Session 1 – Sit Sim Village Tour - Ambush LD 23- Crimes in Progress

Date Revised: 11/13/19

Course Goal: To teach recruit officers how to respond to a crime in progress.

Session Goal: To teach recruit officers how to respond to an ambush and the tactical considerations when confronted with an ambush. The students will understand the importance of being both mentally and physically prepared.

Learning Objectives:

- Distinguish between officer safety and officer survival, including: current patterns related to deaths and assaults on peace officers, the concept of "will to survive," officer actions after being wounded, officer as hostage, officer actions in counter-ambush incidents when on foot, officer actions in counter-ambush incidents when in a patrol vehicle. [23.I.B.1,2,3,4,5,6]
- Demonstrate effective officer actions for the safe and tactical response involving violent suspects. [23.IV.A.2]
- Demonstrate effective officer actions for the safe and tactical response involving officer ambush/sniper attacks. [23.IV.A.4]
- The student will participate in a learning activity that reinforces an understanding of law enforcement response to a variety of high-risk situations, including person with a gun. [23.VI.A.1]
- Effective decision making to enhance tactical readiness. [23.VI.C.2]

Session Time: 2 hours

Resources:

- Classroom with tables
- White board
- Dry erase markers
- Projector with computer connections
- Inert handgun for each recruit
- Blank gun
- 1 radio for emergency notifications
- First aid kit

Session Summary: The students will gather in the Davis Training Facility Village (Sit Sim Village). The students will be issued inert handguns and then an ambush will occur. The students will react. The instructors will demonstrate a proper response to an ambush. The students will then go back to the classroom where a facilitated discussion will take place. The students will later return to the village and demonstrate how to respond to an ambush.

	Outline	Instructor Notes
Definition of an ambush		The class will begin in the village where they all
A.	An ambush is a surprise attack that contains three basic elements [1]	will be issued inert handguns. They will be told that anytime they are in the village they will ha an inert handgun. They will form up in classroo
	 Surprise Keeps an officer off balance and confused Keeps the officer guessing what the attackers are going to do next Keeps the pressure on the officers resulting in mistakes made by officers 	formation in front of their break room. They will be told they will be given a tour of sit sim villag At this time they will be ambushed from the top of the break room balcony. The students will react. (Approximately 15min) (Instructors will demonstrate a proper response to an Ambush before returning to the classroom Learning Activity 1 - Demonstration of response
	 Mass Firepower Includes auto pistols, semi and automatic weapons, explosive devices, shotguns etc. Produces Panic High rate of casualties Equipment destruction Situation from which there may be no escape 	to an Ambush After the ambush the instructors will take the students back to the classroom where there w be a facilitated discussion. [1] Ask- What is an ambush?
	 3. Hit and run tactics a. Destroys officer's morale b. Allows smaller number of attackers to succeed in engaging numerically superior forces c. Excels in speed of movement, set up time and escape d. Not reacting to an ambush has been the greatest cause of death to officers e. Not preplanning for ambush 	

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unprepared if the situation ever				
arises				
B. Statistics (FBI statistics from DOJ 2001 LE				
Officers Killed and Assaulted). [23.I.B.1]				
1. United States				
a. Between 2009-2013, 56 officers				
have been killed from Ambush				
attacks				
b. 2009-15				
c. 2010-15				
d. 2011-15				
e. 2012-6				
f. 2013-5				
C What are notential ambuch sites?				
C. What are potential ambush sites? [2]	[2] Ask- What are some potential ambush sites?			
1. Often traveled routes to and from				
the station or command post. Avoid				
routine routes.				
2. Code-7 locations or coffee spots				
3. Cul-de-sacs, dead ends, alleys, one				
way streets, "T" intersections, etc.				
4. Congregation of police officers after				
incidents or hot calls				
incluents of not calls				
5. Formations of officers during unusual				
occurrences such as:				
a. Demonstrations				
b. Strikes				
c. Riots				
D. What are some of the types of				
ambushes?	[3] Ask-What is the strategy of an ambush?			
1. The strategy of an ambush is to Trap,	Let i se and is the strategy of an amoust?			
Isolate, and Kill [3]				
2. Deliberate Ambush				

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		LD 23- Crime	s in Progress
	a.	Planned and executed as a	
		separate operation	
	b.	Prior planning, preparation and	
		even possible rehearsal	
	c.	Can be carried out by one or	
		more persons	
	d.	The fewer number of persons	
		involved makes it easier to	
		execute and escape after contact	
	e.	Executed by luring police into a	
		prepared ambush position	
	f.	Suspects need to know exact	
		location of officers such as:	
	g.	Command posts	
	h.	Congregation of large amounts of officers	
	i.	Phony telephone calls bringing	
		the officer's to a staged location	
3.	Spo	ontaneous Ambush [4]	
	a.	Preplanned surprise attack	[4] Ask- What is a Spontaneous Ambush?
	b.	Only executed if the	
		circumstances benefit the	
		attacker	
		1) Example: Foot pursuit of a	
		robbery suspect. Suspect	
		turns the corner and waits in	
		order to attack the officer as	
		the officer turns the corner.	
л	0-	nortunity Ambuch	
4.	a.	portunity Ambush Unplanned surprise attack	
	a. b.	Normally executed during the	
	υ.	commission of a crime	
		1) Example: Suspects with a	
		planned response to certain	
		routines expected by officers.	
		Officers' conduct vehicle stop	
		on suspects. During the stop	
		officer's commit tactical	
		error's which allow suspects	
		error s which allow suspects	

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	to execute the preplanned			
	attack.			
E. \	What are some of the ways to prepare			
	ourself? [5]	[5] Ask- How can you prepare yourself for work?		
,				
1	I. Maintain a positive attitude			
2	 Officers need to keep their minds on their job and not carry personal problems into the field 			
3	 Carrying personal problems into the field leads to the commission of errors 			
Δ	 Errors made can place officers and peers at risk 			
5	 Know your limitations a. No room for tombstone courage, your vest only stops handgun rounds and only covers part of your body. If time allows, take cover and wait for backup 			
F	6. Get enough rest [6]			
	a. Adequate rest is essential to	[6] Ask- Why is getting enough rest important?		
	perform effectively			
	b. Failure to get enough rest leads			
	to sloppy performance which			
	leads to a decline in professional			
	standards. Endangers officers			
	and community			
7	7. Do not ignore danger signs			
	a. Remain alert to danger signs such			
	as:			
	1) Movements			
	2) Strange vehicles			
	3) Other warning signs or pre-			
	incident indicators which			

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		should prompt a cautious	
		approach	
		4) Know your beat area	
8.	Do	o not relax too soon	
	a.	Do not become complacent.	
		Repeat calls that are false and	
		tend to make officers careless.	
		Never assume that a call is false	
	b.	Because of our uniforms and	
		marked police vehicles, we are	
		constantly under the scrutiny of	
		both the community we serve	
		and those criminal components	
		of the community who wish to	
		harm officers	
			[7] Ask- Why is it important to properly use your
9.	Us	e your handcuffs properly [7]	handcuffs?
	a.		
		assaulted or killed by suspects	
		who were under arrest but not	
		properly handcuffed.	
	b.	Example: May 19, 1998, two	
		Tampa Police Detectives were	
		shot and killed transporting a	
		suspect whose hands were	
		handcuffed in the front.	
	c.	Remember to search suspects	
		properly	
		1) One weapon recovered	
		during the search of a	
		suspect should prompt	
		officers to believe that there	
		are additional weapons	
		secreted on the suspect [8]	
		2) Search prior to	
		transportation. If only	[8] Ask-Why do we search a suspect before
		transporting for another unit	transporting?
		and the suspect has already	
		been searched, search again	
		[8]	

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 3) Do not limit your search of the suspect for weapons only. Other item's which can aid in escape, such as handcuff keys should be removed from suspects prior to transportation. (Tampa Bay incident above) 10. Maintain your equipment [9] [21.II.A.1,3] a. Officers should make sure they have all of their equipment with them prior to beginning patrol functions b. Officers should make sure their firearms are cleaned and oiled periodically c. Officers should make sure that their firearm is loaded prior to beginning patrol functions d. Officers should ensure that all of their equipment such as handcuffs, leather gear, OC spray, etc. are in good working order 	Why is it important to do a thorough search? [9] Ask- Why is it important to maintain your equipment?
 11. Maintain proficiency with your firearms and other skills a. Firearms, grappling, control holds, handcuffing, etc. are all perishable skills [10] b. Officers need to make time in their personal lives to practice the above skills c. Practicing allows officers to react to their training when confronted with incidents in which force is required 	[10] Ask- What skills in police work are perishable (firearms, grappling, handcuffing, etc.)?
12. Stay physically fit [11]	

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a.	Officers are confronted daily with		
	tasks that require physical effort	[11] Ask- Why must officers stay physically fit?	
b.	Officers should participate in		
	activities that build physical		
	strength and cardiovascular		
	endurance		
c.	Officers who are physically fit		
	recover from injury faster than		
	those who are out of shape		
13. M	ental preparation [12]		
[2	1.II.A.4]		
a.	Officer survival refers to an		
	officer's state of mind and		
	physical reaction to a direct	[12] Ask- What does mental preparation mean to	
	attack or assault. Officer survival	you?	
	includes:		
	1) Effective training		
	2) Mental		
	preparation/rehearsal		
	3) Physical fitness		
	4) Confidence		
	((A); += ; -= "; == = == = += [42]		
D.	"Will to live" is a mental [13]		
	commitment to never give up		
	[23.I.B.2]		
	 Mind and body work in harmony 	[13] Ask- What is "Will to live" mean?	
	2) Appropriate responses are		
	based upon training and		
	experience		
	3) Even if injured, an officer can		
	resist and successfully survive		
	an ambush		
	4) Even if injured, never give		
	up! Communicate and keep		
	fighting [23.I.B.3]		
F. What	are some counter ambush	End 1 hour	
techni	ques? [23.I.B.5,6] [14]		

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1.	The best way to survive an ambush is	[14] Ask- What are some counter ambush		
	to identify the ambush before it	techniques?		
	occurs			
2.	Prior to reaching a location, consider			
	staying back approximately one block			
	to observe the area			
3.	Consider using the spotlight. Officers			
	may see the suspects in time to take			
	evasive action			
4.	Routine actions must be reduced to a			
	minimum such as			
	a. Common response routes			
	b. Avoid often used and exposed			
	coffee spots			
5.	Avoid being boxed in your police			
	vehicle in dead ends			
<i>.</i>				
6.	Be alert for possible B/O calls or			
	when a call generated by an officer is			
	determined to be B/O			
7	Avoid walking down narrow			
/.	pedestrian passageways, gates or			
	bushes. Avoid walking close together			
	with your partner if possible			
8	Enter locations one at a time			
0.				
9.	Be aware of your surroundings at			
_	community meetings or command			
	posts			
	F			
10.	Be aware of police actions which may			
	lead to retaliation			
11.	Know the gang hangouts and narco			
	sales locations in the area			
L				

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 12. If an officer becomes a hostage from an ambush, an officer should use every tactical tool at his/her disposal to avoid surrendering their weapon. [23.I.B.4] [15] 13. Communicate with your partner beginning of watch to come up with a game plan in case there is an officer hostage situation. [15] 	[15] Ask- What would you do if your partner became a hostage? (LAPD manual section 1/564 Officers Surrendering Weapon)		
 G. What are some of the ways to survive an ambush? [23.IV.A.4] 1. You have approximately two seconds 			
 1. Four nave approximately two seconds to act after being fired upon. This includes your reaction time of ¾ of a second. a. Determine the location of the suspect [16] b. Return fire and simultaneously move to cover c. Do not turn your back and run 	[16] Ask- How do you survive an ambush?		
 d. Returning fire may be the officer's best defense against the suspect's offense [17] e. Attempt to maintain a visual on the suspect's location. This limits the suspect's ability to move to another position and enables you to prevent responding units from entering the kill zone 	[17] Ask- Why do you not turn your back?		
 f. Movements should be deliberate and rapid g. Only consider moving from cover if the position becomes tactically 			
inferior h. Keep low and move from cover to cover in short sprints i. Initiate a "Help Call"	Ask- What can be used as cover?		

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		s in Progress
	1) It is the ambushed officer's	
	responsibility to obtain	
	assistance	
	2) Broadcast location, suspect	
	description, type of weapon	
	used, etc.	
	Do not direct responding	
	units into the kill zone	
	4) If the suspect is using a high	
	powered rifle, advise the air	
	unit [18]	
H. Ve	hicle considerations [23.I.B.6]	[18] Ask- Why do we want to notify the air unit if
1.	If police vehicle is being fired upon,	the suspect has a rifle?
	take the first driveway, opening or	
	space that is available in order to	
	drive out of the immediate kill zone	
	[19]	
	a. This action will get officers out of	
	possible secondary ambushes	[40] Add. If a disc webids is being fixed was
	most of the time	[19] Ask- If police vehicle is being fired upon, what are some tactical options to drive out of the
		ambush?
2.	Try to deploy to the same side of the	
	street as the suspect(s)	
	a. This causes suspect(s) to change	
	their position in order to get	
	another shot at officer	
	b. May allow officers to outflank	
	the suspect(s)	
_		
3.	If in a business district without	
	driveways consider	
	a. Driving onto the sidewalk	
	b. Using a doorway	
	c. Breaking a window or glass door	
	in order to get out of the kill zone	
4.	If the suspect(s) has the high ground	
	in an urban environment, drive	
	directly toward the suspect. This	
	tactic will likely cause the suspect(s)	
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		LD 23- Crime	s in Progress
		to shoot high over a rapidly	
		approaching vehicle	
	5.	Reversing or negotiating a U-turn	
		should be discouraged. Slowing down	
		or stopping the police vehicle causes	
		a time delay which allows the	
		•	
		suspect(s) to concentrate fire on the	
		vehicle	
	c	Unan varabing source as we wight	
	6.	Upon reaching cover, communicate	
		with other officers	
Ι.	W/F	nat are some post ambush	
		nsiderations? [20]	
		Initiate a "Help" call and advise units	
	1.	·	
		of appropriate response routes,	[20] Add. What should the breadcast consist of if
		suspect location and description,	[20] Ask- What should the broadcast consist of if
		types of weapons, etc.	you get ambushed?
	2	Officers should attempt to keep eyes	
		on the suspect(s) in order to limit	
		suspect's movements	
		suspect s movements	
	3.	Coordinate a perimeter to contain	
		the suspect(s)	
		1 ()	
	4.	Request an air unit but not in the	
		immediate area if the suspects are	
		using high powered rifles	
	5.	Request Fire Department for officers	
		or citizens down	
	6.	Establish a command post but not in	
		the kill zone	
	7.	Request a supervisor to respond to	
		the command post	
	8.	Request K-9 units and coordinate a	
		search team	

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9.	Request SWAT if the situation dictates	
10.	Keep an open line of communication with the units on the perimeter updating the suspect(s) location, description, etc.	
11.	Protect the crime scene	
12.	Evacuate the surrounding area	
13.	Deploy the UPR or SSA if the situation dictates	
14.	If the suspect(s) is in custody, maintain a perimeter and request the appropriate detectives and S.I.D. Protect the crime scene	End hour 2 (Learning activities 2-4 will be utilized during pedestrian stop)

Event 9 – Critical Incident Session 1 – Sit Sim Village Tour - Ambush LD 23- Crimes in Progress

Learning Activity 1- Demonstrate effective officer actions for the safe and tactical response involving Officer ambush/sniper attacks. [23.IV.A.4, 23.IV.A.2]

Purpose: The instructors will demonstrate the proper response when reacting to an ambush.

Description: Two instructors will work as partners walking through the cul-de-sac of sit sim village towards the two-story residence. One instructor will act as the suspect and will emerge from the second story balcony of the two-story residence. The suspect will ambush the officers from the balcony of the residence. The suspect (instructor) will fire a blank weapon with the blank ammunition at the officers.

The two instructors (officers) will demonstrate the proper reaction to the ambush. The officers will identify where the threat is and return fire while moving to cover. The officers will not turn their back while moving to cover. Once they have reached cover and there is a break in the action, the officers will request help and coordinate responding unit's arrival while maintaining a view of the suspect's location.

Suspect behavior:

- Aggressive
- Deadly

Resources needed:

- Inert handgun for the instructors
- Blank gun for the suspect

Key learning points:

- Identify the threat
- Return fire
- Move to cover
- Don't turn you back!
- Request help

Event 9 – Critical Incident Session 1 – Sit Sim Village Tour - Ambush LD 23- Crimes in Progress

Learning Activity 2 – Practical Application- Ambush [23.VI.A.1, 23.VI.C.2]

Purpose: The students will demonstrate the proper reaction to an ambush.

Description: After being issued inert handguns, the students will gather in the cul-de-sac of sit sim village to do a review of Pedestrian Stop tactics. An instructor, acting as an ambush suspect will hide in the second story room of the hotel. After the review has begun, the suspect will emerge from the room and onto the balcony and fire at the students using the blank gun. Students should react to the ambush as taught during the facilitated discussion in the classroom.

Suspect behavior:

- Aggressive
- Deadly

Resources needed:

- Inert handgun for each recruit
- Blank handgun

Key learning points:

- Identify the threat
- Return fire
- Move to cover
- Don't turn you back!
- Request help

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Learning Activity 3- Practical Application- Ambush [23.VI.A.1]

Purpose: The students will demonstrate the proper reaction to an ambush.

Description: After returning from a break the students will gather in front of the brown building (bar) located in sit sim village. An instructor posing as a suspect will hide on the top of the "Georgia Street Balcony." As an instructor begins to speak to the class, the suspect will emerge from cover and fire blank ammunition at the students. The students should react as taught during the facilitated discussion in the classroom.

Suspect behavior:

- Aggressive
- Deadly

Resources needed:

- Inert handgun for each recruit
- Blank handgun

Key learning points:

- Identify the threat
- Return fire
- Move to cover
- Don't turn you back!
- Request help

Event 9 – Critical Incident Session 1 – Sit Sim Village Tour - Ambush LD 23- Crimes in Progress

Learning Activity 4- Practical Application-Ambush [23.VI.A.1]

Purpose: The students will demonstrate the proper reaction to an ambush.

Description: The students will gather on the island by the bus stop in sit sim village. The instructor will begin a UOF/UODF review. An instructor posing as a suspect will be hiding on the patio area adjacent to the lunch room. As an instructor begins to speak to the class, the suspect will emerge from cover and fire blank ammunition at the students. The students should react as taught during the facilitated discussion in the classroom.

Suspect behavior:

- Aggressive
- Deadly

Resources needed:

- Inert handgun for each recruit
- Blank handgun

Key learning points:

- Identify the threat
- Return fire
- Move to cover
- Don't turn you back!
- Request help