

Sgt Glenford Henry is the type of person you do not want to encounter if you are up to no good.

First of all, he is from St Thomas, the same place that Paul Bogle, National Hero comes from.

Secondly, he has no time for idlers because he is busy. Busy doing what? You may ask.

Busy arresting wanted men, busy seizing motor vehicles that are operating contrary to the road traffic Act, busy seizing illicit drugs, busy seizing illegal guns, busy seizing illegal ammunition. You know? Busy.

It helps if we know a little bit more about Sgt Henry. He enrolled in the Island Special Constabulary Force in 1987 where he served for 10 years after which he joined the regular JCF. Eight years later, in 2005, he was promoted to Corporal and transferred back to the Parish of his birth where he was on the front lines of the crime fighting efforts.

He was later transferred to the Property Management and Maintenance Division of the JCF where his list of accomplishments includes the building of the JCF Head Office on Old Hope Road.

Henry was promoted to sergeant and once again transferred to St Thomas where he is involved in crime fighting, community development and dispute resolution.

Unfortunately, there are persons who think that dispute resolution comes out of the barrel of a gun. This seems to have been the case on Tuesday October 13 at about 1215 PM in Highbury District, St Thomas.

According to police reports, a 32-year-old businessman Dexter Rhoden was murdered by four armed men travelling in a Honda Fit motor car. They had planned the hit, executed it, and were now making their escape.

Unfortunately for them, Sgt Henry was off duty that day. Had he been on duty he may well have been someplace else. But there he was, challenging them and standing between them and a clean getaway. So they opened fire with the same high powered weapons that they had used to resolve a dispute just moments ago. And Sgt Henry fired back.

As the bullets passed each other time stood still and the bullets took the time to have a conversation. The Henry bullets said to the gunman bullets, "hey, where are you going"?

"We are not sure", came the reply, "we were fired by members of a criminal gang. Some of them are wanted men, wanted for murder, shooting with intent and wounding with intent. We saw what they made our companions do to that businessman and we hope someone stops them from doing that to someone else. What about you, where are you going?"

The Henry bullets answered, "We were fired by a 34 year veteran of the Jamaica Constabulary Force who has been tried and tested under fire. He is a fearless crime fighter and criminals tremble at the sound of his name. He has sworn to uphold the Law and we go to do his bidding."

Time moved on, and after the dust had settled one of the gunmen was dead, another died later in a separate incident and three others arrested and charged.

The police report says a M16 assault rifle with a magazine containing twenty-nine 5.56 rounds of ammunition, an extra magazine containing sixteen 5.56 rounds of ammunition; and an AK-47 assault rifle with a magazine containing nine 7.62 rounds of ammunition were seized during the incident.

Sgt Henry, words can hardly express our gratitude for your selfless intervention.

You were outnumbered, you were out gunned - and you were off duty. But yet, you stood up for law and order in the way that you know best. And you prevailed.

For standing in the gap in the face of overwhelming odds, the Jamaica Chapter of ASIS International salutes you.

Congratulations. Well done.