

5/30/23 A small-city detective who was working a vehicle theft sting with San Diego County deputies is suing after a bullet from gunfire that deputies directed at a thief struck him in the leg. According to the plaintiff, the deputies, with whom he couldn't communicate because he was not given the proper radio, fired at the man although he did not pose an immediate threat. It's also alleged that the deputies were poorly trained and that one had a history of improper use of force that was never addressed. [Lawsuit](#)

4/17/23 Responding to a late-evening domestic violence call, Farmington (NM) police officers knocked on a door, then backed off and illuminated the homeowner with a spotlight when he appeared. Robert Dotson, 52, held a gun, and as he raised it the officers opened fire, killing him. His wife then opened fire as well. It turns out that the officers were at the wrong house, and may have realized it before shooting.

7/21/22 Last July an LAPD officer shot a disturbed man who “aggressively” advanced on him and his partner with a knife. Samuel Soto, 53, was wounded and dropped the knife. But he got back on his feet. A police helicopter came on scene. Its noise drowned out the cops’ shouts to newly-arriving officers that Soto was no longer armed. And as he advanced on them, they shot him, causing injuries that would lead to his death. Officers have experienced similar difficulties caused by rotor noise in the past.

7/3/22 Akron police released graphic footage depicting the pursuit and shooting death of Black motorist Jayland Walker during the early morning hours of June 27. Walker, who refused to pull over for a traffic violation, fled on foot after a long car chase. Officers fired Tasers, then opened up with their handguns when Walker reportedly turned on them. Walker allegedly fired a shot from his car, and a loaded pistol and an empty cartridge casing were found in the vehicle. But he was unarmed when killed. [Edited video](#)

1/24/21 Ms. Ashli Babbitt was shot dead by a Capitol police lieutenant who had taken up a “strategic choke point” to allow legislators to flee. His official account, as related by a third party, emphasized the chaos and violence. Radio traffic was replete with accounts of force, requests for backup, and, he thought, a mention of shots being fired. He couldn't tell whether Ms. Babbitt and her companions were armed. He didn't know that officers were in the hallway she occupied, nor that a tactical team was coming.

9/23/20 Protests erupted in Louisville after a Grand Jury did not indict the two detectives whose bullets killed Breonna Taylor during the execution of a narcotics search warrant by four officers at her apartment in March. Officers opened fire when Kenneth Walker, Ms. Taylor's boyfriend, pulled a gun and shot a detective in the leg as he burst in. Jurors indicted only one officer, Brett Hankinson, for carelessly unleashing a fusillade that endangered other tenants.

12/16/19 BJA released “How to Reduce Repeat Encounters,” a four-step plan designed to help police executives devise and implement management and response strategies for identifying and properly dealing with troubled, repeat users of police services.

9/30/19 NYPD officer Brian Mulkeen was accidentally shot and killed by other officers after he fired at an armed felon whom he encountered at a crime-ridden housing project in the Bronx. Although overall crime in New York City is down, the area, patrolled by the 47th. Precinct, had ten shootings to date in 2018 [but fifteen so far this year](#).

2/15/19 On February 12, seven NYPD officers unleashed a barrage of gunfire – forty-two rounds in eleven seconds – at an armed robber. Two veteran officers were caught in crossfire: one, Brian Simonsen, 42, died; the other, Matthew Gorman, 34, was wounded. The 27-year old suspect, a chronic offender, was also wounded. His gun turned out to be a hyper-realistic toy.

12/8/18 Ventura deputy Sgt. Ron Helus, one of the twelve persons killed during a December 7 mass shooting at an L.A.-area bar, sustained a lethal wound from a rifle round fired by a CHP officer as they exchanged fire with the gunman. Ventura Sheriff Bill Ayub said the tragedy may not have been preventable: “In my view, it was unavoidable. It was just a horrific scene that the two men encountered inside the bar.”

12/6/18 Two citizens were wounded during an exchange of gunfire between NYPD officers and a suspect who allegedly fired his gun during a “drug ripoff.” Officers discharged “20 to 25 rounds”; it is presently unknown whether any of their bullets struck the innocent victims.

12/1/18 A police officer responding to a November 22 shooting in a crowded Alabama mall shot and killed Emantic Bradford Jr., a 21-year old black man with a gun in hand. It turned out that Bradford was not the gunman, that he was licensed to carry, and that he was trying to help others. The suspect who shot and wounded two was later arrested. [Alabama is an “open-carry” state](#).

11/15/18 On 11/11 a cop responded to a bar shooting in a Chicago suburb. On arrival the officer encountered an armed man in the parking lot, holding another man at gunpoint. Reports conflict, but the officer claimed that the armed man, Jemel Roberson, 26, wasn’t wearing a uniform and didn’t obey commands to put down the gun. The officer, who is white, then shot him dead. Roberson, a black man, was a security guard and supposedly wearing an identifying cap. The man he held had reportedly opened fire in the bar and wounded several patrons. [Illinois state police summary](#)

3/18/18 Inability of sheriff and police to communicate with each other by radio and a mistaken belief that school video surveillance was real-time (it was set on 20-minute delay) also hampered the response to the Florida school shooting.

3/9/18 The Florida deputy whom President Trump and others excoriated for not entering [Marjorie Stoneman High School](#) said that a victim found outside and other indicia led him to believe that the shooter was outside. The first local police officer on scene followed his lead and also set up outside.