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**Episode #357 Show Notes**

**The Arvada Shooting: What To Do When  
The Cops Arrive And YOU Are Armed**



## JEFF ANDERSON

[WWW.WARRIORLIFE.COM](http://WWW.WARRIORLIFE.COM)



Jeff Anderson spent ten years in light infantry in the military and is a combat war veteran. Most of Jeff's military service was spent with the 10th Mountain Division – an elite light infantry force of highly trained warriors specially trained for warfare under all conditions – arctic, jungle, desert, mountains, urban terrain – you name it.

After 10 years of military training in additional elite infantry units around the world, Jeff began working as a security consultant and executive protection specialist for private clients and the entertainment industry, eventually earning his industry recognized Certified Protection Professional (CPP) designation. Later, he went on to instruct hand-to-hand combat and weapons combat and eventually organized a unique combatives association focused on all areas of survival, called The International Society Of Close Quarter Combatants ([www.ISCQC.org](http://www.ISCQC.org)).

Jeff's work has been published in several magazines and expert blogs and his manuals and survival combat training DVDs have long been best-sellers. As the Editor in Chief of Modern Combat & Survival, a publication of the ISCQC that provided focused training strategies for all areas of survival for men and women of all walks of life, Jeff determined the next step: the lifestyle brand **Warrior Life**. To learn more about *Warrior Life* and the way of life it promotes, [visit us online](#).

# The Arvada Shooting: What To Do When The Cops Arrive And YOU Are Armed

with Jeff Anderson from <https://www.WarriorLife.com/>

## 1. Do NOT Draw Your Gun Until You Have Identified The Threat Positively

- If you are present at an active shooter situation or ANY scenario where you may be called into action, do not draw your gun until you have positively identified the threat.

## 2. Responding Officers Will NOT “Understand”

- The responding police have no idea who you are. Cops in Arvada were responding to a call of a man with a gun. When they arrived, the hero who stopped the active shooter WAS a man with a gun. They had no way to know he wasn't the threat.

## 3. Holster Your Weapon!

- As soon as you have neutralized the threat, holster your weapon. This may seem counterintuitive.
- There are OTHER “good guys with guns” out there, including police officers, plainclothes officers, and even other armed citizens, who will see a “man with a gun” and respond to the threat with potentially lethal consequences.

## 4. Police Are Coming; LOOK For Them!

- When you're in shock and your adrenaline is spiked, you could get tunnel vision and experience other issues (like auditory exclusion). The ringing in your ears can make you less aware of your surroundings.
- Visually scan your surroundings and look for signs of the police. Wave your arms high

and wide to get their attention... and KEEP them high and wide the entire time.

## 5. CCW Badge For EDC

- This is an extremely controversial concept I have suggested before. It's not a magic talisman, and you must NOT impersonate an officer, but having the badge out and on you won't HURT you (unless you're at a BLM protest, in which case leave it hidden).

## 6. Make No Sudden Moves

- If you are challenged by officers while holding your gun, you might turn to look... and your gun could turn with you. Point the gun in the air with your fingers spread wide apart to show you're NOT taking a shooting stance. Listen to instructions and obey.

## 7. Expect To Be Treated Like A Criminal

- The police can't know you're one of the good guys at first. Expect to be treated like a suspect and don't take it personally. Don't try to “explain things” or thrust your gun around, even if it's pointing away from the officer and/or at the “bad guy.”

## 8. Do EXACTLY What You're Told

- Don't interpret officers' instructions. Follow commands immediately and to the letter. If they say “drop the gun,” drop it, don't carefully set it down. People who are slow to obey could be planning their next attack, and cops are trained to look for this.

*Prepare. Train. Survive.*

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Hey what's up Warriors? It is Jeff from WarriorLife.com and welcome to podcast episode number 357. So this week a tragic story of a hero's death and the eight critical lessons it holds for all of us who identify as an arm protector. Let's talk tactics.

Hey there. Welcome back everybody. This is Jeff Anderson, executive director of warriorlife.com and these are the kinds of stories. I do not like to read about, but unfortunately, they're not isolated incidents. These things happen, you may have heard about this in the news.

Especially for those of us who do carry concealed. This is kind of hit a lot of us with a new story that kind of hits close to home. But there are some real lessons in here because this really can happen to any of us. So, let me go ahead and share the story with you as it's unfolded so far and then share with you a few tactical lessons that you need to take from it. Especially if you are a concealed carry license holder so it was about 1:30 in the afternoon when

An officer Gordon Beasley a 19 year, old veteran of the Arvada. Colorado Police Department was responding to a call of a suspicious person at the Town Square. There was no way for him to know that earlier, that day, 59 year, old Ronald, Troy key. If I'm pronouncing his name, right? Had left. A note with multiple statements about killing as many Arvada police officers, as he could. Now, as officer Beasley was walking up an alley towards the square,

Tricky pulled up in his truck, he parked. He ran after the officer with a semi-automatic shotgun.

He yelled to Beasley and waited for the officer to stop and turn around. And then he shot him twice with the shotgun killing him in a brutal cowardly. Ambush

Troy key, then shout out the windows of a patrol car. He proceeded to fire shots in the air and bystanders were running for cover. You can see this in the video that we will go ahead and post on our blog over at War life.com. So you can see at least part of the situation, be aware that it is a

It is a graphic there's there's no blood or anything like that but it is a graphic video. It is hard to watch for some people so just be cautious of that. Troy key.

Then returned to his truck to retrieve and AR-15 rifle and he was really intent on taking out more victims. Now fortunately his plans were snuffed out pretty quickly before he could injure or kill anybody else because in a nearby Army-Navy surplus store, 40 year-old, Johnny Hurley was visiting from Denver to do some shopping when he saw Troy Key walk by with the rifle in his hands. Now Hurley was a licensed and

armed concealed carry protector and he didn't hesitate. He sprung into action. He confronted Troy Key and he shot the armed gunman, as he walked back to the Town Square for more victims, and saw him fall to the ground. Now, police have been called and they were en route to Hurley. Most likely didn't want to take any chances of the gunman coming back to consciousness. So what he did was he grabbed the AR-15 rifle in order to safeguard it. Now, the rest of the story is still

Our investigation, but we do know this.

Are responding Arvada. Police officer, whose name is being withheld right now came upon the scene and saw her lie there in front of a bleeding person, holding an AR-15 rifle and he's shot him Hurley. A true hero died on the scene from those rounds.

And again, unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident. And for those of us who do consider ourselves true protectors people who may one day be put in a position where you have to defend yourself your family or even others, his death serves some critical lessons when responding to a lethal encounter. So here are eight tactical takeaways from the shooting that you really need to consider Beyond just how tight your shot group is at the range.

So lesson number one, if you are present at an active shooter situation or any scenario where you may be called into action, don't draw your gun until you have positively identified the threat. Now that might seem counterintuitive to our people. In fact, some of these lessons are going to seem counterintuitive to you

It's very common to think that if their shots are being fired and especially if there's an active shooter, you don't know where they're going to be like you basically go into Battlefield action, right? You have your weapon drawn and you're looking for the bad guy. If you are the type of person that runs toward danger now, of course, that's not. I can't give anybody those instructions. Like it really does. Come down to who you are as a person. It's okay to just get your family and get the hell out of there. That's

You should do, but I understand that some people are just known to run toward Danger.

So, if that is you, you don't want to draw your gun until you have positively identified, a threat, that is truly a threat. Now, this is key because there's something else going to share with you here in a little bit because you might not be actually responding to the threat that you think you are. So you don't want to draw your gun. Other. My other people might see you. You could be seen by other police officers, you're there with a gun, you could get shot.

All right, listen number two is, you need to understand that responding. Officers are not going to understand the scene that they're coming upon. They're coming in with limited information and any sort of a lethal encounters a dynamic scenario. It can change at a moment's notice. Police officers are especially aware of that. Now, the police responding to the Arvada shooting. We're going on a call, that was essentially a man on the scene holding a gun.

When the officer arrived Hurley was a man on the scene holding a gun so that's why you don't want to draw your weapon there. If you do if you don't have to until you actually see that there's a threat and you're able to safely engage it. Okay it goes along here with tip number three which is to holster your weapon. Now again this is going to seem counterintuitive as well but as soon as you've neutralize the threat holster your weapon.

Again, I know this seems like, you know, I know when you're at the range or especially tactical courses, you've got your weapon out, your scanning around, there could be multiple attackers there and I totally get that. It's again, it's a very Dynamic situation, but you do need to understand the police are going to be responding to the scene of somebody holding a gun. They don't know that the person down in the ground was the bad guy in this situation. The police officer thought that Hurley was the bad guy mean you see somebody there with an

AR-15 rifle. Now obviously, that is not like that's not that's not recommended, right? Like you're not concealed, carry operators not walking around with an AR-15 rifle. So of course it looks suspicious there, all right?

But there may be other good guys with guns that are around in the area that when they come across on, you come upon you. Like those people are going to run toward danger, especially if there's gunshots fired. They're either going to be police officers whether they're uniform door playing close or they're going to be other licensed, concealed carry operators, and they're going to come out there running to danger and there you are. You might be seen as the danger.



So go ahead and Holster your weapon for safety sake. As long as there is no other threat in the area.

Right. Tip number four is realize that police will eventually be on the scene, so you need to look for them. Now, remember when you're in shock and your adrenaline is Spike, you could be getting tunnel vision tunnel vision, but there's also other factors as well, like, auditory auditory exclusion, or there, could be loud background noises, or it could just be your ears are ringing from the sound of the firearm. So you are going to be less aware of your surroundings under those conditions, especially if you're thinking that there.

Is a threat there in front of you and you don't if you don't know that this person is going to come back to Consciousness or what's going to happen. So one of the best ways for you to break out of those effects of the, adrenaline Spike of shock is to visually scan, your surroundings. And look, for signs of the police, is one of the things I talked about when it comes to, we talk, you know, people, you see people at the range and it's like, you get down firing and you you bring your your weapon back to low ready, or high ready.

And you look to the left, you look to the right behind you and it just becomes kind of this obligatory movement. You need to actually look for something when you look behind you. So the best thing to do is to look for other threats, of course. But also you want to look around for officers that are responding.

Not just when you have your I'm not just talking about when you have your your weapon in your hand, but I'm talking about just it is one way to break out of that, that shock is by using your vision to kind of break if you can break away from the, the tunnel vision that's going to help your other senses kind of come back to the moment as well. Alright, so so you want to scan the surroundings and look for signs of the police. Now, when you do spot police officers, you want to make sure that they recognize you as the good guy.

So you want to first get their attention. So wave your arms high and wide to get their attention. You do not have your weapon in your hand and then when you do get their attention, keep your hands up high and wide the entire time. You they don't know if you're going down for a weapon. So you've got their attention. You keep your hands up high. Keep It Wide the entire time so that they know you are not a threat. You're at least not an immediate threat because you don't have again, officers look for the hands, right?

So show him your hands don't don't make them go looking for it. All right, our tip number five. I know I get in trouble for this and I don't care. Like, I'm gonna, I'm gonna give you my reasons because this is a very, very controversial tip. I know it is. So don't dismiss it. Listen to me first and then feel free to share your own opinion.

And that is whether or not you carry a concealed carry badge, a metal badge, that looks like a police officers badge as part of your everyday carry.

I have long said that I do have with me a concealed carry badge as part of my everyday carry gear. Now, this is something that is really pooh-poohed. Bye-bye gun owners everywhere because it's often times seen as like an ego booster. Like, Oh, I'm a wannabe cop. That's not it at all. It's not a magic Talisman. It's not an ego booster.

For me, I know that police are aware that there are playing close and undercover cops that can that that are out there that could be also responding to an incident. And those undercover cops and sometimes plainclothes cops also, I'm not, I'm sorry, not undercover cops typically because you don't want to have to be seen with a badge, but you could be out there so you can be in plain clothes and they carry badges with them. Because when they come up on a police line, if they've got it out there, they're there to identify themselves as a police officer.

Now, I'm not saying you impersonate a police officer, you do not, you do not carry a an officer's badge with you if you're not an officer but they do make concealed carry badges that look like police officer badges. So for me personally, having a badge that I can put on my belt or hang around my neck can't hurt me.

It can help identify Me by other concealed carry handgun, owners out there that are responding or police officers that show up on the scene. If somebody sees a badger hanging around my neck or on my belt that I've been able to take out of my gear and quickly put on, I see that as one more chance that I've got to be considered a good guy.

All right. Now don't do this. If you're in the middle of a black lives matter protest, or a protest against the cops do obviously, just keep that thing tucked away, right? And also like, don't go waving it around at responding police. Any metal in your hand, could be seen as a weapon. So you don't go like, oh, do I have? I'm a license. I have a license in your waving, that around. Nope, especially if you say, I have a license for a gun, all I hear is gun and they see something waving, your hands, it's metal. You could be seen as a bad guy with a gun.



So don't go waving it around. Just, I'd like to have it so I can just put them, put it on my belt. There are other reasons that I have it as well. It's inside of our everyday, carry, our covert survivalists guide. There's some other reasons inside of there. But anyway, the purposes of this. I just want I like to have something there. That might just give me away as being a good guy. I'm open to your thoughts, but that's my reasoning and I'm sticking to it right now. Alright, tip number six is no sudden moves. If you

I do have your weapon in your hands, and you're challenged by officers realize that it is human nature to turn around. And look at someone who shouting it, you realize that your gun may go with you when you turn around. So if you don't necessarily see the police there, you don't hear them because of auditory exclusion that if somebody yells and you turn around, you need to make sure that if you do have your gun in your hands, that thing is not going with you. If your handgun is in your hands and you are approached by police, what you want to do is you want to

Point the gun up in the air with your fingers spread wide apart to show them that you're not taking a shooting stance against them and then you want to listen to their instructions, all right? So you need those fingers. Spread wide hands up in the air. You want to show them. You are not a threat.

Alright. Alright tip number seven is to expect that when they do arrive, you are going to be treated harshly. You're going to be treated like a criminal. They don't know that the person down in the ground is the bad guy. So you need to make sure that you already have that in your mind because it's very it's very easy for us as the good guys as The Sheepdogs out there as the protectors to think of ourselves. As wait. A minute, I'm one of you guys now, of course, logically, you know, that the police don't know that. But at the time when your adrenaline is

And you're in shock, and there were shots fired. Then there's this, there's this thing that happens inside of us that we're not, obviously, we're not thinking clearly, and so you might want to try to explain your way out of it, especially if the person like isn't actually shot on the ground, they're potentially a threat. And now, you're looking at it as wait a minute, if I take my gun off of this person, then they're going to be able to get up.

More than likely, if you do not drop the the your weapon when they tell you to, that's going to be a bigger problem. So you want to make sure that you realize that you are most likely going to be treated harshly as if you are a criminal. So do not try to explain it away. Don't don't wave the gun around thrust, your gun around, even if it's pointing away from the officer, trying to point at the bad guy with it, because it looks like you're going to shoot the person.

All right, and finally tip. Number eight is to do exactly what you're told. This seems like common sense I understand. But it's not necessarily you need to realize that people police are taught to expect that their commands are going to be followed immediately and accurately anything else. Anything other than that, when they're faced with a dangerous criminal means that that criminal is probably thinking about their next offensive move rather than obeying those commands if they say to drop the gun or back away from the vehicle.

And that person is doing the app exact opposite of that. That's not good. That means that person has is has ulterior motives. Why are they doing that? They should follow the commands immediately and accurately. Now, there's a good case of this, it happened back in 2018. I think it was in Texas where there was a man that was part of a group that was being held hostage in a church, and the man was able to wrestle the gun Men. He grappled with him, he got his arms around.

And he got him in the ground. He took his weapon away from him, so it was great. Now when police arrived, what they saw was the church goer with the weapon. Now, they gave him commands to drop the weapon which he did, but he did it by slowly lowering the weapon because he thought it was going to go off if he dropped it. So because he didn't literally drop the weapon and he was lowering it slowly. You I think you can understand how a police officer might look at that as, okay, he's bringing it down, but it's still in his hands.

He's going to hit. Maybe he's faking it. Maybe he's going to go down and he's going to quickly like, shoot me, drop. The gun means drop the gun.

In that church situation that, that churchgoer, that, that, that was the good guy got shot twice because he didn't just drop the gun. So, drop the gun means drop the gun even if the gun would go off and guns, don't typically do that. But even if it did, it's much less likely, that, that round is going to probably hit somebody and kill them. Then it is that you're going to get shot.

Killed. If you don't do exactly what they say, so do exactly what they say. Alright that wraps things up but be sure to subscribe to our podcast on iTunes Spotify Stitcher or wherever you get your podcast. And next hit me up on our blog at were left podcast.com and let me know what you thought of this episode. Let me know what lessons you think are coming out of the Arvada shooting and what are some other things that maybe I missed in my response with officers. Also if you have a question or a tip that you want to share with your fellow Warriors out there, go ahead and

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