

How AP examined accidental shootings by police

Since no agency or group tracks how often local, state and federal officers accidentally fire their weapons, The Associated Press set out to gather the information in a variety of ways.

Records requests were first sent to state and federal agencies that responded to major mass shootings in recent years. The requests sought the number of accidental discharges the departments had since 2012, along with reports on the incidents.

Requests also went to the nation's 20 largest law enforcement agencies and to police departments in the largest cities in each state. Media sites were scoured, and Freedom of Information Act requests were sent to federal agencies that use firearms in their work.

These efforts resulted in the documenting of 1,422 unintentional discharges by 258 law enforcement agencies since 2012. Many agencies withheld reports on these shootings, citing personnel or other matters, but the AP was able to determine the circumstances surrounding 426 cases.

Of those, about half occurred during routine firearms handling, like loading or cleaning, or during training. The other half involved officers who were on-duty or responding to crimes and accidentally fired their weapons while chasing or struggling with a suspect or during other high-stress situations. Here is a short description of each case:

Accidental discharges that happened during a response to a mass shooting or report of an active shooter

Alpine, Texas - Sept. 8, 2016

A 14-year-old freshman at Alpine High School in West Texas brought a gun to school and shot another female student before killing herself. As local, state and federal law enforcement agencies rushed to the school and in the confusion, a member of the U.S. Marshal's Service accidentally shot a Homeland Security agent.

The U.S. Marshal was among the law enforcement officers who responded to the school shooting. He arrived at the school equipped with a ballistic shield.

The agent was advised he needed a handgun to operate the shield, so agent was given a duty handgun. The team lined up to clear a classroom when the group heard a gunshot and Homeland Security Investigations Agent Jon Dangle "fell to the ground and was yelling he was shot."

Officers pulled Dangle to a safe location, since the group didn't immediately know where the shot came from. The Border Patrol agent said he realized the shot came from his left side and suspected it came from within the classroom.

The U.S. Marshal agent then told the group that he fired the shot by accident.

Dangle was taken to Odessa Medical Center Hospital. His records say he was diagnosed with "a right leg gunshot wound with a right tibial fracture, anxiety with depressed mood and hypertension as a result of the officer involved shooting incident."

The Texas Rangers presented the case to a Brewster County grand jury, but they declined to charge the agent with the offense of "deadly conduct in regards to the officer involved shooting."

(SOURCE: Texas Rangers report)

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Nevada - Oct. 1, 2017

After Stephen Paddock opened fire from a Las Vegas hotel room at people attending the Route 91 Harvest music festival, killing 58 people and wounding 851, police breached the doors to Paddock's hotel room. They found Paddock dead on the floor.

Next, they used a small explosive device to open the door to the adjoining room. A police report said a SWAT officer then had one negligent discharge of a three-round burst from his rifle.

An investigation into the incident learned that as the breach team began to move, the SWAT agent felt he should "change the rate of fire on his rifle to 'select fire' which pushed the gun into a three-round burst mode," a report said.

As he made the switch, his hand slipped and caused the weapon to fire three rounds into the wall. No one was hurt.

(Source: police report)

Manchester Police Department, Connecticut - March 6, 2013

A Manchester police officer accidentally shot another officer in the foot while they were responding to the Manchester Community College campus after someone reported seeing a male student with a handgun tucked in his waistband.

Officers with the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team, or CREST, arrived at the campus and broke into pods while the school was placed on lockdown, according to the police report.

The officers searched the rooms and hallways for anyone who fit the suspect's description.

The officer said he and two other officers entered the common area of the Science Center and began clearing the area of students and staff while looking at the suspect.

After the officers were directed to the common area, one officer was shot in the right foot.

An investigation into the accidental shooting determined that the gun discharged when the officer was trying to adjust the firearm.

(SOURCE: police report)

University of Central Florida Police Department, Florida - April 26, 2016

ORLANDO, Fla. - A sergeant with the University of Central Florida Police Department accidentally discharged his AR-15 rifle while securing it on a rack in his vehicle after helping to search the library for a possible gunman.

Officers had evacuated the library and searched it after receiving a social media report of a gunman or woman. The library was placed on lockdown, and police asked people to avoid the area.

Moments after the search concluded, spectators outside were startled by the sound of a gunshot. UCF spokeswoman Zenaida Kotala says an officer accidentally discharged his weapon while securing it in his vehicle.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - Feb. 15, 2018

COCONUT CREEK, Fla. - A Broward County sheriff's deputy accidentally shot himself in the leg while responding to a report of a possible active shooter at the North Broward Preparatory School.

The call came in on Feb. 15, 2018 -- one day after a gunman killed 17 students and staff at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in neighboring Parkland, Florida.

The deputy went to the school to assist the Coconut Creek Police Department, according to police records. The deputy shot himself in the left calf with his Glock model 23, .40-caliber handgun. He was treated at the scene.

(SOURCE: police report)

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida - Feb. 14, 2019

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A Jacksonville Sheriff's Office deputy accidentally discharged his weapon after responding to threat at the Jefferson Davis Middle School.

Authorities say the deputy unintentionally fired his gun outside the school.

The sheriff's office received two 911 calls about a shooting at the school, which prompted a lockdown. Officers responded and cleared the campus. They later determined the threat was false.

The sheriff's office said the officer accidentally discharged his weapon outside the school, hitting the sidewalk and causing minor damage.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press, WOKV-TV. Records request sent June 7, 2019)

Total: 6

Accidental discharges where the officer injured himself/herself

Birmingham Police Department, Alabama – 2013

A Birmingham police officer was injured after he tried to unload a suspect's firearm and it discharged, hitting the officer in the leg.

Officers responded to the scene of a break-in at a trucking company. Employees said they were chasing the suspects and officers caught up with them. Two of the three men were armed and an officer took one of the guns away from the suspect to unload it.

The gun's cylinder fell off the weapon and hit the ground, causing a bullet to discharge. It hit the officer in the leg. He was treated at a hospital for non-life threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: WBRC-TV, Birmingham, Alabama)

Mesa Police Department, Arizona - Nov. 28, 2017

A Mesa police crime scene specialist accidentally shot himself in the hand and injured two other officers while working at a crime scene.

The specialist was processing a firearm as evidence when it discharged. It grazed one officer and entered his forearm. The other officer suffered an abrasion on his nose.

(SOURCE: The Arizona Republic)

Los Angeles County, California, Sheriff's Department – Feb. 9, 2016

A deputy for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department was injured when his gun accidentally discharged while he chased a driver who fled in the Wilmington neighborhood.

The early-morning chase started when deputies spotted a green Honda that was stolen several days ago and tried to pull it over, Lt. John Corina of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said.

The driver of the Honda did not stop and a pursuit ensued before the driver finally pulled over. A man fled the vehicle and ran through a nearby fence. A deputy pursuing the man pulled out his gun while still in his vehicle and it accidentally went off as he was getting out, Corina said.

The deputy's injuries were not life-threatening.

(SOURCE: KTLA-TV)

Riverside County Sheriff's Office, California - Sept. 1, 2015

A Riverside County sheriff's deputy accidentally shot himself when a dog charged at him in Lake Elsinore.

The deputy was responding to a residence after receiving reports of a suspicious person looking through windows, Deputy Mike Vasquez said. That's when the deputy encountered a Rottweiler, he said.

The dog charged at the deputy and in an effort to protect himself, he fell backward while drawing his duty weapon and unintentionally shot himself in the leg, Vasquez said.

The deputy was treated at the scene for his non-life-threatening wound before being transported to a hospital.

(SOURCE: Press-Enterprise)

San Diego Police Department, Calif. - June 3, 2018

A San Diego police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg during the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon while chasing a hit-and-run suspect who pointed a weapon at officers. The officer was taken to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The suspect was arrested on the roof of a parking structure. Police Chief David Nisleit said the wounded officer's gun "accidentally discharged" and he was struck in the lower leg.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press.)

U.S. Park Police Department, District of Columbia. - Nov. 3, 2016

A U.S. Park Police officer accidentally shot himself in the foot while responding to a raccoon.

Officials say the raccoon, which may have been rabid, attacked the officer. He responded but accidentally shot himself while fighting off the animal. He was taken to the hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. Another officer killed the raccoon.

(SOURCE: The San Diego Union Tribune)

U.S. Park Police Department, District of Columbia - Feb. 21, 2018

A U.S. Park Police officer suffered a gunshot wound to his leg when his firearm unintentionally discharged while he was searching a house in Northwest Washington D.C.

The SWAT team was serving a warrant and one of the officers set up a ladder to conduct additional searches of the house. His weapon, a Colt M4 Commando rifle with a 30-round magazine, was hanging in front of his body in a sling.

The rifle discharged three rounds, hitting the officer.

(SOURCE: police records)

U.S. Secret Service, District of Columbia - July 25, 2017

WASHINGTON D.C. – A U.S. Secret Service agent injured himself when he accidentally discharged his firearm.

An officer assigned to the Secret Service's Washington field office "was involved in an accidental discharge of a weapon while on duty," a spokesman.

The agent was taken to a hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: The Washington Post)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - Feb. 15, 2018

COCONUT CREEK, Fla. – A Broward County sheriff's deputy accidentally shot himself in the leg while responding to a report of a possible active shooter at the North Broward Preparatory School.

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The deputy went to the school to assist the Coconut Creek Police Department, according to police records. The deputy shot himself in the left calf with his Glock model 23, .40-caliber handgun. He was treated at the scene.

(SOURCE: police report)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Feb. 27, 2012

A Chicago police officer accidentally shot himself after a six-mile chase.

The officer had stopped a vehicle that had three people inside, but the car sped away, which led to the chase. The suspects slammed the car into a fence and lurched backward toward the officer.

The officer tried to jump out of the way, but his gun went off. The bullet hit him in the right calf and broke a bone. The suspects were arrested.

(SOURCE: WMAQ-TV)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Oct. 5, 2012

A Chicago police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while chasing an armed suspect.

The incident followed a car chase when a man jumped out of his vehicle and fled during a traffic stop. Officers followed the suspect on foot but another person drove off in the vehicle, prompting the car chase.

One of the officers dodged the car and his weapon accidentally discharged.

(SOURCE: police report)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Jan. 17, 2015

CHICAGO – A Chicago police officer investigating a disturbance in the Englewood neighborhood accidentally discharged his weapon and injured his leg.

It was not immediately known the nature of the disturbance or why the officer accidentally discharged his gun.

(SOURCE: WGN-TV)

Cook County Sheriff's Department, Illinois - Feb. 18, 2015

BRIDGEVIEW, Ill. – A law enforcement officer was injured when his gun accidentally discharged at the Cook County Courthouse in Bridgeview. No one else was hurt.

An alarm at the courthouse malfunctioned earlier in the morning, forcing an evacuation of the building. The officer was retrieving a gun from a locker it went off.

The officer was taken to the hospital with a gunshot wound to his leg, according to the Cook County Sheriff's Department. No one else was injured.

(SOURCE: WLS-TV)

South Bend Police Department, Indiana - Sept. 19, 2018

A South Bend police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while trying to arrest a robbery suspect.

Police were called after a man reported that another man threatened him with a gun during an argument with a group of homeless men. The officer chased the suspect, who hid near a dumpster. That's when the officer accidentally discharged his gun and the bullet hit his leg. He was treated and released.

(SOURCE: WNDU-TV)

Baltimore Police Department, Maryland - Oct. 12, 2016

A Baltimore police officer accidentally shot himself in the wrist while responding to a carjacking in Baltimore's Federal Hill neighborhood.

Officials said three men forced two women out of their car and left in their vehicle. Officials spotted the car and two detectives in an unmarked cruiser approached the vehicle. As the suspects fled, the officer had an accidental discharge. He was treated at a hospital for a gunshot wound to the wrist.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland – Aug. 28, 2012

A Prince George's County police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while retreating from a possibly rabid fox that was racing toward him.

The officer killed the fox, but suffered a gunshot wound. The incident happened after a woman reported that she had been bitten by a fox in Fort Washington.

The officer was taken to the hospital for treatment.

(SOURCE: [The Washington Post](#))

Saint Ann Police Department, Missouri - Aug. 11, 2016

A Saint Ann police detective accidentally shot himself in the leg after a pursuit ended with a crash.

The detective and several other officers pursued the suspects. The detective got out of his vehicle when the suspects crashed. He took out his gun and was jolted when the suspect rammed the officer's vehicle. He was treated and released.

(SOURCE: [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#))

St. Louis Police Department, Missouri - April 23, 2016

A St. Louis police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg during a traffic stop.

The officer was approaching a vehicle when the door opened. It either bumped the officer's gun or startled him. His weapon accidentally discharged, hitting the officer in the leg. He was hospitalized for a gunshot wound.

(SOURCE: [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#))

Carroll County Sheriff's Office, New Hampshire - Dec. 26, 2012

FREEDOM, New Hampshire – A Carroll County Sheriff's deputy was at a shooting scene when he accidentally shot himself in the lower leg. It was not immediately clear how the shooting happened.

The deputy was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: [New Hampshire Union Leader](#))

Bloomfield Police Department, New Jersey - July 21, 2014

A Bloomfield police officer accidentally shot himself when a dog attacked him.

Officials say the officer drew his weapon when the dog attacked and accidentally discharged the firearm. He was treated for non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Jersey City Police Department, New Jersey - Jan. 27, 2012

ELIZABETH, New Jersey – A Jersey City police officer was injured when he accidentally shot himself while trying to apprehend a female fugitive in a residential building.

The Jersey City police were trying to locate a suspect after she failed to appear in court to hear a jury verdict on carjacking charges dating to 2009. The officer accidentally discharged his weapon and the bullet went into and out of his abdomen. Officials said it didn't hit any major organs.

(SOURCE: [New Jersey Real-Time News](#))

New York City Police Department, New York - 2013

A New York City police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg as he was attempting to holster his firearm at the scene of a domestic dispute.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

New York State Court Officers, New York - Sept. 23, 2015

A state court officer shot himself in the hand when his gun accidentally discharged in a Manhattan courtroom.

The officer had removed the weapon from its holster in the civil courthouse when the weapon unintentionally fired, said Dennis Quirk, the president of the New York State Court Officers Association.

The officer was grazed in the palm of the hand and treated and released at a hospital.

(SOURCE: [New York Daily News](#))

Suffolk County Police Department, New York - March 13, 2017

A Suffolk county police officer accidentally shot himself in the hand while on patrol.

Officials did not say what caused the officer to accidentally discharge his weapon, but said he was taken to the hospital and underwent hand surgery.

(SOURCE: [Newsday](#))

Durham Police Department, North Carolina - Dec. 20, 2012

Durham police said a suspect shot an officer in the leg during a struggle, but a jury found otherwise. A lawyer for the suspect successfully argued that the officer shot himself in the leg during the encounter.

The officer had stopped the suspect in a parking lot and they got into a fight, officials said. The officer's gun went off and he suffered a leg injury.

The suspect was charged with assaulting an officer and robbery, but the jury only found him guilty of the robbery charged.

(SOURCE: [The News & Observer](#))

Sandusky Police Department, Ohio - Feb. 1, 2015

Police say an officer in northern Ohio slipped on the ice during a drug search and accidentally shot himself in the hip. Authorities in Sandusky, Ohio, say the bullet grazed the officer's hip and he suffered minor skin abrasions.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Police Department, Texas - May 6, 2013

DALLAS – A Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg at the airport. Officials say he was adjusting his holster when his gun went off. He was taken to a nearby hospital.

(SOURCE: [Dallas Morning News](#))

Dallas Police Department, Texas - Nov. 11, 2017

A Dallas SWAT officer accidentally shot himself in the leg several times with his AR-15 rifle while executing a search warrant.

The senior corporal was part of a SWAT team that entered the house and he moved a couch so he could open a door and clear an outside balcony, according to the police report. As he moved the couch, his AR-15 automatic rifle discharged two to three rounds.

(SOURCE: police report)

Texas Highway Patrol - April 28, 2017

A state trooper stopped a Ford for speeding. When a man got out of his car, he told the trooper that he had some marijuana in the trunk of his vehicle.

The trooper searched the vehicle, according to a police report., and found some small bags of marijuana and some black scales.

After searching the back seat, the trooper opened the driver-side door and searched the front of the car. He found a gold, black and brown Derringer in the front center console under the ashtray, the trooper said in his report. While examining it, it discharged, causing the trooper a minor injury.

(SOURCE: police report)

University of Texas Police Department, Austin Texas - May 17, 2016

A University police officer accidentally shot himself outside the campus police department.

The officer was hospitalized for non-life-threatening injuries. Officials didn't know why the gun discharged, but said the officer was in a secure area where officers conduct weapons checks.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Salt Lake City Police Department, Utah – Aug. 6, 2016

A Salt Lake City police officer shot himself in the foot with a rifle.

The officer was pursuing a suspect when he accidentally discharged his department-issued gun, said Police Lt. Michael Hatch. He was unsure how the officer fired the gun but said he was hospitalized and was expected to recover.

(SOURCE: The Salt Lake Tribune)

Mercer Island Police Department, Washington - Nov. 29, 2012

SHORELINE, Wash. – A Mercer Island police officer accidentally shot himself in the buttocks while serving an arrest warrant.

Police had taken a man into custody and were wrapping up at the scene when the officer accidentally discharged his weapon, striking himself. The unidentified officer was taken to Harborview Medical Center for treatment. Officials said he is a seven-year veteran of the force.

(SOURCE: KOMO-TV)

Fort Pierce Police Department, Florida - Jan. 23, 2013

A Fort Pierce police officer's pistol accidentally discharged grazing his leg in a parking lot near a Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration in Lawnwood Park, Florida.

The officer was part of a patrol overseeing the event when he put his .45-caliber pistol into its holster and it fired.

(SOURCE: TCPalm/Treasure Coast News)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Oct. 25, 2015

An off-duty Chicago police officer was at home in her bedroom attempting to put her firearm away -- a .357 Smith & Wesson, "when she unintentionally pulled the trigger and suffered a gunshot wound that went through and through above her left knee," according to a police report.

Another person was in the kitchen at the time and reported hearing a gunshot sound but did not see the shooting occur. They called an ambulance and she was taken to Mount Sinai Hospital.

(SOURCE: police report)

Cook County Sheriff's Office, Illinois - Sept. 20, 2016

A 41-year-old Cook County Sheriff's deputy drove himself to the hospital after he accidentally shot himself in the hand with his firearm.

The deputy told officials that he was preparing to clean his .45-caliber Colt Defender firearm in his kitchen. He assumed the safety was on and he released the magazine, placed his left hand across the slide and pulled the trigger, causing the gun to discharge one bullet.

The bullet went across the palm of his left hand. He placed the gun on the table and drove himself to Advocate Christ Medical Center.

(SOURCE: police report)

Cook County Sheriff's Office, Illinois - April 7, 2018

A Cook County Sheriff accidentally discharged his weapon and injured himself.

He told officials that he had finished his tour of duty as a sheriff and was viewing property. He said he didn't want to leave his weapon in his car, so he took the magazine out of the gun and put the firearm in his pocket. That's when it discharged.

The bullet went through his right calf and out his right foot.

(SOURCE: police report)

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, Virginia - Feb. 7, 2018

A Loudoun County Sheriff's deputy suffered a shattered femur when she accidentally discharged her Sig Sauer P320 firearm while removing her holster from her duty belt.

The deputy said the gun was in its holster when it discharged and sent a bullet into her leg. She filed a \$10 million federal lawsuit against Sig Sauer, claiming the company misled the public about the safety of the P320 firearms.

Sig Sauer settled the lawsuit in June 2019. The settlement amount and details were not disclosed.

(SOURCE: Loudoun Times-Mirror)

Stamford Police Department, Connecticut - Jan. 5, 2017

A Stamford police officer was injured when he accidentally dropped his department-issued pistol and it discharged, according to his federal lawsuit against Sig Sauer.

The officer was loading his Special Response Team equipment into the back of his vehicle when he dropped the Sig Sauer semi-automatic P320 pistol, according to a lawsuit he filed against Sig Sauer. At the time of the fall, the lawsuit said, the pistol was "fully holstered."

(SOURCE: court records)

Federal Air Marshal Service, District of Columbia - April 27, 2014

WEST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY – A federal air marshal accidentally shot himself in the leg with his service weapon inside of a West Orange office building. The marshal, who was not identified, suffered non-life threatening injuries, said West Orange Police Sgt. David Palmere.

The marshal was taken to University Hospital in Newark, according to Palmere, who said the weapon was a handgun. It was not clear what led to the shooting, and no one else was injured, Palmere said.

(SOURCE: [The Star-Ledger, Newark, New Jersey](#))

Department of Public Safety, Arizona - Aug. 9, 2018

A trooper with the Arizona Department of Public Safety accidentally discharged his weapon and shot himself in the hand. The trooper was at the station at the time. No one else was injured. He was treated for non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: [KPHO-TV](#))

Fullerton Police Department, California - Oct. 30, 2012

A Fullerton police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg during a training exercise.

Fullerton police Sgt. Jeff Stuart said it's "very rare" for officers to hurt themselves with their own guns, but "it does happen." The officer was training for the department's monthly qualifications.

(SOURCE: [City News Service](#))

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy, Calif. - May 1, 2018

COMPTON, Calif. — The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department says a deputy was wounded in an accidental shooting. Officials said was an "unintentional discharge" of a gun at the Compton station.

(SOURCE: [Associated Press](#))

Orange Police Department, Calif. - Oct. 28, 2012

An Orange police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg at a local sports bar.

After hitting the officer's, the bullet went into his foot, missing major arteries, said Sgt. Fred Lopez. An official said a video of the incident showed the officer with his hand in his pocket, where his gun was held, when it went off. He was driven to the hospital by his wife.

(SOURCE: [Orange County Register](#))

University of California, Berkeley, Police Department, Calif. - Oct. 9, 2012

A University of California, Berkeley, officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while getting ready for work. Officials say he was getting dressed in the department's locker room in Sproul Hall when he accidentally discharged his weapon.

(SOURCE: [The Daily Californian](#))

Indian River County Sheriff's Office, Florida - June 14, 2017

An Indian River County sheriff's deputy accidentally shot himself in the right thigh during a training exercise at a shooting range. The deputy was hospitalized with what was described as non-life-threatening injuries. No one else was hurt.

(SOURCE: [Press Journal](#))

Indian River County Sheriff's Office, Florida - June 8, 2018

VERO BEACH, Fla. — Authorities say a Florida deputy at a high school for a training session accidentally shot himself in the hand.

A statement from Indian River County Sheriff's Maj. Eric Flowers says the deputy was trying to clear his weapon when it discharged. A bullet struck him between his ring and middle fingers.

The statement says no students were on the Vero Beach High School campus at the time.

(SOURCE: Associated Press)

Sarasota Police Department, Florida - April 9, 2018

NORTH PORT, Fla. — An off-duty Sarasota police officer suffered a gunshot wound to the leg when he accidentally discharged his firearm in a parking lot of a youth activity center. The officer suffered a self-inflicted gunshot wound in the leg at the Morgan Family Center. No one else was involved.

(SOURCE: Sarasota Herald Tribune)

Atlanta Police Department, Georgia - May 23, 2018

An Atlanta motorcycle officer accidentally shot himself while getting changed at the motor precinct near the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. The officer was changing into his street clothes when a shot went off.

(SOURCE: WGCL-TV)

Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii - 2017

A Honolulu police officer accidentally discharged his weapon while he was unloading the gun. One of the rounds went into the ground and the officer and another officer suffered abrasions from shrapnel.

(SOURCE: police report)

Lewiston Police Department, Idaho - Oct. 23, 2015

Two Lewiston police officers were injured when a firearm accidentally discharged in the department's basement.

An officer was clearing the firearm of any ammunition when it discharged, injuring two officers in the hand. The officers had just finished a training exercise when the incident occurred.

(SOURCE: Lewiston Morning Tribune)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - March 26, 2018

An off-duty Chicago Police officer suffered a graze wound to the leg after his gun accidentally discharged in the Budlong Woods neighborhood.

The weapon was discharged inside the officer's personal vehicle, Chicago police said.

(SOURCE: Chicago Sun Times)

Anderson Police Department, Indiana - Aug. 1, 2018

ANDERSON, Ind. — An officer with the Anderson Police Department accidentally shot himself in the hand while placing his gun back in its holster at police headquarters.

The department said the officer was wounded when the gun discharged unexpectedly. Police didn't immediately say how seriously the officer was hurt. Dispatch traffic indicated he was wounded in the hand.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Connersville Police Department, Indiana - Jan. 21, 2014

CONNERSVILLE, Ind. — A Connersville police chief accidentally shot himself in the leg while running for Fayette County sheriff.

The chief's 40-caliber Glock handgun accidentally discharged while he was at a gun shop. He was off-duty at the time. The accident occurred when he was putting his Glock into its holster after he removed it to compare it to a newer Glock model at the gun shop, he said.

(SOURCE: The Indy Star)

Lawrence Police Department, Kansas = March 20, 2018

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Authorities say a Lawrence police officer has been shot in the leg during firearms training.

Police described the shooting at a Fraternal Order of Police lodge as an accident in a news release. The injured officer was taken to a hospital and was in stable condition.

The release says the preliminary investigation indicates the officer was wounded when equipment became entangled inside the firearm's trigger guard, causing the weapon to discharge.

(SOURCE: Associated Press)

Glasgow Police Department, Kentucky - March 26, 2014

A Glasgow police officer accidentally shot his finger off while handling a small handgun at the Barren Outdoors store. The officer injured another finger when the gun accidentally discharged.

Video from inside the store shows the officer, wearing his uniform, handling the gun as he talks to the store clerk. Smith then cocked and jumps as it fires and hits his finger.

The officer later filed a lawsuit against the store, saying he believed the gun was unloaded. He was permanently disfigured and unable to go back to work. The store owner said the video clearly shows who is at fault.

(SOURCE: Huffington Post)

Baltimore County Police Department, Maryland – Aug. 9, 2016

TOWSON, Maryland – A Baltimore County police officer was injured when he accidentally shot himself while practicing at the pistol range. Officials say the officer was performing timed drills that were part of the routine firearms qualification tests.

The officer pulled his service weapon from the holster, preparing to shoot at a target when he prematurely pulled the trigger while the gun was still pointing down. The officer suffered minor injuries.

(SOURCE: WBAL-TV)

Bangor Police Department, Maine - June 24, 2013

The new Bangor police chief accidentally shot himself in the hand while cleaning a newly issued .45-caliber Glock handgun. The chief and other officers returned to the police station after training with their new weapons and were cleaning the guns when he injured his hand. He was treated and released.

(SOURCE: Bangor Daily News)

Baltimore County Police Department, Baltimore, Maryland - Sept. 5, 2018

A Baltimore County police officer injured himself when he accidentally discharged his firearm during a training exercise.

The discharge occurred as the officer tried to take the gun apart inside a classroom at the county's range, said police spokesman Shawn Vinson.

The officer was taken to a local hospital. He was completing a regular training session.

(SOURCE: The Baltimore Sun)

Boston Police Department, Mass. – Feb. 19, 2014

A Boston police officer assigned to the firearms analysis section was working when she had an accidental discharge that injured her hand. Director Thomas D'Ambrosio helped the officer until EMS arrived.

(SOURCE: police report)

Boston Police Department, Mass. – March 22, 2014

Officers with the Boston Police Department responded to a call for a male who had an accidental discharge of his firearm. Police officials identified him as a member of the police department, who was found with an injured left middle finger.

(SOURCE: police report)

Boston Police Department, Mass. – March 18, 2018

A Boston police officer responded to a call about a person who was suffering from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

The officer was met by the caller at the front door. The injured person was a police officer.

The responding officer saw the shooting victim on the couch in the living room. He rendered first aid until EMS arrived. He had accidentally discharged his weapon and injured his left hand.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - March 10, 2012

A Detroit police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while his weapon was in its holster. He told other officers that he had a long string hanging from his jacket and he believes the string got caught on his trigger when he put the gun in the holster.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - June 14, 2012

An off-duty Detroit police officer accidentally shot himself in his index and middle fingers while cleaning his wife's .380-caliber revolver.

The officer, who works in the gaming division, was in the master bedroom at the time, cleaning the gun on the bed. He was taken to the hospital.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan – Nov. 10, 2015

A Detroit police officer had just returned from picking up his brother at the hospital when he accidentally shot himself in the leg.

The officer told officials that he had left his gun in the car because he couldn't take it into the hospital. He put his weapon on and was adjusting the gun on his left hip when he accidentally shot himself in the thigh. The bullet went through his left leg. He was taken to the hospital.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan – March 26, 2016

A Detroit police officer was waiting in a car with her weapon in her lap when she accidentally shot herself in the leg.

The officer was in a private vehicle outside a store waiting for her husband, she told another officer who arrived on the scene.

She said she had her Smith & Wesson .40-caliber weapon in her lap "due to the area and also there were unknown persons milling about the store and near her vehicle."

When those people left the area, she started to put the weapon in a holster. Her husband approached the car and startled her. She had her finger on the trigger and the weapon fired, sending a bullet through her right leg knee area. Her husband took her to the hospital.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan – Aug. 21, 2018

An off-duty officer accidentally shot herself at her home. Officials say the officer was handling her weapon when the gun went off. She was taken to a hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: The Detroit News)

Michigan State Police - Sept. 21, 2015

A trooper with the Michigan State Police was cleaning his Glock-17 handgun at the metro post and accidentally shot himself in the hand.

The discharge shot a hole through his left hand and traveled through the drywall of the exterior wall, coming to rest in an open area between the wall boards. The officer was alone in the area at the time. The trooper went to the nearby fire station for treatment and then to the hospital.

Officials said he had training in the proper unload procedure and violated those rules. He also violated the rule that says to always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction and to always keep your finger off the trigger.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Oct. 29, 2015

A technician at the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network was examining a .25 auto Raven pistol that had been submitted by the Highland Park Police Department.

As he pulled the slide back to see if the pistol was loaded, the slide slipped forward and discharged a round that was in the chamber. The bullet went through his left hand below the thumb and out the other side. It landed in the east wall. No one else was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Nov. 4, 2015

A trooper was at the Northville Gun Range when he sustained a gun burn inside his left hand.

He said he unloaded a clip from his weapon and proceeded to the open area of the range to remove the loaded round. While placing his left hand over the slide, he pulled it back to eject the round and the gun went off. That caused the burn on his hand.

No one else was injured. He was treated for the burn and released to work.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - March 8, 2016

A trooper accidentally shot his left hand with his department-issued Glock 26 pistol while off-duty at his residence.

The trooper later told officials that after a dry-firing practice at his home, he put the magazine into the gun and he spoke with his wife while sitting on the couch. He decided to breakdown the gun and clean it, but the slide didn't come off the first time.

He wrapped his left hand around the gun and attempted to strip it a second time and pulled the trigger, shooting himself in the hand. The bullet went through the glass door, which shattered. The trooper wrapped his sweat shirt around his hand to stop the bleeding and his wife called 911.

(SOURCE: police report)

Sylvan Lakes Police Department, Michigan - Aug. 2, 2012

A Sylvan Lakes police officer accidentally shot himself in the hand while preparing to go to work, and the bullet hit another officer.

The officer was putting a magazine into his Glock 23 handgun when it went off. The .40-caliber bullet went through his left hand and grazed his stomach before ricocheting off a counter and hitting another officer.

The gun went off while the officer was putting in a magazine, the report said.

(SOURCE: [New Haven Register](#))

Pascagoula Police Department, Mississippi - March 5, 2013

A firearms instructor who heads the Pascagoula Police Academy suffered burns on his thumb and forefinger when a gun he was working on accidentally discharged.

The officer was cleaning a weapon and was putting it back together when he took out his service weapon to make sure he was reassembling the gun correctly. That's when the loaded gun accidentally discharged. His injuries resulted from "hot gases from the gun being fired," according to police Chief Kenny Johnson.

(SOURCE: [The Sun Herald](#))

St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, Missouri - Aug. 22, 2013

A 30-year-old St. Louis police officer accidentally shot himself in the foot while training at a firing range with SWAT officers. The officer accidentally fired a shot that struck his left foot, St. Louis Metropolitan Police officials said.

(SOURCE: [The Riverfront Times](#))

Flemington Police Department, New Jersey - April 17, 2014

RARITAN TOWNSHIP, New Jersey _ A Flemington police detective suffered a leg injury when his weapon accidentally discharged as he got out of his patrol car. The detective was treated at a hospital and later released. He returned to duty about a week later.

An investigation by the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's office determined that the accidental discharge was caused by a holster malfunction.

(SOURCE: [Eastern Express Times](#))

Woodbridge Police Department, New Jersey - March 27, 2018

A Woodbridge police officer accidentally discharged his weapon at the Middlesex county Police Firing Range and injured his hand.

The officer was unloading his firearm when it discharged. The officer was at the shooting range for his quarterly qualification tests. He was hospitalized, treated and released.

(SOURCE: [Home News Tribune](#))

New York Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, New York - Nov. 20, 2018

CORTLANDT, New York _ A parole officer was injured when he accidentally shot himself during training at a shooting range in Westchester County.

The officer was at the Blue Mountain Sportsman Center in Cortlandt for a firearms training class when his firearm accidentally discharged, the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision said in a statement.

The parole officer was bleeding badly and was taken to the hospital, officials said.

(SOURCE: [The Journal News](#))

Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Department, New York - Aug. 6, 2014

SMITHTOWN, New York _ An off-duty MTA police officer accidentally discharged his weapon at his Long Island home, injuring himself and his 3-year-old son.

The officer was unloading his firearm when it accidentally went off. Some reports said the bullet went into his son's arm and others say he was hit in the stomach. The officer's hand was also injured.

The toddler was taken to a local hospital and underwent surgery. The father was also hospitalized.

(SOURCE: WGHP-TV)

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office, New York - Oct. 16, 2017

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office says a Custody Department deputy has accidentally shot himself at the Onondaga County Justice Center in Syracuse.

Authorities say the deputy accidentally fired his own weapon while inside the employee locker room, which is located in an unsecured portion of the Justice Center.

The sheriff's office says he was unholstering his firearm when it went off. He was taken to an area hospital for treatment. His injury is not believed to be life-threatening. No one else was hurt.

(SOURCE: Associated Press)

Erlanger Police Department, Kentucky - Jan. 4, 2015

CINCINNATI, Ohio _ An off-duty Kentucky police officer accidentally shot himself in the stomach while he and his wife were in an elevator after having dinner in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The officer with the Erlanger, Kentucky, Police Department was adjusting his .40-caliber semi-automatic handgun in his holster when it discharged.

The bullet ricocheted off the walls of the elevator. He was taken to the Cincinnati Medical Center with injuries that were not life-threatening.

(SOURCE: The Cincinnati Enquirer)

Columbus Police Department, Ohio - July 2, 2014

A Columbus police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while sitting in his patrol car. The officer drove himself to the hospital. His injuries were not believed to be life-threatening.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Columbus Police Department, Ohio - June 6, 2018

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- An officer was injured in an accidental shooting at a police substation in west Columbus. Columbus Division of Police PIO Dean Worthington said the officer was expected to be OK after accidentally shooting himself in the leg.

Medics were called around 8:55 a.m. to the Big Run Park substation. The officer was transported to Grant Medical Center in stable condition, according to police.

(SOURCE: 10TV)

Ross County Sheriff's Office, Ohio - April 4, 2012

A Ross County Sheriff's deputy accidentally discharged his weapon during a training exercise.

Sheriff George Lavender said the deputy was reloading the weapon and was holding the gun between his legs, pointed toward the ground, when it discharged.

The bullet hit the pavement and a piece of shrapnel struck a nearby officer, but he was not injured. The deputy suffered a minor injury to his finger.

(SOURCE: Chillicothe Gazette)

West Carrollton Police Department, Ohio - May 4, 2018

A West Carrollton police officer was injured after he accidentally shot himself in the leg at the Franklin firing range. Officials called it a malfunction. Officials say the safety mechanism on the officer's Glock failed.

West Carrollton Deputy Police Chief David Wessling said the officer shot himself while he was putting the weapon in his holster.

The officer was wounded in the calf area and on the right side of his foot.

(SOURCE: KRMG-TV and Dayton Daily News)

Conshohocken Police Department, Pennsylvania - March 19, 2015

A Conshohocken police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while retrieving his gun after processing a prisoner at the Plymouth Township Police Department.

The officer was hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: The Evening Sun)

Lancaster Police Department, Pennsylvania - Feb. 9, 2016

A Lancaster, Penn., police officer suffered a gunshot wound after an accidental shooting during a training exercise.

Police said the officer was at an indoor police gun range when he accidentally fired his handgun, striking himself in the leg. The officer was taken to Lancaster General Hospital for treatment. He in good condition and was expected to be released.

(SOURCE: WHTM-TV)

Norristown Police Department, Pennsylvania - April 25, 2013

A Norristown police officer accidentally shot himself during a training exercise in Plymouth Township, Montgomery County.

The sergeant was with other officers at the Montgomery County Tactical Response Training Center when he accidentally discharged his weapon.

The bullet grazed the officer's leg and may have gone into his calf, Plymouth Deputy Police Chief John Myrsiades said.

(SOURCE: WCAU-TV)

Upper Gwynedd Township Police Department, Pennsylvania - Feb. 6, 2013

An Upper Gwynedd police officer accidentally shot himself in the foot during a training exercise.

Officials say the sergeant was taking his firearm out of his holster when it discharged into his left foot.

(SOURCE: Morning Call)

Bexar County Sheriff's Office, Texas - Oct. 25, 2016

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – A Bexar County sheriff's office detention deputy accidentally shot himself in the hip at a training center.

The officer was participating in an in-service training exercise to maintain his peace officer's license. He was taken to the hospital and was reportedly in stable condition.

(SOURCE: KSAT-TV)

Houston Police Department, Texas - March 3, 2015

A Houston police officer accidentally discharged his off-duty weapon and was struck in the hand. He suffered a wound to his pinky finger and was taken to the hospital for treatment.

(SOURCE: police report)

Round Rock Police Department, Texas - March 7, 2013

A Round Rock police officer accidentally shot himself in the foot while attending a workshop to become an instructor for Glock firearms.

The sergeant wounded himself while at the Williamson County firing range. He was holding the gun when he inadvertently discharged it, said police spokeswoman Dee Carver.

(SOURCE: American-Statesman)

Virginia Capitol Police Department, Virginia - Oct. 4, 2018

RICHMOND, Va. — A Virginia Capitol Police officer shot and wounded himself in the leg while training.

Capitol Police spokesman Joe Macenka said the officer was one of several training at the Colonial Shooting Academy in Henrico County. He hit himself in the right leg.

Macenka says after the "accidental discharge" happened, the officer was treated and released from a hospital.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Burlington Police Department, Vermont - Oct. 2, 2012

A Burlington police officer was cleaning her semi-automatic pistol when she accidentally shot herself. The bullet hit the officer's ankle. She was off-duty at the time. She was treated at a hospital for a non-serious injury.

(SOURCE: Milton Independent)

King County Sheriff's Office, Seattle, Washington - Sept. 18, 2018

A King County Sheriff's office Court Security deputy was injured in the hand when there was an accidental shooting at the King County Sheriff's Office Ravendale Range.

The deputy had finished a handgun qualification and was in the cleaning room about to disassemble his Glock G22, .40-caliber pistol by pulling the trigger. He failed to clear the gun and with his left hand over the barrel, he discharged the gun, "thus removing part of that hand," according to the police report.

The bullet hit the countertop, a wall and cleaning table. A medical team took the deputy to the hospital. He was treated and released.

(SOURCE: police report)

King County Sheriff's Office, Seattle, Washington - Sept. 18, 2018

A King County Sheriff's office Court Security deputy was injured in the hand in an accidental shooting at the King County Sheriff's Office Ravendale Range. The man had finished a handgun qualification and was in the cleaning room about to disassemble his Glock G22, .40-caliber pistol by pulling the trigger.

He failed to clear the gun and with his left hand over the barrel, he discharged the gun, "thus removing part of that hand," according to the police report. The bullet hit the countertop, a wall and cleaning table. He was treated and released.

(SOURCE: police report)

Moses Lake Police Department, Washington = Aug. 10, 2017

MOSES LAKE, Wash. — Moses Lake Police say one person was injured in a reported accidental shooting at the home a Grant County sheriff's deputy. The person was taken to a local hospital with a gunshot wound following the shooting.

Moses Lake Capt. Mike Williams said it happened in a home owned by a deputy.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Washington State Patrol - May 7, 2012

A Washington State Patrol Detective Sergeant had just finished a firearms training session and was preparing to go on duty when he experienced an unintentional discharge while reloading his firearm in the parking lot.

Other officers at the range rushed to the scene where the man was waving his hand near the rear of his vehicle.

The officers provided first aid to stop the bleeding, and determined that the bullet went out through the officer's foot.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Washington State Patrol - March 13, 2013

A trooper unintentionally discharged his duty weapons while participating in a firearms training course. The trooper shot himself in the leg and was taken to the Mason County Hospital where he underwent surgery.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Washington State Patrol - June 22, 2016

SPOKANE, Wash. — A trooper negligently discharged his AR-15 rifle as he headed to a training session at the Spokane Police Department gun range. The trooper told officials that when he went to his vehicle to retrieve his rifle, he noticed that the bolt was locked to the rear with a 20-round magazine inside. He planned to take the magazine out, but he hit the bolt release instead of the magazine release, which chambered a round.

He tried to hit the magazine release again, and the rifle went off.

The trooper has a small scratch on his right shin from getting hit when the round went into the concrete sidewalk.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - Jan. 14, 2013

A Milwaukee police officer was removing his department-issued jacket when part of the coat became snared between his service weapon and his holster. That caused his firearm to accidentally discharge as he removed his jacket.

The officer suffered an undisclosed injury and was treated.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Cheyenne Police Department, Wyoming - June 15, 2018

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Colo. — A Wyoming police officer whose gun accidentally discharged at a youth baseball tournament in Colorado has been charged with two misdemeanors. The officer is charged with reckless endangerment and disorderly conduct stemming from the June 15 incident in Steamboat Springs.

Cheyenne Police Department spokesman Kevin Malatesta says the officer was off duty at Steamboat Springs and carrying a personal weapon secured with an unsafe clip device.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office, Idaho - Dec. 29, 2019

A deputy with the Twin Falls County Sheriff's office was injured when he accidentally discharged his firearm in the jail.

The deputy was taken to St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center with non-life-threatening injuries, according to a sheriff's office statement. The Twin Falls Police described the incident at a "negligent discharge" of his weapon.

(SOURCE: [Twin Falls Times-News](#))

Waltham Police Department, Massachusetts - Feb. 21, 2019

WALTHAM, Mass. — Police in Massachusetts say an officer was injured in the accidental discharge of a service weapon.

The Waltham officer was taken to the hospital and was expected to survive. Police in a statement said the preliminary investigation revealed that no one else was involved or injured. The department did not say what the officer was doing at the time of the accidental gunshot. The shooting remains under investigation.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Fort Wayne Police Department, Indiana - March 5, 2019

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — Fort Wayne police say two of its officers have suffered non-life-threatening injuries in an accidental shooting during a training exercise.

Police say one officer was shot in the hand and the other officer in the lower extremities by a single bullet during the training at the Public Safety Academy in Fort Wayne. Both were taken to a hospital.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Kansas City Police Department, Missouri - May 14, 2019

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Authorities say a police sergeant is in serious condition after being wounded in an accidental shooting at the Kansas City Police Department crime lab.

Details of the shooting weren't immediately released. The injuries weren't considered life-threatening. Police say no other injuries were reported.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Savannah Police Department, Georgia - April 11, 2019

SAVANNAH, Ga. — Authorities say a Georgia police recruit was taken to a hospital after shooting himself during training at a firing range.

The Savannah Police Department said the shooting happened during a firearms training exercise at its gun range.

The department said in a news release that the trainee accidentally shot himself in the leg. He was taken to a hospital for treatment of the gunshot wound, which wasn't considered life-threatening.

Savannah police did not release the name of the injured recruit. The department said its internal affairs division is investigating the shooting.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Berks County Sheriff's Office, Pennsylvania - March 27, 2019

READING, Pa. — Authorities say a sheriff's deputy was wounded when her firearm accidentally discharged in the basement of an eastern Pennsylvania courthouse.

Berks County Sheriff Eric Weaknecht said the wounded deputy, whose name hasn't been released, was rushed to Reading Hospital, where she was reported in good condition.

The shooting occurred at the Berks County Courthouse and Services Center in downtown Reading.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, District of Columbia - March 7, 2019

LAS VEGAS — Authorities say a U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer wounded himself in the hand when he accidentally fired his gun in a locker area at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas.

Airport and Las Vegas police officials said no one else was injured in the shooting in a secure area of Terminal 3, an international arrivals building.

Customs and Border Protection spokesman Jaime Ruiz in Los Angeles called it a work-related accident and said the officer was in good condition.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Ellenville Police Department, New York - Feb. 28, 2019

WAWARSING, N.Y. — Police say a bulletproof vest saved a police officer running away from a suspected rabid fox in a Hudson Valley village after he accidentally shot himself in the chest.

Authorities say the officer was struck while responding to a report about the fox in the village.

Village police Chief Philip Mattracion says the animal charged at the officer and he tried to jump over a nearby fence. But his foot got caught and he flipped over. The gun went off as he landed and struck his bulletproof vest.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Carleton Police Department, Michigan - Nov. 15, 2018

CARLETON, Mich. — An official says the police chief of a small southeastern Michigan community was accidentally shot in the foot after he slipped on ice and his gun discharged.

Carleton police were responding to a breaking and entering call in the village southwest of Detroit when the chief slipped. A suspect in the break-in was apprehended.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Florida - Feb. 21, 2019

LOXAHATCHEE, Fla.-- Officials say a Florida corrections deputy accidentally shot himself in the leg at a gun range.

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office reports that the shooting occurred at the agency's gun range near Loxahatchee.

A news release says the sheriff's officer was conducting a firearms qualification class for new hires when the jail guard discharged his firearm and struck himself in the right outer leg. The employee was transported to a nearby hospital. His wound wasn't considered life-threatening.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Martin County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina - Nov. 26, 2018

WILLIAMSTON, N.C. — A North Carolina chief deputy was hospitalized after accidentally shooting himself.

Martin County Sheriff Tim Manning said the man was at home when he shot himself with a gun not issued by the sheriff's office.

Manning said no one else was involved in the incident.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Oakland Police Department, California - Dec. 15, 2018

SAN LEANDRO, Calif. — An off-duty Oakland police officer was in stable condition after accidentally shooting himself in San Leandro, according to police.

At about 8:55 p.m. Saturday, San Leandro Police officers responded to an apartment on reports of a man who had been shot, San Leandro police said. When officers arrived, a female told them her boyfriend, an off-duty Oakland police officer, was inside the apartment suffering from a gunshot wound.

(SOURCE: KNTV)

Tennessee Highway Patrol, Tennessee - Feb. 16, 2019

A trooper accidentally shot himself, according to a spokesman with Tennessee Highway Patrol.

The trooper, who has not been identified, was reportedly handling his weapon when there was an "accidental discharge." The trooper was off-duty when this happened and is receiving medical care, said Lieutenant Bill Miller. The injury was not life-threatening.

(SOURCE: WKRN-TV)

Murfreesboro Police Department, Tennessee - July 31, 2018

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — A Murfreesboro police detective was injured by a gunshot while executing a warrant.

Detectives and officers were in the process of executing a search warrant for narcotics at a residence in Murfreesboro when the shooting occurred.

MPD reported the shot as a "negligent discharge" of a weapon. The shot was fired by the detective himself, MPD spokesperson Officer Amy Norville said.

The detective was shot in the leg. He was transported to Vanderbilt University Medical Center for treatment where he was listed as being in stable condition. No other injuries were reported.

(SOURCE: Murfreesboro Daily News Journal)

Tennessee Department of Corrections, Tennessee - Oct. 5, 2017

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A corrections officer accidentally shot herself in the leg during routine firearms training, according to the Tennessee Department of Corrections.

A call about the shooting went out at 2:50 p.m. to the Riverbend Maximum Security Institution on Cockrill Bend Boulevard. TDOC officials say the officer was taken to a nearby hospital for treatment. The incident was reportedly isolated and no inmates were present during the training.

(SOURCE: WKRN-TV)

Collier County Sheriff's Office, Florida - June 21, 2019

A Collier County Sheriff's deputy was injured after a weapon he took from a woman fell and accidentally discharged.

Deputies responded to shots fired and found four people who had been fighting southeast of Naples, Florida. One of the individuals fired a gun during the fight, but no one was injured.

The homeowner approached the deputy and asked him to take possession of an old .22-caliber Colt rifle that was in her home, according to the sheriff.

The deputy took the rifle outside and leaned it against his patrol car. It fell and accidentally discharges, sending a round into the deputy's foot, the sheriff's office said.

He was taken to the hospital and later was reported in good condition.

(SOURCE: Naples Daily News)

New York City Police Department, New York - July 5, 2019

An undercover New York City police officer was recovering after accidentally shooting himself in the groin while inside a public housing building.

Officials say the officer suffered a graze wound when his gun accidentally discharged at the Wyckoff Gardens Houses. He was taken to the hospital in stable condition.

(SOURCE: [WNBC](#))

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Nevada - July 20, 2019

An off-duty Las Vegas Metropolitan police officer was injured after he accidentally shot himself in the "lower body," according to a press release. The officer was taken to University Medical Center.

(SOURCE: [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#))

Ridgefield Park Police Department, New Jersey - Jan. 10, 2019

A Ridgefield Park detective accidentally shot himself in the leg while he was inside police headquarters. The detective was taken to Holy Name Medical Center.

(SOURCE: [North Jersey Record](#))

Marietta Police Department, Georgia - April 26, 2019

A Marietta police officer was injured after he accidentally discharged his weapon.

Police spokesman Officer Chuck McPhilamy said the officer was cleaning his weapon and the gun unintentionally discharged. The bullet hit the ground, sending debris flying. Two pieces of rock or concrete hit the officer in the leg. He was taken to the hospital and released.

(SOURCE: [Marietta Daily Journal](#))

Los Angeles Police Department, Calif. - March 17, 2017

A Los Angeles police officer was injured when he accidentally fired his pistol during a training class.

The officer was attending a training to prepare for a qualification course. He had the pistol in a holster and was practicing pulling the pistol out quickly to shoot at a target. When the officer pulled the pistol out, his finger was in the process of pressing the side safety and "inadvertently moved to the trigger well of the pistol and pressed the trigger," according to the police commissioners report.

The muzzle of the pistol was still in the holster when the weapon fired and the round struck the officer's leg. He was taken to a hospital. The commission found the discharge violated the department's basic safety rules, making the shooting a negligent discharge.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Alhambra Police Department, California - Sept. 22, 2019

SAN MARINO, Calif. _ An off-duty Alhambra police officer accidentally shot himself in the chest while trying to speak to a driver in another car, who turned out to be an off-duty Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy.

The deputy was inside San Marino city limits when he spotted a car being driven "erratically," said San Marino police Sgt. Rob Cervantes. He motioned for the driver to open his window, intending to tell him to slow down in the neighborhood.

The Alhambra officer feared for his safety and drew his firearm inside his vehicle as he slowed and moved to the right. He was taken to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: [The Patch](#))

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, District of Columbia - Aug. 1, 2017

An agent with the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency accidentally shot himself in the foot when he unintentionally fired his gun at the Orlando International Airport while on vacation from Kansas City.

The federal agent was on the ticketing and departure floor when he pulled off his shoulder bag and it caught on his holstered weapon, officials said. He tried to catch it and accidentally pulled the trigger, shooting himself in the heel.

Local and federal law enforcement responded and the man was carried off in a wheelchair.

(SOURCE: [Orlando Sentinel](#) and [WOFL](#))

Federal Bureau of Investigation, District of Columbia -- Feb. 5, 2015

ODESSA, Texas – An FBI agent accidentally shot himself in the foot during a drug raid.

The agent and other law enforcement officers entered the home with guns drawn and began searching the house when the FBI agent accidentally fired his gun near a bedroom.

Special Agent Michael Martinez said the agent sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: [NewsWest 9](#))

Berks County Sheriff's Office, Pennsylvania - Aug. 12, 2019

A Berks County deputy sheriff accidentally shot himself in the leg while putting his service pistol in his holster.

The deputy had just moved prisoners into a cellblock in the basement of the courthouse when the shooting occurred, said Sheriff Eric Weaknecht. The deputy was injured in the leg, but the wound was not serious, the sheriff said.

(SOURCE: [Reading Eagle](#))

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Aug. 2, 2019

A Chicago police officer accidentally shot himself in the finger while cleaning his gun.

The officer was at the South Side station when he unintentionally shot his pinky finger, police said. He was taken to the hospital where he was treated and released.

(SOURCE: [NBC Chicago](#))

Orange County Sheriff's Office, Florida - Sept. 11, 2019

An Orange County sheriff's deputy accidentally shot himself during a training exercise at the department's training facility.

The deputy unintentionally shot himself in the lower half of his body, officials said. He was awake and alert when he was taken to the hospital, Sheriff John Mina said.

(SOURCE: [WKMG](#))

New Jersey Department of Human Services Police Department, May 2, 2019

A police officer with the New Jersey Department of Human Services accidentally shot himself in the leg at the gun range.

The officer was in the process of completing weapons qualifications when his gun unintentionally discharged, causing a non-life-threatening injury to his thigh, Parsippany police said.

The department released a statement saying the officer was at the indoor firearms range at the time.

(SOURCE: [Morristown Daily Record](#))

Baltimore County Police Department, Maryland – Feb. 20, 2019

BALTIMORE, Maryland – An off-duty Baltimore police officer was hospitalized after accidentally shooting herself in the leg. The officer suffered a graze wound and was taken to the hospital by ambulance with a police escort.

(SOURCE: WBAL TV)

Department of Homeland Security, District of Columbia - July 24, 2019

A federal Homeland Security agent accidentally shot himself in the leg at the New York Police Department's firing range. Medical staff took the agent from the range to the Jacobi Medical Center. Police did not identify the agent.

(SOURCE: New York Daily News)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Oct. 1, 2019

A Chicago police officer accidentally shot himself in his lower body in the Greenwood neighborhood on the city's South Side.

A police spokesman said it appears the unintentional discharge occurred when the officer was putting the gun in his holster. He was taken to Christ Medical Center in stable condition.

(SOURCE: New York Daily News)

University of Cincinnati, Clermont, Police Department, Ohio - June 18, 2019

BATAVIA, Ohio _ A police officer with the University of Cincinnati Clermont accidentally shot himself in the foot. A campus spokeswoman said the officer was taken to an area hospital.

(SOURCE: WLWT)

Massachusetts State Police, Massachusetts - Sept. 15, 2015

AYER, Mass. _ A Massachusetts State trooper was injured when he accidentally shot himself in the leg.

The sergeant was carrying a department-issued shotgun from his old cruiser to a new one "when the weapon accidentally discharged, striking him in the leg," officials said. No one else was involved, police said.

It happened at the department's Emergency Vehicle Operations Center in Ayer, said spokesman Dave Procopio. The trooper was taken by helicopter to UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester. He suffered non-life-threatening injuries, officials said.

(SOURCE: WBZ Boston)

Cambridge Police Department, Massachusetts - Oct. 10, 2019

A Cambridge police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg as he was getting out of his vehicle after taking a break.

The officer was parked outside the department, was in uniform and was returning to work when his Sig Sauer P320 firearm unintentionally discharged, said Jeremy Warnick, a police spokesman.

(SOURCE: Boston Herald)

Fargo Police Department, North Dakota - Nov. 15, 2019

A Fargo police officer was injured when his rifle accidentally discharged while officers were setting up a perimeter around a scene of a shooting at the downtown Radisson Hotel.

The officer injured his hand and underwent surgery, police said.

(SOURCE: KVRN)

Total: 134

Accidental discharges where the officer injured a suspect

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Dec. 17, 2015

An investigation was launched after an Aurora police officer accidentally shot a car-theft suspect in the stomach during a foot chase.

Police were investigating an area where dozens of vehicles had been stolen in recent months. A suspect was seen driving away in a stolen Acura.

Officers followed him in two different vehicles until he suddenly made a U-turn.

An officer decided to cut him off and turned his vehicle in front of the Acura. The officer exited his car as the suspect opened the door. The officer drew his .40 caliber Glock 23 handgun from its holster and turned on the "tactical" flashlight. He told investigators that as he moved away from the car, he slipped and stumbled on the ice and heard his pistol go off, injuring the suspect.

The officer was not charged.

(SOURCE: police report and district attorney investigation)

Idaho Falls Police Department, Idaho - Aug. 6, 2016

When a man barricaded himself in an Idaho Falls home in 2016, SWAT was activated and the surrounded the house. The suspect had several warrants out for his arrest and was armed with a shotgun. The man was threatening to kill officers who tried to arrest him.

While officials communicated with him, a team set up a blockade behind the house using a Hummer. After hours of negotiations, the man came to the back door of the house, and a gunshot went off, hitting the door frame. An officer reported that he had fired the shot -- it was an accidental discharge. It wasn't loud because he was using a suppressor.

In his report, the sniper said he had taken the rifle off safety due to his exposed position. As he pulled the rifle tighter into his shoulder, he "depressed the trigger without even realizing it."

(SOURCE: police report)

Champaign Police Department, Illinois - June 11, 2017

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Authorities say a Champaign, Illinois, police officer accidentally shot an unarmed suspect.

The officer initiated a traffic stop on a 2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer and followed the vehicle on to a dirt driveway. The car accelerated to an alleyway.

The suspect crashed the Trailblazer into the garage doors of a residence and ran toward the front door. The officer got out of the patrol car and told the suspect to stop. The suspect jumped a chain link fence and finally stopped near a detached garage. The officer drew his duty weapon with a plan to use the light mounted on top to see the area better.

As the officer manipulated the light with his index finger, he slipped and his firearm discharged, hitting the suspect in his left shoulder.

The Champaign City Council later approved a \$93,000 settlement for the suspect. The state's attorney decided against filing charges against the officer.

(SOURCE: police report)

Montgomery Police Department, Maryland – Jan. 9, 2018

A Montgomery police officer accidentally shot a suspect when he used his gun to smash an SUV's window.

The driver of the car reportedly was using his vehicle to smash another car when the officer arrived. The officer said he was trying to get the driver to stop, and when he didn't, he tried to get into the vehicle.

The Escalade driver, a 52-year-old man, was hit by one round of the officer's gun. He was taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: [The Washington Post](#))

Michigan State Police - Oct. 16, 2015

A group of troopers was serving a search warrant for illegal narcotics. Some of the troopers went into the home through the front of the residence while others watched the back.

When the group went in the front, an unidentified man fled out the back door. As he came out, he made contact with one of the troopers, who had an accidental discharge of his .40-caliber Sig Sauer pistol. The suspect was hit in the right lower chest area and taken to the hospital.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Eden Prairie Police Department, Minnesota - June 20, 2015

An Eden Prairie police officer accidentally shot a motorcyclist in the arm during a traffic stop.

The sergeant was on patrol when he spotted a speeding motorcycle at 3 a.m. He followed the bike and turned on his lights and siren, but the bike didn't stop, police records said.

The motorcyclist pulled to the side of the road and the officer got out of his patrol car with his gun drawn. As he reached his other hand up to the gun it accidentally discharged, hitting the motorcyclist in the arm. The officer later told investigators that the high-speed chase impacted his response.

The motorcyclist settled a lawsuit in 2017 for \$345,000.

(SOURCE: [police reports and court records](#))

Harrison Police Department, New York - May 23, 2013

A Harrison police officer accidentally shot a suspect and another officer after they pulled over a Chevy Trailblazer in connection with a recent burglary of about \$500,000 worth of jewelry.

The officer, a 15-year police veteran and county firearms instructor, accidentally fired two shots from his .223-caliber AR-15 style rifle after pulling over a vehicle carrying three burglary suspects. The men were members of the so-called "Sound Shore Gang."

The discharge occurred after officers surrounded the vehicle and an altercation ensued.

One of the suspects suffered a collapsed lung when one of the bullets struck near his heart. A detective was also seriously hurt. His injuries led him to leave the force.

(SOURCE: [Harrison Review](#))

New York City Police Department, New York - Aug. 23, 2012

A suspect was shot in the leg when an officer tried to put his firearm in his holster while placing the suspect under arrest.

Two officers chased a homeless man who snatched \$40 from a dining table and ran. They caught up with him and as one of the officers struggled to put him in handcuffs, one of the officers put his gun in the holster.

He accidentally pulled the trigger in the process, hitting the man in the leg.

(SOURCE: [The New York Post](#))

New York City Police Department, New York - 2013

An officer accidentally shot a suspect who had barricaded himself. The officer was trying to extract the barricaded suspect when he was struck in the hand by a door, causing his gun to intentionally discharge. The bullet hit the suspect in the wrist.

(SOURCE: police report)

Belmont Police Department, North Carolina - Dec. 31, 2012

A police sergeant's Colt 9 submachine gun accidentally discharged during a struggle with a 24-year-old woman and hit her and another officer in the leg.

Police were investigating a road rage incident on New Year's Eve in a gated subdivision. While officers struggled with a woman, the officer's gun fired a single round. The officers suffered shrapnel wounds in the leg after the round hit the concrete and broke apart.

(SOURCE: Gaston Gazette)

Nashville Police Department, Tennessee - Oct. 27, 2013

A Nashville police detective accidentally shot a suspect in the ankle with an AR-15 rifle.

The detective and two patrol officers responded to an apartment complex on a report of a person with a gun. The suspect appeared to be intoxicated and officers found a pistol in his waistband when they patted him down.

The detective and the officers struggled to bring the suspect into custody, and the AR-15 went off. The officer had been carrying it in a sling in front of his body.

(SOURCE: States News Service)

Chesapeake Police Department, Virginia – June 12, 2014

PORTSMITH, Virginia – A Chesapeake police officer accidentally shot a Newark, Delaware, man while trying to serve him a warrant.

The officer was getting out of an unmarked car when he shot the man in the chest. At the time, the man was walking from a Walmart to his mother's house.

The officer, who is left-handed, said he was shifting his gun to his right hand so he could open his car door when it accidentally sent off. It went through the windshield and hit the man in the chest. A lawsuit was settled for \$200,000.

(SOURCE: Cecil Daily)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - Sept. 3, 2013

A Seattle police officer accidentally shot a 19-year-old female suspect after a chase.

Police responded to a disturbance and found two women fighting. When they tried to break them up, one of the women ran away and a police report says an officer chased her.

The officer caught up with her and told her to show her hands. As he drew his pistol, he accidentally discharged it, firing one round. The bullet hit the woman in the leg. She was hospitalized and later filed a lawsuit.

(SOURCE: police report)

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - June 17, 2013

A Milwaukee police officer accidentally shot a robbery suspect in the left buttocks while trying to take him into custody, according to police records.

When officers responded to reports of an armed robbery by two suspects, they fled the scene and officers saw their car nearby.

The officer said he and other officers chased the suspects and he had his service weapon in the 'low ready position.' A police report says he caught up with the suspect and had an accidental discharge.

The officer said he believes he grabbed the chain link fence gate which swings outward, as he was about to reholster his pistol with his left hand. As the gate came swinging open, "his gun was dislodged from his left hand and it fell to the concrete sidewalk at his feet," he said.

The suspect was still on the ground nearby so he grabbed for the gun.

He said at this point his left thumb was in the trigger guard and his fingers grasped the top of the gun slide mechanism, causing the gun to discharge. That discharge caused the gun to fall from his hand.

(SOURCE: police records)

Long Beach Police Department, California - Feb. 9, 2019

LONG BEACH, Calif. — Authorities say a Southern California police officer accidentally shot and wounded a motorist during traffic stop.

The Long Beach Police Department says the shooting occurred when officers working a reggae festival stopped a vehicle and found a loaded gun and open alcohol containers.

A police statement says additional officers arrived on scene and one officer unintentionally discharged a firearm, wounding the vehicle's driver in the right arm. The man was taken to a hospital with what was described as a non-life-threatening injury.

Two men, a woman and a male juvenile were also in the car.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - Feb. 10, 2019

DENVER — A Denver police officer will be suspended for 10 days without pay for almost shooting a man in the head by accident.

The officer must serve the suspension for the Dec. 15, 2017 incident. The officer joined the department in January 2017 and did not have any previous disciplinary issues.

Investigators say he and another officer were responding to a report of a drunk man trying to stop traffic in south Denver. The man ran away and hid under a truck.

According to a disciplinary letter, the officer accidentally fired his gun as he was turning on his weapon-mounted light.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Butte-Silver Bow Police Department, Montana - Feb. 13, 2015

A man who was shot by a Butte-Silver Bow police officer during an arrest filed a federal lawsuit against the officer, department and the county claiming his rights were violated.

The officer was involved in a stakeout at a house when a man drove up with another man and a woman. The officer was searching for a wanted felon. A man identified as the felon jumped into the car and said "go, go, go!"

The officer, who was on foot, jumped out of the alley with his weapon drawn and said to stop.

When the driver's side door opened, the officer grabbed a man by the back of the neck and the man was hot. The officer later said the .40-caliber handgun inadvertently discharged as he attempted to put it in his holster during the struggle.

The officer was later exonerated of any criminal conduct by Montana Attorney General Brant Light. The man who was shot sued. The case was settled for an undisclosed amount.

(SOURCE: Montana Standard and court records and interview)

Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland – Feb. 3, 2012

A Prince George County police officer was suspended after surveillance video contradicted his story about his gun going off while investigating a possible robbery.

The officer initially said he and another officer saw two men they thought had robbed a gas station in Brentwood. When the officers went into the store and a suspect ran out.

The officer pursued down the street. The officer said they struggled, and the suspect tried to grab his gun when it went off. But surveillance video showed that the suspect was walking down the street when the officer grabbed him from behind and swung his arm to hit the suspect when the gun went off. A judge later found the officer not guilty of assault.

(SOURCE: WJLA-TV and NBCWashington)

Douglasville Police Department, Georgia - Sept. 17, 2019

A Douglasville police officer accidentally shot a suspect while trying to place him under arrest.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation said the shooting happened near a Cracker Barrel as officers attempted to arrest someone and a struggle ensued.

Officials say a GBP trooper used a Taser on the suspect during the struggle and a Douglasville officer accidentally discharged his gun, shooting the suspect.

(SOURCE: WSB-TV)

Total: 19

Accidental discharges where the officer injured innocent people

Morgan Hill Police Department, California, - April 29, 2018

MORGAN HILL, Calif. — A Morgan Hill police officer accidentally fired his gun and caused a 14-year-old girl to suffer facial injuries from bullet fragments. Two girls were being ordered by officers to lay down on the ground when one officer's service weapon fired a bullet into the ground.

One of the girls was struck near her eye by a bullet fragment. Police Chief David Swing said the officers were conducting a high-risk traffic stop on a stolen van that the girls were passengers in. The officer's gun was pointed at the ground when it fired, Swing said. The injured girl was transported to Lucille Packard Children's Hospital in Palo Alto, where the fragment was successfully removed.

(SOURCE: KSBW)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - March 11, 2014

A Denver police officer was working with the fugitive and gang unit and was trying to make an arrest when he had an unintended discharge that caused a minor injury.

He and another officer followed a suspect who ran inside an apartment and slammed the door behind him. A sergeant forced the door open and the officer followed him into the apartment. As he pursued the suspect to a bedroom and arrested him, he tripped over some pillows on the floor, fell and unintentionally discharged his firearm into the floor.

The bullet and a fragment from the floor grazed one of the occupants who was sitting on the couch. The department investigation found that Bowser violated the rule that prohibits “careless handling of firearms” when he inadvertently pulled the trigger.

He received an 18-day suspension without pay.

(SOURCE: police report)

Fort Pierce Police Department, Florida - Feb. 7, 2013

A Fort Pierce police officer accidentally shot an Indian River State College student while trying to apprehend a suspect who ended up in the college’s parking lot.

The student was shot when the officer fired at the suspect. The bullet went through her arm, fractured her rib, punctured her liver and collapsed her lung before stopping near her spine.

The student’s lawsuit was settled.

(SOURCE: KPBF and interviews)

Atlanta Police Department, Georgia - Sept. 1, 2015

A homeowner and police officer were shot and injured after three Atlanta-area cops arrived at the wrong house while investigating suspicious activity that had been reported, investigators said.

The incident occurred when DeKalb County police responded to a 911 call regarding a possible burglary at a “brick and tan one-story home,” according to a statement from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI). An exact address was not available, investigators said, and three officers were dispatched to an intersection to locate a residence matching the description.

After failing to establish contact with the home’s occupants, the officers entered through a rear door they said was unlocked, according to the GBI. When they encountered a dog, two officers fired their weapons, killing the animal.

Investigators said a man was shot in the leg by one of the responding officers, but did not sustain life-threatening injuries. Another officer, who was not identified, was shot in the hip and is in serious but stable condition following surgery.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press and Georgia.gov statement - GBI)

Louisville Metro Police Department, Kentucky - March 2, 2017

A Louisville police officer accidentally shot a homeless man in the stomach when she pulled the trigger instead of turning on her gun-mounted flashlight.

The officer and other officers had searched a house and were about to leave when she thought she saw a shadow behind a mattress. She yelled “show your hands” as she fumbled for the flashlight switch and pulled the trigger by mistake.

The man sued the officer and the Louisville Metro government settled the lawsuit for \$1.8 million.

(SOURCE: The Louisville Courier-Journal)

Baltimore County Police Department, Maryland - Feb. 9, 2015

RANDALLSTOWN, Md. — A 14-year-old boy was shot by an off-duty Baltimore County police officer working security at an apartment complex in what was described as an accidental shooting.

The teen suffered non-life-threatening injuries, police said.

"There was one shot fired," said Baltimore County Police Cpl. John Wachter. "He received injury to the shoulder area. He was taken to an area hospital, where he is expected to survive. Injuries are not life threatening,"

Two off-duty officers were working security at the Woodridge apartment complex when a manager told them about people in a vacant apartment under construction, officials said.

"This particular building had been the scene of a previous fire and they were in the process of putting things back together," Wachter said.

The officers saw and heard movement inside the apartment, and the teen came out onto a balcony. An off-duty officer told investigators he was pointing his gun toward the balcony when it accidentally went off.

Baltimore County police said called it an accidental discharge.

Apparently the off duty officers saw movement inside the building. Police said one of them was on the front steps. He didn't have a flashlight. His hand was on his gun, but the weapon remained in its holster. The officer involved in the shooting was on a muddy hill with a flashlight in one hand and his gun in the other. Investigators said he told an on-duty officer that the weapon fired.

After being shot, police said the teen ran to Button Buck Circle where a 911 call was placed from his home. He was found and taken to Johns Hopkins Hospital.

(SOURCE: WBAL-TV)

Agawam Police Department, Mass. – May 5, 2012

A pregnant mother of two who was accidentally shot in the face by an Agawam police officer in 2012 filed a \$1.5 million lawsuit in federal court.

Police arrived at the Elizabeth Manor Apartments and could hear braking glass and shouting from inside the apartment.

The woman noticed an officer outside her apartment and went to the door with her child in her arms. The officer used her foot to knock on the door and held her service revolver at chest level, pointed at the door.

As she opened the door, she heard a loud bang and saw a bright light. The officer's firearm accidentally discharged. She was hit in the face and chin. She filed a \$1.5 million lawsuit in federal court but settled the suit with the town in 2015 for \$20,000.

(SOURCE: The Republican and court records)

North Las Vegas Police Department, Nevada - Jan. 3, 2017

A North Las Vegas police officer who was working the perimeter around a man who barricaded himself in a house accidentally shot a man in the foot after he stopped his car near the officer's vehicle.

The officer was in a SWAT vehicle near the suspect house when a car driven by the suspect drove up. He was on his way home after leaving work, buying groceries and paying his rent, according to a complaint he filed in federal court.

The officer said he told the suspect to stop his car and tried to turn on the flashlight attached to his firearm, but accidentally discharged his weapon, grazing the suspect's foot.

(SOURCE: court records)

Albuquerque Police Department, New Mexico - Dec. 16, 2014

An Albuquerque police officer's gun accidentally discharged as he climbed through a window during a burglary investigation, and the bullet struck a man in the apartment below.

The officer was investigating a break-in at a second-floor apartment and was climbing through the window when his gun went off. Officials found a man on the couch in the apartment below with a bullet wound in his back. The agency launched an investigation into the shooting.

The victim did not pursue legal action.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

New York City Police Department, New York - 2012

A woman suffered graze wounds to her arm and leg when a New York City police officer unintentionally discharged a round during the execution of a search warrant and the round passed through the floor of the apartment into the apartment below.

(SOURCE: police report)

Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, Ohio - Aug. 10, 2013

LANCASTER, Ohio – A firearms instructor was charged with negligent assault after he accidentally shot a student who was taking a concealed-carry class.

The officer accidentally shot the man while he was demonstrating a .38-caliber handgun. The bullet hit the man's arm. It happened at the end of a 12-hour training day that focused on gun handling and safety.

The officer agreed to a one-year suspension from teaching, according to an agreement he reached with the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, which certifies firearms instructors.

(SOURCE: The Columbus Dispatch)

Bainbridge Police Department, Washington state - April 19, 2018

Officers responded to the Clearwater Casino on the report of a fight with multiple suspects. A Bainbridge police officer entered the casino carrying a AR-15 style rifle. As he was running, with the muzzle pointed down, the rifle discharged into the floor.

He said "it just went off" and claims he didn't have his finger on the trigger. A police report says surveillance video confirmed that story.

The discharge injured the ears of a man playing a slot machine nearby.

(SOURCE: police report)

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - April 1, 2016

Officers responded to a "shots fired" complaint. When they checked the area on foot, one of the officers opened a rear gate off an alley to a yard. The officer saw a large pit bull dog emerge from the yard, so he retreated from the yard.

The animal pursued the officer and he fired three shots to defend himself and his partner.

The animal's owner came out to protect her dog and sustained a gunshot wound to her leg. Police said it appeared the wound was the result of a ricochet after a round struck the ground. The woman was taken to the hospital, treated and released.

(SOURCE: police records)

Gastonia Police Department, North Carolina - July 8, 2018

GASTONIA, North Carolina – A Gastonia police officer was on administrative leave after accidentally shooting an unarmed woman in her home.

Newly released body cam footage shows the moments before, during and after a Gastonia police officer shot a woman in July. The officer was responding to a noise complaint and fired through a door, striking the woman. She was treated and released.

District Attorney Locke Bell concluded the shooting was an accident.

(SOURCE: Gaston Gazette)

Mansfield Police Department, Mansfield, Ohio - Dec. 10, 2018

MANSFIELD, Ohio – A retired Mansfield police officer was charged with misdemeanor negligent assault after he accidentally discharged his firearm in a barber shop, according to Michael Kemerer, chief assistant prosecutor with the Mansfield Law Director's Office.

The retired officer with two others at the South Main Street Barber Shop discussing firearms when he took his 9 mm handgun from its holster. One round discharged into the floor and injured another man who was taken to the hospital. The officer pleaded not guilty.

(SOURCE: [Richland Source](#))

Bay County Sheriff's Office, Michigan - Nov. 11, 2016

A Bay County Sheriff's deputy who accidentally discharged his .380-caliber Sig Sauer firearm in a school and injured a teacher in another room pleaded no contest to tampering with evidence. In exchange, the prosecution dismissed charges of careless discharge of a firearm causing injury.

He was a resource officer at the Bay City Western High School when the incident occurred. He was in the robotics classroom with a teacher when they used a force machine to test the trigger pull on his personal Springfield 9mm handgun.

After they left the room, he returned alone and used the machine to test the trigger pull on his Sig Sauer personal handgun. The gun was not empty of bullet and the experiment caused the gun to fire a round through the wall and into a classroom containing a teacher and about 30 students.

As the bullet traveled toward the ceiling, it ricocheted off a cement wall and struck a teacher in the neck.

(SOURCE: [Bay City News](#))

Sand City Police Department, California - March 13, 2018

A teacher at Seaside High School, who also is a reserve Sand City police officer, accidentally discharged his firearm during a class on "public safety fundamentals," injuring one student who was hit by debris falling from the ceiling.

The officer was teaching the class when he decided to show how secure an officer's holster is. He first wanted to unload the gun.

To do so properly, he would have removed the magazine and then rack the slide to eject the round in the chamber, but the teacher did the opposite, so when he pointed the gun toward the ceiling and pulled the trigger, it went off, according to the prosecutor, who decided against filing charges.

(SOURCE: [KSBW-TV](#))

Visalia Police Department, California - March 2, 2015

VISALIA, Calif. – An off-duty Visalia police officer accidentally discharged his personal weapon in his home and injured a family member who was sleeping in the next room.

The victim, an adult woman, was hospitalized with wounds that were not life-threatening.

The officer was placed on administrative leave.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Federal Bureau of Investigations, Denver, Colorado, - June 13, 2018

DENVER — An off-duty FBI agent was charged with assault after an accidental shooting while dancing at a Denver bar would like to meet with the man who was injured and is praying for his recovery, the agent's attorney said.

The agent appeared in court after turning himself in on a second-degree assault charge. Jail records say the agent posted bond and was released.

Attorney David Goddard called the shooting "an incredibly tragic event" in a written statement. The agent later pleaded guilty to third-degree assault.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii - April 3, 2015

An off-duty Honolulu police officer accidentally discharged his .38-caliber revolver at the Kings Sports Bar and hit the bartender in the abdomen. The officer was placed on desk duty after the incident.

Honolulu Police Deputy Chief Dave Kajihiro said the case was classified as an assault. The officer settled a lawsuit in 2017 for \$300,000.

(SOURCE: [Hawaii News Now](#))

Indianapolis Police, Indiana - Aug. 5, 2017

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indianapolis police spokesman says a woman suffered a leg wound when a gun fired near the end of an officer's funeral at Bankers Life Fieldhouse.

City police Sgt. Kendale Adams says authorities believe the gunfire was an accidental discharge. He says the woman is a Marion County Sheriff's Department employee and suffered a graze wound. She was taken to a hospital for treatment.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

McCracken County Sheriff's Department, Kentucky - May 5, 2015

A Kentucky sheriff's detective went to a wedding, dropped his gun and accidentally shot his mother, authorities said.

The detective with the McCracken County Sheriff's Department was wearing a holster and a gun at a marriage ceremony in the Bardwell Baptist Church in a neighboring county. He was not on the clock and the weapon was not his duty gun, said Sheriff Jon Hayden.

The officer had been adjusting his jacket when the gun and the holster fell on the floor, causing the weapon to discharge. The detective's mother was hospitalized in stable condition.

(SOURCE: [New York Daily News](#))

Athol, Mass., June 13, 2018

ATHOL, Mass. — There will be no criminal charges for an unidentified person who shot a civilian observer at a police department firearms training session.

Northwestern District Attorney David Sullivan announced there will be no criminal charges filed in the "accidental shooting" of a civilian at an Athol firearms training.

The wound, to the upper rear area of one of the man's legs, was not life-threatening.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Michigan State Police - Sept. 27, 2013

A trooper went home and unloaded his weapons. He sat at the kitchen table and unloaded his 40-caliber Sig Sauer first and placed the bullets on the table.

His dog was on the floor near the couch, about 6 feet from the table. He took his 38-caliber revolver in his right hand and opened the cylinder and took the rounds into his hand. He thought he had ejected five but didn't count them.

He stood up with the revolver in his right hand and turned to retrieve his pocket holster on the counter behind him. As he reached with his left hand, the gun fired. He noticed that his dog was bleeding, and appeared to be dead. He called 911 and reported his accidental shooting.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Nevada- Dec. 31, 2017

LAS VEGAS — Police in Las Vegas say a man suffered a minor injury after the rifle of an officer on the Las Vegas Strip discharged following the New Year's Eve festivities.

Officer Laura Meltzer says the officer was moving barricades around 1:19 a.m. near the Monte Carlo casino-hotel when he had a "negligent discharge."

Meltzer says the officer was hit in the calf and refused medical treatment. She says two other people indicated they had been struck by something, but they had no visible injuries.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Department, New York - Aug. 6, 2014

SMITHTOWN, New York — An off-duty MTA police officer accidentally discharged his weapon at his Long Island home, injuring himself and his 3-year-old son.

The officer was unloading his firearm when it accidentally went off. Some reports said the bullet went into his son's arm and others say he was hit in the stomach. The officer's hand was also injured.

The toddler was taken to a local hospital and underwent surgery. The father also went to the hospital.

(SOURCE: [WGHP-TV](#))

Iredell County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina - May 25, 2018

MOORESVILLE, North Carolina — An off-duty Iredell County sheriff's deputy accidentally discharged a gun at a George Pappas' Victory Lanes in Mooresville, NC.

A 10-year-old child was grazed by a fragment of the bullet after it ricocheted off the floor.

The deputy was suspended without pay for 20 days and put on employment probation. The deputy was bowling when the gun went off.

(SOURCE: [Charlotte Observer](#))

Portland Police Department, Oregon — April 2016

A former Portland police chief faced a misdemeanor charge for the reported accidental shooting of a friend during a hunting trip.

He was indicted in Harney County on the charge of negligently wounding another, according to court records. The indictment states he "unlawfully and by failing to use ordinary care under the circumstances" shot his friend. A judge later agreed to a civil compromise and dismissed the charge.

(SOURCE: [The Oregonian/OregonLive](#))

Harrisburg Police Department, Pennsylvania - May 29, 2012

A Harrisburg officer was at a gathering with family and friends when he accidentally fired his weapon several times, hitting his wife in the buttocks.

The officer was showing his gun to family when his gun accidentally discharged, striking his wife, said Dauphin County District Attorney Edward Marsico Jr. The officer was suspended without pay.

(SOURCE: [The Patriot-News](#))

North Huntingdon Township Police, Pennsylvania - April 2, 2013

An off-duty North Huntingdon Township officer fired a pistol and the bullet hit someone's hand. The negligent discharge was from the officer's personal weapon.

The injured person was treated and then taken to the hospital in Pittsburgh. One witness told officials that the gun's magazine had been removed, but there was still a bullet in the chamber.

(SOURCE: Tribune-Review)

Freeport Police Department, Texas -- Jan. 30, 2016

CLUTE, Texas – A Freeport police officer resigned after he accidentally shot his neighbor, who was sleeping in his bed.

The officer was a 25-year-old rookie when he accidentally fired his duty weapon at 4 a.m. He told officials he was sleeping with a loaded gun and heard it go off.

His neighbor was sleeping next door with his wife and son. He was alone in the bed when the bullet struck him in his back. The officer traced the bullet's path through the headboard and two walls. He went to his neighbor's apartment and applied pressure on the man's back until help arrived.

He was charged with a misdemeanor charge of deadly conduct, but a jury acquitted him. He resigned from the police force.

(SOURCE: Austin American-Statesman)

Grant County Sheriff's Office, Washington = March 20, 2018

EPHRATA, Wash. — Grant County Sheriff Tom Jones announced that a deputy who accidentally shot his wife over the summer was cleared to return to work.

The officer previously entered a guilty plea to one count of reckless endangerment in connection with the August 2017 accidental shooting of his wife.

He was sentenced to 364 days in jail, with 356 days suspended and the remaining eight days converted to 48 hours of community service.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Miami-Dade Police Department, Florida = May 15, 2019

MIAMI — Authorities say an off-duty Florida police officer accidentally discharged his gun at a grocery store and grazed a nearby woman.

Miami-Dade police spokesman Chris Thomas says the shooting occurred at a Kendall Publix.

Police say the city of Miami officer was standing in the checkout line and reaching in his pocket when the gun went off. The bullet ricocheted off the ground and hit a woman who was also standing in line.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

San Diego County Sheriff's Office, California - Aug. 23, 2012

A San Diego Sheriff's deputy accidentally shot a homeowner in her backyard while investigating a possible prowler. When the woman asked the officer why he shot her, he said: "I'm sorry, you startled me."

(SOURCE: KSWB)

Total: 34

Accidental discharges where the officer injured another officer(s)

Mesa Police Department, Arizona - Nov. 28, 2017

A Mesa police crime scene specialist accidentally shot himself and injured two other officers while working at a crime scene.

The specialist was processing a firearm as evidence when it discharged. It grazed one officer and entered his forearm. The other officer suffered an abrasion on his nose.

(SOURCE: [The Arizona Republic](#))

Manchester Police Department, Connecticut - March 8, 2013

A Manchester police officer accidentally shot another officer in the foot while they were responding to the Manchester Community College campus after someone reported seeing a male student with a handgun tucked in his waistband.

Officers with the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team, or CREST, arrived at the campus and broke into pods while the school was placed on lockdown, according to the police report.

The officers searched the rooms and hallways for anyone who fit the suspect's description. They entered the common area of the Science Center and began clearing the area of students and staff while looking at the suspect.

After the officers were directed to the common area, an officer was shot in the right foot. Sgt. Jeffrey Foran said he was coordinating a "shelter-in-place" order when he heard a loud bang.

The agency's Office of Professional Standards/Internal Affairs conducted an investigation into the accidental shooting and interview officers involved. An officer was trying to adjust a firearm and it discharged.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Atlanta Police Department, Georgia - Sept. 1, 2015

A homeowner and police officer were shot and injured after three Atlanta-area cops arrived at the wrong house while investigating suspicious activity that had been reported, investigators said.

The incident occurred when DeKalb County police responded to a 911 call regarding a possible burglary at a "brick and tan one-story home," according to a statement from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI). An exact address was not available, investigators said, and three officers were dispatched to an intersection to locate a residence matching the description.

After failing to establish contact with the home's occupants, the officers entered through a rear door they said was unlocked, according to the GBI. When they encountered a dog, two officers fired their weapons, killing the animal.

Investigators said a man was shot in the leg by one of the responding officers, but did not sustain life-threatening injuries. Another officer, who was not identified, was shot in the hip and is in serious but stable condition following surgery.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#) and [Georgia.gov](#) statement - GBI)

Trenton Police Department, New Jersey - Dec. 28, 2015

A Trenton police officer accidentally shot another officer in the foot when a burglary suspect ran out of an apartment building and assaulted them.

Two officers were responding to reports of a burglary in progress when a man ran out and an officer fired a shot, hitting his partner, who was hospitalized and released.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Albuquerque Police Department, New Mexico - July 17, 2013

An Albuquerque police sergeant accidentally shot another officer in the leg as they were searching a building for armed suspects.

The officer was part of a team that was trying to clear a Southwest-area apartment building of three or four suspect who may have been armed with rifles. The officers had their handguns out, pointed down, as they search the building.

When the officer accidentally fired her gun, the bullet hit another officer in the lower leg.

(SOURCE: Albuquerque Journal)

Harrison Police Department, New York - May 23, 2013

A Harrison police officer accidentally shot a suspect and another officer after they pulled over a Chevy Trailblazer in connection with a recent burglary of about \$500,000 worth of jewelry.

The officer, a 15-year police veteran and county firearms instructor, accidentally fired two shots from his .223-caliber AR-15 style rifle after pulling over a vehicle carrying three burglary suspects. The men were members of the so-called "Sound Shore Gang."

The discharge occurred after officers surrounded the vehicle and an altercation ensued.

One of the suspects suffered a collapsed lung when one of the bullets struck near his heart. A detective was also seriously hurt. His injuries led him to leave the force.

(SOURCE: Harrison Review)

Belmont Police Department, North Carolina - Dec. 31, 2012

A police sergeant's Colt 9 submachine gun accidentally discharged during a struggle with a 24-year-old woman and hit her and another officer in the leg.

Police were investigating a road rage incident on New Year's Eve in a gated subdivision. While officers struggled with a woman, the officer's gun fired a single round. The officers suffered shrapnel wounds in the leg after the round hit the concrete and broke apart.

(SOURCE: Gaston Gazette)

Raleigh Police Department, North Carolina - May 29, 2014

Two officers responded to an apartment complex at 2 a.m. and spoke to a person who said they had encountered a man in the parking lot who was intoxicated and arguing with his girlfriend. When the person approached, the man pulled out a firearm, waved it over his head and shouted profanities.

The two officers knocked on the man's door. While they waited, the door suddenly flew open and the man stuck his arm out holding the handgun and sweeping it back and forth. The officers backed up and ordered him to drop the weapon. The man pointed it at an officer.

Police records say the officer drew his firearm and fired twice, but one round struck a fire extinguisher, causing it to rupture, and the other round hit the other officer in the hip. The man was taken into custody while they called for an ambulance.

(SOURCE: police records)

Henry County Sheriff's Office, Ohio - April 5, 2016

NAPOLEON, Ohio — Authorities won't charge a police cadet who accidentally shot another recruit at a firing range last month.

An investigation determined the cadet unintentionally discharged his 9mm handgun, striking a classmate, said Henry County Sheriff Michael Bodenbender.

The shooting occurred during a break from firearm training at Northwest State Law Enforcement Academy. The cadet told investigators he performed maintenance on his firearm and was unaware a round had been chambered, a sheriff's office said.

The classmate was treated at a hospital and later released.

(SOURCE: [The Toledo Blade](#))

Moore Police Department, Oklahoma - May 15, 2012

A Moore police officer accidentally shot another officer while they were preparing to enter the home where a man had barricaded himself inside.

Police went to the home on the report of a man inside who was armed, suicidal and uncommunicative. Just as officers prepared to breach the door, one of the tactical team members shot a sergeant with a rifle.

Officers found the man inside with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. He was hospitalized in critical condition.

(SOURCE: [NewsOK](#))

Baldwin Police Department, Allegheny County, Philadelphia, Penn. - Feb. 10, 2013

A Baldwin Borough police officer was shot in the back after another officer opened fire during a domestic abuse investigation.

The officers responded to a call from a woman who said her boyfriend was distraught and carrying a loaded shotgun at the home they shared with two young children.

The officers met the man at the front door, but he refused to show his hands. As he started to close the door, a sergeant put his shoulder into the door to open it wider.

At that moment, an officer behind him fired two shots with his patrol rifle, striking the sergeant between the bottom of his bulletproof vest and belt. He suffered a shattered hip and pelvis, and possible nerve damage to his foot.

(SOURCE: [Tribune-Review](#))

Philadelphia Police Department, Pennsylvania - Dec. 8, 2017

A Philadelphia police officer was injured when a bullet his partner fired at a dog ricocheted into his leg.

The officers were responding to a report that a dog had attacked an 80-year-old woman. One of the officers fired his gun several times and one of the bullets ricocheted, striking the other officer.

The woman had bite injuries to both legs. The dog, a pit bull that belonged to her granddaughter, was killed.

(SOURCE: [The Philadelphia Inquirer](#))

Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office, Louisiana – Oct. 18, 2019

An Ascension Parish Sheriff's deputy accidentally shot another deputy. Sheriff Bobby Webre said they were investigating the incident in which two deputies were exchanging their weapons when one deputy accidentally shot the other. They were off-duty at the time, Webre said. The injured deputy was treated at a hospital and released.

(SOURCE: [WAFB](#))

Pittsburgh Police Department, Pennsylvania - March 10, 2017

A Pittsburgh police officer accidentally shot his partner in the foot while trying to protect him from an attacking dog.

Public Safety spokeswoman Emily Schaffer said the two plainclothes detectives were conducting a drug investigation when a dog attacked one of the detectives. The other officer fired a shot at the dog, and hit him, but the shot also hit the other officer's foot. The officer was taken to UPMC Presbyterian where he was treated and released.

(SOURCE: Tribune Review)

Alpine, Texas - Sept. 8, 2016

A 14-year-old freshman at Alpine High School in West Texas brought a gun to school and shot another female student before killing herself. Local, state and federal law enforcement agencies rushed to the school and in the confusion, a member of the U.S. Marshal's Service accidentally shot a Homeland Security agent.

The U.S. Marshal was among the law enforcement officers who responded to the school shooting. He arrived at the school equipped with a ballistic shield.

The agent was advised he needed a handgun to operate the shield, so agent was given a duty handgun. The team lined up to clear a classroom when the group heard a gunshot and Homeland Security Investigations Agent Jon Dangle "fell to the ground and was yelling he was shot."

Officers pulled Dangle to a safe location, since the group didn't immediately know where the shot came from. The Border Patrol agent said he realized the shot came from his left side and suspected it came from within the classroom.

The U.S. Marshal agent then told the group that he fired the shot by accident.

Dangle was taken to Odessa Medical Center Hospital. His records say he was diagnosed with "a right leg gunshot wound with a right tibial fracture, anxiety with depressed mood and hypertension as a result of the officer involved shooting incident."

The Texas Rangers presented the case to a Brewster County grand jury, but they declined to charge the agent with the offense of "deadly conduct in regards to the officer involved shooting."

(SOURCE: Texas Rangers report)

San Antonio Police Department, Texas - April 21, 2014

An officer was helping collect evidence for a case, and was trying to find the serial number on a Savage .22-caliber rifle when he noticed the bolt was closed. He was working with several other officers at the time, and almost immediately after he noticed the bolt, the rifle discharged and a detective was injured with a gunshot wound to his hand.

The injured officer was taken to the hospital.

(SOURCE: police records)

Lynchburg Police Department, Virginia = April 10, 2013

A Lynchburg police officer accidentally shot another officer while serving a warrant to a suspect.

The officer was in uniform when he shot a fellow policeman, who was not in uniform when he jumped from a second-story balcony to chase the suspect.

Officials say the officer was mistaken for a suspect.

(SOURCE: WDBJ-TV)

Lafayette Police Department, Indiana - Jan. 8, 2019

LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Lafayette Police say an officer is hospitalized in serious but stable condition after accidentally being shot by another officer after a large dog charged them.

Police say the round hit the officer in the back above her protective vest.

Police Chief Patrick Flannely says the officers were fleeing an apartment where the dog broke out of its cage when the round discharged.

Police say the officers were investigating a criminal mischief complaint and a person wanted on a warrant at the time.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - June 1, 2017

A Milwaukee police officer accidentally shot his fellow officer when they encountered several dogs while responding to a fight.

One of the officers fired at the dogs but hit the other officer instead. The officer was hospitalized and the one who fired the shot was placed on desk duty.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Sturgeon Bay Police Department, Wisconsin - Dec. 18, 2017

A Sturgeon Bay police officer was hurt when another officer's gun discharged as they were taking down a man with a knife.

Officers were called to a domestic disturbance involving a man who reportedly was attacking his father. When officers arrived, the man was sitting and they directed his father to leave the room. The man then got up and began moving toward the officers, yelling.

He refused to get down on the ground and told officers to shoot him. He finally gave up his knife and officers threatened to use their Taser if he didn't respond to their commands. An officer used the Taser twice before they got him into handcuffs.

Authorities say an officer moved next to other officers with his AR-15 rifle slung over down the right side of his body when the firearm negligently discharged.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - May 15, 2017

Chicago police officers responded to a report of a loud domestic dispute over an extended period and possible gunshots fired.

Officers went to the apartment to make sure everyone was OK when an adult male pit bull exited the property and lunged at several people.

The dog went after an officer "in a menacing manner." He backed away from the animal and into a tight gangway area, but the dog kept coming at him.

The officer shot at the dog three times, hitting him once. The dog continued to be aggressive but finally collapsed at the front gate. Fragments of the round ricocheted and struck another on the right ankle. He was taken to the hospital for treatment.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Huntington Beach Police Department, Calif. - July 19, 2012

Two officers were cleaning their weapons when one of the officers had an accidental discharge. The bullet hit the floor and ricocheted off the floor and hit the other officer in the leg. That officer underwent emergency surgery.

(SOURCE: [Los Angeles Times](#))

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Calif. - Aug. 20, 2017

An off-duty Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy accidentally discharged his non-department issued off-duty weapon, shooting another deputy in the leg while they were camping in Dove Springs, a remote area of Kern County, authorities said.

The wounded deputy was taken to a local hospital, where he was treated for “non-life threatening injuries,” according to an L.A. County Sheriff’s Department statement. Both deputies involved were assigned to the department’s Palmdale Station.

(SOURCE: Los Angeles Daily News)

New Haven Police Department, Connecticut - March 8, 2012

Two New Haven police officers were injured in an accidental shooting at the police academy.

The firearms instructor accidentally fired a round from a .40-caliber semi-automatic handgun and the bullet struck a concrete wall. Bullet fragments ricocheted off the wall and struck the two officers. One was hit in the forehead and the other in the arm.

(SOURCE: Hartford Courant)

Iowa City Police Department, Iowa - Nov. 10, 2014

Two Iowa City police officers were injured when one of the officers’ guns accidentally discharged while he was cleaning it after training.

The officers were at the department’s substation cleaning and doing maintenance on their weapons when one of the officer’s had an accidental discharge. Both were taken to local hospitals for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: Cedar Rapids Gazette)

Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office, Louisiana - Dec. 12, 2016

Four Lafayette Parish sheriff’s deputies were injured by shrapnel when another deputy accidentally discharged his firearm at a shooting range. The bullet ricocheted and broke apart, sending shrapnel toward the other deputies.

The deputy who had the accidental discharge was not hurt. It’s not immediately known if he faced discipline, but officials said there would be an investigation.

(SOURCE: The Daily Advertiser)

Baltimore Police Department, Maryland – Feb. 12, 2013

A University of Maryland campus police officer was accidentally shot in the head by an instructor during a training exercise.

The instructor mistakenly used a live weapon, of a practice weapon, while demonstrating the danger of standing in the potential line of fire and shot the officer, who lost his eye and had to be treated at a brain injury facility.

The instructor was later convicted of reckless endangerment and sentenced to 18 months in jail, with 60 days suspended.

(SOURCE: The Daily Advertiser and The Baltimore Sun)

Chicopee Police Department, Massachusetts - Feb. 26, 2013

A Chicopee officer was seriously injured when he was accidentally shot during a training exercise. The officer was participating in a special weapons and tactics exercise outside Westover Air Reserve Base.

Officials did not release information on how the accidental discharge happened, but said the officer received a gunshot wound to the side of his face.

(SOURCE: The Republican)

Cumberland County Corrections, Maine - June 13, 2017

Maine State Police investigated an accidental shooting of a Cumberland County corrections officer by another officer.

Two officers were at the police academy for a training program when one accidentally shot the other in the leg. Officials say the shooting took place inside a pickup truck owned by a third officer.

The three officers were leaving the academy grounds when the shooting happened in the parking lot.

(SOURCE: Sun Journal)

Sylvan Lakes Police Department, Michigan - Aug. 2, 2012

A Sylvan Lakes police officer accidentally shot himself in the hand while preparing to go to work, and the bullet hit another officer.

The officer was putting a magazine into his Glock 23 handgun when it went off.

The .40-caliber bullet went through his left hand and grazed his stomach before ricocheting off a counter and hitting another officer in the hip. The gun went off while he was putting in a magazine, the report said.

(SOURCE: New Haven Register)

Morehead City Police Department, North Carolina - Oct. 2, 2013

A Morehead City police officer accidentally shot another officer during a training exercise.

The prosecutor investigated the case and said the officer demonstrated a high level of negligence when he failed to properly clear his gun and shot the other officer in the chest, but the district attorney said no charges would be filed. The officer was later fired.

(SOURCE: WNCT)

Cranston Police Department, Rhode Island - Aug. 2, 2018

A Cranston, Rhode Island, police officer's firearm accidentally discharged while he was attending the funeral of a Weymouth, Massachusetts officer who was killed in the line of duty.

The sergeant told investigators that he was changing out of his honor guard uniform and while trying to put the belt away, his gun fell out of the holster. He tried to catch it and it fired.

The bullet hit the pavement and flying asphalt hit two MIT female officers who were walking by the bus. They suffered only minor injuries.

(SOURCE: WBZ-TV)

Leesburg Police Department, Virginia - Nov. 6, 2012

A Leesburg police officer was injured when another officer accidentally discharged his firearm during a training exercise. The injured officer received what officials called a "superficial injury" but was taken to a local hospital, where he was treated and released.

Both officers were placed on administrative leave.

(SOURCE: Leesburg Today)

Virginia Beach Police Department, Virginia - Nov. 5, 2015

An officer was injured when a Virginia Beach police officer's gun accidentally discharged at the Academi range in Moyock, North Carolina.

The officers had just completed training when an officer's gun went off. The bullet hit another officer in the arm. He was hospitalized and released.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

King County Sheriff's Office, Seattle, Washington - Aug. 2, 2012

The sheriff's office and Burien police attended a four-day training course on Active Shooting and Patrol at the Highline High School.

All course attendees were issued a "SIM" or simulation gun and safety was stressed.

On the last day of training, at the end of class, a deputy was holding his SIM firearm and was starting to dismantle the gun when he pulled the trigger. He did not realize there was still a simulation cartridge chambered.

The round went into a nearby desk and ricocheted back up into the mouth of the deputy sitting next to him.

(SOURCE: police report)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - Nov. 8, 2017

An officer was at the range to be tested on his handgun and revolver. Part of the qualification process involves a function test and inspection.

The officer, a certified gun armor and Seattle Police Department range officer, was in the process of doing the function test and inspection when he had an unintentional discharge of the handgun. About 12 officers were in the small conference room at the time and several reported pain in their ears.

(SOURCE: police report)

Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland - Dec. 15, 2018

Two Prince George's County police officers were injured in an accidental shooting at a holiday party, leading to the suspension of 11 officers.

The off-duty officers were at a private home in Brandywine when a handgun accidentally fired a single shot, injuring one officer in the hand. A second officer was injured by a ricochet. They both went to a local hospital for treatment and were released the next day.

(SOURCE: WUSA-TV)

Texas City Police Department, Texas = April 26, 2019

TEXAS CITY, Texas — Authorities say two police cadets in Texas were shot in the leg after a gun accidentally discharged in the middle of their law enforcement class.

Police say the shooting happened at the College of the Mainland Law Enforcement Training Academy in Texas City, about 40 miles (65 kilometers) southeast of Houston. Texas City police say a cadet had a loaded handgun in his backpack in a classroom and the gun accidentally fired when he reached into his bag. Authorities said the injuries weren't considered life-threatening.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Fort Wayne Police Department, Indiana - March 5, 2019

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — Fort Wayne police say two of its officers suffered non-life-threatening injuries in an accidental shooting during a training exercise.

Police say one officer was shot in the hand and the other officer in the lower extremities by a single bullet during the training at the Public Safety Academy in Fort Wayne. Both were taken to a hospital.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Charleston Police Department, South Carolina - April 22, 2019

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Authorities in South Carolina say a Charleston police officer was accidentally shot in the arm during firearms training.

Police say the officer was wounded when a gun unintentionally went off.

The wounded officer was taken to a hospital for treatment.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

DeKalb County Police Department, Georgia - Dec. 23, 2019

DECATUR, Ga. — Authorities say a Georgia police officer and a woman were shot during a domestic incident involving an armed man.

DeKalb County Police Chief James Conroy says officers were responding to a domestic violence call and heard gunshots from inside the apartment.

Police say the suspect held a gun to the woman's head and then went back inside, prompting a standoff. After hearing additional gunshots, officers entered the apartment and found a woman with a gunshot wound.

While searching the home, authorities say an officer accidentally fired a shotgun.

The round struck the ground and ricocheted into an officer. The officer was treated for his injuries and released.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Cincinnati Police Department, Ohio - Sept. 11, 2014

A Cincinnati police officer accidentally discharged his firearm during training and the bullet ricocheted off the concrete ground and struck an instructor in the arm.

The officer was participating in a shooting drill that involved moving diagonally from 10 yards to 10 feet while shooting at four separate targets. At the end of his drill, the officer tried to put the gun back in his holster, but he had his finger on the trigger and he fired a round into the concrete just behind his right foot.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Marion County Sheriff's Office, Tennessee - May 22, 2019

JASPER, Tenn. — A Marion County Sheriff's deputy was hospitalized when she was hit by accidental gunfire. It happened at the Marion County Sheriff's Office in Jasper.

A detective was unloading his AR-15 when it accidentally fired, Sheriff Bo Burnett said. A female detective was walking by at the time, and the bullet hit her in the leg.

(SOURCE: [WTVB-TV](#))

Jackson Police Department, Tennessee - Oct. 18, 2017

JACKSON, Tenn. — A Jackson police officer was accidentally shot by another officer during quarterly firearms training.

According to a release from the Jackson Police Department, the accident happened while officers were conducting quarterly firearms training at the Fraternal Order of Police Range. Officers on scene conducted first aid until emergency medical personnel arrived.

(SOURCE: [WBBJ-TV](#))

Pasadena Police Department, California - Oct. 2, 2015

A Pasadena police officer accidentally shot another officer at the department's parking structure. Police say the injured officer was taken to the hospital with a non-life-threatening injury and later released. The other officer was placed on administrative leave pending an investigation.

(SOURCE: [City News Service](#))

Total: 45

Accidental discharges where the officer killed someone

Alexander Police Department, Arkansas - Sept. 8, 2012

An Alexander police officer fatally shot a suspect as she was trying to get him into handcuffs, according to court records.

The officer later said that she didn't "mean for the gun to go off" and remembers looking down at her and she "didn't know what had just happened," according to her statement in response to a wrongful death lawsuit filed in federal court.

The officer was on patrol when she spotted the suspect walking down the middle of the street. She stopped to check on him and said he pulled a gun on her. She told him to drop the gun and he threw it into the bushes.

As she placed her hand on his left wrist and pulled his hand behind his back, he yanked away. This caused a fall. As she tried to hold onto him, the gun went off, the court record said. The officer was charged with manslaughter and later acquitted.

(SOURCE: court records)

Burlington Police Department, Iowa - Jan. 6, 2015

A Burlington police officer was responding to a domestic violence call when he accidentally shot and killed a 34-year-old mother in front of her husband and child.

Autumn Steele was the subject of a restraining order and had gone to her husband's home to see the child. Officer Jesse Hill arrived to find the couple arguing on the sidewalk.

Gabriel Steele, the husband, was carrying their child.

Hill approached as a dog began barking. Hill told them to grab the dog. As Hill lost his balance, he fired two shots. One hit the dog, the other hit Steele, according to court records.

Hill was not disciplined in the shooting. He said he fired the gun while he was being attacked by the family dog.

Steele's family filed a wrongful death lawsuit and they reached a \$2 million settlement in June 2018, according to the family's lawyer, Dave O'Brien, a Cedar Rapids attorney.

(SOURCE: The Des Moines Register, court records and body cam video)

Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland – March 13, 2016

A Prince George police officer fatally shot a police detective during a shootout with several suspects. The detective's family filed a lawsuit against the officer, saying he had a description of the suspect and it didn't fit the detective and described his actions as "intentional and reckless."

(SOURCE: Baltimore Sun and WTOP)

New York City Police Department, New York - Sept. 7, 2012

A New York police officer fatally shot a worker in a Bronx bodega as he escaped from an armed robbery in the store.

A man and his uncle were being held hostage by three armed robbers and he managed to escape as police arrived. As they ran from the store, the man was shot in the torso by an officer.

Witnesses said he ran out and tripped on a fire hydrant and was shot. Police said the officer thought the man was a suspect.

Police said he was killed when he fled a store that was being held up by three armed suspects and ran directly into the officer's drawn firearm, knocking the officer to the ground and causing the officer to unintentionally discharge a round as a result of the collision.

(SOURCE: [Huffington Post](#) and [New York Daily News](#))

New York City Police Department, New York - Nov. 21, 2014

New York City police officer fatally shot a Brooklyn man in a stairwell and officials say the shooting was an accident.

Officers were on a foot patrol at about 11 p.m. when they descended from the eighth-floor stairwell when the man and his female friend appeared below them.

An officer had drawn his weapon and fired one shot into the man's chest. The officer had only been on the force for 18 months. A preliminary investigation indicated that it was an accidental discharge, according to Commissioner William Bratton.

The officer was convicted of manslaughter by a Kings County jury in 2016. He was also found guilty of official misconduct.

The city agreed to pay over \$4 million to settle a wrongful death claim.

(SOURCE: [New York Times](#) and [New York Daily News](#))

Ross County Sheriff's Office, Ohio - Dec. 13, 2013

CHILLICOTHE, Ohio - Authorities say a woman was killed in an accidental shooting by a Ross County Sheriff's deputy during a drug raid in rural central Ohio.

A prosecutor in Ross County, south of Columbus, said the woman was accidentally shot in the head after officers entered a home to conduct the raid.

Prosecutor Matt Schmidt said it wasn't clear whether the gunfire was the result of a weapon malfunction or user error. The woman's family will receive a \$156,250 settlement after the family filed a wrongful death suit.

(SOURCE: [Chillicothe Gazette](#) and court records)

Tulsa County Sheriff's Office, Oklahoma - April 2, 2015

A reserve sheriff's deputy accidentally shot a suspect with his firearm instead of his Taser, and the man soon died, which led to charges against the deputy and a \$6 million settlement of a federal lawsuit.

The deputy was working with deputies in a sting operation in which a suspect sold undercover officers a 9 mm semi-automatic pistol. When officers pulled up to the truck where the sale was occurring, the suspect ran.

Deputies caught the suspect and the deputy thought he pulled out his Taser to subdue the suspect, but he had pulled his handgun. He fired one shot and dropped the gun on the ground, saying, "I shot him. I'm sorry."

The deputy was convicted of manslaughter for killing Harris, an incident caught on video that sparked calls of racial bias by police.

The Tulsa County board of commissioners agreed to settle a lawsuit for \$6 million.

(SOURCE: [New York Daily News](#) and court records)

Austin Police Department, Texas, Police - July 26, 2013

NEW ORLEANS — A lawyer for a white police officer who shot and killed a black man about three years ago after a foot chase told an appeals court that his client should be protected by federal immunity. But state prosecutors said the case should not have been dismissed by a lower court.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments in the case of an Austin police officer working with an FBI task force investigating bank robberies when he encountered the man on July 26, 2013.

Court records say the man tried to enter a bank that was closed, saying he wanted to make a withdrawal. The officer investigated and the man ran off. When the officer caught up to him, a struggle ensued, and the man was fatally shot.

The officer argued that the shooting was the result of an accidental discharge.

Prosecutors said he acted recklessly, used excessive force.

A Texas grand jury indicted the officer for manslaughter in May 2014. Before the case went to trial, a federal judge dismissed it, citing the immunity clause. In 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court let stand the lower court's ruling saying the officer was immune from prosecution.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - July 21, 2016

The sister of a man fatally shot by Chicago police last year in a Prairie District park challenged officers' version of events, saying an officer who was wounded in what police described as an exchange of gunfire accidentally shot himself.

The woman filed a wrongful death suit against the city of Chicago and three police officers, saying they overreacted and used excessive force when they killed her brother.

Around 8 p.m. that evening, bicycle officers responded to a report of a person "acting erratically" at the park. Soon after, they found the man.

Police said the man pulled a gun out of his backpack and began firing, hitting the officer in the leg. The lawsuit, however, suggests Love was unarmed and his drawstring Nike bag contained a few cans of beer and his ID. He tried to walk away from officers and didn't hit or point any weapon at them. The lawsuit said the wounded officer accidentally shot himself.

(SOURCE: [Chicago Tribune and court records](#))

Pennsylvania State Trooper - Sept. 30, 2014

A Pennsylvania state trooper was fatally shot when a firearms instructor accidentally discharged his gun during a training session.

The 26-year-old trooper was shot in the chest while attending a routine firearms and safety training session at the Montgomery County Tactical Response Training Center in Plymouth Township, according to a federal lawsuit filed by the trooper's family.

A lawsuit says the training instructor was demonstrating a new-model state police-issued Sig Sauer handgun when he accidentally fired the gun, hitting the trooper.

The instructor retired from the state police and pleaded guilty to reckless endangerment charges. A Montgomery County judge sentenced him to two weeks in prison in August 2015.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press and WCAU](#))

Fresno County Sheriff's Office, Calif. - Aug. 3, 2017

A Fresno County sheriff's detective has pleaded not guilty to fatally shooting his colleague in what authorities initially called a tragic and accidental shooting.

The detective entered his plea to a felony charge of involuntary manslaughter in Fresno County Superior Court. Authorities say a Fresno County Sheriff's sergeant died in October while talking with the detective about how to carry their backup weapons.

In court papers, prosecutors say the death was without malice, but the killing was unlawful because he failed to use "due caution and circumspection."

The officer's attorney said the shooting was an accident.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - Oct. 10, 2015

The fiance of a Broward County sheriff's deputy was hit by a bullet in the leg when the deputy accidentally fired the weapon. He later died of unknown complications.

The man had just cleaned his Glock 19 and set it down on the table when his fiancée, picked it up.

Without realizing the magazine was still in the firearm, she pulled the slide to the rear and a round ejected. She believed the weapon was unloaded and pulled the trigger. It hit the man in left thigh. The bullet traveled through his leg and struck the floor.

Investigators determined the couple was not fighting at the time. The deputy said she made a mistake in the way she handled the gun. He was treated at the hospital and returned home with some pain medication.

About a week later, he was home recovering when he started having seizures. He was taken to the hospital where he died.

(SOURCE: police report)

Ocala Police Department, Florida - April 7, 2015

An Ocala police officer was killed in an accidental shooting during a training at a shooting range. The officer died after another officer had an accidental discharge.

The officer was wearing a bulletproof vest during the training, but the shot hit him in the arm before going into his chest. He died at the hospital.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement investigated the shooting and determined it was a "tragic accident" and not the result of criminal conduct.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Punta Gorda Police Department, Florida - Aug. 9, 2016

PUNTA GORDA, Fla. — A police "shoot/don't shoot" demonstration in Florida went wrong when an officer shot and killed a 73-year-old former librarian with what police said was real ammunition used by mistake at an event designed to bring police and the public together.

Authorities didn't immediately say how a gun with a live round came to be used at the demonstration, noting blank rounds are typically used in classes. The officer was placed on administrative leave.

Punta Gorda city council members approved a \$2 million settlement with the woman's family in November, three months after the shooting.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii - Aug. 16, 2014

A Honolulu police officer died from a gunshot wound after he accidentally fired his handgun while showing the firearm to a friend during a barbecue at his home. The officer's uncle said he was showing the gun to someone when it accidentally went off. No one else was injured.

(SOURCE: The News Tribune)

Northwest Police Department, North Carolina - Jan. 20, 2018

BELVILLE, North Carolina — A Northwest police officer accidentally shot himself and died from his injuries. The Brunswick County 911 center received a call about a cardiac arrest in Belville. Detectives found the man dead from an accidental gunshot wound.

No foul play is suspected and officials say it was not intentional.

(SOURCE: WECT)

Bessemer Borough Police Department, Pennsylvania - Sept. 13, 2015

NEW CASTLE, Pa. - A Lawrence County police chief died after a gun went off at his house while he was cleaning it, according to state police.

The chief accidentally shot himself in the chest while cleaning a .40-caliber pistol. Police said he was home alone at the time. His girlfriend discovered him a short time later and called emergency services.

(SOURCE: WPXI-TV)

Pennsylvania State Trooper - March 7, 2014

PHILADELPHIA — A Pennsylvania state trooper was arrested after his gun discharged, killing is pregnant wife.

The officer was arraigned on two counts of involuntary manslaughter in the deaths of his wife and child, who died after an emergency C-section.

The officer pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter in the accidental shooting, and he was sentenced to three to 23 months in jail.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press and The Mercury)

Shelby County Sheriff's Office, Tennessee - Sept. 11, 2018

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — A district attorney in Tennessee says Two Shelby County deputies won't be charged for the fatal shooting of a black man during a drug investigation.

Shelby County District Attorney Amy Weirich announced the move regarding the January death of the man. Authorities say the man was the target of a drug investigation and authorities tried to box in his car on a Memphis street.

A letter by Weirich's office says one deputy told authorities they shot at the man when he tried to grab a weapon. The other deputy says his gun accidentally fired.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Dallas Police Department, Texas - Sept. 10, 2012

FORT WORTH, Texas – A Dallas police officer fatally shot himself while cleaning his service weapon at his home. The officer was a five-year veteran assigned to the Central Patrol Division when he died of an apparent accidental discharge.

(SOURCE: Dallas Observer)

Rochester Police Department, New York - Nov. 2, 2019

A Rochester police officer died after he accidentally shot himself while driving to work.

Monroe County Sheriff Todd Baxter said the officer called his wife on his way to work and said he had accidentally shot himself and was driving to the hospital.

His SUV drifted across the road and into a ravine. He was declared dead at the scene. Baxter said the officer suffered a single gunshot wound that struck his femoral artery.

(Rochester Democrat and Chronicle)

Total: 21

Accidental discharges involving gun-mounted flashlights

San Diego Police Department, Calif. - Feb. 20, 2016

A San Diego officer was involved in an accidental discharge of his firearm while on duty.

He was searching an apartment to ensure an offender was complying with his probation when he entered a dark bedroom with his gun drawn.

Court records say the officer's handgun had a light attachment with a remote-control shift, and when he tried to activate the light the gun discharged.

(SOURCE: [San Diego Union Tribune and court records](#))

Denver Police Department, Colorado - Jan. 21, 2013

A Denver police officer was searched a homeless camp for a suspect in an attempted homicide.

According to police reports the officer approached a tent with his handgun drawn and tried to unzip the tent. While doing so, he tried to activate the light attached to his gun, but accidentally pulled the trigger. No one was hurt in the discharge.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Denver Police Department, Colorado - March 16, 2015

A Denver police officer investigating a stolen vehicle stopped a vehicle, got out, drew his handgun and pointed it at the driver.

His hand gun had a mounted flashlight under the barrel.

The flashlight is activated by pressing switches on either side of the flashlight.

It was dark, so the officer used his trigger finger to activate the switch as he stepped out of the patrol car. The car door unexpectedly swung back and hit the officer's left side, knocking him off balance and he pulled the trigger.

The round struck and injured the driver. The officer was suspended for 18 days without pay.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

San Francisco Police Department, Calif. - Sept. 26, 2016

While an officer with the San Francisco Police Department was serving a high-risk search warrant, an officer with the tactical division unintentionally discharged his firearm while trying to activate a weapon-mounted flashlight. The bullet lodged in a closet. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Champaign Police Department, Illinois - June 11, 2017

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Authorities say a Champaign, Illinois, police officer accidentally shot an unarmed suspect.

The officer initiated a traffic stop on a 2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer and followed the vehicle on to a dirt driveway. The car accelerated to an alleyway.

The suspect crashed the Trailblazer into the garage doors of a residence and ran toward the front door. The officer got out of the patrol car and told the suspect to stop.

The suspect jumped a chain link fence and finally stopped near a detached garage. The officer drew his duty weapon with a plan to use the light mounted on top to see the area better.

As the officer manipulated the light with his index finger, he slipped and his firearm discharged, hitting the suspect in his left shoulder.

The Champaign City Council later approved a \$93,000 settlement for the suspect. The state's attorney decided against filing charges against the officer.

(SOURCE: police report)

Louisville Metro Police Department, Kentucky - March 2, 2017

A Louisville police officer accidentally shot a homeless man in the stomach when she pulled the trigger instead of turning on her gun-mounted flashlight.

The officer and other officers had searched a house and were about to leave when she thought she saw a shadow behind a mattress. She yelled “show your hands” as she fumbled for the flashlight switch and pulled the trigger by mistake.

The man sued the officer and the Louisville Metro government settled the lawsuit for \$1.8 million.

(SOURCE: The Louisville Courier-Journal)

North Las Vegas Police Department, Nevada - Jan. 3, 2017

A North Las Vegas police officer who was working the perimeter around a man who barricaded himself in a house accidentally shot a man in the foot after he stopped his car near the officer’s vehicle.

The officer was in a SWAT vehicle near the suspect house when a car driven by the suspect drove up. He was on his way home after leaving work, buying groceries and paying his rent, according to a complaint he filed in federal court.

The officer said he told the suspect to stop his car and tried to turn on the flashlight attached to his firearm, but accidentally discharged his weapon, grazing the suspect’s foot.

(SOURCE: court records)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - Feb. 10, 2019

DENVER — A Denver police officer will be suspended for 10 days without pay for almost shooting a man in the head by accident.

Investigators say the officer was responding to a report of a drunk man trying to stop traffic in south Denver. The man ran away and hid under a truck.

According to the disciplinary letter, the officer accidentally fired his gun as he was turning on his weapon-mounted light.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press and The Denver Post)

Total: 8

Accidental discharges that occurred when the officer slipped

Broward County Sheriff’s Office, Florida - Oct. 24, 2012

LAUDERDALE LAKES, Fla. — Two deputies were investigating reports of thefts of air conditioner parts when they discovered two men outside a home near the appliance.

One deputy approached on foot, according to a police report. He drew his firearm and the two men complied with his orders to get on the ground. Another deputy arrived with his firearm and began to put one of the suspects in handcuffs. During that process, the deputy transitioned his firearm back into his holster and the gun went off.

Neither suspect was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Meriden Police Department, Connecticut - May 16, 2017

A Meriden police sergeant accidentally discharged his weapon while investigating a burglary in progress.

The sergeant and other officers responded to a report that a suspect was stealing copper piping at a house. They surrounded the home and waited for him to come out. After a while, the sergeant took his service weapon in his right hand and attempted to kick in the door while yelling for the suspect to put his hands up.

Body camera footage shows that the sergeant kicked the door four times and slid backward, accidentally firing one round into the home. No one was hurt. The department conducted an investigation and he was given a written reprimand and ordered to undergo training.

(SOURCE: Record-Journal)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - Aug. 19, 2013

A Denver police officer was contacting the driver of a stolen vehicle at gunpoint when his gun went off accidentally. He had approached the vehicle and reached for the driver's side door handle to open the door as the driver put the truck in gear and drove away, pulling the officer off balance.

While stumbling backward, a police report says the officer's finger inadvertently moved to the trigger, causing the gun to discharge. The round went into the driver's side window and out through the windshield, ending up lodged behind the siding of a nearby unoccupied residence.

He was suspended four days without pay.

(SOURCE: police report)

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - May 12, 2018

An Aurora police officer accidentally fired his gun while chasing suspects.

Aurora police were called to a home where there was a burglary in process. Another patrol car arrived and saw two men running. It appeared they were the suspects. The officers yelled for them to stop, but they kept going.

The officers pursued them on foot with their weapons drawn. Another patrol car drove into the area and split the two men up. One officer said he ran down one of the suspects when he heard a loud "pop" that sounded like a firearm.

An officer told the other officers that his firearm, a 9mm Glock 17, had accidentally discharged. He said he slipped while he was running, and the gun fired. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Champaign Police Department, Illinois - June 11, 2017

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. – A Champaign, Illinois, police officer was under investigation for the shooting of an unarmed black man.

The officer was placed on paid leave as Illinois State Police investigated the shooting of a 22-year-old. The officer said the shooting was an accident.

The officer initiated a traffic stop on a 2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer and followed the vehicle on to a dirt driveway. The car accelerated to an alleyway.

The suspect crashed the Trailblazer into the garage doors of a residence and ran toward the front door. The officer got out of the patrol car and told the suspect to stop.

The suspect jumped a chain link fence and finally stopped near a detached garage. The officer drew his duty weapon with a plan to use the light mounted on top to see the area better.

As the officer manipulated the light with his index finger, he slipped and his firearm discharged, hitting the suspect in his left shoulder.

The Champaign City Council later approved a \$93,000 settlement for the suspect. The state's attorney decided against filing charges against the officer.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - Jan. 27, 2012

A Detroit police officer accidentally discharged his weapon while chasing a robbery suspect. The officer was leaving a barbershop when he saw two men in black hoodies running from a salon next door. Salon customers were yelling and pointing at the men so the officer gave chase.

The alleged robbers split up and the officer chase one of the men while pulling out is gun. In the process, a police report says the officer "stumbled and accidentally discharged the weapon into the ground. The bullet didn't hit anyone and the officer continued the chase, eventually catching the man.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - Aug. 28, 2012

Detroit police officers went to a suspected drug house to serve a search warrant and one of the officers had an accidental shooting.

The officers were on the porch with their guns out when an officer gave the order to force open the front door. The "ram man" went to swing the ram back and in the process, a police report says he hit one of the officers in the chest, causing him to fall backward over the railing.

A police report says the impact caused the officer to hit the safety button and then the trigger, causing the shot gun to discharge a 12-gauge round into the ground.

(SOURCE: police report)

Meriden Police Department, Connecticut - May 16, 2017

A Meriden police sergeant accidentally discharged his weapon while investigating a burglary in progress.

The sergeant and other officers responded to a report that a suspect was stealing copper piping at a house. They surrounded the home and waited for him to come out. After a while, the sergeant took his service weapon in his right hand and attempted to kick in the door while yelling for the suspect to put his hands up.

Body camera footage shows that the sergeant kicked the door four times and slid backward, accidentally firing one round into the home. No one was hurt. The department conducted an investigation and he was given a written reprimand and ordered to undergo training.

(SOURCE: Record-Journal)

Sandusky Police Department, Ohio - Feb. 1, 2015

Police say an officer in northern Ohio slipped on the ice during a drug search and accidentally shot himself in the hip. Authorities in Sandusky, Ohio, say the bullet grazed the officer's hip and he suffered minor skin abrasions.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Texas Highway Patrol - Jan. 1, 2012

A Texas Trooper tried to stop a vehicle that was being driven erratically, but the driver took off, reaching speeds of 109 mph. The driver led the trooper on a chase that went into a wooded area. The driver took one turn that lodged his car between some trees.

A police report says the trooper got out of his patrol car with his weapon drawn. The driver ran into the woods and the trooper gave chase with his flashlight and weapon in hand. The officer tripped and accidentally discharged his weapon. No one was hit by the bullet.

(SOURCE: police report)

Washington State Patrol - Jan. 8, 2018

SNOHOMISH, Wash. -- A Washington State Patrol trooper had a negligent discharge of his firearm while pursuing a suspect.

The trooper chased a suspect who fled his vehicle. A police report says as the trooper was running, while holding the a less-than lethal shotgun close, and the safety rubbed against his tourniquet holder and the safety was depressed.

Without the flashlight, the trooper failed to see a change in terrain and stepped onto uneven ground. The trigger of the shotgun was pulled as it rubbed downward on the tourniquet. A bean-bag round went directly into the ground about 2 feet away. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police records)

Alexander Police Department, Arkansas - Sept. 8, 2012

An Alexander police officer fatally shot a suspect as she was trying to get him into handcuffs, according to court records.

The officer said she didn't "mean for the gun to go off" and remembers looking down at her hand, and she "didn't know what had just happened," according to her statement in response to a wrongful death lawsuit filed in federal court.

The officer was charged with manslaughter and later acquitted, according to court records.

(SOURCE: court records)

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Dec. 17, 2015

An investigation was launched after an Aurora police officer accidentally shot a car-theft suspect in the stomach during a foot chase.

Police were investigating an area where dozens of vehicles had been stolen in recent months. A suspect was seen driving away in a stolen Acura.

Officers followed him in two different vehicles until he suddenly made a U-turn.

An officer decided to cut him off and turned his vehicle in front of the Acura. The officer exited his car as the suspect opened the door. The officer drew his .40 caliber Glock 23 handgun from its holster and turned on the "tactical" flashlight. He told investigators that as he moved away from the car, he slipped and stumbled on the ice and heard his pistol go off, injuring the suspect.

The officer was not charged.

(SOURCE: police report and district attorney investigation)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - March 11, 2014

A Denver police corporal was working with the fugitive and gang unit and trying to make an arrest when he had a negligent discharge that caused a minor injury.

The officer and another officer followed a suspect who ran inside an apartment and slammed the door behind him. The officer tripped over some pillows that were on the floor, fell and unintentionally discharged his firearm into the floor.

The bullet and a fragment from the floor grazed one of the occupants who was sitting on the couch. The department investigation found that the officer violated the rule that prohibits "careless

handling of firearms” when he inadvertently pulled the trigger. He received an 18-day suspension without pay.

(SOURCE: police report)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - March 16, 2015

A Denver police officer investigating a stolen vehicle stopped a vehicle, got out, drew his handgun and pointed it at the driver.

His hand gun had a mounted flashlight under the barrel.

The flashlight is activated by pressing switches on either side of the flashlight.

It was dark, so the officer used his trigger finger to activate the switch as he stepped out of the patrol car. The car door unexpectedly swung back and hit the officer’s left side, knocking him off balance and he pulled the trigger.

The round struck and injured the driver. The officer was suspended for 18 days without pay.

(SOURCE: police report)

Carleton Police Department, Michigan - Nov. 15, 2018

CARLETON, Mich. — An official says the police chief of a small southeastern Michigan community was accidentally shot in the foot after he slipped on ice and his gun discharged.

Carleton police were responding to a breaking and entering call in the village southwest of Detroit when the chief slipped. A suspect in the break-in was apprehended.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Phoenix Police Department, Arizona - Nov. 17, 2015

A Phoenix police officer accidentally discharged his firearm after he slipped while chasing a suspect.

Officers were investigating a suspicious person in a U-Haul van and when they tried to make contact with the driver, he drove away and then jumped from the vehicle and ran through a yard.

The officer drove to the suspect and advanced to the driver using his firearm to cover the suspect. The suspect walked between a house and fence and the officer followed at full speed with his weapon drawn.

The officer lost his footing in the wet grass, causing him to fall. As he tried to regain his footing, he unintentionally discharged one round from his .45-caliber service weapon - a Glock Model 21. The round struck a brick wall. A police report says no one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Total: 17

Accidental discharges that happened during a struggle with the suspect

U.S. Park Police Department, District of Columbia - Aug. 15, 2017

Officers with the U.S. Park Police Department chased a vehicle that contained four people who were believed to be involved in an armed robbery. After they stopped the vehicle, several of the people ran. Two were apprehended in the area and one was found hiding under a car.

The suspect resisted arrest and during the struggle, the officer accidentally discharged his firearm. The bullet did not strike anyone.

(SOURCE: police records)

Biloxi Police Department, Mississippi - Aug. 18, 2017

A Biloxi police officer accidentally discharged his weapon during a struggle with a suspect.

Officers spotted a vehicle that appeared to be engaged in drug activity and the vehicle came back as stolen. Officers followed the vehicle and attempted to arrest the suspect, but the suspect walked toward the officer. During the scuffle, the officer's gun discharged.

No one was injured.

(SOURCE: The Sun Herald)

Fairfield Police Department, Connecticut - Jan. 17, 2013

A Fairfield police officer accidentally discharged during a struggle with a suspect.

Police responded to a report of a burglary. The resident said a man unlocked a garage door and began to flee on a bicycle. The suspect turned around when he saw the officer. The officer pursued and during the struggle, the gun discharged. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: Fairfield Daily Voice)

Harrison Police Department, New York - May 23, 2013

A Harrison police officer accidentally shot a suspect and another officer after they pulled over a Chevy Trailblazer in connection with a recent burglary of about \$500,000 worth of jewelry.

The officer, a 15-year police veteran and county firearms instructor, accidentally fired two shots from his .223-caliber AR-15 style rifle after pulling over a vehicle carrying three burglary suspects. The men were members of the so-called "Sound Shore Gang."

The discharge occurred after officers surrounded the vehicle and an altercation ensued.

One of the suspects suffered a collapsed lung when one of the bullets struck near his heart. A detective was also seriously hurt. His injuries led him to leave the force.

(SOURCE: Harrison Review)

New York City Police Department, New York - 2012

A suspect was struck in the leg when an officer was attempting to holster his firearm while handcuffing the suspect to place him under arrest.

The officer and another officer had chased a homeless man who snatched \$40 from a dining table and ran. They caught up with the suspect and as one of the officers struggled to put him in handcuffs, Joseph put his gun in the holster. He accidentally pulled the trigger in the process, hitting the suspect in the leg.

(SOURCE: The New York Post)

Belmont Police Department, North Carolina - Dec. 31, 2012

A police sergeant's Colt 9 submachine gun accidentally discharged during a struggle with a 24-year-old woman and hit her and another officer in the leg.

Police were investigating a road rage incident on New Year's Eve in a gated subdivision. While officers struggled with a woman, the officer's gun fired a single round. The officers suffered shrapnel wounds in the leg after the round hit the concrete and broke apart.

(SOURCE: Gaston Gazette)

Durham Police Department, North Carolina - Dec. 20, 2012

Durham police said a suspect shot an officer in the leg during a struggle, but a jury found otherwise. A lawyer for the suspect successfully argued that the officer shot himself in the leg during the encounter.

The officer had stopped the suspect in a parking lot and they got into a fight, officials said. The officer's gun went off and he suffered a leg injury.

The suspect was charged with assaulting an officer and robbery, but the jury only found him guilty of the robbery charged.

(SOURCE: [The News & Observer](#))

Elon Police Department, North Carolina - March 3, 2017

An Elon police officer accidentally discharged his firearm during a confrontation with a suspect.

The officer, who serves on the Alamance Narcotics Enforcement Team, and another officer were chasing a suspect when the suspect tried to take a gun from one of two officers. At that point, one of the officer's guns accidentally discharged. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: [Mooreville Tribune](#))

Nashville Police Department, Tennessee - Oct. 27, 2013

A Nashville police detective accidentally shot a suspect in the ankle with an AR-15 rifle.

The detective and two patrol officers responded to an apartment complex on a report of a person with a gun. The suspect appeared to be intoxicated and officers found a pistol in his waistband when they patted him down.

The detective and the officers struggled to bring the suspect into custody, and the AR-15 went off. The officer had been carrying it in a sling in front of his body.

(SOURCE: [States News Service](#))

Austin Police Department, Texas, Police - July 26, 2013

NEW ORLEANS — A lawyer for a white police officer who shot and killed a black man about three years ago after a foot chase told an appeals court that his client should be protected by federal immunity. But state prosecutors said the case should not have been dismissed by a lower court.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments in the case of an Austin police officer working with an FBI task force investigating bank robberies when he encountered the man on July 26, 2013.

Court records say the man tried to enter a bank that was closed, saying he wanted to make a withdrawal. The officer investigated and the man ran off. When the officer caught up to him, a struggle ensued and the man was fatally shot.

The officer argued that the shooting was the result of an accidental discharge.

Prosecutors said he acted recklessly, used excessive force.

A Texas grand jury indicted the officer for manslaughter in May 2014. Before the case went to trial, a federal judge dismissed it, citing the immunity clause. In 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court let stand the lower court's ruling saying the officer was immune from prosecution.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - Sept. 15, 2016

A 13-year-old girl was injured when a Milwaukee Police officer's gun accidentally discharged in its holster at the Thoreau Elementary School.

The officer went to the school after the girl said she wanted to report something. She became combative with the officers and a supervisor tried to deescalate the situation. A police report says the girl was shot in the leg after the firearm discharged while in the holster.

(SOURCE: police records)

Oakland County Sheriff's Office, Michigan - Oct. 4, 2017

OXFORD, Mich. — A gun being carried by an Oakland County sheriff's deputy accidentally discharged at the Oxford High School when a suspect tried to grab it. The gun remained in the holster and the bullet ricocheted into a nearby wall.

The suspect was a student who had been asked to stay away from campus after being accused of assaulting his girlfriend in a hallway. School officials called the sheriff's deputies, who were attempting to arrest the student when the discharge occurred.

(SOURCE: MLive Media Group)

San Antonio Police Department, Texas - March 23, 2015

A San Antonio police officer was dispatched to help another officer respond to a report that someone had run out of a place carrying a pillow case full of stolen goods.

While the other officer began to chase the suspect through a ditch, he accidentally discharged his service weapon, striking the ground.

The officer was able secure the stolen materials after the suspect dropped the bag during the chase. A supervisor and lieutenant investigated the shooting.

(SOURCE: police report)

Butte-Silver Bow Police Department, Montana - Feb. 13, 2015

A man who was shot by a Butte-Silver Bow police officer during an arrest filed a federal lawsuit against the officer, department and the county claiming his rights were violated.

The officer was involved in a stakeout at a house when a man drove up with another man and a woman. The officer was searching for a wanted felon. A man identified as the felon jumped into the car and said "go, go, go!"

The officer, who was on foot, jumped out of the alley with his weapon drawn and said to stop.

When the driver's side door opened, the officer grabbed a man by the back of the neck and the man was hot. The officer later said the .40-caliber handgun inadvertently discharged as he attempted to put it in his holster during the struggle.

The officer was later exonerated of any criminal conduct by Montana Attorney General Brant Light. The man who was shot sued. The case was settled for an undisclosed amount.

(SOURCE: Montana Standard and court records and interview)

Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland – Feb. 3, 2012

A Prince George County police officer was suspended after surveillance video contradicted his story about his gun going off while investigating a possible robbery.

The officer initially said he and another officer saw two men they thought had robbed a gas station in Brentwood. When the officers went into the store and a suspect ran out.

The officer pursued down the street. The officer said they struggled, and the suspect tried to grab his gun when it went off. But surveillance video showed that the suspect was walking down the street when the officer grabbed him from behind and swung his arm to hit the suspect when the gun went off. The officer was later found not guilty of assault.

(SOURCE: WJLA-TV and NBCWashington)

Douglasville Police Department, Georgia - Sept. 17, 2019

A Douglasville police officer accidentally shot a suspect while trying to place him under arrest. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation said the shooting happened near a Cracker Barrel as officers attempted to arrest someone and a struggle ensued.

Officials say a GBP trooper used a Taser on the suspect during the struggle and a Douglasville officer accidentally discharged his gun, shooting the suspect.

(SOURCE: WSB-TV)

Tampa Police Department, Florida - May 29, 2019

An off-duty Tampa police officer accidentally shot himself while wrestling with a hit-and-run suspect.

The officer witnessed the hit-and-run crash and followed the suspect to confront him, according to Pasco police. They had a brief argument that became physical, officials said at a news conference.

During the fight, the officer drew his firearm and they continued to struggle when the officer “inadvertently discharged his firearm into his shoulder,” officials said.

They initially thought the suspect shot the officer, but they later determined that the officer unintentionally shot himself. He was taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The suspect fled the scene but was later caught.

(SOURCE: WFLA)

Total: 17

Accidental discharges that resulted in a lawsuit

Alexander Police Department, Arkansas - Sept. 8, 2012

An Alexander police officer fatally shot a suspect as she was trying to get him into handcuffs, according to court records.

The officer later said that she didn’t “mean for the gun to go off” and remembers looking down at her and she “didn’t know what had just happened,” according to her statement in response to a wrongful death lawsuit filed in federal court.

The officer was on patrol when she spotted the suspect walking down the middle of the street. She stopped to check on him and said he pulled a gun on her. She told him to drop the gun and he threw it into the bushes.

As she placed her hand on his left wrist and pulled his hand behind his back, he yanked away. This caused a fall. As she tried to hold onto him, the gun went off, the court record said.

The officer was charged with manslaughter and later acquitted.

(SOURCE: court records)

Louisville Metro Police Department, Kentucky - March 2, 2017

A Louisville police officer accidentally shot a homeless man in the stomach when she pulled the trigger instead of turning on her gun-mounted flashlight.

The officer and other officers had searched a house and were about to leave when she thought she saw a shadow behind a mattress. She yelled “show your hands” as she fumbled for the flashlight switch and pulled the trigger by mistake.

The man sued the officer and the Louisville Metro government settled the lawsuit for \$1.8 million.

(SOURCE: [The Louisville Courier-Journal](#))

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A Prince George County police officer was suspended after surveillance video contradicted his story about his gun going off while investigating a possible robbery.

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(SOURCE: [WJLA-TV](#) and [NBCWashington](#))

Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland – March 13, 2016

A Prince George police officer fatally shot a police detective during a shootout with several suspects. The detective's family filed a lawsuit against the officer, saying he had a description of the suspect and it didn't fit the detective and described his actions as "intentional and reckless."

(SOURCE: [Baltimore Sun](#) and [WTOP](#))

Agawam Police Department, Mass. – May 5, 2012

A pregnant mother of two who was accidentally shot in the face by an Agawam police officer in 2012 filed a \$1.5 million lawsuit in federal court.

Police arrived at the Elizabeth Manor Apartments and could hear braking glass and shouting from inside the apartment.

A woman noticed an officer outside her apartment and went to the door with her child in her arms. The officer used her foot to knock on the door and held her service revolver at chest level, pointed at the door.

As the woman opened the door, she heard a loud bang and saw a bright light. The officer's firearm accidentally discharged, hitting the woman in the face and chin. She filed a \$1.5 million lawsuit in federal court, but settled the suit with the town in 2015 for \$20,000.

(SOURCE: [The Republican](#) and court records)

Eden Prairie Police Department, Minnesota - June 20, 2015

An Eden Prairie police officer accidentally shot a motorcyclist in the arm during a traffic stop.

The sergeant was on patrol when he spotted a speeding motorcycle at 3 a.m. He followed the bike and turned on his lights and siren, but the bike didn't stop, police records said.

The motorcyclist pulled to the side of the road and the officer got out of his patrol car with his gun drawn. As he reached his other hand up to the gun it accidentally discharged, hitting the man in the arm.

The motorcyclist sued and the case settled in 2017 for \$345,000.

(SOURCE: [police reports](#) and [court records](#))

Harrison Police Department, New York - May 23, 2013

A Harrison police officer accidentally shot a suspect and another officer after they pulled over a Chevy Trailblazer in connection with a recent burglary of about \$500,000 worth of jewelry.

The officer, a 15-year police veteran and county firearms instructor, accidentally fired two shots from his .223-caliber AR-15 style rifle after pulling over a vehicle carrying three burglary suspects. The men were members of the so-called "Sound Shore Gang."

The discharge occurred after officers surrounded the vehicle and an altercation ensued.

One of the suspects suffered a collapsed lung when one of the bullets struck near his heart. A detective was also seriously hurt. His injuries led him to leave the force.

(SOURCE: Harrison Review)

Champaign Police Department, Illinois - June 11, 2017

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. _ A Champaign, Illinois, police officer was under investigation for the shooting of an unarmed black man.

The officer was placed on paid leave as Illinois State Police investigated the shooting of a 22-year-old. The officer said the shooting was an accident.

The officer initiated a traffic stop on a 2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer and followed the vehicle on to a dirt driveway. The car accelerated to an alleyway.

The suspect crashed the Trailblazer into the garage doors of a residence and ran toward the front door. The officer got out of the patrol car and told the suspect to stop. The suspect jumped a chain link fence and finally stopped near a detached garage. The officer drew his duty weapon with a plan to use the light mounted on top to see the area better.

As the officer manipulated the light with his index finger, he slipped and his firearm discharged, hitting the suspect in his left shoulder.

The Champaign City Council later approved a \$93,000 settlement for the suspect. The state's attorney decided against filing charges against the officer.

(SOURCE: police report)

New York City Police Department, New York - Nov. 21, 2014

New York City police officer fatally shot a Brooklyn man in a stairwell and officials say the shooting was an accident.

Officers were on a foot patrol at about 11 p.m. when they descended from the eighth-floor stairwell when the man and his female friend appeared below them.

An officer had drawn his weapon and fired one shot into the man's chest. The officer had only been on the force for 18 months. A preliminary investigation indicated that it was an accidental discharge, according to Commissioner William Bratton.

The officer was convicted of manslaughter by a Kings County jury in 2016. He was also found guilty of official misconduct.

The city agreed to pay over \$4 million to settle a wrongful death claim.

(SOURCE: New York Times and New York Daily News)

Tulsa County Sheriff's Office, Oklahoma - April 2, 2015

A reserve sheriff's deputy accidentally shot a suspect with his firearm instead of his Taser, and the man soon died, which led to charges against the deputy and a \$6 million settlement of a federal lawsuit.

The deputy was working with deputies in a sting operation in which a suspect sold undercover officers a 9 mm semi-automatic pistol. When officers pulled up to the truck where the sale was occurring, the suspect ran.

Deputies caught the suspect and the deputy thought he pulled out his Taser to subdue the suspect, but he had pulled his handgun. He fired one shot and dropped the gun on the ground, saying, "I shot him. I'm sorry."

The deputy was convicted of manslaughter for killing Harris, an incident caught on video that sparked calls of racial bias by police.

The Tulsa County board of commissioners agreed to settle a lawsuit for \$6 million.

(SOURCE: [New York Daily News and court records](#))

Chesapeake Police Department, Virginia – June 12, 2014

PORTSMITH, Virginia – A Chesapeake police officer accidentally shot a Newark, Delaware, man while trying to serve him a warrant.

The officer was getting out of an unmarked car when he shot the man in the chest. At the time, the man was walking from a Walmart to his mother's house.

The officer, who is left-handed, said he was shifting his gun to his right hand so he could open his car door when it accidentally sent off. It went through the windshield and hit the man in the chest.

A lawsuit was settled for \$200,000.

(SOURCE: [Cecil Daily](#))

Seattle Police Department, Washington - Sept. 3, 2013

A Seattle police officer accidentally shot a 19-year-old female suspect after a chase.

Police responded to a disturbance and found two women fighting. When they tried to break them up, one of the women ran away and a police report says an officer chased her.

The officer caught up with her and told her to show her hands. As he drew his pistol, he accidentally discharged it, firing one round. The bullet hit the woman in the leg. She was hospitalized and later filed a lawsuit.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Fort Pierce Police Department, Florida - Feb. 7, 2013

A Fort Pierce police officer accidentally shot an Indian River State College student while trying to apprehend a suspect who ended up in the college's parking lot.

The student shot when the officer fired at the suspect. The bullet went through her arm, fractured her rib, punctured her liver and collapsed her lung before stopping near her spine.

The student filed a lawsuit that was later settled.

(SOURCE: [KPBF and interviews](#))

Burlington Police Department, Iowa - Jan. 6, 2015

A Burlington police officer was responding to a domestic violence call when he accidentally shot and killed a 34-year-old mother in front of her husband and child.

Autumn Steele was the subject of a restraining order and had gone to her husband's home to see the child. Officer Jesse Hill arrived to find the couple arguing on the sidewalk.

Gabriel Steele, the husband, was carrying their child.

Hill approached as a dog began barking. Hill told them to grab the dog. As Hill lost his balance, he fired two shots. One hit the dog, the other hit Steele, according to court records.

Hill was not disciplined in the shooting. He said he fired the gun while he was being attacked by the family dog.

Steele's family filed a wrongful death lawsuit and they reached a \$2 million settlement in June 2018, according to the family's lawyer, Dave O'Brien, a Cedar Rapids attorney.

(SOURCE: [The Des Moines Register, court records and body cam video](#))

Ross County Sheriff's Office, Ohio - Dec. 13, 2013

CHILLICOTHE, Ohio – Authorities say a woman was killed in an accidental shooting by a Ross County Sheriff's deputy during a drug raid in rural central Ohio.

A prosecutor in Ross County, south of Columbus, said the woman was accidentally shot in the head after officers entered a home to conduct the raid.

Prosecutor Matt Schmidt said it wasn't clear whether the gunfire was the result of a weapon malfunction or user error. The woman's family will receive a \$156,250 settlement after the family filed a wrongful death suit.

(SOURCE: Chillicothe Gazette and court records)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - July 21, 2016

The sister of a man fatally shot by Chicago police last year in a Prairie District park challenged officers' version of events, saying an officer who was wounded in what police described as an exchange of gunfire accidentally shot himself.

The woman filed a wrongful death suit against the city of Chicago and three police officers, saying they overreacted and used excessive force when they killed her brother.

Around 8 p.m. that evening, bicycle officers responded to a report of a person "acting erratically" at the park. Soon after, they found the man.

Police said the man pulled a gun out of his backpack and began firing, hitting the officer in the leg. The lawsuit, however, suggests Love was unarmed and his drawstring Nike bag contained a few cans of beer and his ID. He tried to walk away from officers and didn't hit or point any weapon at them. The lawsuit said the wounded officer accidentally shot himself.

(SOURCE: Chicago Tribune and court records)

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, Virginia - Feb. 7, 2018

A Loudoun County Sheriff's deputy suffered a shattered femur when she accidentally discharged her Sig Sauer P320 firearm while removing her holster from her duty belt.

The deputy said the gun was in its holster when it discharged and sent a bullet into her leg. She filed a \$10 million federal lawsuit against Sig Sauer, claiming the company misled the public about the safety of the P320 firearms.

Sig Sauer settled the lawsuit in June 2019. The settlement amount and details were not disclosed.

(SOURCE: Loudoun Times-Mirror)

Stamford Police Department, Connecticut - Jan. 5, 2017

A Stamford police officer was injured when he accidentally dropped his department-issued pistol and it discharged, according to his federal lawsuit against Sig Sauer.

The officer was loading his Special Response Team equipment into the back of his vehicle when he dropped the Sig Sauer semi-automatic P320 pistol, according to a lawsuit he filed against Sig Sauer. At the time of the fall, the lawsuit said, the pistol was "fully holstered."

(SOURCE: court records)

Pennsylvania State Trooper - Sept. 30, 2014

A Pennsylvania state trooper was fatally shot when a firearms instructor accidentally discharged his gun during a training session.

The 26-year-old trooper was shot in the chest while attending a routine firearms and safety training session at the Montgomery County Tactical Response Training Center in Plymouth Township, according to a federal lawsuit filed by the trooper's family.

A lawsuit says the training instructor was demonstrating a new-model state police-issued Sig Sauer handgun when he accidentally fired the gun, hitting the trooper.

The instructor retired from the state police and pleaded guilty to reckless endangerment charges. A Montgomery County judge sentenced him to two weeks in prison in August 2015.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#) and [WCAU](#))

Punta Gorda Police Department, Florida - Aug. 9, 2016

PUNTA GORDA, Fla. — A police “shoot/don’t shoot” demonstration in Florida went wrong when an officer shot and killed a 73-year-old former librarian with what police said was real ammunition used by mistake at an event designed to bring police and the public together.

Authorities didn’t immediately say how a gun with a live round came to be used at the demonstration, noting blank rounds are typically used in classes. The officer was placed on administrative leave.

Punta Gorda city council members approved a \$2 million settlement with the woman’s family in November, three months after the shooting.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii - April 3, 2015

An off-duty Honolulu police officer accidentally discharged his .38-caliber revolver at the Kings Sports Bar and hit the bartender in the abdomen. The officer was placed on desk duty after the incident.

Honolulu Police Deputy Chief Dave Kajihiro said the case was classified as an assault. The officer settled a lawsuit in 2017 for \$300,000.

(SOURCE: [Hawaii News Now](#))

Glasgow Police Department, Kentucky - March 26, 2014

A Kentucky police officer accidentally shot his finger off while handling a small handgun at the Barren Outdoors store. The officer also injured another finger when the gun accidentally discharged.

Video from inside the store shows the officer, wearing his uniform, handling the gun as he talks to the store clerk. The officer cocked and jumps as it fires and hits his finger.

The officer later filed a lawsuit against the store. The suit said he believed the gun was unloaded. He was permanently disfigured and unable to go back to work. The store owner said the video shows who is at fault.

(SOURCE: [Huffington Post](#))

Baltimore Police Department, Maryland – Feb. 12, 2013

A University of Maryland campus police officer was accidentally shot in the head by an instructor during a training exercise.

The instructor mistakenly used a live weapon, instead of a practice weapon, while demonstrating the danger of standing in the potential line of fire and shot the officer, who lost his eye and had to be treated at a brain injury facility.

The instructor was later convicted of reckless endangerment and sentenced to 18 months in jail, with 60 days suspended.

(SOURCE: [The Daily Advertiser](#) and [The Baltimore Sun](#))

Butte-Silver Bow Police Department, Montana - Feb. 13, 2015

A man who was shot by a Butte-Silver Bow police officer during an arrest filed a federal lawsuit against the officer, department and the county claiming his rights were violated.

The officer was involved in a stakeout at a house when a man drove up with another man and a woman. The officer was searching for a wanted felon. A man identified as the felon jumped into the car and said “go, go, go!”

The officer, who was on foot, jumped out of the alley with his weapon drawn and said to stop.

When the driver’s side door opened, the officer grabbed a man by the back of the neck and the man was hot. The officer later said the .40-caliber handgun inadvertently discharged as he attempted to put it in his holster during the struggle.

The officer was later exonerated of any criminal conduct by Montana Attorney General Brant Light. The man who was shot sued. The case was settled for an undisclosed amount.

(SOURCE: [Montana Standard and court records and interview](#))

Total: 24

Accidental discharges that resulted in charges against the officer

Alexander Police Department, Arkansas - Sept. 8, 2012

An Alexander police officer fatally shot a suspect as she was trying to get him into handcuffs, according to court records.

The officer later said that she didn’t “mean for the gun to go off” and remembers looking down at her and she “didn’t know what had just happened,” according to her statement in response to a wrongful death lawsuit filed in federal court.

The officer was on patrol when she spotted the suspect walking down the middle of the street. She stopped to check on him and said he pulled a gun on her. She told him to drop the gun and he threw it into the bushes.

As she placed her hand on his left wrist and pulled his hand behind his back, he yanked away. This caused a fall. As she tried to hold onto him, the gun went off, the court record said.

The officer was charged with manslaughter and later acquitted.

(SOURCE: [court records](#))

Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, Ohio - Aug. 10, 2013

LANCASTER, Ohio _ A firearms instructor was charged with negligent assault after he accidentally shot a student who was taking a concealed-carry class.

The instructor accidentally shot the student while he was demonstrating a .38-caliber handgun. The bullet hit the student’s arm. It happened at the end of a 12-hour training day that focused on gun handling and safety.

The instructor agreed to a one-year suspension from teaching, according to an agreement he reached with the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, which certifies firearms instructors.

(SOURCE: [The Columbus Dispatch](#))

Tulsa County Sheriff’s Office, Oklahoma - April 2, 2015

A reserve sheriff's deputy accidentally shot a suspect with his firearm instead of his Taser, and the man soon died, which led to charges against the deputy and a \$6 million settlement of a federal lawsuit.

The deputy was working with deputies in a sting operation in which a suspect sold undercover officers a 9 mm semi-automatic pistol. When officers pulled up to the truck where the sale was occurring, the suspect ran.

Deputies caught the suspect and the deputy thought he pulled out his Taser to subdue the suspect, but he had pulled his handgun. He fired one shot and dropped the gun on the ground, saying, "I shot him. I'm sorry."

The deputy was convicted of manslaughter for killing Harris, an incident caught on video that sparked calls of racial bias by police.

The Tulsa County board of commissioners agreed to settle a lawsuit for \$6 million.

(SOURCE: [New York Daily News and court records](#))

Austin Police Department, Texas, Police - July 26, 2013

NEW ORLEANS — A lawyer for a white police officer who shot and killed a black man about three years ago after a foot chase told an appeals court that his client should be protected by federal immunity. But state prosecutors said the case should not have been dismissed by a lower court.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments in the case of an Austin police officer working with an FBI task force investigating bank robberies when he encountered the man on July 26, 2013.

Court records say the man tried to enter a bank that was closed, saying he wanted to make a withdrawal. The officer investigated and the man ran off. When the officer caught up to him, a struggle ensued and the man was fatally shot.

The officer argued that the shooting was the result of an accidental discharge.

Prosecutors said he acted recklessly, used excessive force.

A Texas grand jury indicted the officer for manslaughter in May 2014. Before the case went to trial, a federal judge dismissed it, citing the immunity clause. In 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court let stand the lower court's ruling saying the officer was immune from prosecution.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

New York City Police Department, New York - Nov. 21, 2014

New York City police officer fatally shot a Brooklyn man in a stairwell and officials say the shooting was an accident.

Officers were on a foot patrol at about 11 p.m. when they descended from the eighth-floor stairwell when the man and his female friend appeared below them.

An officer had drawn his weapon and fired one shot into the man's chest. The officer had only been on the force for 18 months. A preliminary investigation indicated that it was an accidental discharge, according to Commissioner William Bratton.

The officer was convicted of manslaughter by a Kings County jury in 2016. He was also found guilty of official misconduct.

The city agreed to pay over \$4 million to settle a wrongful death claim.

(SOURCE: [New York Times and New York Daily News](#))

Flint Police Department, Michigan – May 5, 2018

FOWLERVILLE, Mich. — An off-duty Michigan police officer's gun accidentally discharged at a high school wrestling meet, officials said.

The officer was watching his son compete in the multi-school event at Fowlerville High School, police said. The bullet from what was described as an "off-duty sidearm" struck and lodged in the gym floor. One person trying to flee twisted an ankle.

The officer was charged with misdemeanor careless discharge of a firearm. Defense attorney Frank Manley called the shooting "unfortunate." The officer entered a no-contest plea in to a misdemeanor charge of reckless discharge of a weapon.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press and WHMI-FM](#))

Mansfield Police Department, Mansfield, Ohio - Dec. 10, 2018

MANSFIELD, Ohio _ A retired Mansfield police officer was charged with misdemeanor negligent assault after he accidentally discharged his firearm in a barber shop, according to Michael Kemerer, chief assistant prosecutor with the Mansfield Law Director's Office.

The retired officer was with two others at the South Main Street Barber Shop discussing firearms when he took his 9 mm handgun from its holster. One round discharged into the floor and injured another man who was taken to the hospital. The officer pleaded not guilty.

(SOURCE: [Richland Source](#))

Pennsylvania State Trooper - Sept. 30, 2014

A Pennsylvania state trooper was fatally shot when a firearms instructor accidentally discharged his gun during a training session.

The 26-year-old trooper was shot in the chest while attending a routine firearms and safety training session at the Montgomery County Tactical Response Training Center in Plymouth Township, according to a federal lawsuit filed by the trooper's family.

A lawsuit says the training instructor was demonstrating a new-model state police-issued Sig Sauer handgun when he accidentally fired the gun, hitting the trooper.

The instructor retired from the state police and pleaded guilty to reckless endangerment charges. A Montgomery County judge sentenced him to two weeks in prison in August 2015.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press and WCAU](#))

Bay County Sheriff's Office, Michigan - Nov. 11, 2016

A Bay County Sheriff's deputy who accidentally discharged his .380-caliber Sig Sauer firearm in a school and injured a teacher in another room pleaded no contest to tampering with evidence. In exchange, the prosecution dismissed charges of careless discharge of a firearm causing injury.

He was a resource officer at the Bay City Western High School when the incident occurred. He was in the robotics classroom with a teacher when they used a force machine to test the trigger pull on his personal Springfield 9mm handgun.

After they left the room, he returned alone and used the machine to test the trigger pull on his Sig Sauer personal handgun. The gun was not empty of bullet and the experiment caused the gun to fire a round through the wall and into a classroom containing a teacher and about 30 students.

As the bullet traveled toward the ceiling, it ricocheted off a cement wall and struck a teacher in the neck.

(SOURCE: [Bay City News](#))

Fresno County Sheriff's Office, Calif. - Aug. 3, 2017

A Fresno County sheriff's detective has pleaded not guilty to fatally shooting his colleague in what authorities initially called a tragic and accidental shooting.

The detective entered his plea to a felony charge of involuntary manslaughter in Fresno County Superior Court. Authorities say a Fresno County Sheriff's sergeant died in October while talking with the detective about how to carry their backup weapons.

In court papers, prosecutors say the death was without malice, but the killing was unlawful because he failed to use "due caution and circumspection."

The officer's attorney said the shooting was an accident.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Federal Bureau of Investigations, Denver, Colorado, - June 13, 2018

DENVER — An off-duty FBI agent was charged with assault after an accidental shooting while dancing at a Denver bar would like to meet with the man who was injured and is praying for his recovery, the agent's attorney said.

The agent appeared in court after turning himself in on a second-degree assault charge. Jail records say the agent posted bond and was released.

Attorney David Goddard called the shooting "an incredibly tragic event" in a written statement. The agent later pleaded guilty to third-degree assault.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Punta Gorda Police Department, Florida - Aug. 9, 2016

PUNTA GORDA, Fla. — A police "shoot/don't shoot" demonstration in Florida went wrong when an officer shot and killed a 73-year-old former librarian with what police said was real ammunition used by mistake at an event designed to bring police and the public together.

Authorities didn't immediately say how a gun with a live round came to be used at the demonstration, noting blank rounds are typically used in classes. The officer was placed on administrative leave.

The shooting was investigated and the officer was charged with felony manslaughter.

Punta Gorda city council members approved a \$2 million settlement with the woman's family in November, three months after the shooting.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Baltimore Police Department, Maryland – Feb. 12, 2013

A University of Maryland campus police officer was accidentally shot in the head by an instructor during a training exercise.

The instructor mistakenly used a live weapon, instead of a practice weapon, while demonstrating the danger of standing in the potential line of fire and shot the officer, who lost his eye and had to be treated at a brain injury facility.

The instructor was later convicted of reckless endangerment and sentenced to 18 months in jail, with 60 days suspended.

(SOURCE: [The Daily Advertiser](#) and [The Baltimore Sun](#))

Portland Police Department, Oregon – April 2016

A former Portland police chief faced a misdemeanor charge for the reported accidental shooting of a friend during a hunting trip.

He was indicted in Harney County on the charge of negligently wounding another, according to court records. The indictment states he "unlawfully and by failing to use ordinary care under the circumstances" shot his friend. A judge later agreed to a civil compromise and dismissed the charge.

(SOURCE: [The Oregonian/OregonLive](#))

Pennsylvania State Trooper - March 7, 2014

PHILADELPHIA — A Pennsylvania state trooper was arrested after his gun discharged, killing is pregnant wife.

The officer was arraigned on two counts of involuntary manslaughter in the deaths of his wife and child, who died after an emergency C-section.

The officer pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter in the accidental shooting, and he was sentenced to three to 23 months in jail.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#) and [The Mercury](#))

Cheyenne Police Department, Wyoming - June 15, 2018

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Colo. — A Wyoming police officer whose gun accidentally discharged at a youth baseball tournament in Colorado was charged with two misdemeanors.

The officer was charged with reckless endangerment and disorderly conduct stemming from the June 15 incident in Steamboat Springs.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Penn State University Police Department, Pennsylvania - Sept. 14, 2019

An off-duty Penn State police officer faced a criminal charge after he unintentionally fired his weapon, damaging an apartment across the hallway.

A woman in the apartment told the Patton Township police that she heard a loud bang and noticed a hole in her front door, a mark on a metal bookcase frame and holes in the wall, according to a probable cause affidavit filed by police.

The bullet went through the officer's door. The Patton Township police investigated the incident and the officer was charged with one misdemeanor count of recklessly endangering another person.

(SOURCE: [Centre Daily Times](#))

Total: 17

Accidental discharges in which officials decided against charging the officer

Champaign Police Department, Illinois - June 11, 2017

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — A Champaign, Illinois, police officer was under investigation for the shooting of an unarmed black man.

The officer was placed on paid leave as Illinois State Police investigated the shooting of a 22-year-old. The officer said the shooting was an accident.

The officer initiated a traffic stop on a 2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer and followed the vehicle on to a dirt driveway. The car accelerated to an alleyway.

The suspect crashed the Trailblazer into the garage doors of a residence and ran toward the front door. The officer got out of the patrol car and told the suspect to stop.

The suspect jumped a chain link fence and finally stopped near a detached garage. The officer drew his duty weapon with a plan to use the light mounted on top to see the area better.

As the officer manipulated the light with his index finger, he slipped and his firearm discharged, hitting the suspect in his left shoulder.

The Champaign City Council later approved a \$93,000 settlement for the suspect. The state's attorney decided against filing charges against the officer.

(SOURCE: police report)

Sand City Police Department, California - March 13, 2018

A teacher at Seaside High School, who also is a reserve Sand City police officer, accidentally discharged his firearm during a class on "public safety fundamentals," injuring one student who was hit by debris falling from the ceiling.

The officer was teaching the class when he decided to show how secure an officer's holster is. He first wanted to unload the gun.

To do so properly, he would have removed the magazine and then rack the slide to eject the round in the chamber, but the teacher did the opposite, so when he pointed the gun toward the ceiling and pulled the trigger, it went off, according to the prosecutor, who decided against filing charges.

(SOURCE: KSBW-TV)

Athol, Mass., June 13, 2018

ATHOL, Mass. — There will be no criminal charges for an unidentified person who shot a civilian observer at a police department firearms training session.

Northwestern District Attorney David Sullivan announced there will be no criminal charges filed in the "accidental shooting" of a civilian at an Athol firearms training.

The wound, to the upper rear area of one of the man's legs, was not life-threatening.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Morehead City Police Department, North Carolina - Oct. 2, 2013

A Morehead City police officer accidentally shot another officer during a training exercise.

The prosecutor investigated the case and said the officer demonstrated a high level of negligence when he failed to properly clear his gun and shot the other officer in the chest, but the district attorney said no charges would be filed. The officer was later fired.

(SOURCE: WNCT)

Washington State Patrol - Dec. 18, 2014

BELLINGHAM, Wash. — An investigation was launched after a Washington State Patrol commercial vehicle enforcement officer negligently discharged his firearm at his home.

The officer completed his overnight shift at the Bow Hill Port of Entry and went home. After he got in bed, he remembered he left his duty belt with his firearm in the shoe rack in his house.

He retrieved the belt and set it on the floor next to his bed. He removed the firearm from the holster, intending to remove the rounds from the gun. A shot went through the floor of his third-floor apartment. The prosecutor reviewed the case but decided against filing charges.

(SOURCE: police report)

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Dec. 17, 2015

An investigation was launched after an Aurora police officer accidentally shot a car-theft suspect in the stomach during a foot chase.

Police were investigating an area where dozens of vehicles had been stolen in recent months. A suspect was seen driving away in a stolen Acura.

Officers followed him in two different vehicles until he suddenly made a U-turn.

An officer decided to cut him off and turned his vehicle in front of the Acura. The officer exited his car as the suspect opened the door. The officer drew his .40 caliber Glock 23 handgun from its holster and turned on the “tactical” flashlight. He told investigators that as he moved away from the car, he slipped and stumbled on the ice and heard his pistol go off, injuring the suspect.

The officer was not charged.

(SOURCE: police report and district attorney investigation)

Burlington Police Department, Iowa - Jan. 6, 2015

A Burlington police officer was responding to a domestic violence call when he accidentally shot and killed a 34-year-old mother in front of her husband and child.

Autumn Steele was the subject of a restraining order and had gone to her husband’s home to see the child. Officer Jesse Hill arrived to find the couple arguing on the sidewalk.

Gabriel Steele, the husband, was carrying their child.

Hill approached as a dog began barking. Hill told them to grab the dog. As Hill lost his balance, he fired two shots. One hit the dog, the other hit Steele, according to court records.

Minutes after the shooting, Hill told another officer he was going to prison.

Hill was not disciplined in the shooting. He said he fired the gun while he was being attacked by the family dog.

Steele’s family filed a wrongful death lawsuit and they reached a \$2 million settlement in June 2018, according to the family’s lawyer, Dave O’Brien, a Cedar Rapids attorney.

(SOURCE: The Des Moines Register, court records and body cam video)

North Las Vegas Police Department, Nevada - Jan. 3, 2017

A North Las Vegas police officer who was working the perimeter around a man who barricaded himself in a house accidentally shot a man in the foot after he stopped his car near the officer’s vehicle.

The officer was in a SWAT vehicle near the suspect house when a car driven by the suspect drove up. He was on his way home after leaving work, buying groceries and paying his rent, according to a complaint he filed in federal court.

The officer said he told the suspect to stop his car and tried to turn on the flashlight attached to his firearm, but accidentally discharged his weapon, grazing the suspect’s foot.

(SOURCE: court records)

Henry County Sheriff’s Office, Ohio - April 5, 2016

NAPOLEON, Ohio — Authorities won’t charge a police cadet who accidentally shot another recruit at a firing range last month.

An investigation determined the cadet unintentionally discharged his 9mm handgun April 5, striking a classmate, said Henry County Sheriff Michael Bodenbender.

The shooting occurred during a break from firearm training at Northwest State Law Enforcement Academy. The cadet told investigators he performed maintenance on his firearm and was unaware a round had been chambered, a sheriff’s office said.

The classmate was treated at a hospital and later released.

(SOURCE: The Toledo Blade)

Alpine, Texas - Sept. 8, 2016

A 14-year-old freshman at Alpine High School in West Texas brought a gun to school and shot another female student before killing herself. Local, state and federal law enforcement agencies

rushed to the school and in the confusion, a member of the U.S. Marshal's Service accidentally shot a Homeland Security agent.

The U.S. Marshal was among the law enforcement officers who responded to the school shooting. He arrived at the school equipped with a ballistic shield.

The agent was advised he needed a handgun to operate the shield, so agent was given a duty handgun. The team lined up to clear a classroom when the group heard a gunshot and Homeland Security Investigations Agent Jon Dangle "fell to the ground and was yelling he was shot."

Officers pulled Dangle to a safe location, since the group didn't immediately know where the shot came from. The Border Patrol agent said he realized the shot came from his left side and suspected it came from within the classroom.

The U.S. Marshal agent then told the group that he fired the shot by accident.

Dangle was taken to Odessa Medical Center Hospital. His records say he was diagnosed with "a right leg gunshot wound with a right tibial fracture, anxiety with depressed mood and hypertension as a result of the officer involved shooting incident."

The Texas Rangers presented the case to a Brewster County grand jury, but they declined to charge the agent with the offense of "deadly conduct in regards to the officer involved shooting."

(SOURCE: Texas Rangers report)

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NEW ORLEANS — A lawyer for a white police officer who shot and killed a black man about three years ago after a foot chase told an appeals court that his client should be protected by federal immunity. But state prosecutors said the case should not have been dismissed by a lower court.

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The officer argued that the shooting was the result of an accidental discharge.

Prosecutors said he acted recklessly, used excessive force.

A Texas grand jury indicted the officer for manslaughter in May 2014. Before the case went to trial, a federal judge dismissed it, citing the immunity clause. In 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court let stand the lower court's ruling saying the officer was immune from prosecution.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Gastonia Police Department, North Carolina - July 8, 2018

GASTONIA, North Carolina — A Gastonia police officer was on administrative leave after accidentally shooting an unarmed woman in her home.

Newly released body cam footage shows the moments before, during and after a Gastonia police officer shot a woman in July. The officer was responding to a noise complaint and fired through a door, striking the woman. She was treated and released.

District Attorney Locke Bell concluded the shooting was an accident.

(SOURCE: Gaston Gazette)

Sand City Police Department, California - March 13, 2018

A teacher at Seaside High School, who also is a reserve Sand City police officer, accidentally discharged his firearm during a class on "public safety fundamentals," injuring one student who was hit by debris falling from the ceiling.

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The officer was involved in a stakeout at a house when a man drove up with another man and a woman. The officer was searching for a wanted felon. A man identified as the felon jumped into the car and said "go, go, go!"

The officer, who was on foot, jumped out of the alley with his weapon drawn and said to stop.

When the driver's side door opened, the officer grabbed a man by the back of the neck and the man was hot. The officer later said the .40-caliber handgun inadvertently discharged as he attempted to put it in his holster during the struggle.

The officer was later exonerated of any criminal conduct by Montana Attorney General Brant Light. The man who was shot sued. The case was settled for an undisclosed amount.

(SOURCE: Montana Standard and court records and interview)

Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland – Feb. 3, 2012

A Prince George County police officer was suspended after surveillance video contradicted his story about his gun going off while investigating a possible robbery.

The officer initially said he and another officer saw two men they thought had robbed a gas station in Brentwood. When the officers went into the store and a suspect ran out.

The officer pursued down the street. The officer said they struggled, and the suspect tried to grab his gun when it went off. But surveillance video showed that the suspect was walking down the street when the officer grabbed him from behind and swung his arm to hit the suspect when the gun went off. The officer was later found not guilty of assault.

(SOURCE: WJLA-TV and NBCWashington)

Total: 18

Accidental discharges that involved dogs or other animals

Little Rock Police Department, Arkansas - May 13, 2015

A Little Rock police lieutenant accidentally discharged his firearm while fighting off a police dog that attacked him instead of the suspect.

Officers responded to the report of a theft at Home Depot and found a man hiding in a nearby parking lot. Officers released a police dog and the man tried to climb a tree to escape. The officers were told that the suspect had a gun, and when the lieutenant pulled his gun on the suspect, the dog attacked the officer.

The officer's gun discharged while he fought off the dog, which bit him in the thigh. No one was injured by the shot.

(SOURCE: Arkansas Democrat-Gazette)

Riverside County Sheriff's Office, California - Sept. 1, 2015

A Riverside County sheriff's deputy accidentally shot himself when a dog charged at him in Lake Elsinore.

The deputy was responding to a residence after receiving reports of a suspicious person looking through windows, Deputy Mike Vasquez said. That's when the deputy encountered a Rottweiler, he said.

The dog charged at the deputy and in an effort to protect himself, he fell backward while drawing his duty weapon and unintentionally shot himself in the leg, Vasquez said.

The deputy was treated at the scene for his non-life-threatening wound before being transported to a hospital.

(SOURCE: Press-Enterprise)

Burlington Police Department, Iowa - Jan. 6, 2015

A Burlington police officer was responding to a domestic violence call when he accidentally shot and killed a 34-year-old mother in front of her husband and child.

Autumn Steele was the subject of a restraining order and had gone to her husband's home to see the child. Officer Jesse Hill arrived to find the couple arguing on the sidewalk.

Gabriel Steele, the husband, was carrying their child.

Hill approached as a dog began barking. Hill told them to grab the dog. As Hill lost his balance, he fired two shots. One hit the dog, the other hit Steele, according to court records.

Minutes after the shooting, Hill told another officer he was going to prison.

Hill was not disciplined in the shooting. He said he fired the gun while he was being attacked by the family dog. That account has been challenged by Steele's family, who say records and video do not support Hill's claim.

Steele's family filed a wrongful death lawsuit and they reached a \$2 million settlement in June 2018, according to the family's lawyer, Dave O'Brien, a Cedar Rapids attorney.

(SOURCE: [The Des Moines Register, court records and body cam video](#))

Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland – Aug. 28, 2012

A Prince George's County police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while retreating from a possibly rabid fox that was racing toward him.

The officer killed the fox, but suffered a gunshot wound. The incident happened after a woman reported that she had been bitten by a fox in Fort Washington.

The officer was taken to the hospital for treatment.

(SOURCE: [The Washington Post](#))

Bloomfield Police Department, New Jersey - July 21, 2014

A Bloomfield police officer accidentally shot himself when a dog attacked him.

Officials say the officer drew his weapon when the dog attacked and accidentally discharged the firearm. He was treated at the hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

U.S. Park Police Department, District of Columbia. - Nov. 3, 2016

A U.S. Park Police officer accidentally shot himself in the foot while responding to a raccoon.

Officials say the raccoon, which may have been rabid, attacked the officer. He responded but accidentally shot himself while fighting off the animal. He was taken to the hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. Another officer killed the raccoon.

(SOURCE: [The San Diego Union Tribune](#))

Philadelphia Police Department, Pennsylvania - Dec. 8, 2017

A Philadelphia police officer was injured when a bullet his partner fired at a dog ricocheted into his leg, according to the Philadelphia Inquirer.

The officers were responding to a report that a dog had attacked an 80-year-old woman. One of the officers fired his gun several times and one of the bullets ricocheted, striking the other officer.

The woman had bite injuries to both legs. The dog, a pit bull that belonged to her granddaughter, was killed.

(SOURCE: [The Philadelphia Inquirer](#))

Pittsburgh Police Department, Pennsylvania - March 10, 2017

A Pittsburgh police officer accidentally shot his partner in the foot while trying to protect him from an attacking dog.

Public Safety spokeswoman Emily Schaffer said the two plainclothes detectives were conducting a drug investigation when a dog attacked one of the detectives. The other officer fired a shot at the dog, and hit him, but the shot also hit the other officer's foot. The officer was taken to UPMC Presbyterian where he was treated and released.

(SOURCE: [Tribune Review](#))

Houston Police Department, Texas - July 20, 2017

A Houston police officer was investigating a theft when he was bit by a dog. The officer accidentally discharged his firearm during the incident, killing the dog.

(SOURCE: police report)

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - April 1, 2016

Officers responded to a "shots fired" complaint. When they checked the area on foot, one of the officers opened a rear gate off an alley to a yard. The officer saw a large pit bull dog emerge from the yard, so he retreated from the yard.

The animal pursued the officer and he fired three shots to defend himself and his partner. The animal's owner came out to protect her dog and sustained a gunshot wound to her leg. Police said it appeared the wound was the result of a ricochet after a round struck the ground.

The woman was taken to the hospital, treated and released.

(SOURCE: police records)

Lafayette Police Department, Indiana - Jan. 8, 2019

LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Lafayette Police say an officer is hospitalized in serious but stable condition after accidentally being shot by another officer after a large dog charged them.

Police say the round hit the officer in the back above her protective vest.

Police Chief Patrick Flannelly says the officers were fleeing an apartment where the dog broke out of its cage when the round discharged.

Police say the officers were investigating a criminal mischief complaint and a person wanted on a warrant at the time.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - June 1, 2017

A Milwaukee police officer accidentally shot his fellow officer when they encountered several dogs while responding to a fight.

One of the officers fired at the dogs but hit the other officer instead. The officer was hospitalized and the one who fired the shot was placed on desk duty.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - May 15, 2017

Chicago police officers responded to a report of a loud domestic dispute over an extended period and possible gunshots fired.

Officers went to the apartment to make sure everyone was OK when an adult male pit bull exited the property and lunged at several people.

The dog went after an officer "in a menacing manner." He backed away from the animal and into a tight gangway area, but the dog kept coming at him.

The officer shot at the dog three times, hitting him once. The dog continued to be aggressive but finally collapsed at the front gate. Fragments of the round ricocheted and struck another officer on the right ankle. He was taken to the hospital for treatment.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - May 1, 2012

A Detroit police officer was working at property control said he was headed to his car when a pit bull that lives next door charged at him. He pulled out his department-issued weapon and tried to run around his Ford Explorer.

He tripped over the front bumper and accidentally discharged a single shot into his windshield.

(SOURCE: police report)

Ellenville Police Department, New York - Feb. 28, 2019

WAWARSING, N.Y. — Police say a bulletproof vest saved a police officer running away from a suspected rabid fox in a Hudson Valley village after he accidentally shot himself in the chest.

Authorities say the officer was struck while responding to a report about the fox in the village.

Village police Chief Philip Mattracion says the animal charged at the officer and he tried to jump over a nearby fence. But his foot got caught and he flipped over. His gun went off as he landed and struck his bulletproof vest.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

St. Louis Police Department, Missouri = Sept. 24, 2018

ST. LOUIS — A St. Louis police recruit is recovering after being accidentally shot by an officer during a "ride-along."

Police say the 29-year-old female recruit was shot in the left wrist but is expected to recover in time for graduation from the police academy.

Police Chief John Hayden says the recruit was accompanying two officers and another recruit when they were called to a disturbance. A pit bull lunged at the officers, one of whom began shooting at the dog. A stray bullet struck the recruit.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Total: 16

Accidental discharges that were near-misses

San Diego Police Department, Calif. - Feb. 20, 2016

A San Diego Police officer "was involved in an accidental discharge of his firearm" while on duty in 2016.

The officer was searching an apartment to ensure an offender was complying with his probation when he entered a dark bedroom with his gun drawn.

(SOURCE: San Diego Union Tribune and court records)

Atlanta Police Department, Georgia - June 20, 2018

An Atlanta police officer accidentally discharged his firearm inside a home. Officials say the officer was trying to open the door with the hand that was also holding his gun when it accidentally fired.

(SOURCE: CBS46)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Aug. 26, 2016

An off-duty Chicago police officer had finished cleaning his duty weapon when he accidentally pulled the trigger while aligning the gun's sights.

The officer immediately saw that the discharged bullet traveled through his front living room window and went across the street. The bullet went through the neighbor's window and "struck a decorative dish, wooden kitchen cabinet and a box of cereal."

Officials later found the bullet in the box of cereal. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Bay County Sheriff's Office, Michigan - Nov. 11, 2016

A Bay County Sheriff's deputy who accidentally discharged his .380-caliber Sig Sauer firearm in a school and injured a teacher in another room pleaded no contest to tampering with evidence. In exchange, the prosecution dismissed charges of careless discharge of a firearm causing injury.

He was a resource officer at the Bay City Western High School when the incident occurred. He was in the robotics classroom with a teacher when they used a force machine to test the trigger pull on his personal Springfield 9mm handgun.

After they left the room, he returned alone and used the machine to test the trigger pull on his Sig Sauer personal handgun. The gun was not empty of bullet and the experiment caused the gun to fire a round through the wall and into a classroom containing a teacher and about 30 students.

As the bullet traveled toward the ceiling, it ricocheted off a cement wall and struck a teacher in the neck.

(SOURCE: Bay City News)

Orlando Police Department, Florida - Dec. 10, 2017

An Orlando Police Officer was alone in her apartment practicing drawing her weapon when she had an unintentional discharge. No one was injured. The officer was suspended for eight hours.

(SOURCE: police records)

Washington State Patrol - Dec. 18, 2014

BELLINGHAM, Wash. – An investigation was launched after a Washington State Patrol commercial vehicle enforcement officer negligently discharged his firearm at his home.

The officer completed his overnight shift at the Bow Hill Port of Entry and went home. After he got in bed, he remembered he left his duty belt with his firearm in the shoe rack in his house.

He retrieved the belt and set it on the floor next to his bed. He removed the firearm from the holster, intending to remove the rounds from the gun. A shot went through the floor of his third-floor apartment. The prosecutor reviewed the case but decided against filing charges.

(SOURCE: police report)

Butler Township Police Department, Ohio - April 10, 2019

BUTLER TOWNSHIP, Ohio – A Butler Township police officer is under investigation after accidentally discharging his weapon into a 19-year-old's car following an attempted traffic stop.

Police say the man was seen driving a 2012 dark gray Dodge Charger in a "reckless manner" in the area of Benchwood and North Dixie Drive. He then tried to elude the officer when a traffic stop was attempted.

While giving multiple commands for the man to turn off the car and roll down the window, the officer drew his service weapon and repeated his commands. At this time, the officer accidentally discharged his weapon, firing a round through the driver's side window and into the vehicle. Nobody was injured.

(SOURCE: WDTN)

Cincinnati Police Department, Ohio - June 3, 2013

A Cincinnati police officer accidentally discharged his firearm while putting it away after a training class at the target range.

The officer unloaded his Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm firearm, but when he took the magazines out, he forgot to clear the chamber. He placed an empty magazine into the firearm, placed the gun in its case and de-cocked the gun by pulling the trigger with his thumb.

The bullet in the chamber discharged through the left rear panel of his personal vehicle, striking another officer's vehicle just below the driver side door. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Cincinnati Police Department, Ohio - Sept. 11, 2014

A Cincinnati police officer accidentally discharged her firearm in the police garage before starting her shift.

The sergeant pointed her weapon at a 50-degree angle toward the ceiling, cycled the bolt without removing the magazine, turned off the safety and without making sure the chamber was empty, squeezed the trigger.

The weapon fired a round that ricocheted off the cement ceiling, striking the wall, fragmenting and falling to the ground. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office, Virginia - Feb. 21, 2019

A deputy with the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office accidentally discharged his firearm during a traffic stop and was placed on administrative leave.

The deputy had pulled over two College of William & Mary students who were driving without headlights at about 6:40 p.m. and approached the vehicle with his weapon drawn, officials said.

The officer said the driver's door swung open as he approached the vehicle, and he discharged his gun. The bullet ricocheted off the ground and hit the driver's door, officials said.

The deputy was placed on leave and the sheriff issued a statement saying "this was an unfortunate accident with no malice or ill intent toward the occupants of the vehicle."

No one was injured.

(SOURCE: The Virginia Gazette)

New Orleans Police Department, Louisiana - Feb. 28, 2012

A New Orleans police officer accidentally discharged her weapon while pursuing a stolen car. The bullet hit a vehicle but didn't injure anyone.

(SOURCE: Times-Picayune)

Total: 11

Accidental discharges at a school or college

Lloyd Police Department, New York - March 7, 2013

HIGHLAND, New York – A Lloyd police officer who works as a school resource officer for the Highland Central School District accidentally discharged his weapon in the hallway of the high school.

No students or staff were in the hallway at the time and no one was injured. The officer was suspended without pay after the incident.

(SOURCE: USA Today)

Manchester Police Department, Connecticut - March 6, 2013

A Manchester police officer accidentally shot another officer in the foot while they were responding to the Manchester Community College campus after someone reported seeing a male student with a handgun tucked in his waistband.

Officers with the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team, or CREST, arrived at the campus and broke into pods while the school was placed on lockdown, according to the police report.

The officers searched the rooms and hallways for anyone who fit the suspect's description.

The officer said he and two other officers entered the common area of the Science Center and began clearing the area of students and staff while looking at the suspect.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - Feb. 15, 2018

COCONUT CREEK, Fla. – A Broward County sheriff's deputy accidentally shot himself in the leg while responding to a report of a possible active shooter at the North Broward Preparatory School.

The call came in on Feb. 15, 2018 -- one day after a gunman killed 17 students and staff at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in neighboring Parkland, Florida.

The deputy went to the school to assist the Coconut Creek Police Department, according to police records. The deputy shot himself in the left calf with his Glock model 23, .40-caliber handgun. He was treated at the scene.

(SOURCE: police report)

Fort Pierce Police Department, Florida - Feb. 7, 2013

A Fort Pierce police officer accidentally shot an Indian River State College student while trying to apprehend a suspect who ended up in the college's parking lot.

The student was shot when the officer fired at the suspect. The bullet went through her arm, fractured her rib, punctured her liver and collapsed her lung before stopping near her spine.

The student's lawsuit was settled.

(SOURCE: KPBF and interviews)

University of Central Florida Police Department, Florida - April 26, 2016

ORLANDO, Fla. – A sergeant with the University of Central Florida Police Department accidentally discharged his AR-15 rifle while securing it on a rack in his vehicle after helping to search the library for a possible gunman.

Officers had evacuated the library and searched it after receiving a social media report of a gunman or woman. The library was placed on lockdown, and police asked people to avoid the area.

Moments after the search concluded, spectators outside were startled by the sound of a gunshot. UCF spokeswoman Zenaida Kotala says an officer accidentally discharged his weapon while securing it in his vehicle.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

York County Sheriff's Office, South Carolina = Aug. 26, 2013

A York County sheriff's office school resource officer accidentally discharged his weapon into the sidewalk outside York Comprehensive High School.

Three people were standing nearby but no one was injured.

(SOURCE: The Herald)

Alpine, Texas - Sept. 8, 2016

A 14-year-old freshman at Alpine High School in West Texas brought a gun to school and shot another female student before killing herself. As local, state and federal law enforcement agencies rushed to the school and in the confusion, a member of the U.S. Marshal's Service accidentally shot a Homeland Security agent.

The U.S. Marshal was among the law enforcement officers who responded to the school shooting. He arrived at the school equipped with a ballistic shield.

The agent was advised he needed a handgun to operate the shield, so agent was given a duty handgun. The team lined up to clear a classroom when the group heard a gunshot and Homeland Security Investigations Agent Jon Dangle "fell to the ground and was yelling he was shot."

Officers pulled Dangle to a safe location, since the group didn't immediately know where the shot came from. The Border Patrol agent said he realized the shot came from his left side and suspected it came from within the classroom.

The U.S. Marshal agent then told the group that he fired the shot by accident.

Dangle was taken to Odessa Medical Center Hospital. His records say he was diagnosed with "a right leg gunshot wound with a right tibial fracture, anxiety with depressed mood and hypertension as a result of the officer involved shooting incident."

The Texas Rangers presented the case to a Brewster County grand jury, but they declined to charge the agent with the offense of "deadly conduct in regards to the officer involved shooting."

(SOURCE: Texas Rangers report)

Northside Independent School District Police Department, Texas - May 16, 2012

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – A Northside Independent School District police officer's gun accidentally discharged at a middle school.

Doug Schramm was alone in his office at Jordon Middle School with the door closed when the weapon went off. Schramm was placed on paid administrative leave. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: San Antonio Express-News)

San Antonio Independent School District Police Department, Texas = April 18, 2014

A San Antonio Independent School District police officer accidentally shot himself in the finger.

The accidental discharge occurred at about 8 a.m. The injury was described as a graze wound.

(SOURCE: San Antonio Express-News)

University of Texas Police Department, Austin Texas = May 17, 2016

A University police officer accidentally shot himself outside the campus police department.

The officer was hospitalized for non-life-threatening injuries. Officials didn't know why the gun discharges, but said the officer was in a secure area where officers conduct weapons checks.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Alexandria Police Department, Virginia – March 13, 2018

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia – A police officer accidentally discharged his weapons inside the George Washington Middle School.

The school resource officer was in his office at the school at about 9:10 a.m. when the gun went off. No one was injured. The officer was placed on administrative leave while an investigation was conducted.

The officer was later charged with reckless handling of a firearm and destruction of property. (SOURCE: Alexandria Times and InsideNOVA)

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - Sept. 15, 2016

A 13-year-old girl was injured when a Milwaukee Police officer's gun accidentally discharged in its holster at the Thoreau Elementary School.

The officer went to the school after the girl said she wanted to report something. She became combative with the officers and a supervisor tried to deescalate the situation. A police report says the girl was shot in the leg after the firearm discharged while in the holster.

(SOURCE: police records)

Flint Police Department, Michigan – May 5, 2018

FOWLERVILLE, Mich. — An off-duty Michigan police officer's gun accidentally discharged at a high school wrestling meet, officials said.

The officer was watching his son compete in the multi-school event at Fowlerville High School, police said. The bullet from what was described as an "off-duty sidearm" struck and lodged in the gym floor. One person trying to flee twisted an ankle.

The officer was charged with misdemeanor careless discharge of a firearm. Defense attorney Frank Manley called the shooting "unfortunate." The officer entered a no-contest plea in to a misdemeanor charge of reckless discharge of a weapon.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press and WHMI-FM)

Bay County Sheriff's Office, Michigan - Nov. 11, 2016

A Bay County Sheriff's deputy who accidentally discharged his .380-caliber Sig Sauer firearm in a school and injured a teacher in another room pleaded no contest to tampering with evidence. In exchange, the prosecution dismissed charges of careless discharge of a firearm causing injury.

He was a resource officer at the Bay City Western High School when the incident occurred. He was in the robotics classroom with a teacher when they used a force machine to test the trigger pull on his personal Springfield 9mm handgun.

After they left the room, he returned alone and used the machine to test the trigger pull on his Sig Sauer personal handgun. The gun was not empty of bullet and the experiment caused the gun to fire a round through the wall and into a classroom containing a teacher and about 30 students.

As the bullet traveled toward the ceiling, it ricocheted off a cement wall and hit a teacher in the neck.

(SOURCE: Bay City News)

Sand City Police Department, California - March 13, 2018

A teacher at Seaside High School, who also is a reserve Sand City police officer, accidentally discharged his firearm during a class on "public safety fundamentals," injuring one student who was hit by debris falling from the ceiling.

The officer was teaching the class when he decided to show how secure an officer's holster is. He first wanted to unload the gun.

To do so properly, he would have removed the magazine and then rack the slide to eject the round in the chamber, but the teacher did the opposite, so when he pointed the gun toward the

ceiling and pulled the trigger, it went off, according to the prosecutor, who decided against filing charges.

(SOURCE: KSBW-TV)

Indian River County Sheriff's Office, Florida - June 8, 2018

VERO BEACH, Fla. — Authorities say a Florida deputy at a high school for a training session accidentally shot himself in the hand.

A statement from Indian River County Sheriff's Maj. Eric Flowers says the deputy was trying to clear his weapon when it discharged. A bullet struck him between his ring and middle fingers. The statement says no students were on the Vero Beach High School campus at the time.

(SOURCE: Associated Press)

Rockwood Police Department, Tennessee - Aug. 12, 2016

ROCKWOOD, Tenn. — A Tennessee police chief says an officer accidentally fired a live round from his weapon during a drill at a middle school.

No one was injured, and no students were in the building because Thursday was an in-service day for teachers. The doors to the school were locked so no one mistakenly came inside.

Police and the school system were working together on a drill to demonstrate what an active shooter situation sounds like. School employees are locked in a classroom with the police chief while an officer fires blank rounds in the hallway. Roane County Schools Superintendent Leah Watkins said no live ammunition was to be discharged.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Oakland County Sheriff's Office, Michigan - Oct. 4, 2017

OXFORD, Mich. — A gun being carried by an Oakland County sheriff's deputy accidentally discharged at the Oxford High School when a suspect tried to grab it. The gun remained in the holster and the bullet ricocheted into a nearby wall.

The suspect was a student who had been asked to stay away from campus after being accused of assaulting his girlfriend in a hallway. School officials called the sheriff's deputies, who were attempting to arrest the student when the discharge occurred.

(SOURCE: MLive Media Group)

Pasco County Sheriff's Office, Florida - April 30, 2019

A Pasco County Sheriff's deputy who works as a resource officer at the Weightman Middle School in Wesley Chapel accidentally discharged his gun in the school cafeteria.

The sheriff's office said he was leaning against the wall when "his holstered, duty-issued firearm incidentally discharged into the wall behind him." There were not injuries to students or staff.

(SOURCE: Tampa Bay Times)

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida - Feb. 14, 2019

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A Jacksonville Sheriff's Office deputy accidentally discharged his weapon after responding to threat at the Jefferson Davis Middle School.

Authorities say the deputy unintentionally fired his gun outside the school.

The sheriff's office received two 911 calls about a shooting at the school, which prompted a lockdown. Officers responded and cleared the campus. They later determined the threat was false.

The sheriff's office said the officer accidentally discharged his weapon outside the school, hitting the sidewalk and causing minor damage.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press, WOKV-TV. Records request sent June 7, 2019)

Mesquite Police Department, Texas - April 18, 2019

A Mesquite police officer assigned to the Horn High School accidentally discharged his weapons while inspecting it.

Police said the gun went off as the officer was unloading it. The bullet ricocheted off the concrete floor and disintegrated. Police said the officer failed to eject the round of ammunition from the gun's chamber after removing its magazine.

No students were present when the gun went off and no one was injured. The Mesquite school district said the school was not placed in lock-down.

(SOURCE: Fort Worth Star-Telegram)

University of Cincinnati, Clermont, Police Department, Ohio - June 18, 2019

BATAVIA, Ohio – A police officer with the University of Cincinnati Clermont accidentally shot himself in the foot. A campus spokeswoman said the officer was taken to an area hospital.

(SOURCE: WLWT)

Total: 22

Accidental discharges at a courthouse.

Cook County Sheriff's Department, Illinois - Feb. 18, 2015

BRIDGEVIEW, Ill. -- A law enforcement officer was injured when his gun accidentally discharged at the Cook County Courthouse in Bridgeview. No one else was hurt.

An alarm at the courthouse malfunctioned earlier in the morning, forcing an evacuation of the building. The officer was retrieving a gun from a locker it went off.

The officer was taken to the hospital with a gunshot wound to his leg, according to the Cook County Sheriff's Department. No one else was injured.

(SOURCE: WLS-TV)

New York State Court Officers, New York - Sept. 23, 2015

A state court officer shot himself in the hand when his gun accidentally discharged in a Manhattan courtroom.

The officer had removed the weapon from its holster in the civil courthouse when the weapon unintentionally fired, said Dennis Quirk, the president of the New York State Court Officers Association.

The officer was grazed in the palm of the hand and treated and released at a hospital.

(SOURCE: New York Daily News)

Berks County Sheriff's Office, Pennsylvania - March 27, 2019

READING, Pa. — Authorities say a sheriff's deputy was wounded when her firearm accidentally discharged in the basement of an eastern Pennsylvania courthouse.

Berks County Sheriff Eric Weaknecht said the wounded deputy was rushed to Reading Hospital, where she was reported in good condition.

The shooting occurred at the Berks County Courthouse and Services Center in downtown Reading.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Berks County Sheriff's Office, Pennsylvania - Aug. 12, 2019

A Berks County deputy sheriff accidentally shot himself in the leg while putting his service pistol in his holster.

The deputy had just moved prisoners into a cellblock in the basement of the courthouse when the shooting occurred, said Sheriff Eric Weaknecht. The deputy was injured in the leg, but the wound was not serious, the sheriff said.

(SOURCE: [Reading Eagle](#))

Total: 4

Accidental discharges at an airport

Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Police Department, Texas - May 6, 2013

A Dallas/Forth Worth police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg at the airport. Officials say he was adjusting his holster when his gun went off. He was taken to a nearby hospital in good condition.

(SOURCE: [Dallas Morning News](#))

Philadelphia Police Department, Pennsylvania - Sept. 24, 2012

PHILADELPHIA _ As a police officer at the Philadelphia International Airport tried to remove the bullets from a gun confiscated from a flight attendant, the weapon accidentally discharged.

The bullet hit the floor and no one was injured. The flight attendant had a valid permit to carry it, but was cited for passing the gun through security.

(SOURCE: [KYW-TV](#) and [The Associated Press](#))

Atlanta Police Department, Georgia - May 23, 2018

An Atlanta motorcycle officer accidentally shot himself while getting changed at the motor precinct near the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. The officer was changing into his street clothes when a shot went off.

(SOURCE: [WGCL-TV](#))

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, District of Columbia - March 7, 2019

LAS VEGAS — Authorities say a U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer wounded himself in the hand when he accidentally fired his gun in a locker area at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas.

Airport and Las Vegas police officials said no one else was injured in the shooting in a secure area of Terminal 3, an international arrivals building.

Customs and Border Protection spokesman Jaime Ruiz in Los Angeles called it a work-related accident and said the officer was in good condition.

(SOURCE: [The Associated Press](#))

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, District of Columbia - Aug. 1, 2017

An agent with the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency accidentally shot himself in the foot when he unintentionally fired his gun at the Orlando International Airport while on vacation from Kansas City.

The federal agent was on the ticketing and departure floor when he pulled off his shoulder bag and it caught on his holstered weapon, officials said. He tried to catch it and accidentally pulled the trigger, shooting himself in the heel.

Local and federal law enforcement responded and the man was carried off in a wheelchair.

(SOURCE: [Orlando Sentinel](#) and [WOFL](#))

Total: 5

Accidental discharges that occurred when an officer tried to make a weapon safe after it was found or confiscated

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - June 8, 2013

A Detroit police officer accidentally discharged a shotgun inside the police station while trying to clear the weapon after it was found in a car.

A woman went to the police station in her neighbor's car to file a domestic violence report. She told the officer that she didn't know if there were any weapons in the car. After the woman left with her three children, the officer found a short-stock shotgun on the floor.

The officer took the Mossberg shotgun and checked the action, which appeared to be clear. He brought it into the station, behind the front control desk, and racked it again. When no slugs ejected, he pulled the trigger, and the weapon discharged a slug into the east wall.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Boston Police Department, Mass. – Oct. 8, 2017

Boston police officers were called to recover firearms and ammunition from a family after a family member died a few days before. They took three firearms and multiple rounds of ammunition back to the district where it would be inventoried and logged into evidence.

Officers were able to make two of the weapons safe, but the third one was wrapped in electrical tape and wire. Officers were unable to open the lock and slide to the rear to inspect the chamber. While removing the tape, an officer accidentally discharged the weapon into the guardroom floor. No one was injured. The floor was damaged.

(SOURCE: [police report](#))

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - June 12, 2017

Two Detroit police officer stopped to check on a Silver Ford Fusion that was parked on the wrong side of the road. The driver let the officers know that he had a weapon, and one of the officers reached over to take it from the driver while they investigated the situation.

The officer ejected a magazine containing 12 bullets and passed the gun to his partner. The other officer pointed the gun in a safe direction and attempted to rack the top of the slide to safely eject the round that was in the chamber.

The slide didn't work and as the officer worked on the weapon he heard a loud pop and the gun accidentally discharged. No one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Aug. 8, 2017

A trooper stopped a driver for a traffic violation. The driver advised that he was carrying his 9mm Smith & Wesson pistol, but he didn't have his concealed pistol license with him since it was in his wallet and he forgot his wallet in another shirt.

The trooper took the pistol to his patrol car and removed the magazine and cleared the round in the chamber. He called the weapon in to check on the license.

As he prepared to give the pistol back, the trooper put the magazine back into the pistol and didn't chamber a round. At that point, the trooper realized that the pistol registered to the driver was a different Luger pistol.

The trooper began to check the pistol on his in-car computer. After running the serial number, he attempted to remove the slide to get other numbers and he unknowingly placed a round in the chamber. He depressed the trigger to disengage the slide and the pistol went off and sent a round into the air bag portion of the steering wheel. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Philadelphia Police Department, Pennsylvania - Sept. 24, 2012

PHILADELPHIA – As a police officer at the Philadelphia International Airport tried to remove the bullets from a gun confiscated from a flight attendant, the weapon accidentally discharged.

The bullet hit the floor and no one was injured. The flight attendant had a valid permit to carry it, but was cited for passing the gun through security.

(SOURCE: KYW-TV and The Associated Press)

Dallas Police Department, Texas - Oct. 20, 2016

Dallas police officers were conducting a felony stop of a stolen vehicle when there was an accidental discharge. The officers had arrested the driver and found a 12-gauge shotgun in the vehicle. An officer was manipulating the weapon in an effort to make it safe when it discharged.

The round went into the ground. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Texas Highway Patrol - April 28, 2017

A state trooper stopped a Ford for speeding. When a man got out of his car, he told the trooper that he had some marijuana in the trunk of his vehicle.

The trooper searched the vehicle, according to a police report., and found some small bags of marijuana and some black scales.

After searching the back seat, the trooper opened the driver-side door and searched the front of the car. He found a gold, black and brown Derringer in the front center console under the ashtray, the trooper said in his report. While examining it, it discharged, causing the trooper a minor injury.

(SOURCE: police report)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - Nov. 23, 2015

Officers were completing an arrest of people who were a suspect in an auto theft.

After removing the people from the car, officers discovered a loaded firearm lying in plain view inside the vehicle. The officer tried to unload the firearm when it discharged into the vehicle. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - April 16, 2016

Deputies with the sheriff's office were called to help a woman who wanted assistance while she moved her belongings out of a home she had shared with her ex-boyfriend. She wanted the deputies there in case he came home.

She gave a shotgun to a deputy and asked him to "clear" it for her. One shot was accidentally fired into the ceiling. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - March 15, 2013

A Denver police detective was driving when he witnessed a silver Kia strike another vehicle. The occupants of the Kia fled the scene.

The detective was contacted by a witness who saw the driver run and throw a gun over the fence. The officer searched for the gun and found a .380 Beretta handgun on the ground behind the fence.

The officer saw the hammer of the gun was pulled back and he tried to clear the gun using a large clear plastic bag. The gun discharged into the ground. He put the gun down and called a supervisor.

He was disciplined for carelessly handling the gun.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - Oct. 4, 2013

A Detroit police officer accidentally discharged a weapon while trying to clear it in a parking lot outside the station.

The officer went out to examine a weapon being turned in by a woman. It was on the back seat of her car. He pointed the gun toward the ground and racked the slide back three times and "at that point my finger made contact with the trigger causing the weapon to discharge."

The bullet hit the ground two feet in front of him, leaving a small hole. No one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - April 26, 2012

A Houston police officer accidentally discharged a weapon while clearing it for safety. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Collier County Sheriff's Office, Florida - June 21, 2019

A Collier County Sheriff's deputy was injured after a weapon he took from a woman fell and accidentally discharged.

Deputies responded to shots fired and found four people who had been fighting southeast of Naples, Florida. One of the individuals fired a gun during the fight, but no one was injured.

The homeowner approached the deputy and asked him to take possession of an old .22-caliber Colt rifle that was in her home, according to the sheriff.

The deputy took the rifle outside and leaned it against his patrol car. It fell and accidentally discharges, sending a round into the deputy's foot, the sheriff's office said.

He was taken to the hospital and later was reported in good condition.

(SOURCE: Naples Daily News)

Phoenix Police Department, Arizona - May 17, 2015

A Phoenix police officer was attempting to unload a citizen's handgun to make it safe when he accidentally discharged the gun, causing damage to his patrol car.

The officer placed the citizen's model handgun on safe and tried to remove the magazine, but it wouldn't eject.

When he held it in his right hand with his index finger straight along the frame and manipulated the slide, the gun fired. Officials investigating the case said there was a manufacturing flaw with that model of gun, which caused it to fire while the safety was on.

(SOURCE: police report)

Phoenix Police Department, Arizona - June 9, 2015

A Phoenix police officer accidentally discharged a firearm after checking on a report of a fight at a motel.

The officers made contact with two women involved in the fight and one told the officers that she had a weapon in her room in a gun safety box. The officer went to the room to secure the weapon. The officer sought to make the gun safe so he unloaded the gun and disassembled the weapon. He cycled the slide several times and then pointed the gun toward the ceiling and pulled the trigger in order to release the slide, but it went off, sending one round into the ceiling.

The officer received a written reprimand for his mistake.

(SOURCE: police report)

Total: 15

Accidental discharges that occurred when the officer's hand was bumped or scraped

San Francisco Police Department, California - March 29, 2014

On the morning of March 29, 2014, A San Francisco Police officer made a radio call "Code 33" - the code that clears radio traffic for an emergency. The officer then said, "shots fired."

The officer said three suspects were in a stolen vehicle and as the vehicle took off, it hit her gun and it went off.

Officers from other areas converged on the scene and the vehicle was located, with no suspects inside. No one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Oct. 23, 2017

An Aurora police officer accidentally fired his gun during a search of a home.

The officer was investigating an area where he had encountered a homeless person the day before. As he approached the house, he saw broken glass and the garage door partly open. He believed these were signs of a fresh burglary.

He called for backup and attempted to open the door. He moved his Glock 17 handgun into his left hand so he could reach through the broken window and open the door.

“He scraped broken glass in the window frame with his right wrist and flinched,” another officer said. “In doing so he simultaneously pressed the trigger” of his handgun. The bullet went into the entry way, traveled through the floor and into the basement. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - July 28, 2016

A Denver police Officer was responding to a call when he heard a motorcycle unit on the radio saying he was behind a stolen vehicle. The motorcycle officer continued to update his location as they followed the vehicle.

The officer was headed in the direction of the stolen vehicle and heard on the radio that there was an attempt to contact the vehicle for reckless endangerment and if contact, it should be held for the robbery unit.

When the officer began to get out of the vehicle and placed his right hand on his weapon.

While moving the handgun into position, the officer said he struck his hand against the frame of the car. As he did this, his index finger entered the trigger guard and he inadvertently discharged the weapon. No one was injured.

He was suspended for four days without pay for violating department policy.

(SOURCE: police report)

Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii - Aug. 12, 2014

A 43-year-old man was charged with attempted murder after he used a stolen car to knock down a Honolulu police lieutenant, causing the officer’s gun to accidentally discharge.

The officer noticed a stolen car parked at a convenience store and the driver put the car in reverse when the officer opened the car door. The officer had his gun drawn and was knocked to the ground. The gun accidentally discharged. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: Star Advertiser and police report)

Michigan State Police - June 28, 2013

A trooper was serving a search warrant at a house. He was checking out a camper trailer behind the garage when he had an accidental discharge.

After breaking the lock on the trailer, the trooper attempted to get inside. The door wouldn’t open all the way because there was a motorcycle in the way. The trooper tried to squeeze through the door by pulling himself using the door frame. The officer’s gun discharged. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Dallas Police Department, Texas - Dec. 18, 2014

A Dallas police officer accidentally discharged his AR-15 rifle while preparing to enter a home to search for a murder suspect.

The officer told officials that he accidentally pressed the trigger of his rifle against the magazine pouch on his belt. The rifle fired one shot into the pavement. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Texas Highway Patrol - Nov. 30, 2015

A Texas Ranger was called to help a highway patrol trooper who was suspected of assaulting the law enforcement officer.

The suspect was driving a stolen pickup truck and while trying to evade the police, he crashed the truck into a highway patrol cruiser driven by the trooper. After the crash, the suspect fled with two female occupants of the truck. The pursuit ended when the truck got stuck in the mud.

Prior to the crash, the trooper had pulled out his service handgun and as a result of the impact, he accidentally discharged the gun. The bullet damaged the front of his patrol car and the front of the convenience store.

Total: 7

Accidental discharges involving the officer's holster

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Sept. 13, 2016

Police were called to an Aurora Albertsons on the report of a robbery in the pharmacy. A suspect approached the pharmacist with a note saying he had a gun and wanted a list of medications, including oxycodone.

The pharmacist complied with his demands and he took the drugs and left.

Police learned that the suspect was a serial robber.

When the officers first found the suspect vehicle, an officer parked his marked SUV behind the BMW and while exiting and drawing his duty firearm, he accidentally discharged a single round. Nobody was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - June 28, 2014

Broward County sheriff's deputies responded to a call saying a vehicle burglary was in progress. Deputies arrived and several suspects fled on foot and tried to hide themselves in the bushes.

A sergeant chased a suspect and caught him in the bushes at another house. The sergeant pointed his gun at the suspect and ordered him to lie on the ground, and he complied. While the officer was putting his .40-caliber Glock, Model 23, gun in its holster, he unintentionally discharged the weapon.

(SOURCE: police report)

Fort Pierce Police Department, Florida - Jan. 23, 2013

A Fort Pierce police officer's pistol accidentally discharged grazing his leg in a parking lot near a Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration in Lawnwood Park. The officer was part of a patrol overseeing the event when he put his .45-caliber pistol into its holster and it fired.

(SOURCE: TCPalm/Treasure Coast News)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - Jan. 19, 2012

A Detroit police officer accidentally discharged his Smith & Wesson .40-caliber handgun while arresting a man who had fled in a car.

Officers were stopped at a red light when they saw a GMC pickup speed by and run a red light. They chased the truck with lights flashing and the pickup pulled into a driveway. The officer took out his weapon as he approached the pickup.

The suspect started to go back into his vehicle so the officer attempted to re-holster his weapon and get ahold of the suspect at the same time. That's when his gun went off. The suspect got out of the vehicle and was taken into custody.

No one was injured, but the bullet went into the driver's side door.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - Oct. 16, 2017

Detroit police officers were helping check out a report of a breaking and entering case that was in progress. They were told that the suspect was still at the location so one officer used his shot gun to clear a residence. No one was inside.

After checking the residence, the officer put the shotgun in "high port" but it slipped off his shoulder and discharged. A police report says nobody was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - Oct. 24, 2017

A Detroit police officer arrived at work and had an accidental discharge while removing his personal gun from its holster.

He said he had the gun at a downward angle when it discharged. The bullet struck his City of Detroit desktop computer and ricocheted into the wall. He said he noticed he had powder burns on his palm and right thumb and he was bleeding from those areas.

He went to the restroom to clean his wounds and was confronted by a sergeant about the incident.

(SOURCE: police report)

Chattanooga Police Department, Tennessee - Dec. 9, 2013

Chattanooga police officers were searching for an armed robbery suspect when one of the officers accidentally discharged his firearm.

The officers believed the suspect had run into a business, Cherokee Health Systems, after a robbery on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The officers began the search and cleared a hallway when one officer attempted to put his gun back into his holster.

The weapon discharged.

No one was injured. There was damage to the floor tile.

(SOURCE: police report)

Dallas Police Department, Texas - Feb. 19, 2015

A Dallas police officer accidentally fired his Glock handgun while in the locker room of the patrol station as he prepared to work his shift. The sergeant said he was trying to holster his duty weapon when it fired one shot. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - Oct. 21, 2016

A Houston police officer who was working at an approved extra job for the North Side Management District accidentally discharged his weapon.

The officer was in the third floor parking garage when he transferred his duty weapon from his off-duty holster to his Class A holster when his finger slipped off the trigger guard and the firearm discharged. The round went into the officer's vehicle. No one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - Dec. 16, 2015

A Seattle police detective had just dropped off an inmate at the jail when he accidentally discharged his firearm in his patrol vehicle.

The detective left the jail and was attempting to adjust his firearm in its holster when the gun discharged. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - Feb. 8, 2016

Two Milwaukee police officers responded to a report of a suspect with a knife.

When they arrived, they located the suspect in a yard. When one officer confronted the suspect, the officer pulled out his duty Smith and Wesson 40-caliber firearm from his holster and accidentally discharged one round as he was keying the microphone to his radio.

No one was hit by the round.

(SOURCE: police records)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Feb. 24, 2015

A Chicago police officer was exchanging his duty weapon into his holster in preparation for a weapon qualification when he unintentionally discharged the gun. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - March 1, 2014

A Broward County sheriff's sergeant said he was in the Deerfield Beach District supervisor's office when he had an accidental discharge.

He had finished cleaning his Glock 21 handgun and loaded it with a 13-round magazine. He put it in his holster and did a "practice draw" and fired the gun into the supervisor's office wall.

The round went through the wall into the kitchen area, through a drawer and landed on a cabinet shelf. No one was in the kitchen and no one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Orlando Police Department, Florida - Aug. 28, 2015

An Orlando police officer was in his home practicing drawing his firearm in preparation for an upcoming training class, and he unintentionally discharged his gun.

The 9mm round left his residence and struck the outside of his neighbor's house. The round caused minor damage but no one was injured. The officer was suspended for eight hours.

(SOURCE: police records)

Connersville Police Department, Indiana - Jan. 21, 2014

CONNERSVILLE, Ind. — A Connersville police chief accidentally shot himself in the leg while running for Fayette County sheriff.

The chief's 40-caliber Glock handgun accidentally discharged while he was at a gun shop. He was off-duty at the time. The accident occurred when he was putting his Glock into its holster after he removed it to compare it to a newer Glock model at the gun shop, he said.

(SOURCE: The Indy Star)

Maine State Police, Maine – Feb. 27, 2013

The Maine State Police were investigating how a lieutenant's service weapon accidentally discharged during a computer training class. Officials say the officer was adjusting his holster when the weapon fired. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: Portland Press Herald)

Westminster Police Department, Maryland – Sept. 15, 2013

A Westminster police officer accidentally discharged his weapon while getting dressed in the police locker room. The bullet damaged a mirror but no one was injured.

The officer was changing out of his civilian clothes into his uniform when the gun discharged as he put the handgun into his holster.

Officials say he apparently put his finger on the trigger during that process.

(SOURCE: Carroll County Times)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - March 10, 2012

A Detroit police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while his weapon was in its holster. He told other officers that he had a long string hanging from his jacket and he believes the string got caught on his trigger when he put the gun in the holster.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan – Nov. 10, 2015

A Detroit police officer had just returned from picking up his brother at the hospital when he accidentally shot himself in the leg.

The officer told officials that he had left his gun in the car because he couldn't take it into the hospital. He put his weapon on and was adjusting the gun on his left hip when he accidentally shot himself in the thigh. The bullet went through his left leg. He was taken to the hospital.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - April 15, 2013

A trooper reported that he had an accidental discharge. He told officials that he believed the trigger was depressed by a patrol car key he held in his hand while holstering his weapon. Officials said the issue should be addressed by the training division. At no time while handling a firearm should anything else be in the trooper's hand, the report said.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Aug. 12, 2015

A trooper was in the men's locker room at the Lakeview post and practiced drawing his new Glock 17 pistol from its holster.

During this practice, he received a phone call from another trooper. During the call, he did another practice draw, and the gun went off, sending a round through the door mirror and interior door before hitting the outside cement block wall. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Hampton Police Department, New Hampshire - April 13, 2016

HAMPTON, N.H. – A Hampton police officer accidentally discharged his weapon at the department's shooting range and damaged a police vehicle.

Officials say the officer was trying to put his weapon in his holster when it discharged. The bullet went through the door of a cruiser parked nearby. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Flemington Police Department, New Jersey - April 17, 2014

RARITAN TOWNSHIP, New Jersey – A Flemington police detective suffered a leg injury when his weapon accidentally discharged as he got out of his patrol car.

The detective was treated at a hospital and later released. He returned to duty about a week later. An investigation by the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's office determined that the accidental discharge was caused by a holster malfunction.

(SOURCE: Eastern Express Times)

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office, New York - Oct. 16, 2017

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office says a Custody Department deputy has accidentally shot himself at the Onondaga County Justice Center in Syracuse.

Authorities say the deputy accidentally fired his own weapon while inside the employee locker room, which is located in an unsecured portion of the Justice Center.

The sheriff's office says he was unholstering his firearm when it went off. He was taken to an area hospital for treatment. His injury is not believed to be life-threatening. No one else was hurt.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Erlanger Police Department, Kentucky - Jan. 4, 2015

CINCINNATI, Ohio — An off-duty Kentucky police officer accidently shot himself in the stomach while he and his wife were in an elevator after having dinner in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The officer with the Erlanger, Kentucky, Police Department was adjusting his .40-caliber semi-automatic handgun in his holster when it discharged.

The bullet ricocheted off the walls of the elevator. He was taken to the Cincinnati Medical Center with injuries that were not life-threatening.

(SOURCE: The Cincinnati Enquirer)

Upper Gwynedd Township Police Department, Pennsylvania - Feb. 6, 2013

An Upper Gwynedd police officer accidently shot himself in the foot during a training exercise.

Officials say the sergeant was taking his firearm out of his holster when it discharged into his left foot.

(SOURCE: Morning Call)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - May 12, 2018

A Seattle police officer accidently fired his personal weapon while off-duty.

The officer reported to officials that his handgun unintentionally discharged while in his holster while he was driving his vehicle in Renton. The incident was investigated. No injuries were reported.

(SOURCE: police report)

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - Jan. 14, 2013

A Milwaukee police officer was removing his department-issued jacket when part of the coat became snared between his service weapon and his holster. That caused his firearm to accidently discharge as he removed his jacket.

The officer suffered an undisclosed injury and was treated.

(SOURCE: police records)

Cincinnati Police Department, Ohio - Sept. 11, 2014

A Cincinnati police officer accidentally discharged his firearm during training and the bullet ricocheted off the concrete ground and struck an instructor in the arm.

The officer was participating in a shooting drill that involved moving diagonally from 10 yards to 10 feet while shooting at four separate targets. At the end of his drill, the officer tried to put the

gun back in his holster, but he had his finger on the trigger and he fired a round into the concrete just behind his right foot.

(SOURCE: police report)

West Carrollton Police Department, Ohio - May 4, 2018

A West Carrollton police officer was injured after he accidentally shot himself in the leg at the Franklin firing range. Officials called it a malfunction. Officials say the safety mechanism on the officer's Glock failed.

West Carrollton Deputy Police Chief David Wessling said the officer shot himself while he was putting the weapon in his holster.

The officer was wounded in the calf area and on the right side of his foot.

(SOURCE: KRMG-TV)

Anderson Police Department, Indiana - Aug. 1, 2018

ANDERSON, Ind. – An officer with the Anderson Police Department accidentally shot himself in the hand while placing his gun back in its holster at police headquarters.

The department said the officer was wounded when the gun discharged unexpectedly. Police didn't immediately say how seriously the officer was hurt but dispatch traffic indicated he was wounded in the hand.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Butte-Silver Bow Police Department, Montana - Feb. 13, 2015

A man who was shot by a Butte-Silver Bow police officer during an arrest filed a federal lawsuit against the officer, department and the county claiming his rights were violated.

The officer was involved in a stakeout at a house when a man drove up with another man and a woman. The officer was searching for a wanted felon. A man identified as the felon jumped into the car and said "go, go, go!"

The officer, who was on foot, jumped out of the alley with his weapon drawn and said to stop.

When the driver's side door opened, the officer grabbed a man by the back of the neck and the man was hot. The officer later said the .40-caliber handgun inadvertently discharged as he attempted to put it in his holster during the struggle.

The officer was later exonerated of any criminal conduct by Montana Attorney General Brant Light. The man who was shot sued. The case was settled for an undisclosed amount.

(SOURCE: Montana Standard and court records and interview)

Phoenix Police Department, Arizona - Jan. 24, 2013

A Phoenix police officer had an accidental discharge of his firearm while detaining three juveniles for graffiti.

The officer removed his service weapon from his holster to detach the "tactical handgun light" in order to see better. When he tried to put the weapon back in his holster, "he missed the holster resulting in the weapon being dropped to the ground and discharging one round upon impact."

No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Phoenix Police Department, Arizona - May 6, 2017

A Phoenix police officer accidentally fired her gun while manipulating the retention device on her holster. The bullet struck in front of the officer and did not cause any injuries.

(SOURCE: police report)

Los Angeles Police Department, Calif. - March 17, 2017

A Los Angeles police officer was injured when he accidentally fired his pistol during a training class.

The officer was attending a training to prepare for a qualification course. He had the pistol in a holster and was practicing pulling the pistol out quickly to shoot at a target. When the officer pulled the pistol out, his finger was in the process of pressing the side safety and “inadvertently moved to the trigger well of the pistol and pressed the trigger,” according to the police commissioners report.

The muzzle of the pistol was still in the holster when the weapon fired and the round struck the officer’s leg. He was taken to a hospital. The commission found the discharge violated the department’s basic safety rules, making the shooting a negligent discharge.

(SOURCE: police report)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Oct. 1, 2019

A Chicago police officer accidentally shot himself in his lower body in the Greenwood neighborhood on the city’s South Side.

A police spokesman said it appears the unintentional discharge occurred when the officer was putting the gun in his holster. He was taken to Christ Medical Center in stable condition.

(SOURCE: New York Daily News)

Berks County Sheriff’s Office, Pennsylvania - March 27, 2019

READING, Pa. — Authorities say a sheriff's deputy was wounded when her firearm accidentally discharged in the basement of an eastern Pennsylvania courthouse.

Berks County Sheriff Eric Weaknecht said the wounded deputy was rushed to Reading Hospital, where she was reported in good condition.

The shooting occurred at the Berks County Courthouse and Services Center in downtown Reading.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Berks County Sheriff’s Office, Pennsylvania - Aug. 12, 2019

A Berks County deputy sheriff accidentally shot himself in the leg while putting his service pistol in his holster.

The deputy had just moved prisoners into a cellblock in the basement of the courthouse when the shooting occurred, said Sheriff Eric Weaknecht. The deputy was injured in the leg, but the wound was not serious, the sheriff said.

(SOURCE: Reading Eagle)

Vidant Medical Center Police Department, North Carolina - April 23, 2019

A Vidant Medical Center police officer accidentally shot himself at the Pitt Community College Shooting range.

The officer was going through re-certification training when it occurred. Range spokesman Rob Goldberg said the officer was taking his gun out of the holster when he shot himself. He was taken to the medical center for treatment.

(SOURCE: WCTI 12)

Total: 39

Accidental discharges involving Sig Sauer handguns

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, Virginia - Feb. 7, 2018

A Loudoun County Sheriff's deputy suffered a shattered femur when she accidentally discharged her Sig Sauer P320 firearm while removing her holster from her duty belt.

The deputy said the gun was in its holster when it discharged and sent a bullet into her leg. She filed a \$10 million federal lawsuit against Sig Sauer, claiming the company misled the public about the safety of the P320 firearms.

Sig Sauer settled the lawsuit in June 2019. The settlement amount and details were not disclosed.

(SOURCE: Loudoun Times-Mirror)

Stamford Police Department, Connecticut - Jan. 5, 2017

A Stamford police officer was injured when he accidentally dropped his department-issued pistol and it discharged, according to his federal lawsuit against Sig Sauer.

The officer was loading his Special Response Team equipment into the back of his vehicle when he dropped the Sig Sauer semi-automatic P320 pistol, according to a lawsuit he filed against Sig Sauer. At the time of the fall, the lawsuit said, the pistol was "fully holstered."

(SOURCE: court records)

Bay County Sheriff's Office, Michigan - Nov. 11, 2016

A Bay County Sheriff's deputy who accidentally discharged his .380-caliber Sig Sauer firearm in a school and injured a teacher in another room pleaded no contest to tampering with evidence. In exchange, the prosecution dismissed charges of careless discharge of a firearm causing injury.

He was a resource officer at the Bay City Western High School when the incident occurred. He was in the robotics classroom with a teacher when they used a force machine to test the trigger pull on his personal Springfield 9mm handgun.

After they left the room, he returned alone and used the machine to test the trigger pull on his Sig Sauer personal handgun. The gun was not empty of bullet and the experiment caused the gun to fire a round through the wall and into a classroom containing a teacher and about 30 students.

As the bullet traveled toward the ceiling, it ricocheted off a cement wall and struck a teacher in the neck.

(SOURCE: Bay City News)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Jan. 5, 2017

A Chicago police officer told officials that he accidentally discharged his firearm while in the bathroom in the locker room.

The officer said he was in the restroom and placed his 9mm Sig Sauer handgun on the sink. When he turned around he knocked the gun from the sink to the floor, which caused it to discharge toward the floor. It created a small hole. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - April 15, 2013

A trooper had just placed a suspect in the Saginaw County Jail and returned to his patrol car, parked in the jail Sally port.

He opened his trunk to get his service and back up weapon and as he placed the Sig Sauer in his duty holster, it discharged a round into the concrete floor. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Sept. 27, 2013

A trooper went home and unloaded his weapons. He sat at the kitchen table and unloaded his 40-caliber Sig Sauer first and placed the bullets on the table.

His dog was on the floor near the couch, about 6 feet from the table. He took his 38-caliber revolver in his right hand and opened the cylinder and took the rounds into his hand. He thought he had ejected five but didn't count them.

He stood up with the revolver in his right hand and turned to retrieve his pocket holster on the counter behind him. As he reached with his left hand, the gun fired. He noticed that his dog was bleeding and appeared to be dead. He called 911 and reported his accidental shooting.

(SOURCE: police report)

Pennsylvania State Trooper - Sept. 30, 2014

A Pennsylvania state trooper was fatally shot when a firearms instructor accidentally discharged his gun during a training session.

The 26-year-old trooper was shot in the chest while attending a routine firearms and safety training session at the Montgomery County Tactical Response Training Center in Plymouth Township, according to a federal lawsuit filed by the trooper's family.

A lawsuit says the training instructor was demonstrating a new-model state police-issued Sig Sauer handgun when he accidentally fired the gun, hitting the trooper.

The instructor retired from the state police and pleaded guilty to reckless endangerment charges. A Montgomery County judge sentenced him to two weeks in prison in August 2015.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press and WCAU)

Michigan State Police - Sept. 16, 2015

A group of troopers was serving a search warrant for illegal narcotics. A group went in through the front of the residence while others watched the back.

When the group went into the front, an unidentified man fled out the back door. As he came out, he made contact with one of the troopers, who had an accidental discharge of his .40-caliber Sig Sauer pistol. The suspect was hit in the right lower chest area and taken to the hospital.

(SOURCE: police report)

Cambridge Police Department, Massachusetts - Oct. 10, 2019

A Cambridge police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg as he was getting out of his vehicle after taking a break.

The officer was parked outside the department, was in uniform and was returning to work when his Sig Sauer P320 firearm unintentionally discharged, a police spokesman said. The officer was taken to the hospital.

(SOURCE: Boston Herald)

Total: 9

Accidental discharges that occurred during searches

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Sept. 8, 2015

An Aurora police officer accidentally fired his AR-15 rifle while working on a burglary case.

Aurora police were called by a witness who said a man broke a window and climbed into an apartment. The witness said he heard yelling that a gun was mentioned. A man and woman were yelling at each other inside, and the man said she was crazy.

The officer said in his report that he and other officers went to the front of the building and it was quiet inside. They ordered the people inside to come up, but received no response. While in the back of the apartment, several officers had their weapons drawn, and one officer was in a kneeling position with his rifle pointed toward the ground.

Suddenly the suspect appeared at the front door “and almost at the same time I heard a shot go off directly to my left,” one officer said. “I looked at the (suspect) coming out of the front door and he started yelling ‘don’t shoot me.’”

The officer said he saw a “large divet” in front of the other officer’s rifle. The two people in the apartment were arrested, but no one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Sept. 22, 2016

An Aurora police officer accidentally fired his gun while investigating a burglary.

A person called 911 and said five armed men were trying to break in to his and his neighbor’s home. He said they were hiding near a blue Ford Explorer.

Two officers arrived and didn’t see anyone. They went to the next house, and into the back yard where they found a large shed. One officer opened the south doors and had a negligent discharge of his Glock 17 handgun. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - May 4, 2015

A Denver police officer was called to a home on the report of a domestic dispute. Officers made contact with a victim who said that her boyfriend was drunk and arguing with her.

She told officers he always carried a knife, and she believed he was in the back of the house. The officers did a room-to-room search. The officer had his gun drawn and tried to open a closet door. His gun discharged accidentally.

A single round went into the closet door. No one was nearby and no one was injured. He acknowledged that his finger was on the trigger. He received a two-day penalty fine.

(SOURCE: police report)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - Feb. 22, 2016

A Denver police SWAT team was dispatched to search a home in a call related to a burglary. The call reported “shots fired and an officer (was) down.”

When a technician arrived, he went to the basement. While searching a small storage area, his firearm accidentally discharged. It was pointed at the floor.

He said the discharge occurred because the rear sight of his M4 had gotten into the trigger well of his handgun. Two other officers were in the area but no one was hurt. He received a two-day fine as a penalty for violating department policy.

(SOURCE: police report)

Sulphur Police Department, Louisiana - Sept. 25, 2014

A Sulphur police officer accidentally discharged his weapon while conducting a search based on a warrant related to drug trafficking. No one was injured by the discharge.

(SOURCE: Southwest Daily News)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - May 6, 2017

Officers responded to a report of “shots fired” and observed a silver Dodge SUV that ran several stop signs. Officers followed the vehicle until it ran off the road and the people inside ran into the bushes.

An officer pursued the driver with his department issued handgun out of the holster, due to the report that shots had been fired. He said he was climbing over a metal barricade “when his trigger finger accidentally pulled the trigger” and his gun discharged.

Minutes later, another officer discovered a suspect hiding under a Chevy pickup truck. The officer said the barrel of the gun was pointing toward the ground when it fired, “and the bullet could not have struck anyone.”

(SOURCE: police report)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - Nov. 20, 2014

A police team, working with the Drug Enforcement Agency, served a narcotics search warrant at a home in Renton. As they entered the apartment, one member of the team unintentionally discharged his firearm. The bullet went into a wall. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - April 26, 2015

Officers responded to a report of a burglary at a residence. Two officers were clearing the home and were checking a tool shed on the back of the home when one officer unintentionally discharged her firearm. No one was injured and there was no noted property damage.

(SOURCE: police report)

San Francisco Police Department, California- March 31, 2016

While San Francisco police officers were serving a high-risk search warrant, a member of the department’s tactical division unintentionally discharged his firearm. The bullet lodged in a mattress but no one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Batavia Police Department, New York - April 22, 2014

A Batavia police officer accidentally discharged a firearm inside a home while responding to a possible domestic violence call.

Officers were called to the home after it was reported that a woman’s ex-boyfriend had gone to the home and caused some damage. The officers had their guns drawn before going inside and one of the officers accidentally discharged a firearm just inside the door, damaging some tile.

No one was injured.

(SOURCE: The Batvian)

Federal Bureau of Investigation, District of Columbia -- Feb. 5, 2015

ODESSA, Texas _ An FBI agent accidentally shot himself in the foot during a drug raid.

The agent and other law enforcement officers entered the home with guns drawn and began searching the house when the FBI agent accidentally fired his gun near a bedroom.

Special Agent Michael Martinez said the agent sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: NewsWest 9)

Lubbock Police Department, Texas - Oct. 16, 2016

A Lubbock police officer negligently discharged his firearm while searching for a suspect involved in a domestic disturbance.

Officers responded to the domestic call and were told that the suspect was intoxicated and armed and allegedly threatened to kill people at the home, said Assistant Lubbock Police Chief Jon Caspell.

The suspect ran from the officers into the neighborhood and a search ensued. He was discovered in the backyard of a nearby home and one of the officers tried to get through the gate. At that point, he accidentally fired his gun, sending a bullet into the fence at a downward angle, Caspell said. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: Lubbock Avalanche-Journal)

Total: 12

Accidental discharges by firearms instructors

New Haven Police Department, Connecticut - March 8, 2012

Two New Haven police officers were injured in an accidental shooting at the police academy.

The firearms instructor accidentally fired a round from a .40-caliber semi-automatic handgun and the bullet struck a concrete wall. Bullet fragments ricocheted off the wall and struck the two officers. One was hit in the forehead and the other in the arm.

(SOURCE: Hartford Courant)

Baltimore Police Department, Maryland – Feb. 12, 2013

A University of Maryland campus police officer was accidentally shot in the head by an instructor during a training exercise.

The instructor mistakenly used a live weapon, instead of a practice weapon, while demonstrating the danger of standing in the potential line of fire and shot the officer, who lost his eye and had to be treated at a brain injury facility.

The instructor was later convicted of reckless endangerment and sentenced to 18 months in jail, with 60 days suspended.

(SOURCE: The Daily Advertiser and The Baltimore Sun)

Pascagoula Police Department, Mississippi - March 5, 2013

A firearms instructor who heads the Pascagoula Police Academy suffered burns on his thumb and forefinger when a gun he was working on accidentally discharged.

The officer was cleaning a weapon and was putting it back together when he took out his service weapon to make sure he was reassembling the gun correctly. That's when the loaded gun accidentally discharged. His injuries resulted from "hot gases from the gun being fired," according to police Chief Kenny Johnson.

(SOURCE: The Sun Herald)

Pennsylvania State Trooper - Sept. 30, 2014

A Pennsylvania state trooper was fatally shot when a firearms instructor accidentally discharged his gun during a training session.

The 26-year-old trooper was shot in the chest while attending a routine firearms and safety training session at the Montgomery County Tactical Response Training Center in Plymouth Township, according to a federal lawsuit filed by the trooper's family.

A lawsuit says the training instructor was demonstrating a new-model state police-issued Sig Sauer handgun when he accidentally fired the gun, hitting the trooper.

The instructor retired from the state police and pleaded guilty to reckless endangerment charges. A Montgomery County judge sentenced him to two weeks in prison in August 2015.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press and WCAU)

Round Rock Police Department, Texas - March 7, 2013

A Round Rock police officer accidentally shot himself in the foot while attending a workshop to become an instructor for Glock firearms.

An officer with the department's training division wounded himself while at the Williamson County firing range. He was holding the gun when he inadvertently discharged it, according to police spokeswoman Dee Carver.

(SOURCE: American-Statesman)

Harrison Police Department, New York - May 23, 2013

A Harrison police officer accidentally shot a suspect and another officer after they pulled over a Chevy Trailblazer in connection with a recent burglary of about \$500,000 worth of jewelry.

The officer, a 15-year police veteran and county firearms instructor, accidentally fired two shots from his .223-caliber AR-15 style rifle after pulling over a vehicle carrying three burglary suspects. The men were members of the so-called "Sound Shore Gang."

The discharge occurred after officers surrounded the vehicle and an altercation ensued.

One of the suspects suffered a collapsed lung when one of the bullets struck near his heart. A detective was also seriously hurt. His injuries led him to leave the force.

(SOURCE: Harrison Review)

Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, Ohio - Aug. 10, 2013

LANCASTER, Ohio – A firearms instructor was charged with negligent assault after he accidentally shot a student who was taking a concealed-carry class.

The instructor accidentally shot the student while demonstrating a .38-caliber handgun. The bullet hit the student's arm. It happened at the end of a 12-hour training day that focused on gun handling and safety.

He agreed to a one-year suspension from teaching, according to an agreement he reached with the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, which certifies firearms instructors.

(SOURCE: The Columbus Dispatch)

Denver Police Department, Colorado - Jan. 27, 2016

A Denver police technician was conducting an "immediate action deployment training" exercise when he had a negligent discharge.

He was an instructor and was demonstrating the ‘high ready while addressing a threat’ technique to a group of officers when he accidentally fired a round into an empty room. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Total: 8

Accidental discharges involving Glock firearms

Michigan State Police - June 4, 2016

A trooper was at the Houghton Lake post practicing hand placement and sight alignment. He did some dry-fire drills and at one point did one in front of a mirror. He did a drill with his Glock-17 and had an accidental discharge into the bathroom wall. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - June 15, 2016

A trooper was in his office and unloaded his Glock 26. He had trouble offsetting the slide without re-engaging the trigger, but he finally removed the slide.

He went to his Glock 16 and removed the magazine but failed to remove the round in the chamber. While trying to remove the slide, he re-engaged the trigger and he had an accidental discharge into the floor. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Sept. 7, 2016

A trooper finished his shift and went to the restroom to change and shower. He placed his Glock 26 on a hook in the men’s stall and placed his shirt on top.

Before getting in the shower, he reached for his shirt and he believes the weapon got stuck on the shirt. He lost his grip and the shirt fell on the floor, followed by the weapon. The shirt either pushed the weapon into the hook, depressing the trigger, or the weapon fired when it hit the ground. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Aug. 30, 2017

A trooper was in the equipment room preparing to clean her Glock 26 handgun.

During the breakdown procedure, she pulled the trigger and fired a round into a pack of batteries against the brick wall. No one was injured. Officials later said that she has been advised to ensure her weapon is safe and clear of live rounds prior to breaking it down for cleaning.

(SOURCE: police report)

West Carrollton Police Department, Ohio - May 4, 2018

A West Carrollton police officer was injured after he accidentally shot himself in the leg at the Franklin firing range. Officials say the safety mechanism on the officer’s Glock failed.

West Carrollton Deputy Police Chief David Wessling said the officer shot himself while he was putting the weapon in his holster.

“He’s proficient, but sometimes incidents happen,” Wessling said. “This is an unfortunate event.” The officer was wounded in the calf area and on the right side of his foot.

(SOURCE: KRMG-TV)

Round Rock Police Department, Texas - March 7, 2013

A Round Rock police officer accidentally shot himself in the foot while attending a workshop to become an instructor for Glock firearms.

The officer with the department’s training division wounded himself while at the Williamson County firing range. He was holding the gun when he inadvertently discharged it, according to police spokeswoman Dee Carver.

(SOURCE: American-Statesman)

King County Sheriff’s Office, Seattle, Washington - Sept. 18, 2018

A King County Sheriff’s office Court Security deputy was injured in the hand when there was an accidental shooting at the King County Sheriff’s Office Ravendale Range.

The deputy had finished a handgun qualification and was in the cleaning room about to disassemble his Glock G22, .40-caliber pistol by pulling the trigger. He failed to clear the gun and with his left hand over the barrel, he discharged the gun, “thus removing part of that hand,” according to the police report.

The bullet hit the countertop, a wall and cleaning table. A medical team took the deputy to the hospital. He was treated and released.

(SOURCE: police report)

Washington State Patrol - Aug. 11, 2017

FORKS, Wash. – A trooper was inspecting firearms at the Forks Police Department shooting range when a Glock 42 handgun had an unintentional discharge, hitting the dirt about 15 feet away.

The trooper said in his report that he was inspecting weapons and asked another trooper for his backup pistol. He retrieved it from his vehicle and told the inspector that it was loaded with one in the chamber.

The trooper said he took the weapons to the bench and pointed it north, away from personnel. “While grasping the pistol with my right hand, I pressed the magazine release button with my thumb and felt a click indicating the magazine catch had released,” he said.

As the trooper worked to clear the weapon, he pulled the trigger to unlock the slide from the frame, but it discharged into the shooting lanes. The magazine base-pad had caught on his black rubber glove, causing the magazine to not fall completely free from the magazine well.

(SOURCE: police report)

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Dec. 17, 2015

An investigation was launched after an Aurora police officer accidentally shot a car-theft suspect in the stomach during a foot chase.

Police were investigating an area where dozens of vehicles had been stolen in recent months. A suspect was seen driving away in a stolen Acura.

Officers followed him in two different vehicles until he suddenly made a U-turn.

An officer decided to cut him off and turned his vehicle in front of the Acura. The officer exited his car as the suspect opened the door. The officer drew his .40 caliber Glock 23 handgun from its holster and turned on the “tactical” flashlight. He told investigators that as he moved away from the car, he slipped and stumbled on the ice and heard his pistol go off, injuring the suspect.

The officer was not charged.

(SOURCE: police report and district attorney investigation)

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Sept. 22, 2016

An Aurora police officer accidentally fired his gun while investigating a burglary.

A person called 911 and said five armed men were trying to break in to his and his neighbor's home. He said they were hiding near a blue Ford Explorer.

Two officers arrived and didn't see anyone. They went to the next house, and into the back yard where they found a large shed. One officer opened the south doors and had a negligent discharge of his Glock 17 handgun. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - Oct. 23, 2017

An Aurora police officer accidentally fired his gun during a search of a home.

The officer was investigating an area where he had encountered a homeless person the day before. As he approached the house, he saw broken glass and the garage door partly open. He believed these were signs of a fresh burglary.

He called for backup and attempted to open the door. He moved his Glock 17 handgun into his left hand so he could reach through the broken window and open the door.

"He scraped broken glass in the window frame with his right wrist and flinched," another officer said. "In doing so he simultaneously pressed the trigger" of his handgun. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Aurora Police Department, Colorado - May 12, 2018

An Aurora police officer accidentally fired his gun while chasing suspects.

Aurora police were called to a home where there was a burglary in process. Another patrol car arrived and saw two men running. It appeared they were the suspects. The officers yelled for them to stop, but they kept going.

The officers pursued them on foot with their weapons drawn. Another patrol car drove into the area and split the two men up. One officer said he ran down one of the suspects when he heard a loud "pop" that sounded like a firearm.

An officer told the other officers that his firearm, a 9mm Glock 17, had accidentally discharged. He said he slipped while he was running, and the gun fired. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - June 28, 2014

Broward County sheriff's deputies responded to a call saying a vehicle burglary was in progress. Deputies arrived and several suspects fled on foot and tried to hide themselves in the bushes.

A sergeant chased a suspect and caught him in the bushes at another house. The sergeant pointed his gun at the suspect and ordered him to lie on the ground, and he complied. While the officer was putting his .40-caliber Glock, Model 23, gun in its holster, he unintentionally discharged the weapon.

(SOURCE: police report)

North Las Vegas Police Department, Nevada - Jan. 3, 2017

A North Las Vegas police officer who was working the perimeter around a man who barricaded himself in a house accidentally shot a man in the foot after he stopped his car near the officer's vehicle.

The officer was in a SWAT vehicle near the suspect house when a car driven by the suspect drove up. He was on his way home after leaving work, buying groceries and paying his rent, according to a complaint he filed in federal court.

The officer said he told the suspect to stop his car and tried to turn on the flashlight attached to his firearm, but accidentally discharged his weapon, grazing the suspect's foot.

(SOURCE: court records)

New York State Court Officers, New York - Sept. 23, 2015

A state court officer shot himself in the hand when his gun accidentally discharged in a Manhattan courtroom.

The officer had removed the weapon from its holster in the civil courthouse when the weapon unintentionally fired, said Dennis Quirk, the president of the New York State Court Officers Association.

The officer was grazed in the palm of the hand and treated and released at a hospital.

(SOURCE: New York Daily News)

Suffolk County Police Department, New York - March 13, 2017

A Suffolk county police officer accidently shot himself in the hand while on patrol.

Officials did not say what caused the officer to accidently discharge his weapon, but said he was taken to the hospital and underwent hand surgery.

(SOURCE: Newsday)

Chattanooga Police Department, Tennessee - Dec. 9, 2013

Chattanooga police officers were searching for an armed robbery suspect when one of the officers accidentally discharged his firearm.

The officers believed the suspect had run into a business, Cherokee Health Systems, after a robbery on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The officers began the search and cleared a hallway when one officer attempted to put his gun back into his holster. The weapon discharged.

No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Dallas Police Department, Texas - Feb. 19, 2015

A Dallas police officer accidently fired his Glock handgun while in the locker room of the patrol station as he prepared to work his shift. He said he was trying to holster his duty weapon when it fired one shot. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - March 1, 2014

A Broward County sheriff's deputy said he was in the Deerfield Beach District supervisor's office when he had an accidental discharge.

He had finished cleaning his Glock 21 handgun and loaded it with a 13-round magazine. He put it in his holster and did a "practice draw" and fired the gun into the supervisor's office wall.

The round went through the wall into the kitchen area and landed on a cabinet shelf. No one was in the kitchen and no one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - Oct. 10, 2015

The fiance of a Broward County sheriff's deputy was hit by a bullet in the leg when the deputy accidentally fired the weapon. He later died of unknown complications.

The deputy had just cleaned his Glock 19 and set it down on the table when his fiancée picked it up to do a check.

Without realizing the magazine was still in the firearm, she pulled the slide to the rear, and a round ejected. She believed the weapon was unloaded and pulled the trigger. It hit her fiance in left thigh. The bullet traveled through his leg and struck the floor.

Investigators determined that the couple was not fighting at the time. She said she made a mistake in the way she handled the gun. He was treated at the hospital and returned home with some pain medication.

About a week later, he was home recovering when he started having seizures. He was taken to the hospital where he died.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - Jan. 15, 2018

A Broward County Sheriff's deputy was off duty practicing dry-fire drills at her home using her primary firearm -- a 9mm Beretta 92F.

During the session, she accidentally picked up her secondary firearm, a 9mm Glock 26 and pulled the trigger. One round went through a window screen in the kitchen and into the exterior wall of her neighbor's house. No one was at the neighbor's house at the time and no one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii - Sept. 10, 2014

A Honolulu police officer accidentally fired his gun while in the bathroom at a Target store.

The officer said he took his Glock out of his holster and set it on the toilet paper dispenser. He said the gun discharged when he picked it up. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: Huffington Post and police report)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Oct. 14, 2016

A Chicago police officer reported to officials that he accidentally discharged his weapon in his home.

The officer said he was unloading the gun, a 9mm Glock 17, pointing it down in his bedroom "when it slipped from his hands and he accidentally pulled the trigger and fired one round into his mattress." The bullet went through the mattress, striking the bed frame and ricocheted off the floor, ending up by the north bedroom wall. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Connersville Police Department, Indiana - Jan. 21, 2014

CONNERSVILLE, Ind. — A Connersville police chief accidentally shot himself in the leg while running for Fayette County sheriff.

The chief's 40-caliber Glock handgun accidentally discharged while he was at a gun shop. He was off-duty at the time. The accident occurred when he was putting his Glock into its holster after he removed it to compare it to a newer Glock model at the gun shop, he said.

(SOURCE: The Indy Star)

Bangor Police Department, Maine - June 24, 2013

The new Bangor police chief accidentally shot himself in the hand while cleaning a newly issued .45-caliber Glock handgun. The chief and other officers returned to the police station after training

with their new weapons and were cleaning the guns when he injured his hand. He was treated and released.

(SOURCE: Bangor Daily News)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - July 29, 2013

A Detroit police officer was asked if he did gun inspections for the Glock handgun. The officer said he did and agreed to inspect the gun.

He took it to the conference room where there was a charging barrel to do the inspection. He removed the magazine from the Glock .40-caliber handgun and pointed the weapon into the barrel.

While attempting to clear the slide, he pulled the trigger by accident as he stepped back from the barrel. The bullet went through the wall, out into the corridor and into the door across the hall.

No one was hurt. The officer later said there was no play in the trigger and it fired with just a slight pull on the trigger.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Sept. 21, 2015

A trooper with the Michigan State Police was cleaning his Glock-17 handgun at the metro post and accidentally shot himself in the hand.

The discharge shot a hole through his left hand and traveled through the drywall of the exterior wall, coming to rest in an open area between the wall boards. The officer was alone in the area at the time. The trooper went to the nearby fire station for treatment and then to the hospital.

Officials said he was trained in the proper unload procedure and violated those rules. He also violated the rule that says to always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction and to always keep your finger off the trigger.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - March 8, 2016

A trooper accidentally shot his left hand with his department-issued Glock 26 pistol while off-duty at his residence.

The trooper later told officials that after a dry-firing practice at his home, he put the magazine into the gun and he spoke with his wife while sitting on the couch. He decided to breakdown the gun and clean it, but the slide didn't come off the first time.

He wrapped his left hand around the gun and attempted to strip it a second time and pulled the trigger, shooting himself in the hand. The bullet went through the glass door, which shattered. The trooper wrapped his sweat shirt around his hand to stop the bleeding and his wife called 911.

(SOURCE: police report)

Sylvan Lakes Police Department, Michigan - Aug. 2, 2012

A Sylvan Lakes police officer accidentally shot himself in the hand while preparing to go to work, and the bullet hit another officer.

The officer was putting a magazine into his Glock 23 handgun when it went off.

The .40-caliber bullet went through his left hand and grazed his stomach before ricocheting off a counter and hitting another officer in the hip. The gun went off while he was putting in a magazine, the report said.

(SOURCE: New Haven Register)

Total: 29

Accidental discharges while loading, unloading or cleaning a firearm or during routine handling of the gun

Orlando Police Department, Florida - May 31, 2015

An Orlando police officer negligently discharged his police-issued shotgun into the wall of his home. The shotgun slug went into the wall that he shares with his neighbor.

He told officials that he accidentally discharged the weapon while practicing loading and unloading the weapon in preparation for an upcoming training session. He was suspended for eight hours.

(SOURCE: police records)

Orlando Police Department, Florida - Jan. 27, 2016

An Orlando police detective negligently discharged his firearm while “clearing” the weapon before SWAT training.

He told officials that he ejected the magazine but didn’t eject the round from the chamber. He pointed the firearm at the ground and pulled the trigger. The bullet hit the pavement in the parking lot of the Orlando Police Department. No one was injured. He was suspended for eight hours.

(SOURCE: police records)

Broward County Sheriff’s Office, Florida - Oct. 3, 2014

A Broward County sheriff’s deputy was cleaning her weapon in her cubicle when it discharged accidentally.

A detective was in the cubicle next to her and took cover when he heard the blast, not knowing what had happened. The detective walked over to her cubicle and saw her put the gun on her desk. There was a hole in the bottom right drawer. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff’s Office, Florida - Feb. 24, 2016

A Broward County sheriff’s deputy was at the North Lauderdale District for firearm maintenance and cleaning. He removed the magazine and put the gun in the cleaning barrel. He attempted to clear the chamber when the gun accidentally discharged. The round went into the sand and he was not injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff’s Office, Florida - Oct. 3, 2017

A Broward County Sheriff’s deputy was at the Pompano Beach District Office conducting patrol rifle inspections when he pulled the trigger without properly checking the weapon first. The negligent discharge struck the ceiling, causing some damage. No one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Broward County Sheriff’s Office, Florida - Jan. 5, 2018

A Broward County Sheriff’s deputy was at the Markham Park Shooting Range for his annual firearm qualification. After his session, a training officer asked him to break down the weapon. In the process of breaking down the weapon, he had a negligent discharge. The bullet went into the protective eyewear case and picnic table. No one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Delray Beach Police, Florida - Jan. 14, 2019

A Delray Beach police officer was suspended after he accidentally discharged his SWAT-issued M-16 rifle in his patrol car.

The officer was reportedly removing the rifle from a rack in his patrol car when it accidentally discharged, sending a bullet through the roof of the vehicle. The incident was under investigation by the department's Internal Affairs division.

(SOURCE: WPEC-TV)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Nov. 30, 2015

An off-duty Chicago police officer was attempting to clear his service weapon when he accidentally discharged the gun. The bullet went through his apartment door and into his neighbor's door and lodged in the drywall in his neighbor's bedroom. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Oct. 20, 2015

A Chicago police officer reported to officials that he accidentally discharged his auxiliary weapon, a Glock 26, at his home while he was "attempting to dry fire" the gun. The bullet went into the floor of his apartment. There was damage to the floor but no injuries.

(SOURCE: police report)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Jan. 30, 2018

A Chicago police officer accidentally discharged her firearm in the locker room at the district.

Other officers heard a discharge and went into a hallway. The officer came out of the locker room and said she had unintentionally fired the gun. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - March 3, 2018

An off-duty Cook County probation officer accidentally discharged his firearm while unloading it at his home. The officer told Chicago police that he was unloading his non-service gun, a 9mm Smith & Wesson, when it accidentally fired.

Police found a small hole in the rear bedroom wall, but the bullet didn't go through the exterior brick wall. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Loyola University Police Department, Illinois - March 7, 2013

A Loyola University police officer was fired after he accidentally discharged his weapon at the campus security headquarters during roll call. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: Block Club Chicago)

Lowell Police Department, Mass. – Sept. 19, 2015

A police officer's firearm accidentally discharged in a restroom in police headquarters.

The officer put the firearm on the hook on the back of a door when the gun went off, sending a round into the ceiling and damaging the plaster. No one was injured. He received a discipline of four days unpaid.

(SOURCE: Lowell Sun)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - Feb. 21, 2014

A Detroit police officer was working as the officer in charge of the 12th precinct and was preparing to do an inventory of the safe when he had an accidental discharge.

He emptied the contents of a milk crate and mistakenly knocked over a white envelope that had “hand gun only” inscribed on it. It contained 16 live hollow-point rounds and an evidence tag.

When the envelope struck the floor, one of the rounds fired, producing “a loud, single gunshot” and putting a hole in the envelope and a loud pop. No one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - April 8, 2014

A Detroit police officer was cleaning his duty weapon at his apartment when he accidentally fired it. The officer said he had taken it apart to clean it and once it was re-assembled, he attempted to dry fire the gun -- practice shooting without bullets when done properly.

The round struck the floor and the officer frantically ran out of his apartment to see if his downstairs neighbor was OK. No one answered the door so the officer contacted the apartment office, and was told no one was home.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan - June 2, 2015

A Detroit police officer had just finished his shift and went to the weight room to exercise when he had an accidental discharge of his weapon. He told officials that he placed his gun on the table when one round discharged. The room was empty and no one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan – March 1, 2016

A Detroit police officer was preparing his equipment before going out to serve a search warrant when he accidentally discharged his firearm.

The officer was examining the weapon when he noticed that the battery on the 12-gauge shotgun was locked forward. He assumed the weapon was unloaded. He attempted to lock the battery by pulling it to the rear, “and my finger inadvertently on the trigger caused an accidental discharge. The round went through the office ceiling and wall. No one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan – Oct. 8, 2016

A Detroit police officer accidentally discharged his weapon at his home while trying to clean it.

The officer told officials that he was in his basement cleaning his .40-caliber Smith & Wesson when he had trouble with the slide. He had put the gun back together and tried to get the slide on track. He wanted to ensure that the slide was properly aligned, so he inserted a magazine several times and racked the weapon to be sure it was functional.

He did not realize a round had chambered, and he pulled the trigger. The gun went off and hit the floor of the basement. He immediately reported it to the department.

(SOURCE: police report)

Grand Traverse County Sheriff’s Office, Michigan - Nov. 28, 2015

A Grand Traverse County Sheriff’s deputy accidentally discharged his weapon at a sheriff’s department building after he forgot that he had reloaded his firearm.

The deputy had cleaned his handgun and intended to do “dry fire” drills, which involve shooting an unloaded weapon, but he forgot that he had reloaded the gun. The bullet went through the building and likely struck the ground. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: Record-Eagle)

Michigan State Police - July 9, 2014

When a trooper arrived at the Raid Entry School, a training center for the Michigan State Police, he was told to secure all firearms and loaded magazine in the trunk of their patrol cars.

While loading his firearms, he accidentally discharged a single round into the open trunk. No one was injured. He received a verbal reprimand from supervisors and a warning that another accidental discharge could mean discipline.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Dec. 6, 2014

A trooper was at home doing dry fire drills in a spare bedroom when he had an accidental discharge.

He stopped to talk on the phone and when he returned, he resumed his drills, but in the interim he reloaded his weapon. When he pulled the trigger, forgetting it was loaded, a round went into the night stand. No one was injured.

An investigator said the trooper “failed to follow proper safety protocol in handling a weapon.”

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - May 14, 2015

A trooper scanned himself into the armory. While speaking with someone there, he began his “end of shift ritual” of checking his M-4 before putting it in the rack.

“I failed to fully remove the magazine and when I pulled the trigger for the function check, I accidentally discharged a round into the ceiling of the armory,” he said in his report. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - Jan. 4, 2016

A trooper was using the shooting tank at the metropolitan Detroit laboratory to obtain test shots. The gun, a 25-auto caliber Lorcin, did not fire. The trooper tried to clear the gun by pulling back the slide when the gun fired.

The shot struck the outside of the tank, severing the air line to the tank lid. The impact left an impression on the outside of the tank wall. The trooper did not report it to his supervisor, as required. The accidental discharge was discovered by a technician who found the damage.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - March 31, 2016

A trooper was attempting to clear his weapon and thought he had ejected the round, or assumed the gun was clear, when he had an accidental discharge. The round went through the glass front door of the building, but didn’t hit anyone.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - July 18, 2017

A trooper was at the Northville Firearms Range when she had an accidental discharge.

She emptied her rounds from her magazine but forgot to empty the round that was in the chamber. She had her finger on the trigger as she used her thumb to release the magazine when the weapon fired. It went downrange and no one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

County Sheriff's Office, New Jersey - March 28, 2018

A sheriff's deputy accidentally discharged his service weapon at the Middlesex County Police Firing Range. No one was injured but a door was damaged.

(SOURCE: Home News Tribune)

State University of New York Police Department, New York - Nov. 27, 2015

CANTON, New York _ A university police officer accidentally discharged a firearm in the police office during Thanksgiving break.

Officials say the State University of New York officer was the only one on duty and no one else was in the building when the accidental discharge occurred. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: Daily Courier-Observer)

York County Sheriff's Office, South Carolina = April 30, 2012

A York County sheriff's deputy accidentally discharged his firearm inside a department substation.

The sergeant had installed a magazine loading device into another deputy's firearm and place the gun on the deputy's desk. They discussed dry-firing techniques, which is practice shooting without bullets, and the sergeant picked up the gun again. He aimed it at a partition behind his desk and it discharged. No one was injured.

He told officials that he failed to make sure the magazine was empty.

(SOURCE: Rock Hill Herald)

Chattanooga Police Department, Tennessee - April 4, 2017

A Chattanooga police officer was investigated after he accidentally discharged his rifle outside a firearms training classroom.

The officer had walked into the classroom with his loaded weapons, but the instructor told him to clear the firearms first. Soon after, the instructor said he heard a gun go off outside the classroom, according to police records.

The officer said he visually inspected the weapon outside the classroom and noticed the slide was locked in the forward position. He pulled the handle back to try to clear a live round from the chamber and when no round was ejected, he thought it was empty. He failed to visually inspect the weapon and it went off. The round went through the awning above his head. No one was hurt.

After the investigation, officials said the discharge was the result of his negligence and they recommended a suspension. The assistant chief recommended a 20-hour suspension.

(SOURCE: police report)

Collierville Police Department, Tennessee - Aug. 29, 2013

A Collierville police officer accidentally discharged his weapon while cleaning it at his Germantown apartment. The bullet went through his apartment wall and grazed the roof of a nearby town house. No one was injured.

The officer failed to clear the round out of the chamber before pulling the trigger, according to officials. He was given a written reprimand and told to attend additional firearms training.

(SOURCE: The Commercial Appeal)

Houston Police Department, Texas - April 26, 2012

A Houston police officer accidentally discharged a weapon while clearing it for safety. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - July 17, 2012

A Houston police officer accidentally discharged his firearm at the cleaning room of the indoor firearm range.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - Nov. 3, 2013

A Houston police officer was cleaning a pistol when it accidentally discharged. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - Nov. 2, 2014

An off-duty Houston police officer accidentally discharged a Smith & Wesson pistol within city limits.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - April 9, 2015

A Houston police officer accidentally discharged a weapon.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - April 25, 2016

A Houston police cadet who was training at the department's academy accidentally discharged his firearm while at his apartment.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - May 8, 2017

A Houston police officer accidentally discharged his firearm.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - May 25, 2017

A Houston police officer accidentally discharged a firearm. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Milwaukee Police Department, Wisconsin - July 17, 2012

An officer was at the Criminal Justice Facility to interview an inmate. He had placed his pistol in the secure locker room. He reached over the pistol to grab a soda bottle from the back of the locker. He lost control of the bottle and compensated by grabbing the bottle harder.

During this motion, he heard a loud bang and realized his firearm discharged into the rear of the locker. The bullet ricocheted out the locker and on to the floor behind him.

(SOURCE: police records)

Orlando Police Department, Florida - Nov. 27, 2013

An Orlando police officer responded to the report of a suspicious person with a gun. He arrived at the site and removed his AR-15 from its locked position and chambered a round of ammunition before checking the area for the suspect.

He noticed his patrol car was slowing rolling forward, so he opened the driver's side door and placed the rifle across the seat while he tried to put his foot on the brake. When the vehicle stopped rolling, he sat on the rifle and it fired.

The bullet went through the passenger seat and into the back seat door where it could not be retrieved. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Michigan State Police - July 5, 2013

A trooper was on the call of a suicidal subject in the woods with a shotgun. He went to retrieve his M4 rifle from the patrol vehicle.

As he lifted the rifle from the gun rack by the barrel and the trigger hit the rubber knob that sits in the trigger guard while it's being stored. The rifle discharged two rounds through the roof of the patrol car.

The trooper stepped away from the vehicle and alerted other units in the area that the shots came from him. He later looked at the rifle and saw that the safety switch was in the "fire" position.

He then went on to deal with the armed person in the woods.

(SOURCE: police report)

Boca Raton Police Department, Florida - March 7, 2013

A Boca Raton police officer was suspended for 36 hours after he accidentally discharged a firearm while off-duty at a restaurant.

The officer was having drinks with friends when he went to use the restroom and removed his gun from his waistband. His finger accidentally hit the trigger and the gun fired, hitting the wall. No one was injured.

An internal investigation found that he should have brought a gun when he went out for drinks. He violated department safety rules.

(SOURCE: Sun-Sentinel)

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida - Feb. 20, 2014

A criminalist with the sheriff's office noticed a bullet hole in the firearm test tank. She determined that it had been caused by an unreported negligent discharge. An investigation determined the discharge was made by a technician, but she had failed to report it.

(SOURCE: police report)

King County Sheriff's Office, Seattle, Washington - Dec. 24, 2013

A sheriff's deputy brought his new AR-15 pistol, a Christmas gift, to the precinct to show his fellow officers. Someone gave him a magazine for the pistol, but he set it aside. He later took the magazine out of the pistol.

After the gathering, he put his personal items, including the pistol, in his car. He aimed the gun at the ground and pulled the trigger to relieve the spring tension before putting it in his trunk, but the pistol fired unexpectedly. The round went into the pavement and shattered. No one was hurt.

(SOURCE: police report)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - May 19, 2014

At about 1 p.m. on May 19, 2014, there was a negligent discharge of a firearm in the men's bathroom on the fourth floor of the Seattle Police Headquarters. An investigation unit responded. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - May 19, 2014

A Seattle police officer was preparing to go to work and was inspecting the hammer on his revolver when he accidentally lowered the hammer on a live round. The bullet went through the floor and into his basement. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Washington State Patrol - July 7, 2016

BURBANK, Wash. – A trooper had a negligent discharge outside the Burbank Fire Department and shot a hole in the sidewalk. The officer told officials that he was in the process of unloading his duty weapon when his firearm discharged.

A local official checked the handgun for defects, but none were found. The officer was given a written reprimand for violating policies.

(SOURCE: police report)

Cincinnati Police Department, Ohio - June 3, 2013

A Cincinnati police officer accidentally discharged his firearm while putting it away after a training class at the target range.

The officer unloaded his Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm firearm, but when he took the magazines out, he forgot to clear the chamber. He placed an empty magazine into the firearm, placed the gun in its case and de-cocked the gun by pulling the trigger with his thumb.

The bullet in the chamber discharged through the left rear panel of his personal vehicle, striking another officer's vehicle just below the driver side door. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Cincinnati Police Department, Ohio - Sept. 11, 2014

A Cincinnati police officer accidentally discharged her firearm in the police garage before starting her shift.

The sergeant pointed her weapon at a 50-degree angle toward the ceiling, cycled the bolt without removing the magazine, turned off the safety and without making sure the chamber was empty, squeezed the trigger.

The weapon fired a round that ricocheted off the cement ceiling, striking the wall, fragmenting and falling to the ground. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Nov. 17, 2015

An off-duty Chicago police officer was attempting to clear his service weapon when he accidentally discharged the gun. The bullet went through his apartment door and into his neighbor's door and lodged in the drywall in his neighbor's bedroom. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Jan. 27, 2017

A Chicago police officer said after he cleaned his gun, he forgot to load it with dummy bullets for dry firing. He aimed his gun at the south wall and fired a live round into the wall by accident. He called 911 to report the mistake so the next building could check for damage or injuries.

(SOURCE: police report)

Waco Police Department, Texas = Jan. 23, 2015

A Waco police officer accidentally discharged his firearm while trying to put it in his holster at the McLennan County Jail. The bullet hit the ground and shrapnel struck a nearby officer, but he was not hurt.

The officer was leaving the jail after booking an inmate. He went to retrieve his weapon, which must be secured in a lockbox while at the jail, and the discharge happened when he went to put it in his holster.

(SOURCE: Waco Tribune-Herald)

Smyrna Police Department, Tennessee - Feb. 27, 2015

SMYRNA, Tenn. – An accidental police gunshot into lobby carpet at Town Hall startled officials attending a Town Council workshop.

No one was injured after a SWAT team commander's weapon accidentally discharged after he tied his shoes in a chair in a lobby area.

(SOURCE: Daily News Journal)

Houston Police Department, Texas - Feb. 7, 2013

A Houston police officer accidentally his duty shotgun after clearing a residence.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - Nov. 21, 2015

A Houston police officer accidentally discharged a weapon while working at an approved extra job in Conroe, Texas. The Conroe Police Department conducted an investigation into the incident.

(SOURCE: police report)

Capital Police Department, Wisconsin - Oct. 24, 2012

MADISON, Wisconsin – A Capital Police officer accidentally fired a shot at the Governor's Mansion, but no one was hurt.

The bullet passed through a security office window in the front of the building, according to a Maple Bluff police report. The officer who had the accidental discharge was a "newer" employee and on probation at the time. He was fired.

(SOURCE: Wisconsin State Journal)

Boston Police Department, Mass. – Aug. 17, 2014

A Boston police officer accidentally discharged her weapon while responding to a shooting incident involving several people.

Officers with the Boston Police Firearm Discharge Investigation Team were called to investigate a report of the officer's discharge. No one was hit by the discharged bullet. It penetrated a metal gutter on the roof line of one of the buildings nearby.

(SOURCE: police report)

Boston Police Department, Mass. – May 2, 2016

An officer was called to the area of Centre Street and Seaverns Avenue in Boston for an accidental shooting involving an officer. The officer reported to a supervisor that he had accidentally discharged his weapon.

(SOURCE: police report)

Boston Police Department, Mass. – Jan. 9, 2017

A Boston police officer accidentally discharged his weapon while responding to an armed robbery at the Alfa Gas Station.

The officer responded to the robbery with an attempt to subdue the suspects. Officers were told that there were three suspects and one was armed with a firearm. After the officer accidentally discharged his gun, the suspects fled and were not caught. No one was injured by the discharge.

(SOURCE: police report)

Houston Police Department, Texas - March 29, 2012

A Houston police officer was reading out the serial number on a handgun when the pistol went off. The pistol had previously been checked to ensure that it was not loaded. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Seattle Police Department, Washington - Nov. 27, 2016

A Seattle police officer was preparing for work when he inspected the hammer on his revolver and accidentally lowered the hammer on a live round, discharging the firearm through the floor and into his basement. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Texas Highway Patrol - May 14, 2017

A trooper was on patrol when he noticed an SUV speeding on the feeder road. The vehicle was traveling at more than 100 mph, so he gave chase.

Soon, another trooper joined the pursuit. The SUV finally stopped and the trooper held the driver at gunpoint and told him to get on the ground. He complied. At some point, a police report said, a trooper had an accidental discharge.

(SOURCE: police report)

Texas Highway Patrol - June 9, 2015

Two troopers attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a Chevrolet Impala for speeding and other violations, but the vehicle accelerated.

The pursuit ended when the vehicle crashed into a telephone pole. The driver was apprehended and the troopers found drug paraphernalia. At some point one of the troopers had an accidental discharge.

(SOURCE: police report)

Texas Highway Patrol - Feb. 5, 2017

A Texas Trooper saw a vehicle on the highway that failed to use a turn signal for a lane change. When the trooper pulled the driver over, he said he could smell alcohol.

He had the driver take a number of roadside tests to assess his level of intoxication. The driver failed the tests and was placed under arrest. After reading the driver his Miranda rights, the driver asked the trooper to retrieve his wallet from his back pocket. A police report said the trooper's firearm discharged while he exited the vehicle.

(SOURCE: police report)

Boston Police Department, Mass. – May 2, 2016

Boston Police confirmed that an officer accidentally discharged his weapon on Centre Street in Jamaica Plain. Boston police spokeswoman Myeshia Henderson said the incident occurred around 1:40 p.m. No injuries were reported.

(SOURCE: police report)

Boston Police Department, Mass. – Feb. 12, 2017

Two Boston police detectives were called to investigate a report of an accidental discharge by an off-duty police officer. The detectives recovered the officer's firearm and ammunition and it was sent to the Firearms Analysis Unit.

(SOURCE: police report)

Rock Hill Police Department, South Carolina = Aug. 9, 2013

A Rock Hill, South Carolina, police officer accidentally shot himself in the leg while adjusting his waistband. The officer had put his service revolver into his waistband and it fired as he adjusted it. The bullet hit the officer's upper thigh.

(SOURCE: The Associated Press)

Phoenix Police Department, Arizona - Jan 24, 2013

A Phoenix police officer had an accidental discharge of his firearm while detaining three juveniles for graffiti.

The officer removed his service weapon from his holster to detach the "tactical handgun light" in order to see better. When he tried to put the weapon back in his holster, "he missed the holster resulting in the weapon being dropped to the ground and discharging one round upon impact."

No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Phoenix Police Department, Arizona - March 9, 2016

A Phoenix police officer had an unintentional discharge with his city-issued rifle while investigating a "subject with a gun."

Prior to the incident, the officer helped a Special Assignment Unit officer carry their equipment, including a large ballistic shield. He had his rifle hanging on the rear side of his body and moved it to the front. That's when his left hand gripped the handle and a round was accidentally discharged into the ground in front of him. No one was injured. He received a written reprimand.

(SOURCE: police report)

Phoenix Police Department, Arizona - May 14, 2016

A Phoenix police officer accidentally discharged his firearm while helping another officer who had been shot.

The officer helped the injured officer remove his police gear so he could be transported to the hospital. As the gear was being removed, the officer's duty weapon discharged while still in the holster, "due to an equipment malfunction."

"It was later determined that the injured officer's radio antenna was inadvertently lodged in his holstered trigger guard, which caused the malfunction," police said. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Phoenix Police Department, Arizona - Oct. 5, 2017

A Phoenix police officer unintentionally discharged her firearm while searching a residence.

Two officers helped the Maricopa County Adult Probation team search a home in Phoenix. During the search, an officer was in a room and she accidentally fired her gun. No one was injured and there was minimal property damage. She received a written reprimand.

(SOURCE: police report)

Los Angeles Police Department, Calif. - March 15, 2017

A Los Angeles police officer accidentally discharged a shotgun at the start of his watch.

The officer had checked out equipment from the station and went to his vehicle. In the process of putting the shotgun in his car, he had an unintentional discharge. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Los Angeles Police Department, Calif. - April 3, 2017

A Los Angeles police officer accidentally fired his weapon in a firearm instructor's office while he was practicing with the pistol.

The officer was doing "dry fire" drills, where he practiced pressing the trigger. He failed to confirm that the pistol was unloaded, and unintentionally fired a round that went into a nearby desk. No one was injured.

(SOURCE: police report)

Los Angeles Police Department, Calif. - Sept. 9, 2017

A Los Angeles police officer unintentionally discharged a shotgun in the parking lot at the police station after failing to be sure the weapon was unloaded.

Officials with the police commission said he failed to conduct a chamber check before pressing the trigger with the safety switch off. They found his actions to be in violation of safety rules and therefore negligent.

(SOURCE: police report)

New Jersey Transit Police Department, Aug. 30, 2019

FREEHOLD, New Jersey – An off-duty New Jersey Transit police officer was suspended without pay after accidentally discharging his weapon during a fight on a porch in Belmar.

The officer was also charged with assault, disorderly conduct and discharging a weapon within city limits. No one was injured by the shot.

(SOURCE: Asbury Park Press)

Rock Hill Police Department, South Carolina = Aug. 12, 2019

A Rock Hill police officer accidentally discharged his weapon outside the armory, sending the bullet through a window into a public area within feet of a person in the police station lobby.

Officials say the officer was cleaning his personal firearm when it occurred.

He was placed on administrative leave and the department banned gun cleaning outside the armory in response to the shooting.

(SOURCE: Rock Hill Herald)

U.S. Secret Service, District of Columbia - Aug. 12, 2019

A U.S. Secret Service agent accidentally shot himself in the finger while at a Central Park South hotel. The off-duty agent was unloading his firearm at the Park Lane Hotel when it unintentionally discharged. New York City police took the agent to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

(SOURCE: New York Post)

Chicago Police Department, Illinois - Aug. 2, 2019

A Chicago police officer accidentally shot himself in the finger while cleaning his gun.

The officer was at the South Side station when he unintentionally shot his pinky finger, police said. He was taken to the hospital where he was treated and released.

(SOURCE: NBC Chicago)

Orlando Police Department, Florida - Oct. 9, 2016

Orlando police officers responded to a report of a woman bleeding in the street. They determined she had been hit in the head with a baseball bat. The woman told the officers that the person who hit her was inside the residence.

The officers surrounded the house and the suspect came out and was arrested. After taking the suspect into custody, the officer negligently discharged his AR-15 rifle just before they were to clear the residence of any other victims.

The officer told officials that he was “manipulating his sling when the gun accidently went off.” No one was injured. The officer was suspended for eight hours.

(SOURCE: police records)

Total: 79

Accidental discharges when the officer is startled

St. Louis Police Department, Missouri = April 23, 2016

A St. Louis police officer accidently shot himself in the leg during a traffic stop.

The officer was approaching a vehicle when the door opened. It either bumped the officer’s gun or startled him. His weapon accidently discharged, hitting the officer in the leg. He was hospitalized for a gunshot wound and was expected to recover.

(SOURCE: St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

Detroit Police Department, Michigan – March 26, 2016

A Detroit police officer was waiting in a car with her weapon in her lap when she accidently shot herself in the leg.

The officer was in a private vehicle outside a store waiting for her husband, she told another officer who arrived on the scene.

She said she had her Smith & Wesson .40-caliber weapon in her lap “due to the area and also there were unknown persons milling about the store and near her vehicle.”

When those people left the area, she stated putting the weapon in a holster. Her husband approached the car and startled her. She had her finger on the trigger and the weapon fired, sending a bullet through her right leg knee area. Her husband took her to the hospital.

(SOURCE: police report)

St. Louis Police Department, Missouri = Sept. 17, 2019

DES PERES, Mo. – A St. Louis police officer accidentally fired his gun while chasing two shoplifting suspects outside a suburban shopping mall.

The off-duty officer told investigators that he saw the suspects reach into their pockets while running, so he drew his weapon.

The men got into a car and the officer was startled and squeezed the trigger accidentally when one man revved the engine, officials said. The bullet went into the ground and no one was hurt.

(SOURCE: St. Louis Post Dispatch)

York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office, Virginia - Feb. 21, 2019

A deputy with the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office accidentally discharged his firearm during a traffic stop and was placed on administrative leave.

The deputy had pulled over two College of William & Mary students who were driving without headlights at about 6:40 p.m. and approached the vehicle with his weapon drawn, officials said.

The officer said the driver's door swung open as he approached the vehicle, and he discharged his gun. The bullet ricocheted off the ground and hit the driver's door, officials said.

The deputy was placed on leave and the sheriff issued a statement saying "this was an unfortunate accident with no malice or ill intent toward the occupants of the vehicle."

No one was injured.

(SOURCE: The Virginia Gazette)

San Diego County Sheriff's Office, California - Aug. 23, 2012

A San Diego Sheriff's deputy accidentally shot a homeowner in her backyard while investigating a possible prowler. When the woman asked the officer why he shot her, he said: "I'm sorry, you startled me."

(SOURCE: KSWB)

Total: 5