

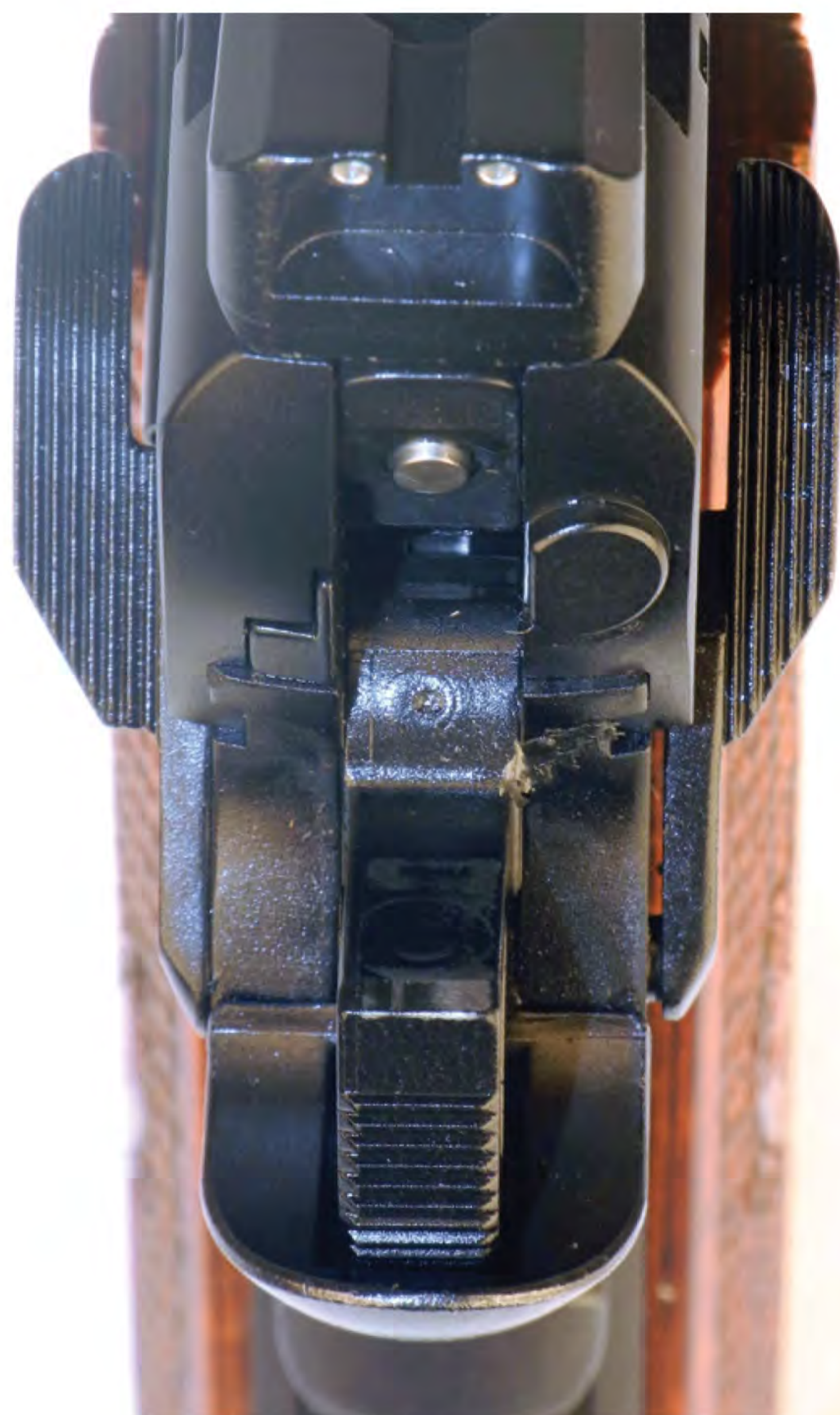
SPRINGFIELD ARMORY LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPION OPERATOR PX9115LP 45 ACP, \$1076

GUN TESTS GRADE: A-

Just about the perfect 1911 45. But the long dustcover makes takedown more complicated.

SPECIFICATIONS

Overall Length.....	7.6 in.
Overall Height.....	5.5 in.
Barrel Length.....	4.0 in.
Sight Radius.....	5.5 in.
Front Strap Height.....	2.6 in.
Back Strap Height.....	3.2 in.
Weight Unloaded.....	28.6 oz.
Weight Loaded (230 gr.).....	36.9 oz.
Capacity.....	7+1
Maximum Width.....	1.45 in.
Grip Thickness (max).....	1.3 in.
Grip Circumference.....	5.6 in.
Frame.....	Alloy
Barrel.....	Stainless Steel
Slide.....	Parkerized Carbon Steel
Grip.....	Cocobolo
Trigger Pull Weight Double Action.....	5.5 lbs.
Trigger Span Double Action.....	2.75 in.
Warranty.....	Limited Lifetime
Telephone.....	(800) 680-6866
Website.....	Springfield-Armory.com
Manufactured/Assembled In.....	USA



An overhead view shows that the right-side thumb safety was slimmer by about one machine line. The rear sight unit offered two tritium modules recessed and shielded from glare. Note the large beavertail grip safety.

The Operator was reliable with both 7-round and 8-round magazines. It also shot softer than many full-size models. We credit the plunger-style recoil system, but takedown required a specific tool that wasn't necessarily easy to put on or take off. Part of the problem was getting past the longer dust cover necessitated by the rail. This was the only minus we could find. We think the standard Lightweight Champion Operator with standard-length dustcover would be easier to field-strip.



Few 1911s offer an accessory rail regardless of frame size. The compact Lightweight Champion Operator offered true Picatinny specifications and three slots.