2020

Course Goals

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

The course consists of a hands-on/ practical skills firearms training for Sacramento Police Department Officers.

Tactical Firearms:

Topics/ Exercises

a) Judgment and decision-making exercise(s)
b) Student evaluation and testing
c) Safety guidelines and orientation
d) Sight alignment, trigger control, accuracy
e) Target recognition and analysis
f) Weapons clearing
g) Live fire tactical
h) Policies and/or legal issues
i) Use of force considerations
j) Moral obligations

Course Objectives

Trainees will:

1) Demonstrate knowledge of their individual department’s Use of Force/ Firearms policy
2) Demonstrate a minimum standard of tactical firearms proficiency with every technique, exercise, and course-of-fire, to include:
   a) Judgment and decision making
   b) Weapons safety
   c) Basic presentation techniques
   d) Fundamentals of shooting
   e) Target/ Non-Target identification
   f) Speed, accuracy and effectiveness under stress and movement conditions
   g) Shot placement: stopping power and penetration
Equipment Needed

1) 190 rounds of handgun ammunition per student  
2) 30 rounds rifle ammunition per student  
3) 5 targets per student  
4) 25 yard shooting range  
5) Barricades  
6) First Aid Kit  
7) White board with markers  
8) Class outline  
9) Eye and ear protection for each student  
10) Minimum of 3 instructors  
11) Maintenance supplies for targets, target backers, etc.

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

I. SAFETY GUIDELINES/ ORIENTATION
   A. Introduction, registration and orientation
   B. Course objectives/overview, exercises, evaluation/testing
   C. Weapons, range and shooting safety rules. (Pre-range weapons unloading procedures and lunch/extended break reload/unload rules)

   1. General Safety Rules
      a. Treat ALL firearms as if they are loaded.
      b. Keep your firearm pointed in the safest direction possible.
      c. Do not put your finger on the trigger until you are on target and ready to fire.
      d. Be certain of your target, its surroundings and what is beyond it.

   2. Range Safety Rules (Pistols)
      a. Once training starts, the range will be considered a HOT RANGE which means pistols and magazines will be kept loaded with ammo.
      b. Because it is a hot range, **ALL pistols WILL remain in their holster**, with holster retention devices in use, except when on the firing line under the supervision of the range masters and/or at a designated safe handling area.
3. On the Firing Line Safety Rules
   a. Refer to General Safety Rules; keep all firearms pointed down range.
   b. All malfunctions shall be handled by the officer. If they cannot fix the malfunction then (keeping the weapon pointed down range) they shall raise their off hand for range master assistance.
   c. Never draw a handgun from the holster on the range unless instructed to do so.
   d. Never leave your firing position unless cleared by the range master.
   e. Never go forward of the firing line unless instructed to do so.
   f. Never bend over to retrieve dropped articles (i.e., magazines, ammunition) on the firing line unless instructed to do so or cleared by the range master first.
   g. If hot brass comes in contact with your skin, keep your weapon pointed down range, de-cock and holster. Once the weapon is safely holstered, you may take care of the hot brass. Notify the range master of what you’re doing.
   h. All officers will wear eye & ear protection and bulletproof vests while on the firing line and/or in the immediate vicinity of the firing line.
   i. There will be no smoking, chewing tobacco, eating, or drinking on the firing line.
   j. Wash hands and face before leaving the range.

4. Range Commands
   a. LOAD and MAKE READY
      i. Shooter will point muzzle in a safe direction and load or press check as necessary.
   b. FIRE COMMANDS
      i. During the course of fire, the instructor will tell the class what the fire command will be.
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c. CHALLENGE
   i. Shooter gives at least one command to disarm the threat (i.e., “Police! Don’t move!”), before no threat or fire command is given.

d. NO THREAT
   i. Shooter conducts follow through and scanning on their own.
   ii. Holster reluctantly.
   iii. Wait for direction.

e. CEASE FIRE!
   i. All shooters immediately;
      1. Stop firing
      2. Safely holster their weapon
      3. Listen for further direction

II. LETHAL FORCE OVERVIEW
(h,i,j)
A. Legal/ Moral/ Ethical Issues involving Use of Force/ Lethal Force
   1. Ensuring the use of force is justifiable under department policy, federal and state law.
   2. Determining if the use of force is necessary.
   3. Administer after force care.
B. Civil and Department Implications of Force/Lethal Force
   1. Civil lawsuit by suspect and/or family
   2. Internal Affairs investigation
   3. Office of Police Accountability
C. Report writing and preliminary investigation
   1. Document your mindset at the time, suspect’s actions, how you felt, fear for your life or the life of others of imminent death or serious bodily injury.
   2. Be articulate so that others will understand the degree of threat you felt.

III. USE of FORCE/LETHAL FORCE and FIREARMS POLICY
A. Use of Force Options
   1. Lethal Force within the spectrum of force options
   2. Verbal, hands, less lethal, lethal force spectrum
   3. Command presence
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4. Control holds
5. O.C., Baton, CED, Pepperball, Bean Bag
6. Firearms
7. Escalation/ De-Escalation
   a. Constant evaluation of the situation
   b. Tactical response proportional to threat

B. Department Policy   Discharge of Firearms G.O. 580.03
1. In the necessary defense of themselves or in the defense of another person when the officer reasonably believes that an imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury exists.
2. The officer has probable cause to believe the suspect has committed, or attempted to commit, a felony involving the use of, or threatened use of, force likely to cause serious bodily injury or death.
3. To stop a dangerous animal that poses an imminent risk of death or serious bodily injury to a person.
4. At the firing range pursuant to all safety rules and regulations.
5. Firearms shall NOT be discharged as a warning.

C. Supporting Case Law
1. Tennessee vs. Garner    Fleeing Felon Doctrine
   The court held that deadly force may not be used to stop a fleeing felon UNLESS it is to stop the escape AND the officer has probable cause to believe that the suspect poses a significant threat of death or serious physical injury to the officer or others…or he has committed a crime involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious physical harm and the ability to carry out that action or threat.
2. Deadly Force
   a. Use of deadly force is limited to situation that threatened death or serious bodily injury to;
      i. 1st party- you the officer
      ii. 2nd party- anyone else
      iii. 3rd party- projected threat, what may happen SBI/death if not stopped based on what officer knows at the time
3. Graham vs. Conner    Objective Reasonableness
4. Use of force decision based on facts and circumstances known to the officer at the time the force was used.
   a. Officer’s state of mind will be taken into consideration, whether evil or good intentions.
   Factors weighed in determining objective reasonableness:
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i. Scope of intrusion (degree and extent of force used)
ii. Manner of intrusion (type of force used)
iii. Where intrusion occurred
iv. Need to perform official duties (what was the officer doing-on/off duty)
v. Justification for intrusion (why was force being used)
vi. Facts and circumstances
vii. Severity of crime
viii. Did the suspect pose immediate threat to officer or others?
ix. Did the suspect actively resist?
x. Did the suspect attempt to evade arrest by fleeing?

IV. FUNDAMENTALS of SHOOTING (d,e)

A. Shooting Platform
   1. Stance
      a. Stable platform, Weaver stance, Modified Weaver, Isosceles
      b. Balanced, feet shoulder width apart
   2. Grip
      a. Firm two handed grip
      b. 360 degree Isometric tension
      c. Proper placement of arms
   3. Sight Alignment
      a. Front sight is vertically and horizontally centered between the rear sights
      b. Focus on the front sight
   4. Sight Picture
      a. Placement of the Sight Alignment on the target where you want the round to impact
      b. Target may be blurry
      c. Rear sight may be blurry
      d. Front sight is clear
   5. Trigger Control
      a. Proper placement of trigger on finger
      b. Slow, steady press of the trigger rearward
      c. Reset trigger quickly and prepare for next shot

B. Fire and Follow Through
   a. Maintain your sight picture on the threat after firing.
b. Finger on trigger, ready to engage threat.
c. Follow the threats movement down until it is determined the threat no longer presents an immediate danger

C. Holster Reluctantly
   1. After the threat has been neutralized
   2. Scan the surrounding area (360°) for any other danger before holstering.

D. Range Drill (One Hole Drill)…………………………..5yds/ 10 rounds
   1. On the “Fire” command shooters will;
      a. Draw and fire 5 rounds at the 1” dot target
      b. Focus on fundamentals
      c. No time limit
      d. Shoot the smallest group possible
   2. Repeat 2X
      a. Discuss trigger management prior to reshooting drill

E. Action vs Reaction Drill............................ 7 yds. / 20 rounds
   1. Shooters to draw and fire 1 round into the “B” Zone
      a. Normal standing / non-tactical positions such as arms crossed
      b. T Note: Remind shooters they need to be utilizing the 4 count draw and Holster Reluctantly techniques during each string of fire. Touch/prep the trigger as soon as gun is on target
   2. Re-holster after each shot
   3. Run 10 times at own pace
   4. Shooters will repeat the above process into the “Head” Zone

F. Action vs Reaction with a Partner.............. 7 yds / 10 rounds
   1. Action shooter will draw and fire 1 rd into the “Head” Zone.
   2. Reaction shooter will react to shooter one and draw and fire 1 rd into the “B” Zone.
      a. The winner is the shooter that fires their round first with a positive hit in their appropriate zone.
      b. Repeat 9 times

V. PISTOL MALFUNCTIONS (a,f,g)
   A. Double Feed
      1. Causes
a. Failure to extract a fired casing with a live round trying to load behind it or;
b. Ejected brass deflected back into pistol during the firing cycle

2. Immediate Action
   a. Identify cause of malfunction
   b. Remove the magazine and lock the slide to the rear.
   c. Clear any ammunition that may remain in the chamber.
   d. Reload the pistol.
   e. Continue addressing threat.

B. Range Drill (Double Feed) 7 yards/ 6 rounds
   1. Start with an empty weapon, slide locked to the rear
   2. Insert a round into the chamber
   3. Insert a fresh magazine into the weapon
   4. Walk the slide forward creating a double feed
   5. On command,
      a. Shooters will fire 2 rounds on target
         i. Address malfunction and fire course
   6. Repeat 2X

VI. WEAPON RELOADING
    (d,e,g)
A. Emergency Reloading
   1. Causes
      a. The weapon is shot dry,
      b. Magazine is empty and slide is locked back.
   2. Immediate Action Drill
      a. Release the empty magazine
      b. Insert a fresh magazine,
      c. Release the slide forward,
      d. Continue addressing situation.

B. Range Drill (Emergency Reload) 7 yard line/ 15 rounds
   a. Set up weapon so there is 1 round in the chamber
   b. An empty magazine in the weapon
   c. On command,
      i. Draw and fire 3 rounds on target
      ii. Address reload and continue firing
      iii. Repeat 5x
C. Competition (optional time permitting) Emergency Reload

1. Repeat the above range drill
2. Shoot individually utilizing electronic timer
3. 1 second penalty for each miss outside of the B zone
4. Fastest time wins

Note: Remind shooters to utilize the 4 count draw and Holster Reluctantly techniques during each string of fire.

VII. SPEED VS. ACCURACY

A. Range Drill (3 rounds from the holster) 5-7yds./30 rounds
   1. Draw and fire 3 rounds (B zone scoring)
   2. De-cork and holster on own
   3. Repeat on own for a total of 30 rounds
      a. The focus of this drill is speed, accuracy, and recoil management.
      b. Emphasis flat line of presentation and getting to the trigger as soon an acceptable sight picture exists
   4. Run 3 or 4 times from the 5 yd line and then repeat at the 7yd line

VIII. MULTI TARGET IDENTIFICATION ENGAGEMENT

A. Range Drill 10 yards/30 rounds
   1. 3 mags with 10 rds each,
   2. 4 steel targets set up at the 0 yard line.
   3. The targets will be numbered 2, 4, 1, 3 with spray paint.
   4. Instructors will call out two numbers. (For example, 23, 41 or 32) for each firing sequence.
   5. The first number represents the start of the numerical sequence and the second number is the “NO SHOOT” target.
   6. Example 23: Shooter would shoot 2, skip 3 (no shoot), 4 and finish with 1.
   7. The shooter will complete the sequence until all targets are hit in order. Shooter can not move on to the next target until a positive hit is made on the target before
   8. Shooters will repeat the sequence two (2) times
   9. Once all the targets have been hit in sequential order after the second time, the instructor will give two more numbers.
10. The shooter will repeat the course of fire with a new sequence and “NO SHOOT” numbers.
11. Repeat above for a total of 3 rounds
12. Officers will assess and holster after the completion of the firing sequence.
13. Reload when necessary.

Target example

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  2  4  1  3
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IX. SITUATIONAL STACKED SHOOTING- BARRICADE / BARRELL / OPEN ENVIRONMENT (a,e,g,i)

A. Dry Fire - Barricade
   1. One shooter with a Rifle and one shooter with a handgun.
   2. Rifle shooter will be standing.
   3. Handgun shooter kneeling.
   4. The rifle officer will stack over the kneeling officer. Only certified rifle operators will be shooting the rifle.
   5. Instructors demonstrate safe options of getting into and out of the stacked position.
   6. Rifle officer will be over the kneeling officer in such a way that if the kneeling officer would attempt to stand up, the rifle officer would come up against the rifle officer’s elbow(s).
   7. The rifle officer will communicate to the kneeling officer when it is clear to stand up.

B. Dry Fire – Barrel
   1. Both shooters handgun.
   2. One shooter kneeling and shooting from the side of the barrel.
   3. Second shooter kneeling and shooting over the top of the barrel.
   4. Instructors will make sure that both shooters are aligned so that their barrels are parallel of each other.

C. Dry Fire – Open Environment
   1. One shooter with a handgun.
   2. One shooter with a less lethal shotgun
   3. Both shooters will be abreast.

D. Range Drill…………………………………………………10 yd Line / 30 rounds
1. Barricade, Barrel and Open Environment will be at the 10 yard line.
2. 6 Shooters at a time.
3. Each shooter will have 3 mags with 10 rounds each for their handgun.
4. Rifle shooter will have 1 mag with 10 rounds.
5. Instructor will give a fire command or an impact command.
6. Shooters will fire 2 rds per fire command. The less lethal shooter will only engage on the command of impact. Lethal shooters will not engage on the command of impact. Repeat until empty and reload.
   a. All shooters will stay unholstered and on target until ready to move to the next objective.
   b. Each pair of shooters will rotate and complete all 3 stations.

X. SHOOTING FROM POLICE UV (a,e,g)
   A. Range Drill.................................................10 yd Line / 15 rounds
   B. Use Dia. 1 for range setup
      1. S-1 and S-2 start in UV at the 25-yard line.
      2. S-1 drives UV to the 10-yard line.
      3. S-1 and S-2 exit UV, and fire 2-5 rds upon threat command at targets #2 and #3
      4. S-1 yells “moving” and S-2 responds “covering”.
      5. S-1 will then retreat to the rear driver side of the UV.
      6. S-1 yells “covering” and S-2 responds “moving”.
      7. S-2 will then retreat to the rear passenger side of the UV.
      8. From the rear of the UV, both shooters will fire 2-5 rds upon the threat command at #2 and #3.
      9. S-1 yells “moving” and S-2 responds “covering”.
     10. S-1 will then move to the barricade.
     11. S-1 yells “covering” and S-2 responds “moving”.
     12. S-2 will then move to the barricade.
     13. S-1 and S2 will then fire 2-5 rds upon the threat command at target #1.
   C. Instructor notes
      1. Discuss “moving” and “covering”.
      2. Discuss safe movement and muzzle discipline.
      3. Give threat command when safe to do so or after movement is complete. (Instructor Discretion)
XI. CHALLENGE / DESCALATION DRILL (a,e,g)  
A. Range Drill.......................................................7 yds. / 15 rounds  
   1. Instructor will inform officers of how many rounds to fire. This should be between 1 and 3 rounds. (May also include a failure to incapacitate drill by calling out 2 to the body and 1 to the head).  
   2. Instructor will then call out a Challenge command or a Shoot command, (some kind of threat command).  
   3. On Challenge command the student will draw and challenge the target (“Police don’t move”, Show me your hands, etc.). Emphasis on Challenge is keeping the finger off the trigger and straight on the slide.  
   4. Follow up to Challenge command will be either a “no threat” command where officers can holster or give a threat command where they will then complete the course of fire that was given.  
   5. REPEAT UNTIL THE 15 ROUNDS ARE EXPIRED. AT LEAST 3 CHALLENGE COMMANDS SHOULD BE GIVEN.
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Dia. 1