
Perishable Skills Training

PSP – Tactical Firearms (4-Hour Format)

Scheduling Guidelines	
Time	Subjects
10 Min	Orientation
10 Min	Safety Guidelines
40 Min	Use of Force Considerations
3 Hours	Shooting Fundamentals and Live Fire Tactical / Simunitions Tactical Shooting Exercise(s)

Approved Training Locations

POST Approved Locations listed in EDI Course Presentation

Course Goal

Provide In-Service Law Enforcement Officers with Tactical Firearms Training that meets or exceeds POST Perishable Skills Training requirements for Peace Officers per POST Regulations.

Course Objectives

Using one or more of the following instructional methodologies: **Tactical Situations**, **Judgement** exercises, and **Application**, the trainee will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of course goals and objectives, agency / presenter Safety Guidelines, and use of firearms-related agency policies.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of use of force considerations to include judgment, decision-making and moral obligations.
3. Demonstrate the ability to apply sight alignment, trigger control, accuracy, target recognition and analysis, and weapons clearing during a Live Fire Tactical / Simunitions Tactical course(s) of fire. *Basic marksmanship and routine qualification shooting exercises do NOT satisfy this requirement.*

Perishable Skills Training

Expanded Course Outline

I. Orientation

- 1) Introduction of instructors and trainees / housekeeping
 - a) State reason for training, training records and participation requirements
 - b) Clearly state the course's grading / performance requirements
 - c) Cover training schedule for the day
 - d) Sign / verify Name and ID on POST Training Roster

- 2) **Safety Guidelines:** Agency / Presenter
 - a) Discuss written agency and Napa Valley College general safety guidelines and firearms training specific safety guidelines
 - b) Locate and present local first aid kits and emergency first aid procedures to include telephone and radio procedures and closest medical facility
 - c) Read and discuss the written Range Rules for training site
 - d) Emphasize pre-range weapons unloading procedures for entering active range and / or returning from extended breaks
 - e) Emphasize range loading and re-loading rules

II. Use of Force Considerations

- 1) **Judgement**
 - a) Discuss the general justification for use of force by law enforcement
 - b) Discuss the spectrum of use-of-force options
 - c) Participate in the presentation / discussion of use-of-force situations that justify the use of a firearm

- 2) **Decision-Making**
 - a) Discuss tactical factors that affect the decision to shoot / don't shoot
 - b) Given a written, video, or verbal scenario, clearly identify and discuss the tactical reasons that should affect an officer's decision to shoot or not shoot
 - c) (*Optional Exercise*) Analyze statistics from the most current FBI LEOKA Report, or current law enforcement involved incident trends, and identify and discuss factors that affected the decision making of the officers involved as well as factors that had no direct impact on decision making

- 3) **Moral Obligations**
 - a) Discuss general moral factors to consider in law enforcement's use of force, particularly the use of deadly force

Perishable Skills Training

- b) Discuss the meaning and role of the officer's Self-Discipline and accountability in the face of imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury
- c) Discuss fear as not a justification alone for the use of deadly force, identifying objective factors, being objectively reasonable and based on facts and circumstances known to the officer at the time.
- d) Describe / discuss examples of techniques for managing anger and fear
- e) Describe the benefits of ongoing physical and mental training related to the use of force, particularly the use of firearms
- f) Discuss the dynamics and principles of building community trust and respect
- g) Discuss any moral / legal obligations to render aid to suspect(s) once the situation has stabilized, topics for discussion may include any of the following, or other topics deemed relevant by training agency:
 - a. Agency policy on rendering aid
 - b. Special Relationships
 - c. Confirming suspect(s) is no longer armed or a threat to others
 - d. Level of officer's training and ability to render aid for advanced wounds / injuries like gunshots wounds
 - e. Notification of Emergency Medical Services
 - f. Keeping the scene safe and accessible for EMS
 - g. Allowing, or preventing others access to the suspect while waiting for EMS
 - h. Allowing, or preventing suspect(s) from treating self
 - i. Suspect(s) refusal of first aid treatment by officers / EMS

4) Policies and / or Legal Issues Review

- a) Discuss the Fourth Amendment standards for determining objective reasonableness
- b) Discuss relevant, major case law standards
- c) Discuss CA Penal Code section 835 (a)
- d) Discuss the agency's Use of Force Policy

III. Student Evaluation and Testing

- 1) Discussions:
 - a) Evaluate and confirm each participant's participation in the required discussions / presentations on Safety Guidelines, Use of Force Considerations, and Policies and / or Legal Issues Review

Perishable Skills Training

- b) Provide timely and appropriate feedback to participants
- 2) Live Fire Tactical / Simunitions Tactical
 - a) Each participant must participate in a graded, live fire exercise(s) designed to test the participant's ability to demonstrate range safety, awareness (threats, environment, and other subjects), balance, control, controlling force (appropriate / affective), proper technique(s), and verbal commands and instructions.
 - b) Provide any remedial training and retesting to participants who fail initial test(s)
- IV. Required Shooting Fundamentals** (May be presented in a classroom lecture / discussion format, Range hands-on manipulation format, integrated into live fire exercise(s) or a combination of all three)
 - 1) Sight Alignment**
 - a) The relationship between the shooter's eye, and the front of the sight
 - b) A sight picture is when the shooter's focus is on the top center of the front sight and the rear sight and aiming point (target) is out of focus
 - 2) Trigger Control**
 - a) The process of using smooth continuous pressure on the trigger without disturbing the sight picture
 - 3) Accuracy**
 - a) The ability to quickly and correctly identify the target area to be shot
 - b) The ability to hit the target in the desired area
 - c) The ability to repeat this process as needed
 - 4) Weapons Clearing**
 - a) A weapons malfunction is an unexpected interruption in the firing sequence
 - b) Some malfunctions may be cleared (fixed) by the officer
 - c) Basic guidelines
 - (1) Remove trigger finger from the trigger
 - (2) Keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction
 - (3) Use appropriate method for clearing the malfunction
 - d) Basic types of malfunctions
 - (1) Failure to fire (misfire)

Perishable Skills Training

- (2) Failure to eject
- (3) Failure to extract
- (4) Failure to feed
- e) Clearing steps (semi-automatic pistol)
 - (1) Tap bottom of magazine
 - (2) Retract the slide to the rear and release it to chamber a round
 - (3) Check safety / decocker lever as applicable
 - (4) Assess if cleared, if not:
 - (5) Lock slide to the rear
 - (6) Remove magazine
 - (7) Rack as necessary to clear the chamber
 - (8) Lock slide rearward
 - (9) Insert new magazine
 - (10) Release slide
 - (11) Assess if cleared

V. Live Fire Tactical / or Simunitions Tactical

- 1) Agency / presenter must create a course of fire that tests the participant's use of deadly force judgement / decision-making and the demonstration of effective shooting skills.
- 2) Course(s) of fire must have a designated start and end time, multiple shooting components and a minimum passing score.
- 3) Course of fire component **options:**
 - a. Combat Conditions
 - (1) Rapid threat assessment
 - (2) Shoot / no shoot decisions
 - (3) Multiple targets
 - (4) Varying distances
 - (5) Multiple shooting positions
 - (6) Movement
 - (7) Use of cover or concealment
 - b. Balance of Speed and Accuracy drills
 - c. Threat Assessment
 - (1) Determining nature of unknown threat
 - d. Divided Attention
 - (1) Multiple threats
 - (2) Moving targets
 - (3) Changes in terrain
 - e. Tactical Movement
 - (1) Trigger finger indexing
 - (2) Muzzle movement and control

Perishable Skills Training

- (3) Legs and upper torso control
- (4) Movement to and from kneeling / prone positions
- f. Shooting on the move
 - (1) Positioning body for shooting while moving
 - (2) Trigger finger control
 - (3) Timing, aiming and placement of shots
- g. Responses to failures of initial shots to stop the threat
- h. Low-light / flashlight conditions
 - (1) Ambient light
 - (2) Backlight
 - (3) Flashlight
 - i. Support hand
 - ii. Both hand

VI. Optional: Course Summary / Evaluation

- (1) Provide opportunity for participants to provide either written and / or verbal evaluations of the course