



# SPARTAN FIREARMS TRAINING GROUP

Constitutional Protections for People Who Carry a Firearm for Self-Defense

01



## 4th AMENDMENT

Protects against unreasonable searches and seizures. Police generally need lawful authority to search or seize your person, vehicle, phone, or firearm.

### ★ WHY IT MATTERS

- ✓ After a defensive incident, police may detain you, secure the scene, and seize your firearm.
- ✓ They may also seek to search your vehicle, bag, phone, or home.
- ✓ Lawfully carrying a firearm does not mean you surrender your privacy rights.

### ✓ PRACTICAL TAKEAWAY

Stay calm, obey lawful commands, and clearly state: "I do not consent to any searches."

02



## 5th AMENDMENT

Protects against self-incrimination and guarantees due process. You cannot be forced to give statements that may be used against you.

### ✓ WHY IT MATTERS

- ✓ After a self-defense incident, stress and adrenaline can distort memory and speech.
- ✓ Even justified defenders can say things that sound angry, reckless, or inconsistent.
- ✓ Your own words can become evidence in a criminal or civil case.

### ✓ PRACTICAL TAKEAWAY

Give essential safety information, then say: "I want to cooperate, but I want to speak with my attorney before giving a full statement."

03



## 14th AMENDMENT

Requires state and local governments to respect due process and equal protection. It helps ensure constitutional rights apply against state action.

### ✓ WHY IT MATTERS

- ✓ Most firearm laws, permit systems, prosecutions, and court cases happen at the state and local level.
- ✓ State and local officials must still respect constitutional limits.
- ✓ This amendment helps protect fairness in enforcement and legal proceedings.

### ✓ PRACTICAL TAKEAWAY

Your rights do not disappear when state or local authorities become involved.

## ★★★ BOTTOM LINE ★★★



- ✓ The 4th Amendment protects your privacy and property.
- ✓ The 5th Amendment protects your words and your right to due process.
- ✓ The 14th Amendment requires state and local governments to respect your constitutional rights.



★ **BEING ARMED FOR LAWFUL SELF-DEFENSE MEANS** ★  
**BEING TACTICALLY PREPARED, MORALLY GROUNDED, AND LEGALLY INFORMED.**