



# BENICIA POLICE DEPARTMENT



FIREARMS/TACTICAL RIFLE  
Course Control #1860-32075-  
Revised May 2020

Objective: This course will prepare the students to safely, effectively and lawfully deploy the patrol rifle following the Benicia Police Department policies and procedures and is designed to meet the training requirements to carry a short barrel rifle pursuant to 33220 (b) of the CA Penal Code.

Course Hours: 16

## **I. Firearms and Range Safety (Classroom & At Range)**

### A. Classroom Lecture

1. Legal Update
  - a. Graham v. Conner
  - b. Tennessee v. Garner
2. Agency Policy
  - a. Lexipol 300 (Use of Force)
  - b. Lexipol 300.4 (Deadly Force Applications)
  - c. Lexipol 312 (Firearms)
  - d. Lexipol 312.3.3 (Patrol Rifles)
3. Penal Code
  - a. Section 32610 (b)
  - b. Section 33220(b)

### B. The four fundamental rules of firearms safety.

1. Treat all firearms as if they are loaded.
2. Always keep the firearm pointed in the safest possible direction.
3. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are on target and ready to fire.
4. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it prior to firing.

### C. Range Safety

1. **NO LIVE AMMUNITION ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM**
2. Range Safety is everyone's responsibility.
3. Muzzle Control
4. Safety Check (safety on, mag release, charging handle pulled and bolt locked back, visually inspect barrel and fingers in mag well)



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D. Use the following procedure to verify the rifle is safe and empty. (3 Step process)

1. Mechanical
2. Visual
3. Physical

## **II. Nomenclature of the AR-15 Rifle** (Classroom)

- A. Three main groups
1. Upper Receiver Group
  2. Lower Receiver Group
  3. Bolt Carrier Group

## **III. Disassembly** (Classroom)

- A. Safety Procedures
1. Safety check (safety on, mag release, charging handle pulled and bolt locked back, visually inspect barrel and fingers in mag well)
- B. Disassembly Procedure
1. Entire Rifle.
  2. Upper Receiver
  3. Bolt Carrier Group
  4. Lower Receiver

## **IV. Maintenance** (Classroom)

- A. Cleaning
1. Upper Receiver
  2. Charging Handle and Bolt Carrier Assembly
  3. Lower Receiver
- B. Inspection



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1. Upper Receiver
2. Charging Handle and Bolt Carrier Assembly
3. Lower Receiver

C. Lubrication

1. Upper Receiver
2. Charging Handle and Bolt Carrier Assembly
3. Lower receiver

**V. Reassembly** **(Classroom)**

A. Procedure

1. Lower Receiver Assembly
2. Bolt Carrier Assembly
3. Upper Receiver Assembly
4. Joining Upper and Lower Receiver assemblies

**VI. Function Check** **(Classroom)**

A. Procedure

1. As part of the function check, the magazine catch, and bolt catch operations should also be checked.
2. Any portion of the check may be used separately to determine the operational condition of the specific selector position.
3. The function check should always be done whenever the weapon has been disassembled and reassembled.

- B. Perform a safety check to ensure the rifle is safe and empty before performing the function check. This includes checking the magazine(s) to be used during the check. **FAILURE TO COMPLETE A SAFETY CHECK CAN RESULT IN DEATH OR INJURY.**



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### C. Function Check Procedure:

1. Place fire control selector in the "SAFE" position.
2. Pull the charging handle fully to the rear and release it.
3. Insert an empty magazine into the magazine well.
4. Pull the charging handle fully to the rear.
5. Push the charging handle forward until it locks.
6. Push the magazine release and remove the magazine
7. Visually/Physically inspect to insure an empty barrel
8. Push the top of the bolt catch to release the bolt carrier assembly, which will slam forward into the locked position. Release the top of the bolt catch.
9. Keeping the weapon pointed in the safest possible direction; Pull the trigger.
10. Rotate the fire control selector to the "FIRE" position.
11. Keeping the weapon pointed in the safest possible direction; Pull the trigger. Hold the trigger to the rear.
12. While continuing to hold the trigger to the rear, pull the charging handle to the rear and release it.
13. Release the trigger.
14. Keeping the weapon pointed in the safest possible direction; Pull the trigger.

### D. If the rifle fails any portion of the procedure, have it inspected by an armorer.

## **VII. Fundamental Skills**

**(Classroom)**

### A. Loading and Unloading

1. Loading
2. Unloading Procedure

### B. Stance

1. Components of the Stance
2. Aggressive, forward leaning, fighting stance.
3. Pull weapon into shoulder with your strong hand.



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### C. Sight Alignment / Sight Picture

1. Sight Alignment is the tip of the front sight, centered in the rear peep sight.
2. Sight Picture adds the target into the equation.
3. With the Red Dot Sight, only two objects line up instead of three as with iron sights.

### D. Safety Manipulation

1. Fire control selector is moved to "FIRE" as the weapon is raised, and the sights are aligned on target.
2. Fire control selector is moved to "SAFE" before weapon is lowered to ready position.
3. Fire control selector should be moved to "SAFE" whenever moving between positions.
4. With practice, the movement of the safety becomes an automatic response.

### E. Trigger Control

1. Trigger control is a linear movement of the trigger in either direction without losing contact with the index finger or moving the muzzle off target.
2. The shooter must maintain sufficient sight alignment while pressing the trigger through its range of travel.

### F. Follow through

1. Allow the weapon to recoil.
2. Do not look to see where the round hit.
3. Watch your sights as they move through recoil.
4. Reacquire front sight on the target.

## VII. Fundamental Skills Cont.

(Classroom)

### G. Reloads

1. There are two different types of reloads. They are:



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- a. Combat Reload
  - b. Tactical Reloads.
2. Combat Reload Procedure
  3. Tactical Reload Procedure.

## **VIII. Stoppages and the Cycle of Operation (Classroom)**

### A. Cycle of Operation

1. Feeding - Placing a round in the path of the bolt carrier group.
2. Chambering - Moving the round from the magazine to the chamber of the weapon.
3. Locking - Sealing the round in the chamber and locking the breech end of the barrel.
4. Firing - Ignition of the primer and firing the round.
5. Unlocking - Unsealing the breech end of the barrel and unlocking the barrel from the slide.
6. Extracting - "Pulling" the spent cartridge from the chamber.
7. Ejecting - "Pushing" the spent cartridge out of the ejection port.
8. Cocking - Returning the firing mechanism to the cocked or starting position, ready to fire another round.

### B. Immediate Action Techniques

1. Definitions
  - a. Malfunction
  - b. Stoppage
  - c. Immediate action
2. Identification of Failure Types
  - a. Feeding
  - b. Firing
  - c. Extraction
  - d. Ejection
3. Clearing Methods
  - a. Primary
  - b. Secondary



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## **IX. Use of the Sling (Classroom)**

- A. All the rifles issued are equipped with a sling.
  - 1. The issued sling is a single point, adjustable, tactical sling.
  - 2. The sling is equipped with an adjustable buckle that allows the user to loosen or tighten the sling.
  
- B. Benefits of the single point sling.
  - 1. Allows for shooter to lock into a shooting position.
  - 2. When transitioning to handgun, rifle should fall directly in front of the shooter in a muzzle down position.

## **X. Ballistics (Classroom)**

- A. External Ballistics
  - 1. Shooters must understand the basics of external ballistics so they can make the necessary sight adjustments or hold compensations to allow them to hit their target. Factors that affect bullet trajectory are:
    - a. Gravity
    - b. Muzzle Velocity
    - c. Air Resistance or Drag
    - d. Altitude and/or Air Density
    - e. Temperature
    - f. Trajectory
    - g. Wind

## **XI. Sighting systems and Sighting-In (Classroom)**

- A. Zeroing



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1. Zeroing is the calibration of your weapons sight to match the trajectory of your particular weapon. The zero range is where the bullet path and the line of sight intersect.
2. Zeroing should be done when possible without armor or helmets.
3. Basic Rifle Marksmanship applies during zeroing.
4. When zeroing your iron sights, use the small aperture for precision shooting and the large aperture for back-up or short range / limited visibility shooting.

### B. Sighting systems

1. The Department issued rifle is equipped with the following sighting systems.
  - a. Standard M-4 style front/rear sight.
  - b. Sig Sauer Romeo red dot sight.

### B. Sight Adjustments

1. M-4 front sight-adjustment only
2. Sig Saur sight adjustment for elevation and windage

## **XII. Range Activities**

**(At Range)**

### A. Range Safety Rules Refresher

### B. Rifle Zeroing

1. Bullseye Target

### C. Position shooting

1. Standing
2. Kneeling
3. Prone
4. Transitions
5. Strong side/Weak side
6. Barricades
7. Other practice as needed.



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Range Course:

## ***XIII. Qualification Course & Distances***

***(At Range)***

### **Annual Rifle Qualification Course (Rifle MEU Course)**

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

All sworn officers and sergeants who deploy a rifle as part of their duty assignment are required to qualify with their rifle annually

#### **SKILLS DEMONSTRATED:**

Firing from the prone, kneeling and standing positions

Firing while stationary, while moving, and after a short run

Multiple target engagement and multiple rounds fired

Ability to engage with Minimum Target Exposure (e.g.: head shots or other small targets)

Target / threat assessment after firing

Reloading

Malfunctions

Transition to handgun

For night course: low light engagements

#### **EQUIPMENT NEEDED:**

Assigned Rifle with **at least 50 rounds of ammunition** divided between two magazines

Body armor (if worn for regular duty assignment).

Duty handgun, magazines and holster, duty loaded

Eye and ear protection required. Elbow pads, knee pads, and tactical helmet optional.



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For night course: Rifle mounted white light and/or night vision with infrared sights

## **I. TARGET:**

One target per shooter, positioned side by side.

Focus is centered on the ***desired target of the cranial vault and the upper chest cavity.***

## **SCORING:**

**Minimum score of 80 points to pass out of 100 points possible.**

Two points per hit on desired target of the cranial vault or upper chest cavity. 1 point per hit outside the desired target, but still on the body (i.e. arms, legs, abdomen).

**Zero points for miss.**

## **NOTES REGARDING ACCURACY, TRANSITIONS AND RE-ENGAGING:**

1. If their rifle malfunctions, shooters may transition to a backup gun and finish the current stage by scoring backup gun hits. *Shooters shall not make up shots from previous stages, and there are no "alibi rounds"*. Only the best 50 rounds are scored and required shots must happen within the time limit of each stage.
2. During each stage of fire, shooters may quickly assess their accuracy and re-engage if needed for the desired hits on target of that stage. All shots must still be within the time limit. Only the best required hits are counted for that stage. The lowest valued hits on that stage are replaced and do not count for the total score, regardless of point value.
3. If the stage calls for head shots, then the shots must hit the head above the neck line to count. Shots intended for the head that hit the body below the neck line (whether in the "10 ring" or not) will count as zero points. Example: During "failure drills", head shots must be on the head and body shots on the body to count.

**COURSE OF FIRE: SHOT TIMER MAY BE USED, INSTRUCTORS CHOICE**



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1. STANDARD B27 TARGET SHALL BE USED.
2. 40 ROUND COURSE OF FIRE.
3. CRITICAL INCAPACITATION ZONE-(CIZ) HIT COUNTS 5 POINTS. ZONE FOUR AND THREE SCORED AS SUCH.
4. 200 POSSIBLE POINTS.
5. SCORE OF 200 IS 100% AND 160 IS 80%.
6. SCORE OF 80% OR HIGHER REQUIRED TO QUALIFY.
7. DUTY BELT AND EQUIPMENT SHALL BE WORN.
8. SAFETY EQUIPMENT, EYES, EARS, AND VEST SHALL BE WORN.
9. PATROL RIFLE, TWO 30 ROUND MAGAZINES REQUIRED.
  
10. EXCEPT FOR FIRST STAGE OF FIRE, ALL OTHER STAGES OF FIRE WILL START WITH SHOOTER IN GUN LOW READY POSITION WITH SAFETY ON RIFLE ENGAGED.
11. THE LINE WILL ALWAYS BE HOT.

YARDAGE	POSITION	# OF SHOTS	TIME	# OF STRINGS
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50 Yard Line	START PRONE	5 HEAD SHOTS	30 SECONDS	
50 Yard Line	START PRONE	5 BODY SHOTS	20 SECONDS	
50 Yard Line	SITTING	5 BODY SHOTS	30 SECONDS	
50 Yard Line	KNEELING	5 BODY SHOTS	20 SECONDS	
25 Yard Line	STAND/KNEE	10 BODY SHOTS	5 SECONDS	5 STRINGS/2 ROUNDS



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		(Total)		EACH 1 SHOT STANDING/1 SHOTKNEELI NG
15 Yard Line	STANDING	6 BODY SHOTS (Total)	5 SECONDS	3 STRINGS/2 ROUNDS EACH
7 Yard Line	STANDING	4 BODY SHOTS	3 SECONDS	

\*\*\*\* HEAD SHOTS MANDATORY\*\*\*\*

UPON COMPLETION, CLEAR ALL WEAPONS – CONDUCT A THREE-STEP WEAPONS CHECK

Instructional Option:

The stages of this course may be run in reverse (i.e. begin at the 7-yard line and end at the 50).

**Eye, ear and body armor is mandatory.**

**Shooters are required to clear all stoppages.**

**All weapons will be cleared via a safety check upon completion of course.**