

As we enter into April, this month we will shift the focus. April is Gun Safety and Violence Prevention Month, a controversial topic with the recent catastrophic events and increase in legislative attention within our country.

Week 1

Gun violence is an urgent, complex, and multifaceted issue that requires evidence-based solutions. Every year, guns are used over 80 times more often to protect a life than to take one, according to [Americangunfacts](#). While the U.S. has the highest gun ownership rate (88.8 per 100 residents), that does not seem to correlate with the intentional homicide rate. Per 100,000 residents, the countries with the highest intentional homicide rates are as follows: Honduras, El Salvador, Côte D'Ivoire, and Jamaica—the U.S. ranks number 103 on the list. Regardless of these statistics, gun violence is still a prevalent issue across the U.S., and it is important for gun-owners to take steps to ensure their safety to reduce the risk of accidents and crime. The NRA put together a [list](#) of fundamental rules for safe handling for gun-owners to follow:

1. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction: common sense will dictate the safest direction, depending on the circumstance.
2. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot: until you are ready to fire, do not touch the trigger. This dramatically reduces the risk of an accident.
3. Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use: if you do not know how to open the action or inspect the chambers, get help from someone who does and leave the gun alone until that happens.

At BulletBlocker, we offer a variety of tactical gear for your personal use. In addition to vests, helmets, and bags, we also offer a NIJ IIA [Tactical Bulletproof Pistol Case](#). The case is designed to meet the needs of all types of shooters, featuring enough volume to securely carry two handguns. The fully-padded interior guarantees maximum shock absorption and safeguards weapons from damage during transport. Its durable, self-repairing zippers retain items, guaranteeing long-lasting and reliable use.

Throughout the coming weeks of April, we will provide you with tips and protocol around gun safety. Though some of these tips may seem like common sense, it is important to

stay up-to-date on training, education, and safety protocol to ensure that you are being a safe and responsible civilian gun-owner.

Week 2: Gun Safes

Controlling who has access to your guns is a fundamental aspect of gun safety. While there is no federal law in place, 27 states have individual laws requiring that guns be locked up to prevent access to children, and 11 states require some sort of locking device at the time between purchase and storage, according to [Gun Safe Reviews Guy](#). According to [USA Today](#), children under age 12 die from gun accidents in the U.S. about once a week on average, many of these deaths attributed to accessing an unsecured and loaded gun. A gun safe is a secure and protective storage container for firearms, typically requiring a lock combination or code to open. When considering the types of people who may be in your home at times unsupervised (children, guests, babysitters, friends, family members), it emphasizes the importance of purchasing a gun safe to keep these individuals out of harm's way and prevent an accident from happening.

Locking up your guns not only eliminates the threat of a child or burglar accessing your firearm, but is also a great way to protect your 2nd Amendment rights by demonstrating responsible gun ownership. It also stands as a protection from fire. A gun safe equipped with fire protection properties provides a significant defense for your guns and other valuables in the event of a fire. A few states even offer a tax credit if you purchase a gun safe. In a growing number of states like Massachusetts, Washington, and Connecticut (among others), gun safes are exempt from sales tax. A bill in Congress is being considered for a federal tax credit for a gun safe.

In addition to our variety of tactical gear, we offer a few NIJ IIIA Bulletproof safety range bags that will hold all your necessary range and duty supplies. Our [Scorpion Bag](#) is lightweight and compact enough for ease of use in the field, on duty, or stored in the vehicle as a go-bag. Secure padding helps ensure that sensitive contents inside are protected, and the variety of pocket types, gear loops, and compartments ensure adequate storage and quick deployment. The Scorpion is a functional gear bag ideal for active or retired law enforcement, military or paramilitary personnel, hunters, sports shooters, or anyone who likes to spend time at the firing range. If you desire a more versatile bag, our NIJ IIIA

Bulletproof [Carry All Range Bag](#) may be a great option. The sleek and discrete bag can be used while travelling, at the gym, or when heading to the range for some practice. Its large main storage compartment can easily fit travelling supplies, clothes, or a firearm, and it has several smaller compartments to organize your other items. Regardless of where you take it, it is certain that safety will be with you wherever you go with this lightweight and convenient bulletproof bag.

Week 3: Training Courses

In the past two weeks, we have discussed the importance of following basic gun safety procedures and investing in a gun safe. In addition to this, enrolling in and taking firearm training courses is a great way to stay up-to-date on education around gun safety and ownership. Though it may seem redundant, doing these things helps to protect your second amendment rights and your ability to own a firearm, by reflecting that you are a safe and responsible gun-owner. Even the most experienced marksman could learn something new from an advanced course.

The NRA is recognized nationally as the gold standard for safe [firearm training](#), educating millions of safe, ethical, responsible gun-owners. Whether you are a new gun owner in search of training, or an experienced shooter looking to support others, the NRA has a course for you. They train over 1 million people throughout the country every year, providing individuals the ability to learn from their network of over 125,000 instructors. They have a variety of classes for a broad range of learners, such as The Home Firearm Safety Course, which allows individuals to acquire basic knowledge and skills on how to safely handle or store firearms and ammunition within the home. Their Personal Protection Course, gives individuals the option to learn how to protect themselves and their family in and out of the home. In addition, they offer advanced courses depending on the firearm: Pistol Courses, Rifle Training Courses, and Shotgun Training Courses. For advanced shooters, they also offer training to become an NRA certified firearms instructor or coach. Their classes are available in multiple states across the country, and are typically less than \$100, depending on the course. The cost is well worth the payoff in terms of invaluable training and education.

In addition to our tactical bags and pistol case, we also offer a variety of NIJ IIIA Bulletproof vests that are ideal for shooters, law enforcement members, or anyone desiring a lightweight

layer of protection. The [VIP Concealment Vest](#) is crafted on-site in our Massachusetts facility.

The military grade lightweight NIJ IIIA Bulletproof vest is form-fitting for the most discrete outline and concealment. Its breathable, netted interior is ideal for extended wear, and provides the necessary air circulation for maximized comfort. The vest provides full coverage front and back panels, with extended side wings for wrap-around protection and coverage.

Week 4: Get Involved and Know Your Rights

As we head towards the end of April, this week we will wrap up Gun Safety and Violence Prevention Month by discussing ways to get involved within your greater community. As a gun-owner, being safe, responsible, and law-abiding should be your first priority. Doing so ensures that your Second Amendment rights are protected. While the Second Amendment right to bear arms is protected under the Constitution, there are specific laws and provisions that vary by individual state. These laws can be found [online](#) on the NRA-ILA, the Institute for Legislative Action. It is important to be informed on the specific laws that relate to your state so you know your rights and abilities within your area.

In addition to following basic safety protocol, investing in a gun safe, and taking classes to stay up to date and informed on gun safety and violence prevention, taking action within your community is a great way to get involved. With the recent catastrophic events that have occurred across the nation, the right to bear arms has been a controversial topic in both the political and social realm. Now more than ever, it is important to approach the issue in a rational, respectful manner, while being sensitive of the events that have led to the recent controversy. Be an example to people within your greater community of what a responsible, law-abiding gun-owner looks like. Inform individuals of the benefits of their Second Amendment right, and be open to constructive discussion. Taking direct action is a way to make a difference. You can do this by organizing or attending protests, calling your local representatives, hosting an event with an open discussion, or forming an organization within your community.

At Bullet Blocker, we offer a variety of products to meet your needs. Our tactical backpacks are ideal for military members, law enforcement professionals, hikers, travelers, or anyone in between. They are versatile enough to be used in a variety of settings, and large

enough to meet your storage needs. Our [Tactical Tobago](#) is a NIJ IIIA bulletproof heavy-duty assault pack that can fit up to 3-days' worth of gear. The bulletproof protection only adds about 20 ounces of ballistic weight, ensuring long-wear comfort. The high-quality ballistic panel is made with the latest DuPont Kevlar technologies, and is discretely inserted into the back of the pack so you can covertly and safely reach your destination. It conveniently comes in four color options to meet a variety of tastes.