

Reasonable Force against Intruders

You will be aware of the recent case of pensioner Richard Osborn-Brookes, who was arrested on suspicion of murder after the death of a suspected burglar in his home. This has refocused attention on what would be considered as reasonable force against intruders.

ACPO and the CPS jointly issued a guide called "Householders and the use of force against intruders" which is available at <https://www.gov.uk/reasonable-force-against-intruders>. This was last updated in 2013 before ACPO ceased to exist but after legislation on this topic so that its content is up to date. Amendments therefore are merely a name change as the NPCC replaced ACPO, however, this is also a timely reminder of the policy.

Please ensure that the attached statement is circulated to the local policing teams within your force.

Amanda Blakeman

Deputy Chief Constable

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NPCC Lead for Burglary