

**+P or +P+**

A cartridge loaded to higher-than-standard pressures for its caliber, to produce higher velocities.

**1911**

The Colt-Browning United States Government Model of 1911 .45 automatic pistol. Loosely, any pistol that uses the same design.

**ACP**

Abbreviation for Automatic Colt Pistol and used with caliber designations such as 25 ACP, 32 ACP, 380 ACP, and 45 ACP.

**AD**

Accidental Discharge. A term incorrectly used to identify a negligent discharge. Following the three basic safety rules of handling a firearm is no accident. Not following them can lead to a negligent discharge. Firearms safety is no accident.

**ACTION**

The working mechanism of a firearm. Various types exist, including single-shots, multi-barrels, revolvers, slide- or pump-actions, lever-actions, bolt-actions, semi-automatics and automatics.

**AG**

Attorney General

**AIRGUN**

Not a firearm but a gun that uses compressed air or CO2 to propel a projectile. Examples: BB gun, pellet gun, CO2 gun.

**AMMUNITION**

This generally refers to the assembled components of complete cartridges or rounds i.e., a case or shell holding a primer, a charge of propellant (gunpowder) and a projectile (bullets in the case of handguns and rifles, multiple pellets or single slugs in shotguns). Sometimes called "fixed ammunition" to differentiate from components inserted separately in muzzleloaders.

**ANTIQUÉ**

By federal definition, a firearm manufactured prior to 1899 or a firearm for which ammunition is not generally available or a firearm incapable of firing fixed ammunition.

**ARMOR-PIERCING AMMUNITION**

By federal definition, "a projectile or projectile core which may be used in a handgun and which is constructed entirely (excluding the presence of traces of other substances) from one or a combination of tungsten alloys, steel, iron, brass, bronze, beryllium copper, or depleted uranium. Such term does not include shotgun shot required by... game regulations for hunting purposes, a frangible projectile designed for target shooting, a projectile which the Secretary finds is primarily intended to be used for sporting purposes, or any other projectile or projectile core which the Secretary finds is intended to be used for industrial purposes, including a charge used in an oil and gas well perforating device."

## **ASSAULT RIFLE**

By U.S. Army definition, a selective-fire rifle chambered for a cartridge of intermediate power. If applied to any semi-automatic firearm regardless of its cosmetic similarity to a true assault rifle, the term is incorrect.

## **ASSAULT WEAPON**

Any weapon used in an assault (see WEAPON).

## **AUTOMATIC**

A firearm designed to feed cartridges, fire them, eject their empty cases and repeat this cycle as long as the trigger is depressed and cartridges remain in the feed system. Examples: machine guns, submachine guns, selective-fire rifles, including true assault rifles.

## **AUTOMATIC PISTOL**

A term used often to describe what is actually a semi-automatic pistol. It is, technically, a misnomer but a near-century of use has legitimized it, and its use confuses only the novice.

## **BACKSTRAP**

The part of a pistol that is exposed at the rear of the grip.

## **BALL**

Originally a spherical projectile, now generally a fully jacketed bullet of cylindrical profile with round or pointed nose. Most commonly used in military terminology.

## **BALLISTICS**

The study of what happens to moving projectiles. Internal/Interior Ballistics studies what happens inside the firearm from the moment of ignition until it leaves the barrel. Exterior/External Ballistics studies the motion of the projectile after it leaves the barrel. Terminal Ballistics studies the projectile's impact on the target.

## **BATFE (BATF) (ATF)**

The BATFE is the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. Until recently, they were part of the Department of the Treasury, since their original mandate was handling tax stamps for firearms. Due to the War on Terror, they've been moved within the Department of Homeland Security. Their mission has over time become less focused on tax collection and more focused on investigation and enforcement of laws.

## **BLANK CARTRIDGE**

A round loaded with black powder or a special smokeless powder but lacking a projectile. Used mainly in starting races, theatrical productions, troop exercises and in training dogs.

## **BLOWBACK ACTION**

A system where the pressure and energy from the cartridge discharge pushing rearward against the empty cartridge case is used to operate the unloading and loading cycle of a semi-automatic or automatic firearm.

## **BOLT-ACTION**

A gun mechanism activated by manual operation of the breechblock that resembles a common door bolt.

**BORE**

The interior of a firearm's barrel excluding the chamber.

**BRASS**

A synonym for expended metallic cartridge cases.

**BREECH**

The rear of the barrel into which the cartridge or propellant is inserted. Also called chamber.

**BUG**

Acronym for "Back Up Gun." Usually a small firearm that can be hidden very easily on the body. A 5 shot 2 inch barrel revolver in 38 spl is the firearm most people think of when they think of a BUG.

**BULLET**

The projectile expelled from a gun. It is not synonymous with cartridge. Bullets can be of many materials, shapes, weights and constructions such as solid lead, lead with a jacket of harder metal, round-nosed, flat-nosed, hollow-pointed, etc.

**CALIBER**

The nominal diameter of a projectile of a rifled firearm or the diameter between lands in a rifled barrel. In this country, usually expressed in hundreds of an inch; in Great Britain in thousandths; in Europe and elsewhere in millimeters.

**CARBINE**

A rifle with a relatively short barrel. Any rifle or carbine with a barrel less than 16" long must be registered with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Shotguns with barrels less than 18" long fall into the same category.

**CARTRIDGE**

A single, complete round of ammunition.

**CASE, CASING**

The envelope (container) of a cartridge. For rifles and handguns it is usually of brass or other metal; for shotguns it is usually of paper or plastic with a metal head and is more often called a "shell."

**CCW**

1. "Carry Concealed Weapon" To carry a handgun concealed.
2. "Concealed Carry Weapon" A permit/license to carry a concealed firearm.

**CFP**

Carry Firearms Permit. A permit/license to carry a concealed firearm.

**CHL**

Concealed Handgun License. A license to carry a concealed firearm.

**CN (Tear Gas)**

CN (chloracetophenone) is widely distributed irritant. It is applied for the needs of law enforcement, military agencies and civilian self-defenders. CN causes flow of tears when sprayed, but the irritant is relatively mild. It usually doesn't exert a strong influence on people;

effect can usually last for a few minutes. CN doesn't affect on dogs, drunken and drug affected people.

### **CS**

CS (ortho-chlorobenzalmalononitrile) - double-action chemical agent, which irritates both eyes and respiratory tract. It's actually stronger than CN. CS is a white crystalline substance that has been used for many years by the police forces and the military. It's a widespread irritant on German and Russian civilian markets, but used in the USA strictly for law enforcement. CS is a teratogen, that's why the substance is not recommended for the common use. As a CN, CS doesn't affect on dogs, drunken and drug affected people.

### **CPL**

Concealed Pistol License. A license to carry a concealed firearm.

### **CWL**

Concealed Weapons License. A license to carry a concealed firearm.

### **CWP**

Concealed Weapons Permit. Permit to carry a concealed firearm.

### **CENTER-FIRE**

A cartridge with its primer located in the center of the base of the case.

### **CHAMBER**

The rear part of the barrel that is formed to accept the cartridge to be fired. A revolver employs a multi-chambered rotating cylinder separated from the stationary barrel.

### **CHECKERING**

A diamond-like patten on fore-ends and grips of firearms. (The diamonds are made by cutting crossing lines into the material with special tools.)

### **CHOKE**

A constriction at or near the muzzle of a shotgun barrel that affects shot dispersion.

### **CLEARANCE DRILL**

The manipulation of the firearm in hopes of alleviating malfunctions, usually necessitated by the weapon's failing to feed, fire, extract or eject. Clearance drills will not suffice when a weapon is mechanically incapable of continuing to fire.

### **CLIP**

A device for holding a group of cartridges. Semantic wars have been fought over the word, with some insisting it is not a synonym for "detachable magazine." For 80 years, however, it has been so used by manufacturers and the military. There is no argument that it can also mean a separate device for holding and transferring a group of cartridges to a fixed or detachable magazine or as a device inserted with cartridges into the mechanism of a firearm becoming, in effect, part of that mechanism.

### **COM**

Center Of Mass

### **CONDITION 1**

Pistol: Full magazine, cartridge in chamber, hammer cocked, safety on. AKA "cocked and locked.

### **CONDITION 2**

Pistol: Full magazine, cartridge in chamber, hammer down, safety off.

### **CONDITION 3**

Pistol: Full magazine, chamber empty.

### **CONDITION 4**

Pistol: Full magazine separate from gun, chamber empty.

### **CONDITION WHITE**

### **COLOR CODES**

<http://www.handgunlaw.us/documents/CooperColorCodes.pdf>

### **COP-KILLER BULLET**

An inflammatory phrase having neither historical basis nor legal or technical meanings.

### **CQC**

Close-Quarters Combat

### **CYLINDER**

The drum of a revolver that contains the chambers for the ammunition.

### **CYLINDER GAP**

The maximum space between the cylinder and the barrel.

### **CYLINDER STOP**

A device in a revolver to stop cylinder rotation that aligns the chamber containing the cartridge to be fired with the firing pin at the rear and the barrel at the front.

### **DAGGER**

Double edged sheath knife with a symmetrical blade intended for stabbing.

### **DAO**

Double Action Only. It takes the same long trigger pull to fire the handgun. Glock, Concealed hammer revolver are 2 examples of DAO firearms.

### **DEADLY FORCE (Lethal Force)**

That degree of force which is likely to cause death or grave bodily injury.

### **DECOCKING LEVER**

It allows for the hammer to be decocked with the aid of a lever, and, on some pistols, may also be positioned to prohibit firing of a weapon if the trigger is pulled.

### **DERRINGER**

A small single-shot or multi-barreled (rarely more than two) pocket pistol.

## **DOUBLE-ACTION**

A handgun mechanism where pulling the trigger retracts and releases the hammer or firing pin to initiate discharge.

## **DRY FIRING**

Aiming and firing the weapon without live ammunition. This is an excellent technique to improve marksmanship skills and does not cause any damage to a center-fire firearm. It is best done with an expended case in the chamber to cushion the firing pin's fall.

## **DUM-DUM BULLET**

A British military bullet developed in India's Dum-Dum Arsenal and used on India's North West Frontier and in the Sudan in 1897 and 1898. It was a jacketed .303 cal. British bullet with the jacket nose left open to expose the lead core in the hope of increasing effectiveness.

Improvement was not pursued, for the Hague Convention of 1899 (not the Geneva Convention of 1925, which dealt largely with gas warfare) outlawed such bullets for warfare. Often "dum-dum" is misused as a term for any soft-nosed or hollow-pointed hunting bullet.

## **DUMMY ROUND**

Cartridge containing a bullet but no propellant, and an inert primer. Used for safe demonstration of loading procedure, testing of rifle actions, etc. Usually identifiable by hole drilled through case wall.

## **EJECTOR**

The mechanism which throws the cartridge case free from the gun.

## **EMERGENCY RELOAD**

is the reload in which you have spent all the rounds from your magazine/cylinder and your slide is locked back and the magazine is empty or the cylinder no longer contains any live ammo and the firearm must be reload to fire again.

## **EXTRACTOR**

A hook device which pulls the case out of a chamber as the breech mechanism is opened. (The extractor generally brings the case within reach of the ejector, which then flips it out of the gun.)

## **EXPLODING BULLET**

A projectile containing an explosive component that acts on contact with the target. Seldom found and generally ineffective as such bullets lack the penetration necessary for defense or hunting.

## **EXPLOSIVE**

Any substance (TNT, etc.) that, through chemical reaction, detonates or violently changes to gas with accompanying heat and pressure. Smokeless powder, by comparison, deflagrates (burns relatively slowly) and depends on its confinement in a gun's cartridge case and chamber for its potential as a propellant to be realized.

## **FEEDING RAMP**

Upward sloping, slightly concave metal ramp immediately below and in front of the chamber mouth, to guide the cartridge in its travel from magazine to chamber.

**FIREARM**

A rifle, shotgun or handgun using gunpowder as a propellant. By federal definition, under the 1968 Gun Control Act, antiques are excepted. Under the National Firearms Act, the word designates machine guns, etc. Air guns are not firearms.

**FIRING PIN**

The part of the breech mechanism which strikes the primer of the cartridge.

**FIXED AMMUNITION**

A complete cartridge of several obsolete types and of today's rimfire and center-fire versions.

**FLASH HIDER/FLASH SUPPRESSOR**

A muzzle attachment intended to reduce visible muzzle flash caused by the burning propellant.

**FLINCH**

To move or jerk a firearm involuntarily while shooting.

**FMJ**

Acronym for Full Metal Jacket. The bullet has a jacket that covers the bullet. In most cases this jacket is made of copper.

**FOLLOW-THROUGH**

The continued mental and physical application of marksmanship fundamentals after each round has been fired.

**fpe**

Acronym for Foot Pounds of Energy. If you know the velocity and weight of a bullet you can figure its Foot Pounds of Energy.

**fps**

Acronym for Feet Per Second, the common units for expressing bullet velocity

**FTE**

Acronym for Failure to eject. Failure of a fired case to completely eject from an auto loading pistol and making the firearm jam.

**FTF**

Acronym for Failure to Feed. Failure of the cartridge in an Auto loading pistol to completely seat in the chamber.

**GAP**

Glock Automatic Pistol This term was first introduced for the .45 GAP round. This is a .45 caliber cartridge that is shorter than the more common .45 ACP

**GAUGE**

The bore size of a shotgun determined by the number of round lead balls of bore diameter that equals a pound.

**Grain, gr.**

A unit of weight used in the U.S. for powder and bullets. There are 7,000 grains in a pound.

**GRIP**

The small portion of the stock gripped by the trigger hand.

**GRIP SAFETY**

In some handguns, such as the venerable .45 Colt semi-automatic pistol, an auxiliary locking device located on the grip prevents firing until it is depressed.

**GUN**

The British restrict the term in portable arms to shotguns. Here it is properly used for rifles, shotguns, handguns and air guns, as well as cannon.

**GUNPOWDER**

Chemical substances of various compositions, particle sizes, shapes and colors that, on ignition, serve as a propellant. Ignited smokeless powder emits minimal quantities of smoke from a gun's muzzle; the older black powder emits relatively large quantities of whitish smoke.

**HALF COCK**

The position of the hammer when it is being retracted and held by the sear so it cannot be released by a normal pull of the trigger.

**HAMMER**

The part of the action that drives the firing pin forward.

**HAMMER BLOCK**

A safety device that separates the hammer from the firing pin except when the trigger is pulled.

**HAMMER SPUR**

The extension on an exposed hammer that acts as a cocking aid.

**HAMMERLESS**

A firearm whose hammer and striker (firing pin) are concealed within the metal frame.

**HANDGUN**

Synonym for pistol.

**HANGFIRE**

Extended delay (up to a second or more) between the firing pin blow and the ignition of the powder, usually caused by old or contaminated primer/propellant which ignites slower than usual. 1. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. 2. Count to ten SLOWLY. 3. With the opening in the action pointed away from your face, eject the cartridge and examine it. 4. Attempt to determine the cause of the failure.

**HIGH-CAPACITY MAGAZINE**

An inexact, non-technical term indicating a magazine holding more rounds than might be considered "average."

**HP (Hollow-Point)**

A bullet with a concavity in its nose to increase expansion on penetration of a solid target.

**IWB**

Inside Waist Band. A type of holster that fits inside the pants at the belt line.

**JACKET**

The envelope enclosing the core of a bullet.

**JHP**

Jacket Hollow Point. A type of bullet that is designed to expand when it strikes its target.

**JSP**

Jacketed soft-point, a type of bullet generally used for hunting and not self-defense.

**KEYHOLE (Keyholing)**

The elongated hole formed by an unstable bullet hitting the target sideways due to the failure to remain balanced in flight.

**LEADING**

Fouling of a firearm bore by metal particles from bullets adhering to the metal surface caused by heat or friction.

**LE**

Law Enforcement

**LEA**

Law Enforcement Agency

**LEO**

Law Enforcement Officer

**LETHAL FORCE (Deadly Force)**

That degree of force which is likely to cause death or grave bodily injury.

**LLEA**

Local Law Enforcement Agency

**LTC**

License to Carry. License to carry a concealed firearm.

**LRN**

Lead Round Nose [bullet design]

**LSWC**

Lead Semi-WadCutter [bullet design]

**MAGAZINE**

A spring-loaded container for cartridges that may be an integral part of the gun's mechanism or may be detachable. Detachable magazines for the same gun may be offered by the gun's manufacturer or other manufacturers with various capacities. A gun with a five-shot detachable magazine, for instance, may be fitted with a magazine holding 10, 20, or 50 or more rounds. Box magazines are most commonly located under the receiver with the cartridges stacked vertically. Tube or tubular magazines run through the stock or under the barrel with the cartridges lying

horizontally. Drum magazines hold their cartridges in a circular mode. A magazine can also mean a secure storage place for ammunition or explosives.

### **MAGAZINE SAFETY**

Also called a "magazine disconnecter." A device that prevents a pistol from being discharged when the magazine is removed. (Warning: These devices are not always reliable.)

### **MAGNUM**

A term indicating a relatively heavily loaded metallic cartridge or shot shell and, by extension, a gun safely constructed to fire it.

### **MAINSRING**

A strong spring, aka an energy storage device, that operates the striker or hammer of a firearm.

### **MULTI-BARRELED**

A gun with more than one barrel, the most common being the double-barreled shotgun.

### **MUSHROOMED BULLET**

A description of a bullet whose forward diameter has expanded after penetration.

### **MUST INFORM OFFICER**

In some states you must inform an LEO that you have a Permit/License and are carrying if approached by an Officer on Official Business. Stopped for a traffic violation etc. If you do not inform the LEO you are breaking the laws of that state.

### **MUZZLE**

The open end of the barrel from which the projectile exits.

### **MUZZLE BLAST**

The loud noise that occurs at the muzzle of a firearm when the projectile leaves the muzzle and hot gases are released into the air.

### **MUZZLE BRAKE**

An attachment to or integral part of the barrel intended to trap and divert expanding gasses and reduce recoil.

### **MUZZLE ENERGY**

A bullet's energy, measured in foot pounds, as it emerges from the muzzle.

### **MUZZLE FLASH**

The bright flash or illumination at the muzzle of the firearm that results from propellant particles emerging from the barrel behind the projectile and igniting when mixed with oxygen in the air.

### **MUZZLE FLIP**

Movement of the end of the firearm (Muzzle) upward when the firearm is discharged.

### **NEGLIGENT DISCHARGE (ND)**

A term that is used to refer to unintended discharge of a firearm that causes bodily injury, property damage, etc. Gun advocates and proponents debate whether it should be synonymous with accidental discharge.

## **OUT OF BATTERY**

The condition where the breeching mechanism is not in proper position for firing.

## **OWB**

Outside Waist Band. A type of holster worn outside the waist band.

## **PARABELLUM**

Means "prepare for war." From a Latin maxim--si vis pacem, para bellum--"If you want peace, prepare for war." The European designation of the Luger pistol and (today more commonly) the 9mm cartridge it chambered.

## **PEACABLE JOURNEY LAW**

State laws concerning traveling through the state with a loaded firearm on you or in the vehicle without a permit. Some states allow for traveling through their state and keeping the firearm on you if you don't stop.

## **PEPPER SPRAY (OC)**

OC (Oleoresin Capsicum) is a derivative of Hot Cayenne peppers. OC is much more efficient as compared to CN and CS; it's an inflammatory agent. Upon contact, it causes an intense burning sensation, temporary blindness, restricted breathing and disorientation. The effect of OC can last from 15 to 60 minutes depending on a concentration. Unlike CN and CS, OC perfectly affects on dogs, drunken and drug affected people. OC is a natural irritant, that's why it's much more innocuous in comparison with the chemical irritants.

## **PISTOL**

Synonymous with "handgun." A gun that is generally held in one hand. It may be of the single-shot, multi-barrel, repeating or semi-automatic variety and includes revolvers.

## **PISTOL GRIP**

The handle of a handgun or protrusion on the butt stock or fore-end of a shoulder-operated gun that resembles the grip or handle of a handgun. A "semi-pistol grip" is one less pronounced than normal; a "vertical pistol grip" is more pronounced than normal.

## **PLINKING**

Informal shooting at any of a variety of inanimate targets. The most often practiced shooting sport in this country.

## **POA**

Point Of Aim

## **POI**

Point Of Impact

## **PORTING**

May mean either lowering the ejection port of a self-loading pistol to ensure greater reliability and less damage to cases or the practice of drilling gas vents in a barrel to reduce muzzle jump. The proprietary Mag-na-port system is a well-known example of this.

**PRIMARY GUN**

The first pistol you draw when a firearm is needed. Typically loaded with medium to large caliber rounds.

**PRIMER**

The ignition component of a cartridge generally made up of a metallic fulminate or (currently) lead styphnate.

**PROPELLANT**

In a firearm the chemical composition that is ignited by the primer to generate gas. In air or pellet guns, compressed air or CO2.

**RECEIVER**

The housing for a firearm's breech (portion of the barrel with chamber into which a cartridge or projectile is loaded) and firing mechanism.

**RECIPROCITY**

A mutual exchange of privileges. When two states agree to honor each others privilege of carrying concealed firearms it is called reciprocity.

**RECOGNITION**

A unilateral action by one jurisdiction (state) to honor a permit or license from another jurisdiction.

**RECOIL**

The rearward or opposite force or movement of a firearm caused by and equal to the force the firing or moving the projectile forward. Commonly called kick and measured in foot pounds.

**REVOLVER**

A gun, usually a handgun, with a multi-chambered cylinder that rotates to successively align each chamber with a single barrel and firing pin.

**RIFLE**

A shoulder gun with rifled bore.

**RIFLING**

Spiral grooves in a gun's bore that spin the projectile in flight and impart accuracy. Rifling is present in all true rifles, in most handguns and in some shotgun barrels designed for increasing the accuracy potential of slugs (a slug is a single projectile rather than the more common "shot".)

**RIMFIRE**

A rimmed or flanged cartridge with the priming mixture located inside the rim of the case. The most famous example is the .22 rim fire. It has been estimated that between 3-4 billion .22 cartridges are loaded in the U.S. each year.

**RKBA**

Right to Keep and Bear Arms.

**RN**

Round Nose. A type of bullet with a rounded nose.

**ROUND**

Synonym for a cartridge.

**RUPTURE CASE**

Cartridge case that splits or bursts open on firing, due to problems such as excessive headspace, oversized chamber, fatigued or brittle brass, etc. Extremely dangerous, as the escaping gases can blind or otherwise injure the shooter.

**SA**

Single Action, as opposed to double action (DA), SA releases the trigger for primer contact and firing after cocking of the hammer and positioning of the cartridge for firing by means other than pulling the trigger.

**SAFETY**

A device that blocks the firing mechanism of a firearm.

**SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL**

a pejorative or slang term used in the United States for any inexpensive handgun. It is sometimes called an SNS in written shorthand. Traditionally, Saturday night specials have often been defined as compact, inexpensive handguns with a barrel length of under three inches (for pistols, overall length of under six inches) and low perceived quality, although there is no official definition of "Saturday night special" under any federal or state law.

**SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN (RIFLE)**

Common term for federally restricted "short-barreled shotgun (rifle)" i.e. a conventional shotgun with barrel less than 18" (rifle less than 16") or overall length less than 26."

**SCOTUS**

Supreme Court Of The United States

**SEAR**

The portion of a firing mechanism that holds a hammer or striker cocked.

**SELECTIVE-FIRE**

A firearm's ability to be fired fully automatically, semi-automatically or, in some cases, in burst-fire mode at the option of the firer.

**SEMI-AUTOMATIC**

A firearm designed to fire a single cartridge, eject the empty case and reload the chamber each time the trigger is pulled.

**SHALL ISSUE**

The state must issue an applicant a permit to carry a firearm if they meet the requirements as set forth by the state. The issuing agency has no discretion on issuing permits to carry.

**SIGHT PICTURE**

The visual image observed by the shooter when the firearm sights are properly aligned on the point-of-aim.

**SJHP**

Semi-Jacketed Hollow Point [bullet design]

**SNUB-NOSED**

Descriptive of (usually) a revolver with an unusually short barrel.

**SOB**

Small Of Back. A holster that holds the firearm in the Small of your back.

**STAGGERED COLUMN MAGAZINE**

A box magazine that has two staggered columns of cartridges that increase capacity but not length of the magazine.

**STOVEPIPE**

Malfunction occurring when a case gets stuck between the breech face and the slide.

**SUBMACHINE GUN**

An automatic firearm commonly firing pistol ammunition intended for close-range combat.

**SWC**

Semi-WadCutter [bullet design]

**TACTICAL RELOAD**

is the reload in which you encounter a lull in the gunfight and you have time to top off your firearm to bring it back to its maximum ammo capacity You know you have shot some ammo from your firearm so placing yourself behind cover you remove the magazine from your firearm and replace it with a full magazine. With a revolver replace the spent cartridges or dump the contents of your cylinder into your hand and keep the live rounds and reload the cylinder with a speed loader.

**TEFLON**

Trade name for a synthetic sometimes used to coat hard bullets to protect the rifling. Other synthetics, nylon for instance, have also been used as bullet coatings. None of these soft coatings has any effect on lethality.

**TMJ**

Total Metal Jacket [bullet design]

**TRANSFER BAR**

A revolver safety mechanism that delivers the force of the hammer blow to the firing pin by means of an intermediary piece of metal that rises into firing position only when the trigger is pulled.

**TRIGGER**

The part of a firearm mechanism which releases the firing pin.

**TRIGGER GUARD**

A metal loop around the trigger designed to protect it.

**WEAPON**

Webster defines it as "an instrument of offensive or defensive combat." Thus an automobile, baseball bat, bottle, chair, firearm, fist, pen knife or shovel is a "weapon," if so used.

**WEAVER STANCE**

A special shooting style where pistols are gripped with both hands to minimize the effects of recoil, increasing accuracy.