

PROJECT: THE DANGERS OF FAKE FIREARMS (PART 2)

Self-defence blank guns are replicas of firearms and look, feel and sound exactly like a real firearm.

These are self-defence guns and not toys.

It is critical to read our initial project regarding the legal aspect of this type of firearm: <u>https://mikebh.link/2fM2qM</u>

Using fake firearms for self-defence is generally not recommended, and there are significant risks and drawbacks associated with such a choice.

It is important to understand the potential pros and cons:

PROS:

- The sight of a firearm, even if fake, may potentially intimidate an aggressor and discourage them from escalating the situation.
- The presence of what appears to be a firearm might deter a potential attacker from initiating an assault.
- A fake firearm might serve as a temporary distraction, giving you an opportunity to escape or seek help.
- These devices are affordable and can be bought online, at flea markets and self-defence stores and are, for some people, an excellent alternative to a firearm for self-defence purposes.
- These guns are used for self-defence and to deter intruders and attackers.
- The Firearms Control Act 60 of 2000 requires no license to have a self-defence blank gun.
- A self-defence blank gun offers a non-lethal alternative to a firearm.

CONS:

- Brandishing a fake firearm, especially in a threatening manner, may lead to legal consequences.
 - It could be considered a criminal act or a violation of laws.
- Displaying any type of weapon, even a fake one, can escalate a situation and potentially lead to a more violent confrontation.
- A fake firearm does not provide any actual means of selfdefence.
- It cannot incapacitate or neutralise a threat, and the presence of a non-functional weapon may not deter an aggressor.
- Depending on the situation, an aggressor may not immediately recognise that the firearm is fake, leading to a heightened risk of violence.
- Using a fake firearm could raise ethical concerns, as it involves deception and the potential for misunderstanding or misinterpretation by law enforcement or others.
- Effectively using a firearm, even a fake one, requires a level of training and skill that most individuals do not possess.
- Using a fake firearm without proper training may lead to unintended consequences.
- Even if using a fake firearm is legally justified, there may be negative perceptions and consequences in legal proceedings or public opinion.

- Unfortunately, criminals now also use these blank guns in robberies and other incidents as they are readily available, affordable and look like real firearms.
- These devices can easily be modified to discharge live ammunition, and in the hands of a criminal, they become dangerous weapons.
- Using a self-defence device might be a successful method to scare intruders and attackers, but it creates the risk of someone returning fire with a real firearm.

Given these considerations, it is generally advisable to explore non-lethal self-defence options, such as personal safety devices (e.g., pepper spray, personal alarms), and to focus on strategies that prioritise de-escalation, avoidance and escape. Additionally, seeking professional guidance on self-defence laws in your jurisdiction is crucial to making informed decisions about personal safety.

Using a fake firearm in a self-defence scenario is not recommended and can lead to dangerous consequences.

Self-defence situations require careful consideration of legal, ethical, and safety aspects. It is important to note that brandishing a fake firearm in self-defence may be against the law and could escalate a situation rather than diffuse it. Always prioritise personal safety and consider alternatives to using any type of weapon, even a fake one, in self-defence. If you find yourself in a potentially dangerous situation, here are some general skills and principles to consider:

- Situational Awareness:
 - $_{\circ}$ $\,$ Be aware of your surroundings and potential threats.
 - Avoid situations that may lead to confrontation when possible.
- Communication Skills:
 - Use verbal communication to defuse conflicts and avoid physical confrontation.
 - Maintain a calm and assertive demeanour.
- Conflict Resolution:
 - Learn conflict resolution techniques to de-escalate tense situations.
 - Seek help or involve authorities when necessary.
- Self-Defense Training:
 - If interested in self-defence, consider training in nonlethal methods such as martial arts or self-defence classes.
 - Focus on techniques that prioritise personal safety and avoidance of harm.
- Legal Knowledge:
 - Understand self-defence laws in your jurisdiction.
 - Know when the use of force is legally justified and what level of force is appropriate.
- Personal Safety Measures:
 - Utilise personal safety devices such as alarms, whistles, or non-lethal deterrents like pepper spray where legally permissible.
- Escape and Evasion:
 - Whenever possible, prioritise escaping or evading the situation rather than confronting it.
 - $_{\circ}$ Have a plan for getting to safety and seeking help.

Remember that the goal of self-defence is to protect yourself from harm, and using a fake firearm may not be the most effective or legal means to achieve that goal.

Always prioritise non-violent solutions and consider seeking guidance from law enforcement or legal professionals for advice specific to your situation and location. Currently, there are concerns as these devices are being used in more and more robberies and other criminal activities, and there are people who are of the opinion that these devices should also be regulated.

Visit our Facebook page and our website for other current projects:

- <u>https://www.facebook.com/MikeBolhuisOfficial</u>
- http://www.mikebolhuis.co.za

Specialised Security Services invites the public to the Mike Bolhuis Daily Projects WhatsApp Group. We have decided to close the previous WhatsApp channel to avoid any duplication and to centralise our efforts in one place.

This group is important in delivering insights into the latest crime trends, awareness, warnings and the exposure of criminals.

HOW TO JOIN THE MIKE BOLHUIS DAILY PROJECTS WHATSAPP GROUP:

- Simply follow the link to our dedicated WhatsApp group: <u>https://chat.whatsapp.com/Ew1H1dbUR988qoG8gei2sE</u>
- Hit the "FOLLOW" button to ensure you never miss our daily updates.
- Tap on the "BELL" icon to receive instant notifications whenever a new post is placed.

• Please share this with family, friends and colleagues.

ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED WITH REGARD TO THE PROJECTS WILL BE TREATED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENTIALITY AND EVERY IDENTITY WILL BE PROTECTED.

You may forward this document.

Regards,

Mike Bolhuis Specialist Investigators into Serious Violent, Serious Economic Crimes & Serious Cybercrimes PSIRA Reg. 1590364/421949 Mobile: +27 82 447 6116 E-mail: <u>mike@mikebolhuis.co.za</u> Fax: 086 585 4924 Follow us on Facebook to view our projects -<u>https://www.facebook.com/MikeBolhuisOfficial</u>

EXTREMELY IMPORTANT: All potential clients need to be aware that owing to the nature of our work as specialist investigators there are people who have been caught on the wrong side of the law - who are trying to discredit me - Mike Bolhuis and my organisation Specialised Security Services - to get themselves off the hook.

This retaliation happens on social media and creates doubt about our integrity and ability. Doubt created on social media platforms is both unwarranted and untrue.

We strongly recommend that you make up your minds concerning me and our organisation only after considering all the factual information - to the exclusion of hearsay and assumptions.

Furthermore, you are welcome to address your concerns directly with me should you still be unsatisfied with your conclusions. While the internet provides a lot of valuable information, it is also a platform that distributes a lot of false information. The distribution of false information, fake news, slander and hate speech constitutes a crime that can be prosecuted by law. Your own research discretion and discernment are imperative when choosing what and what not to believe.

STANDARD RULES APPLY: Upon appointment, we require a formal mandate with detailed instructions. Please take note that should you not make use of our services – you may not under any circumstance use my name or the name of my organisation as a means to achieve whatever end.

POPI ACT 4 of 2013 South Africa: Mike Bolhuis' "Specialised Security Services" falls under Section 6 of the act. Read more here: <u>https://mikebolhuis.co.za/popi-act-4-of-2013-section-6-mike-bolhuis/</u>

SSS TASK TEAM:

https://mikebh.link/sss-task-team

SSS CYBERCRIME UNIT:

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