

**Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Concealed Handgun Permit Holders**  
*May 2007 to the Present*

This subset of the total number of people killed by concealed handgun permit holders contains vignettes describing the circumstances for incidents in which individuals with permits to carry concealed handguns killed law enforcement officers. The descriptions include the current, known status of any charges filed against the permit holder as well as noting instances where the perpetrator committed suicide.

The Violence Policy Center welcomes any new information regarding the status of any case (with verifiable source(s)). Use this link to contact the VPC: <http://www.vpc.org/contact.htm>.

## **Alabama**

**Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** Bart Johnson

**PENDING**

**Date:** December 3, 2009

**People Killed:** 1

**Law Enforcement Officers Killed:** 1

**Circumstances:** On December 3, 2009, Bart Johnson allegedly shot and killed Pelham, Alabama, police officer Philip Davis during a routine traffic stop. Officer Davis had stopped Johnson for speeding. According to videotape from the officer's patrol car, Davis and Johnson spoke briefly, and Davis then went to write Johnson a ticket. Upon his return, Johnson told Davis that his brother was a police officer. Officer Davis replied, "Why didn't you tell me that before? Let me have his name and number so I can tell him what happened." Then, "unprovoked and without a word, Johnson fired one shot, striking Davis in the face." Johnson fled the scene, abandoned his Acura, and attempted to break into another vehicle. When he was noticed by someone, Johnson displayed his gun and waived the person away. He was later picked up by his brother and surrendered to authorities. A local pharmacist, Johnson obtained a concealed weapons permit in 2007 and renewed it in 2008 and 2009. He is charged with capital murder.

Source: "Pharmacist charged in officer's killing had permit for weapon," *The Birmingham News*, December 8, 2009; "Pelham police officer's slaying baffles investigators," *The Birmingham News*, December 5, 2009.

## Florida

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** Humberto Delgado, Jr.

**PENDING**

**Date:** August 19, 2009

**People Killed:** 1

**Law Enforcement Officers Killed:** 1

**Circumstances:** Humberto Delgado Jr., 34, allegedly shot and killed 11-year Tampa police veteran Corporal Mike Roberts after the officer responded to a suspicious person call. Delgado was pushing a shopping cart which turned out to be filled with military gear, a Kel-Tec assault rifle, a Taurus .45 pistol, and a .22 revolver. He also had a Glock 17 pistol in a backpack. When Corporal Roberts tried to question Delgado, a struggle ensued and Roberts was shot while on his back. Although Corporal Roberts was wearing body armor, a bullet struck him in an unprotected area and entered his chest. Delgado had been a law enforcement officer in the Virgin Islands for four years until 2000 and had served in the U.S. Army. He had a concealed handgun permit issued in North Carolina. Florida has reciprocity with North Carolina. A search of Delgado's storage unit uncovered another firearm, a laser sight, a copy of *Shooter's Bible*, and a certificate for completion of a firearms safety course. Delgado faces charges of premeditated murder and aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer.

Source: "'Not guilty' plea in killing," *tampabay.com*, September 14, 2009; "Documents show Delgado had more weapons, Police: accused killer had 'Shooter's Bible' too," *myfoxtampabay.com*, September 1, 2009; "Tampa officer was on his back when shot dead," *tampabay.com*, August, 31, 2009; "Accused police killer: who is he?," *10connects.com*, August, 21, 2009; North Carolina Statute 14-415.11; North Carolina Department of Justice, Concealed Weapons Reciprocity.

## Florida

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** James Wonder

**PENDING**

**Date:** August 5, 2008

**Total Killed:** 1

**Law Enforcement Officers Killed:** 1

**Circumstances:** On August 5, 2008, James Wonder allegedly shot and killed U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agent Donald Pettit after a road-rage incident. After the two got into a shouting and finger-pointing match while driving, Wonder pulled into a post office parking lot, Pettit followed and was shot and killed. After the shooting, Wonder sped away to a kidney dialysis appointment where he told a nurse that whomever had killed the agent must have been a “professional.” He then went home, hid the gun, changed his hair color, and rented a car to reportedly hide his involvement in the shooting. Wonder, who had a concealed handgun permit, has been indicted on manslaughter charges.

Source: “Police: Suspect in agent’s killing told nurses of road rage argument: Police: Suspect in federal agent’s killing described a road rage fight,” *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, August 21, 2008; “Man charged in agent’s road rage killing out on bail; A Broward retiree who was charged in the death of a customs agent paid bail and was released from jail on Friday,” *Miami Herald*, August 30, 2008.

## Idaho

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** Jason Kenneth Hamilton

### **SUICIDE**

**Date:** May 19, 2007

**Total Killed:** 4 (including shooter)

**Total Wounded:** 3

**Law Enforcement Officers Killed:** 1

**Circumstances:** On May 19, 2007, Jason Kenneth Hamilton, a member of the white supremacist group Aryan Nation, shot and killed his wife, a police officer, and a church sexton, and wounded three others before turning the gun on himself in a shooting spree in Moscow, Idaho. Hamilton had a concealed handgun permit “despite a [previous] domestic violence conviction that should have barred him from owning guns.” He also possessed a federally registered fully-automatic AK-47 machine gun, one of the guns he used in the shooting spree.

Source: “Shooter Linked to Aryans; Killer also had federal license for automatic weapons,” *Spokesman Review*, May 23, 2007; “Authorities investigate Hamilton’s gun purchase; Mass killer apparently obtained the automatic weapon late in 2004 or early in 2005; Ambush aftermath,” *Lewiston Morning Tribune*, May 24, 2007.

## Ohio

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** Ashford Thompson

**CONVICTED**

**Date:** July 13, 2008

**Total Killed:** 1

**Law Enforcement Officers Killed:** 1

**Circumstances:** On July 13, 2008, Ashford Thompson shot a police officer four times in the head after he was pulled over for playing loud music. Thompson used a Kel-Tec P11 “pocket pistol” in the shooting. Thompson, who had a concealed handgun permit issued by Cuyahoga County and had received a certificate for completing a concealed-carry class, pled guilty to aggravated murder.

Source: “Man indicted in killing of Twinsburg officer,” *Plain Dealer*, July 22, 2008; “Ashford Thompon’s sentencing hearing set for Oct. 15 in police officer’s murder,” *Plain Dealer*, June 25, 2009; “Thompson Pleads Guilty In Miktarian Death,” *AkronNewsNow.com*, April 13, 2009.

## Pennsylvania

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** Richard Poplawski

**PENDING**

**Date:** April 4, 2009

**Total Killed:** 3

**Total Wounded:** 1

**Law Enforcement Officers Killed:** 3

**Law Enforcement Officers Wounded:** 1

**Circumstances:** On April 4, 2009, white supremacist Richard Poplawski allegedly shot and killed police officers Stephen Mayhle, Paul Sciallo, and Eric Kelly while injuring another. Poplawski used an AK-47 assault rifle and a pistol in the attack. He had a concealed handgun permit despite a former girlfriend having obtained a protection-from-abuse order against him. Poplawski's mother told police that he had been "stockpiling guns and ammunition...because he believed that as a result of the economic collapse, the police were no longer able to protect society." She additionally stated that "her son 'only liked police when they were not curtailing his constitutional rights, which he was determined to protect.'" Poplawski was charged with three counts of criminal homicide and one count of aggravated assault. He has pled not guilty. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty.

Source: "Poplawski bought guns through shop in Wilksburg," *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, April 7, 2009; "Who is Richard Poplawski? Friends, Family Talk About Pittsburgh Suspect in Police Officers' Triple-Killing," *ThePittsburghChannel.com*, April 6, 2009; "Pittsburgh police shooting arraigned by computer," *Associated Press* at *philly.com*, June 1, 2009.

## Pennsylvania

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** Christina Korbe

**PENDING**

**Date:** November 19, 2008

**Total Killed:** 1

**Law Enforcement Officers Killed:** 1

**Circumstances:** On November 19, 2008, Christina Korbe allegedly shot and killed FBI Special Agent Samuel Hicks. Federal agents, led by Agent Hicks, had entered Korbe's home to serve an arrest warrant on her husband. The gun used by Korbe in the incident was a 38 caliber Taurus Ultra-Lite revolver. In addition to being charged with killing an FBI agent, Korbe, who had a concealed handgun permit, was charged in federal court with firearm offenses.

Source: "Korbe Remorseful for Shooting Death of FBI Agent," *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, December 10, 2008; Indictment of Christina Marie Korbe, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, January 8, 2009; "More charges filed against accused killer of FBI agent," *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, March 19, 2009.