



## Member Tested and Recommended Program

Monday, October 05, 2009

Thank you for participating in our “Member Tested and Recommended Products Program.” The Critical Defense 9mm Luger 115 gr FTX™ Cartridges have been tested and recommended by the members of the National Tactical Officers Association. Your overall score was a 5. The NTOA Member Tested and Recommended logo may be used solely on the specific product that was tested.

Attached with this letter, is the Member Tested and Recommended Logo which can be used on all marketing pieces for this product. Also attached is a copy of the complete reviews that your company can use as well.

Press releases written regarding this product review must be emailed to NTOA for review before release.

Since the review is completed, it will now be added to online Member Tested product database. To make the review complete, please send us a digital image of the product that has been tested. This is now listed on the NTOA’s Member Tested and Recommended online database and review will soon be published in *The Tactical Edge* journal.

Please contact Corey Luby at [advertising@ntoa.org](mailto:advertising@ntoa.org) if you would like to advertise in *The Tactical Edge* journal. Once again, thank you for participating Member Tested and Recommended Program©.

Thank you,

Corey Luby  
800-279-9127x120



Hornady Mfg  
Critical Defense 9mm Luger 115 gr FTX™ Cartridges  
Overall Score: 5  
<http://www.hornady.com>

TESTER

Tested by a police officer from Michigan

Design 5

Performance 5

Ease of Use 5

Size 5

Quality 5

Durability 5

Storage 5

Versatility 5

Convenience 5

Application 5

Comfort 5

Accuracy 5

Cleaning & Maintenance 5

Individual Score 5

I got the opportunity to test the Hornady 9mm Luger, 115gr FTX Critical Defense rounds. I tested 2 boxes, 50 rounds total. During the test I did 25 and 50 yard targets using a Glock 17 and a Browning Hi-Power. Ten rounds through both guns at both distances proved very accurate. All rounds were in the center of the target in an approximately 4" group with the exception of 2 stray rounds (operator error :). We fired 5 rounds into a shoot tank and all 5 rounds expanded perfectly. During our test of velocity through a chronometer the rounds clocked in at 1100, 1104, 1120, 1094 and 1128 feet per second at the muzzle, right at the advertised speed. All in all these rounds performed excellently with no surprise in recoil. Having tested other expanding hollow point rounds I'd say these rounds expanded much better and more regularly than some other brands. I've routinely found rounds at the range that were fired into the backstop that didn't expand at all or only partially but of the 40 bullets we recovered of the 50 fired, 100% of them were almost perfectly expanded. Excellent ammunition!

TESTER

Tested by a police officer from California

Design 5

Performance 5

Ease of Use 5

Size 5

Quality 5

Durability 5

Storage 5

Versatility 5

Convenience 5

Application 5

Comfort 5

Accuracy 5

Cleaning & Maintenance 5

Individual Score 5

The Hornady Critical Defense line fills the bill with regard to the ammunition purchaser, who might not necessarily require an ammunition that meets the entire F.B.I protocol.

For the CCW holder, Home Defender or LEO that may choose their own ammunition for off-duty carriage, this ammunition deserves a long hard look.

The loaded cartridges are of superlative quality, with each being the mirror image of the next. One will notice immediately that what would typically be a hollow point or controlled expansion projectile, has the nose or cavity filled with a proprietary soft compound that resembles silicon. What this does is, prevent the nose of the hollow cavity projectile from being filled with clothing material as it passes through this tricky barrier.

Recent shootings involved Law Enforcement Officers and a very leading brand, cutting edge ammunition have proven to provide lack luster results. It would seem that the gaping hollow cavity of this ammunition either works wonderfully or dismally. Oft times the large “cookie cutter” hollow point does a wonderful job of cutting out perfect round holds of clothing material, packing them in the nose of the bullet. This renders the projectile of little worth, more than a full metal jacketed round.

In the Critical Defense line from Hornady the proprietary nose compound allows the material that blocks the hollow point, to act in and of itself as fluid acts on a standard hollow point projectile. It pushes inwardly in a uniform manor, against the pre-serrated nose and jacket material initiating expansion. As the projectile reaches the maximum depth of penetrations, so it reaches the maximum expansion, each and every time. In tissue stimulant, the results were spectacular and boringly regular. The round expanded each and every time, regardless of the barrel length. The propellant used in this cartridge is a premium, high energy low flash Law Enforcement compound. This is a huge plus since most off-duty encounters occur in compromised light.

I tested this ammunition in both the 9mm Luger 115 gr. Offering and the .38 Spl. 110 gr. Even when fired from very short barrels, such as a typical “Chief-Special” revolver or micro pistol, the results were spectacular. I would not hesitate to use this ammunition.