

**FIREARMS(PSP) -29501**  
**TURLOCK POLICE DEPARTMENT (2870)**

Revised: 07/06/2023

**EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE**

**LENGTH:                    4 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. This course provides updated legislative content on Penal Code Section 835a.

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 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

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- F. Speed, Accuracy and Effectiveness under stress and movement conditions
- G. Shot Placement: Combat Effectiveness
- H. Malfunctions Clearing
- I. Loading/Reloading

***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.***

**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 (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 at
  - 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. No "Lasering" of personal body parts
    - e. Firearms should be placed on safety or decock (If applicable) prior to holstering
    - f. Cover primary elements as a checklist with students

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- g. 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. What has changed
    - b. How are the changes reflected in agency's Use of Force policy?
  - 2. 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. 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. Other policy areas and issues
  - 6. Shooting at vehicles after violent fleeing specifications

**IV. POST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED/ASSAULTED (LEOKA) STUDIES**

- A. Current Reports and Vital Statistics from LEOKA Reports
  - 1. Line of duty deaths

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- 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
- B. Sight Picture
  - 1. Sights align relative to target
  - 2. Eye Focus - Front sight
- 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 using sear rest technique 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

VI. 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. Gently place firearm back into holster
  - 3. Secure all holster retentions
- C. Count One
  - 1. High firm grip
  - 2. Defeat retentions

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3. Support hand/arm into center line
4. Eyes on threat
- D. Count Two
  1. Clear holster
  2. Muzzle pointed down
  3. Trigger finger placement
- E. Count Three
  1. Rotate muzzle toward threat (First fighting position)
  2. Finger still off trigger unless firing from this position
- F. Count Four
  1. Present pistol for a two-handed grip pushing forward toward the threat
  2. Full wrap around grip with isometric pressure (Push-Pull)
  3. Pistol raised to eye level raise front sight to eye level
  4. Estimate proper sight picture
- G. Count Five
  1. Weapon at full presentation (We do not shoot every time we draw)
  2. Gun is at eye level
  3. Finger goes to the trigger, IF Decision to Fire Has Been Made.
  4. Sight alignment/sight picture is verified
  5. Eye focus to front sight
  6. Press shot smoothly
  7. Re-set sear
  8. Ready additional shots if necessary
- H. Threat Assessment
  1. Assess the Threat
    - a. Did I hit the threat?
    - b. Did it work?
    - c. Follow the threat to the ground
    - d. Perform scans for additional threats (Multiple adversaries)
  2. De-Cock to Double Action (If applicable)
  3. Tactical Reloading should be considered
- I. Holstering
  1. ONLY when the tactical situation warrants
  2. Reverse of the 5 Count Draw
  3. Gently place firearm back into holster
  4. Secure all holster retentions

**VII. DRILLS AND COURSES-OF-FIRE**

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

- A. Range Orientation and Safety Briefing
  1. Conduct second range safety briefing
  2. Review command sequence
    - a. Anyone can call a SEIZE FIRE
    - b. Shoot only when authorized by range staff
- B. All Courses emphasize:

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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 (Dry firing exercise and may incorporate live firing)
  3. 5 to 10 yard line
  4. As many times as needed to observe student proficiency
- D. Combat / Emergency Reload
  1. Drop/strip the problem or empty magazine as you are bringing weapon to workspace while you are retrieving a fresh magazine
  2. Properly index the magazine
  3. Insert fresh magazine fully
  4. Send slide home by using full overhand grip
  5. Disregard problem or empty magazine
  6. Use cover or concealment if possible
  7. Reassess the threat
- 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. Use cover or concealment if possible
  7. Reassess the threat
- F. Malfunction Drills
  1. Stage 1: Failure to Fire
    - a. Failure to fire
    - 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 using five finger grip over the top of the slide and pushing forward with your primary gun hand
    - e. Reassess the threat
  2. Stage 2: Failure to Eject (Stovepipe Round or Casing)
    - a. Follow the same steps as a Stage 1 malfunction while insuring the stovepipe round clears the ejection port.
    - b. Reassess the threat
  3. Stage 3: Failure to Extract (Double Feed)
    - a. Follow the same steps as a Stage 1 malfunction to ensure it won't clear
    - b. Identify the double feed problem through the ejection port
    - c. Lock the slide to the rear
    - d. Strip the magazine from the magazine well

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- e. Rack slide using five finger grip, over the top of the slide, three to four times
- f. Insert a fresh magazine
- g. Assess the threat, engage if necessary

G. Flashlight Shooting Drills

- 1. Weapon Mounted
  - 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. TESTING/REMEDICATION

**I(j)**

***Testing/Scoring: 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.***

IX. WEAPONS CLEARED, CLEANED IF TIME PERMITS, EVALUATIONS AND DETERMINE IF ANY INJURIES WERE SUSTAINED A RESULT OF TRAINING