Session 9 – Patrol Techniques LD 21- Patrol Techniques

Date Revised: 11/08/19

Course Goal: To teach recruit officers the different types of patrol strategies and patrol patterns.

Session Goal: To teach recruit officers both Directed and Preventative Patrol concepts. The recruits will also understand the importance of having a proper mental attitude for survival.

Learning Objectives:

- Discuss patrol strategies officers may employ to provide protection and service within their assigned areas of patrol, to include: Preventative and Directed enforcement [21.I.A.1,2]
- Discuss considerations for selecting a patrol strategy. [21.I.B]
- Select appropriate actions for peace officers who are conducting security checks. [21.I.C]
- Select appropriate actions officers should take to maintain their own safety and the safety of others while on patrol. [21.I.E]
- Describe patrol officer responsibilities when preparing for each patrol assignment, to include checking all personal equipment, acquiring any necessary information and materials/supplies, inspecting each piece of equipment issued at the beginning of shift and mental preparation. [21.II.A.1,2,3,4]
- Discuss tactical considerations and guidelines for patrolling effectively, determining appropriate speed, patrol vehicle placement, avoiding silhouetting and telltale noise. [21.II.B.1,2,3]
- Discuss safe and effective tactics for initiating a foot pursuit of a fleeing subject. [21.II.G]
- Session Time: 1.5 hours

Resources:

- Classroom with tables
- White board
- Dry erase markers
- Patrol bag containing items used for patrol
- 1. **Session Summary**: The instructor will conduct a facilitated discussion in the classroom regarding the general concepts of patrol techniques. The instructor will show the recruit officers different equipment/materials carried while on patrol.
- 2.

Outline	Instructor Notes	
L. Conoral Concents of Patrol		
I. General Concepts of Patrol		

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- 1. Patrol is a high frequency/high risk duty that uniformed officers are called upon to perform daily.
- 2. Due to the repetitive nature of patrol there is a fundamental misnomer, patrol is "routine."
- 3. There is nothing that is "routine" about uniform patrol

B. Officer Safety Techniques

- 1. Mental preparedness before being deployed to the field [1]
 - a. When a police officer goes to work every day, the duties are diametrically different than a grocery clerk, a teacher, or a lawyer
 - b. Statistically there is an inherent risk as a uniform officer
 - c. Get your mind right!
- 2. The "Ten Fatal Errors"
 - a. Improper attitude (e.g., personal distractions)
 - b. Tombstone courage (give example) [2]
 - c. Not enough rest
 - d. Ignoring danger signs (give example)
 - e. Failure to watch the suspect's hands
 - f. Improper handcuffing
 - g. No search or poor search
 - h. A dirty or inoperative weapon
 - i. Placing self in a position of disadvantage
 - j. Relaxing too soon
- 3. The "Commandments" for survival; Appropriate actions officers should take to maintain their own safety and the safety of others while on patrol [21.I.E]
 - a. Maintain a positive attitude
 - b. Be alert to danger signals
 - c. Watch the hands ("the hands kill you") [3]
 - d. Communicate
 - e. Always know your location
 - f. Maintain proficiency with weapons
 - g. Keep physically fit [4]
 - h. Search methodically and carefully

Facilitated discussion in the classroom 1.5hrs

- ✓ Service to our communities
- ✓ Respect for people

[1] Ask- Why is being mentally prepared important?

[2] Ask- What is Tombstone Courage?

[3] Ask- Why is it important to watch the suspect's hands?

[4] Ask- Why is physical fitness so important?

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i. Maintain/inspect all of your equipment at the beginning and at the end of your patrol shift [21.II.A.1,3] [5] [6]

[5] Ask- Why is it important to inspect all of your equipment at the beginning and end of your patrol shift?

[6] Ask- Why is it important to

clean/oil your firearm?

- C. Key learning points
 - 1. Keep position of advantage
 - 2. Don't become complacent
 - 3. Think defensive
 - 4. Stay alert
 - 5. Examine your tactics
 - 6. Maintain your personal equipment
 - 7. Be mentally prepared
- II. Patrol strategies officers may employ to provide protection and service within their assigned areas of patrol [21.I.A]
 - A. Preventative Patrol [21.I.A.1]
 - Effective patrol is comprised of both protection and service.
 Preventative patrol is specified to the element of protection. [7]
 - 2. It has been consistently demonstrated that visible uniform presence reduces criminal activity.
- [7] Ask- What is Preventative Patrol?

- B. Directed enforcement [21.I.A.2]
 - 1. Directed patrol targets specific areas with specific crime, problems, and concerns unique to that area.
 - a. Directed enforcement can reduce traffic collision rates when resources are directed towards specific types of violations (i.e., speeding violations, cross walk violations, double-parking in front of schools, etc.) [8]
 - b. Drug violations can be suppressed by directed enforcement during known peak hours of drug trafficking
- C. Four basic elements of preventative patrol
 - 1. Frequent checks of business, residences or other high-risk crime targets/area.
 - 2. Looking for and talking to suspicious persons.
 - 3. Varying patrol patterns
 - 4. Maintaining high visibility.

[8] Ask- What are examples of Directed Patrol?

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- D. Businesses, residences and high-risk crime target areas
 - 1. Checks of structures should concentrate on the following:
 - a. Broken windows
 - b. Open windows
 - c. Pry marks
 - d. Presence of suspicious vehicles and persons in the area.
 - e. Property damage and vandalism.
 - f. Unusual conditions (e.g., lights out, which are normally on, illegally parked vehicles, missing street signs.)
 - g. Access to roof.
- E. Select appropriate actions for peace officers who are conducting Security checks [21.1.C]
 - 1. Maximum coverage of the basic car area, including secondary thoroughfares (e.g., alleys, walkways, parks.)
 - 2. Constantly varying patrol patterns.
 - 3. Extra patrol in high crime areas,
 - 4. Employing additional patrol methods when possible (foot patrol, bike patrol, surveillance.)
 - 5. Checking abandoned or suspicious vehicles in the area.
- F. Open door of closed businesses/unoccupied dwellings (forced or unforced) [9]
 - 1. Notify communications.
 - 2. Maintain surveillance and establish perimeter.
 - 3. Request additional units, back up units or other resources.
 - 4. Initiate a tactically sound search of the building.
 - 5. Complete the appropriate report and attempt to notify the owner or the alarm company and leave a LAPD form 2.90 if appropriate
 - 6. Assume tactics for open door where there is evidence of crime.
 - 7. If premises cannot be secured and the owner cannot be notified or refuses to respond, leave a note and business card and record your efforts in the Daily Field Activities Report (log.)
 - 8. Return to patrol as soon as possible
- G. Suspicious persons stop (field interview)
 - 1. Officers shall have a lawful reason to detain and conduct a "check" of a suspicious person.

[9] Ask- While doing a security check you find an open door, what would you do?

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- a. Reasonable suspicion-Enough facts and information to make it reasonable to believe that a crime has occurred, is occurring, or is about to occur and the person to be detained is connected to that activity.
- b. Officers must deploy appropriate tactics when initiating contact with a suspicious person.
- 2. Officers should utilize effective tactical communication skills when contacting suspicious persons.
 - a. Officers should explain to the individual why they were stopped and the authority for the stop. This will minimize hostility and apprehension.
 - Officers should avoid becoming "defensive" or officious or engaging in a dialogue concerning the authority of a legal detention.
- 3. Want/Warrant Check
 - a. Employ proper radio communication procedures.
 - b. Provide the following information (using a FI):
 - c. Full name (last name first, first name, middle name).
 - d. Race and sex.
 - e. Color of hair and eyes.
 - f. Height
 - g. Weight
 - h. Date of birth
- H. Extra patrol locations [10]
 - 1. Areas that justify extra patrol because of likely criminal activity
 - a. Shopping centers
 - 1) Purse snatches
 - 2) Auto burglaries
 - b. School grounds
 - 1) Narcotics activities
 - 2) Child molesters
 - 3) Gang activity
 - c. Nightlife locations
 - 1) Bars and after hour establishments
 - 2) Casinos
 - 3) Sports arenas

[10] Ask- What are some extra patrol locations?

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- d. Pedestrian traffic/low light locations
 - 1) Bus stops
 - 2) Isolated restaurants
 - 3) Bars
 - 4) Parks
 - 5) Convenience stores
- 2. Potential problem areas for uniform patrol
 - a. Youth congregations
 - 1) Recreation centers
 - 2) School dances
 - 3) Gang locations (look for graffiti)
 - 4) Amusement parks
 - 5) Public parks
 - 6) Sporting events
 - b. Adult congregations
 - 1) Bars
 - 2) Sporting events
 - 3) Concerts
 - 4) Beaches
 - 5) Parks
 - c. Hazardous locations/poor road conditions
 - 1) Dirt roads
 - 2) Dead end streets
 - 3) Unmarked streets
 - 4) Inferior/inadequate lighting
 - 5) Construction zones
 - 6) Degraded streets
 - d. Property susceptible to arson/fire
 - 1) Abandoned buildings
 - 2) Open fields
 - 3) Chemical factories
 - 4) Oil refineries
 - 5) Train yards
 - e. Water areas that pose risk or hazard
 - 1) Ponds
 - 2) Commercial pools

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- 3) Aqueducts
- 4) Reclamation projects
- 5) Reservoirs
- f. From high crime locations to public safety concerns, extra patrol locations cover a wide array of considerations.

 Commercial areas pose different concerns than industrial areas. Areas with a high frequency of crime pose a different patrol concern than a quiet residential area. But remember, all extra patrol locations are unpredictable and complacency is a "fatal error" that can make you just another officer murdered statistic.
- III. Considerations for selecting a patrol strategy [21.I.B]
 - 1. Personnel and equipment can be deployed to meet specific needs.
 - a. Undercover for narcotic violations
 - b. Traffic units for vehicle code violations
 - c. Special Enforcement Units for Criminal Street gang problems.
 - d. Vice units for ABC violations
 - 2. Patrol considerations for problem areas.
 - a. Basic Car /Area conditions
 - b. Crime analysis and statistical information
 - 1) Traffic collision profiles
 - 2) Burglary from motor vehicles
 - 3) Narcotic activity
 - 4) Street robberies
 - 5) Crime Analysis Data can assist patrol officers in apprehending criminal offenders by projecting frequency, date, and time that a crime is likely to occur.
 - c. Geographical considerations
 - 1) Beach detail may require off road vehicles or horse patrol
 - 2) Mall areas or heavily traveled streets may require bicycle patrol
 - 3) Realistically, uniform patrol cannot answer radio calls for service in their area and secret themselves in an observation post surveying criminal activity. Calls for service and the general press of business mandate that an

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officer prioritizes activities. However, by knowing the basic car area and patrolling areas where problems are or likely to occur, officers effectively direct their efforts in areas to proactively impact the quality of life for the community's stakeholders

- B. Key learning points
 - 1. Types of patrol
 - 2. Extra patrols and problem areas

Know the area that you are working. There are basically three stakeholders to the community; those that live there, those that own business or property, and those that work there. As an officer assigned to a basic car in an area, you are one of the stakeholders in the community. Get to know the nuances and personality of the area that you work. Knowledge of your area is a tactical consideration as well as a commitment to service to those who depend on you to serve and protect.

End 1 hour

methods?

IV. Patrol Methods [11]

- A. Foot Patrol
 - 1. Highly visible patrol method
 - 2. Preventative Patrol
 - 3. Direct contact with the community or public
 - a. Advantages: [12]

b. Disadvantages: [13]

- 1) Close contact with public
- 2) Easy movement in congested area.
- 3) Better access to public
- 4) High visibility suppresses criminal activity
- 5) More effective observations of buildings and passageways.
- 6) Can adopt an apprehension posture (covert) depending on individual circumstances
- 7) Optimal when combined with motorized patrol.

[13] Ask- What are the disadvantages of foot patrol?

[12] Ask-What are the advantages of foot patrol?

[11] Ask- What are some patrol

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- 1) Unable to participate in extensive patrol over a large geographical area.
- 2) Criminal offenders generally can observe officers.
- 3) Limits ability of officers to carry and deploy additional equipment.
- 4) Limits response time to problem locations.

B. Vehicle Patrol

- 1. Most common method of patrol
- 2. LAPD Service Identification Letters.

The following letters indicate the type of service to which mobile radio units are assigned:

Tau	dulo utilità are assigneu.				
a.	Α	Basic car plan unit			
b.	Air	Air patrol unit			
c.	В	Two-officer patrol wagon			
d.	С	Bicycle detail			
e.	E	Traffic enforcement unit			
f.	FB	Uniformed Foot beat patrol			
g.	G	Gang Enforcement Detail			
h.	J	Juvenile unit			
i.	L	One officer unit.			
j.	M	Traffic enforcement motorcycle unit			
k.	N	Narcotics			
I.	R	Metropolitan unit			
m.	RA	Fire Department rescue ambulance unit			
n.	Т	Traffic Accident investigative unit			
0.	U	Report-taking unit			
p.	V	Area vice unit			
q.	W	Geographic detective unit			
r.	Χ	Additional patrol unit in an assigned area			
s.	Υ	Unit assigned to Criminal Intelligence group			

3. Advantages

t. Z

- a. Provides wide coverage of an area.
- b. Permits considerably more calls for service to be handled

Response Car/Felony Car)

Geographic uniformed special detail

- c. Allows officers to challenge mobile offenders
- d. Reduces response time
- e. Allows officers to carry additional equipment

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- f. Black and White vehicles are highly visible
- g. Allows easy transportation of prisoners

4. Disadvantages:

- a. Lack of direct contact with public
- b. Maintenance expenses
- c. Limits observation
- d. Conspicuous visibility exposes officers

C. Bicycle Patrol

1. Emerging as a popular and effective patrol method

- 2. Advantages? **[14]**
 - a. Extremely quiet and can be used in apprehension patrol
 - b. Extremely maneuverable
 - c. Cost effective patrol method
 - d. Close contact with the community
 - e. Visible patrol and can be used in preventative patrol.

3. Disadvantages?

- a. Limited response time.
- b. Can be affected by weather.
- c. Limits type of officer who can work the detail.

D. Motorcycle Patrol

- 1. Most typically used for traffic enforcement.
- 2. Advantages
 - a. Extremely maneuverable.
 - b. Valuable for patrolling off road areas.
 - c. Under some circumstances, stealthier than a police vehicle.
- 3. Disadvantages
 - a. Generally noisy and inappropriate for covert activities.
 - b. Limited resource for general patrol.
 - c. Can be affected by the weather.

E. Mounted Patrol

1. The "horse patrol" is community friendly and has multiple assets.

[14] Ask- What are the advantages of bicycle patrol?

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2. Advantages

- a. Valuable for patrolling congested urban areas.
- b. Valuable for patrolling rural areas and off-road terrain.
- c. Mounted officers have an exceptional platform from which to observe.
- d. Valuable in controlling large crowds, riot control and parade security.

3. Disadvantages

- a. Impractical as radio response unit.
- b. Transportation of horses from one location to another can present logistical issues.
- c. Can be affected by weather.

F. Aircraft Patrol ("Air Ship")

1. One of the most effective observational platforms available to uniform patrol.

2. Advantages [15]

- a. Greatest single resource for patrolling a large geographic area.
- b. Can dramatically compliment grounds units:
 - 1) Vehicle pursuits.
 - 2) Setting up perimeters
 - 3) Searching (infrared/spot lights)
 - 4) In special circumstances a quick and effective rescue vehicle.

3. Disadvantages

- a. Generally speaking, officers in an aircraft (Air ship) will not land to intervene in an enforcement situation.
- b. The aircraft may be grounded by inclement weather.

V. Patrol officers' responsibilities when preparing for each patrol assignment [21.II.A]

A. Mental Preparedness

- 1. There is nothing "routine" about uniform patrol.
- 2. Get in the right frame of mind.

[15] Ask- What are the advantages of the Air Ship?

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- B. Acquiring any necessary information and materials/supplies [21.II.A.2]
 - 1. The Duty Bag contents [16]
 - a. Ballistic helmet and shield
 - b. Trauma Kit
 - c. Money envelopes
 - d. Property bags
 - e. Extra ammo magazines/ammo (primary/back up.)
 - f. Shotgun butt cuff.
 - g. Flex cuffs/appropriate tool to cut the cuffs (do not use a knife.)
 - h. Mirror
 - i. Binoculars
 - j. Extra flashlight/bulbs/batteries
 - k. Camera
 - I. Rubber gloves
 - m. Rain gear
 - n. Rubber bands
 - o. Personal first-aid kit.
 - p. Personal Citation Book (ticket book)
 - q. Necessary reports
 - 1) Investigative Report (I.R.)
 - 2) Vehicle Impound Report
 - 3) Injury Investigation Report
 - 4) Death Investigation Report
 - 5) Continuation Report
 - 6) Property Receipt (10.10)
 - 7) Missing Person Report
 - 8) Emergency Protective Order (E.P.O.)
 - 9) Crime Scene Log
 - 10) Victim Supplemental Property Loss Report
 - 11) Traffic Report
 - 12) False Alarm Notification (2.90)
 - 13) Exchange of Information (T/C (4.37))
 - 14) Private Person Arrest Form.
 - 15) Consent to Search Form.
 - 16) Taking Action Pamphlet.
 - r. Sanitary hand cleanser
 - 2. Inspecting Personal Equipment [21.II.A.1] [17]

[16] Ask- What are some items we carrying in our "war bag"/equipment bag?

(The instructor will show numerous items that are carried in the "war bag")

[17] Ask- Why do you inspect your personal equipment?

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- a. All weapons and tactical equipment should be inspected before every shift in the field.
- b. Never to let anyone else inspect your equipment
- 3. Inspecting issued equipment at the beginning of shift [21.II.A.3]
 - Officers should be particularly scrupulous in their inspection of the following equipment that is jointly used by other officers:
 - 1) Patrol vehicles:
 - a) Fuel
 - b) Emergency Equipment (light bar, sirens, etc.)
 - c) Tires/Brakes
 - d) Shotgun release
 - e) Clear the car for contraband
 - f) Trunk (spare tire, jack, first-aid kit, crime tape, cones, etc.)
 - b. Shotgun
 - a) Safety check (B.E.E.F.S.S.) LAPD
 - b) Proper fit and operation of shotgun release.
 - c. Proper ammunition (dated ammo)
 - d. Radio
 - a) Properly charged
 - b) Extra battery
 - c) "Radio Check"
 - e. TASER (Code Tom) LAPD
 - a) Properly charged
 - b) Intact field cartridges
 - c) Properly secured in holster
 - f. Bean Bag Shotgun (Code Sam) LAPD
 - a) Safety Check
 - b) Proper ammunition
 - c) Properly secured in carrying case
- VI. Tactical considerations and guidelines for patrolling effectively [21.II.B]
 - A. Basic Vehicle Patrol Techniques
 - 1. Determining appropriate speed [21.II.B.1]
 - a. Slower speeds provide a maximum opportunity to observe surroundings.
 - b. Slower speeds reduce engine noise, which allows you to approach location undetected.

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2. Avoiding silhouetting and telltale noise [21.II.B.3]

3. Windows down [18]

- a. There are few excuses to patrol in a marked black and white police vehicle with the windows rolled up.
- b. Windows rolled down afford the officer to hear ambient noises that can alert them to danger.
- c. Windows rolled down afford an officer to hear a citizen calling for assistance.
- d. Windows rolled down can offer an opening and the opportunity and ability to deploy a weapon in an immediate threshold situation.

4. Selecting a traffic lane

- a. Which lane an officer chooses to travel depends on traffic conditions, time of day and type of patrol activity.
 - 1) The number one lane
 - 2) Advantages
 - a) Can easily negotiate a U-turn to travel in opposite direction.
 - b) In a Code-3 situation can more easily access opposite traveled lanes to get around congested traffic.
 - c) Generally, the best lane for observing traffic.
 - d) A desirable lane for flexibility.

3) Disadvantages

- a) Prohibits easy access to possible pedestrian stops.
- b) Depending on the address and the side of street of a location, prohibits fluid approach to target location.
- c) Difficult to patrol at a reduced speed (impedes the flow of traffic.)

5. Curb side lane

- a. Advantages
 - 1) Easier access to the sidewalk for pedestrian stops.
 - 2) The best lane choice for travelling at reduced speeds.
 - An advantageous lane for hearing any unusual noises or citizen flag downs.

[18] Ask- Why do we patrol with our windows down?

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b. Disadvantages [19]

- 1) Generally, traffic flow is not fluid in the curb lane.
- 2) Vehicles making right hand turns.
- 3) Vehicle double parking or legally parallel parking
- Pedestrians crossing at intersections perpendicular to the direction of travel impede vehicles from negotiating righthand turns.
- 5) Limited escape routes
- 6) Curb/parked vehicles to the right side.
- 7) Flowing traffic to the left.
- 6. Patrol vehicle placement [21.II.B.2]
 - 1) A reasonable effort should be made to park the police vehicle in a lawful manner.
 - 2) Tactically park vehicle in a manner that allows rapid egress and ingress.
 - 3) Unlawful parking, although seeming insignificant, has a negative effect on an ever-scrutinizing public
 - 4) Drive-in fast food locations [20]
 - 5) Waiting in line at a pick-up window is a formula for disaster. Always consider a position for rapid escape in this position. Generally, officers should consider an alternative to this compromising position.
- VII. What If a suspect flees on foot?
 - A. The successful outcome of a foot pursuit depends strongly on preparation and the ability to maintain a tactical advantage.
 - B. Safe and effective tactics for initiating a foot pursuit of a fleeing subject. [21.II.G]
 - C. Why are you running after the suspect?
 - 1. Do you have a crime and if so what type?
 - a. Narcotics activity
 - b. Gang activity
 - c. Prowler Burglar
 - d. GTA BFMV
 - e. Vandalism
 - f. Contempt of cop
 - 2. What is the area like that you are running in?
 - a. Business district
 - b. Residential housing

[19] Ask- What are some disadvantages for driving in the curb side lane?

[20] Ask- What are the disadvantages of being in a fast-food drive thru?

[21] Ask- Why is it important to know the area you're running into?

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c. Apartment – Condominium complex d. Housing projects e. Gang infested 3. Are you allowing the suspect to lead you into an ambush? a. Gang area b. Unusual circumstances 4. Do you follow the same path as the suspect? a. Never jump over walls or fences exactly where the suspect did Key learning points: End 1.5 Types of patrol Personal equipment Patrol strategies Patrol officers' responsibilities when preparing for patrol