

INSTRUCTIONAL MANUAL FOR  
**D & L SPORTS, INC. 1911 AUTO PISTOLS**  
SERVICE MODEL, PROFESSIONAL MODEL,  
LONGSLIDE MODEL, & SHORT SLIDE



This manual should always accompany this firearm and be transferred with it upon change of possession. Please read and understand this owner's manual and all safety rules before handling, manipulating and/or firing your D & L Sports, Inc. firearm. It is vital to your safety and to the safety of others that you accurately follow the information contained in this manual, as well as the information supplied by reputable ammunition manufacturers. If you have any questions, please contact D & L Sports, Inc. Keep your firearms and ammunition secured separately, and out of the reach of children and other unauthorized personnel.

# OVERVIEW OF THE D & L SPORTS, INC. 1911 AUTO PISTOL

## SERVICE MODEL, PROFESSIONAL MODEL, LONGSLIDE MODEL, & SHORT SLIDE

**CAUTION:** PRIOR TO USING YOUR D & L SPORTS, INC. FIREARM, READ AND UNDERSTAND THESE INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY AND COMPLETELY. IF THERE IS ANYTHING THAT YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND, CONTACT D & L SPORTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

D & L SPORTS, INC.  
P.O. BOX 4843  
CHINO VALLEY, AZ 86323

PH: (928) 636-1726 FAX: (928) 636-1757  
WEB: WWW.DLSPORTS.COM  
e-mail: dlsportscustom@gmail.com

MAKE: D & L Sports, Inc.    MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_    SERIAL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations! You have just acquired a premium grade 1911 style pistol. Your new D & L Sports, Inc. 1911 Auto Pistol has been handcrafted by Dave Lauck of D & L Sports, Inc. Years of development, research and testing have all been factored into the features and reliable operation of this pistol. This instruction manual has been provided to give you an overview of the operation and maintenance of the pistol for safe and proper use. Following these instructions will help ensure the pistol performs properly for years to come. Prior to handling, loading and/or firing your new pistol, be sure to read and understand all safety rules and instructions completely. Failure to do so could result in serious injury, death, or property damage.

Caliber: 45 ACP

Barrel Length: 4.5 inches, 5 inches, or 6 inches

Overall Length: 8 inches (SS) 8.5 inches (5" model) 9.5 inches (6" model)

Overall Weight: (unloaded) approximately 32 – 45 oz. Depending upon model

# QUICK START 1911 POINTS

Follow all gun safety and 1911 operational rules.

DO NOT snap the slide down empty.

ONLY LOAD the chamber by cycling a live round into the chamber from the magazine by racking the slide.

DO NOT lock the slide open and load a cartridge directly into the chamber and close the slide. This can bend or break your extractor. Only load the chamber by cycling a round into the chamber from the magazine.

Some firearm instructors will have you practice ‘failure to extract’ clearance drills by racking the slide/extractor hook over the case head of the case that is stuck in the chamber. This drill is for emergency use only. You need to understand how to do it, but practicing it with your duty gun creates the risk of bending or breaking your extractor, and or causing the gun to start malfunctioning. Use a “training only” pistol for this drill.

Keep your 1911 well lubricated. The bore, chamber and breachface should be dry. Other sliding, or contact surfaces should be wet with lube. Lube should be suited to your environment. In cold climates do not use lube that will freeze or cause the gun to become sluggish. Some conditions may favor a dry lube. Test and confirm what will best suit your requirements

Reloaded ammo and +P ammo should not be used. Your 1911 is not a magnum handgun. A quality, standard velocity, factory produced 230 grain FMJ load at a reasonable cost is Federal American Eagle ball ammo. The most highly recommended ammo is loaded with the 200 grain RNSWC Bullet. The RNSWC (Round Nose Semi Wadcutter) Bullet is well recognized as the “Best Feeding” bullet available. Using the wrong ammo and/or magazine can cause malfunctions and other dangerous problems.

## Historical Development of the D&L .45 ACP Bullet

The mid and late nineteenth century firmly established the .45 caliber pistol as reasonably effective. Lessons from decades of real life ballistic experience were not being heeded when the US Army issued .38 caliber S&W revolvers for U.S. troops serving in the Philippines. A local muslim tribe, the Moros, rebelled and the army participated in suppression of that rebellion. However U.S. troops found the smaller caliber .38 inadequate for stopping motivated tribesmen. Instances were reported where tribesmen had been shot through and through several times with a .38 caliber revolver yet still managed to cut up the unfortunate individual armed with the .38. (reported in 1908) In the next decade the army adopted the 1911 45 ACP. We know from study and experience that aggressors can be hit with nearly any pistol load and still fail to stop. However, history indicates that a hit from a larger, more powerful handgun is more likely to stop an aggressor than a hit from a lesser cartridge. Modern attempts to 'prove' smaller cartridges are just as effective, or more effective than larger cartridges through gelatin testing does not square with history, or with dispatching live game animals in the 100 – 400 pound category with torso pistol shots. A real reason for adoption of small caliber handguns is that it is easier to train novice shooters to qualify with smaller cartridges. We are seeing this failure to properly train first responders to a reasonable skill level much too often in our modern times. This lack of training and skill is repeatedly demonstrated in high volume shootings with very poor hit rates.

Pioneers in shooting history have provided us with much information and experience from which to draw, and expand upon, by continuing the quest for improved performance. One of these shooting pioneers was Elmer Keith (1899 -1984). Mr. Keith is probably best known for his efforts in developing 'magnum' revolvers. He is also known for his efforts in improving pistol bullet designs. His work in the area of bullet design led to the creation of "Keith Style" bullets. The final bullet designs were primarily flat nose semiwadcutters. SWC bullets feature full caliber cutting shoulders to cut relatively clean holes, while the reduced caliber nose achieves a higher ballistic coefficient than a full wadcutter bullet. A well-made SWC bullet works well for both target shooting and

hunting (when used within the limitations of a handgun). Experienced hunters who have used hollowpoint and softpoint bullets at conventional handgun velocities have witnessed their failures and inconsistencies first hand. Mr. Keith, and other experienced handgun hunters have concluded that a large caliber solid bullet, with a full caliber cutting shoulder works best. It is very difficult to objectively argue with actual successful performance in the field. You can read more about Mr. Keith's experience and development in his books, including "Sixguns", published in 1955.

*"A large entrance hole is just as important as a large exit hole... placing the first shot is of vital importance... if the bullet be properly shaped it will cut a full caliber hole which is what you want... we found this out the hard way... back in 1917." - Elmer Keith.*

Mr. Keith's opinions were also confirmed during the Thompson-LaGarde tests of 1904: of the rounds tested, .45 caliber or larger projectiles were found to be most effective. They also noted that training was critical to make sure shooters could make hits in the vitals for handgun bullets to be effective. In other words, they recognized shot placement with pistol bullets is critical, and proper training was required to achieve proper hits. (Now in modern times we find the hit rate achieved by emergency responders to be very poor. Instead of increasing professional training, people have sought to address the problem with higher magazine capacity. We now see the results of this mentality with high numbers of rounds being fired during serious incidents and dismally low hit rates being achieved.)

The 1911 autopistol was available in Mr. Keith's lifetime, but was not as developed and refined as it has become in more modern times. In some cases, modernization of the 1911 was a detriment to its reliability. Other developments for the 1911 have truly advanced it to a new level of performance.

John Dean Cooper, aka "Jeff" Cooper and Colonel Cooper (1920-2006), is the person who really educated people about the "shootability" of the 1911 pistol. John Moses Browning (1855-1926) is deservedly

considered the genius of modern firearms design, and was the designer of the 1911 pistol. The overall layout of the 1911 pistol design is ‘just right’ for the human hand. It was Col. Cooper who most brought this information to the attention of the international shooting community. Col. Cooper’s experience in WWII and the Korean war formed his opinion that large bore handguns were best for close combat, and the 1911 pistol provided a superior design layout and a .45 caliber projectile capability. Col. Cooper developed a “Modern Technique” for using a pistol in defensive encounters, and founded the American Pistol Institute/Gunsite in 1976. Gunsite is a place where people can learn gun safety, mindset, awareness and the techniques Col Cooper developed. (Training at ‘Gunsite’ in Paulden, AZ still continues today thanks to Buz Mills. You can learn more, obtain books by Col. Cooper, and sign up for courses by going to [www.Gunsite.com](http://www.Gunsite.com)).

Col. Cooper and Dave Lauck came together over mutual interests improving performance in shooting, training, hunting, bullets and firearms. Col. Cooper often used the G.I. loading for the 1911 pistol; 230 grain FMJ ball ammo. However, he was aware that the “Keith” bullet design offered improved wounding effect at handgun velocities. The drawback was that the flat/sharp nose of the Keith bullet was not the proper design to work well in the 1911 autopistol which was designed for FMJ ball bullets. Both Col. Cooper and Lauck agreed that anything that was adverse to pistol reliability was unacceptable. Col. Cooper moved his experimentation forward by testing FMJ truncated cone flat point bullets. The bullet only featured a small caliber flat point and it was rounded and radiused to help feeding reliability. Testing revealed that the bullet suffered from bullet set back during the feeding cycle, as neither the bullet or the case were cannelured. The rounded small flat on the nose, and lack of full caliber cutting shoulder made its ‘improvement’ over ball bullets questionable. The bullet push back issue adversely affected reliability, so that made it a no-go for serious carry ammunition.

During a 1997 big game hunting trip Col. Cooper and Lauck discussed creating something better as an all-around load and bullet for the .45 ACP 1911 pistol. Both Col. Cooper and Lauck recognized the issues of concern with ball ammo in tissue; bullet ‘push through’. They also recognized inconsistent performance and

failures with HP and SP bullets when fired at .45 ACP velocities. Turning up the velocity for better performance could be mechanically dangerous, and disrupt the excellent balance of speed, power, and accuracy that the .45 ACP provides. A full caliber cutting shoulder on a 200 grain .45 ACP bullet at a reasonable 850 – 900 FPS velocity would be a logical solution. (History tells us that Mr. Browning initially developed a 200 grain .45 ACP loading at 900 FPS for the Model 1905 before it morphed into the 1911 pistol. It was reportedly the U.S. military who requested the bullet weight be increased to 230 grains to be closer to the .45 Colt load that the cavalry was using. Mr. Browning's contributions to arms development has proven to be so significant that his thoughts cannot be overlooked.)

Col. Cooper and Lauck knew there was a noticeable improvement in .45 ACP impact performance when using 200 grain H&G68 bullets at 850-900 FPS during hunting and for dispatching wounded game. H&G68 bullets are also widely used by competition shooters due to their clean hole cutting ability in paper targets. However, the H&G68 bullet features a flat point, in addition to a full caliber cutting shoulder. The flat point will often cause a stumble during the feed cycle of a 1911. Many guns will feed the bullet, but a knowledgeable 1911 mechanic can feel the stumble. A stumble is too close to a failure to feed for the bullet to be used as an all-around carry round. A good feature of the narrowed nose of the H&G68 bullet was that it would bypass the internal lug of the slide stop on a 1911 pistol, thus not causing slide lock back while the pistol was still loaded, a problem that round nose ball bullets can cause.

Following the 1997 hunting trip the Cooper and Lauck families traveled to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center/Museum in Cody, Wyoming where Col. Cooper's D & L Sports custom 1911 pistol was inducted into the museum for display, along with recognition of Col. Cooper's contributions to the firearms world.

Col. Cooper's comments about bullets were consistent with observed field performance.

*"I do not have use for JHP/SP bullets in handguns. At typical handgun velocities bullet expansion is inconsistent at best, and sometimes completely non-existent. Sometimes the penetration of JHP/SP bullets is very limited, and so is the effect of the wound. Worse is the functional unreliability that they can cause. Shooting into gelatin is not the same as living tissue because there are more things involved than just consistent physical resistance. Bones also have*



*to be considered. The semi wadcutter is a very good bullet shape. If you take a .45 ACP and load it with a SWC bullet you are going to take a radical jump in stopping power. In my personal view, what causes the increase in stopping power is the 'cookie cutter' effect. When SWC bullets are driving through tissue they are not bending muscle and nerve tissue out of the way, they are chopping it like a cookie cutter. We see this effect in the wounding when using a sharp shoulder on the bullet. A cookie cutter bullet plows its way through, chops its way through. It is a very good wounding effect."*

*Two bullet designs are available for the widest range of functional reliability and performance. The auto pistol bullet is on the left and the revolver bullet is on the right. Be sure to select the correct one for your needs.*

- Col. Jeff Cooper

The goal was clear. Create a 200 grain SWC bullet specifically for the 1911 autopistol. Now approaching the 100th birthday of Col. Cooper, it has been achieved. Lauck's mechanical design knowledge of the 1911 pistol allowed for profiling a rounded bullet nose to best conform with the two stage feed ramp of the pistol and feed with a smoothness not achieved before. The narrowed rounded nose of the new D&L 200 grain bullet feeds BETTER than 230 grain FMJ ball bullets.



The narrowed bullet nose no longer has the bluntness of ball bullets which can false lock the pistol open while it is still loaded. The narrowed nose also improves ballistic coefficient. Now centermass holding is possible from 0 – 50 yards. During 2017-2018 over 100,000 rounds of the prototype bullets were tested in a single 1911 pro model with compatible magazines. Zero stoppages. If your 1911 pistol and magazine combination will not feed these properly loaded bullets, your pistol needs adjustment. This load has also been tested in a variety of other .45 ACP pistols and demonstrated the same smooth feeding performance.

The Brinell hardness of the D&L 200 grain RNSWC bullet is 17. Why? The hardness of the bullet interacts with the pressure generated by the cartridge/load being used. Selecting the proper bullet hardness for the pressure generated by the .45 ACP load being used causes the bullet to properly obturate and seal the bore. In other words, history, experience, and a mathematical formula concludes that 17 is the proper Brinell hardness for this .45 ACP loading. This, combined with the fully coated bullet, makes barrel leading a thing of the past.

The coating on these bullets is known as Hi-Tek Supercoat. It is a unique heat-set coating originally developed in Australia. Lauck designed the bullet molds to form this new 200 grain .45 ACP bullet to not only create a new bullet shape, but also to use with this coating process. The coating dramatically reduces smoke compared to conventional lead bullets. Lead fouling of the bore is drastically reduced, or in most cases eliminated completely. Even after high round count training sessions, bore cleaning is simplistic. With this coating there is no need for wax lube which commonly gums up loading dies and guns alike. The end result is cleaner air, hands, guns, and loading equipment.

The narrowed base of the round nose of the D&L bullet also allows for the formation of a full caliber cutting shoulder on the bullet. Now we have the .452" hole cutting ability of the HG68 bullet, with superior feeding reliability. This is combined with a beveled bullet base for smooth seating, and a full coverage coating to solve the problems of smoke and barrel leading. We are now at a time in development history where we have a bullet well suited for all-around .45 ACP ammunition, GSP (General Service Pistol) ammunition. There is no longer

a need to switch out ammunition between practice and 'duty' ammunition, there are no longer the problems of different recoil impulses and different zero points, there is no need for supersonic defensive pistol ammo with the increased noise and blast it produces. Using high pressure, or Plus P, ammunition in an effort to force hollow point bullets to perform better not only increases blast and noise, it also operates close to the level of rupturing cartridge cases. When you operate at this level of pressure, have non-supported case web, combined with a dirty or partially obstructed bore, a blown case can become reality. Once this happens you may lose your sight, be injured by your own equipment, and your pistol will probably become non-functional. It is not necessary to operate at this level... This 200 grain .45 ACP load is controllable and has an excellent balance of speed, power, and accuracy. One load all the time. This is not a magic bullet, nor an overated wonder bullet. The D&L bullet is simply a .45 caliber 200 grain SWC coated lead projectile that shoots accurately and functions well. You must place it properly for it to be effective. Just remember your safety rules, and that shot placement is most important with any pistol bullet.

For defensive handgun shooters, avoid the confrontation whenever it is realistic to do so. When you can't avoid the conflict, consider this... There are generally four ways to 'stop' a dangerous threat with a handgun; Bullet penetration and serious damage to the brain/upper spinal cord. Damage to the skeletal system. Major blood loss. Mental surrender (aggressor gives up the fight).

Any bullet style/caliber that does sufficient damage to the brain and or upper spinal cord is probably going to end the situation, so caliber arguments are moot. However, the head can be a small, difficult to hit moving target, and bullets may deflect and or not penetrate a vital area. If mental surrender is achieved, the situation is also solved. Mental surrender is unpredictable. Body impacts are the most likely because the body is the largest target area. This is where the large caliber, deep penetrating pistol bullet has probable advantage over light caliber, low penetration bullets. Skeletal damage and quicker blood loss are more likely with larger pistol bullets. However, body shots with any caliber often take time to take effect. Be prepared to deal with continued aggression and for follow up shots.

Become a safe and skilled handgunner and make the choices that best suit your requirements.

If your 1911 pistol is equipped with a locking firing pin stop, make sure the set screw is below flush with the stop, and blue (#242) loctited in place. Check it during routine maintenance.

If your pistol is equipped with aluminum grips, your grip screws should be secured with a SMALL dab of #242 blue loctite.

If you have a 6" longslide pistol with a two piece guide rod, the rod should have a SMALL amount of #242 blue loctite placed on the guide rod threads during reassembly. In order to turn the guide into its final snug condition, place the barrel / slide assembly back on the frame, and lock the slide into the open position with the slide stop. Doing so will hold the guide rod head from turning as you use an allen wrench to final snug the two piece guide rod. Remove barrel / slide assembly and wipe off all excess loctite from the area where the guide rods join each other. Be sure ALL excess loctite is removed, then lube the pistol as normal.

Change recoil spring every 1,000 rounds in 1911's. Change magazine springs every 90 days if mags are kept loaded. Use #242 blue loctite on magazine base screws.

Be sure to carry any specialty tools, wrenches, parts, etc. with you into the field to keep your equipment operational.

If your 1911 is equipped with the recoil buffer option, replace the buffers as soon as they show signs of being cut.

Questions can be directed to Dave Lauck at 928.636.1726.

Thank you.

# FIREARMS SAFETY - IMPORTANT WARNINGS

## **READ THIS SECTION! DO NOT PROCEED WITHOUT FIRST READING THE SAFETY SECTION!**

As the owner or custodian of a firearm, it is your responsibility to ensure the safe handling and storage of all your firearms and ammunition. The following is a brief list of basic safety rules. For additional safety information, refer to a qualified firearms instructor, the NRA, the D & L Sports, Inc. website at [WWW.DLSPORTS.COM](http://WWW.DLSPORTS.COM) or contact D & L Sports, Inc. directly.

- 1. ALL GUNS ARE ALWAYS LOADED! TREAT THEM WITH THIS IN MIND AT ALL TIMES!**
- 2. NEVER COVER ANYTHING WITH THE MUZZLE THAT YOU ARE NOT WILLING TO DESTROY!**
- 3. KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF OF THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOUR SIGHTS ARE ON TARGET AND YOU ARE READY TO FIRE.**
- 4. BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND! ASSURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT TARGET AND A SAFE BACKSTOP!**
- 5. ALWAYS WEAR YOUR SAFETY EQUIPMENT; EYE AND EAR PROTECTION AND BALLISTIC PROTECTION!**
- 6. IF YOUR FIREARM FAILS TO FIRE, KEEP IT POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION FOR ONE MINUTE PRIOR T CLEARING THE CHAMBER IN CASE OF DELAYED FIRING (HANG FIRE)!**
- 7. DRUGS AND ALCOHOL DO NOT MIX WITH FIREARMS!**
- 8. STORE YOUR FIREARMS IN A QUALITY GUIN SAFE AND KEEP YOUR AMMUNITION LOCKED UP SEPERATELY! KEEP YOUR FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SECURED AWAY FROM CHILDREN AND UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL. DO NOT STORE LOADED FIREARMS!**
- 9. DO NOT LEAVE YOUR FIREARM UNATTENDED!**

10. **SELECT A PROPER FIRING RANGE WITH A SAFE BACKSTOP AND PROPER VENTILATION. DO NOT SHOOT AT SURFACES WHICH MAY CAUSE RICOCHETS, UNSAFE BULLET SPLATTER, OR FRAGMENTATION!**
11. **KNOW YOUR EQUIPMENT AND ITS CAPABILITIES, AS WELL AS YOUR OWN!**
12. **ALWAYS USE PROPER SPECIFICATION AMMUNITION, QUALITY MAGAZINES, AND CONDUCT ROUTINE PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE.**
13. **DO NOT KEEP OR CARRY FIREARMS FOR SELF DEFENSE OR OTHERWISE WITHOUT PROPER TRAINING AND PROFICIENCY!**
14. **ALWAYS SAFELY CHECK THE CONDITION OF ANY FIREARM YOU COME IN CONTACT WITH! OBTAIN COMPETANT ASSISTANCE IF YOU ARE UNSURE HOW TO CHECK THE CONDITION OF AN UNFAMILIAR FIREARM!**
15. **TO A VOID LEAD INGESTION, DO NOT EAT OR DRINK DURING SHOOTING ACTIVITIES. WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY AFTER SHOOTING AND BEFORE EATING OR DRINKING!**

**DO NOT SACRIFICE SAFETY FOR ANY PERCEIVED ADVANTAGE!**

Good safety habits will become second nature if they are always observed. Safe habits are especially important in high-stress situations; unintentionally shooting yourself or someone else will do little to help you complete the task at hand. Make safety a habit at all times!

Formal firearms training from a knowledgeable and competent firearms instructor should be obtained before using any firearm.

Anyone who possesses a firearm for defensive purposes needs to understand the legalities of defense situations. Consult the legal authority in your jurisdiction.

Feel free to contact D & L Sports, Inc. with any questions about the safe operation of your firearm, for information about gun safety, or to obtain additional firearm locks or security equipment. Additional copies of this manual are also available from D & L Sports, Inc.

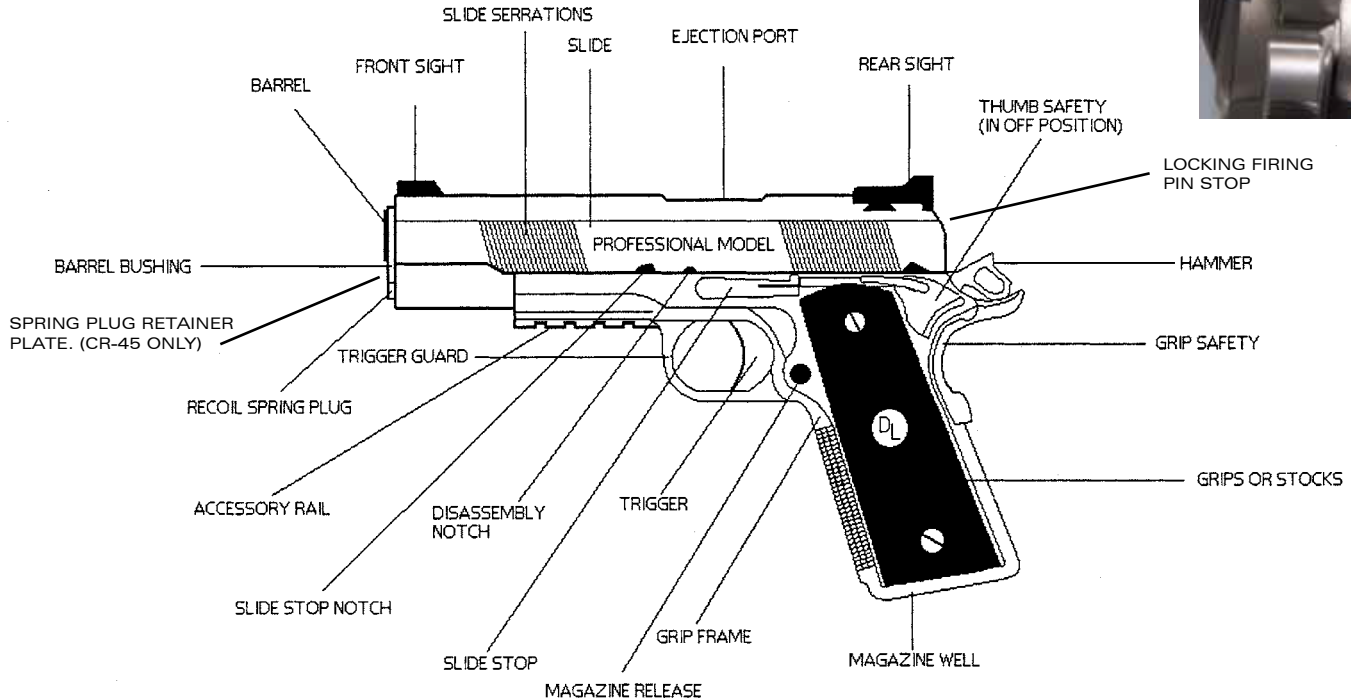
## ADDITIONAL FIREARMS SAFETY RULES, NOTICES, AND WARNINGS

1. Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms, or handling ammunition may result in exposure to lead and other substances known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm, and other serious physical injury. Have adequate ventilation at all times. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure, and before eating or drinking.
2. Always be sure the gun is safe to operate and the barrel is clear of any obstruction. Seek professional assistance as needed.
3. Your D & L Sports, Inc. pistol is equipped with effective and well designed safety devices. However, you should never completely rely on any mechanical safety, firearm, or other mechanical device. All mechanical devices have the potential of unexpected and/or unforeseen failures. If you carry a firearm for defensive and/or duty purposes, have it routinely professionally inspected for safety and function, and perform routine preventative maintenance. Acquire regular firearms training from a qualified instructor skilled in your area of activity. Carry additional devices to help assure your survival if this device should fail. Wear adequate ballistic protection.
4. NO SAFETY MECHANISM IS A SUBSTITUTE FOR PROPER AND SAFE GUN HANDLING. Any safety mechanism can break down, can be altered and or malfunction. YOU AND YOU ALONE

## ARE THE ULTIMATE SAFETY MECHANISM.

5. Using the wrong ammunition can result in malfunctions, serious injury, or death. Catastrophic damage could occur. Loading the wrong ammunition in your magazine or chamber can allow a cartridge or casing to move ahead of the chamber, and a live cartridge to chamber and fire behind it. This could cause catastrophic damage, injury, and/or death. Do not allow ammunition or cartridge cases to be intermixed. Your D & L Sports, Inc. firearm is not designed for, nor should you use overpressure, +P, or reloaded ammunition in your firearm. Doing so can cause catastrophic damage, injury, and/or death, as well as violate your service agreement.
6. Always be sure of your target and backstop as well as the maximum range and penetration of the ammunition that you are using. Consider the possibility of overpenetration before you fire.
7. If a bullet is stuck in the bore, do not attempt to shoot it out by using another cartridge, or by blowing it out with a blank or cartridge with the bullet removed. This can generate excessive pressure, damage the firearm and cause serious personal injury, or death. Consult a qualified gunsmith
8. Before performing any cleaning or maintenance, make sure the pistol is completely unloaded. This includes the magazine and chamber. Allow no live ammunition in your work area.  
WARNING: Firearms are still capable of discharging when the magazine is removed.
9. Before performing any disassembly of the pistol, make sure you are wearing eye protection.
10. PRIOR TO SHOOTING, MAKE SURE THE BORE IS DRY, CLEAN, AND UNOBSTRUCTED.
11. You understand it is your personal responsibility to make final determination as to whether D & L Sports, Inc. products are suitable for your intended uses. You assume all liability for making such determination.
12. If you attempt to fire your firearm and it does not result in the normal loud bang, an improperly charged

# GENERAL PARTS OF THE 1911 AUTO PISTOL





cartridge may have stuck a bullet in the barrel. Do not attempt to fire again. Have the firearm checked by a competent gunsmith for barrel obstructions.

13. All D & L Sports, Inc. firearms come with gun safety locks. Be sure to use them whenever added security is needed. Contact your local gun store or D & L Sports, Inc. directly if you misplace your gunlock for a replacement. Firearms safety is your responsibility.
14. All D & L Sports, Inc. products must be used for legal purposes only or criminal penalties will result.

Based on the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, D & L Sports, Inc. offers no express warranty on its products, provides no written warranty card, and disclaims any and all express and implied warranties. However, D & L Sports, Inc. is concerned about delivering professional service to owners of D & L Sports, Inc. products. D & L Sports, Inc. continues to honor all requests for service which D & L Sports, Inc. considers reasonable.

By purchasing products from D & L Sports, Inc., or doing any other business with D & L Sports, Inc., you are agreeing to arbitrate any controversy or claim you may have against D & L Sports, Inc. arising out of or related to or in connection with your purchase and/or the use of any product, such arbitration to be conducted in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association and such arbitration, by agreement, shall be held in the city and state where D & L Sports, Inc. has its principal place of business at the time any demand or claim is made against D & L Sports, Inc.

Placing any order for any product from, or interacting with D & L Sports, Inc. in any way indicates you understand and agree with all information and statements contained in, and agree to abide by, the D & L Sports, Inc. liability waiver / hold harmless agreement.

## AMMUNITION SELECTION FOR THE D & L SPORTS, INC. 1911 AUTO PISTOL

All models of the D & L Sports, Inc. 1911 Style Auto Pistols are chambered in 45 ACP. Only factory loaded ammunition from a reputable company in this caliber should be used in the operation of this pistol! Reloaded ammunition should not be used in your pistol. D & L Sports recommends the use of standard velocity, factory loaded, service ammunition only. Not +P ammunition. Below is a list of acceptable ammunition. Failure to use proper ammunition is extremely dangerous and could cause serious injury or death, damage to your firearm, or cause your firearm to malfunction.

### RECOMMENDED AMMUNITION/BULLETS

200 grain coated RNSWC Bullets.

Federal - Gold Medal Match 230 grain FMJ NOTE: Do not confuse this load with Federal's 185 grain target wadcutters which are not recommended.

Federal - American Eagle 230 grain FMJ

Black Hills - new manufactured 230 grain FMJ

Different ammunition has different characteristics. It is your responsibility to test reliability, penetration, and other characteristics to assure they are well suited to your needs. No ammunition should be used for serious purposes without first successfully completing a 500 round minimum reliability test while using the exact magazines you plan to employ.

Always conduct a final, personal inspection on all ammunition prior to loading. Check for missing, damaged, or inverted primers, cartridge corrosion, overall cartridge weight variations, and general deformities. Do not load any improper or defective ammunition.

NOTE: Uncoated Swaged lead, cast lead, and exposed lead tip bullets are not recommended for use in your pistol.

WARNING: Keep your stored firearms and ammunition locked up separately and out of the reach of children and unauthorized personnel.

## MAGAZINE SELECTION AND MAINTENANCE

Premium quality magazines are critical to the reliable functioning of your pistol. Only magazines designated by D & L Sports, Inc. are recommended for use in your pistol. (Consult [WWW.DLSports.COM](http://WWW.DLSports.COM) for more information.)

Magazines tend to be handled roughly during shooting activities. It is important that you periodically inspect and care for your magazines. Avoid dropping and stepping on magazines as this can lead to irreversible damage which will affect the reliability of your pistol.

If your magazines are left loaded, the springs should be replaced every 3 months with high quality replacements designated by D & L Sports. You should service your magazines every time you clean your pistol and/or each time a magazine is dropped in dirty conditions. Servicing includes, cleaning out dirt and debris, and keeping your magazines clean and dry. **DO NOT** put oil on or in your magazines or on the magazine spring. Oil in the magazine attracts dirt and debris and can cause ammunition contamination and malfunction. Sand in your magazines and firearm can be problematic. Clean often in sandy environments.

7 round Magazine Disassembly: **CAUTION: Be sure to wear your safety glasses. Springs are under pressure and can come out with force!** Holding the magazine upside down, insert a small punch into the hold in the base pad of the magazine. Push down on the punch to depress the retaining plate inside the magazine. Slide the

# D & L - 8 ROUND MAGAZINE DIAGRAM

FOLLOWER



MAGAZINE TUBE



BASE PLATE



RETAINING PLATE



SCREWS

SPRING



base pad off the front of the magazine. (You will need to push the base pad forward while the punch is inserted to move the hole in the base pad past the retaining tab on the retaining plate. Remove the punch and finish removing the base pad.)

**CAUTION: The retaining plate is sitting on top of the spring which is compressed. After removing the base pad, the spring and retaining plate may come out with force if not retained by you. Use Caution!**

After slowly releasing the spring pressure, remove the retaining plate and spring. Tip the magazine upright and remove the follower from the bottom of the magazine tube if you are disassembling a D & L 7 or 8 round magazine. (The WR #47 magazine follower comes out in front of the top feed lips by tilting it prior to removal.) To disassemble a D & L 8 round magazine, remove the two retaining screws in the bottom of the base pad and slide apart. Use #242 loctite on the screw during reassembly. Your magazine is now fully disassembled

During the cleaning process, inspect your magazines for bent lips, cracks, deformities, and rough operation. Be sure to discard damaged magazines. All of your magazines should be initialed and numbered to assist in tracking any problems and/or servicing.

Magazine Cleaning: Using an aerosol degreaser, such as RemClean, spray the inside of the magazine tube. Brush the tube out with a small, soft bristled brush to remove all dirt, debris, and fouling. When finished scrubbing, spray again with the aerosol degreaser and blow out with low pressure compressed air. Using a bore mop on a short cleaning rod, wipe out the inside of the magazine tube until it is clean and dry. Wipe off the spring, retaining plate, base pad, and follower with a clean dry rag. If needed, use a small, soft bristled brush to clean off all dirt, debris, and fouling. Once all parts are clean and dry, you are now ready to reassemble.

If it is time to replace the spring in the D & L 7 or 8 round magazine, discard the old one and obtain a new high quality replacement (available from D & L Sports, Inc.). Insert the magazine follower into the magazine

tube. **The upward angle of the spring should match the upward angle of the follower.** Invert the magazine and place the retaining plate on the bottom of the spring of the 7 round magazine. Push the spring and retaining plate down and slightly below the bottom of the magazine tube. Slide the base pad on the retaining lips of the magazine. Push on until the retaining tab “clicks” into the hole on the base pad. Double check to be sure it is locked in place. The 8 round magazine does not use an internal retaining plate.

Always perform a function test any time that you disassemble and reassemble your magazines and/or pistol. To do this, load the magazine to full capacity with dedicated dummy cartridges and then remove the cartridges making sure there is no binding. The follower should move freely up and down in the magazine tube without being sluggish. A final function test should be to live fire the magazine and pistol at a designated safe range location. Do not attempt to load a magazine with more than it was designed to hold. The flat bottom of D & L 7 round magazines are marked with “7 rounds only”. The only 8 round magazines recommended for use in this pistol are those available from D & L Sports, Inc., have an extended base pad and are used with 200 grain RNSWC bullets. Other 8 round magazines have not proven to be sufficiently reliable. Make sure your choice of ammunition is compatible with your choice of magazine or you will experience unreliable function of your 1911 pistol.

Your ammunition and magazine choices are critical to the reliability of your pistol. Quality ammunition produced by a reputable factory is a must. A cannelured cartridge case is highly recommended to minimize the chances of bullet push back during the feeding cycle. A rounded, well designed bullet nose, loaded to the correct overall length should be chosen to help assure feeding reliability. If you chose a bullet shape with a more blunt nose, and a shorter overall cartridge length, such as many hollow points and wadcutter style bullets have, you may reduce the reliability of your pistol. **IT IS YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO THOROUGHLY TEST YOUR FIREARM WITH THE AMMUNITION AND MAGAZINES YOU INTEND TO USE TO ASSURE THEIR COMBINED RELIABILITY IS SUITABLE FOR YOUR INTENDED PURPOSES.** A 500 ROUND

TEST FIRE WITH ZERO MALFUNCTIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED THE MINIMUM TEST FOR AMMUNITION, MAGAZINES, AND A FIREARM.

## LOADING / UNLOADING

**NOTE:** These procedures should first be practiced with safety or “dummy” cartridges prior to using live ammunition.

Your new pistol has been shipped after being test fired and zeroed at D & L Sports, Inc. It is now ready for you to personally test fire and zero. Make sure the pistol’s reliability and zero meet your requirements before serious use. The following instructions are given to provide you with a safe method for loading and unloading ammunition. Failure to follow these directions could result in serious injury, death and/or damage to your firearm.

### TWO IMPORTANT 1911 OPERATION RULES:

- 1 **DO NOT** load cartridges directly into the chamber and close the slide over them. This can bend, break, or otherwise damage your extractor. Always load the chamber by firmly seating a loaded magazine in the pistol, then, with your finger off of the trigger and the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, briskly cycle the slide to feed a cartridge from the magazine into the chamber.
- 2 **DO NOT** snap the slide down on an empty pistol. This unnecessarily batters the pistol.

# LOADING

**CAUTION:** Wear your safety glasses!

## 1. Loading the magazine.

- Hold the magazine in either hand
- With the other hand, place the rear of the 45 ACP cartridge on the front portion of the magazine follower.
- While putting a slight downward pressure on the magazine follower, push the cartridge to the rear of the magazine. Be sure that the cartridge slides under the feed lips of the magazine. Forcing a cartridge into the feed lips could cause damage to the magazine which will cause unreliable functioning.
- For the remaining cartridges, repeat the above procedure. The rear of the cartridge will now be placed on the case of the already loaded cartridge prior to pushing down and rearward.
- Continue this until the magazine is fully loaded. **DO NOT** attempt to load the magazine with more than it is designed to hold. Doing this will cause damage and/or deformation to the feed lips.  
**Note:** Use of a magazine loader device can assist you in loading your magazine

## 2. Seating the loaded magazine into the firearm.

- Be sure the firearm is pointed in a safe direction.
- Place the top of the loaded magazine into the magazine well. The bullets should be facing the same direction as the muzzle.
- Firmly push the magazine into the firearm until the magazine catch locks the magazine into place. Failure to lock the magazine in will result in the magazine falling out of the pistol or the failure to feed a cartridge into the chamber.



### 3. Chambering a cartridge.

- Be sure the firearm is pointed in a safe direction and your finger is off of the trigger.
- While holding the grip frame of the firearm, firmly grasp the slide with your other hand. Be sure not to cover your hand or fingers with the muzzle. Do not allow your hand to cover the ejection port.
- Pull the slide to the rear as far as it will go and release it. Do not keep your hand on the slide as it goes forward. Let it return freely. By doing this, the slide will strip the top round from the magazine and feed it into the chamber of the barrel. Immediately place the thumb safety in the “on” or “up” position.

**NOTE:** Any time the hammer is cocked, the thumb safety should be engaged unless firing. **WARNING:** When a cartridge is in the chamber, your firearm will fire when the thumb safety is disengaged and the trigger is pulled. Your pistol will fire with or without a magazine in place in the magazine well.

**NOTE:** The trigger pull on a 1911 style pistol may be shorter, and may be lighter than some other pistol designs you may be familiar with. Obtain training which is 1911 design specific.

**WARNING:** Do not attempt to lower the hammer on a 1911 Pistol with a cartridge in the chamber. If the hammer slips from your grasp the pistol can fire.

**NOTE:** The thumb safety on your 1911 is not designed to go on/up unless the hammer is fully cocked. Do not use or carry your 1911 with the hammer set on the intermediate cock notch.

**CAUTION:** If you are new to the 1911 pistol design, be aware that it takes thousands of repetitions to become reasonably familiar with the design and thumb safety operation. Obtain professional training and become

highly skilled with this firearm prior to serious use. Firing the 1911 pistol should be accomplished with the operator's thumb on top of the thumb safety to assure that the safety is not inadvertently engaged during firing. The operator should grip the pistol in a manner which does not interfere with slide or slide stop operation. Use a firing grip which fully compresses the grip safety.

4. Topping off the magazine with another cartridge.

- After chambering a round in the firearm and placing the safety on, you now have the option to replace the top cartridge that was stripped off of the magazine and fed into the chamber.
- With the thumb safety on and your finger off of the trigger, press the magazine release button and remove the magazine. Either safely holster the firearm with your finger outside of the trigger guard or safely place the pistol with the muzzle pointing downrange.
- Load a single cartridge in the magazine using the method previously described.
- Pick up the firearm and firmly seat the magazine to assure it properly locks in place. Your firearm is now fully loaded.

## UNLOADING

1. Remove the magazine.

- With the firearm pointed in a safe direction, your finger off of the trigger, and the thumb safety in the on position, press the magazine release button and remove the magazine.

**WARNING:** Your 1911 pistol can still fire the round in the chamber when the magazine is removed! Keep your finger off of the trigger and the muzzle pointed in a safe direction!

## 2. Unloading the chamber.

- Keeping the firearm pointed in a safe direction and your finger off of the trigger, place the thumb safety in the “off” or “down” position.
- Grasp the slide, being sure not to place your hand in front of the muzzle or over the ejection port.
- Pull the slide completely to the rear, ejecting the round out of the chamber on to a soft surface. Do not try to capture the ejecting cartridge in your hand. Binding the cartridge in the ejection port area can cause cartridge ignition and severe injury. - **Always wear your safety glasses!**
- Visually check the chamber to be sure that the firearm is completely unloaded. Next, with the slide all to the rear, push up the slide stop and lock the slide open. Visually and manually “peek and poke” the magazine well and chamber with your finger to confirm an empty firearm.  
**CAUTION:** Do not release the slide on your finger! Your firearm is now confirmed to be empty.

**Remember, SAFETY FIRST!**

## FIRING YOUR 1911 AUTO PISTOL

After completely familiarizing yourself with the safety rules, pistol design features, loading/unloading procedures, and obtaining proper factory 45 ACP ammunition and professional training, you will be ready to fire your 1911 Auto Pistol. Remember, all safety rules apply. You are responsible for all of your actions, and accept all risks associated with shooting activities and this firearm.

Eye, ear, and ballistic protection is mandatory for live fire shooting!

Be sure your range location and targets are safe for centerfire pistol usage.

Your D & L Sports 1911 Auto Pistol was properly zeroed following construction. You will need to confirm the zero is correct for you and your ammunition selection. This zero check should be accomplished from a solid rest to minimize human error. You may determine that you need to slightly adjust the zero for your personal sight hold.

**NOTE:** Do not decide to re-zero your pistol until you are a skilled marksman. Newer shooters will often have trouble grouping a firearm when they are still developing their shooting skills. Seek competent assistance any-time you have questions.

Primary fundamentals of accurate shooting include proper sight picture, sight alignment, and trigger control. Once you see and understand the sight picture, you will need to align this sight picture with the target. Maintaining the sight picture, and its alignment with the target throughout your trigger pull, will allow for consistent shot placement.

### SIGHT PICTURE



**SHOT RIGHT**



**SHOT LEFT**



**CORRECT SIGHT  
PICTURE**



**SHOT HIGH**



**SHOT LOW**

## TRIGGER CONTROL

Prior to live fire, it is best to practice dry firing your pistol with a snap cap in the chamber to learn the trigger's pull weight, travel distance, and how the trigger "feels". (Only load the chamber with a snap cap by cycling it into the chamber from the magazine.) Dry fire only at a live fire range with the pistol pointed downrange at a safe backstop. Never "dry fire" at a backstop which is not capable of containing a live bullet. Remember the safety rules! Continue to dry fire practice under instructor observation until you feel comfortable with the pistol.

Trigger pull should be a controlled movement. It is often times referred to as a squeeze or press. There should be no jerking of the pistol due to anticipation of the shot. The shot should not be a surprise. You should know exactly when the pistol will fire. This is learned by getting the feel for your trigger from dry fire practice.

To begin your live firing, load the magazine and pistol as previously described. After chambering a live round into the chamber, immediately place the thumb safety on and keep your finger off of the trigger until your sights are on target and you are ready to fire. Always keep a firm grip on the pistol.

When firing live ammunition, the pistol will automatically eject the spent casing, re-cock the hammer, and reload the next live round into the chamber. This occurs during the recoil process which means the pistol is ready to fire again after each shot. This process will continue until the pistol is empty. At this point, the slide will lock back in the open position.

To reload the pistol from this condition, remove the empty magazine, insert a loaded magazine into the magazine well and firmly push up until it locks into place. With the thumb of your weak hand, release the slide stop lever by pushing it downward. The slide will briskly move forward and chamber a cartridge. Keep a firm grip on the pistol. Immediately place the safety in the on/up position. Be sure to keep the pistol pointed in a safe direction and your finger off of the trigger during this process.

If you stop shooting prior to all of the live rounds of ammunition being fired, immediately place the thumb safety on, keep your finger off of the trigger, and decide if you want to unload the pistol or resume firing.

When you have completed firing, remove the magazine from the pistol and the cartridge from the chamber. Check to be sure it is unloaded, then double check again with the “peek and poke” technique.

## PROCEDURE TO ADJUST REAR SIGHT FOR WINDAGE

- Step 1: Disassemble the pistol as described in the disassembly section of this manual.
- Step 2: Firmly lock the slide in a padded vise. CAUTION: Do not over-tighten the vise on the slide.
- Step 3: With a pointed scribe or awl, make a small witness line inside the bottom of the dovetail alongside the rear sight base. This line will serve as a reference point and provide indication of the rear sight's movement.
- Step 4: In order to move the rear sight, utilize a MGW sight pusher or obtain gunsmith assistance. Loosen the set screw(s) in the sight one full turn. To loosen the screw(s), turn counter clockwise with the appropriate size allen wrench.
- Step 5: If you want to move your point of impact on target to the right, you will move the rear sight to the right. If you want your point of impact on target to move to the left, you will move the rear sight to the left. A small amount of movement of the rear sight will substantially affect your point of impact on target. Only move your sight in small increments before rechecking live fire impacts on target. Remember, your sight will probably need little or no adjustment if your marksmanship fundamentals are solid. Do not decide to adjust the sight until you are shooting with proper marksmanship skills

and are achieving tight shot groups on target. Obtain skilled assistance as needed.

Step 6: Once the desired adjustment is achieved, retighten locking set screw(s).

### **NOTES:**

Pistols equipped with fixed sights and night sight inserts are not operator adjustable for elevation. Plan accordingly by understanding the correct sight hold required to make hits at various distances.

Pistols equipped with red dot optics may have a fixed rear iron sight contained in the optic. This rear sight is not adjustable by conventional means. It can be gunsmithed machined lower to lower impact on target. If the pistol is equipped with a cross dovetail front sight it can adjust for windage and elevation. A taller front sight will cause bullet impact to be lowered. Moving the front sight to the right will cause bullet impact to move to the left on target.

## **GENERAL OPERATOR LEVEL DISASSEMBLY OF THE D & L SPORTS, INC. 5" 1911 AUTO PISTOL**

General disassembly of your 1911 Auto Pistol will be required for cleaning and maintenance.

**NOTE:** No serious force or pounding is required to disassemble your pistol. Call D & L Sports, Inc. if you have any problems or questions before proceeding.

**CAUTION:** BE SURE THAT YOUR PISTOL IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED PRIOR TO BEGINNING GENERAL DISASSEMBLY! THIS INCLUDES THE MAGAZINE AND THE CHAMBER! DO NOT

ALLOW LIVE AMMUNITION IN THE CLEANING AREA! NEVER COVER ANYTHING WITH THE MUZZLE THAT YOU ARE NOT WILLING TO DESTROY, EVEN DURING SERVICING AND CLEANING!

After completely unloading your pistol and double checking it, find a safe area to disassemble your pistol. If you are conducting maintenance in the field, use a ground cloth below and a retention cloth above to assure that you do not lose any parts. Be sure to wear safety glasses due to the possibility of compressed springs and/or parts coming out with force.

**Note:** If your 1911 pistol is equipped with a standoff device, it will have to be removed prior to disassembly. Upon reassembly all standoff screws will need a dab of blue #242 Loctite and muzzle alignment with the stand off exit hole will need to be confirmed before firing.

**Step 1:** With the thumb safety on, place your bushing wrench over the top of the barrel bushing. Press down firmly to compress the recoil spring and push the spring plug down. While retaining the spring plug and recoil spring, turn the bushing wrench clockwise approximately  $\hat{A}^{\frac{1}{4}}$  turn. The recoil spring and spring plug are now freed. Slowly release the tension from the recoil spring. Take out the recoil spring plug. Pull out the recoil spring while turning it clockwise in order not to unnecessarily stretch the spring.

**NOTE:** Field operators should obtain advanced maintenance training to allow for servicing under adverse conditions without tools. They should also consider having a parts kit for their individual pistol consisting of fitted replacement parts for those which may be lost or broken in the field.

**Step 2:** With the thumb safety off, pull the slide back until the disassembly notch lines up with the rear of the slide stop. Push the slide stop out by pressing the end of the slide stop “pin” located on the ejection port side of the pistol. Remove the slide stop. If difficulty occurs, press the plunger spring inward at the rear of the slide



stop with a tiny screwdriver. Next, push the slide all the way forward, removing it from the grip frame.

**NOTE:** Do not pull the trigger and snap the hammer down while the slide is off of the pistol.

**Step 3:** Remove the spring guide rod from the slide. Do this by lifting it out from the bottom of the slide. Next place your bushing wrench over the barrel bushing. Turn the barrel bushing counter-clockwise. Pull the barrel bushing out of the front of the slide. To remove the barrel from the slide, place the barrel link in the forward position. Slide the barrel out the front of the slide.

**Step 4:** Remove the grip panels from the frame, only when the job at hand requires it. Only use the appropriate size allen wrench or you will burr or strip the screws.

You have now successfully completed the general disassembly of your 1911 pistol for standard cleaning and maintenance. DO NOT disassemble the pistol any more than what has been explained. Further detailed disassembly work should be referred back to D & L Sports, Inc.

**CAUTION:** Improper disassembly and/or reassembly of your 1911 Auto Pistol may create an unsafe or unreliable operating condition, or a nonfunctioning firearm. Safely test fire with live ammunition to confirm proper operation before serious use. D & L signature six inch longslide pistols generally use a two piece guide rod. After removing the magazine and clearing the chamber, lock the slide to the rear and unscrew the front half of the guide rod with the correct size allen wrench from the front of the slide in order to begin disassembly. During reassembly, remember to place one half drop of blue loctite #242 on the threads of the two piece rod connection. Never use red loctite, or loctite more powerful than blue #242. Lock the slide to the rear when you do final snug-ging of the two piece guide rod with the allen wrench.

# FIELD STRIPPING 1911 SHORT SLIDE PISTOL

(Perform in a contained area so no parts are lost)

\*\*\*Safety First: Review and follow all firearm safety rules\*\*\*

Carefully take your time and understand this process.

Remove all live ammunition from work area. Wear heavy duty safety glasses at all times.

Remove Magazine from the pistol. Unload Chamber. Double check. Remove live ammo from work area.

## No Tool Disassembly:

Cock hammer. Grip the pistol with web of right hand under the beavertail grip safety and 4 fingers over the top of the slide and rear sight area. Pull the side back until the half-moon notch in the bottom edge of the non ejection port side of the slide lines up with the rear of the slide stop, and hold the slide in this position, then push slide stop part way (1/4") out of the frame. (If the slide stop has a flush cut cross pin you may need the point of a pen or similar object to push the slide stop part way out). Then grip the slide stop lever with your fingers and pull it all the way out of the pistol. At this point the slide can be pushed off the front of the frame. \*Caution\*: The recoil spring and guide rod are not captive and can spring free and cause injury or parts loss if they are not controlled. Wrap the 4 fingers of your left hand around the dust cover of the pistol frame and around the bottom of the slide as you push it forward. Be sure to maintain control of the spring and guide rod as you push the slide off the front of the frame. Then carefully release the spring tension and remove spring and rod from the rear underside of the slide. Note that the spring plug seats on a small shelf. The plug also removes from the rear of the slide. (The plug MUST seat back in this same position when you reassemble). To remove barrel bushing simply turn it ¼ turn counterclockwise. Once the bushing lug is turned free from the slide's lug recess, then the bushing will come out from the front of the slide, and so will the barrel. Reverse order to reassemble.

## Small Tool Disassembly:

Put the plastic finger ring on tip of right hand index finger. Grip the pistol with right hand around pistol grip. Put the ring point on the ejection port side of the slide stop cross pin. Put mild pressure on the slide stop cross pin while slowly pulling slide to the rear with left hand. As the rear of the slide stop passes the half-moon notch on the bottom edge of the non-ejection port side of the slide the slide stop will pop out approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Leave the slide stop in this position. Now grip the pistol upside down with the web of the right hand under the beaver-tail and 4 fingers over the top rear of the slide and rear sight area. Pull the slide back until you can see the recoil spring guide rod protruding out of the front underside of the slide and you can see a small hole across the guide rod. Hold the slide back in this position. Use a high quality paperclip bent into an L shape (with a long leg and a short leg) and place the short leg of the paperclip through the hole in the guide rod. The long leg should run parallel along the guide rod and extend out of the front of the pistol frame. While still gripping the slide and holding the spring pressure slightly to the rear, use your fingers to grip the slide stop lever and remove the slide stop completely. At this point the slide / barrel / spring / guide rod etc can all be moved off the front of the pistol frame as one unit. The recoil spring, rod and plug will all be held captive together by the paperclip. \*Caution\* They are under great spring pressure as a unit. Do not point them in any unsafe direction. Handle them very carefully. They can be removed from the rear of the slide's spring tunnel as a unit and should be placed in a secure safety container on your workbench. Use a non-marring bushing wrench to remove the barrel bushing by turning it  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn counterclockwise to free the bushing lug from the lug recess in the slide. The bushing and barrel can then be taken out from the front of the slide. Reverse order to reassemble. Put spring / guide rod / plug assembly back in as a captive unit. Make sure spring plug is properly seated on slide seat. Taking care not to scratch the pistol, install the slide stop cross pin through internal barrel link and align rear of slide stop with half-moon notch in the bottom edge of the slide and fully install slide stop. The back dull edge of a pocket knife can assist you in pushing the slide stop plunger spring inward. There will be no recoil spring pressure on the slide during this process because recoil spring is still captive as a unit by the paperclip. Once the slide stop is fully in place, grip under

the grip safety with the web of your right hand and over the top of the rear of the slide and rear sight area with 4 fingers. Pull back slightly against recoil spring tension until the paperclip can be removed from the guide rod. Then let the slide all the way forward. With the slide fully forward look at the front end of the pistol frame's dust cover and the rear end of the slide's recoil spring tunnel and make sure the recoil spring plug is fully seated on the small shelf at the rear of the slide's recoil spring tunnel. If it is, cycle the slide a few times to assure all is functioning smoothly and correctly. If the spring plug is not properly seated on the shelf, disassemble and properly seat the plug. Do not fire the pistol unless the spring plug is properly seated. The spring plug must be properly seated on the slide shelf and the large end of the guide rod must be positioned so that the concave portion of the guide rod head rests against the convex portion of the underside of the barrel.

The above described procedure is all a very simple process once you become familiar with your 1911 short slide pistol. Take your time to understand each step completely before moving on. There is no need to force anything. It is a matter of understanding how the components fit and function together.

Do not snap the hammer down when the slide is not in place on the frame.

When reinstalling the slide on the frame make sure the frame's series 80 plunger arm is not up and interfering the slide installation. Keep the plunger arm down and flush in the frame when reinstalling the slide on the frame.

Consult your D&L Sports inc 1911 pistol manual for more information. Feel free to call any time can questions arise.

## CLEANING & LUBRICATING YOUR 1911 AUTO PISTOL

After disassembly is completed, you are now ready to clean and lubricate your pistol. The following steps should be followed for proper cleaning and lubrication.

Be sure to wear your safety glasses and work in a well ventilated area!

For proper cleaning and lubricating, the following items will be needed:

1. High quality cleaning rod (a nylon coated or brass rod is recommended).
2. A bronze or nylon bore brush designated for 45 caliber (DO NOT use stainless steel brushes).
3. Bore mops designated for 45 caliber.
4. A high quality bore solvent (Shooter's Choice or Hoppes is recommended).
5. A toothbrush with nylon bristles.
6. An aerosol type degreaser (RemClean is a good choice).
7. A high quality lubricant (milcom 3000 or Break Free CLP is recommended). In field situations motor oil can be obtained from an engine dipstick.

**Step 1:** Using your cleaning rod with the bore brush attached, place a generous amount of bore solvent on the brush. Push the brush through the barrel from the chamber end all the way out the muzzle end, allowing solvent to coat the bore. Perform this process three times. Place the barrel aside and allow it to soak while cleaning other parts.

**Step 2:** Wipe off the recoil spring, spring guide, barrel bushing, recoil spring plug, and slide stop with a clean, dry cloth. If needed, use a cleaner (either aerosol degreaser or liquid solvent) and a toothbrush to scrub off heavy contamination. Clean all parts until they are free of dirt and fouling. Place parts aside.

**Step 3:** Using a cleaner (either aerosol degreaser or liquid solvent) and a toothbrush, brush the slide and frame until they are free of dirt and fouling. Avoid solvent contamination of your night sight inserts and/or red

dot optic. Keep your optic window and emitter clean. Avoid getting solvent and/or lubrication in the firing pin hole. Be sure to clean all of the recesses, especially under the extractor hook and the breech face. Do not bend, scrape, or pry on the extractor hook. Use only a soft bristled tooth brush on the extractor. Make sure that when you are finished, there is no solvent left on any part. If your pistol is extremely dirty, it may require brushing with liquid solvent numerous times. Then use an aerosol degreaser and low pressure compressed air to blow off dirty solvent.

**Step 4:** After the bore of the barrel has soaked, use your cleaning rod and bronze or nylon brush to clean the bore (never use stainless brushes). Brush the barrel working the brush from the chamber all the way out the muzzle and back. Never brush from the muzzle end to the chamber. If needed, apply more solvent and repeat the brushing process. Once you have finished brushing, wipe off your cleaning rod, remove the bronze brush, and place a bore mop on the end. Blow the barrel out with aerosol degreaser and then work the bore mop through the barrel from the chamber end. You will have to replace the bore mop with a clean one as you complete the procedure. When you are finished, be sure the barrel is clean and has no solvent remaining inside.

**Step 5:** After cleaning the bore, wipe off the outside of the barrel. You may need to use a cleaner (either aerosol degreaser or liquid solvent) and a toothbrush to clean off heavy fouling. Be sure to remove all dirt and fouling. Make sure that the throat and lugs of the barrel and the barrel link are free of fouling. Once this is complete, blow the barrel out again with an aerosol degreaser. Lastly, run a clean bore mop through the barrel again to be sure no solvent is left inside the barrel.

Once all parts are clean and free of dirt, fouling, and solvent, you are ready to lubricate your pistol.

**Place a generous coating of Milcom 3000 or Break Free CLP on the following areas:**

1. Slide rails and frame rails
2. Outside of the barrel and the barrel locking lugs

3. Inside of the barrel bushing
4. Spring guide rod
5. Recoil spring
6. Slide stop pin
7. Barrel link pin (do not remove this pin, place the oil where the barrel link meets the barrel link pin)
8. Disconnecter tab (protrudes from the top of the frame behind the magazine well when the slide is off)
9. Locking lug recesses inside the slide
10. One drop of oil on the firing pin block plunger (in the underside of the slide)

**NOTE:** The bore, chamber, breech face, and magazines (inside and out) are to remain dry and free from lubrication, but the afore mentioned areas should be kept well lubricated.

A well lubricated pistol is recommended in nearly all environments. If you are operating in conditions of extreme cold, make sure you are utilizing a temperature insensitive lubricant that will not freeze in the gun or make the gun sluggish. If operating in very dirty, dusty, or sandy conditions, lubrication is still recommended, but more frequent cleanings will be required.

If the pistol is kept fully loaded for defense purposes, periodically check the primer area of the chambered cartridge. If you find that lubrication has migrated onto the primer, properly dispose of the cartridge and cycle a fresh cartridge into the chamber from the magazine after wiping off the breech face. Then reload the magazine to the desired capacity. Contaminated primers can cause misfires.

Once all sliding surfaces are lubricated, proceed to the reassembly procedure. After reassembling your pistol, wipe off excess external lubrication.

**NOTE:** Only chamber a round one time before shooting, or replacing the cartridge. Do not repeatedly chamber and unload the first couple cartridges in your magazine. Doing so can cause bullet push back, malfunctions, and excessive pressure.

## REASSEMBLY OF YOUR D & L SPORTS, INC. 5" 1911 AUTO PISTOL

**NOTE:** No serious force or pounding is required to reassemble your pistol. Contact D & L Sports, Inc. if you have any problems or questions before proceeding.

After properly cleaning and lubricating your 1911 Auto Pistol, you are now ready to reassemble the pistol. The following steps should be followed to ensure the pistol is reassembled correctly.

**Step 1:** Place the slide on a flat surface with the sights down. Take the barrel and push the barrel link into the forward position. Slide the barrel into the front of the slide. Be sure the muzzle end of the barrel is facing forward. Next install the barrel bushing and rotate the bushing's locking lug into the locking lug recess inside the slide.

**Step 2:** Place the spring guide rod into the slide from the rear underside. The spring guide rod sits on top of the barrel with the concave section touching the barrel. Insert the recoil spring in the front of the slide. The closed coil end goes in first and over the spring guide rod. Rotate the spring in a clockwise direction until the spring fully seats onto the spring guide rod. The open end of the recoil spring should be forward and protruding out of the front of the slide.



**Step 3:** Pick up the slide keeping the sights facing down. Pick up the grip frame and invert it. Place the front rails of the grip frame into the rear rails of the slide. Gently push the slide and grip frame together until slide is about ½ way on the frame. Then turn pistol right side up before pushing slide all the way onto the frame. If there is heavy resistance, do not force them together. Note: You may have to push the firing pin block plunger lever in flush with the grip frame to allow the slide to go on completely. This lever is located at the right rear top of the frame.

**Step 4:** Retract the slide on the grip frame to the same point where you removed the slide stop. Look through the slide stop hole and align the hole in the barrel link with the slide stop hole. Once you have accomplished this, insert the slide stop pin and align the rear of the slide stop with the half moon shaped disassembly notch on the slide. Do not allow the slide stop to scratch the frame while positioning it. You may have to push up and in to get the slide stop into the final position. When fully inserted, the slide stop should be flush against the grip frame. Do not use excessive force. Simply push the spring plunger inward with a tiny screwdriver to allow the slide stop to pass if necessary.

**Step 5:** Push the slide all the way forward and place the thumb safety on.

**Step 6:** Place the spring plug over top of the recoil spring. Push the plug and spring down until it is just below flush with the end of the slide. If the spring and plug fail to enter the slide, check to be sure the barrel bushing is turned correctly and the bushing's lug is in the slide's internal lug channel. While holding the spring and plug down, place your bushing wrench over the barrel bushing and turn the bushing counter-clockwise until it locks into place with the spring plug. Use a cloth or your hat as a cover during this process to assure you don't lose your spring plug during this segment. High spring pressure can launch the plug if you slip off of the plug. Plug loss in the field can make your pistol inoperable, be sure to have an extra.

**Step 7:** If required, replace the grip panels.

**Step 8:** Manually operate the slide several times, then wipe off any excess external lubrication.

After completing reassembly, do a function/safety test with a safe backstop in front of the muzzle. No magazine or ammunition should be in the pistol. To do this, operate the slide causing the hammer to cock on a completely empty gun. Place the thumb safety in the on position. While depressing the grip safety, gently attempt to pull the trigger. The hammer should not fall. Next, place the thumb safety in the off position. Without depressing the grip safety, gently attempt to pull the trigger. The hammer should not fall. Next, with the thumb safety in the off position, depress the grip safety by holding the pistol in a firing grip and pull the trigger. The hammer should now fall.

Next, manually move the slide back and forth. The slide should move freely without locking up. Next place an empty magazine in the pistol. Pull the slide back. The slide should now lock back in the open position.

Your final function test should be to live fire a magazine of proper ammunition through the pistol. This will assure that the final assembly process was correct and the pistol is functioning properly before serious use. It will also allow you to complete a live fire zero check on target.

If you experience any problems during the reassembly procedure, do not force anything. If any concerns arise during the function/safety check, contact D & L Sports, Inc. for further assistance and information. DO NOT fire, carry, or otherwise use your firearm if there are any concerns during the function/safety test.

## GENERAL MAINTENANCE FOR THE D & L SPORTS, INC. 1911 AUTO PISTOL

For optimum performance, your pistol should be properly cleaned and lubricated following the directions in this manual after each live fire session, when exposed to environmental conditions (ie; rain, snow, dusty conditions, submerged, etc.), or when it has been stored without use for an extended period of time. Even if you have not fired your pistol since the last time you cleaned it, a maintenance cleaning may be required if the pistol has been exposed to contamination. Your pistol will also need periodic lubrication even though it may not have been fired. Lubrication tends to disappear and needs to be occasionally reapplied when the pistol appears dry. Do not allow your ammunition to be contaminated by exposure to solvents, oils, water, or moisture which can lead to misfires.

Anytime operational concerns arise with your firearm, or at 10,000 round intervals, an inspection by D & L Sports, Inc. is recommended. D & L Sports, Inc. will inspect for internal wear that is not visible during general disassembly and cleaning sessions. This is also the proper time to have internal springs replaced. Preventative maintenance and periodic inspections are necessary to maintain safety and reliability.

NO alterations or modifications are authorized to be performed on D & L Sports products outside of D & L Sports, Inc. Improper or inexperienced work on your firearms can cause safety and reliability problems.

After each 1,000 rounds of ammunition fired, it is recommended that the owner/operator replace the recoil spring to assure proper functioning. The recoil spring should be of premium quality as designated by D & L Sports, Inc. Proper recoil spring replacements will protect your pistol. Rubber washers (shock buffs), can come apart in your pistol and shorten the slide stroke of your pistol. They can cause reliability problems if they are not maintained. The shorter slide stroke buffers cause may require you to release the slide with the slide release, instead of retracting and releasing the slide.

If at any time you notice a potential problem with your pistol, immediately stop shooting, completely unload the pistol in a safe manner and contact D & L Sports, Inc. for guidance.

Proper maintenance of your 1911 pistol will help assure many years of reliable service from your pistol.

Remember: The reliability and/or safety of any firearm can be compromised if improper magazines or ammunition are introduced, or if improper maintenance procedures are followed. Only use products and procedures recommended by D & L Sports, Inc.

## STORING OR TRANSPORTING YOUR FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

Firearms and ammunition should be stored in separate locked, fireproof safes. Do not leave any firearms or ammunition in an area that is accessible by unauthorized personnel, especially children. DO NOT store loaded firearms or magazines.

Do not store your pistol with the slide locked to the rear. This causes weakening of the recoil spring which could have an adverse affect on proper and reliable functioning.

When transporting, keep firearms and ammunition separate and in locked containers. Always understand and abide by laws regarding the transportation of firearms and ammunition. Abide by concealed carry laws and regulations.

Always use the individual gun locking device or lockable container supplied with your pistol. If your locking device or container becomes unavailable, obtain one from your local sporting goods store or contact D & L Sports, Inc. for a replacement.

**WARNING:** Gun locks and gun security devices can be defeated. Be sure to store ammunition and firearms in separate, locked containers. Partial disassembly of the firearm and separated locked parts storage is also helpful to prevent unauthorized use.

To install a firearm cable lock: Completely unload the pistol, including chamber and magazine, then double check again. Lock the slide open with the slide stop. Thread the cable through the ejection port and out the bottom of the magazine well. Lock the free end of the cable into the locking device. GENTLY let the slide forward. Secure the cable lock keys where they will be inaccessible by unauthorized personnel.

## CARRY OPTIONS FOR YOUR PISTOL

There are three on person carry condition options for your D & L 1911 Auto Pistol. (These options may not apply to 1911 style pistols from other manufacturers.) They are as follows:

1. The pistol is unloaded with an empty chamber and the hammer down in a safe holster. An empty magazine is inserted in place. (This helps keep dirt and debris out of the pistol.) This unloaded carry condition is for circumstances where immediate use will not be required.
2. The pistol's chamber is unloaded and the hammer is down in a safe holster. The magazine is loaded and is locked in place in the pistol. This method of carry will require manual operation of the slide before firing. It also requires the manual thumb safety to be engaged after a cartridge is chambered unless immediate firing is required.
3. FOR PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED AND 1911 EXPERIENCED SHOOTERS ONLY! The pistol is loaded with a live round in the chamber. The hammer is cocked fully back and the manual thumb safety is on in a safe holster. The magazine is loaded and locked in place.

A sturdy, high quality holster, properly designed for this style of 1911 is recommended for “on the person” carry use. An exposed duty holster should have a hammer blocking retaining device between the rear of the slide and the cocked hammer as an added retention and safety measure. The Safariland SLS style rotating hood holster is a good choice. You should only use holsters specifically designed for your particular type of pistol. Any holster you choose must be safe, secure, and cover the trigger guard area. It must hold the pistol in a manner that does not allow the muzzle to cover yourself or anyone else, and positions the pistol for a proper draw. Appendix carry is not recommended. Your belt should be heavy duty and fit both you and the holster, and feature a sturdy buckle. Your magazine pouch should securely hold and protect extra magazines, yet still keep them accessible. Be sure to obtain professional firearm retention training.

If your pouch and holster have tension screws, be sure to #242 loctite them once the correct tension is set.

**WARNING:** At no time should you carry or handle the pistol with a round in the chamber with the hammer partially cocked.

**DO NOT ATTEMPT TO MANUALLY LOWER THE HAMMER ON A LOADED CHAMBER!**

Your pistol should be completely unloaded and locked in a secure gun safe when it is not in your direct possession. All ammunition should be locked away separately.

## NOTICE, WARNING, AND DISCLAIMER

Firearms, ammunition and shooting activities can result in death, serious bodily injury, and/or property damage. You are responsible for adhering to gun laws and safety rules and obtaining proper training and safety

equipment to minimize the potential for shooting related deaths, injuries, and/or hazards. You have agreed to accept all terms of the site posted D & L Sports, Inc. liability waiver including all liability for death, injuries and/or damages related to the use of, or association with, D & L Sports, Inc. custom or customized firearms, and/or products, even in the event of negligence, or gross negligence on the part of D & L Sports, Inc. D & L Sports, Inc. products are sold “as is” and “with all faults” and are used at your own risk. D & L products are not recommended for any specific task. The end user makes this determination. This is due to the unpredictable environments in which products may be used. D & L Sports, Inc. expressly disclaims liability for incidental or consequential damages. As a condition of sale, any claim arising out of any interaction with D & L Sports, Inc. will be settled in the jurisdiction D & L Sports, Inc. is primarily operating in at the time of the claim. Do not proceed with any firearms activities without complete understanding and agreement of and with the above information. Please take the time to read and understand all information in this manual. Feel free to call with any questions about this manual, gun safety, or mechanical issues before you proceed with any shooting activities. Consult the D & L Sports, Inc. website at [WWW.DLSPORTS.COM](http://WWW.DLSPORTS.COM) for further information.

## **STATEMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICE LIFETIME CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

D & L Sports, Inc. would like to relate the following important information:

Customer service, quality products, and after the sale assistance have been and always will be the foundation of D & L Sports, Inc. D & L Sports, Inc. continues this commitment by offering a lifetime assistance pro-

gram with all D & L Signature firearms. This program is available to all reasonable and ethical D & L Sports, Inc. clients, for all reasonable requests. D & L Sports, Inc. reserves the right to make final determination on what requests are reasonable and what conduct is acceptable. Any Anti American or other behavior determined to be unacceptable by D & L Sports, Inc. will lead to the termination of business and assistance with and from D & L Sports, Inc. The D & L Sports' goal of complete customer satisfaction has been in place for decades. This has created a long list of satisfied, repeat clients. D & L Sports, Inc. looks forward to adding you to this list.

Thank you for your interest in D & L Sports, Inc.

### **\*\* WARNINGS \*\***

This firearm and all firearms should be inaccessible by children at all times. This firearm should NOT be stored where children or unauthorized personnel can gain access to it. You are responsible for safe and secure storage of your firearms and related gear. Contact D & L Sports, Inc. if you need assistance in obtaining gun locks, gun safes, or other safety equipment.



1911 style pistols, AR-15 style rifles and carbines, bolt action rifles, shotguns, revolvers, and other custom or customized firearms and gear requires dedicated and specific training for their safe use. You should seek and obtain such training from a competent instructor. When you purchase firearms and gear from D & L Sports, Inc., you are affirmatively representing to D & L Sports, Inc. that you have obtained specific and dedicated training in the use of such items. This includes training related to legal concealed weapon carry and self defense situations.

This firearm will still fire with the magazine removed. If you remove the magazine, but leave a loaded cartridge in the chamber, this firearm will discharge if the trigger is activated. Personal injury or death could result from your failure to understand this.

This firearm incorporates multiple safeties including a thumb safety, a grip safety, and a passive firing pin safety. No safety on this firearm should be removed, disabled, or rendered inoperable. The grip safety should not be pinned or otherwise rendered inoperable. Removing a safety or disabling a safety could result in personal injury or death. Each component of this firearm is critical to proper and safe functioning.

You should not attempt to perform “gunsmithing” repairs or any modifications on this firearm. As indicated elsewhere in this manual, if any concern arises, contact D & L Sports, Inc. immediately.

Individual components in D & L Sports, Inc. firearms, and those customized by D & L Sports, Inc., are professionally fit to operate safely and reliably with that specific firearm. Parts should not be interchanged with other firearms of any make or model. Other components, of any make, should not be installed in D & L Sports, Inc. firearms or D & L Sports, Inc. customized firearms. Doing so may cause the firearm to be unsafe and/or unreliable, which may cause death or injury. Failure to maintain your firearms and related gear in proper working order may result in death or injury. Obtain professional advice and assistance with these matters.

Never allow the muzzle to cover anything or any person that you are not willing to destroy. If you point this pistol at a person or object and discharge the pistol intentionally or accidentally, death or personal injury may result.

This 1911 style pistol is designed to fire every time that you depress the trigger until the firearm is empty.

Never trust any mechanical safety on any firearm. Firearms safety begins in your brain, and you **MUST** pay attention to what you are doing with a firearms at all times. Use common sense.

Never handle a firearm for any reason, without first determining whether the firearm is loaded. You must **ALWAYS** assume that firearms are loaded. You must **ALWAYS** follow **ALL** gun safety rules.



