LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 7 Firearms
LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 25–Pistol Combat Drills

Hours: 2

LD 35 (RBC Calendar Location Week 13)

LOCATION: Range
TRAINING NEEDS: None
HANDOUTS: None

I. Live-Fire Range Drills: Skip Loading – Alternating Headshots (1/2 hour)

A. Instruct the recruits to skip load two magazines with 6 live and 3 snap caps per magazine. Have the recruits exchange magazines with a partner.
B. Fire the first magazine from the 36 foot line with alternating headshots. Begin with an empty chamber.
   1. Remind the recruits to perform an out-of-battery speed reload when their pistol goes to slide lock.
   2. Have the recruits use a self-imposed time limit for each magazine.
   3. Evaluate the targets- and give positive feedback to the recruits.
C. Fire the second magazine from the 36 foot line with alternating headshots.
   1. Have the recruits utilize a self-imposed time limit of 2 seconds per headshot for this magazine.
   2. When each shooter has completed firing the magazine, have them clear and holster an empty pistol.
   3. Once the line has been cleared by the rangemaster, move forward and evaluate the targets, mark all of the holes with circles, and give positive feedback to the recruits. Leave the targets in the frames for use in the next drill.
   D. Have the recruits pick up their magazines and snap caps.

II. Live-Fire Range Drills: Contrasting Distance / Speed (1/2 hour)

A. Instruct the recruits to load three magazines: 11L/ 2S, 9L/ 2S, 10L/ OS. Ensure that the recruits place 1 snap cap in the first half of the live rounds and 1 snap cap in the second half of the live rounds.
B. Place the blue, wood barricades at the 75 foot line and lay a white plastic barricade on the ground at the 30 foot line.
C. Have the recruits stand behind the barricade at the 75 foot line.
D. Beginning with an empty chamber and the 11L/ 2S in the pistol, give the command over the speaker system, “When the targets face, react.”

E. The shooters should draw and kneel and fire body shots on both targets in their lane. Then give the command to stand and holster.
F. Have the shooters move forward and mark their bullet holes with a line at the 12 o'clock position. This will identify those shots as phase 1.
G. Instruct the shooters to post the white plastic barricade at the 30 foot line.
H. The shooters should begin standing on the left edge of their lane.
I. Give the command, "Move" and then "Failure Drills" and then face the targets. The shooters should move to the barricade and fire failure drills on both targets in their lane. Give the command to the shooters to holster.

Note: The shooter has now fired 10 rounds. The condition of the pistol has a live round in the chamber and the magazine is empty. Some shooters may be aware of this and perform a reload. Others will do nothing. Debrief this point at the end of the drill.

J. When the line is safe, have the shooters lay the white plastic barricade on the ground to the right side of their lane and install the cap in the hole upside down.
K. Have the shooters move forward and mark their bullet holes with a line at the 3 o'clock position. This will identify those shots as phase 2.
L. Repeat this same sequence of steps at the 51 foot line with the blue, wood barricade and the white plastic barricade at the 21 foot line.
M. At the end of this phase, all pistols should be at slide lock. The shooters should immediately perform and out-of-battery speed reload with the final 10-round magazine. Give the command to all shooters to holster.
N. Mark the holes after each phase with marks at the 6 o'clock and 9 o'clock positions. This will identify phases 3 and 4 respectively.
O. Repeat this same sequence of steps at the 36 foot line with the white plastic barricade and the 9 foot line with no barricade for phases 5 and 6 respectively.
P. When the shooters are done at the 9 foot line, have them clear and holster an empty pistol.
Q. Explain to the shooters how to score the targets using the scoring method for the POST Pistol Combat Test (8,9,10 ring accuracy).
   1. There is no need to mark the last 10 rounds fired in phases 5 and 6.
   2. There are 30 shots total. Do not score the holes in the head that are circled from the initial skip load drill.
   3. 70% passing score would be a combined score of 21 hits. Record their score in their field officer's notebook.
   4. Replace the old targets with clean targets.
R. Have the recruits pick up their magazines and snap caps from the ground.

III. Range Drill Debrief (10-15 minutes)

A. Assemble the recruits in a class circle and debrief the following points from the previous drill.
   1. Management of ammunition during the drill.
      - Did they perform a tactical reload after phase 2?
      - How was the quality of their out-of-battery speed reloads?
      - Did they consider the condition of their pistol before moving?

   2. The use of cover.
      - Did they use the stand-off principle at the 21 foot line?
      - Did they use the barricades for cover and support?
      - Did they feel balanced while shooting around cover?
      - Did they use cover when reloading?

   3. Marksmanship Issues.
      - Did they see a proper sight picture at each phase for each shot?
      - Did they notice a contrast in their rate of fire (speed) from one distance to another?
      - Which was the fastest phase? Which was the slowest phase?
      - What would you do to improve if you could do this drill again?

B. Instruct the recruits that they are going to do this drill again

IV. Live-Fire Range Drills: Contrasting Distance / Speed (1/2 hour)

A. Instruct the recruits to load three magazines: 10L/ 2S, 10L/ 2S, 10L/ OS. Ensure that the recruits place 1 snap cap in the first half of the live rounds and 1 snap cap in the second half of the live rounds.
B. The skip loading sequence is slightly different for this drill. This loading sequence will require 2 out-of-battery speed reloads.
C. For this drill, have the recruits begin standing on the right side of their lane.
D. Repeat the steps for each of the 6 phases of the previous 30-round drill.
E. When the 30-round drill is over, instruct the recruits to stand by at the low ready with their slides locked to the rear awaiting inspection by an instructor.
F. Have the recruits move forward, score their targets again and record their scores, and then change out the dirty targets.
G. Quickly debrief the drill with the recruits and cover any significant points from the prior debrief.
H. 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, and to dry-practice.