

**PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT #5680**  
**DRIVING (PSP) / CCN 29502 / 8 hours**  
**POST Certification II**  
**EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE**

**COURSE GOAL:**

The purpose of this course is to train students how to enhance the efficiency and safety of operating a police vehicle. Train the student reduce accident statistics and Department liability. Teach the students use the proper basic driving principles and other inter-related principles. Students will learn driving and maneuvering on a slow speed exercise course.

This course consists of a hands-on/practical driver training for in-service Officers. This training is presented in an 8 hour format.

**DRIVER AWARENESS**

**Minimum Topics/Exercises:**

1. Safety Policy/Orientation
2. Facility Overview/Grade Cards
3. Course Purpose/ Philosophy
4. Vehicle Dynamics
5. Legal Aspects/ Responsibilities
6. Agency Driving Policy
7. Vehicle Care/Maintenance
8. Defensive Driving
9. Backing/Parking Exercises

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The student will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge in basic driving techniques
2. Demonstrate knowledge in Department Policy, State/ local laws, and overall safety for the public
3. Demonstrate and show competent driving with Parking and Backing

**MINIMUM STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE SHALL BE TESTED BY AN INSTRUCTOR OBSERVING THE STUDENT DURING THEIR PERFORMANCE OF EACH TECHNIQUE AND EXERCISE. IF THE STUDENT DOES NOT MEET MINIMUM STNADARDS, AS ESTABLISHED BY THE PRESENTER, REMEDIATION WILL BE PROVIDED UNTIL THE STNADARD IS MET.**

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**I. REGISTRATION/ORIENTATION**

**A. REGISTRATION**

1. Class documentation
2. Course grade cards

**B. Course Purpose and Philosophy**

1. Enhance the efficiency and safety of police vehicle operations
2. Reduction in accident statistics
3. Departmental liability
4. Proper use of basic driving principles
5. All principles are interrelated
- 6.

**C. Overview of Course**

1. Expectations

**II. BASIC DRIVING PRINCIPLES**

**A. Weight Transfer**

1. Weight distributed between front and rear wheels
2. Types of weight transfer
  - a. Lateral: Side to side
  - b. Longitudinal: Front to rear/Rear to front
3. Lateral transfer created when vehicle turned left/right
4. Longitudinal transfer created when:
  - c. Braking - Rear to front
  - d. Accelerating - Front to rear
  - e. Decelerating (lifting off accelerator)- Rear to front
5. Can't be completely eliminated in a moving vehicle
6. Minimized by good driving techniques and smooth operation

**B. Steering Control**

1. Seating position
  - a. Driver comfort
  - b. Efficient vehicle control
  - c. Wrist break over top of steering wheel
  - d. Seated approximately 12" from air bag
  - e. Adjust mirrors
2. Steering method – Two hand shuffle steering
  - a. Balanced hand positions per agency
  - b. Hands do not leave steering wheel
  - c. Maximizes steering accuracy

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- d. Safer and more effective recovery
- e. Minimizes weight transfer
- f. Minimizes air bag deployment injury (9 and 3, 8 and 4)
- 3. Steering method – Backing
  - a. Body rotated to right
  - b. Right hand placed on right headrest
  - c. Vision directed over right shoulder
  - d. Left hand on steering wheel at 12 o'clock position
  - e. Left foot braced on floorboard
- 4. Steering Method – Backing Utilizing Mirrors Only
  - a. Body in normal driving position
  - b. Check left and right mirrors (if possible, check rear view mirror)
  - c. Check to ensure backup camera video and/or sensors are engaged (if applicable)

**C. Roadway Position**

- 1. Definition: The position of the vehicle on the roadway that maximizes speed with minimum steering and risk of loss of vehicle control while negotiating a turn
  - a. AKA – Driving line
  - b. Driving points in a turn
    - 1. Entry (Point #1)
    - 2. Apex (Point #2)
      - a. Early
      - b. Traditional
      - c. Late
    - 3. Exit (Point #3)
- 2. Driving Advantages
  - a. Minimize and control weight transfer
  - b. Minimize steering input
  - c. Smoother vehicle operation
  - d. Maximum speed through turns in the safest manner

**D. Safety Belt Utilization**

- 1. Numbers of Police Officer deaths from not wearing seatbelts
- 2. Policy on seatbelts
- 3. Tactical Seatbelt Removal
- 4.

**III. LEGAL ASPECTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**A. Vehicle Operations Liability C.V.C. Sections**

- 1. 17001
- 2. 17004
- 3. 17004
- 4. 17004.7
- 5. 21052
- 6. 21055 a & b
- 7. 21056
- 8. 21057
- 9. 21806

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- 10. 21807
- 11. 22350
- 12. Personal liability factors

- B. Agency Emergency Driving Policy
  - 1. Pursuit
  - 2. Code-3
  - 3. Overall Vehicle Operation

**IV. DEFENSIVE DRIVING**

- A. Defensive Drivers
  - 1. Avoid collisions regardless of right-of-way
  - 2. React properly to hazards
  - 3. Maintain a professional attitude
- B. Dangerous Driver Attitudes
  - 1. Overconfidence
  - 2. Self-righteousness
  - 3. Impatience
  - 4. Preoccupation
  - 5. Distracted driving/Multi-tasking
- C. Collision Avoidance
  - 1. Space cushion
    - a. Three second rule
    - b. Perception / Reaction time
    - c. When stopped, see rear wheels of vehicle directly in front
  - 2. Intersections
    - a. Clear left, right, then left again
    - b. Cover brake on stale green
    - c. Don't turn wheels until ready for turn
    - d. Look through turns
  - 3. Maintain high visual horizon
  - 4. Consider steering to the rear of a conflict vehicle
  - 5. Backing
    - a. Large percentage of collisions involving LE vehicles
    - b. Use proper backing techniques
    - c. Use of or backup cameras
  - 6. Lane changes
    - a. Signal
    - b. Check mirrors
    - c. Optional back up camera
  - 7. Blind spots
    - a. Clear blind spots by looking over shoulders
    - b. Use of mirrors
    - d. Optional backup cameras

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- 8. Accident Mitigation Systems
  - a. Agency policy
  - b. Manufacture advisements

**V. MANEUVERING COURSE EXERCISES/Testing**

- A. Offset Lane Exercise (Forward and Reverse)
  - 1. Roadway positioning (eye Placement and steering input)
  - 2. Appropriate throttle control and brake application
  - 3. Conscious of rear wheel cheat and front end swing
  - 4. Usage of pivot point (Reverse direction)
  - 5. Appropriate usage of mirror (reverse direction)
- B. Turn-Around Maneuver Exercise
  - 1. Student will demonstrate three-point turnaround, bootleg, and modified bootleg
  - 2. Maintain constant visual awareness of objects to the rear and sides until vehicle comes to a stop
  - 3. Demonstrate reverse steering (pivot point and front-end swing)
- C. Steering course Exercise
  - 1. Demonstrate proper application of forward and reverse methods of steering
  - 2. Coordination of steering and throttle control to minimize weight transfer during turning movements
  - 3. Maneuver around obstacles without striking them
- D. "T" Driveway
  - 1. Appropriate lane placement
  - 2. Appropriate adjustments for rear wheel cheat
- E. Parallel Parking Exercise
  - 1. Appropriate setup
  - 2. Finish within 18" of the curb

**VI. REMEDIATION/ CRITIQUE**