

FIREARMS (PSP)

Santa Clara County, Office of the Sheriff – 2270

CCN: 29501 | POST Certification II | Reimbursable Plan IV | 4 Hours

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course will provide the trainee with the minimum topics of tactical firearms and lethal force required in the POST Perishable Skills Training Program (PSP). The trainee will develop the necessary firearms tactical knowledge and skills to survive and win a realistic lethal force encounter.

The course consists of hands-on/practical skills firearms training for in-service officers.

TACTICAL FIREARMS

Minimum Topics/Exercises:

- a. Safety Policy/Orientation
- b. Moral obligations
- c. Use of Force considerations
- d. Policy and/or Legal Standards
- e. Sight Alignment, Trigger Control, Accuracy
- f. Target Recognition and Analysis
- g. Weapons Clearing/Manipulations
- h. Live Fire Tactical/Marking Cartridges
- i. Basic Tactical Firearms Situations, Judgment and Decision-Making Exercise(s)
- j. Class Exercises/Student Evaluation/Testing

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The trainee will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of their individual Department's Use of Force/Firearms Policy.
2. Identify the tactical analysis key points related to tactical firearms as reported in POST Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) Studies (1994 to Present).
3. Demonstrate a minimum standard of tactical handgun proficiency with every technique, exercise, and course-of-fire, to include:
 - A. Judgment and Decision Making
 - B. Firearms Safety
 - C. Fundamentals of Marksmanship
 - D. Safe Drawing and Presenting Firearms
 - E. Threat Assessment/Identification
 - F. Speed, Accuracy and Effectiveness under stress and movement conditions
 - G. Shot Placement: Combat Effectiveness

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- H. Malfunctions Clearing
- I. Loading/Reloading

Minimum standards of performance shall be tested by an instructor observing the trainee during their performance of each technique, exercise, and course-of-fire. If the trainee does not meet minimum standards, as established by the presenter, remediation will be provided until the standard is met.

Student learning activities & methods of assessing learning: Drills and course of fire including warm up course, combat reload exercise, weapon malfunction exercise and defensive shooting exercise to be evaluated to POST qualification standards by a POST instructor.

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

I. Introduction/Orientation

- a. Introduction, Registration and Orientation
 - i. Instructor/student introductions
 - ii. Registration/rosters
- b. Course Objectives/Overview, Exercises, Evaluation/Testing
 - i. Overview of course objectives
 - 1. Judgment and Decision Making
 - 2. Firearms Safety
 - 3. Fundamentals of Marksmanship
 - 4. Safe Drawing and Presenting Firearms
 - 5. Threat Assessment/Identification
 - 6. Speed, Accuracy and Effectiveness under stress and movement conditions
 - 7. Shot Placement: Combat Effectiveness
 - 8. Malfunctions Clearing
 - 9. Loading/Reloading
 - ii. Overview of exercises/drills
 - iii. Evaluation/testing/remediation procedures
- c. Firearms Safety Review and Range Briefing **I(a)**
 - i. Range Safety Rules
 - 1. Treat all Firearms as if they are loaded
 - 2. Never point your firearm at anything you do not intend to destroy
 - 3. Keep your finger indexed outside the trigger guard until you have made the conscious decision to shoot.
 - 4. Know your target, between and beyond.

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- ii. Required Safety Equipment
 - 1. Ballistic vest
 - 2. Hearing protection
 - 3. Eye protection
- iii. Methods to request Emergency Medical Services
 - 1. Cell phone
 - 2. Land line
 - 3. Department issued radio
- iv. AED, Trauma and First Aid Kits
 - 1. Locations
- v. Identify personnel with additional medical training/experience
- vi. Identify emergency transportation vehicle
- vii. Discuss emergency action plan

II. Policies, Moral and Legal Issues/Changes/SB 230

I(b,c,d)

- a. Necessary Force per Penal Code 835a and AB 392
 - i. Define Necessary
 - ii. Define Imminent
- b. When is Deadly Force Authorized?
- c. Duty to Warn
- d. Penal Code 196 Amended
- e. De-Escalation
 - i. Tactical Communication
 - ii. Tactical Repositioning
 - 1. Use of time, distance, alternate shooting positions, cover and concealment
 - 2. Does not mean losing control of the situation
 - iii. Additional Resources
 - 1. Crisis Intervention Trained Deputies
 - 2. Mobile Crisis
 - 3. Crisis Negotiation Team
 - 4. Less Lethal Options
 - 5. SERT (SWAT)
 - iv. Rendering Medical Aid
 - 1. Only when feasible
 - v. Case law and their impact on reasonable force and deadly force
 - 1. Graham v. Connor
 - 2. Tennessee v. Garner
 - vi. Department Policy
 - 1. Officers must know and follow their department policy

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2. Failure to follow department policy can lead to civil and administrative liability

vii. Use of Force Considerations

1. Lethal force within the spectrum of force options
2. Verbal, hands, less lethal, lethal force
3. Escalation and de-escalation process

III. Review Fundamentals of Shooting

I(e)

a. Stance

- i. Balance, mobility and stability
- ii. Ballistic armor towards threat
- iii. Consistent with Defensive tactics
- iv. Consistency between support side and strong side shooting

b. Grip

- i. Established during draw
- ii. Discuss different body types
 1. Individual to the shooter
 2. Glock Backstrap modification
- iii. Strong Hand Grip
 1. Web of thumb high on backstrap
 2. Isometric pressure
 3. Resting thumb/palm on slide release
- iv. Support Hand Grip
 1. Forward Cam
 2. Isometric pressure
 3. Asymmetric pressure with thumb on slide

c. Sight Alignment

- i. Equal height and equal light
- ii. Training Sights demo
- iii. Flash front sight picture and angular deviation demo

d. Sight Picture

- i. Front sight focus, sights aligned on target

e. Trigger control

- i. The smooth continuous straight back manipulation of the trigger sufficient to discharge the weapon without disturbing the sight picture/alignment
- ii. The immediate reset of the trigger to the pressure wall after the weapon discharges.

f. Follow Through

- i. Obtaining final sight picture

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- ii. Obtaining final trigger reset
- g. Search and re-asses

IV. Draw Stroke

- a. Overcoming holster SLS and ALS mechanism while establishing master grip
- b. Support hand index point on the chest
- c. Draw and bring backplate of pistol on-line with tip of nose with muzzle on horizontal plane to target.
- d. Establish two handed shooting grip
- e. Drive gun out towards the target.

V. Reloads

I(g)

- a. Administrative Reload
- b. Combat Reload
 - i. Magazine Pouch Selection
 - ii. Workspace Position
 - 1. Situational Awareness
 - 2. Economy of Motion
 - 3. Faster/More Consistent
 - iii. Depress Magazine Release
 - iv. Strip Magazine
 - v. Support hand retrieves combat reload magazine (index magazine with pointer finger)
 - vi. Insert magazine (listen and feel for magazine properly seating)
 - vii. Chamber round (slide stop vs. push/pull)
 - viii. Communication?
- c. Tactical Reload
 - i. Lull in the gunfight and tactical advantage/do I need to tac reload?
 - ii. Communicate and work with partner
 - iii. Bring firearm into workspace
 - iv. Using support hand, retrieve designated tac reload magazine (magazine least accessible/furthest away)
 - v. Demonstrate grip on magazine for tac reload (smoking cigar method)
 - vi. Exchange magazines
 - vii. Push/pull new magazine
 - viii. Stow old magazine in magazine pouch
- d. Un-loading
 - i. Remove the source of ammunition
 - ii. Visually and physically check the loaded chamber indicator

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- iii. Lock the slide to the rear
- iv. Visually and physically inspect the magazine well and chamber.

VI. Malfunctions I(g)

- a. Simple
 - i. Failure to feed/fire
 - 1. Tap the magazine, cant the firearm with ejection port down and aggressively rack the slide
 - ii. Failure to eject
 - 1. Cant the firearm with ejection port down and aggressively rack the slide
- b. Complex
 - i. Failure to extract or double feed
 - 1. Possible causes
 - 2. Identify
 - a. Tap Rack
 - b. While depressing the mag release, simultaneously rack the slide multiple times allowing the magazine to drop to the ground
 - c. Retrieve speed reload magazine
 - d. Insert new magazine, and rack the slide, chambering a round into the chamber
- c. Catastrophic
 - i. Requires new parts or tools to fix

VII. Live Fire Exercises I(f,h,i,j)

- a. DEA Dots/Walk Back Drill/B8
 - i. Focus on fundamentals of marksmanship
- b. Target identification/No Shoot target drills
 - i. Utilize turning target system to force deputy to react
- c. Reloads
 - i. Live Fire Combat Reload Drills
 - ii. Live Fire Tactical Reloads working with a partner utilizing cover
- d. Malfunction Drills
 - i. Simple and Complex malfunctions (set up by instructor)
- e. Live Fire Evaluation Course

VIII. Conclusion/Debrief

- a. Range clean-up
- b. Evaluations

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c. Weapon maintenance