

2007
TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENTS
ANALYSIS



Federal Aid Project
W-104-S



For more information about hunting accidents
or the hunter education program in Texas, call (512) 389-8142

TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENT PROFILE

- Violated a cardinal rule of hunter safety
- Anglo male; 29 years of age (average)
- Hunted deer with rifle; hog with handgun/rifle; or dove/quail with shotgun
- Was **not** under the influence of alcohol
- Did not attend a hunter education (safety) course or program
- Did not wear any type of hunter orange clothing
- Was situated in or around vehicle
- Sustained a non-fatal injury
- If not self-inflicted – swung shotgun on game outside of safe zone of fire
- Had over 10 years of hunting experience
- If self-inflicted – handled firearm carelessly in a stand/vehicle; carried loaded firearm in/around vehicle
- Distance of muzzle to wound was within 50 yards, mostly within 10 yards
- Victim was in light to open cover with clear visibility (weather)
- Accident occurred towards dusk; fatigue a factor
- Accident occurred on weekend during September or November



2007 Significant Factors

- **Hunting from vehicles** and careless handling while in vehicles caused a **significantly higher** number of accidents in 2007.
- Rifle incidents same total as shotgun incidents.
- Increased number of 20+ year old shooters involved in incidents; less 40-year olds.
- Squirrel, waterfowl & rabbit hunting incidents down; deer, quail and hog hunting incidents up.
- Less self-inflicted injuries.

**HUNTING ACCIDENT DATA (1966-2007)
ACCIDENT VERSUS LICENSES SOLD IN TEXAS**

CALENDAR YEAR	HUNTER ACCIDENTS	HUNTING LICENSES SOLD	ACCIDENTS PER 100,000 LICENSES	STUDENTS CERTIFIED
1966	81	644,653	12.6	-
1967	93	797,846	11.7	-
1968	105	854,693	12.3	-
1969	92	895,593	10.3	-
1970	72	935,793	7.7	-
1971	92	978,285	9.4	-
1972	85	966,332	8.8	2,119
1973	80	1,011,963	7.9	4,314
1974	68	1,037,925	6.6	6,094
1975	77	1,051,834	7.3	8,531
1976	63	1,050,349	6.0	10,043
1977	81	1,080,530	7.5	11,298
1978	83	1,091,794	7.6	10,890
1979	53	1,093,716	4.8	10,775
1980	69	1,160,375	5.9	12,166
1981	72	1,174,023	6.1	13,187
1982	97	1,216,032	8.0	13,323
1983	80	1,325,474	6.0	14,131
1984	60	1,140,174	5.3	13,052
1985	72	1,100,991	6.5	11,284
1986	68	1,162,785	5.8	11,195
1987	81	1,189,566	6.8	8,611
1988	70	1,189,000	5.9	18,043
1989	78	1,193,000	6.5	36,708
1990	53	1,132,917	4.7	24,590
1991	81	1,103,903	7.3	28,682
1992	62	1,053,063	5.9	25,453
1993	58	1,077,055	5.4	26,942
1994	51	1,083,227	4.7	34,972
1995	40	1,060,000	3.8	31,215
1996	31	990,000	3.1	24,998
1997	51	960,000	5.3	30,625
1998	40	1,011,500	3.9	31,052
1999	44	1,010,455	4.3	37,775
2000	52	1,145,000	4.5	39,049
2001	43	1,076,159	4.0	28,062
2002	35	1,024,495	3.4	37,847
2003	44	1,082,225	4.1	33,769
2004	29	1,091,178	2.7	31,171
2005	31	1,082,593	2.9	31,442
2006	32	1,115,772	2.9	29,532
2007	30	1,112,099	2.7	30,960
TOTALS	2,679	44,554,367	6.0	773,900

- First ten-year average (CY 1966 - CY 1975) - One hunting accident/**10,858** hunting licenses sold.
- Second ten-year average (CY 1976 - CY 1985) - One hunting accident/**15,662** hunting licenses sold.
- Third ten-year average (CY 1986 - CY 1995) - One hunting accident/**17,515** hunting licenses sold.

- Fourth ten-year average (CY 1996 - CY 2005) - One hunting accident/**26,184** hunting licenses sold.

TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENTS 1966-2007

CALENDAR YEAR	FATAL	NON-FATAL	TOTAL
1966	28	53	81
1967	23	70	93
1968	37	68	105
1969	24	68	92
1970	19	53	72
1971	24	68	92
1972	30	55	85
1973	22	58	80
1974	16	52	68
1975	11	66	77
1976	11	52	63
1977	17	64	81
1978	20	63	83
1979	10	43	53
1980	13	56	69
1981	19	53	72
1982	23	74	97
1983	17	63	80
1984	21	39	60
1985	15	57	72
1986	13	55	68
1987	12	69	81
MANDATORY HUNTER EDUCATION			
1988	12	58	70
1989	12	66	78
1990	8	45	53
1991	13	68	81
1992	6	56	62
1993	6	52	58
1994	5	46	51
1995	4	36	40
1996	2	29	31
1997	8	43	51
1998	3	37	40
1999	6	38	44
2000	8	44	52
2001	3	40	43
2002	3	32	35
2003	2	42	44
2004	4	25	29
2005	2	29	31
2006	4	28	32
2007	4	26	30
TOTALS	540	2,139	2,679

TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENT TOTALS 2007

HUNTING ACCIDENT: An accident/incident resulting from a discharge of a firearm or bow while hunting, which causes the injury or death of any person(s).

ACCIDENTS	2005	2006	2007	VIOLATED GAME LAW	2005	2006	2007
Total Accidents	31	32	30		6 (19%)	12 (38%)	9 (30%)
Fatal	2	4	4				
Non-fatal	29	28	26				
ANIMAL HUNTED				EQUIPMENT TYPE			
Dove	5 (16%)	6 (19%)	5 (17%)	Rifles	8 (26%)	11 (34%)	13 (43%)
White-tailed Deer	8 (26%)	6 (19%)	8 (27%)	Shotguns	18 (58%)	16 (50%)	13 (43%)
Rabbit/Hare	0	4 (13%)	2 (7%)	Handguns	4 (13%)	4 (13%)	3 (10%)
Feral Hog	6 (19%)	4 (13%)	5 (17%)	Muzzleloader	0	0	0
Quail/Pheasant	7 (23%)	1 (3%)	4 (13%)	Bow	1 (3%)	1 (3%)	1 (4%)
Turkey	0	0	1 (3%)	TOTAL	31(100%)	32(100%)	30(100%)
Ducks/Geese	2 (6%)	3 (9%)	1 (3%)	SHOOTER'S AGE			
Coyote	0	1 (3%)	0	0-9	0	0	0
Squirrel	0	4 (12%)	1 (3%)	10-19	4 (13%)	10 (32%)	6 (20%)
Misc. (Snake, Raccoon, Non-Game, Turtle)	3 (10%)	3 (9%)	3 (10%)	20-29	2 (6%)	4 (13%)	8 (27%)
TOTAL	31 (100%)	32 (100%)	30 (100%)	30-39	10 (33%)	2 (6%)	4 (13%)
HUNTER JUDGMENT				40-49	6 (19%)	7 (22%)	4 (13%)
Victim out of sight of shooter/moved into line of fire	2	3	2	50-59	4 (13%)	3 (9%)	4 (13%)
Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	13	5	5	60 & over	4 (13%)	3 (9%)	3 (10%)
Victim mistaken for game	1	2	2	Unknown	1 (3%)	3 (9%)	1 (4%)
TOTAL	16	10	9	TOTAL	31 (100%)	32 (100%)	30 (100%)
SAFETY & LAW VIOLATION				MISCELLANEOUS/TREE STAND FACTOR			
Removing/placing firearm in vehicle	3	2	1	Failure to use haul line	0	0	1
Discharge of firearm in/on vehicle	4	1	8	Obstruction in Barrel	1	0	0
Improper Crossing of an obstacle; Running with firearm	1	1	2	Faulty Equipment	0	1	1
Firearm fell from insecure rest/Using firearm as a club	0	1	0	TOTAL	1	1	2
Apparent use of alcohol/drugs	0	0	1	SKILL AND APTITUDE			
TOTAL	8	6	12	Loading/unloading gun	0	0	2
SHOOTER HAD COMPLETED HUNTER ED.	9 (29%)	13 (41%)	12 (40%)	Careless handling	2	10	5
				Careless handling while climbing into/out of tree stand	3	0	0
				Dropped firearm	0	3	0
				Shooter stumbled and fell	1	2	0
				TOTAL	6	15	7
				SELF-INFLECTED	11 (35%)	18 (56%)	12 (40%)
				ALCOHOL/DRUGS A	1 (3%)	2 (6%)	1 (3%)

FACTOR

Hunting Accident Report Non-Firearm Related 2007

*Accidents/incidents while hunting, not involving the discharge of a firearm or bow, which causes injury or death of any person(s).

Type	Total	Fatal?	Comments
Fall From Tree/Elevated Stand	2	No	One victim fell from a tree stand 12-14 ft. high when his seat failed; the other while climbing a ladder stand about 6 ft. off of the ground.
ATV Accident	1	Yes	Victim was ejected from an ATV which then landed on him.

Shooting Accidents Non-Hunting Related

*Other reported accidents/incidents resulting from the discharge of a firearm/bow, which causes the injury or death of any person(s), other than while hunting.

Type	Total	Fatal?	Comments
Vehicle Crash/Discharge of firearm in traveling vehicle	1	Yes	Passenger carelessly discharged a rifle inside a vehicle, causing the vehicle, traveling on a major highway, to swerve across median and into oncoming traffic. The driver, who sustained injuries from a rifle bullet, died in the collision.
Plinking/Shooting	1	No	Shooter carelessly discharged rifle while another person was near the line of fire. Bullet ricocheted off metal pole, and shrapnel struck victim in the knee.
Plinking/Shooting	1	Yes	7-Year old was fatally shot and killed by a .22 caliber bullet carelessly discharged by a man who was target shooting in rural/suburban area.

2007 FATAL ACCIDENTS

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self- Inflicted?	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)
1-6	Wichita	34/M	Shotgun	Waterfowl	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged his shotgun while kneeling to the side and slightly behind victim sitting in a chair beside him. Both were getting ready to shoot at incoming ducks. Shooter was positioning the gun for the shot, with the muzzle pointed towards victim. Victim was struck in the head by pellets from a 12 gauge shot shell.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; position yourselves so that you never move into another hunter's zone of fire, especially in close quarters such as a duck blind; communicate safety with the other hunters in your party; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
1-19	Dimmit	50/M	Rifle	Feral Hog	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged his .30/30 rifle towards himself while riding in a jeep mounted with front and rear hunting seats. Bullet struck shooter into through his hand and exited through his head, killing him instantly. Several witnesses were in the vehicle riding with victim.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; never hunt from a vehicle/ATV; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and cased, separate from the ammunition; always obey hunting laws and complete a hunter education course.					
11-4	Bosque	35/M	Rifle	Deer	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged rifle towards himself while sitting in an elevated blind. Bullet struck through his mid- torso, killing him instantly. He had consumed several beers and had five remaining in a cooler with him in the stand.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; handle loaded rifles carefully while in a stand waiting to shoot; leave the safety mechanism on until firing the shot; alcohol and hunting do not mix; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
12-1	Trinity	16/M	Rifle	Deer	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged his rifle while muzzle was pointed at the victim standing nearby. Bullet struck victim in the head. Shooter was showing his rifle to victim after illegally hunting deer at night. He was attempting to shoulder the rifle during the incident.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; control the muzzle and use a proper carry at all times; be familiar with the equipment and firearms you are using; always obey hunting laws; apply what was learned in hunter education.					

2007 NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS

1-5	Kenedy	62/M	Shotgun	Quail	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was returning on horseback unannounced to his group of hunters and moved into shooter's line of fire. The shooter, who was shooting at quail and into the sun, carelessly swung on game outside of his safe zone of fire and carelessly discharged his firearm towards the victim. Both shooter and victim were wearing blaze orange.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; never shoot when you can not see clearly -- such as when looking towards the sun; complete a hunter education course.					
1-19	Llano	19/M	Shotgun	Feral Hog	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter had fired at a hog, and then loaded a second shot shell in his single-shot, break action shotgun. He began to run with the cocked, loaded gun and then stumbled and fell, carelessly pointing the muzzle towards himself when the gun slipped from his control. The size 00 shot struck him in the knee as he fell.					

Prevention: Always point muzzle in a safe direction; never run with a loaded firearm and handle firearms carefully; control the muzzle of a firearm during a fall; never let your emotions replace good judgment; always obey hunting laws and complete a hunter education course.

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted?	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)
2-3	Parker	16/M	Rifle	Raccoon	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	While illegally hunting raccoons and "varmints" at night from a vehicle, shooter carelessly loaded and discharged rifle while muzzle was pointed at the driver's foot. Shooter and 16-year old victim had not completed a hunter education course.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; never hunt from a vehicle, especially on public roads; always obey hunting laws and complete a hunter education course.					
2-7	McCulloch	52/M	Rifle	Exotic Deer	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was operating ATV with a loaded tranquilizing rifle while going after exotic deer. He carelessly operated through thick brush and discharged the tranquilizer dart into his right calf. Fortunately, the charge (dose) was not activated.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; use proper carry methods while in transport and never hunt from a vehicle; complete a hunter education course.					
2-14	Jasper	20/M	Handgun	Rabbit	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	While hunting rabbits and plinking from atop the tool box in the bed of a pickup, shooter carelessly discharged handgun while he and the victim were switching places in the truck. Shooter and 14-year old victim had not completed a hunter education course.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; use proper carry methods while in transport and never hunt from a vehicle; always obey hunting laws and complete a hunter education course.					
3-3	McCulloch	62/M	Shotgun	Quail	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was covered by shooter swinging on game outside of his safe zone of fire. Victim had just moved behind a tank dam before he was shot. Pellets struck him in his neck and face. Both shooter and victim were wearing blaze orange clothing. Shooter did not have a hunting license.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; always obey hunting laws and complete a hunter education course.					
3-31	Wise	24/M	Shotgun	Turkey	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was jogging on a path through the same woods as the shooters who were from out-of-state. 46-year old victim was wearing light blue shirt/shorts and was mistaken for a turkey by the shooter, who carelessly failed to identify his target. Victim was struck by #4 pellets to the entire right side of his body.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; be absolutely sure of the target before raising the firearm; use binoculars; know what activities are allowable and who else is in the hunting area; always obey hunting laws and complete a hunter education course.					
5-2	Gonzales	25/M	Rifle	Non-game	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter improperly crossed a fence with a loaded rifle. He propped the loaded rifle, safety off, against the barbed wire and carelessly discharged it as he crossed. The bullet entered his abdomen and exited near his spine. He was airlifted to a local hospital.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; unload firearm before crossing an obstacle of difficult terrain; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; control the muzzle and use a proper carry at all times; apply what was learned in hunter education.					

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)
5-22	Sterling	18/M	Rifle	Rabbit	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	While hunting rabbits from a vehicle, shooter carelessly discharged his rifle while the muzzle was pointed at his toe. He was picking the rifle up to shoot at the time and was reported to say that he thought the gun was not loaded at the time.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; use proper carry methods while in transport and never hunt from a vehicle; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
6-25	Anderson	26/M	Handgun	Feral Hog	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	After shooting a hog, shooter carelessly discharged his loaded handgun as he exited the vehicle. He was struck in the left calf.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; use proper carry methods while in transport and never hunt from a vehicle; always obey hunting laws and complete a hunter education course.					
9-2	Llano	59/M	Rifle	Feral Hog	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was placing his loaded rifle into a scabbard on his ATV and carelessly discharged it. Muzzle was pointing at his friend and the shrapnel struck victim in the shin area.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; use proper carry methods while in transport and never hunt from a vehicle; complete a hunter education course.					
9-2	Bexar	38/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was covered by shooter swinging on game outside of his safe zone of fire. 43-year old victim was retrieving a downed bird her son shot when she was struck by pellets to the left side of her body. She was among several large groups of hunters and had warned others of their zones of fire several times.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions and listen to good safety advice; know where others are positioned at all times; never hunt in close proximity to other groups of hunters unknown to you; apply what was learned in hunter education .					
9-3	Scurry	20/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	Yes (MO)
<i>Comments:</i>	While loading his shotgun, shooter carelessly discharged it while the muzzle was pointed towards his left knee. The gun had been modified, and he had to use a pin to cock the hammer.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; control the muzzle and use a proper carry at all times; never alter or modify the gun yourself; inspect every firearm before its use; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
9-9	Hildago	57/M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter shot his over/under shotgun and suffered cuts to his hand as a result of faulty equipment or ammunition.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; always inspect firearms and ammunition prior to use; have a gunsmith inspect any faulty equipment and/or on a fairly regular basis; clean firearms after each use and store firearms and ammunition separately in a dry environment; complete a hunter education course.					
9-21	LaSalle	49/M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter set muzzle of his loaded shotgun on his toe to get something in his pocket. He carelessly discharged it as he reached for the gun to shoot at a dove.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; control the muzzle and use a proper carry at all times; never set a muzzle of a gun on					

your toe; complete a hunter education course.

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)
9-30	Callahan	23/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was out of sight of and covered by shooter swinging on game outside of his safe zone of fire. Victim was about 80 yards away and was struck by one pellet in her eye.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
10-6	Kaufman	41/M	Bow	Feral Hog	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter mistook victim for a hog moving in the bushes. 17-year old victim was kneeling down to keep from spooking game, and as he stood up to move through an opening in the brush, the shooter carelessly shot an arrow. The expandable broadhead traveled through victim's calf.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle or bow and arrow in a safe direction; be absolutely sure of the target before raising the firearm or bow; use binoculars; always obey hunting laws and complete a hunter and/or bow hunter education course.					
10-21	Shelby	41/M	Shotgun	Quail	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was covered by shooter swinging on game outside of his safe zone of fire. Victim had walked up behind shooter and guide without letting them know. Pellets struck victim in neck and head.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
11-3	Uvalde	21/M	Rifle	Raccoon	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	While unloading his .30/30 lever action rifle, shooter carelessly discharged it while he covered the muzzle with his hand.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully, especially while loading and unloading; control the muzzle and use a proper carry at all times; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
11-9	Eastland	18/M	Handgun	Deer	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Sitting on an ATV with a loaded .45 cal handgun in his lap, shooter carelessly discharged it as it began to slip off of his lap. Bullet traveled through his upper thigh and exited his groin area.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; unload the second you are no longer hunting; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and in a case, separate from the ammunition; treat every firearm as if it was loaded; never hunt from a vehicle; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
11-16	Reagan	15/M	Shotgun	Quail	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was covered by shooter swinging on game outside of his safe zone of fire. 53-year old victim was about 50 yards away. Pellets from the shooter's 20-gauge struck victim in face.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; always obey hunting laws and complete a hunter education course.					

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)
11-24	Kinney	32/M	Rifle	Deer	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter had just returned from the hunt and entered his RV with a loaded rifle slung over his shoulder. He carelessly discharged the rifle as he retrieved it from his shoulder and bumped it against the trailer. The bullet entered his mother's shoulder as she sat at the table.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; always unload the second you no longer expect to take a shot while hunting; handle firearms carefully; control the muzzle and use a proper carry at all times; apply what is learned in hunter education.					
11-24	Leon	47/M	Rifle	Deer	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged rifle towards his wife's hand while sitting in a blind. They had trouble closing the bolt and engaging the safety mechanism immediately prior to loading a cartridge into the chamber and discharging the shot.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; handle loaded rifles carefully while in a stand waiting to shoot; always inspect firearms and ammunition prior to use; have a gunsmith inspect any faulty equipment and/or on a fairly regular basis; clean firearms after each use and store firearms and ammunition separately in a dry environment; complete a hunter education course.					
11-25	Leon	75/M	Rifle	Deer	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged his loaded rifle while sitting in the passenger's side of the vehicle. His daughter, who was putting on boots and coveralls nearby was struck by the .30/30 cal. bullet in her thigh.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; load and unload firearms only while in the field hunting; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and in a case, separate from the ammunition; treat every firearm as if it was loaded; complete a hunter education course.					
12-1	Callahan	UNK	Rifle	Deer	No	UNK
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was a hunting guide tracking a deer at the time that he was struck by a bullet from an unknown source. After some investigation, it was found that the bullet was fired from a location about 1500 yards away. The unknown shooter was in violation of trespassing laws.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; wear blaze orange to be seen; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; apply what is learned in hunter education.					
12-6	Bowie	28/M	Shotgun	Squirrel	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was climbing out of a tree stand with a loaded shotgun. He jumped down and carelessly discharged his 16-gauge shotgun in the process. The pellets struck him in the neck.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; always unload first, then use a haul line for your sporting arm when ascending and descending from a stand; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; control the muzzle and use a proper carry at all times; complete a hunter education course.					