

*S.F. Bay Area Rapid Transit District Police Department*

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3700-29501-25

I – Tactical Firearms Course (PSP 4-hours)

**COURSE GOAL:** To provide students with the tactical knowledge, information, and hands-on experience needed to survive and be successful in a realistic lethal force encounter

**AUDIENCE:** Sworn Peace Officers and Revenue Protection Guards who will qualify and carry handguns in a duty capacity in the scope of their employment

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

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

- I. Demonstrate their understanding of the Four Basic Safety Rules for handling firearms.
- II. Be provided with and demonstrate understanding of the agency policy regarding the use of firearms.
- III. 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).
- IV. Demonstrate the ability to field strip the weapon and to properly clean and maintain it.
- V. 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
- VI. Demonstrate proficiency with the weapon and obtain agency qualification.
- VIII. Demonstrate a minimum standard of tactical handgun proficiency with each technique, exercise, and course-of-fire

**REQUIRED CONTENT**

- (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

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

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.

**I. COURSE INTRODUCTION**

- A. Instructors to request all handguns be holstered or cased (unloaded)
  - 1. Any loaded weapons to be identified and cleared by instructors until instructed otherwise
  
- B. INTRODUCTIONS and COURSE REGISTRATION
  - 1. Registration and Rosters
  - 2. Instructor/Student Introductions
  
- C. SAFETY DISCUSSION I (a)
  - 1. Firearms Safety Rules
    - a. Rule 1: All guns are considered loaded until confirmed as otherwise by the individual in possession of the gun.
    - b. Rule 2: Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
    - c. Rule 3: Keep your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard until ready to fire.
    - d. Rule 4: Be sure of your target, foreground, and background.
  
- D. BACKGROUND / COURSE EXPECTATIONS
  - 1. All students SHOULD be able to meet the following expectations:
    - a. SAFETY AT ALL TIMES
    - b. Sound judgement and decision making
    - c. Safe drawing and presentation of handguns

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- d. Fundamentally sound shooting platforms
- e. Common malfunction clearance techniques
- f. Demonstrate proficiency in close quarter/retention shooting
- g. Demonstrate proficiency in injured officer/one hand only shooting
- h. Threat assessment/identification
- i. Loading/reloading

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

1. Discussion of Department(s) use of force policies.
  - a. The Garner Decision (Tennessee v. Garner, 471 U.S. 1 (1985))
  - b. Graham (Graham v. Conner, 490 U.S. 386 (1989))
  - c. CA Penal Code section 835(a)
  - d. Moral considerations (can vs. should use force)
  - e. AB392
2. Moral/Ethical Issues Involving Force/Lethal Force
3. Civil Implications
  - a. Department liability
  - b. Personal liability
4. Report Writing/Statements
  - a. Officer Safety Statement
  - b. What happens during an OIS incident initial investigation
5. 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. Review the definitions within the Use of Force Policy 300
    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
6. Law Enforcement Officer Killed/Assaulted (LEOKA) Studies
  - 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

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4. 2 seconds
5. Officer Accuracy: less than 20 %
6. Use of Cover
7. Summary – Overview

**III. DRILLS/COURSES OF FIRE**

**A. SHOOTING PLATFORM** I (e,f)

1. Stance
  - a. Feet shoulder width apart
  - b. Dominant side foot slightly back in an athletic stance
  - c. Body weight centered over base
  - d. Shoulders squared to target
  - e. Head up
  - f. Both eyes open
  - g. Target focus vs. Sight Picture
2. Sight alignment/Sight Picture
  - a. centered front sight with equal height related to rear sight
  - b. Centered front with equal light in relation to rear sights.
  - c. Focused front sight. Rear sights and target blurry.
3. Grip
  - a. Strong wrap-around grip on handgun grip
  - b. Hands high as possible on handgun grip to mitigate muzzle flip
4. Follow Through
  - a. Manage recoil
  - b. Get another sight picture
  - c. and Reset trigger in preparation for possible follow up shot
5. Draw
  - a. Done as fast as it can be done safely
  - b. Draw procedure
    1. Remove any/all retention in one motion
    2. Draw weapon to weapon retention position if in CQB
    3. Hands join in “handclap” position
    4. Arms extend until gun/sights are on target
  - c. 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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- B. DRILLS AND COURSES OF FIRE I (g,h,i,j)
1. Range Orientation and Safety Briefing
    - a. Conduct second range safety briefing
    - b. Review command sequence
  2. All Courses emphasize:
    - a. Firearms safety
    - b. Muzzle and fire discipline
    - c. Fundamentals of marksmanship
    - d. Five count draw
  3. Marksmanship Warm Up Drill
    - a. Review grip, stance, and draw
    - b. Perform one shot drills from the holster
    - c. 7-yard line
    - d. As many times as needed to observe student proficiency
    - e. **COF: Each shooter completes above task in less than 1.5 seconds**
  4. Speed and emergency reloading
    - a. Speed/Emergency Reload
    - b. Drop magazine as bringing weapon to workspace and grabbing new magazine
    - c. Properly index the magazine
    - d. Insert fresh magazine
    - e. Send slide home either by slide stop or overhand grip
    - f. **COF: From behind cover at the 5 yardline. 2 rounds COM perform emergency or speed reload and fire 2 more COM in under 10 seconds**
  5. Tactical Reload (keep the magazine)
    - a. Handgun to workspace
    - b. Index a fresh magazine
    - c. Replace partial magazine with fresh magazine from workspace
    - d. Retain partial magazine in location other than primary loading pouch.
    - e. Handgun back on target
    - f. Utilize cover if possible
- B. MALFUNCTION CLEARANCE DRILLS
1. Failure to Fire/Immediate Action
    - a. Bring to work space
    - b. Tap magazine to ensure it is fully seated.
    - c. Roll in either direction so ejection port faces ground and rack slide, which ejects old round and loads new round
    - d. Live Fire Drill

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- 1) Set-Up: Mix four dummy rounds in fully loaded magazine
  - 2) Course of Fire: 2 rounds center mass, clear any failures to fire, continue until rounds in magazine have been fired
2. Double Feed
- a. Demonstrate set up and causes.
  - b. Tap/Roll/ Rack did not work.
  - c. Double feed for polymer guns is:  
Rip- Press magazine release and forcefully remove mag from pistol.
  - d. Rattle to remove problem round
  - e. Reinsert-Rack
  - f. Technique Demo & Dry Fire
  - g. Live Fire Drill
    - 1) Set-Up: Insert dummy round into chamber and fully loaded magazine in magazine well
    - 2) Course of Fire: Assess malfunction, clear the double feed, fire 2 rounds center mass. Repeat 3 times.
    - 3) Standard will be to clear double feed and fire 1 rounds COM in 10 seconds.
- C. CLOSE QUARTER/RETENTION DRILLS
1. Discuss time and space considerations of technique
    - a. Constant assessment of whether headshot is necessary
    - b. Shooting from retention Technique Demo & Dry Fire
    - c. Live Fire Drills (1-7 yard line)
      - 1) Retention
        - a. 1 round center mass (repeat 3 times)
        - b. 2 rounds center mass (repeat)
        - c. 1 round center mass, step back left, 1 round to head
        - d. 1 round center mass, step back right, 1 round to head
        - e. 2 rounds center mass, step back, 1 round to head
      - 2) Simulated Push (1 yard line)
        - a. Create space between officer and suspect
          - i. 2 steps back, 2 rounds center mass
          - ii. 2 steps back, 2 rounds to head
          - iii. Step back left, 1 round center mass, 1 round to head
          - iv. Step back right, 1 round center mass, 1 round to head
      - 3) Retreating to Cover (3-5 yard line)
        - a. Officer fights to cover from 3 to 5 yard line
          - i. 3 rounds center mass
          - ii. 2 rounds center mass, 1 round to head

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- iii. 2 rounds center mass from left side of cover, 2 rounds to head from right side of cover
- 4) Failure to Fire (Out of Battery) (1-2 yard line)
  - a. CQB fight for officer's handgun
  - b. Muzzle pressed against suspect's body
  - c. Technique
    - i. Push slide back into battery and fire if needed
    - ii. Malfunction created
    - iii. Clear malfunction with Tap-Roll-Rack-Ready/Reassess Technique
    - iv. Set-Up
      - 1. Ensure muzzle is not covered
      - 2. Visualize slide out of battery
      - 3. Support hand on slide pushing back into battery
      - 4. Reconfirm muzzle is not covered
      - 5. 1 round center mass
      - 6. 1 step to rear, clear malfunction
      - 7. Reassess

E. QUALIFICATION SHOOTING I (j)  
1. BART Police Department Handgun Qualification Course

F. REMEDIATION PERIOD I (j)  
1. Instructors will remediate deficiencies as identified.  
2. Remediation to proficiency is required

G. ADDITIONAL COURSE(S) OF FIRE  
1. If no remediation is needed, the Lead Instructor may repeat any of the previously listed courses of fire.

**IV. END OF COURSE ACTIONS**

- A. Handgun cleaning
- B. Course evaluation, discussion, certification