

San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Office – Presenter 2440
Firearms (PSP) – Course 29501
Expanded Course Outline
4-hour Course

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

The course will provide the students 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 tactical firearms knowledge and skills to survive and win a realistic lethal force encounter while using approved duty handguns and equipment. The course consists of hands-on/practical skills firearms training for in-service officers.

MINIMUM TOPICS/EXERCISES:

- (1) Safety Policy / Orientation
- (2) Moral Obligations
- (3) Use of Force Considerations
- (4) Policy and / or Legal Standards
- (5) Sight Alignment, Trigger Control, Accuracy
- (6) Target Recognition and Analysis
- (7) Weapons Clearing / Manipulations
- (8) Live Fire Tactical / Marking Cartridges
- (9) Basic Tactical Firearms Situations, Judgement and Decision-Making Exercise(s)
- (10) Class Exercise / Student Evaluation / Testing

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The student will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of their individual Department's Use of Force/Firearms Policy.
2. Identify the tactical analysis key points related to law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty as a result of the use of a firearm.
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

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- 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

Instructors will observe students during the performance of each technique, exercise, and course of fire to evaluate each student's proficiency and ensure they achieve minimum standards of performance. If a student fails to meet the minimum standards, *appropriate* remedial training will be provided until the minimum standards are met.

FIREARMS (PSP)

I. ORIENTATION

- A. Registration
 - i. Students will sign-in on the class roster.
- B. Instructor Introductions
- C. Course Outline and Objectives
 - i. Instructors will relay the schedule, outline and course objectives.

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II. USE OF FORCE CONSIDERATIONS, POLICIES, LEGAL STANDARDS AND MORAL OBLIGATIONS

- A. Use of Force Options
 - i. Lethal Force within the spectrum of force options
 - ii. Verbal, Hands, Less than Lethal, Lethal Force
 - iii. Escalation and De-escalation Process
- B. Department Policy and Deadly Force Policy
 - i. Prior to the course, students will review a 30-minute presentation on the impacts of AB 392 on PC 835a and PC 196 and will be instructed to review their agency policies for Use of Force and Lethal Force.
 - ii. Facilitated Discussion to Review Topics:
 - 1. "Totality of the circumstances" means all facts known to the peace officer at the time, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of deadly force.
 - 2. How agency's policy may have changed relative to AB 392.

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3. How agency's policy may have changed in relation to SB 230, which addresses agency Use of Force policies and includes specific mandated criteria for policies no later than January 1st, 2021.
 - a. Reasonable cause
 - i. Reasonableness of force will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable deputy on the scene at the time.
 - b. Imminent threat
 - i. Reasonable person would believe the person has present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to immediately cause GBI or death.
 - ii. Reasonably believed to require instant attention.
 - c. Death or great bodily injury
 - i. Serious impairment of physical condition
 - d. Fleeing violent felon specifications
 - i. May use deadly force if a person is fleeing for a felony that threatened or resulted in death or GBI and deputy reasonably believes subject will cause death or GBI if not immediately apprehended.

C. Supporting Case Law

- i. Tennessee vs. Garner
 1. Deadly force
 2. Fleeing felon
- ii. Graham vs. Conner
 1. Reasonable force

D. FBI Law Enforcement Officers Killed/Assaulted (LEOKA) Studies

- i. 2019 Report
 1. Vital Statistics from LEOKA Reports
- ii. Conclusive Tactical Analysis
 1. 30% of officers killed during investigative / enforcement activities.
 2. 91% of officers killed were killed with a firearm.

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3. 29% of officers killed were less than 5 feet from suspect.
4. 33% of officers killed fired or attempted to fire the weapons.
5. Nearly 25% of assaults on officers occurred between 2000 hours and midnight hours.
6. 29% of officers killed during “low light” conditions (dark, dawn, dusk).

E. Duty to Intercede

i. Government Code 7286 et seq.

1. Requirement that an officer intercede when present and observing another officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is necessary, as determined by an objectively reasonable officer under the circumstances, taking into account the possibility that other officers may have additional information regarding the threat posed by a subject.

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III. WEAPONS SAFETY ORIENTATION / SAFETY RULES

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A. General Safety Rules

- i. No weapons manipulation outside firing line or loading / unloading bays.
- ii. Students will be introduced to, and strictly held to, the Four Firearms Safety Rules.

B. Four Firearms Safety Rules

- i. Treat all weapons as if they are loaded.
- ii. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to destroy/shoot.
- iii. Keep finger off trigger until your sights are aligned, and you have made a conscious decision to fire.
- iv. Be sure of your target and background.

C. Lead Contamination

- i. Safety precautions
 1. Wash hands, clothes after shooting.
 2. Do not eat or smoke after shooting.
- ii. Pregnancy – Pregnant individuals should avoid shooting until consulting with a doctor.

D. Range and Tactical Safety Rules

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- i. Follow Range Rules.
 - ii. Follow Instructor commands.
 - iii. Strict weapon discipline and muzzle control.
 - 1. No Lasering of personal body parts or others.
- E. Medical / Safety Brief
- i. Safety/ Medical Briefing and Assignments
 - 1. First Aid / CPR Team
 - 2. Hail Ambulance
 - 3. Activate EMS
 - 4. Scribe
 - 5. Code 3 equipped vehicle with driver/ transport
 - ii. Closest Medical Facility
Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center
1010 Murray Ave, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

IV. VEHICLE BALLISTICS OVERVIEW

- A. Vehicles should be considered concealment rather than cover.
- i. A, B, C pillars of the vehicle are often rolled steel for strength / crash protection offer the most ballistic protection.
 - 1. Not a very large area that provides ballistic protection
 - ii. Doors are typically hollow, not offering much ballistic protection.
 - 1. Exterior is usually stamped steel or aluminum.
 - 2. Interior is usual plastic.
 - 3. Neither are very ballistically sound.
 - iii. Engine block, which offers ballistic protection is low in the engine compartment, requiring the deputy to lower elevation / shooting platform to maximize ballistic protection.
 - iv. Conforming to reinforced parts of the vehicle (A, B, C pillars) are necessary to maximize ballistic protection provided by a vehicle.
- B. Deflection of a bullet through materials, particularly glass can be substantial.
- i. There are many variables but, generally, when a bullet impacts with an object at an angle, deflection will occur opposite to the angle of the object

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1. Example 1: if a bullet is fired from outside of a vehicle into a vehicle through the windshield, the round will deflect down towards the seats based on the angle of the glass relative to the impact of the bullet.
 2. Example 2: if a bullet is fired from inside of a vehicle to a target outside of a vehicle through the windshield, the bullet will deflect upwards due to the angle of the glass relative to the impact of the bullet.
- ii. These are important concepts to be familiar with if firing at a vehicle or being fired at while in a vehicle.

V. POSITIONAL SHOOTING (DRILLS)

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- A. Utilizing alternate shooting platforms will allow students to conform to and utilize cover provided by vehicles most effectively.
- B. The following positional drills will be conducted without cover initially.
- C. Weapons clearing and manipulation considerations will be discussed when utilizing various positional shooting platforms.
- D. Primary Side Lunge
 - i. Student will present firearm normally, then assume a lunge with the primary side foot aggressively stepped forward, feet shoulder width apart or wider.
 - ii. Students will maintain an upright posture from the waist up to maintain proper eye / sighting system alignment.
 - iii. Students will work from various elevations of the primary side lunge position.
- E. Support Side Lunge
 - i. Student will present firearm normally, then assume a lunge with the support side foot aggressively stepped forward, feet shoulder width apart or wider.
 - ii. Students will maintain an upright posture from the waist up to maintain proper eye / sighting system alignment.
 - iii. Students will work from various elevations of the primary side lunge position.

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F. Primary Side Kneeling

- i. Students will present the firearm normally, then assume a kneeling position with the primary side knee on the ground.
- ii. Students will maintain an upright posture from the waist up to maintain proper eye / sighting system alignment.
- iii. Students will work from various elevations of the primary side kneeling position.

G. Support Side Kneeling

- i. Students will present the firearm normally, then assume a kneeling position with the support side knee on the ground.
- ii. Students will maintain an upright posture from the waist up to maintain proper eye / sighting system alignment.
- iii. Students will work from various elevations of the support side kneeling position.

H. Squat

- i. Student will present the firearm normally, then assume a squat position.
- ii. Students will, as much as possible, attempt to maintain an upright posture from the waist up to maintain proper eye / sighting system alignment.
- iii. Students will work from various elevations of the squat shooting position.

I. Seated Position

- i. Students will sit in chairs placed in front of targets on the range to simulate being seated in a vehicle.
- ii. When directed, students will straighten their legs, as if driving their feet into the floorboard of a vehicle, then cant their primary side toes inboard, clearing an area for the firearm to be safely removed from the holster.
- iii. When the weapon is unholstered, the weapon will be brought up toward the target and establish a two handed firing grip.
- iv. Shooter will then lean forward as if to drive the firearm into or right up to the windshield.
- v. Students will reverse the process to re-holster.

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J. Drills

- i. Instructors will demonstrate the positions to the students.
- ii. Students, at the direction of an instructor, will present their firearms, assume the designated shooting positions, and deliver a shooting response as directed by instructors.

VI. VEHICLE SHOOTING POSITIONS (DRILLS)

A. Inside of a Vehicle

- i. Students will then move to training vehicles placed on the range.
- ii. Manipulations
 1. Students will practice un-holstering/re-holstering while sitting in a vehicle as described in shooting position block of instruction.
- iii. Removing seatbelt with an unholstered weapon
 1. When the weapon is unholstered and the seatbelt must be removed, extreme caution must be taken. Proper index of the primary side index finger is critical and will be strictly monitored.
 2. If the seatbelt buckle is at the student's support side, the students shall temple index or roof index the muzzle of the firearm, unbuckle the seatbelt with the support side hand, drive the belt into the steering wheel or dash, with the muzzle still pointed up, lower the weapon under the belt, then back up into the previous index point, allow the belt to retract, re-establish firing grip or exit the vehicle.
 3. If the seatbelt buckle is on the student's primary side, students shall temple index or roof index the muzzle, then with the support hand, unbuckle the buckle, and allow the belt to retract, re-establish firing grip or exit the vehicle.
- iv. Exiting
 1. With the firearm out of the holster, students will assume a temple index or holster index and safely exit the vehicle.
 2. Proper index of the primary side index finger is critical and will be strictly monitored.

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v. Drills

1. Instructors will demonstrate proper manipulation while inside a vehicle, how to properly fire from inside a vehicle, and how to properly exit a vehicle, then fire.
2. Students, at the direction of instructors, will present their firearms, perform the required manipulations, deliver the designated shooting responses, and exit the vehicle and fire.

B. Outside of a Vehicle

i. Vehicles will be positioned on the range with the front of the vehicle facing a target and with the side of the vehicle facing the target.

1. Each vehicle position relative to the target will present different cover and will require the reviewed positional shooting techniques to maximize cover while firing at the targets.
2. Students will first discuss the available cover and consider the positional shooting techniques that would allow for as much cover as possible while maintaining the ability to deliver fire on a target.

ii. Drills

1. Instructors will demonstrate live fire shooting responses properly conforming to available cover based on the vehicle positions relative to a designated target.
2. Students will be placed on-line at various locations of the vehicles on the range and will be required to conform to the available cover utilizing the positional shooting techniques described. Students will fire the directed shooting responses.

VII. CLASS EXERCISES / STUDENT EVALUATION

- A. Students will perform an exercise that will allow instructors to evaluate their ability to utilize the cover provided by vehicles.
- B. Students must make decisions and evaluate threats as they present themselves.

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VIII. COURSE CLOSURE

- A. Students will debrief the exercise and perform a course evaluation.