



FAILURE TO STOP DRILL



And one to the head

FAILURE TO STOP DRILL Combines Anatomy and Accuracy

The first complaint I always hear about small-caliber handguns is their lack of “stopping power.”

I’m only going to step lightly into the raging debate over caliber choice by saying two things: carrying any gun is better than carrying no gun, and most criminals do not wait around to see what caliber you are firing at them.

I say “most” because there is always the possibility that you will run into that fabled “determined attacker.” If you meet such a predator, you want accurate defensive fire in order to stop the threat as quickly as possible. Come to think of it, you should want accurate defensive fire on all occasions, so this Drill of the Month becomes not so much a shooting lesson, but an anatomy lesson. You want to put your bullets into the places that will shut the bad guy down as quickly as possible.

The traditional Failure to Stop Drill has the shooter firing two rounds to the chest and one to the head. Sadly, Hollywood has programmed people to think that a bullet causes instant death and a bullet to the head, anywhere in the head, is like a thunderbolt from Zeus. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Do you remember the old riddle? “What does a man do after being shot with a pistol? The same thing he was doing before he was shot with a pistol.”

When I was in the Navy, a friend of mine was shot in the head with a .45 ACP. He is fine. He was up and about in time to testify at the bad guy’s trial.

So the key elements to stopping a bad guy are bullet placement and penetration. If you don’t believe me, ask the FBI. They have a penetration standard for a reason. We can add sequencing to that short list of important elements. Let me explain. If your first two shots don’t really have the desired immediate effect, you might want to try something different. Hence the phrase: Two to the chest and one to the head.

Two shots to the chest will often have the desired effect on a bad guy, but not always. And a human being can be shot right through the heart and still have enough fight left in him to get off a couple rounds. If one of those rounds hits you, I don’t care how good your shooting was, you lost the gunfight by virtue of getting hit.

So, if you are looking for the fastest stop possible, you might want to train up on the Failure to Stop Drill,

the aforementioned two to the chest and one to the head. Doing this correctly requires a couple important elements. The first is knowledge and understanding of human anatomy. The chest shots are not supremely effective unless the bullets hit the heart or the central nervous system. The same is true for headshots. There is a very small target area that will give you the desired effect. You are looking at a 6-inch circle in the upper chest and basically a 3x5 card across the eyes. These two targets are then connected with a 1.5-inch wide band that represents the spinal column. Put bullets into these areas and you will stop your attacker very quickly.

There are a few good targets out there that isolate the important target areas, but none of them seem to combine everything I really wanted. So we designed our own. This target is about half scale. Use this target at 3 yards and you should have no trouble putting rounds where you want them at 10 yards later on.

To run this drill, draw from the holster, step off the X as you shout “Stop!” and fire two rounds into the chest target area followed by one to the head target area. If you need help, study the Look/Shoot Drill. Those skills apply here. This drill just adds the extra element of anatomy.

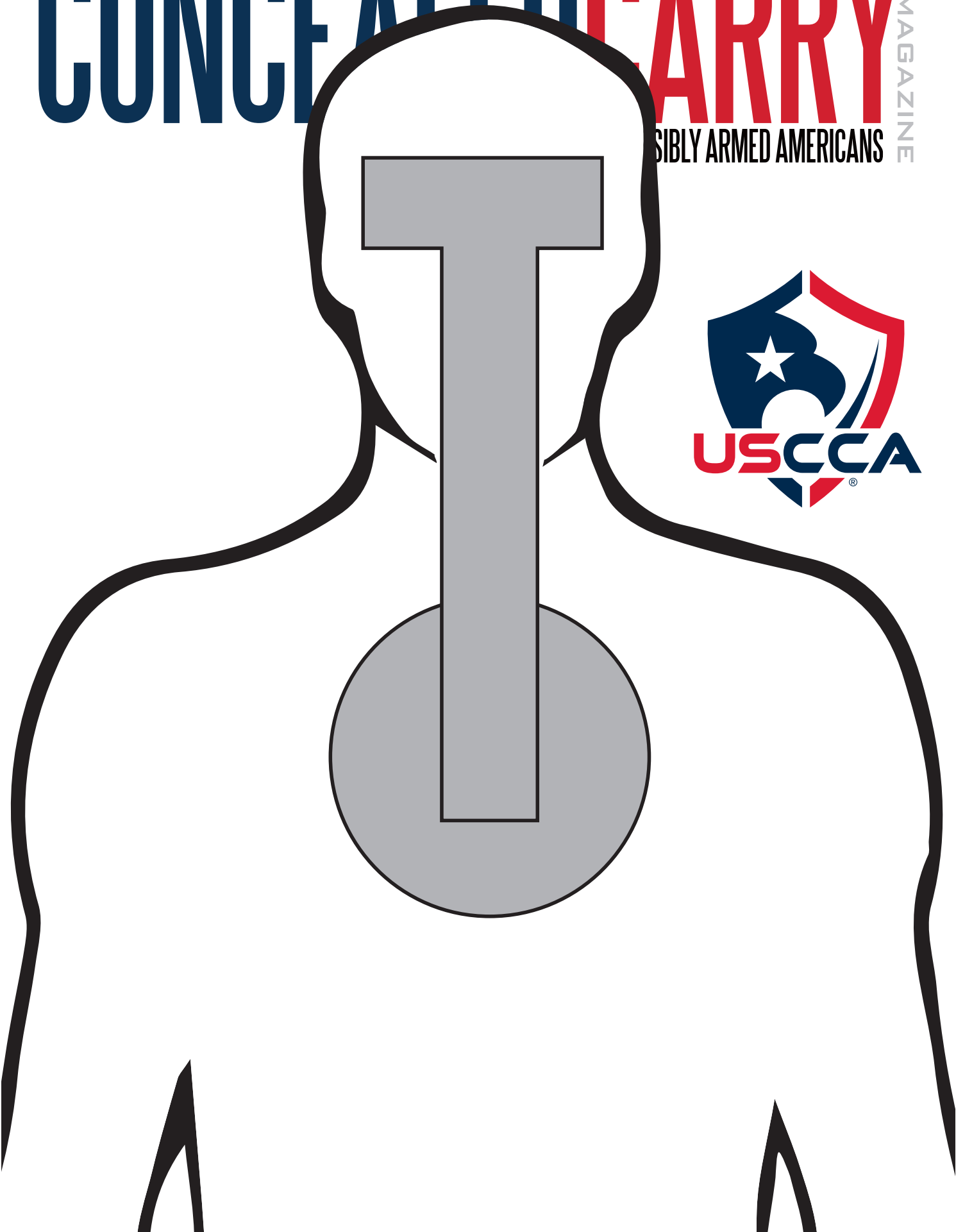
Start slow for form. Focus on safety and mechanics before you attempt to pick up speed. Slow is smooth. Smooth is fast. Make it happen.



CONCEALED CARRY

MAGAZINE

POSSIBLY ARMED AMERICANS



A close-up portrait of David Jackson, a Black man with short hair, a goatee, and glasses. He is looking slightly to the right with a serious expression. The background is blurred, showing warm, bokeh lights.

**"I said, please,
my kids are
here ... please
don't shoot!"**

Forced to Pull the Trigger
to Defend His Children...

David Jackson, USCCA Member

David jumped into action and saved his children and innocent bystanders from two armed robbers. Without the self-defense education, training and legal protection of USCCA Membership, David's story could have ended very differently.

When the smoke cleared, David's gun was confiscated, and he was taken to the police station for questioning. With his USCCA Membership, David was able to get connected with an experienced criminal defense attorney AND get the funds he needed to replace his permanently confiscated gun. After all, ***doing the right thing shouldn't cost you everything...***



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