

Check out this video from J.J. of Reality Survival, What he would do after a self defense shooting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5HoyIGy7yM8>

In the video he gives an example of what you should say to the police and I really like it. Instead of just lawyering up you give a small explanation and show that you will cooperate while lawyering up.

“I would like to speak to an attorney before I provide a written statement or answer any questions. But I want you to know that I am the victim of this crime and that I was afraid for my life. I felt that if I did not defend myself the criminal was going to kill me. I will fully cooperate with your investigation and I will sign the complaint against the criminal. But because the issue is so serious I would like to consult with an attorney before answering any additional questions.”

Here is some additional advice.

As soon as you stopped the threat, kick the criminals weapon away from him and do not touch. You do not want your prints on it. When the scene is safe, make a brief video and pictures of the scene, do not speak while you are filming, your attorney may want to use your video in court. If there is a serious fact that should be pointed out then make a very quick secondary video. Holster your weapon when officers arrive to show you are not the threat. Show arriving officers any evidence on scene. Any casualties and if you received any wounds. Also point out any surveillance cameras in the area(some cameras are on a loop and if you do not remove the video it may get recorded over). Point out any witnesses that saw the incident happen. If anybody tries to leave before the police arrive ask them to stay. If they still insist on leaving then take a picture of them and/or their license plate number.

Forward text/email copies of your pictures and videos to another source that law enforcement cannot immediately seize like an email account that is not accessible from your phone for safe keeping. Your attorney would be a very good recipient. Keep your phone password protected and do not release your password until you speak to your attorney. Get the names of reporting officers, badge numbers and the report number of the incident for your attorney.

Somewhere in the process after the scene is safe you will want to provide first aid to other victims and the criminal or get a bystander(s) to assist you in rendering aid. Be careful that evidence will not be disturbed or destroyed. When the criminal or their family member tries to sue you for shooting him or her it will look better that you provided aid after you defended yourself from being attacked. Keep your mouth shut except to your spouse or your attorney. There is no statute of limitations for murder.

Something to consider is that 911 will try to keep you on the line until the cops get there. Either do your quick video before you call or politely but firmly tell them you have to go and hang up on them.

Watch your words and actions. Police are trained in interrogation techniques and will do everything in their power to speak to you about the incident and will change wording to try to trip you up and to compare your responses. There is nothing wrong with you standing by your decision to remain silent until you speak to your attorney. You may be shamed or made to feel guilty. You have a legal right to remain silent, hold your ground, do it firmly but with respect.

Pocket sized print off, laminate and put in your wallet/purse, vehicle, bedroom, near your most widely used exterior door. Basically put it where you will have access to it. Below is the statement and an abbreviated to do list. Familiarize yourself with the above to do list so you can better relate it to the abbreviated list.

Front

"I would like to speak to an attorney before I provide a written statement or answer any questions. But I want you to know that I am the victim of this crime and that I was afraid for my life. I felt that if I did not defend myself the criminal was going to kill me. I will fully cooperate with your investigation and I will sign the complaint against the criminal. But because the issue is so serious I would like to consult with an attorney before answering any additional questions."

Back

Stop the threat, kick the criminals weapon away from him and do not touch. When scene is safe, make a brief video and pictures of the scene for your attorney. Forward email/text to 3rd party. Render 1st Aid to assailant/victims. Show officers evidence on scene. Any casualties and if you received wounds. Point out any surveillance cameras and any witnesses If witness leave take a picture of them/plate number. Get names of officers/badge# and the incident report number for attorney. Watch your words and actions. Watch for interrogation techniques Stand by your decision to remain silent until you speak to your attorney. You have a legal right to remain silent, hold your ground, do it firmly but with respect.

Try to video tape this statement and reactions.

- 1. I do not consent to searches.**
- 2. I am not speaking to you or answering any questions and I want to speak to an attorney.**
- 3. I do not agree to stay here with you for any reason. Are you detaining me or am I free to go?**

SELF-DEFENSE ACT (EXCERPT) Act 309 of 2006

780.972 Use of deadly force by individual not engaged in commission of crime; conditions. Sec. 2. (1) An individual who has not or is not engaged in the commission of a crime at the time he or she uses deadly force may use deadly force against another individual anywhere he or she has the legal right to be with no duty to retreat if either of the following applies: (a) The individual honestly and reasonably believes that the use of deadly force is necessary to prevent the imminent death of or imminent great bodily harm to himself or herself or to another individual. (b) The individual honestly and reasonably believes that the use of deadly force is necessary to prevent the imminent sexual assault of himself or herself or of another individual. (2) An individual who has not or is not engaged in the commission of a crime at the time he or she uses force other than deadly force may use force other than deadly force against another individual anywhere he or she has the legal right to be with no duty to retreat if he or she honestly and reasonably believes that the use of that force is necessary to defend himself or herself or another individual from the imminent unlawful use of force by another individual. History: 2006, Act 309, Eff. Oct. 1, 2006.