

## **REAL Criminal Justice Reform**

When I read anecdotes from "*The Armed Citizen*" columns that appear in every N.R.A. publication, I am often disappointed when a homeowner merely holds a burglar or home-invader at gunpoint until police arrive: I find myself wishing the homeowner had ventilated the bastard and done the world a favor.

Ironically, Sheriff Bob Johnson of Santa Rosa County, Florida actually recommends that homeowners do as I fantasize. He has stated publicly that his department prefers that homeowners shoot burglars and home-invaders, because it will save taxpayers the expense of a trial.

Here are his exact words: *"If somebody's breaking into your house, you're more than welcome to shoot them in Santa Rosa County, and we prefer that you do, actually...you'll save the taxpayers money."*

Sheriff Johnson was referencing Florida's ***Stand Your Ground Law***, legislation that has been adopted by a number of other states. Under ***Stand Your Ground***, homeowners are no longer required to continuously retreat from a home-invader -- ***IN THEIR OWN HOMES!*** -- before they are justified in using deadly force.

As Johnson describes it: *"A person who is in a dwelling or residence, in which the person has a right to be, has no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his or her ground and use or threaten to use deadly force."*

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