

**POST PERISHABLE SKILLS PROGRAM (PSP)
I - TACTICAL FIREARMS COURSE**

MONTEREY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (6730)

CCN: 6730-29501- | POST Certification II | Reimbursement Plan IV | 8 hours

GOAL:

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 legal standards for justifiable deadly force application
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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EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

I. INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION

- A. Introduction, Registration and Orientation
 - 1. Instructor/student introductions
 - 2. Registration/rosters
- 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 **I (a)**
 - 1. Treat every weapon as if it were loaded
 - 2. Never point your weapon at anything you do not intend to shoot
 - 3. Keep your finger straight and off the trigger until you are ready to fire
 - 4. Be sure of your target, backstop, and what is between
 - 5. Range and Tactical Safety
 - a. Follow range rules
 - b. Follow instructor commands
 - c. Strict weapon discipline and muzzle control
 - d. Local emergency/first aid procedures to include radio/telephone procedures, closest medical facility

II. LETHAL FORCE OVERVIEW **I (b, c, d)**

- A. Legal Standards/Case Law
 - 1. AB 392
 - a. Both redefines the circumstances under which a homicide by

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a peace officer is deemed justifiable and affirmatively prescribes the circumstances under which a peace officer is authorized to use deadly force to effect an arrest, to prevent escape, or to overcome resistance.

2. Lexipol Update – Mirrors PC 835(a)
3. Supporting Case Law
 - a. Tennessee vs. Garner
 - (1) Deadly Force
 - (2) Fleeing Felon
 - b. Graham vs. Conner
 - (1) Objectively Reasonable Force
 - (2) PC 835a
- B. Moral/Ethical Issues involving Use of Force/Lethal Force
 1. Moral obligations
 2. Ethical concerns
- C. Civil Implications of using Force/Lethal Force
 1. Department liability
 2. Personal liability
- D. Report Writing and Preliminary Investigation Overview
 1. Report writing and articulation
 2. What happens during preliminary investigation

III. USE OF FORCE/LETHAL FORCE AND FIREARMS POLICY

I (c, d)

- A. Use of Force Considerations
 1. Escalation and De-escalation Process
 2. Attempt to employ Less-Than-Lethal
 3. Imminence – Present ability, opportunity, apparent intent
- 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. Other policy areas and issues
 6. Shooting at vehicles after violent fleeing specifications

IV. 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

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- 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
 - 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
- V. FIVE COUNT PISTOL DRAW
- A. Threat Assessment
 - 1. Assess the Threat
 - 2. Tactical Reloading
 - 3. Reassess
 - B. Holstering
 - 1. ONLY when the tactical situation warrants
 - 2. Holster
 - 3. Secure all holster retentions
 - C. Count One
 - 1. High firm grip
 - 2. Defeat retentions
 - 3. Support hand/arm into center line
 - D. 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
 - E. Count Three
 - 1. Meet both hands for two handed grip
 - 2. Low ready positioning
 - F. Count Four
 - 1. Present pistol for a two-handed grip

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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
- G. Count Five
 1. Weapon at full presentation (We do not shoot every time we draw)
 2. Sight alignment/sight picture is verified
- H. Threat Assessment
 1. Assess the Threat
 2. Tactical Reloading (when applies)
 3. Reassess
- I. 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

VI. DRILLS AND COURSES-OF-FIRE

I (g, h, i)

- A. Range Orientation and Safety Briefing
 1. Conduct second range safety briefing
 2. Review command sequence
- B. All Courses emphasize:
 1. Firearms safety
 2. Muzzle and fire discipline
 3. Fundamentals of marksmanship
 4. Four count draw
- C. Dry Fire Drills
 1. Review grip, stance, and draw
 2. Dry fire from the 3-yard line
 3. Dry fire with magazine reloads
 4. As many times as needed to observe student proficiency
- D. Live Fire Drills – Point Shooting
 1. Load 3 magazines with 10
 2. Starting at the 3-yard line
 3. On “threat” command, point shoot 10 rounds center mass
 4. Complete reload, assess, and holster
 5. Move to the 5-yard line
 6. On “threat” command, point shoot 10 rounds center mass
 7. Complete reload, assess, and holster
 8. Move to the 7-yard line
 9. On “threat” command, point shoot 10 rounds center mass

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10. Assess, verify clear and holster
- E. Static shooting drills
 1. Patrol load out – Firearm in holster
 2. Begin at the 7-yard line
 3. On “threat” command, slow fire magazine to designated area
 4. Replace magazine with fresh magazine from workspace
 5. Handgun back on target, scan, asses, and holster
 6. Utilize cover if/when present
 7. 3 iterations
- F. Dot Drills
 1. Patrol load out – Firearm in holster
 2. Begin at the 5-yard line
 3. On “threat” command, slow fire magazine to designated area with 2 supported fire
 4. Scan, asses, and holster
 5. On “threat” command, slow fire magazine to designated area with 2 unsupported fire – strong side
 6. Scan, asses, and holster
 7. On “threat” command, slow fire magazine to designated area with 2 supported fire – weak side
 8. Scan, asses, and holster
 9. 5 iterations
- G. Malfunction Drills
 1. Failure to Fire
 - a. Failure to fire/eject
 - b. Bring handgun to workspace
 - c. Tap magazine, support hand, ensure fully seated
 - d. Rack
 - e. Fire
 - f. Scan asses and holster
 2. Double Feed Drill
 - a. Ensure slide is locked to back
 - b. Strip magazine
 - c. Work the slide (rack)
 - d. Insert magazine
 - e. Rack
 - f. Fire
 - g. Scan asses and holster

VII. TESTING/REMEDIATION

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VIII. Non-Stationary Shooting Drills

- A. Positions
 - 1. Seek Support (situational dependent)
 - 2. Stance
 - 3. Want vs Need
 - 4. Supported/unsupported position
- B. Shooting from cover
 - 1. Crowding cover concepts (when and when not)
 - 2. Readiness prior to presentation
 - 3. Use of angles / pie technique(s)
 - 4. Muzzle awareness
 - 5. Reappearance – different presentation / level change
 - 6. Proper cover utilization – firing, reloads, and medical
 - 7. Use of cover in low light conditions
- C. Movement – Shooting on the move
 - 1. Review safety protocol
 - 2. Conduct a dry run
 - 3. When to shoot during movement
 - 4. Movement method(s)
 - 5. Only move as fast as you can assess
 - 6. Moving between cover

IX. Less Lethal Shotgun

- A. Shotgun
 - 1. Review
 - 2. Safety
 - 3. Ammunition verification
 - 4. Patrol ready set up
 - 5. Loading/Unloading
 - 6. Ammunition management/reload drills
 - 7. Transition to lethal
- B. Shotgun Course Exercise
 - 1. Load prior to shoot
 - 2. Deploy for de-escalation shoot
 - 3. Reloading after deployment
 - 4. Transition to lethal force

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X. DRILLS AND COURSE-OF-FIRE

- A. Less Lethal Deployment – De-escalation
 - 1. From the 10-yard line – Load 4 in patrol ready condition
 - 2. Threat command – Verbal commands, Deploy 2 into preferred target zones.
 - 3. Assess, Command, and sling
- B. Less Lethal deployment – Re-load
 - 1. From the 10-yard line – Load 2
 - 2. Threat command – Verbal commands, Deploy 2 into preferred target zones.
 - 3. Reload 2
 - 4. Assess, Command, and Sling
- C. De-escalation attempt to Lethal
 - 1. From the 10-yard line – Load 4 in patrol ready condition
 - 2. Threat command – Verbal commands, Deploy 1 into preferred target zone.
 - 3. Gun Command
 - 4. Transition to lethal / sling
 - 5. Assess, Command and holster

XI. 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.