



BEING PREPARED FOR A SELF-DEFENSE INCIDENT

- Put your USCCA Membership Card in your wallet or purse.
- Program the Delta Defense Critical Response Team phone number into your phone: 1-877-677-1919.
- Add your emergency contact information and pre-selected attorney (from our Attorney Network) by calling our Member Loyalty Team at **1-800-674-9779**.



Use Your QR Reader to Access This
Self-Defense Aftermath Video

If you find yourself involved in a **self-defense incident**, please remember:

! YOU MAY ONLY USE DEADLY FORCE WHEN
you are facing an imminent threat of death or great bodily harm or defending another person against the same.

! YOUR RIGHT TO USE DEADLY FORCE ENDS WHEN...

1. The attacker has given up or fled.
2. The attacker is incapacitated and no longer poses an imminent threat to your life or can no longer cause you bodily harm.
3. You have the opportunity to safely retreat and get away from the attacker.

IN SHORT, STOP USING FORCE WHEN THE THREAT STOPS.

! IF YOU OR OTHERS ARE INJURED...

1. Make sure no other deadly threat exists.
2. CALL 911.
3. Administer first aid to the level of your training and only if it is safe to do so.

! NEXT STEPS FOR ALL SELF-DEFENSE INCIDENTS...

1. **Call 911.** Keep this call brief and to the point. Report the incident accurately. Let them know you were attacked, feared for your life, and had to defend yourself. Ask them to send the police and paramedics to your location.
2. **Call 1-877-677-1919.** The Delta Defense Critical Response Team will guide you through the next steps and contact your pre-selected USCCA attorney. Or if you did not select one, they will contact a local attorney.



DEALING WITH THE POLICE

! BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVE...

- Place your firearm in its holster or off your body on the ground.
- Place any other weapons on the ground or in a safe location where the police can easily see them.

! TALKING TO THE POLICE...

- Let the police know of any current threats.
- Do not discuss the incident.
- **DO NOT VOLUNTEER ANY INFORMATION.**
- All self-defense incidents are highly stressful and can cause your memory to become distorted. These incidents are best discussed only with your attorney.
- Police are only required to provide your Miranda Warning rights before you are formally placed "under arrest" and questioned. It is critical to remember that anything you say at any time can and will be used against you.
- Invoke your Fifth Amendment right to remain silent with the following statement:
"I AM INVOKING MY FIFTH AMENDMENT RIGHT AND WILL NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS WITHOUT MY ATTORNEY PRESENT."

(Do not say another word without your attorney present.)

! IF POLICE WANT TO SEARCH YOU OR YOUR PROPERTY...

- Always say, **"I AM INVOKING MY FOURTH AMENDMENT RIGHT AND DO NOT CONSENT TO A SEARCH OF MYSELF OR MY PROPERTY."**
- Continue to reiterate this but, **DO NOT** interfere with the police if they choose to search you or your property without your consent. That will be addressed by your attorney in court.

! WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVE...

- Stay calm.
- Put your hands high in the air with your fingers spread.
- Let them know of any current threats.
- Comply with all their instructions.
- Be prepared to be forced to the ground, handcuffed, and placed in a squad car.
- Do not resist.

YOU MAY OR MAY NOT BE ARRESTED AS EVERY INCIDENT DIFFERS.

! THE ROLE OF POLICE...

- Secure the area of any threats.
- Render aid or assist emergency medical personnel.
- Collect and protect any evidence they locate at the scene.
- Record, photograph, or otherwise make note of everything at the scene, including anything you say or do.
- To testify to what they saw or recorded during any future prosecution.

! REMEMBER...

It is your constitutionally protected right to refuse to voluntarily comply with law enforcement's request to search your person or property. Officers are trained to collect whatever information is available to determine **1) if a crime has been committed and if so, 2) to aid in the government's criminal prosecution.** It does not make you "look guilty" if you do not volunteer to waive your constitutionally protected rights. **The reason you do not want to agree to a search is that any items found during a search can be misconstrued or taken out of context and used against you in court.** For instance, a box of ammunition in your car can be communicated as "by having ammunition, the defendant premeditated the conflict." Or if a prescribed pill is found under the front seat of your car, it can be communicated as "the defendant was found with illegal prescription drugs."