

## GUN TESTS REPORT CARD



### **Colt CCO 45 ACP, about \$1250 GUN TESTS GRADE: B**

We all thoroughly enjoyed this nicely balanced, well-set-up handgun. It had all the accuracy anyone would need, worked perfectly, and best of all, was extremely easy to carry. We put it into our #101 Bachman Slide ([www.oldwestreproductions.com](http://www.oldwestreproductions.com)) and in a few minutes entirely forgot the gun was there. We wore it several days, all day, without any discomfort whatsoever. It essentially disappeared once it was in the holster. That's comfortable carry defined, the combination of a decent holster and a well-designed, light, yet powerful handgun. The only problem

with the CCO will be in finding one. In that endeavor we wish you luck, but we think you might be at least as well served with the Sig Sauer 1911 C3. Because of the CCO's unavailability and lack of refinement, compared with the C3, we had to give this now-discontinued Colt a B grade.



### **Sig Sauer 1911 C3 No. 19GS0031 45 ACP, \$1143 GUN TESTS GRADE: A**

Other than one failure to feed which we could not repeat, there were no problems with the Sig Sauer C3. This handgun was set up well, looked great, didn't break the bank, had excellent accuracy, and all the refinements anyone might want on a serious carry gun. We applaud Sig Sauer for presenting shooters with this pistol option. In our opinion it is the finest smaller, lighter 1911-type handgun being made today, and one of the very finest 1911-type 45s we've seen—beaten in details only by the full-size Valtro. It gets our top mark.



### **Kahr PM4543, \$855 GUN TESTS GRADE: F**

Our best group was with the five rounds of Cor-Bon we fired. It gave us two jams for five rounds, but put them into 1.8 inches. Worst was Federal Gold Medal Match, which averaged 6 inches. In our opinion, the Kahr PM4543 is one of the worst handguns we've encountered. The spring force of the slide is so stiff as to challenge our strongest team members to get the slide fully retracted to either pick up a cartridge from the magazine, or to be able to lock the slide open. Worse, in almost all of the many jams we experienced with all ammunition tried, the powerful spring wedged the outgoing empty or the incoming live round against the magazine, jamming it in place. This left no option but to wrestle the slide back

against that ferocious spring to lock the slide back before clearing the jam. With a live round beneath the jam, this was a little scary. We eventually ceased testing this gun before our hands could slip in the cool weather and give us an unwanted discharge. Handguns must be set up to work safely, and in our experience, this one was not. Kahr can do a whole lot better than this.

*Written and photographed by Ray Ordorica, using evaluations from GUN TESTS team testers. GT*