

June 4, 2024

**THE MOST COMMON PATROL RIFLE® MALFUNCTIONS
ARE USER INDUCED & HAPPEN FROM THE CAR CARRY CONDITION**

This is more common for LEO's than any mechanical malfunction that ever happens in training or on the street with modern-day patrol rifles.

I know this likely goes against everything you've been taught about the most common patrol rifle malfunctions that can occur.

How can I say this so definitively? Because I've watched it happen repeatedly in training and on the street for 30+ years.

At the National Patrol Rifle Championships (NPRC) and the various Patrol Rifle and LPVO schools that we instruct, we repeatedly advise the competitors and students that the two most common patrol rifle malfunctions are:

- Forgetting to charge a round while under stress
- Short stroking the charging handle while under stress

For the last year we have asked competitors at the NPRC and the students at our schools to watch for this and they are shocked at how often they witness others do it. The shocking part is that the student or competitor knows that they must properly charge the patrol rifle while deploying from a car carry condition as part of a course of fire. Yet, the user induced malfunctions still happen pretty frequently simply because a little stress was added, which is nothing compared to the stress these officers face on the streets.

If you have doubts about this claim, that's good because you should check this out for yourselves. Do it by taking a decent sized sampling (officers) and have them run some drills where the rifle is set up in the car carry condition (rifle on safe, bolt closed on cold chamber with a loaded magazine inserted). Don't tell them what you're checking for. Then run several stress related drills using time, scoring and physical exertion. Watch closely and you will see instances of these user induced malfunctions occur more than you will see a mechanically induced malfunction. Then ask yourself the question, why do we spend more time training for mechanical malfunctions (phase one or phase two) than the user induced malfunctions that that we now know happen far more frequently?

I wrote the attached article about considering a new carry method right after the 2023 NPRC for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ofc. Jeff Felts (ret.)
Center Mass, Inc.

Center Mass, Inc., 33825 Plymouth Rd., Livonia MI 48150
800-794-1216 / www.centermassinc.com