POST PERISHABLE SKILLS PROGRAM (PSP)
I - TACTICAL FIREARMS COURSE
Pismo Beach Police Department (4290)
CCN: 29501 | POST Certification II | Reimbursement Plan NA | 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.

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

POST PERISHABLE SKILLS PROGRAM (PSP)
I - TACTICAL FIREARMS COURSE
Pismo Beach Police Department (4290)
CCN: 29501 | POST Certification II | Reimbursement Plan NA | 4 hours

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 prior to holstering
      f. Cover primary elements as a checklist with students
      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

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 than20 %
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 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

VI. FIVE COUNT PISTOL DRAW

A. Threat Assessment
1. Assess the Threat
2. De-Cock to Double Action
3. Tactical Reloading
4. 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
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
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. De-Cock to Double Action
3. Tactical Reloading
4. 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

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

B. All Courses emphasize:
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
3. 7-yard line
4. As many times as needed to observe student proficiency

D. Speed/Emergency Reload
1. Drop magazine as bringing weapon to workspace and grabbing new magazine
2. Properly index the magazine
3. Insert fresh magazine
4. Send slide home either by slide stop or overhand grip

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. Utilize cover if possible

F. Malfunction Drills
1. Failure to Fire
   a. Failure to fire/eject
   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
2. Double Feed Drill

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/REMEDIATION **I (j)**

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.