

## **SANTA MARIA POLICE DEPARTMENT FIREARMS (PSP) TRAINING**

### **PURPOSE**

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter shoot is an annual training event designed to train all sworn personnel from the rank of Officer to Sergeant on all of the weapons systems deployed by the Santa Maria Police Department. The training event is designed to meet firearms qualification needs for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the year as well as provide additional training on each of the various weapons systems. Additionally, there are scenario based exercises that train in the area of force options, decisions making and shoot-don't shoot situations. Officers will also certify on the deployment and use of various less lethal weapons systems. The training event helps officers meet the 8 hour CA POST's bi-annual firearms training requirement.

### **SCOPE**

The training event is 5-6 days, with each officer attending one full day of training. Each sworn officer is required to attend the training event. Each day, 20-25 officers will be scheduled to attend the training. The day will begin with a safety briefing and then the officers will go through the various weapon disciplines.

Any officer who does not qualify with a particular weapon will be given one opportunity to re-qualify. If the officer does not qualify on the second attempt, the officer will be scheduled for a remedial training block on that particular weapon system(s).

### **GENERAL SAFETY**

- Each day will begin with a safety briefing. All personnel are to immediately report any injuries. Injuries will be treated according to severity.
- Anyone can call a "Cease Fire" protocol in place.
- Rescue vehicle centrally staged with backboard and tactical medical supplies.
- Range staff will be equipped with tactical medical supplies to treat various injuries.
- Serious, but non-life threatening, injuries will be taken to the closest Hospital by range staff.
- For life threatening injuries, 911 will be called with a request for an ambulance to meet at a designated CCP. Officers will be transported to the CCP by range staff and offloaded to AMR medical personnel.

## **EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE**

### **I SAFETY BRIEFING/ORIENTATION/INTRODUCTION**

**(I.c)**

#### A. Course Objectives

1. Overview
2. Exercises
3. Evaluation/testing

#### B. Weapons Safety Orientation, Review of Range and Shooting Safety Rules (Pre-range weapons unloading procedures and lunch/extended break reload/unload rules)

1. Four Firearms Safety Mandates
  - a) Treat ALL weapons as if they are loaded.
  - b) Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to destroy/shoot.
  - c) Keep finger off trigger until your sights are aligned, and you have made a conscious effort to fire.
  - d) Be sure of your target and background.
2. Range and Tactical Safety
  - a) Follow Range Rules
  - b) Follow Instructor Commands (all Instructors will wear red hats and red shirts so that they are easily identified).
  - c) Strict Weapon Discipline and Muzzle control.
  - d) No "lasering" of personal body parts or others.

#### C. Emergency Evacuation / Tactical Medical / Recue Vehicle Staged

1. Serious injuries will be taken to the closest Hospital (pre-identified depending on training location).
2. Non-serious injuries will be treated on scene by range staff.
3. Life threatening injuries; 911 will be called with a request for an ambulance to meet at a designated CCP (pre-designated depending on training location). Officers will be transported to the CCP by range staff and offloaded to AMR medical personnel.

#### D. Lethal Force Review

**(I, j)**

1. Legal/Moral/Ethical Issues involving Use of Force/Lethal Force
  - a) Civil Implications of using Force/Lethal Force
  - b) Report Writing
  - c) Preliminary Investigating Overview

#### E. Use of Force/Lethal Force and Firearms Policy

**(I,h,i)**

1. Use of Force Options
  - a) Lethal Force within the spectrum of force options
  - b) Verbal, Hands, Less than Lethal, Lethal Force
  - c) Escalation and De-escalation Process

F. Department Policy and Deadly Force Policy **(l, h,i,j)**

1. Reasonable cause to believe
2. Imminent threat
3. Death of Great Bodily Injury
4. Feeling Violent Felon Specifications
5. Other policy areas and issues

G. Case Law **(h,j)**

1. Tennessee vs. Garner
  - a) Deadly Force
  - b) Fleeing Felon
2. Graham vs. Conner
  - a) Reasonable force

**II PISTOL COURSE**

This course of fire will be to establish a standard static line marksmanship qualification course (PQC) for our officers. The additional training received prior to and following the firing course will be to further the training and experience of each officer and assist the firearms instructor in identifying deficiencies with the officers shooting.

The firearms instruction will consist of fundamental shooting principles, grip, stance, sight alignment, sight picture, trigger control, breathing, and follow through. The following drills are designed to improve the individual officers in these areas as well as work on different positions the officers may need to shoot from (i.e. prone, kneeling, standing).

A. SAFETY BRIEFING **(l.c)**

1. The Range Officer will identify all safety requirements specific to the course.

B. LOADING/UN-LOADING WEAPON **(l.f)**

1. Officers shall demonstrate proficiency to load/unload/load weapon and magazines.

C. GRIP

1. Strong hand grips the pistol as high as possible on the grip frame, minimizing the space between the web of hand and the tang of the pistol.
2. Strong hand thumb points skyward and trigger finger is point forward and up away from the trigger guard.
3. Support handgrips over the strong hand with support hand knuckles over strong hand knuckles and support hand forward, resting on front frame flats of pistol. Support hand index finger is wrapped in between the index finger and middle finger of dominant hand.

4. Dominant hand is relaxed, while support and is tight around dominant hand. Dominant thumb is placed on the thumb metacarpal bone to ensure it does not rest on the slide stop
5. Arms are slightly flared out at the elbow to apply downward pressure into the frame of the pistol at a 45 degree angle.

D. STANCE (Ready and On Target)

1. Position feet shoulder width apart.
2. Support side foot is pointed directly at target.
3. Shoulders, hips, and feet are all pointed in the same direction.
4. Strong side arm is straight out
5. Support arm is straight with support hand wrist locked.
6. Knees are slightly bent and the torso is relaxed with a slight bend

Range Work:

Students come to line and Dry practice drill. Students obtain proper grip and stance and instructors make corrections at ready and on target.

E. PRESENTATION

**Step one**

1. Strong hand acquires a grip as high on the grip frame as possible.
2. Trigger finger acquires a position on holster similar to master grip.
3. Retention devices are defeated.
4. Support hand establishes a flat position on the upper abdomen area, with the thumb in the center of the sternum.

**Step two**

1. Pistol is drawn from the holster high enough for the muzzle to clear the holster while applying forward pressure as weapon is removed from the holster.
2. Trigger finger takes a position on the frame in master grip position.
3. Pistol remains pointed at the ground and support hand remains on the abdomen.

**Step Three**

1. Once weapon clears the holster, elbow is rotated down, pointing the muzzle towards the target.
2. Strong hand begins to bring the pistol forward as the support hand meets with the pistol. The muzzle never covers the support hand during the presentation.
3. If equipped with an external safety it is now disengaged.

**Step Four**

1. The strong side arm is simply extended outward until it meets the individual shooters location of strength and dexterity. (This position is similar to a position achieved when a subject shakes hands.)
2. Support hand follows.
3. The weapon is brought out to the Compressed or High Ready or on target depending on the threat.

- a. Weapon is brought to the Compressed or High Ready. Shooter's focus is straight ahead; finger is along the frame of the pistol.
- b. Once the decision to fire has been made, the weapon is brought on target, the shooter's focus shifts to the front sight for a flash sight picture. Finger moves onto the trigger while weapon is being presented forward. The slack is taken out of the trigger while the pistol is presented and the shooter will press the trigger smoothly without disturbing the sights.

### **Holstering**

1. Holstering follows the steps in reverse. Holstering should be slow to prevent accidents.
2. Following the steps in reverse allows the shooter to shoot from the close contact position just before the weapon is re-holstered.

### **Range Work**

Have Students gather around instructor in a semi-circle, with their weapons UNLOADED. Instructors need to verify weapons are clear on safe on line prior. This is a drill to work hand speed to the gun. A par time will be set at .5 seconds. The students will not draw their weapons. On the audible of the tone of the timer, the shooters will acquire a master grip on their weapons and defeat the retention devices on the holsters. They will start the draw approximately less than 1 inch. Repeat 10X. The par time will be taken down to .3 seconds. Drill will be repeated 10X.

## **F. TRIGGER CONTROL**

1. After the decision has been made to fire the pistol, and the pistol is on target (off safe if applicable), the trigger finger removes the slack from the trigger. Finger should be placed to remove the gap between the frame and the trigger finger.
2. The trigger is pressed all the way back and is reset during recoil.
3. After the weapon is back on target, rearward pressure is then applied until the trigger has returned to the slack point.
4. The trigger is then pressed back to complete a "Controlled Pair".
5. Trigger is released to reset the trigger during recoil, but the slack is not released until shooting is complete.

## **G. SIGHT ALIGNMENT – PARALLEL DEVIATION**

1. Sight Alignment is aligning the front sight centered between the rear sight posts and keeping the sights in line with each other horizontally. (Equal height, equal light)
2. The desired sight alignment is to have equal air space between the front sight and the rear sight posts as well as have the three sight posts run in a flat horizontal line.
3. Refer to photo of proper sight alignment.

4. Discuss points related to Parallel Deviation and effects on shooting (accepting Wobble Zone Concept) – Use a cut out from a USPSA/ IPCS target for explanation over a B8 bullseye.

#### H. SIGHT PICTURE

1. Sight Picture describes the focus that your eye sees during the shooting process.
2. There are three different points of focus that your eye can focus on during the sight picture.
3. The three points of focus are the front sight, rear sight, and the target.
4. The human eye is only capable of focusing on one depth at a time while shooting the pistol the shooter's focus needs to be entirely on the front sight.

\*However, when doing precision work, the shooter must manage parallel deviation. Thus looking front sight to rear sight multiple time to ensure proper sight alignment.

#### I. NATURAL POINT OF AIM

1. Have the range set up using B8 bullseye targets. Have the shooters on the firing line. Using the above noted instruction, have the students draw and present their pistols. Have them align the sights, with their fingers off the trigger. Have them close their eyes and take several deep breaths. If the pistol deviates left or right, have them move their lead foot in the direction the pistol needs to go to get back on target. Have them repeat until they can close their eyes and relax and the pistol remains on target.

\*note if the pistol falls below the target this is their bodies relaxing. We are looking for left and right deviation.

2. Instructor Demo- on a target the instructor will go through the above process at 7 yards. The instructor will then have a student stand on both sides and shoot several rounds with their eyes closed. This will effectively demonstrate the importance of body position, and if the instructor's body position is correct they will easily hit the target in the scoring zone.

#### J. RANGE WORK; Diagnostic trigger control, 7 yards on a blank target

1. Students fire one round center of target.
2. Students line up sights on hole.
3. Instructors press one round
4. Instructors press one round with student's finger on trigger, working proper reset during recoil.
5. Students perform trigger resets under instructor supervision until proficient.

#### K. DRAW STROKE WORK

1. Targets will be SEB (or similar targets).
2. The shooters will load and make ready and start at the 5 yard line.

3. On the audible tone of the buzzer they will have 5 seconds to draw and fire 2 rounds.
4. They will then have 5 seconds to draw and fire 2 rounds strong hand only.
5. They will then have 5 seconds to draw and fire 2 rounds support hand only after transitioning the weapon from their strong hand to their support hand.
6. Once this is complete, the firing line will back up to the 7 yard line.
7. On the audible tone the shooters will draw and fire 2 rounds, and repeat the above sequence.

This will be continued from the 10, 15, 20, and the 25 yard line. The targets will be inspected from after each string of fire. Any rounds out of the target, or out of the upper scoring box will be marked and or repaired with tape. The goal for the drill is all rounds inside of the upper scoring box.

#### L. CADENCE WORK

1. This drill is a grip building drill and teaches the student how to manage the gun at different speeds. The target is a USPSA IPSC target. The "A" head box is outlined, a 6 inch circle is drawn on the shoulder area of the target, an 8 inch circle is drawn on the lower portion of the target and a B8 repair center is placed backwards on the middle of the target. Drill is shot at 7-10 yards. This drill will teach the shooter how to shoot at different speeds depending upon target size and distance to target. The shot time is used to start the drill, but the shooter begins when he is ready. The shooter(s) run the drill 2x on their own after the timer, and then each individual shooter will receive an individual time. Goal times are listed below for each stage.
  - a. The shooter will be instructed in cadence of "1000-1, 1000-2," etc for a 5 count. He will shoot into the "A" head box trying to keep all rounds into the scoring zone. Repeat x3 (roughly 1 second split time)
  - b. The shooter will be instructed for a cadence of "and-1, and-2," etc for 5 rounds into the 5 inch circle. He will shoot into this circle trying to keep all rounds in the scoring zone. Repeat x3 (roughly .75 second split time)
  - c. The shooter will be instructed for a cadence of saying quickly "and-1, and-2," etc for 5 rounds into the 8 inch circle. He will shoot into this circle trying to keep all rounds in the scoring zone. Repeat 3x (roughly .50 second split time)
  - d. The shooter will be instructed for a cadence of saying "1,2,3,4,5" as quickly as they can count out loud. He will fire all 5 rounds into the reversed B8 repair center trying to keep all rounds in the scoring zone. Repeat x3. (roughly .25 second split time)

#### M. RELOAD ON B8 BULLSEYE

1. This drill is shot from 15 yards. Advanced version of the drill is shot from 25 yards. Shooter will stage their weapon with one round in the weapon and an empty magazine seated in the pistol. The shooter will have a full magazine in his pouch with at least 9 rounds in it. For single stack type weapons (SIG P220, 1911, Etc) more than 1 magazine is acceptable. Passing is a score of 80 or

better and all repetitions completed in under 90 seconds. This is an excellent drill for managing pools of time. If a passing score is not reached have the shooters run the exercise again. Repeat 3X.

- a) On the buzzer the shooter will draw his weapon and fire 1 round at the bullseye, perform an emergency reload, and fire a second round.
- b) After firing the second round the shooter will perform a magazine exchange, and then re-holster their pistol and place the loaded magazine back in the magazine pouch.
- c) This series of events will be repeated for a total of 5x for 10 shots fired.

#### N. PRONE, KNEELING, STANDING

This is a discovery learning exercise. Instruct the students in the various grips and positions related to above. Many of the positions used for kneeling and prone are preference. The students should be shown several variations and allowed to try the position that fits their body type and shooting style best. They need to be shown golf club grip prone and or slight roll over prone. For kneeling they need to be shown double kneeling, modified stretch, seated on back leg while kneeling. In all of these kneeling positions the arms should be extended as if standing. The instructor should explain how bringing the pistol closer to the shooters face will change the appearance of the size of the front sight (objects closer to our face appear larger).

#### O. PISTOL QUALIFICATION COURSE

**(I.b) (I.g)**

TARGET: QIT or SIMILAR (SEB ETC)

AMMUNITION: 50 ROUNDS

QUALIFYING SCORE: 80 (2 POINTS PER HIT)

##### 1. STAGE I

**(I.b) (I.g) (I.d)**

STARTING POINT: 25 YARD LINE

ROUNDS/TIME ALLOTTED: 8 ROUNDS IN 20 SECONDS FROM THE HOLSTER. (SHOOTERS MUST HAVE 4/8 (50%) HITS IN THE SCORING ZONE. FAILURE TO DO SO IS AN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFIER)

On command, the shooter draws and fires 4 rounds standing and 4 rounds kneeling in 20 seconds. Upon completing Stage I, the shooter holsters.

##### 2. STAGE II

STARTING POINT: 3 YARD LINE

ROUNDS/TIME ALLOTTED: 6 ROUNDS IN 6 SECONDS FROM THE HOLSTER

On command, the shooter fires 3 rounds strong hand only, and 3 rounds support hand only in 6 seconds. Upon completing Stage II, the shooter holsters.

##### 3. STAGE III

STARTING POINT: 5 YARD LINE



ROUNDS/TIME ALLOTTED: 3 ROUNDS IN 3 SECONDS FROM THE HOLSTER

3 ROUNDS IN 2 SECONDS FROM THE COMPRESSED READY

6 ROUNDS IN 4 SECONDS FROM THE COMPRESSED READY

On command, the shooter draws and fires 3 rounds in 3 seconds, returning to the ready position. On command, the shooter fires 3 rounds in 2 seconds from the ready position. On command, the shooter fires 6 rounds in 4 seconds from the ready position. Upon completing Stage III, the shooter holsters.

4. STAGE IV

STARTING POINT: 7 YARD LINE

ROUNDS/TIME ALLOTTED: 5 ROUNDS IN 5 SECONDS FROM THE HOLSTER

8 ROUNDS IN 8 SECONDS FROM THE COMPRESSED READY WITH A SLIDE LOCK RELOAD

5 ROUNDS IN 4 SECONDS FROM THE COMPRESSED READY

On command, the shooter draws and fires 5 rounds in 5 seconds, returning to the ready position. On command, the shooter fires 8 rounds in 8 seconds from the ready position, to include a SLIDE LOCK reload. On command, the shooter fires 5 rounds in 4 seconds from the ready position. Upon completing Stage IV, the shooter holsters.

5. STAGE V

STARTING POINT: 15 YARD LINE

ROUNDS/TIME ALLOTTED: 3 ROUNDS IN 6 SECONDS FROM THE HOLSTER

3 ROUNDS IN 5 SECONDS FROM THE COMPRESSED READY

On command, the shooter draws and fires 3 rounds in 6 seconds, returning to the ready position. On command, the shooter fires 3 rounds in 5 seconds from the ready position. Upon completing Stage V, the shooter performs a safety check, and holsters an empty weapon

**III PATROL RIFLE COURSE**

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g)**

The Rifle course will consist of fundamental shooting principles for patrol rifle, which will include natural point of aim, stance, grip, shooting from the prone kneeling and standing positions, reloads, rifle to pistol transitions, and shooting from behind a barricade. The following drills are designed to improve the individual officers in these areas.

A. NATURAL POINT OF AIM

1. Utilizing the body's natural point of aim, allows the rifle to recoil consistently, so the muzzle of the rifle rises and falls without left to right deviation, after breaking the shot. This allows for increased accuracy, better sight tracking, and more efficient follow up shots. The instructor will demonstrate the technique while it is being explained.

## B. TECHNIQUE

1. The shooter lays in the prone position, placing the buttstock of the rifle in the shoulder pocket of the strong side shoulder.
2. The magazine of the gun rests on the ground to support the rifle.
3. Strong hand grips the pistol grip as high as possible, minimizing the space between the web of hand and the tang.
4. Support side elbow rests on the ground to the side of the rifle.
5. Without moving support side elbow, grip the rail of the rifle with the support side hand.
6. Place either thumb or multiple fingers over the top of the rail. The finger placement will vary depending on what is most comfortable for the shooter.
7. Ensure body and rifle are in line with the target.
8. Ensure the rifle is square with the shoulders.
9. Rest cheek on stock.

## C. NATURAL AIM DRILL

1. Students will shoot from the prone position at the 50 yard line, utilizing the above technique to find their natural point of aim.
2. Close eyes and take a deep breath, then open eyes.
3. If their sights have deviated left or right, they will adjust their hips left or right to move the sights.
4. Muzzle will naturally rise and fall, but should not deviate left or right
5. Students will shoot 5 rounds with their eyes open on a B8 bull's eye target.
6. No time limit.
7. Students will repeat this course of fire 4-6 times, checking and repairing their targets between iterations.

## D. RIFLE ZERO

All students will confirm their rifle's zero at 50 yards. The instructor will discuss department approved optics and their adjustments at 50 yards. Eotech, Trijicon, and Aim Point optic's adjustments are a ½ MOA per click. The department issued front flip up sight's adjustments are 1 MOA per click. The rear flip up sight's adjustments are ½ MOA per click.

MOA is an acronym for Minute Of Angle. One full MOA at a 100 yards is about 1 inch (1.047 inches). The further the shooter is from the target, the more the angle increase; which in turn increases the distance of the adjustment. The closer the shooter is to the target, the smaller the angle gets; which decreases the distance of the adjustment. An MOA at 50 yards is about 0.5 inches.

## E. RECOIL MANAGEMENT

The rifle naturally recoils rearward and pivots at the pistol grip. Place the buttstock as far out as it can comfortable go. The shooter will gain greater leverage on the rifle. If the buttstock is fully collapsed, the angle from the pivot point to the shoulder is shorter, which decreases leverage. More leverage means more control. To increase leverage on

the front of the gun, the shooter uses a thumb over grip as far forward on the rail as possible. Placing the hand as far forward as possible increases the angle of leverage from the pivot point to the front of the rifle. The thumb over grip allows the hand to maintain control of the upward movement during recoil. If the shooter is using a vertical grip, they should still place their support side thumb over the top of the rail.

#### F. STANDING POSITION

The instructor will discuss stance, stock placement, grip, trigger, mounted weapon light placement, and the new low ready concept which increases processing time.

#### G. LOW READY

The low ready consist of a master grip with the strong hand, and the buttstock of the rifle in the in the strong side shoulder pocket. The muzzle of the rifle is angled to the ground, about level with the belt line, at about a 45 degree angle. When pointing in from the low ready, the buttstock of the rifle should be position in the shoulder at an appropriate height, so when pointing in the shooter does not have to bend their neck forward to acquire cheek placement.

This position should be maintained when conducting searches or when on a perimeter position. By staying in a low ready position, the shooter is given more time for threat recognition. From a high ready position, we are able to respond to a stimulus and place a round on target, quicker than we are able to effectively asses the target as a threat.

Our brain is only able to process 60 frames per second. By starting from this low ready position, we are allowing our brain more opportunity to asses a threat. Pointing in from the low ready takes a fraction of a second longer, but it provides the brain with a significant more amount of information, allowing for good decision making. This also enables us to see the suspect's hands.

#### H. STANCE

1. Position feet about shoulders width apart.
2. Drop strong side foot back, so hips are bladed to about a 45 degree angle.
3. Apply downward pressure on support side foot.
4. Buttstock is in the strong side shoulder pocket.
5. Buttstock is positioned high enough on the shoulder to allow for proper cheek placement, without bending the neck down toward the rifle.

#### I. GRIP

1. Strong hand grips the pistol grip as high as possible, minimizing the space between the web of hand and the tang.
2. Choose and index point on the side of the receiver, such as a dust cover (right hand) or bolt release (left hand).
3. Index trigger finger at chosen index point.
4. Strong side thumb is placed over the top of the safety.
5. Support hand is placed as far forward as possible on the rail, with the thumb over the top of the rail.

6. Support hand fingers wrap underneath the rail.
7. Both strong hand and support hand pull the rifle into the shoulder.

## J. KNEELING POSITION

There are four basic kneeling positions: supported kneel, stretched kneel, unsupported kneel, and double knee kneel. The unsupported kneel and double knee kneel are both less than stable shooting positions. The benefits to the double knee platform is that it is quick and easy to get into, but it is a position that is slow to get out of. A supported position will provide increased stability. The instructor will Demo the four positions. While on the firing line with empty weapons, the students will get into the different kneeling positions without shooting.

1. Supported Kneel
  - a) Strong side knee comes to the ground.
  - b) Strong side foot is aligned with the center of the body.
  - c) Support side knee points toward the target.
  - d) Sit on strong side foot.
  - e) Place support side elbow on the support side knee. The edge of the elbow will go just past the kneecap.
  - f) Support hand maintains thumb over grip on the rail of the rifle.
2. Stretched Kneel
  - a) Strong side knee comes to the ground.
  - b) Strong side foot lays flat on the ground with toes pointing outward.
  - c) Support side knee points toward the target, keeping the heel on the ground.
  - d) Place support side elbow on the support side knee. The edge of the elbow will go just past the kneecap.
  - e) Lean forward by bending the support side knee, creating a stretch.
  - f) Center of body should be over the support side heel to maintain appropriate balance and stability.
  - g) Strong side leg should be angled forward.
3. Unsupported Kneel
  - a) Strong side knee comes to the ground, with strong side foot lying flat on the ground.
  - b) Support side knee points toward the target.
  - c) The upper body will maintain the same position and grip as when in the standing position.
4. Double Kneel
  - a) Both knees on the ground, square to the target.
  - b) Sit on back of ankles.
  - c) The upper body will maintain the same position and grip as when in the standing position
  - d) Upper torso leans forward into rifle.

K. KNEELING DRILL

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e)**

**(I.g)**

1. Students will shoot from the 50 yard line.
2. Each student will have two B8 bulls eye targets.
3. No time limit.
4. 5 rounds from the supported kneeling position on one B8 bull.
5. 5 rounds from the stretched kneeling position on the second B8 bull.
6. Students will check and repair their targets.
7. 5 rounds from the unsupported kneel on one bull
8. 5 rounds from the double kneel on the second bull.

L. POSITIONAL SHOOTING DRILL

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g) (I.h) (I.i) (I.k)**

1. Students will shoot from the 50 yard line with a B8 Bulls eye target.
2. They will have a loaded rifle with 30 rounds.
3. 5 rounds from standing position.
4. 5 rounds from the kneeling position.
5. 5 rounds from the prone position.
6. 45 seconds to complete the course of fire.
7. The standard is 80% (120) or better.
8. Shooters will check and repair their targets, and then shoot the course of fire a second time.

M. RIFLE RELOADS

Emergency Reload or Bolt Lock – Typically used while engaging suspects and magazine runs out of ammo. Bolt locks back to the rear and trigger mushy. You need to get the rifle back into action as quick as possible. Depending on situation (i.e. range of suspect, location of nearest concealment) you may need to transition to pistol.

1. Reload Process: *Right Handed*

- a) Bolt locks to the rear.
- b) Engage the safety.
- c) Depress mag release button with your trigger finger while the magazine well is perpendicular to ground. (This allows for the magazine to use gravity to fall out on its own.)
- d) While holding the rifle with dominate hand on the pistol grip, take the gun out of your shoulder pocket and then tuck butt stock under dominate arm, canting rifle so that magazine well bottom is facing support side.
- e) Sweep your centerline waist for your new magazine. (Should be retrieving spare from where you always keep your spare magazine) remove the magazine and align your thumb with the spine of the magazine. (Thumb should be in-line with the magazine catch.)
- f) Insert the magazine into the magazine well, watching the magazine into the gun. Press the magazine in firmly to assure the magazine is properly seated.
- g) Using your support thumb, press the bolt release, sending the bolt forward and chambering a round.

- h) Bring gun back to your shoulder pocket, re-acquire sights, identify target, disengage safety and engage if needed.
2. Left Handed
- a) Bolt locks to the rear.
  - b) Engage the safety.
  - c) Depress your mag release with your support hand thumb, as you are bringing your support hand back towards your centerline.
  - d) While holding the rifle with dominate hand on the pistol grip, take the gun out of your shoulder pocket and then tuck butt stock under dominate arm, canting rifle so that magazine well bottom is facing support side.
  - e) Simultaneously, remove your support hand from the rifle and find your fresh magazine (should be retrieving spare from where you always keep your spare magazine) remove the magazine and align your thumb with the spine of the magazine. (Thumb should be in-line with the magazine catch.
  - f) Insert the magazine into the magazine well, watching the magazine into the gun. Press the magazine in firmly to assure the magazine is properly seated.
  - g) As your magazine seats, wrap your hand around the front of the magazine well and press the bolt release with your index and middle finger.
  - h) Bring gun back into your shoulder pocket, re-acquire sights, identify target, disengage safety and engage if needed.

Tactical Reload or Magazine Exchange – Typically used while there is a break in the fire fight and you have not used all the ammunition in the magazine and want to get your rifle back into a fully loaded capacity.

3. Reload Process: *Right Handed*
- a) You have reached a point where you are not actively shooting and you want to top off your gun.
  - b) Engage safety.
  - c) While holding the rifle with dominate hand on the pistol grip, take the rifle out of your shoulder pocket and then tuck butt stock under dominate arm, canting rifle so that magazine well bottom is facing support side.
  - d) Simultaneously, remove your support hand from the rifle and find your fresh magazine (Should be retrieving spare from where you always keep your spare magazine). Remove the magazine and align your thumb with the spine of the magazine. (Thumb should be in-line with the magazine catch.)
  - e) Place the spare magazine against the bottom of the magazine in the rifle, the two magazines should form an “L” and you should be able to grasp both magazines in the palm of your support hand.
  - f) With your trigger finger, press the mag release button.
  - g) Insert the new magazine into the magazine well, watching the magazine into the gun. Press the magazine in firmly to assure the magazine is properly seated.
  - h) Store your magazine for later use if needed.

- i) Bring gun back to shoulder pocket.

#### 4. *Left Handed*

- a) You have reached a point where you are not actively shooting and you want to top off your gun.
  - b) Engage the safety.
  - c) While holding the rifle with dominate hand on the pistol grip, take the rifle out of your shoulder pocket and then tuck butt stock under dominate arm, canting rifle so that magazine well bottom is facing support side.
  - d) Simultaneously, remove your support hand from the rifle and find your fresh magazine (Should be retrieving spare from where you always keep your spare magazine). Remove the magazine and align your thumb with the spine of the magazine. (Thumb should be in-line with the magazine catch.)
  - e) Place the spare magazine against the bottom of the magazine in the rifle, the two magazines should form an "L" and you should be able to grasp both magazines in the palm of your support hand.
  - f) With your support hand thumb, press the mag release button.
  - g) Insert the new magazine into the magazine well, watching the magazine into the gun. Press the magazine in firmly to assure the magazine is properly seated.
  - h) Store your magazine for later use if needed.
  - i) Bring gun back to shoulder pocket.
5. Range Work: 3X3X2 Rifle drill (Max round count 12 rifle rounds, 4 Pistol rounds per shooter)
- a) Shooters will line up on the 7 yard line, with 2 magazines loaded with 3 rounds each. Pistol fully loaded.
  - b) Shooter will start with carbine loaded with 3 rounds and the second magazine secured in their spare magazine pouch.
  - c) Shooters start at low ready, on the buzzer, fire 3 rounds, perform a bolt lock reload, fire 3 more rounds, then transition to pistol on second slide lock reload and fire 2 pistol rounds.
  - d) Following the drill, shooter will recover their magazine and reload to perform the drill again.
  - e) Scoring zone is "A" zone.
  - f) Goal par time is sub 7 seconds.

#### N. SHOOTING USING BARRICADES

The benefits to use a barricade (i.e. wall, vehicle, etc.) is that you are utilizing concealment and sometimes cover. Shooting on barricades allows you to have a stable shooting platform in either stand or kneeling positions.

1. Process Standing: (Same for both left and right handed)
  - a) With rifle in your shoulder pocket, grip the hand rail with middle finger, pointer finger and thumb of support hand, in a c-clamp grip.

- b) Palm of your support hand should be facing forward towards the front of your rifle.
  - c) Place palm of support hand on barricade and push into barricade.
  - d) Support side foot should be forward in stance and strong side foot in back of stance
  - e) Make sure hand rail is resting against barricade, not barrel.
  - f) Acquire sights, disengage safety and engage target.
2. Process Kneeling: (Same for both left and right handed)
- a) With rifle in your shoulder pocket, grip the hand rail with middle finger, pointer finger and thumb of support hand, in a c-clamp grip.
  - b) Palm of your support hand should be facing forward towards the front of your rifle.
  - c) Place palm of support hand on barricade and push into barricade.
  - d) Place your support side knee on the ground in back of stance
  - e) Place your strong side foot at the base of the barricade, this allows you to get your strong side elbow inside your strong side knee.
  - f) Drive your weight forward onto your strong side foot and drive the rifle into barricade.
  - g) Make sure hand rail is resting against barricade, not barrel. (Rifles have a floating barrel and any pressure applied to it will cause deflection of your round.)
  - h) Acquire sights, disengage safety and engage target.

#### O. SHOULDER TO SHOULDER TRANSITION

Used when shooting around barricades and while moving through houses. This enables you to get the best angle around a barricade or wall with a minimal amount of body exposure.

1. Transition Process: (Same for left and right handed)
  - a) Engage safety.
  - b) Support hand moves to front of lower receiver.
  - c) Take the rifle out of your primary shoulder pocket and move it to your support side shoulder pocket.
  - d) Move your dominate hand from rifle pistol grip, to hand rail of rifle.
  - e) Move your support hand to rifle pistol grip.
  - f) Your strong side foot should move towards the rear of your stance and the support side foot should move to the front of your stance. Essentially, reversing your stance.

#### P. RIFLE TO PISTOL TRANSITION

Used when Rifle runs out of ammo or malfunctions.

1. Transition Process
  - a) Rifle runs out of ammo or malfunctions.
  - b) Attempt to engage safety.



- c) Release your grip of your dominate hand from the rifle pistol grip. Using your support hand which should be gripping the hand guard of the rifle, swing the rifle in the direction of your support side and let it hang by your side.
- d) Move dominate hand down to pistol holster, while your support hand comes to the center of your chest using your thumb as a reference point to your sternum.
- e) Grip pistol as taught during first quarter range. (High on grip, trigger finger indexed along holster, thumb defeating retention.)
- f) Draw pistol from holster and acquire proper pistol grip with support hand.
- g) Acquire sight picture, identify target and engage if needed.

**Q. RIFLE QUALIFICATION COURSE**

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g)**

**QUALIFYING SCORE: 80% (2 POINTS PER HIT) 40/50 COURSE OF FIRE**

**1. STAGE I**

**STARTING POINT: 50 YARD LINE**

**TIME ALLOTTED 1 MINUTE**

Start at the low ready with an empty weapon, the selector lever on safe and the bolt locked open. On command, the shooter loads the weapon with a 25 round magazine, fires 5 rounds prone, places the selector lever on safe, fires 5 rounds strong side kneeling barricade position and 5 rounds strong side standing barricade position. Upon completing Stage I, the shooter will come to the low ready position with the selector lever on safe.

**2. STAGE II**

**STARTING POINT: 25 YARD LINE**

**TIME ALLOTTED: 50 SECONDS**

Start at the low ready position with the selector lever on safe. On command, the shooter fires 5 rounds strong side kneeling barricade position, 5 rounds strong side standing barricade position, reloads, and fires 5 rounds support side kneeling barricade position. Upon completing Stage II, the shooter will return to the low ready position with the selector lever on safe.

**3. STAGE III**

**STARTING POINT: 15 YARD LINE**

**TIME ALLOTTED: 15 SECONDS**

Start at the low ready position with the selector lever on safe. On command, the shooter fires 5 rounds standing and 5 rounds kneeling position. Upon completing Stage III, the shooter will return to the low ready with the selector lever on safe.

**4. STAGE IV**

**STARTING POINT: 7 YARD LINE**

**TIME ALLOTTED: 5 STRINGS OF 2 ROUNDS IN 3 SECONDS**

Start at the low ready position with the selector lever on safe. On the command, the shooter fires 5 strings of 2 rounds in 3 seconds, returning to the low ready position with the selector lever on safe after each string. Upon completing Stage IV, shooter will unload and come to the low ready position with an empty weapon, the selector lever on safe and the bolt locked open.

#### **IV SHOTGUN COURSE**

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g)**

##### **A. STORAGE**

Discuss with the shooters proper weapon storage and procedures for bringing the weapon inside the station (unloaded).

##### **B. PATROL READY**

Action is closed with an empty chamber, full magazine tube with 00 Buck rounds, and weapon is on SAFE.

##### **C. COMBAT RELOAD**

The shooter opens the action and manually places a round into the port of the shotgun with their support hand, and then closes the action.

##### **D. TACTICAL RELOAD**

Once the shooting has stopped, the shooter removes additional rounds from the side saddle and tops off the magazine tube to full capacity.

##### **E. SHOTGUN QUALIFICATION COURSE**

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g)**

TARGET: QIT or SIMILAR (SEB ETC)

AMMUNITION: 2 SLUGS, 8 – 00 BUCK

QUALIFYING SCORE: 100% (all rounds must hit the target)

###### **1. STAGE I**

STARTING POINT: 25 YARD LINE

ROUNDS/TIME ALLOTTED: 1 SLUGS STANDING, 1 SLUG KNEELING IN 20 SECONDS.

The shooter will start with the shotgun patrol ready, and the safety on. On the command, the shooter will combat load and fire 1 slug from the standing position, engage the safety, then combat load fire 1 slug from a kneeling position. When done firing, the shooter will place the weapon on safe.

###### **2. STAGE II**

STARTING POINT: 15 YARD LINE

ROUNDS/TIME ALLOTTED: 2 ROUNDS IN 8 SECONDS FROM THE LOW READY (x2).

On command, the shooter will fire 2 rounds of 00 buck in 8 seconds, starting from the low ready. When done firing, the shooter will place the weapon on safe and perform a tactical reload (top off magazine tube). This will be done twice.

3. STAGE III

STARTING POINT: 7 YARD LINE

ROUNDS/TIME ALLOTTED: 2 ROUNDS IN 5 SECONDS FROM LOW READY.

2 ROUNDS IN 5 SECONDS FROM LOW READY.

On command, the shooter will fire 2 rounds of 00 buck in 5 seconds. The shooter will place the weapon on safe and perform a tactical reload. On command, the shooter will fire 2 rounds of 00 buck in 5 seconds. The shooter will place the weapon on safe. Upon completion the shooter will keep the action open and magazine empty.

**V LESS LETHAL WEAPONS**

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g) (I.h) (I.i) (I.k)**

The Less Lethal course is designed to accomplish familiarization with the launchers, munitions, and associated policies relating to the use of less lethal weapon systems.

A. 12 Gage Bean Bag Shotgun

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g)**

1. This station will review shotgun manipulation to include loading, unloading, and sight picture. This station will also cover effective/ minimum distances, target zones, patrol ready condition, safe storage of the weapon system, and department policy. Each officer will qualify with the 12 gage beanbag.

B. 40mm Impact Munitions

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g)**

1. This station will review launcher manipulation to include loading, unloading, sight picture, trigger system (single action/ double action), and safe storage. This station will also cover munition types, effective/ minimum distances, target zones, patrol ready condition, and department policy. Each officer will qualify with the 40mm weapons system.

C. Pepperball

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g)**

1. This station will review launcher manipulation to include loading, unloading, sight picture, trigger system, and safe storage. This station will also cover munition types, effective/ minimum distances, target zones, patrol ready condition, and department policy. Each officer will qualify with the PepperBall weapons system.
  - a) Department Policy for Pepperball (Policy 303.7.2 Pepper Projectile Systems) and Use Of Force (Policy 300)
  - b) Different Pepperball Systems (FTC, TCP, VKS)
  - c) Filling of the Pepperball System air tanks
  - d) "Patrol Ready" storage and vehicle carry
  - e) Proper deployment of the FTC Launcher
  - f) Clearing of the FTC Launcher after use and returning to patrol ready status

D. Bola Wrap

**(I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g)**

1. Policy 349.5.1- Application of the Bola Wrap
2. Components and Usage
3. Warnings & Advisements – Sympathetic fire

4. Target Zones
5. Post Deployment Responsibility
6. Scenario / Qualification

## **VI TACTICS AND FORCE OPTIONS SCENARIOS** **USING SIMUNITION MARKING ROUNDS, TRAINING TASERS AND INERT OC**

**Tactics** – The simulation scenarios will be conducted in an open or designated structures area of the training facility. No live ammunition or firearms capable of firing live ammunition will be used in the scenarios. The scenarios each will have multiple endings/outcomes acted out by the role player, in an attempt to ensure each group is reacting to the unknown.

**Force Options** – The Force Options block was designed out of true data from the Santa Maria Police Department during its evaluations of use of force incidents. Use of force data reviewed suggests that officers are overly reliant on the Taser in non-lethal use of force applications. This includes the use of the Taser in inappropriate settings based on current case law regarding Taser application. Furthermore, even when the officers experience a failure of the device to control a suspect, officers are continuing to try to make the Taser work and are failing to transition to other options; baton, OC, physical force techniques. The scenarios in this block were designed in a way that either limits or enhances what tools are appropriate to control a suspect. There was also an emphasis on transitioning to other options when a failure of the first option occurred.

### **A. SAFETY BRIEFING AND COURSE INSTRUCTION (I.c)**

1. No live ammunition on course
2. No active less lethal munitions
3. Pat search for weapons/ammo prior to start of scenarios
4. Vehicles also searched for any live weapons/ammo
5. If the whistle is blown, all activity stops
6. The instructor will identify all safety requirements specific to the course

### **B. HIGH RISK TRAFFIC STOP (I.a) (I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g) (I.h) (I.i) (I.j)**

1. Officers will make a traffic stop on a confirmed stolen vehicle.
2. Did the officers coordinate their deployment?
3. Proper placement of vehicles?
4. Did the officers use good tactics (prone, cuffing, and clearing)?
5. The department's high risk traffic stop techniques will be discussed with the officers.

### **C. TRAFFIC STOP FOR MINOR VIOLATION (I.a) (I.b) (I.d) (I.e) (I.g) (I.h) (I.i) (I.j)**

1. Officers will make a traffic stop on vehicle for stop sign violation.
2. Outcomes and scenario will vary pending actions of role player.

- a) Comply with directives.
  - b) Exit vehicle shooting.
  - c) Suspect exits vehicle and produces pistol to his head (Suicidal)
  - d) Exit vehicle and try to return into vehicle.
  - e) Exit vehicle and produce non weapon.
3. Debrief / Discuss

**D. 911 PAYPHONE DISCONNECT (l.a) (l.b) (l.d) (l.e) (l.g) (l.h) (l.i) (l.j)**

1. Officers dispatched to 911 payphone hang up (NFI).
2. Outcomes and scenario will vary pending actions of role player.
  - a) Suspect ambushes officers from out of site.
  - b) Suspect is visible on arrival and fires on officers.
  - c) Suspect produces pistol to his head (Suicidal).
  - d) Suspect does not comply and escalates/de-escalates. Force options.
  - e) Debrief / Discuss

**E. COMMERCIAL BURGLARY ALARM (l.a) (l.b) (l.d) (l.e) (l.g) (l.h) (l.i) (l.j)**

1. Officers are dispatched to a 459 audible alarm at a small family business. Upon arrival they find the front door to the business is open.
2. Role player will sit deep inside business entry and attempt to shoot at officer's movement if angles/pie technique is not utilized.
3. Outcomes and scenario will vary pending actions of role player.
  - a) Did officer pie the entry point?
  - b) Did officer use angles to their advantage?
  - c) Did officer display false security in hugging the wall?
  - d) Did officer communicate with partner on movements?
4. Debrief / Discuss

**F. BICYCLE STOP (l.a) (l.b) (l.d) (l.e) (l.g) (l.h) (l.i) (l.j)**

1. Officers will stop a subject on a bicycle for a minor violation.
2. The suspect will provide various levels of resistance / un-cooperation.
3. Officers will need to decide what level of resistance is being provided and chose the appropriate level of force to overcome the suspect; verbal commands, hand techniques, OC, baton, Taser.
4. In some instances the force option will be effective and in other instances it will not. If not, the officers need to have the mindset to recognize the ineffectiveness of the chosen option, and should immediately transition to another force options.
5. The scenarios will unfold in a manner that makes some force options clearly inappropriate for the level of resistance being offered. This is to ensure the officers have a clear understanding when they should or should not use a particular force option with respect to law, ethics and policy.

**G. DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE (l.a) (l.b) (l.d) (l.e) (l.g) (l.h) (l.i) (l.j)**

1. Two Officers will respond to a domestic disturbance in progress where they will encounter a male suspect in the front room.
2. The suspect will provide various levels of resistance / un-cooperation.
3. Officers will need to decide what level of resistance is being provided and chose the appropriate level of force to overcome the suspect; verbal commands, hand techniques, OC, baton, Taser.
4. In some instances the force option will be effective and in other instances it will not. If not, the officers need to have the mindset to recognize the ineffectiveness of the chosen option, and should immediately transition to another force options.
5. The scenarios will unfold in a manner that makes some force options clearly inappropriate for the level of resistance being offered. This is to ensure the officers have a clear understanding when they should or should not use a particular force option with respect to law, ethics and policy.

**H. SHOPLIFTER IN CUSTODY (l.a) (l.b) (l.d) (l.e) (l.g) (l.h) (l.i) (l.j)**

1. Two Officers respond to a shoplifter in custody at a store.
2. The un-handcuffed suspect will provide various levels of resistance / un-cooperation.
3. Officers will need to decide what level of resistance is being provided and chose the appropriate level of force to overcome the suspect; verbal commands, hand techniques, OC, baton, Taser.
4. In some instances the force option will be effective and in other instances it will not. If not, the officers need to have the mindset to recognize the ineffectiveness of the chosen option, and should immediately transition to another force options.
5. The scenarios will unfold in a manner that makes some force options clearly inappropriate for the level of resistance being offered. This is to ensure the officers have a clear understanding when they should or should not use a particular force option with respect to law, ethics and policy.

**VII DEBRIEF / EVALUATIONS**