet out. We’re not even talking about concealed

carry. We're talking about Old West gunslinger style, where the weapon is right there and no clothes over top of it other than a little windbreaker or something. A person with a knife 60 feet out, and you know the attack is coming, the person still can't get to their gun.

So knowing these things, knowing how a gunfight plays out, knowing an attacker's mindset, is all really, really critical to being able to make that decision and save your life.

I know I kind of went off on a tangent there, but you know how passionate I am about this topic. It's the course that we did with Peyton. Once you have a live person in front of you, and not just a flat paper target where you're doing marksmanship training, you get a PhD in how to save your life and the people that you protect with a firearm. So that's one of the things that we really dug into out there.

Peyton, there's another area here that I want to delve into that I think is a really common one. I hear a lot of gun owners say things like, "Well, I would just take my gun out and show them I was armed," with no real understanding of what brandishing or menacing is.

So is it ever okay to show someone your gun to deter them? When is it permissible for your gun to come out of its holster, to engage the person that's in front of you that you deem a threat?

Peyton: That's a key question. Let me first say that, again, the legal circumstances that make it justified for you to display or present your weapon are just a hair's breath away from the legal circumstances that make it lawful for you to shoot the person.

Let's see how that works out in law. Law, remember, is not about justice. It's an abstract concept. It's about rules and procedures in an advocacy system. The DA's only interest is to make conviction. Whether you're guilty or not really is not his prerogative or his interest. That's for the jury. His only purpose is to make you look as guilty as possible and get a conviction.

So one mistake CCWs carry, they think that just showing the potential attacker that they are armed will end the problem. But more likely, the other person or bystander will get on the cell phone and report a man with a gun. If you show your gun as a deterrent, and it is not at the point legally justified, then you have committed in all 50 states, and can be jailed or imprisoned, for what was called felony menacing or brandishing.

Let me go another step here. You asked, when is it ever justified? Well, I was in such a situation myself. And I knew that since there were three guys that legally there was disparity of force. Therefore, presenting my weapon could be justified in court later. I also knew that there wouldn't be any doubt in court. It was easily

established that the three guys were hostile and surrounding me, when I had a paper bag full of the cash from my liquor store. So like I said, there's no cookie cutter answer to this.

But basically, if you present your gun, and I mean even pull your coat back to show you've got it in your waistband, that can be construed as felony menacing. Some people will freak out. Maybe even bystanders. Not even the guy who's accosting you. Then you're going to have to justify why you displayed the gun, or the DA is going to charge you with felony menacing or brandishing. Then he'll offer you a plea bargain, of course.

Not understanding the law, in terms of using lethal force, or actually any force. Some people convict themselves at the very scene of the incident. In other words, the cops arrive and they say, "What happened?" The person is like the hockey dad. The hockey dad had to fight a guy who had six felony convictions. Of course, the jury can never hear that. When the cop came, the cop said, "Hey, you outweigh that guy by 85 pounds." The hockey dad replied, "I wasn't afraid of him and he wasn't afraid of me." Well, right there, in saying that, there was no way back. If he was not in fear of his life, or gross bodily injury, then he was not justified in using counterforce at all.

It's a key concept to understand. It's also the same legal concept that ties right into why you can't display your gun. Because if you're displaying your gun, then you are not eminently in fear of your life or gross bodily injury, or you have drawn the gun. It's crazy, but that's the way the law works.

Jeff: **The other thing these days, also, that I try to caution people about, with active shooters and things like that, having a gun out—now people are very aware of active shooters. So there could be another CCW carrier that's close by that sees you, that thinks that you're holding somebody up. it could be misconstrued. Just having it out when you don't need to use it could make you a target for getting shot yourself. So it's another reason. But you bring up really good points there.**

Peyton: You could even be shot by police. I'd say the most critical mistake people make is not preparing themselves psychologically, mindset-wise, for the adrenal rush of a confrontation or ambush attack. Unfortunately, most untrained people freeze up for at least the first few seconds, and that can get them killed.

Closely related, the dysfunctional freeze up mindset. The adrenal dump is part of the reason that good marksmanship on the range means almost nothing in a real shooting instant. In fact, as I think you saw Jeff, nobody in that class could use the sights on the weapon in the scenarios. The scenarios just mimic all the queues, but it doesn't matter because the body doesn't know the difference. Some of those people had a lot of experience shooting, but not one of them, if

you recall, said they were able to look at the sights or use the sights in the scenarios when they had to fire.

The adrenal effects are, first, tunnel vision. Your vision tunnels into the person or the weapon that's about to kill you. That means you might not see something peripherally, another attacker or whatever. Second, auditory exclusion. That means you don't hear. Your hearing is shut off so that you can see faster. It's the visual cortex. Some of that processing power for audio, for hearing, is shifted over to the visual cortex so you can see faster.

That leads into tachypsychia. In other words, things seem to move in slow motion under adrenal stress. If you've ever been in an automobile accident or combat. You've seen your kid on the jungle gym and he's about to fall. As soon as he flips off it's frame, frame, frame, frame. You're seeing faster.

But a very important adrenal effect that people have to overcome—and they can, but you can't overcome something until you experience it a few times—is loss of fine motor control. On the range people are concerned—traditional firearms training just does not prepare a person. Defining traditional firearms training as shooting at targets 25 feet away, when most actual shootings happen under 5 feet. Well, that adrenal element is not there in target shooting. So what do they concentrate on? Sight alignment, breath control, trigger control.

I can tell you, none of those things are even going to be possible, or in your consciousness, in a real gunfight. Not one of them. You would be Superman if you could be thinking about trigger control, breath and sight alignment, etc., when somebody's really trying to kill you.

I'll say that of the hundreds of people—because some of them are pretty well trained and experienced—the people who do best are the people who've been in gunfights before. You see what I mean? Otherwise, it's your first time out. Those Israeli guys, they did very well because they had been in gunfights. They were an antiterrorist group. They were a little trigger happy, but they were able to make those decisions under stress correctly because they had been there before.

Think about this. What is training supposed to do? It's supposed to simulate the actual event so authentically that you discover all the problems in dealing with that situation. That's what scenario-based training does. You get the adrenal rush and now you know what the problem is. You see? You know you can't use the sights. You also realize you don't have to. Point shooting.

Jeff: There's an insight into, I think the course also, that I think is really critical for people, for the topic that we're talking about with "shoot-don't shoot", is that you can know the law 100 percent. It's not just a matter of not knowing the laws, which we already established a lot of people just don't know the law.

But let's say that you broke out the legal guide, and you took it and you memorized the whole thing. Knowing the law, and being able to make a decision based upon the law when you're in an adrenalized state, are two different things. You can know the law and you can go down for marksmanship training down at the local range. I call it marksmanship training. You don't go down there thinking it's marksmanship training. But ultimately that's what it is, because it's not a real life scenario. You're going down there to kind of master the basics of using your firearm and things like that.

But it's not until you have somebody charging at you, even with a simulated knife in their hand, that you realize, "Oh my God. Sights? What sights? What shot groups?" So when that's happening, or when you have somebody who's walking up to you that's a vagrant. He's walking around and all of a sudden he's on top of you and you didn't know it, and your heart goes into your throat. Again, you can know the law. But making a legal decision, in the eyes of the law, isn't the same thing when you are in an adrenalized state.

I just want everybody to know that. That's one of the reasons why I'm such a big fan of Peyton's course, is because you get that training that so few places ever even give you. You're learning about it now, but you experience it then and it's totally different when you experience it.

So Peyton, a lot of gun owners seem to think that you're going to have an endless amount of time to debate with yourself whether or not you should shoot. We all know the reality. You'll have seconds, maybe only fractions of a second, to make that decision.

So what factors make it harder to reach that shoot-don't shoot decision under the stress of a real shooting, and how do we train to overcome them? You've already gone over a lot of the factors that come up in an adrenalized state. But how do we train to overcome those factors, knowing that they are going to be there?

Peyton: There's really only one way, and that is to experience them. People do not look for the solution to a problem until they experience it. Scenario-based training does that. Let me add this, too. Training is supposed to prepare you for the actual event. What's the event we're training for? Having to pull out your gun and shoot somebody to save your life or that of a loved one, given that that is lawful.

Well, the one thing you're going to have to do in some situations like that is pull out your gun, point it at another human being and pull the trigger. Well, you never do that in any firearms training I've ever been to. You see what I mean?

Jeff: Yeah.

Peyton: So that's a big missing element, indeed, in my classes. I've seen even police instructors hesitate. Because the idea of you never point a gun at somebody you don't intend to kill in gun safety, they've been teaching and there's someone coaching them, they hesitate. The average person just freezes a little bit. If you hesitate, you could be killed. But if you act prematurely, you could go to prison.

So you have to train for this. You can't gamble your life and your freedom on doing it all right the first time out. You have to know the law and you have to have that adrenal stress conditioning. Like some pilots, the [PhantomPilots](#) I debriefed after the earth cooled the dinosaurs. I'm trying to get this information about the system and he says, "Son..." That's what he called me. I guess I was pretty young. He goes, "Son, the first thing I do when I get into combat is turn all that shit off." Why did he say that? Because he knew the three or four key things he had to pay attention to. So he was reducing the information, the figure-ground relationship, so he could concentrate on what he knew from experience was important.

That's what scenario training does. You get out there and you're watching his hands. If he's hostile, etc., and you're moving on the attack line, you're going to say, "What's in your hands? You're making me nervous." Shouting it out loudly so any bystanders—which sometimes there will be, sometimes there won't—will hear.

The key concept, again, getting back to the law, is anything you knew before this incident occurs is admissible in court. Anything you've discovered or knew afterwards is never admissible, because it couldn't have affected your decision at the time of the incident.

So in this realm, the CCW carrier, he wants to keep himself alive and out of jail. This is where the old saying "knowledge is power" really comes in. The more you know beforehand. Like The Tueller Drill, that a person 20 feet away can close the distance and stab you. That's why police often shoot people with knives and the newspapers say, "It's unknown why they fired. There were six officers there. They all fired, and he only had a knife and he was 20 feet away." But what they don't say is they all demanded he drop the knife. So he did not follow the directive. They knew that he could close that distance, so they shot him.

Jeff: That's an interesting point that you bring up also. Because when you have this type of force-on-force training that you're talking about, just being able to say that I told him to drop the knife, right there is just another little peg on your side to give you the points because you gave him a directive.

We're talking about law enforcement there. But even as a civilian, being able to say in a courtroom. When they say that same thing, "Why did you shoot him? He only had a knife. He was 20 feet away." "Well, I told him to drop the knife. If he didn't mean me any harm, he would have dropped the

knife.” You have to be able to communicate why you felt like your life was in jeopardy. Right? That’s what it’s all about.

So all those types of things, and knowing what to say in that adrenalized state when you have somebody in front of you. Being able to try and deescalate it. Even just to say that you tried to deescalate it. How do you prove to a jury that you tried to deescalate it? What were the words that you used? So that skeptical person on the jury is saying to themselves, “That makes sense. Yeah. He did try. He didn’t want to shoot the guy.”

Peyton: Again, this is a point that I have to repeat. When the cops come you better have your gun on the ground, not in your hand. But mainly, don’t convict yourself at the very scene of the incident by saying something stupid. That’s why all you’re going to say is, “I thought he was going to kill me. I was in fear of my life.” That’s about it. Then, if you have to shoot somebody—or frankly, even if you pull a gun and don’t shoot as a deterrent and they run off—you still should get on that 911 call immediately. You see?

Jeff: Yeah.

Peyton: Especially if you didn’t have to shoot, because any one of those guys might try to get you charged with felony menacing. But the police, before they even get there, you should call—let’s say you shoot the guy and he’s laying there dead. The first thing to do is dial 9-1-1, give them your location, tell them you had to shoot a guy in self-defense, he was armed, etc., whatever. But keep it brief. Then say, “You’re going to send an ambulance. Aren’t you?”. “You must send an ambulance,” something like that. Everything that goes into the police—all 911 calls are recorded. So later that is admissible in court. The jury hears you saying, “You’re going to get him an ambulance. Aren’t you?” See what I mean?

Jeff: Yeah.

Peyton: You’ve got to start building that testimony before you go to court.

Jeff: Before you actually get into the courtroom. Yeah. Right. You actually answered my next question, which was the actions that you take after shooting are really just as critical in some cases as your choice to pull that trigger or not. So you bring up some really good points.

I think another thing that people need to remember, or know if you don’t know, is that 911, they don’t hang up on you. They stay on the phone. So if you’re on your cell phone. For example, you’re in a parking lot, realize that everything that you’re saying is being recorded and heard by a 911 operator. That can work in your favor. That can work against your favor. So if you’re saying something like—

Peyton: That’s why you keep it limited.

Jeff: That's right. Keep it limited. You can also use it to your advantage. Like you were saying, "Please tell me you've got an ambulance coming. Don't die on me. Don't die on me." You're trying to give this person first aid, so that they don't die. So it's not like you're being portrayed as this trigger-happy gun nut, who just watched this guy bleed because he deserved to die, this scumbag who had the audacity to pull a knife on you.

Peyton: But think about it. If you're a decent person, that's what a decent person would do anyway. You see what I mean? That's what you want the—the DA, again, he's not after justice. He's after a prosecution, a conviction. So if he looks at all the factors and says, "Hmm, this guy was trained here and trained there. He knew that the guy 20 feet away could kill him with a knife. He shot him 12 times, but he knew one bullet seldom stops an attacker," etc., etc. The tape says, "You're going to send an ambulance." He seems frantic. The jury will hear that.

All these things add up in what is called the depositions. That's when you're in a room with a stenographer and a tape recorder, and your lawyer, and the prosecution asks you questions. Then they discover all these things. A discovery. The DA in the depositions, that's when he makes his decision whether to prosecute you or not. Not whether he thinks you're guilty or not, but whether he thinks he can get a conviction. He doesn't want to indict somebody and send the county to the expense of a trial and all that, if he's only going to get an exoneration. That is if the jury is not going to convict.

Jeff: **Peyton, we've been talking a lot about training for this type of stuff. We've also just highlighted that this is the type of training most people don't even think about. Most people don't get it because it's really not offered a lot out there. Most people are focused in on the fundamentals of firearms when it comes to class and things like that. Even the "tactical courses" usually see these guys dressed up like military, shooting from behind barrels, maybe shooting out of a car or something like that. But they're typically shooting paper targets.**

So what I'd like to do is, one, I'd like to know how scenario-based training and force-on-force training and the way that you do it is more beneficial than other "tactical" type courses, like I just described. So I'd like to know a little bit more about that.

I know you do have a course coming up in April. You do very few of these courses now. So this isn't something you're doing on a weekly basis locally. You have a true event, where people stay right there on the property. You've got a beautiful place out there in the Colorado mountains with a trout stream going by. It's truly picturesque. You have pictures of it, I know, on your website and everything. You've designed this to be a true training experience.

So I'd like to know a little bit more about how this scenario-based training, why it is important. But then also, if you could give people maybe just one drill that they can do at home or something, with or without a training partner. Probably with would be more beneficial. But something that they can do at home from this podcast interview, that they can put to use right away to experience more of this stuff.

Peyton: A device I found useful and used in the training, which proceeds from—you have real guns, except in one of the scenarios. You have real guns. You'll start out with blank guns. So you have a little recoil and flame. We will have blank guns. So you get the option to draw the gun, fire, point it at another human being, fire. The slide goes back. The shell ejects. You feel recoil. You don't want it to be the first time you ever pointed a gun at a person and pulled the trigger when your life is on the line, or that of a loved one.

The next thing we do is show them they don't need to use the sights. Within 25 feet or so—most shootings occur less than five feet. We put a laser in the pistol. There are several of these around. Another good thing is SIRT, SIRT pistols. They fire a laser beam. They're rubber. This you can practice at home in your apartment, because there's no way you can fire a real thing. You can develop your point shooting skills. You pull the trigger and the laser fires for a hundredth of a second, and you see where you hit. I've found that very useful.

But when we do it here in Stress-Shooting, sometimes four guys will come out—it's ridiculous in a way. But it shows to people that they don't need to use sights and they can shoot four people in the center of mass very quickly. They all come out and they'll be running and attacking. The woman or guy will step off the attack line and pull the trigger—bam, bam, bam—and see the laser illuminate the center of mass of each of those four guys. You've got to develop some confidence in your ability.

You mentioned that they all stay here in the dormitories, and we eat together and all that. There's a purpose for that. You were in an infantry unit, Jeff. You know that it's not patriotism, or even determination to complete the mission, as much as it is the bonding of the group that makes an effective combat unit. Most people—read Grossman's stuff—it's pretty good—on killing. Most people have a natural aversion to shooting other people. That's good, of course. But society has conditioned them that way. Even their firearms training conditions them not to shoot people by accident.

Well, you've got to create a mini society where everyone shares the same training goal. They get to know each other and they bond. This helps tremendously psychologically. Let's face it. The military has been using that for 5,000 years. When a 19-year-old kid comes up here, they can turn him into anything they want. But what our program turns you into is a responsible CCW carrier, who is much less likely to be killed or go to prison.

Jeff: Yeah. And I think a way to add in more realism to the drill that you gave as well, because those are powerful tools that you can use. I don't recommend people go out and get blanks and do that at home. But using something like a laser trainer, like a SIRT pistol. Or now you can get a laser insert into your regular firearm as well. So it goes in there and it shoots out a—

Peyton: That's what we use. Yeah.

Jeff: Yeah. Yeah. So you can use those. Then there's another—actually, I just got one of these. It's called CoolFire. It is a dry fire system that you can put inside of your pistol. It shoots out a laser. But it also has compressed air in it. So you get a little bit of the kickback also. I just got it. I haven't used it yet. I'm looking forward to checking that out as well.

But combining that with just something as simple as doing a Tueller Drill mockup, where you just have a training partner. Send them out 21 feet away. But he's not going to tell you when he's going to close the distance. You can go ahead and do this without even doing it concealed first. Just do it six gun style, Old West style, and see what it looks like from 21 feet away, from 30 feet away, from 40.

Peyton: That's why I gave them that.

Jeff: Exactly.

Peyton: That's why I gave them that quick draw, so everything is working in their favor. When a person is carrying concealed, it is much more difficult. Much more difficult. Another thing I wanted to add. First, all the police reports have gone through and the cops I've talked to. Very often they don't even remember how many shots they fired. They're not lying or forgetful. Under adrenal stress they have auditory exclusion. Very often they say, "I don't know. I didn't hear anything. I just felt the gun bucking my hand."

This stuff is very real. But until you experience it for yourself, it's sort of theoretical. It's sort of, "Hmm. That won't happen to me." Well, everybody says that almost. But it does happen to them. It's natural. It's not the same as fear. It's a physiological response. The same as when you're cut you bleed.

Let's take that. Suppose you're cut. When you were a kid and you were cut, the first time you were cut and blood was running down your arm or whatever, you were totally freaked out. But later as an adult you get cut a little bit, and maybe it's even more severe, you're putting your hand over for direct pressure and you're going to get medical attention. The difference is the first time out is always the hardest. The first time you're cut and bleeding, and you're a kid, you panic. But after you've been cut a few times, you learn to deal with it rationally.

It's the same with a shooting. It's not rocket science. There's only a few things you have to keep track of in the instant to do the right thing. The problem people have is the first time they have to point a gun at somebody and pull the trigger and make a decision, they're completely untrained. They don't know the law. They're not conditioned to the total adrenal stress. That can cause them either to shoot prematurely when it's not justified.

That's why I have the blind guy or the deaf guy come up. He makes a furtive move into his jacket, and some people shoot him. He's pulling out a card saying, "I'm deaf and lost. Would you call this number, please?" It's a razor's edge, but you can become almost comfortable making that decision. But if you've never experienced it—

Jeff: I was just going to say—it's the nuances of it. Right? Because every situation, every scenario, is different. I should let everybody know, also, that Peyton was the prime person that I consulted with, and also Massad Ayoob on the scenarios. Many of you I know have taken our video quiz, the shoot-don't shoot video quiz. Most people fail that, the vast majority. We keep checking it, but it stays pretty much steady at 79 percent of gun owners fail that video quiz. It's because of the scenarios, because you don't know what you don't know.

We can end on this, and I think it's really important, is that the jury is not going to feel what you felt at the time you made the decision to pull your weapon out of your holster and pull the trigger. They're going to be looking at it from the relaxed atmosphere of the courtroom being in their chairs, being the ones in charge of your fate.

This is why, as Peyton is saying, it's important for you to feel those things now so that you can make better decisions. It's not the first time you're pulling your weapon against another person. Not your first time pulling a trigger on another person. Because you're going to be under even more scrutiny when it comes to being in a courtroom.

So again, I want to go ahead and give a blatant push for people to go over to Peyton's website over at stressshooting.com. I can tell you that Peyton does not do many of these courses. When he was saying 5,000 years—

Peyton: Tomorrow I'll be [68](#).

Jeff: I was going to say you were talking about how training has been for the last 5,000 years. You were there at the beginning of the training 5,000 years ago. So there aren't going to be that many more of these courses that are—

Peyton: The earth was cold and the dinosaurs were gone.

Jeff: That's right.

So listen, everybody. He only does a couple of these at most a year. So you definitely want to make sure that you check out his schedule. Go over to stresshooting.com. Take the training. I can't tell you enough how important it is, how impactful this training was, for everybody from complete beginners. I have friends of mine that were there that had only maybe been to the range maybe one time—basically, barely knew how to even operate a firearm—all the way up to military contractors and law enforcement.

Everybody there, the bonding is great. There's no macho egos that are in there at all. Everybody is there to support one another. It's a great bonding experience. It's a lot of fun. But more importantly, the survival skills and the legal skills that you get from that training will be the best training that you've ever taken. I promise you. So go check it out now over at www.stresshooting.com.

Until our next *Modern Combat and Survival* broadcast this is Jeff Anderson saying prepare, train and survive.