

ARMED ROBBERY

Leo Anglo, St Louis Jewelry Crime Alert Network

This is very serious, so read this first part carefully. This type of Crime can lead to major injury or death. This sheet, and any other source can give you advice and statistics, BUT each store and the entire staff has to make a decision on procedures and all know them and be on board. YOU NEED to make these procedure decisions NOW, as you can't decide how you will handle an armed robbery during the event.

Coming with first hand knowledge and experience, I literally had an Armed Robbery refresher course about a month before Our event. Four armed men (2 with AK-47's) stormed into the store, pointed guns and threatened the staff as well as smashed cases, 43 seconds it was done. SUCCESS!, no employee got hurt !!

I am sharing Our procedures and why we have them in place. Some will agree, some will disagree, including law enforcement . . . but again your lives are the ones hanging in the balance. So you may agree with these or not, BUT just come up with your own and discuss with staff. Don't assume it will not happen to you.

- a) Vincent's Game Plan
 - i) Stay Calm
 - ii) Listen carefully and do everything they say.
 - iii) No one make a run for it, as it may cause others to get hurt/killed. (All for one and one for all mentality)
 - iv) Don't hit panic button
 - (1) We don't want a chance bad guy seeing someone trying to hit it
 - (2) We don't want police to come with sirens blaring
 - (a) We could get in middle of gun fight
 - (b) We could be hostages
 - v) Don't make eye contact with bad guys
 - vi) If they start shooting or hurting people
 - (1) everyman for themselves
 - (2) Run/Fight
 - (3) Hit panic button
 - vii) After they leave . . .
 - (1) Call police or hit panic button, try to ID Vehicle(s) and where vehicle(s) turn
 - (2) **don't touch anything, and start taking pictures of everything, even before police arrive.**

GUNS IN STORE

This one is very tricky, and not going to debate this here. BUT if you decide to have weapons in your store . . .

- Decide who will have access to them and have permission to use them. Note, whoever the gun(s) is registered to has legal risk if ever used in anyway.
- Decide when they will be deployed and used
- All that have permission should train with them, and all should discuss the when deployed and when used thing
- All in store should know guns are present and no the rules above

Let me share a few thoughts on this,

- First, you better make sure you can take a life, as that is a possible outcome.
- Rambo gets 20 guys and does not get hurt: Luckily for Rambo, he got 20 of the worse shots in the world to get into a gunfight with. Simply, not realistic to think you can engage anyone or multiple suspects and not think you or anyone else in the store (Employee or Customer) will get hurt.

If you deploy a gun, and If you do discharge your weapon and/or shoot someone (Dead or not):

- You will have legal issues, was it justified or not
- You will have emotional issues, very few people who engage in a gunfight don't have short term and long term impact
- All present will have impact
- You could face retaliation from bad guy, or their acquaintances. This retaliation could be toward you, your store, your staff, or your family