



Region 9



Davis Madere

Training Pays Off... by Agent Edward Ridgel

While receiving training in the academy, I questioned if the training would come into action in the field and if it needed to be so extensive.

We are trained to take the proper action to protect ourselves and the public when needed. My question was answered on November 25, 2005 at approximately 7:00 p.m. when I was patrolling the Mississippi River levee in LaPlace in St. John Parish blacked out; I spotted a light shining the tree line. I slowly approached and saw two figures in the dark. I shined them with my flashlight and saw that they were each holding what appeared to be a rifle.

I drove down the levee toward the river. I got out of my unit and asked them what they were doing. The older guy said "we are hunting". I explained to him that you cannot hunt at night and asked for the rifles. The older guy gave them to me and I explained that he would be issued a citation for hunting wild quadruped illegal hours and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. The older guy started to act irate and said he was leaving.

The sheriff's office was notified that I was in need of a transport. He called for the boy to follow and began to walk away. The older man began to say that he was schizophrenic and that he was going up the levee. I told the man to stay where he was and to get on the ground. He told me to shoot him if I wanted to but he was

going up the levee.

He continued to walk up the levee, yelling that he was schizophrenic and shaking his arms. I locked my unit and followed him up the levee. I told the guy to get on the ground but he just yelled for help and that he was schizophrenic. I told the guy that I was going to spray him if he did not do what I said. He yelled no and tried to walk away so, I sprayed him.

He ran down the levee toward the batture and I pursued him. As we got to the tree line I tried to grab him but he jerked away and tried to push me. I struck him with my baton in the lateral muscle area and he fell. He tried to get up to run again

but I told him to stay down or I was going to hit him again. I told him to lie on his stomach and put his arms out palms up. He did and I cuffed him. I then walked him up the levee and waited for a transport.

While booking him I found out that the guy had done 11 years in Angola State Prison for manslaughter. I then realized that the extensive training was what helped me to do my job properly and I was glad to have it.

I now know that you never know who you are dealing with and that the training let me do my most important job...to go home and be a husband and father.

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Elaine Moore**

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Sgt. Davis Madere
Sgt. Aron Hastings
Sgt. Winston Michel
Sr. Agent Jason Romero
Sr. Agent William "Jeff" Boyd
Agent Scott Dupre
Agent Edward Ridgel
Agent Robert "Ladd" Turner
Cadet David Boudreaux**

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Region 9 continued

Hunting Pamphlet Woes!!

by Agent Ladd Turner

To the deer hunters in south Louisiana, late December and early January mean one thing. . .THE RUT!! Men, women, and children alike go to extraordinary lengths to bag that "wall hanger". Sometimes, they get so involved in the chase that they forget to read their hunting pamphlet!

On January 17, 2006 I was patrolling the Maurepas Swamp WMA, when I saw a hunter pulling up to a make-shift roadside launch with a fine 8-point buck tied in the front of his boat for all of the world to see. So, I stopped to take a look at the deer and check the hunter for the appropriate licenses.

After checking for the appropriate licenses, the hunter began telling me the story of how he had been hunting the management area for years and he finally got a good deer on it. He also went on to tell me that he missed the deer a week before and was trying to bag it before anybody else did.

As he was talking I noticed a Remington .270 rifle in the boat. Normally,

this would not be of any significance seeing as how this is a very common rifle used to hunt deer. However, it was muzzleloader season on the WMA! I asked him what he shot the deer with and he replied, "a .270".

I immediately read the hunter his rights and explained to him that it was muzzleloader season on the WMA. The hunter stated that he read the hunting pamphlet that morning but was in a hurry and did not see that it was muzzleloader season. He then gave me a written statement that he did indeed shoot the deer with a rifle on the WMA.

Sgt. Davis Madere and Sgt. Edward Ridgel then arrived on the scene in order to provide their assistance. Sgt. Madere read the hunter his rights a second time and then began to question him as to where exactly he was hunting. From the description the hunter gave, he was well within the boundaries of the Management Area which is extremely hard to get in and out of. In a nutshell, this guy worked SUPER HARD for this deer!



The hunter was charged with violating rules and regulations on a WMA (hunt deer with a rifle during muzzleloader season), possession of an illegally taken deer, hunt deer illegal methods, and

civil restitution. The deer, the hunter's rifle, and boat were all seized. What a hard way to learn that you have to forget about the chase long enough to read your pamphlet a little closer!

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