



The Five Point Draw

By Brian S. Williams – Founder / Director of Training Services at

Grey Wolf Consulting, LLC

www.greywolfconsulting.us

Introduction

Knowing how to properly and effectively draw a firearm from its holster, represents perhaps one of the most important skills necessary for anyone who carries a handgun for defense.

A common technique is known as the “Five Point Draw”, where rather than viewing the draw as a single movement, the technique is broken down to five distinct stages.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

WHILE THIS ARTICLE WILL EXPLAIN THE ACTUAL METHOD FOR PERFORMING THIS TECHNIQUE, IT SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS ACTUAL INSTRUCTION AND SHOULD NEVER BE ATTEMPTED OUTSIDE OF THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF A QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR.

Point One: Establishing a Grip on the Pistol

Point 1 is where a stable grip is established on the firearm and any simple retention systems such as snaps, etc. will be disengaged.

Point Two: Removing the Firearm from Its Holster

Point 2 is where the firearm is removed from the holster and is maintained with the butt of the weapon held close to the body with a single upward movement, before angling the muzzle slightly forward in the direction of the target.

Point Three: Moving into a Ready Position

Point 3 is where muzzle awareness and trigger-finger discipline become even more important, as the firearm within this stage is now being moved forward of the body and into a ready position where the firearms is maintained high and close to the body with the muzzle angled downward and caution needs to be exercised to attempt to avoid or at minimum “Lasering” any unintended bystanders..

Point Four: Presentation of the Firearm At the Target

Point 4 is where the firearm is presented at the target from the ready position with a single straight movement.

Point Five: Firing

Point 5 is the actual firing of the weapon at the target.

The Benefits of The 5 Point Draw

Perhaps the biggest benefit of breaking this technique into five separate stages are found within the following elements:

1. **Consistency:** By maintaining the same movement each time the firearm is drawn will help in the development of “Muscle Memory”, which can lead to a faster and more efficient response to a threat.
2. **Error Correction:** Within training or practice, errors can be more quickly identified and addressed, as each stage is individual.
3. **Reduction in Wasted Movement:** Excessive extra movement can and often will drain time, which is the one resource which is generally the least available within a confrontation. With this technique, such wasted movement can be identified and minimized.

Technique vs. Speed

While true, speed is an extremely important principle within a violent confrontation, just like shooting, performing this skill faster than individual ability can lead to errors such as wasted movement. The “Five Point Draw” should not be viewed as a race, because speed is a consequence of efficient, consistent movement and not something that should be forced.

In Conclusion

The “Five Point Draw” provides a practical framework for understanding the drawing of a handgun as a sequence of controlled movements rather than a single action. By breaking the process into five stages initial position, clearing, orientation, establishing the supported position, and completing the presentation.

Ultimately, effective technique is not defined by speed alone. The goal is to develop movements that are safe, controlled, consistent, and repeatable. When each stage is understood and practiced deliberately, the “Five Point Draw” becomes a useful framework for building disciplined, reliable performance.

Continue Your Training Journey with Grey Wolf Consulting, LLC

We encourage you to continue exploring the Grey Wolf Consulting, LLC training resources and educational articles to help you build a stronger foundation of knowledge and skill.

At Grey Wolf Consulting, LLC (www.greywolfconsulting.us) our slogan reads Knowledge – Integrity – Discretion – Honor, It is these principles in addition to our belief and philosophy that the selection of proper equipment is only one part of developing a responsible and capable mindset. While tools are extremely important, they are only truly most effective when combined with proper knowledge, skill and attitude coupled with sound judgment, and quality training.

Our training philosophy is built around developing well-rounded individuals who understand that personal safety and professional performance require more than simply equipment alone. Awareness, critical thinking, communication, and disciplined decision making skills remain the foundation of effective preparation.

Through continued education with Grey Wolf Consulting, LLC, students can further develop their understanding of:

- The role equipment plays within a broader preparedness plan
- How stress impacts critical decision-making and performance

- The high value of consistent professional training and continued education
- How the correct mindset will impact informed decisions within high stress environments

Whether you are beginning your training journey, expanding your knowledge, or seeking to refine your existing skill set, Grey Wolf Consulting, LLC (www.greywolfconsulting.us) is committed to providing high quality professional firearms and tactics education focused on professionalism, responsibility, and continuous improvement.

About the Author

Brian S. Williams is a professional firearms instructor, tactical trainer, and executive security consultant with greater than 35 years of experience in firearms instruction, use-of-force training, and protective operations. As the founder of several firearms training and security organizations, he has developed and delivered firearms, tactical, and instructor certification programs for civilians, law enforcement officers, military personnel, and licensed security professionals throughout the United States.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Williams has trained and certified more than 10,500 Connecticut pistol permit applicants, instructed more than 2,000 civilians and hundreds of law enforcement and security professionals in advanced firearms and tactical applications, and provided remedial firearms training to military and correctional personnel. He served as a Marine Police Officer and Watch Commander with the Lake Housatonic Marine Police / Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and was appointed to the Connecticut State Police Firearms Advisory Council, where he contributed to firearms training and policy discussions.

Mr. Williams holds numerous professional certifications, including NRA Training Counselor, NRA Law Enforcement Firearms Instructor, General Dynamics Simunitions FX™ Instructor, The Heckler & Koch International Training Division and Sig Sauer Academy Instructor certifications, and USCCA Concealed Carry and Home Defense Instructor. He is the author of *Welcome to the Real World: A Dangerous Place to Be Caught Unprepared* and has been recognized as an expert in firearms by the Connecticut Superior Courts. His work continues to emphasize responsible firearms ownership, sound judgment, lawful use of force, and practical, reality-based training.