

a kitchen table.²¹ In September 2004, the 3-year-old stepson of a Marshall County, Alabama deputy sheriff unintentionally killed himself with a Glock pistol.²²

Remington Rifles

Remington 700, 721, 722, 40X, and 600 series bolt-action rifles have discharged unexpectedly when the safety control is moved to "Off" from a position of "Safe." Remington itself calls this defect "Firing on Safety Release" (abbreviated "FSR" in Remington documents). Firing on safety release is the most common but not the only type of Remington rifle unintentional discharge that can occur without the trigger being pulled. Remington also has had hundreds of customer complaints for firing when the bolt is closed (FBC), firing on bolt opening (FBO), and firing when jarred or bumped (JO).²³

Despite the fact that Remington had convened a Product Safety Subcommittee to evaluate complaints about the Model 700, it responded to every customer complaint with a form letter blaming the consumer for "amateur gunsmithing" or improper cleaning or lubrication. When Remington could not attribute the complaint to one of these causes, it stated that the company was unable to duplicate the problem and that the consumer must have inadvertently pulled the trigger.²⁴ According to attorney Richard Miller, who has litigated numerous cases on Remington rifle defects, "To this day, Remington has never publicly admitted (as it does in internal documents) that its bolt action rifles are susceptible to intermittent unexpected discharges without pulling the trigger."²⁵

Saturday night special Handguns

The Bryco/Jennings Model 38 semiautomatic is similar in design and manufacture to many other guns commonly known as Saturday night specials or "junk guns." Die-cast metal and other forms of low-priced construction are used to make Saturday night specials inexpensive to manufacture and purchase. Many of these pistols, such as the Bryco 38, have one manual safety but no internal automatic drop safety. When first sold, the Bryco retailed for about \$100. Other .380-caliber pistols, made of steel and

²¹ Associated Press report, January 4, 2004 (The ultra-compact 9mm Model 26 Glock was the officer's backup gun, which he had left on a bedroom bureau. It should be noted that ultra-compact pistols in general have a toy-like appearance that has been known to attract small children).

²² *Sand Mountain Reporter*, September 14, 2004.

²³ Correspondence: Richard Miller, Esq. to *SHOOTING INDUSTRY* business journal, July 14, 1993.

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ *Ibid.*