

South Carolina

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** Michael Donovan Oswald

SHOT AND KILLED BY POLICE

Date: September 8, 2014

Total Killed: 2 (including shooter)

Law Enforcement Officers Killed: 1

Circumstances: On September 8, 2014, police knocked on the door of concealed handgun permit holder Michael Donovan Oswald, 38, after neighbors complained about a drunken man beating on doors and cars. Using an AK-47-style assault rifle, Oswald fired through the door, killing Deputy Joseph Matuskovic, 45 and wounding Deputy Michael Ackerman, 43. Two off-duty sheriff's deputies who lived in the apartment community had called for help knowing that the on-duty law enforcement personnel would have bullet-resistant vests, which they did not. One of the off-duty deputies who lived in the apartment complex helped return fire, and Oswald was later found dead of gunshot wounds. Oswald was known as a combative man with a long arrest history who frequently got into bar fights. In 2003, Oswald had been convicted for driving under the influence and hit and run with property damage.

Sources: "Authorities: Man who shot deputies had military-style rifle, combative past," *Post and Courier*, September 11, 2014; "After deputy killed in West Ashley, 'incomprehensible' night became even more difficult to bear," *Post and Courier*, September 9, 2014.

South Carolina

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** Julian Deandre Battle

CONVICTED

Date: December 25, 2009

People Killed: 1

Circumstances: On December 25, 2009, concealed handgun permit holder Julian Deandre Battle, 28, shot and killed Rafael Dodd, 29, following a confrontation outside a Greenville apartment building that involved relatives of Battle, guests at a holiday party, and Dodd. According to news reports, party guests were arguing outside the building when Dodd, a fellow concealed handgun permit holder whose permit was issued by Tennessee (which has reciprocity with South Carolina) came down the apartment's staircase and outside to where the argument was occurring. One witness said that he saw Battle grab Dodd by the collar and shoot him. Battle then reportedly mocked Dodd's wound as a "graze wound" and took the witness' cell phone so that he couldn't call 911. In court Battle claimed that Dodd had actually threatened him, and, noting his jewelry, told Battle he could kill him because he was from out of town. Battle claimed that he shot Dodd because he feared being robbed and explained that he knocked the cell phone out of the witness' hand because he feared that it was a gun. Lying next to Dodd's body was a fully loaded handgun that Dodd carried. Battle claimed that Dodd was shot when Dodd pointed his gun at Battle's face. Battle then stated that he turned the gun back at Dodd but that he didn't know whose hand actually pulled the trigger. Although Battle's first trial resulted in a mistrial, the jury in the second found him guilty and sentenced him to life in prison.

Sources: "Man gets life in fatal shooting retrial," *The Greenville News*, November 18, 2011.

South Carolina

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** Matthew Scott Miller

PENDING

Date: July 29, 2009

People Killed: 1

Circumstances: On July 29, 2009, Matthew Scott Miller, 30, allegedly shot and killed Ross Christopher Vigeant, 38, at 10:54 PM in the drive-through lane of a McDonalds fast food restaurant. Vigeant, a father of three, was on a two-day vacation in Myrtle Beach. According to a warrant filed in the case, the two were in the restaurant's drive-through lane when Miller began arguing with Vigeant about moving his vehicle. Vigeant pulled his vehicle up leaving space for Miller to exit, got out of his car, and then approached Miller's vehicle, where they continued to argue. Vigeant then punched Miller. Witnesses heard a "pop," and Miller drove away from the restaurant at a high rate of speed through the space Vigeant had earlier made for him. Vigeant, shot in the chest, staggered back to his vehicle, collapsed, and eventually died from his wound. Miller was arrested the next morning at his home, where police found a 9mm handgun. "My heart breaks for that family," said Miller's mother, "That poor man's family and their kids have no father and we have probably lost a son. It's very sad." Miller obtained a concealed handgun permit after being assaulted and hospitalized three years earlier. "He believed in people's rights to have guns," his mother said, "I told him, 'I wish you wouldn't carry that with you.' If he hadn't, things would be different. But if he didn't he may have been beaten up again." Said Miller's father, "For the most part he's been a great kid. All boys are boys. But this all comes back to his interest in carrying a concealed weapon." Matthew Scott Miller was charged with voluntary manslaughter and possession of a weapon during a violent crime.

Source: "Myrtle Beach man charged in shooting death at McDonalds released from jail," *myrtlebeachonline*, August 12, 2009; "Parents say prior attack may have weighed on homicide suspect," *myrtlebeachonline*, July 31, 2009.

South Carolina

- **Concealed Handgun Permit Holder:** James Forrest Mobley

SUICIDE

Date: May 10, 2007

People Killed: 3 (including shooter)

Circumstances: On May 10, 2007, James Forrest Mobley shot and killed two fellow workers at a Best Buy construction site before turning his handgun on himself. Mobley had overheard the two co-workers discussing him, including one who called him crazy. Mobley grabbed his handgun from his lunch pail and shot the two men 14 times before shooting himself in the head. During the incident he stopped to reload so that he could continue shooting. Mobley had been convicted of marijuana possession in 1975, had an animal complaint, and was subject to a breach of peace charge. Investigators confirmed that Mobley possessed a concealed handgun permit.

Source: "How Thursday's construction site shooting rampage unfolded," *Island Packet* (Hilton Head, SC), May 12, 2007; "Gunman killed 2 after being called 'crazy,'" *The Myrtle Beach Sun-News* (South Carolina), May 12, 2007.