

## BROOMFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police belt or "Sam Brown" as it is sometimes called is the officer's lifeline sort to speak. On his/her belt you would find several items the officer routinely carries and often uses. The least used and hopefully never used is the officer's handgun. Either for his protection or yours when there is no other option available to preserve life. All officers undergo several hours of training each year with the use of a handgun. Training time is the only time we ever wish to have to use the handgun, but when necessary in the situation, each officer is trained to use "deadly force".

People see many small black pouches surrounding the officer's belt. Some are obvious, such as the baton and flashlight holders, the radio packset holder. Another, used often, but not in this display is the handcuff case. Most officers carry at least one, some two or more. A pair of handcuffs is shown here. Engraved DLS, for Dan L. Schuler, A detective who is currently with the department, donated these for the display.

The case on the left is the carrier for extra bullets for the handgun. With the revolver, the officer has six shots in his duty handgun and another 12 in this pouch. Each pouch contains a "speed loader" holding six bullets. This allows the officer to "dump" the six spent bullets from his handgun and reload with the speed loader in a matter of a few seconds and be ready to continue firing. Some officers carry more than two loaders, and still others now carry semi-automatic pistols which carry up to 15 bullets per magazine or clip. In one of the pouches is a speedloader for a revolver, and holds six (6) .38 special+ P, copper, semi-jacketed hollow point bullets. These bullets are department issue in current use, for the revolver.

The mightiest weapon the police officer employs is his basic ball point, black ink pen. After all the action, yelling and screaming has died away, the officer must commit the entire event to paper in the "police report". It is the police report and subsequent court presentation of the event that will put the bad guy behind bars and nothing else. The pen is mightier than the sword.