

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Stand Alone 7 – LD 35 Firearms**  
**Session No. 28 – Shotgun Six-Point Safety Check (BEEFSS)**

Hours: 2

**LD 35 (RBC Calendar Location Week 14 Thursday)**

LOCATION: Range

TRAINING NEEDS: None

HANDOUTS: None

**LD 35 II.D4,**

**Learning Objectives:**

The student will participate in a learning activity to reinforce the ability to safely and effectively manipulate a shotgun. The activity shall minimally include techniques to:

1. Open the shotgun action and check for rounds
2. Inspect the functioning of the firing mechanism
3. Conduct a six point safety check of the shotgun (BEEFSS)

**I. Describe the basic information about shotguns, including steps for rendering the shotgun safe (LD 35 II.D4)**

- A. Assemble the recruits on the range in a class circle and review and demonstrate the steps for verifying the condition of a shotgun when the action is open and the shotgun is unloaded.
  1. Verify that the Action is open.
  2. Verify that the Safety is on.
  3. Visually and physically check the Loading Area through the ejection port.
  4. Visually and physically check the Magazine Tube
  5. Visually and physically check the Chamber
- B. Explain and demonstrate the process of engaging and disengaging the safety for right and left-hand shooters.
- C. Explain and demonstrate the process for closing and opening the action of the shotgun and the use of the lever known as the action release.
- D. Explain and demonstrate the process of conducting a chamber check and a low-light chamber check.

Note: Demonstrating these prior skills is necessary before a recruit will be able to conduct a six-point safety check utilizing BEEFSS. The recruits will then need to practice these skills before beginning learning BEEFSS.

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- E. At the conclusion of the demonstration, instruct the recruits to move to the rack of shotguns and pick up a shotgun using two hands. They should then step back and away from the rack, keeping the muzzle of the shotgun pointed straight up, and visually and audibly verify the condition of the shotgun.
- F. Once all recruits have a shotgun, assemble them in a class circle. Remind them to keep the muzzle pointed straight up.
- G. Explain and demonstrate the proper Port Arms position for right and left-hand shooters. It is important at this time to have determined which hand a recruit will be manipulating and shooting the shotgun with.

Note: This should be determined by asking the recruits who are cross-dominant eye pistol shooters whether they can close their dominant eye while keeping their NON-DOMINANT eye open. For example, can a right-hand pistol shooter, who shoots with their left eye, close their left eye while keeping their right eye open in order to shoot the shotgun with their right hand.

- H. Explain and demonstrate the process of conducting a Six-point safety check utilizing the acronym “**B.E.E.F.S.S.**” Refer to the LAPD Basic Firearms Manual, Shotgun Chapter 3 when conducting this demonstration.

- 1. **Barrel**
- 2. **Ejector**
- 3. **Extractor**
- 4. **Firing pin**
- 5. **Safety**
- 6. **Shell carrier**

- I.. Repeat the explanation and demonstration again while having the recruits follow along in the class circle. It is safe to do this as long as the recruits maintain a muzzle-up position of the shotgun. Have the assisting instructors position themselves around the class circle to assist with safety and instruction during the demonstration.
- J. Break the group into small groups and assign them to an individual range instructor for small group practice of BEEFSS. The Primary instructor should manage the time and progress of all of the groups by walking around the range and monitoring the training.
- K. After an appropriate amount of time has passed, reassemble the recruits in a class circle.
- L. Instruct them to go to the 51 foot line and verify the condition of the shotgun.
- M. Once they have accomplished this, give the command to place the shotgun on the ground with the muzzle pointed downrange and the ejection port of the shotgun pointing up. If rubber mats are present, instruct them to place the shotguns on the mats.
- N. Give the recruits a short break off the range.

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**II. Introduction to the Low Ready Position**

- A. Assemble the recruits back onto the range in a class circle.
- B. Explain and demonstrate the low ready position with the shotgun. Refer to the Basic Firearms Manual, Shotgun Chapter 4 when conducting this demonstration.
- C. Dismiss the recruits back to their individual lanes. Instruct them to pick up their shotguns with two hands and properly verify the condition of the shotgun as they were previously instructed.
- D. Give commands to teach and reinforce the recruits learning and assuming a proper low ready condition.
- E. Remember to allow the recruits to return to the port arms position on a regular basis in order to avoid wearing out their shoulder muscles.
- F. During this block of training, introduce the low-ready chamber check to the recruits while they are in the low ready position.
- G. Give commands to incorporate assuming the low ready position from the port arms, conducting a low-ready chamber check, and returning to the port arms position. Reinforce the proper position of the trigger finger.
- H. After several repetitions, introduce the concept of the trigger finger on the safety at the low ready position.
- I. Give commands to disengage the safety and bring the shotgun up on-target with the trigger finger on the trigger.
- J. Reinforce the concept of proper sight picture and have the line instructors assist the recruits with their head and shooting eye position.
- K. Give commands to press the trigger and cycle the slide. Do this several times so that the recruits will learn to associate cycling the slide with pressing the trigger.
- L. Instruct the recruits as to how to return to the low ready properly with their trigger finger alongside the receiver, scan and assess like they do with their pistols, and then re-engage the safety using their trigger finger.
- M. Have the recruits return to the port arms position to allow their shoulder muscles to rest briefly.
- N. Repeat this instruction as much as time permits.
- O. At the conclusion of the training session, have the recruits verify the condition of their shotgun one last time and then return the shotguns to the shotgun rack.
- P. Assemble the recruits in a class circle and answer any questions.
- Q. Instruct the recruits to read Shotgun Chapter 5 in their Basic Firearms Manual in preparation for their next training session.
- R. Remind the recruits that they have a video of all of the shotgun manipulations on their flash drive. Encourage them to watch that in order to review and prepare for future shotgun training.