



Top 5 “Post-Shooting” Mistakes

with Jeff Anderson for www.ModernCombatAndSurvival.com

Overconfidence Is A Problem

There are 5 serious mistakes that even experienced shooters make when it comes to the aftermath, the LEGAL side of a shooting.

- The emotional and financial traumas of legal issues after a shooting are immense.
- There’s a lot of misinformation out there.
- Even the things you say online can be used against you.

1. Leaving The Scene Of A Shooting

You might NEED to leave a shooting, and people have done so.

- Maybe a spouse or other loved one is waiting for you.
- You won’t necessarily be thinking rationally after the shock and trauma of a shooting.
- You might think you’re not safe. (If you’re not safe, you HAVE to leave to stay alive.)
- Your phone might be dead or missing and you need to find a phone.
- You’ll have to support, in a court of law, why you left the scene if you had a reason. Looks can be deciding; don’t leave unless it’s a matter of safety.

2. Tampering With The Scene

There ARE reasons people change the scene.

- Some people clean up so their homes so they won’t look messy when the cops come. They don’t realize this is all evidence.
- Neighbors or bystanders might see you moving things around. This will be interpreted as “tampering.”
- You might have made a mistake, thought someone was armed, and shot them.

Defenders have placed weapons near downed attackers for this reason.

- Communicate that you were in fear for your life and justify that. NEVER tamper.

3. Talking Too Much... To YOURSELF!

Obviously, you don’t want to talk too much to the police, but this is different.

- 911 operators are trained to keep you on the phone and keep you talking. Assume you are being recorded EVEN WHEN ON HOLD.
- Your emotional reactions may seem out of place and could be used against you.
- Don’t plead your case or try to justify yourself. Just give the operator the info.

4. Assuming Cops Are Your Friends

Cops have a dangerous job. When they show up, they are arriving at a shooting. Just because you’re the good guy, don’t think they know it or will treat you that way.

- Don’t have your gun IN YOUR HAND.
- Don’t try to explain or plead your case.
- Don’t respond to attempts to build rapport.

5. Don’t Assume Cops Are Your ENEMIES

This is the other side of the coin.

- Cops may treat you like you’re the bad guy until they assess the scene (or after that).
- Assume responding officers will treat you that way. Roll with it and be polite.
- Comply. Ask to speak with your lawyer before you provide information beyond who you are and that you were in fear for your life.

Prepare. Train. Survive.