

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms**  
**Session No. 5 – Failure to Fire Malfunction**

Hours: 2

**LD 35 (RBC Calendar Location Week 4)**

LOCATION: Designated Safe Training Area

TRAINING NEEDS: None

HANDOUTS: None

**LD 35 V.C1**

**Learning Objectives:**

- Reinforce prior pistol manipulation skills.
- **Describe the types of malfunctions and demonstrate clearing methods for semiautomatic pistols. (35.V.C.1)**

**I. Conduct drills to reinforce the previously taught pistol manipulation skills:**

A. Assemble the class in a safe training area and conduct training drills to reinforce the following pistol manipulation skills that have been previously taught.

1. Drawing and Holstering
2. Chamber Checks: Daytime and Low-Light
3. Loading and Unloading
4. Tactical Reload
5. In-Battery and Out-of-Battery Speed Reloads

**II. Introduction to the Failure to Fire Malfunction**

A. Explain the following information regarding the pistol Failure to Fire malfunction to the recruits in a class circle. Refer to Chapter 8 in the Basic Firearms Manual.

1. The ability to immediately recognize and clear a malfunction is essential to an officer's survival in a gunfight.
2. A malfunction is defined as an unexpected and unintentional interruption in the normal firing sequence, and that can be quickly corrected by the shooter.
3. Discuss the possible causes of the pistol Failure to Fire malfunction.
4. It is recommended that clearing malfunctions should be performed, if possible, utilizing cover.

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**B. Introduce and demonstrate the steps for identifying and clearing methods for semi-automatic pistols - Failure to Fire malfunction. (LD 35 V.C1)**

1. In a class circle, explain that a Failure to Fire malfunction occurs when the shooter attempts to fire a round and feels normal trigger action with no discharge of a round.
2. The proper identification of the Failure to Fire malfunction occurs through the proper awareness of the trigger action. There is no need for the shooter to visually examine the pistol.
3. Explain and demonstrate in a class circle to the recruits the proper steps for clearing a Failure to Fire malfunction as per Chapter 8 in the LAPD Basic Firearms Manual.
4. Remind the recruits that they can review all pistol manipulations by watching the firearms training video on their Academy DVD, as well as reading their issued LAPD Basic Firearms Manual.

**C. PRACTICAL APPLICATION: Failure to Fire malfunction clearance drills.**

1. Return the recruits back to their training formation and conduct drills to teach and reinforce the proper techniques for identifying and clearing a Failure to Fire malfunction.
2. Have the students load snap caps in each of their three magazines.
3. Reinforce the proper steps for loading, unloading, and out-of-battery speed reloads as the students conduct drills to experience, identify and clear the pistol malfunctions.
4. Inform the students that while an out-of-battery speed reload is taught as a reload, it will be tested as a type of malfunction during their LAPD Pistol Manipulations Test.
5. Remind the students to keep their trigger finger off the trigger and alongside the frame while clearing a malfunction.

**D. Clean up and Conclusion**

1. Pick up all snap caps and magazines. Conduct a visual inspection of all magazines before having the recruits put them away in their range bags.
2. Have the recruits return their pistols to the gun boxes.
3. Remind the recruits to practice their manipulations at home.
4. Instruct the recruits to read Chapter 6 in their Basic Firearms Manual in preparation for the next session where they will learn how to properly disassemble and lubricate their pistols.