

Firearms/Tactical Rifle Course
Pasadena Police Department – 5680
CCN # 32075

COURSE TITLE:	FIREARMS/TACTICAL RIFLE Includes all shoulder-fired weapons that are not a shotgun
COURSE NUMBER:	32075
COURSE HOURS:	16
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:	To provide students with the information and hands-on experience needed to effectively use a Rifle
AUDIENCE:	Sworn Peace Officers, including Level I and Level II Reserve Officers who are being introduced to a rifle and will qualify and carry it on duty in the scope of their employment
NOTE:	Successful completion of this course satisfies the legislative training mandate to possess short barrel rifles as specified in Penal Code section 33220(b) and the Commission training requirement to possess long barrel rifles as specified in Commission Regulation 1081.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Under the supervision of a qualified instructor, and using an approved law enforcement rifle, each student will:

- I. Demonstrate their understanding of the Four Basic Safety Rules for handling firearms.
- II. Demonstrate the ability to field strip the weapon and to properly clean and maintain it.
- III. Be provided with and demonstrate understanding of the agency policy regarding the use of firearms.
- IV. Demonstrate the ability to properly load, unload, and fire the weapon and to clear malfunctions that might occur with the weapon.
- V. Demonstrate the ability to apply the fundamentals for rifle marksmanship to fire accurately from the prone, kneeling, sitting and standing positions.
- VI. Demonstrate proficiency with the weapon and obtain agency qualification.

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REQUIRED CONTENT

Commission Regulation 1081

- (1) Law Update
- (2) Review of Use of Force Issues, Agency Policies, and Mission
- (3) Safety Issues
- (4) Nomenclature, Specifications, and Capabilities
- (5) Firearm Care, Breakdown, and Cleaning
- (6) Tactical Considerations
- (7) Skill Development and Qualification

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

I. INTRODUCTION AND ORIENTATION

II. LAWS AND PPD POLICY

- A. CA Penal Code section 32610(b)
 1. Possession of Within Scope of Employment
- B. CA Penal Code section 33220(b)
 1. Training requirement
- C. PPD Firearms Use and Use of Force Policies
 1. Use of Force options
 - a. PPD Lexipol 308 – Control Devices & Techniques
 - b. PPD Lexipol 309 – CEW
 2. Department Policy – Lexipol 300
 - a. PPD Lexipol 300 – Use of Force
 - b. PPD Lexipol 312 – Firearms
 - c. PPD Lexipol 313 – Range Qualification
- D. Law Update
 1. Tennessee vs. Garner
 2. Graham vs. Conner
 3. Assembly Bill 392
 4. CA Penal Code 835a
 5. Senate Bill 230

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III. SAFETY AND RANGE RULES

- A. The Four Basic Safety Rules include
 1. Treat all guns as if they are loaded.
 2. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to destroy.
 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target.
 4. Always be sure of your target and beyond.
- B. Range Rules
 1. After weapons have been grounded, and the line has been called safe by an instructor do not touch the weapon until all students are back from their targets, and the instructor has given the okay.
 2. If a problem arises on the line, raise your non-gun-hand to summon an instructor.
- C. Review safety plan & emergency medical procedures

IV. NOMENCLATURE, SPECIFICATIONS AND CAPABILITIES

- A. Nomenclature
 1. Front and Rear Sights
 2. Bolt Catch
 3. Magazine Release
 4. Safety/Selector
 5. Magazine
 6. Sling and Sling Attachments
 7. Weapon light
 8. Upper Receiver Group
 9. Lower Receiver Group
 10. Bolt Carrier Group
 11. Operator Controls
 12. Cycle of Operation
- B. Specifications
 1. Type of Weapon
 2. Barrel Length
 3. Overall Length
 4. Caliber
 5. Magazine Capacity (loading capacity)
 6. Weight (empty)
 7. Type of Sights
 8. Approximate Muzzle Velocity
 9. Muzzle Suppressors

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- C. Capabilities
 - 1. Maximum Range
 - 2. Maximum Effective Range
 - 3. Penetration of Soft Body Armor
 - 4. Full/Semi-Automatic

V. FIREARM CARE, DISASSEMBLY/ASSEMBLY, AND MAINTENANCE

- A. Refer to the manufacturer’s care and operation manual.
 - 1. Cleaning is only to be done in the Range Cleaning Room or designated cleaning area if at an offsite location.
 - 2. Clearing Barrel Procedures
 - 3. Disassembly
 - 4. Cleaning & Lubrication specification
 - 5. Reassembly
 - 6. Function Test
 - i. Conduct a safety check
 - ii. Pull charging handle to rear and release
 - iii. Place selector lever on safe, pull trigger, hammer should NOT fall
 - iv. Place selector lever on semi, press trigger and hold to rear and hammer should fall
 - v. Pull charging handle to rear and release
 - vi. Release trigger (it should reset) press trigger again and hammer should fall

VI. BASIC SHOOTING SKILLS

- A. Stance/Position
 - 1. Standing
 - 2. Kneeling
 - i. Braced, double, & Speed
 - 3. Sitting
 - ii. Cross legged, Crossed ankle, & Open leg
 - 4. Prone
 - 5. Squat
- B. Sight Alignment/Picture
 - 1. Sight Alignment
 - 2. Top of front sight post centered in the rear peep.
 - 3. 100 percent focus is on the top edge of the front sight post. The rear peep and target are blurred.

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4. Instructor will illustrate proper sight alignment.
 5. Red Dot Optic Sight Alignment
- C. Sight Picture
1. Defined as the relationship of sight alignment to the target.
 2. Two eyes open vs. one eye closed
- D. Trigger Control
1. Emphasize that this is the single most important element.
 2. Shooter must apply gradual pressure on the trigger for a surprise trigger break so as to not disturb sight alignment when the shot is made.
- E. Grip/Stock Weld
- F. Breathing
1. Breath must be held at the moment the shot is made.
 2. Breathing while firing will cause vertical stringing of shots.
 3. Holding breath too long will cause vision to blur and muscles to tremble, so the shot must be made before this happens.
- G. Follow Through
1. Maintain all the elements throughout the shot.

VII. CLEARING MALFUNCTIONS AND STOPPAGES

- A. In close quarter confrontations, consider immediate transition to the handgun
- B. Failure to fire
1. “Tap, Rack, Assess”
 - a. Seat magazine by hitting it with heel of hand
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
 2. Stove pipe
 - a. Tilt rifle so that ejection port faces the ground
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
 3. Feed way stoppages
 - a. Lock the bolt to the rear
 - b. Remove the magazine from the weapon
 1. Discard magazine
 - c. Clear live rounds from the receiver and chamber
 - d. Insert a fresh loaded magazine
 - e. Chamber a round
 - f. Obtain sight picture
 - g. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary

Firearms/Tactical Rifle Course
Pasadena Police Department – 5680
CCN # 32075

VIII. TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Based on PPD guidelines and training
- B. Types of field situations
 - 1. Active Shooter(s)
 - 2. Armed or barricaded suspect(s)
 - 3. “High Risk” car stops involving suspects believed to be armed
 - 4. Sniper incidents
 - 5. Criminal acts involving armed suspects
 - 6. Incidents in which suspects are known or believed to be wearing body armor, or concealed by protective cover, and/or are shooting or threatening to shoot at officers or citizens.
- C. Physical environment
 - 1. Be aware of cover and concealment
 - 2. Open terrain
 - a. Use of natural terrain features
- D. Rifle caliber rounds will penetrate soft body armor... (Yours or theirs!).
- E. The Patrol Rifle affords the opportunity to maintain safe distances to adversaries.
- F. The Patrol Rifle affords an increased effective range over the service shotgun and handgun.
- G. The Patrol Rifle affords more accuracy than a service shotgun with a rifled slug.
- H. The Patrol Rifle is easier to load and re-load than a service shotgun.
- I. The Patrol Rifle has a larger ammunition capacity than a service shotgun.

IX. SHOOTING DECISION

- A. Know your abilities and limitations, and those of your weapon.
 - 1. Distance
 - 2. Target area
 - 3. Perishable skill continual training
- B. Imminent Threat Identification
 - 1. Justifies lethal force
 - 2. Background considerations
- C. Pro’s and Con’s of selecting the AR-15
 - 1. PRO’S
 - a. Easier weapon system to utilize

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- b. Safer (increased hit probability, decreased over penetration hazard and skill is less perishable than handgun shooting)
- c. Greater accuracy
- d. Better terminal ballistics (To rapidly incapacitate and stop dangerous individual's violent actions)
- e. Greater stability (More points of contact with body)
- f. Greater range of engagement (0 ft to 200 yards). (Concurrent with the most typical field deployment distances, such as "Across the street, length of a car and close quarters engagements.")
- g. Accessories - Rifle can be equipped with optics, lights, adjustable stocks, vertical grips & slings, which aid in more efficient use.

2. CON'S

- a. Maneuverability in confined spaces
- b. Control of weapon if "hands on" with suspect
- c. Noise level / hearing loss within confined spaces, exacerbated by shortened barrel length (SBR).

- B. Exercise fire discipline within PPD guidelines and the parameters of applicable State and Federal laws.

X. SKILL DEVELOPMENT

- A. Dry Firing Exercises
 - 1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
 - 2. Dry fire each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, and prone).
- B. Live Firing Exercises
 - 1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
 - 2. Live fire each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, and prone).
 - 3. Live fire at various distances based on agency mission and environment.
 - 4. Live fire at multiple targets.
 - 5. Precision shooting exercises.
 - 6. Reloading and firing exercises.
 - 7. Malfunction exercises.
 - 8. Move and fire exercises.
 - 9. Close quarter tactical shooting.
 - 10. Cover and concealment
 - 11. Tactical Reloads
 - 12. Speed Reloads
 - 13. Transition Drills
 - 14. Barricade Shooting