

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 6 – Field Stripping & Lubrication Points, Care and Cleaning

Hours: 2

LD 35 (RBC Calendar Location Week 5)

LOCATION: Range

TRAINING NEEDS: Pistol, Gun Cleaning Supplies

HANDOUTS: None

LD 35 IV.A,B,C; VIII. D1-3

Learning Objectives:

- **Peace officers must know how to properly inspect, clean, and care for their firearms to ensure that they function safely and effectively. (35.IV)**
 - **Describe the components that may present problems and that should be examined during a routine safety inspection (35.IV.A)**
 - **Describe the materials, equipment, and environment, needed to properly clean firearms (35.IV.B)**
 - **Apply routine procedures for cleaning firearms (35.IV.C)**
- **The student will participate in a learning activity to reinforce the ability to inspect, clean and properly maintain their service handgun. The activity shall minimally include techniques to: (35.VIII.D)**
 - **Visually inspect the weapon (35.VIII.D.1)**
 - **Properly clean the weapon (35.VIII.D.2)**
 - **Ensure the weapon is maintained according to the manufacturer's specifications (35.VIII.D.3)**
- Reinforce prior pistol manipulation skills.
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- Introduce and explain the process for field stripping the pistol.
- Identify the seven lubrication points.

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
 6. Failure to Fire Malfunction

II. Introduction to Field Stripping the Pistol and Lubrication Points

- A. Explain the following information regarding field stripping the pistol to the recruits in a class circle. Refer to Chapter 6 in the Basic Firearms Manual.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 6 – Field Stripping & Lubrication Points, Care and Cleaning

1. Before beginning the disassembly process, ensure that the pistol is unloaded.
2. During the field stripping process, the pistol will only be disassembled down to its major components.
 - a. Slide
 - b. Barrel
 - c. Recoil Spring Assembly
 - d. Frame.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 6 – Field Stripping & Lubrication Points, Care and Cleaning

3. Only a Department Armorer is authorized to disassemble the slide and frame in any greater detail.
- B. Introduce and demonstrate the steps for field stripping, reassembly, and function checking the striker-fired, semiautomatic pistol.
1. While still in a class circle, explain that the method they will learn to disassemble the pistol does not require the shooter to press the trigger in order to remove the slide from the frame.
 2. Note: There is a method of disassembly where the shooter presses the trigger before removing the slide from the frame. However, they will not be learning it and they are discouraged from utilizing it (unless they are shooting a Glock, which requires the trigger to be pressed).
 3. At this time, separate any students who are shooting a Glock striker fired pistol from students who are shooting a Smith and Wesson M&P striker fired pistol
 4. Explain and demonstrate in a class circle to the recruits the proper steps for field stripping, reassembly, and function checking a striker fired pistol as per Chapter 6 in the LAPD Basic Firearms Manual.
 5. After demonstrating the complete process, disassemble the pistol one more time and cover the 7 lubrication points. Finish by reassembling the pistol and performing a proper function check.
 6. 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: Field strip, Reassembly, and Function Check.
1. Return the recruits back to their training formation and conduct drills to teach and reinforce the proper techniques for field stripping, reassembly, and function checking their pistol.
 2. Remember to group shooters according to the specific manufacturer of their pistol (S&W or Glock) as the procedures are different.
 3. Conduct several repetitions of the complete disassembly and reassembly process, including the function checks.
 4. Then have the students field strip their pistols and identify the lubrication points on their pistols. The instructor may choose to have the students pair up and point out the lubrication points to each other in order to practice reciting the proper terminology for the lubrication points.
 5. Then give commands to have the students reassemble their pistols and perform the proper function checks.
 6. Inform the students that field stripping, reassembly and function checks, along with identifying the 7 lubrication points will also be tested during their LAPD Pistol Manipulations Test.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 6 – Field Stripping & Lubrication Points, Care and Cleaning

LD 35 IV.A,B,C; VIII. D1-3

Learning Objectives:

Peace officers must know how to properly inspect, clean and care for their firearms to ensure that they function safely and effectively. **(35.IV)**

- Describe the components that may prevent problems and that should be examined during a routine safety inspection. **(35.IV.A)**
- Describe the materials, equipment, and environment needed to properly clean firearms. **(35.IV.B)**
- Apply routine procedures for cleaning firearms. **(35.IV.C)**

The student will participate in a learning activity to reinforce the ability to inspect, clean, and properly maintain their service handgun. The activity shall minimally include techniques to:

- Visually inspect the weapon.
- Properly clean the weapon.
- Ensure the weapon is maintained according to the manufacturer's specifications.

I. REQUIRED LEARNING ACTIVITY: Care and Cleaning of Firearms

A. Describe the materials, equipment, and environment needed to properly clean firearms. (LD 35 IV.B)

1. Assemble the students in a safe training area and have them field strip their pistols.
2. Bring the recruits back into the classroom and conduct the following training there with their disassembled pistols.
3. Have the students remove all of the cleaning supplies that came in their shooting bags. An instructor may choose to use their personal cleaning materials and equipment during the following demonstration or utilize a recruit's for the demonstration.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 6 – Field Stripping & Lubrication Points, Care and Cleaning

4. Identify and describe the purpose for each of the following items and materials necessary to clean firearms. Some or most of these items should be in the recruits' shooting bags.
 - a. Solvent
 - b. Oil
 - c. Rod
 - d. Bore brush (bronze not stainless)
 - e. Jag or eye
 - f. Patches
 - g. Toothbrushes (for cleaning)
 - h. Bronze toothbrush
 - i. Cotton applicators (similar to Q-tips)
 - j. Rag
 - k. Bore snake (optional)
 - l. Pipe cleaners (optional)
5. Explain that when cleaning a firearm and using solvent, the cleaning area should be well ventilated.
6. The area should also have no live ammo close by.

**Note: BEFORE CLEANING, VERIFY THAT THE FIREARM IS UNLOADED.
REMOVE ALL AMMUNITION FROM THE CLEANING AREA.**

B. Apply routine procedures for cleaning firearms (LD 35 IV.C)

1. Demonstrate and explain the procedures for properly cleaning a pistol using a demo pistol that already has been field stripped.
2. Do not allow the students to open their bottles of solvent in the classroom. Have them perform the following procedures dry.
3. Point out to the students that the following cleaning procedures follow a routine. A routine promotes a proper and thorough cleaning process. The routine follows the order of the barrel, the recoil spring assembly, the slide, and then the frame.
4. **Required Learning Activity:** The student will participate in learning activity to reinforce the ability to inspect, clean and properly maintain their service handgun. The activity shall minimally include techniques to:
 - Visually inspect the weapon
 - Properly clean the weapon
 - Ensure the weapon is maintained according to the Manufacturer's Specifications

(LD 35 VIII.D1-3)

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 6 – Field Stripping & Lubrication Points, Care and Cleaning

- a. Run a solvent soaked patch first one time, and then a bronze bore brush through the barrel approximately 5-10 times. Push dry patches through the barrel until they come out dry. Then run a solvent soaked patch through the barrel. Leave the solvent in the barrel and let it soak while you clean the rest of the gun. Remind students to always insert the brush and rod from the chamber end of the barrel when cleaning the barrel.
- b. Use a nylon brush to clean the barrel lug and exterior of the barrel. Then wipe off the outside of the barrel until it is clean and dry.
- c. Clean the recoil spring assembly with a terrycloth rag. Use a nylon brush if necessary to clean between the coils of the spring. Wipe it dry.
- d. Wipe the exterior and interior of the slide with a clean, dry rag.
- e. Detail-clean the inside of the slide with a dry, nylon brush and dry Q-tips. When cleaning the breech face of the slide, point the slide downward so that any debris will fall away from the firing pin hole in the breech face. For areas of heavy carbon build-up, use a Q-tip soaked in solvent to clean the area and then immediately wipe dry.

CAUTION: Do not allow solvent to get into the firing pin channel as well as on the tritium night sights.

- f. Begin cleaning the frame by using a clean, dry rag to wipe the exterior and interior of the frame.
- g. Then detail-clean the inside of the frame with a dry, nylon brush and dry Q-tips. For areas of heavy carbon build-up, use a Q-tip soaked in solvent to clean the area and then immediately wipe dry. Ensure that all of the inside corners have been cleaned.
- h. Go back to the barrel and run a wet, bronze bore brush through it several more times.
- i. Use the proper caliber jag and push dry patches through the barrel until one comes out clean and dry.
- j. Visually inspect the bore of the barrel to see if it is completely clean.
- i. If necessary, repeat the barrel cleaning steps until the bore is clean.
- j. After all the parts are clean and dry, conduct a thorough visual inspection of all parts of the pistol to ensure that there are no broken or cracked parts.

C. Demonstrate the proper lubrication points and procedures for oiling the pistol.

1. A needle-type applicator is strongly recommended when applying oil to the pistol.
2. Extreme care must be used when lubricating the pistol. It is worse for the pistol to have a little oil in the wrong places than to have a little too much oil in the right places.
3. Point out the proper lubrication points on the pistol and demonstrate the proper method and amount of oil that should be applied.
 - a. *Barrel* Exterior (behind the muzzle)
 - b. *Barrel* Lug
 - c. *Barrel* Hood
 - d. *Slide/ Barrel* Hood Contact Area
 - e. *Slide* Rail Cuts (both)
 - f. *Connector/ Trigger* Bar Contact Point
 - g. *Recoil* Spring Assembly

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 6 – Field Stripping & Lubrication Points, Care and Cleaning

4. Have the students properly apply oil to the lubrication points on their pistol. Instructors should walk around the classroom and visually check the recruits' pistols. Give feedback as needed.
 5. **CAUTION: Do not put oil inside the firing pin channel or magazine body. The firing pin channel, magazine body, and breach face should be wiped dry before re-assembly. Leaving solvent or lubricant in these areas could cause a failure to fire.**
- D. Demonstrate proper maintenance for the pistol magazines. Instruct the students to disassemble and clean **ONLY** one magazine at a time. This allows the student to have at least one magazine still assembled to serve as a model when reassembling the magazine.
1. Insert punch into the opening in the floor plate.
 2. Push the magazine insert down into the magazine tube, and with the punch still in place, pull the floor plate forward with the punch while holding firmly on the sides of the magazine near its base.
 3. Remove the floor plate, the magazine insert, the magazine spring, and the follower.
 4. **CAUTION: The magazine spring is under compression. Be sure to maintain downward pressure on the magazine spring with your thumb while disassembling. Failure to do so can result in an injury.**
 5. Run a clean rag through the magazine.
 6. Wipe off the spring with a rag.
 7. Clean the follower with a rag and a little solvent. Then wipe dry.
 8. Reassemble the magazine.
 9. Do not oil any parts of the magazine.
- E. **Describe the components that may prevent problems and that should be examined during a routine safety inspection (LD 35 IV A)**
1. LAPD Manual, Volume 3, Section 610.40, titled Maintenance of Firearms states, "Firearms carried on-duty shall be maintained in a clean, serviceable condition."
 2. Poor firearm care can lead to serious problems and malfunctions of the firearm. It is the responsibility of all peace officers to ensure their firearms are always reliable and operational. A firearm that fails to function could cost officers their lives or the lives of others.
 3. While performing cleaning and routine maintenance, officers should be looking for anything that appears to be loose, broken, or problematic. All repairs to City-issued weapons must be performed by a Department Armorer.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 6 – Field Stripping & Lubrication Points, Care and Cleaning

4. Problems that are identified during an inspection should be addressed as soon as possible. Parts of the weapon to be inspected are:

- Barrel
- Slide
- Frame
- Sights
- Firing pin
- Magazine

II. LAPD Written Test Review

- A. Remind the students that they must write the Four Basic Firearm Safety Rules verbatim in order to pass the test. The second section will require them to list the seven elements of marksmanship and answer multiple choice questions. A minimum score of 70% is required to pass the second section.
- B. Conduct a review of the following topics that have been previously presented in preparation for the LAPD written test in session 9.
1. Home storage of firearms and firearms safety
 2. Marksmanship Principles
 3. Pistol Nomenclature
 4. Range Safety
 5. Pistol Manipulations
 6. LAPD Firearms Policies
- C. Encourage students to review their notes and their LAPD Basic Firearms Manual in preparation for the written test.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 07 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 6 – Field Stripping & Lubrication Points, Care and Cleaning

Clean up and Conclusion

1. Pick up all snapcaps 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 clean, inspect and lubricate their pistols.