

POST PERISHABLE SKILLS PROGRAM (PSP)
I - TACTICAL FIREARMS COURSE
Pasadena Police Department - 5680
CCN: 29501 | POST Certification II | 6 hours

GOAL:

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

The course consists of both lecture and 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 officer will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the 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
 - H. Malfunctions Clearing
 - I. Loading/Reloading

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

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE
Part 1 – Classroom (2 Hours)

I. INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION

- A. Introduction, Registration and Orientation
 - 1. Registration – POST roster
- B. Course Objectives/Overview, Exercises, Evaluation/Testing
 - 1. Overview of course objectives
 - 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
 - h. Malfunctions Clearing
 - i. Loading/Reloading
 - 2. Overview of exercises/drills
 - 3. Evaluation/testing/remediation procedures
- C. Weapons Safety Orientation, Review of Range and Shooting Safety Rules (Pre-range weapons unloading procedures and lunch/extended break reload/unload rules) **I (a)**
 - 1. All weapons are to be considered loaded
 - 2. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to shoot
 - 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to fire
 - 4. Be sure of your target and background
 - 5. Range and Tactical Safety
 - a. Follow range rules
 - b. Follow instructor commands
 - c. Strict weapon discipline and muzzle control
- D. First Aid Procedures
 - 1. Location of basic first aid kits
 - 2. Location of trauma bag and AED
 - 3. Location of telephone and portable radio inside Range Office

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4. Identify first aid assignments and responsibilities of instructors and participants
 - a. If trauma victim, identify personnel to make contact
5. Identify evacuation vehicle and route to hospital
6. **Hospital:** Huntington Memorial Hospital/Trauma Center
100 W. California Blvd. Pasadena, CA. 91105
7. **Fire Dept.:** LA County Fire Dept. Station #66
2764 Eaton Canyon Dr. Pasadena, CA. 91107

II. LETHAL FORCE OVERVIEW

I (b, c, d)

- A. Legal Standards/Case Law
 1. AB 392
 - a. What has changed
 - b. Lexipol Policy 300 – Use of Force
 2. Supporting Case Law
 - a. Tennessee vs. Garner
 - (1) Deadly Force
 - (2) Fleeing Felon
 - b. Graham vs. Conner
 - (1) Objectively Reasonable Force
 - (2) California PC 835a
- B. Moral/Ethical Issues involving Use of Force/Lethal Force
 1. Moral/Ethical obligations
 - a. Duty to Act
- C. Civil Implications of using Force/Lethal Force
 1. Department liability
 2. Personal liability
- D. Mental Aspects
 1. Mental preparation
 2. Decision to shoot

III. USE OF FORCE/LETHAL FORCE AND FIREARMS POLICY

I (c, d)

- A. 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
- B. Department Policy/SB 230
 1. Reasonable Cause to believe
 2. Imminent Threat
 3. Death or Serious Bodily Injury
 4. Fleeing Violent Felon Specifications
 5. Shooting at or into vehicles

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IV. POST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED/ASSAULTED (LEOKA) STUDIES (<https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/publications#LEOKA>)

- A. Current Reports and Vital Statistics from LEOKA Reports
 - 1. Line of duty deaths
 - 2. Statistics over time
- B. Conclusive Tactical Analysis
 - 1. Low Light Conditions
 - 2. 5 – 10 feet
 - 3. 2 rounds
 - 4. 2 seconds
 - 5. Officer Accuracy: less than 20 %
 - 6. Use of Cover
 - 7. Summary – Overview

V. FUNDAMENTALS OF SHOOTING

I (e, f)

- A. Sight Alignment
 - 1. Equal height front sight to the rear sight
 - 2. Equal light front sight centered in the rear sight notch
 - 3. Red Dot Optic
- B. Sight Picture
 - 1. Sights align relative to target
 - 2. Eye Focus - Front sight tip
- C. Trigger Control
 - 1. Smooth, continuous pressure straight to the rear
 - 2. Without disturbing sight picture
 - 3. Trigger finger placement along slide when not shooting
- D. Follow through
 - 1. Manage recoil
 - 2. Reset the trigger to the ready position and get another sight picture
- E. Stance
 - 1. Athletic stance, Balanced Ready Position
 - 2. Weight shifted slightly forward
 - 3. Torso squared toward target
- F. Grip
 - 1. High firm grip
 - 2. Two hands on firearm

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VI. FIVE COUNT PISTOL DRAW

I(f)

- A. Threat Assessment
 - 1. Assess the Threat
 - 2. De-Cock to Double Action
 - 3. Tactical Reloading
 - 4. Reassess
- B. Count One
 - 1. High firm grip
 - 2. Defeat retentions
 - 3. Support hand/arm into center line
- C. Count Two
 - 1. Draw
 - 2. Pistol is rocked up and forward
 - 3. Wrist is positioned above holster
 - 4. Forearm parallel to ground
 - 5. Trigger finger placement
- D. Count Three
 - 1. Meet both hands for two handed grip
 - 2. Low ready positioning
- E. Count Four
 - 1. Present pistol for a two-handed grip
 - 2. Pistol raised to eye level raise front sight to eye level
 - 3. Eye focus to front sight
 - 4. Estimate proper sight picture
 - 5. Begin trigger press
- F. Count Five
 - 1. Weapon at full presentation (We do not shoot every time we draw)
 - 2. Sight alignment/sight picture is verified
- G. Threat Assessment
 - 1. Assess the Threat
 - 2. Tactical Reloading
 - 3. Reassess
- H. Holstering
 - 1. ONLY when the tactical situation warrants
 - 2. Reverse of the draw count
 - 3. Gently place firearm back into holster
 - 4. Secure all holster retentions

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PART 2 – RANGE FACILITY (4 HOURS)

VII. DRILLS AND COURSES-OF-FIRE

I (e,g, h, i, j)

- A. Range Orientation and Safety Briefing
 - 1. Conduct second range safety briefing
 - 2. Review first aid procedures
- B. All Courses emphasize:
 - 1. Firearms safety
 - 2. Muzzle and fire discipline
 - 3. Fundamentals of marksmanship
 - 4. Five count draw
- C. Marksmanship Warm Up Drill
 - 1. Review grip, stance, and draw
 - 2. Perform one shot drills from the holster
 - 3. 7-yard line
 - 4. As many times as needed to observe student proficiency
- D. Speed/Emergency Reload
 - 1. Drop magazine as bringing weapon to workspace and grabbing new magazine
 - 2. Properly index the magazine
 - 3. Insert fresh magazine
 - 4. Send slide home either by slide stop or overhand grip
- E. Tactical Reload
 - 1. Handgun to workspace
 - 2. Index a fresh magazine
 - 3. Replace partial magazine with fresh magazine from workspace
 - 4. Retain partial magazine
 - 5. Handgun back on target
 - 6. Utilize cover
 - a. Tac reload when shooting has stopped
- F. Malfunction Drills
 - 1. Failure to Fire
 - a. Failure to fire/eject
 - b. Bring handgun to workspace
 - c. Tap magazine to support hand to ensure fully seated
 - d. Roll to right (for left or right-handed to orient the ejections port to the ground) and rack slide
 - 2. Double Feed Drill
- G. Flashlight Shooting Drills
 - 1. Weapon Mounted

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- a. Use support side thumb to activate light or use grip activated switch
- b. Deactivate when no longer necessary
2. Handheld Flashlight Tech
 - a. Alternate flashlight shooting techniques
 - b. Safety precautions
 - c. Dry fire practice
 - d. Reloading/flashlight retention
 - e. Handgun presentation with a secondary light

VIII. Non-Stationary Shooting Drills

I (e, f, g, h, i, j)

- A. Positions
 1. Seek Support (situational dependent)
 2. Wide base
 3. Be aware of your ejection port
- B. Shooting from cover
 1. Don't crowd behind cover
 2. Don't present yourself before you can defend yourself
 3. Solve one problem at a time – Use of pie technique
 4. Muzzle awareness
 5. Don't present yourself in the same position
 6. Reload behind cover
 7. Use of cover in low light conditions
- C. Movement – Shooting on the move
 1. Review safety protocol
 2. Conduct a dry run
 3. Stand erect
 4. Walk heel to toe, knees bent
 5. Shoot only when sights are on target
 6. Only move as fast as you can assess
 7. If moving to the rear – toe to heel
- D. Turning Target Drills
 1. Target Identification, Threat Assessment
 2. 7-yard line, 3 “blind” targets of varying threat
 3. At least one “no-shoot” target
 4. Two magazines

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IX. TESTING/REMEDICATION

Testing: Any student scoring below standard on any exercise, as established by the presenter, will be remediated, and tested until competency is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the presenter.

A. Drill #1 – Shooting on the move: single officer (Box cone pattern)

Instructors shall observe the following movement during exercise to evaluate successful completion of the course:

- Control the speed of the shooters movement
 - Watch shooters footing (heel to toe, do not cross over etc.)
 - Make sure shooter keep moving while firing and reloading
1. Shooter at cone at the low ready position
 2. Instructors give command to move
 3. Shooter fire 5 rounds between cones (reload as necessary)

B. Drill #2 – Shooting on the move: With partner officer

Instructors shall observe the following movement during exercise to evaluate successful completion of the course:

- Control the speed of the shooters movement
 - Watch shooters footing (heel to toe, do not cross over etc.)
 - Make sure shooter keep moving while firing and reloading
1. Shooters start at the low ready
 2. Shooters move together on command of “Move”
 3. Shooters will call out targets or threats shooters will engage threat

C. Drill #3 – Shooting while moving to cover with partner officer

(Have targets numbered across range & barricades setup throughout range)

Instructors shall observe the following movement during exercise to evaluate successful completion of the course:

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- Control the speed of the shooters movement
- Watch shooters footing (heel to toe, do not cross over etc.)
- Make sure shooter keep moving while firing and reloading

1. 20 Yard Line

- a. Shooters start at the low ready at the 20 yard line behind cover
- b. Shooters move on instructors command
- c. Shooters will engage targets when called out from instructors