



# BASIC FIREARMS SAFETY

## FIREARMS HANDLING AND STORAGE

- 1 Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
- 2 Always keep the muzzle of the firearm pointed in a safe direction.
- 3 Always keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard unless you intend to fire the weapon.
- 4 Wear appropriate ear and eye protection when discharging a firearm.
- 5 If you have children in your residence, use child safety locks or other commercially available locking mechanisms on your firearms and/or keep your firearms locked in a secure location accessible to adults only. Keep your ammunition locked in a secure location away from the firearms.
- 6 Become familiar with, and obey, all Federal, State, and local laws regarding the purchase, possession, carrying, use, storage, and disposition/sale of firearms.

## CLEARING/UNLOADING A FIREARM

- 1 Always keep the muzzle of the firearm pointed in a safe direction AND always keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard while clearing or unloading a firearm. (Consider obtaining a commercially made firearm clearing barrel for safe clearing/unloading purposes.)
- 2 Remove the magazine or other source of ammunition.
- 3 Open the breech and visually as well as physically inspect the chamber to ensure the firearm is completely unloaded. Repeat this step twice to be sure the firearms is completely unloaded.