**Date Revised:** 11/06/19

**Event Goal:** To teach recruit officers when and how to use reasonable force.

**Session Goal:** To evaluate the students' competency in handgun takeaway and retention techniques.

**Required Test:**
- An exercise test that requires the student to demonstrate competency in handgun takeaway techniques including a minimum of one handgun takeaway technique from both the front and rear position **[33.X.F]**.
- An exercise test that requires the student to demonstrate competency in handgun retention techniques.  The exercise will include a minimum of one technique to be demonstrated from the following positions **[33.X.G]**:
  - A holstered handgun front retention technique
  - A holstered handgun rear retention technique
  - An unholstered handgun retention technique

**Session Time:** 1 hour

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**Resources:**
- Mat room
- First aid kit/AED
- Replica firearms (2 per instructor)
- Clipboards (1 per instructor)
- Gun Takeaways grading sheets (1 per student)
- Weapon Retention grading sheets (1 per student)

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**Session Summary:**  The students will review all handgun takeaways and retention techniques.  They will then be evaluated on each of these techniques.  After the test, the instructor will conduct an overhead facilitated discussion regarding weapon retention and de-escalation of force.

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| Outline | Instructor Notes |
|---|---|
| I.  Weapon retention and force options<br>   A.  Remember your drawing and exhibiting policy **[1]**<br>      1.  You may not draw your weapon because you learned a technique that included drawing<br>      2.  You can only draw your weapon when the specific circumstances fall within the LAPD drawing and exhibiting policy | **Run exercise test** (45 minutes) – <u>Handgun Takeaways and Retention</u><br><br>**Facilitated discussion** (15 minutes):<br><br>**[1] Ask** – What is the LAPD drawing and exhibiting policy?<br>**[2] Ask** – Can you draw your firearm just because you learned a technique that involved drawing? |

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3. Must always be able to articulate why you drew your weapon

B. Deadly force options **[3]**
   1. May only be used when the situation warrants its use based on the LAPD use of deadly force policy
   2. Deadly force may not be used simply because it is part of a technique
   3. Every situation is different and only reasonable force may be used based on the specific circumstances

C. Non-lethal force options **[4]**
   1. It may not always be best to draw your weapon
   2. There may be times where your weapon is safest in the holster
   3. You may need to transition to kicks and strikes or other personal weapons
   4. Impact weapons could be appropriate
   5. The level of force must be reasonable based on the specific circumstances confronting the officer at the time

D. Attempt to deescalate the situation whenever possible **[5]**
   1. Give clear, concise commands to the suspect
   2. Be prepared to transition to any force option based on the suspect's actions
   3. Every situation is different and constantly evolving
      a. When one force option fails, be ready to use another
      b. If compliance is obtained, adjust the level of force accordingly, but maintain control
   4. Be ready to reduce the amount of force used when safe and appropriate to do so based on the totality of the circumstances

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**[3] Ask –** What is the LAPD use of deadly force policy?

**[4] Ask –** When would it be best to use a non-lethal force option after using a weapon retention technique?

**[5] Ask –** What are some of the things you can do to deescalate a use of force, specifically a weapon retention situation?

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**Exercise Test – Handgun Takeaways and Retention**

**Purpose:** This activity will evaluate the students' ability to demonstrate gun takeaways and weapon retention techniques.

**Description:** The instructor will first notify the class that this is an evaluated activity and ask if there are any final questions before the test begins.  The students will then wait outside in pairs to be called in by an instructor.  Each available instructor (use as many as are available) will call in a pair of students and test them individually, with one student acting as the suspect, and the other as the officer being evaluated.

The instructor will order the student to demonstrate front gun takeaway, rear gun takeaway, weapon retention from the unholstered position, and weapon retention from the holstered position – front and rear.  The instructor should use the appropriate gun takeaways and weapon retention grading sheets to evaluate the student.  After evaluation, the students will switch roles and the new officer will be evaluated in the same manner.  Once both students have been evaluated, the instructor will call another pair of students into the room for testing.

**Resources needed:**
- Mat room
- First aid kit/AED
- Replica firearms (2 per instructor)
- Clipboards (1 per instructor)
- Gun Takeaways grading sheets (1 per student)
- Weapon Retention grading sheets (1 per student)

**Required Test:**
- An exercise test that requires the student to demonstrate competency in handgun takeaway techniques including a minimum of one handgun takeaway technique from both the front and rear position **[33.X.F]**.
- An exercise test that requires the student to demonstrate competency in handgun retention techniques.  The exercise will include a minimum of one technique to be demonstrated from the following positions **[33.X.G]**:
    - A holstered handgun front retention technique
    - A holstered handgun rear retention technique
    - An unholstered handgun retention technique
- The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:
    - Safety
    - Awareness
    - Balance
    - Control
    - Controlling force
    - Proper techniques
    - Verbal commands/instructions
    - First aid assessment

**Time required:**  1 hour