

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING**  
**Rifle Marksmanship – Sniper, Advanced (50 Hours)**  
**2270-23040-**  
**Rev. 01/24/2021**

**EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE / HOURLY DISTRIBUTION**

Objective: This course is designed to enhance the skills of the sniper/observer that has already completed a basic rifle marksmanship/sniper/observer course. Included are advanced skills in marksmanship, stalking, mission planning, intelligence gathering, long range target engagements, camouflage, rural & urban scouting, moving target engagements, and deadly force engagement decision making. This course complies with the legislative content and mandates of AB 392, SB 230 and PC 835a.

**I. INTRODUCTION - Lecture, Practical Exercise**

- A. Registration & Course Objectives
  - 1. Introduction of course instructors
  - 2. Basic description of course goals & objectives
- B. Range safety protocols
  - 1. Range safety rules
  - 2. Safe weapons handling
  - 3. Range facility orientation
    - a. Facility logistics
- E. AB 392 and SB230/Use of Force Legal Issues
  - 1. Emphasis of de-escalation/tactical repositioning
  - 2. Emphasis on duty to intervene
  - 3. Policy considerations/changes
  - 4. Duty to warn
  - 5. At risk populations
- F. PC 835a
  - 1. Legal requirements of 835a
  - 2. When is a use of force justified?
  - 3. Shall use other available resources and techniques when safe and feasible
  - 4. Totality of the circumstances includes officer conduct leading up to the use of force
  - 5. Definition of imminent
  - 6. Definition of deadly force
  - 7. Definition of feasible
  - 8. Definition of necessary force
- C. Proficiency evaluation – live fire exercise
  - 1. 100 yard stressed “cold bore” shot

**II. TIMED/STRESS SHOOTING EXERCISES – practical and live fire exercise**

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- A. Team baton relay (4 minute time limit)
- B. Team run / hostage taker shots (2 minute time limit)
- C. Physical challenge (10 Push-ups per station)
- D. 16 dot rapid follow-up shots (4 minute time limit)
- E. Run, sit & shoot challenge (Command fire)

**III. LONG RANGE TARGET ENGAGEMENTS - Lecture, Video, Practical Exercise**

- A. Weapon selection
  - 1. Bolt rifle
  - 2. Semi-auto
- B. Bullets
  - 1. Designs
  - 2. Weight
  - 3. Limitations
  - 4. Spin drift
- C. Scope adjustments
  - 1. Turret adjustments
    - a. Elevation
    - b. Windage
  - 2. Mil- dot holds
    - a. Elevation
    - a. Windage
- D. Impact observation
  - 1. Bullet impact
  - 2. Vapor trail
- E. Engagement exercise – live fire exercise
  - 1. 300 – 600 yard target engagements

**IV. SNIPER RIFLE MAINTENANCE – Lecture & Demonstration & Exercise**

- A. Cleaning kits
- B. Cleaning tools
- C. Solvents
- D. Lubricants
- E. Cleaning techniques

**V. RURAL & URBAN FIELDCRAFT - Lecture, Video, Demonstration & Practical Exercise**

- A. Camouflage
  - 1. Face paint
  - 2. Tactical uniforms
  - 3. Ghillie suits
  - 4. Equipment
  - 5. Weapon

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- B. Target indicators
  - 1. Shape
  - 2. Shadow
  - 3. Silhouette
  - 4. Color
  - 5. Movement
- C. Stalking
  - 1. Slow methodical walk
  - 2. Slow methodical kneeling
  - 3. Low crawl
  - 4. Medium crawl
  - 5. High crawl
- E. Final firing positions & hides – **live fire exercise**
  - 1. Rural
  - 2. Urban
  - 3. Vehicles

**VI. HIGH ANGLE SHOOTING – Lecture, Demonstration, Practical Exercise.**

- A. Angles
  - 1. Elevated & depressed
- B. Gravity's effect
  - 1. Horizontal flight
  - 2. Elevated or depressed flight
- C. Calculation principles
  - 1. Line of site
  - 2. Slope angle
  - 3. Horizontal distance
- D. In-field correction
  - 1. Mathematical equations
- E. Tools used to determining slope angle
  - 1. Slope doper
  - 2. Range finder
- F. High angle shooting engagement exercise – **live fire exercise**

**VII. TACTICAL SCOUTING – Lecture, Demonstration & Exercise**

- A. Mission type
  - 1. Planned
  - 2. Emergency call-out
- B. Environment
  - 1. Rural
  - 2. Urban
- C. Equipment
  - 1. Note pad & pens

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- 2. Cameras
  - a. Digital
  - b. Phone
- 3. Optics
  - a. Weapon mounted
  - b. Binoculars
  - c. Spotting scopes
- 4. Communications
  - a. Radio
  - b. Cell phone
  - c. Satellite phone
- D. Intelligence gathering
  - 1. Target information
  - 2. Suspect(s)
  - 3. Weapons
  - 4. Hazards
  - 4. Approach & escape routes
  - 5. Sniper positions
  - 6. Target sketch/photos

**VIII. MOVING TARGET ENGAGEMENTS – Lecture, Video & Practical Exercise**

- A. Sniper engagements
  - 1. Limited exposure engagements
  - 2. Body shots vs. head shots
  - 3. Multiple weapon engagements
  - 4. Use of mil-dots
- B. Target engagement techniques
  - 1. Trapping
  - 2. Leading
  - 3. Snap shots
- C. Moving target engagement practical exercise – live fire exercise
  - 1. 100 & 200 yard target engagements

**IX. LOW LIGHT/NIGHT OPERATIONS – Lecture, Demonstration, Practical Exercise**

- A. Scope reticules
  - 1. Standard
  - 2. Illuminated
- B. Night vision optics
  - 1. Weapon mounted
  - 2. Head mounted
  - 3. Hand held
- C. Lighting
  - 1. Red Lights

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- 2. Infrared lighting
- 3. Light discipline
- A. Movement
  - 1. Day vs. night
- E. Target Identification
  - 1. Positive identification
  - 2. Facial recognition vs. clothing
  - 3. Weapons

**X. MARKSMANSHIP – Lecture, Demonstration, Practical and Live Fire Exercise**

- A. Team command fire
- B. Rapid bolt manipulation
  - 1. Follow-up shots
- C. Improvised shooting positions
- D. Shooting from armored vehicles
- E. Unknown Distance Target Engagements

**SNIPER PRACTICAL EXERCISES**

- A. Rural & Urban Stalks
  - 1. Students will participate in scenario based stalks set in both rural & urban environments.
- B. Day Scout Mission
  - 1. Students will be participating in a day time exercise requiring them to scout, sketch and gather intelligence on a designated target.
- C. Low Light/Night Scout Mission
  - 1. Students will participate in an exercise requiring the students to stalk as close to a target as possible under low light/ night conditions.
- D. Hides
  - 1. Students will construct the following sniper hides
    - a. Urban – residential & industrial
    - b. Rural – Mountainous terrain
    - c. Vehicle – Interior & exterior
- E. Angle Shooting
  - 1. Students will participate in long distance / high angle shooting – **live fire exercise**
- F. Shoot – Don't Shoot Concepts
  - 1. Students will be given written scenarios designed to provoke discussion on whether the student believes a sniper shot should or should not be taken under the given circumstances.
  - 2. Discussion
    - a. Rules of Engagement (ROE)
    - b. Use of Force policies
    - c. Commander's authority to modify ROE's

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**Hourly distribution**  
**(50 hours)**

**DAY ONE**

<u>TIME</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
0700 – 0900	Introduction Objectives / Expectations Range Safety Protocols
0900 – 1200	Timed/Stress Shooting Drills– <b>live fire exercise</b>
1200 – 1300	Lunch
1300 – 1400	Long Range Engagements - Lecture Weapon selection, Bullets, Scope Adjustments, Impact Observation
1400 – 1600	Long Range Engagement – – <b>live fire exercise</b>
1600 – 1800	300-600 Yard Target Engagements Sniper Rifle Maintenance

**DAY TWO**

0700 – 0800	Rural & Urban Fieldcraft
0800 – 0900	Target Indicators
0900 – 1000	Camouflage Techniques
1000 – 1200	Fieldcraft – Practical exercise
1200 – 1300	Lunch
1300 – 1400	High Angle Shooting - Lecture
1400 – 1600	High Angle Shooting – <b>live fire exercise</b>
1600 – 1800	Final Firing Positions – <b>live fire exercise</b>

**DAY THREE**

1200 – 1300	Tactical Scouting Mission Planning
1300 – 1400	Scouting / Intel Gathering
1400 – 1500	Scout/Intel Sketch Exercise
1500 – 1600	Moving Target Engagements – Lecture
1600 – 1700	Moving Target Engagements – <b>live fire exercise</b>
1700 – 1800	Lunch
1800 – 2000	Low Light / Night Operations
2000 – 2300	Low Light/Night Stalk (Practical)

**DAY FOUR**

0700 – 1200	Rural Scout/Stalk – Practical
1200 – 1300	Lunch
1300 – 1800	Urban Stalk/Hide - Practical

**DAY FIVE**

0700 – 0800	Marksmanship – <b>live fire exercise</b>
0800 – 0900	Rapid Bolt Manipulation Drills
0900 – 1000	Team Command Fire
1000 – 1200	Improvised Shooting Positions
1200 – 1300	Lunch
1300 – 1500	Engagements from armored vehicles

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1500 – 1700  
1700 – 1800

Unknown Distance Target Engagements  
Evaluations/ Certificates