

**SPECIAL TACTICAL AMMUNITION ISSUE**

# S.W.A.T.

CG 51074

Special Weapons and Tactics for the Prepared American

NOVEMBER 1998



**S.W.A.T. EXCLUSIVE:**  
**Elite Units of the**  
**U.S. Capitol Police**

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**BONUS REPORT**

**ESTONIA'S SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP**



← CPS classes include police, military and civilian students. Here, a police class is put through its paces at the CPS facility in the Angeles National Forest, north of Los Angeles.

The male half of this team, Scott Reitz, served for 22 years with the Los Angeles Police Department, including 18 years in the Metropolitan Division. For the past nine years he has been assigned to SWAT, both as an operator and a firearms instructor. For the past 15 years he has served as a firearms instructor both for the LAPD and as an adjunct instructor for the Department of Energy. Scott holds a Distinguished Expert rating with the LAPD. He has also earned an expert rating in several courses at Gunsite, Thunder Ranch and Yavapai Firearms Academy, and he is an FBI-certified instructor for law enforcement.

Brett McQueen is a civilian instructor with eight years of experience. She holds three NRA certifications and is one of the very few civilian instructors to be certified by the FBI as a law enforcement firearms instructor. Brett has attended training at Gunsite and Thunder Ranch, and has graduated from Tactical Handgun, and Basic and Advanced Police Shotgun at Louis Awerbuck's Yavapai Firearms Training Academy. She has attended some 80 hours of firearms training with Larry Mudgett, head firearms instructor for the LAPD Academy. Brett works often with female civilians and law enforcement personnel, as well as lecturing and appearing on talk shows to promote self-defense.

Brett holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from UCLA, and Scott has a degree in Political Science and History from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. This education, experience and broad training are reflected in the quality of training offered by CPS.

Over the course of his 22-year career with the LAPD, Scott has conducted training in SWAT operations, hostage rescue, counterterrorism, drug enforcement and marine amphibious operations. He has been involved in a number of shootings, including a major firefight during the Los Angeles Riots that lasted for almost two hours. This real-world experi-

# California PISTOLCRAFT SEMINARS

**C**alifornia Pistolcraft Seminars (CPS) is a private training company founded in 1992 by Scott Reitz and Brett McQueen. This is a rather unique operation in that it combines the extensive law enforcement experience and male perspective of Reitz with the broad civilian training experience and feminine perspective of McQueen. This combination equips CPS to train civilian users, law enforcement personnel and SWAT operators equally well. CPS trains civil-

ians in self-defense techniques, performs specialized training for government and law enforcement agencies, and trains actors from the Los Angeles film community in proper gun-handling techniques. Actors from *True Lies*, *Face/Off*, *Glimmerman* and *America's Most Wanted* have received instruction from CPS, along with such prestigious agencies as the LAPD, CHP, FBI, DEA, BATF, Navy Special Operations and the Hungarian National Police SWAT Team.

ence shows in the training offered by CPS, all of which is geared toward real-life use of the pistol in self-defense. Strategies and tactics used are those known to work in real life—not “theories” from armchair commandos. As a reference, Scott is responsible for all in-service firearms training for LAPD’s Metro Division, and the LAPD enjoys an enviable 80% hit ratio, one of the highest in American law enforcement.

CPS has the option of off-site training at a client’s facility or the use of its home-training site near Los Angeles. Brett and Scott teach on a scenic private range within the Angeles National Forest, about 30 minutes north of the Los Angeles Airport. This first-class facility has an abundance of hotel accommodations within minutes of the airport.

CPS offers a number of courses to suit various needs and student skill levels. A brief overview of some of its courses includes:

**TACTICAL HANDGUN I:** Safe gun handling and manipulation, modern shooting technique, loading and unloading marksmanship, speed reload, tactical reload, malfunction drills, speed vs. accuracy and multiple target engagement.

**TACTICAL HANDGUN II:** Review of Tactical Handgun I, varied distance position shooting, distance shooting to 100 yards, speed drills on multiple targets, strong hand only, weak hand only, braced kneeling, speed kneeling, prone moving-target engagement and static vehicle shooting.

**TACTICAL SHOTGUN:** Sighting systems, patterning, loading and unloading tactical reload, speed reload, sidesaddle and butt cuff drills, varied position shooting, 00 buck and slug shooting, slug change-out drills, multiple target engagements, shooting on the move, outdoor-ready, low-ready, man vs. man and transitioning from shotgun to handgun.

There are other CPS courses, including

- VEHICLE ASSAULTS
- HOME/VEHICLE INVASIONS
- LOW-LEVEL-LIGHT HANDGUN
- URBAN RIFLE
- PRECISION RIFLE.

As you can see, there is something for everyone, from the concerned homeowner to the high-speed SWAT operator. Unlike a lot of the “name” schools, CPS will tailor customized courses to the needs of interested groups, either on-site or off-site. Classes are intensive, with little or no downtime and a lot of work.

Expect to leave the range exhausted, but with a feeling of accomplishment.

On their home range, Scott and Brett use moving targets, hostage targets, knife-attack targets, reactive steel silhouettes, 180-degree reactive shotgun targets, a shooting house and other equipment to produce realistic, lifelike, highly stressful engagements that are intended to replicate actual shootings. They teach gunfighting skills that stress reaction to realistic threats, not simply shooting static targets or repetitive drills. Having experience in both participating in gunfights and in giving expert court testimony in the use of deadly force, the staff is well qualified to teach on the subject of what to expect in a post-shooting debriefing and investigation, and in later litigation.

CPS’s philosophy is simple: “We want to teach students to produce well-placed hits, under stress, while maintaining one’s composure. The purpose of shooting is hitting. To do this while someone is shooting back at you requires diligence, training and keeping a cool head—that’s what wins gunfights.”

**SOURCE:**  
**CALIFORNIA PISTOLCRAFT SEMINARS**  
 11718 Barrington Court, #506  
 Los Angeles, CA 90049



CPS is operated by Brett McQueen (left) and Scott Reitz (right).



Scott Reitz is an active LAPD Metro SWAT officer, shown here in his call-out gear with M-16 and associated equipment.