

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

**Instructional Goal:** To enhance the Bicycle Patrol Officer's firearms and tactical skillset while on bicycle patrol

**Performance Objectives:** Using learning activities, lecture, and practical application, students will be able to:

- Understand the Safety Guidelines for the course
- Understand and apply department policies while on bicycle patrol
- Utilize proper shooting skills while deployed on bicycle patrol
- The student will understand how the Los Angeles Police Department's guiding value of Reverence for Human Life is the moral and ethical foundation of de-escalation, tactics, necessary force, and officer safety
- By the conclusion of the training, students will understand how the application of this training is in keeping with the Los Angeles Police Department's UOF policy, philosophical ideals, and the value of good tactical planning

**References:** Instructors, facilitators and training supervisors shall ensure that current references are utilized

**This course provides current Penal Code Section 835a content**

**I. INTRODUCTION / ADMINISTRATION**

**(30 min)**

- A. Instructor (s) Introductions
  - 1. Name, division
  - 2. Experience
- B. Emergency Forms and Safety Guidelines<sup>1</sup> **(PSP I c)**
  - 1. Complete class roster and emergency notification information
  - 2. Students shall notify the instructor(s) of any known pre-existing medical condition or restricted duty status, that is likely to be aggravated or impact performance during training
  - 3. Restricted / Light Duty status is generally a de-selector for bicycle training
  - 4. Students shall be required to provide evidence of medical or physical fitness for training if the instructor questions their ability to safely perform any training functions
  - 5. Students shall immediately notify an instructor(s) of the training staff of any injury sustained during training
  - 6. During the classroom and demonstration portion of the course, there is no requirement for specific student to instructor ratio
  - 7. During bike school operations, exercises, and practice, a ratio of at least one per ten students will be maintained
- C. Bicycle Safety Equipment

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<sup>1</sup> Los Angeles Police Department Bicycle Patrol School Expanded Course Outline 1850-23820

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

1. Helmet: Properly fitted, Department issued, American Society for Testing & Materials (ASTM) and/or Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) approved
2. Gloves: Department issued long or short finger gloves. Los Angeles Police Department issued bicycle patrol gloves come in a variety of sizes from small to extra-large. The gloves should fit the bicycle officer's hand snugly to avoid any interference during pistol manipulations
3. Glasses: Department issued or prescription, shatter resistant, protective eyewear
4. Ballistic vest: Department issued ballistic vest shall be worn by the students during all on bike training

**II. BIKE SCHOOL COURSE SPECIFIC SAFETY RULES <sup>2</sup> (30 min) (PSP I c)**

- A. Students will adhere to the posted speed limits over road and terrain while in route to the designated training location
- B. Immediately report any of the following to the instructor(s) and/or safety officer
  1. Immediately report all injuries
  2. Immediately report any unsafe conditions observed on the road and terrain courses
  3. Immediately report any damage to bike or property
- C. Response to Injuries
  1. Render first aid
  2. Obtain appropriate medical assistance
  3. Notify the fire department rescue ambulance via telephone or police radio giving specific directions to the location
  4. Send an instructor to meet the rescue ambulance and guide it to the location
  5. Clear the area of unnecessary personnel
  6. Retain the officer's equipment
  7. In case of serious injury, the following notifications need to be made
    - a. Instructor
    - b. Safety Officer
    - c. Officer-in-charge of Bicycle Coordination Unit
    - d. Commanding Officer Training Division
  8. Obtain names of witnesses
  9. Maintain an open telephone line for emergency communication
  10. Maintain a log of notifications
  11. The Instructor/Supervisor will ensure that all necessary Workers Compensation and other reports are completed in a timely manner
- D. Instructor Responsibilities
  1. The Supervisor and Primary Instructor will ensure that the routes to any off site training locations are reviewed prior to training activities
  2. Prior to beginning activities, the safety rules must be verbally reviewed and discussed as part of any Bike School Field Operations Training. The Firearms Bike Safety Guidelines will be reviewed and provided as a handout prior to the Firearms portion of the students training. Any additional rules that pertain to the

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<sup>2</sup> Los Angeles Police Department Bicycle Patrol School Expanded Course Outline 1850-23820

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

actual site of instruction or any special conditions, such as fire danger, shall be discussed

3. The primary instructor will be familiar with the training location and advise all students and instructors of special safety concerns such as fire danger, hazardous areas, etc. The primary instructor will ensure a first aid kit, water and adequate communications facilities are available on all training sites
4. Instructors will adhere to the "rainy day schedule" during inclement weather. During inclement weather the road and terrain surface will be reviewed prior to commencing training
5. Instructors shall advise the students of their responsibility to report and/or stop unsafe actions during training
6. All students should be encouraged to ask questions if they do not understand any directions given to them or if they are unsure of what is expected of them in any given situation
7. Instructors shall display an attitude of safety and professional demeanor at all times
8. The primary instructor will ensure that all assistant instructors will adhere to the POST-approved Expanded Course Outline and Bike and Firearms Safety Guidelines for the duration of the course
9. The following hospitals are the preferred hospitals for the corresponding training sites:

Elysian Park Academy:

Glendale Adventist Medical Center

1530 E. Chevy Chase Drive

Glendale, CA 91206

Telephone # (818) 409-8000

Davis Training Facility

Providence Holy Cross Medical Center

15031 Rinaldi Street

Mission Hills, Ca 91345

Telephone # (818) 365-8051

Emergency Room Extension: 84540

**III. FIREARMS SAFETY RULES AND RANGE SAFETY<sup>3</sup>**

**(30 min)**

**(PSP I c)**

A. The Basic Firearm Safety Rules

1. All guns are always loaded

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<sup>3</sup> Firearms Instructor Handgun Manual 1850-21460 II/A-G

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- a. Give the firearm the respect that it is due
    - b. Check every weapon every time you take possession of it
    - c. Never assume the weapon's condition
    - d. Familiarity breeds contempt and complacency
  2. Never allow the muzzle to cover anything you are not willing to shoot
    - a. Including parts of your own body
    - b. Removal of violators from the line
  3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are aligned on the target and you intend to shoot
    - a. Most violated rule
    - b. Must be enforced when on target (finger on) as well as when off target (finger Off)
  4. Be sure of your target
    - a. Know what it is
    - b. Know what is behind it
    - c. Know what is around it
- B. Ensure that the students understand the moral and legal responsibilities of home firearm storage as well as California Penal Code section 12035 **(PSPI h, j)**
1. States "Storage of a loaded or unloaded firearm in a manner that results in a child under 18 years of age obtaining or discharging it, or taking it off the premises or to a school, is punishable as either a misdemeanor or a felony depending on the circumstances and degree of any injury or whether there is a death"
  2. Some precautions to discuss could be
  3. Keeping ammunition secure and separate from the firearm
  4. Keeping the firearm in a locked container, such as a safe
  5. Utilization of a trigger locking device
  6. Disassembly of the weapon
- C. These safety rules are not designed solely for range use
1. They are designed for anyone who uses a firearm in any circumstance
  2. That being said, they should have a special meaning for anyone who is armed professionally
  3. They should be an ingrained part of every instructor's character
- D. Discuss the difference between an accidental discharge and a negligent discharge
1. Negligent Discharge: A discharge resulting from a violation of the safety rules
  2. Accidental Discharge: an unintended discharge when all safety rules are followed, e.g. a mechanical breakdown of the weapon
- E. Review instructor responsibilities regarding specific range rules **(PSP I c, h)**
1. Range rules for Los Angeles Police Department Ranges are located in Chapter 1 of the LAPD Manual of Arms
  2. The following are included in this ECO to foster a facilitated discussion in regards to HITS. However, The Manual of Arms should be consulted before beginning any independent training as the rules may have evolved
  3. With pistols so equipped, the de-cocking lever shall be in the down position before performing these three manipulations in a non-combat situation
    - a. Checking the chamber
    - b. Loading the chamber
    - c. Unloading the firing chamber
  4. Handguns will be in one of three places

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- a. On the firing line aimed at the target
- b. On the firing line in a low ready or close contact position
- c. In the holster

5. All firearms training will be adequately supervised by someone in authority
6. All safety precautions must be adhered to and absolutely enforced
7. HITS qualified officer must be on the range during operation
8. Strict discipline must be maintained
9. Never anticipate a command
10. Immediately upon picking up a firearm, open the cylinder or action to ensure it is unloaded
11. Never give a firearm to or take a firearm from any person if the cylinder or action is not open, unless told to do so by an instructor on the firing line
12. Ensure there are no obstructions in the barrel of a firearm before loading
13. When manipulating a firearm keep it pointed in a safe direction at all times
14. Do not permit the muzzle of the weapon to touch the ground
15. Never go in front of the firing line until the firing line has been cleared or otherwise declared safe and the command to go forward is given
16. Do not dry fire on the range, except under the supervision of or with the approval of an instructor
17. Holster all handguns and secure all shoulder firearms before picking up dropped ammunition or equipment
18. Pay strict attention to the range officer
19. While not actually on the firing line, all handguns shall be carried holstered or empty with cylinder open, or magazine removed and with slides locked back
20. Anyone participating in training, whether shooter, observer, or instructor, has the authority to call a "cease fire" if they observe an unsafe action or condition that may cause injury or death and/or damage to facilities
21. No smoking, eating, or drinking on the firing line
22. No student will be permitted on the range if there is knowledge or reason to believe such person has consumed alcoholic beverages, drugs or medication which might impair the student's ability to comprehend instructions and handle a weapon safely
23. No talking on the firing line except by the instructors or to answer a direct question asked by an instructor or as necessary when acting as a student coach
24. While a firearm is being cleaned, live ammunition shall not be allowed in the cleaning area

**F. Range safety plan**

**(PSP I c)**

1. Overview Range Safety Plan: Illness and Injury Prevention Program (IIPP)  
DISTRIBUTE and discuss safety guidelines handout
2. IIPP safety guidelines apply to all training given by the Department. These guidelines ensure that staff and participants are aware of potentially hazardous situations and how to avoid them
3. All personnel should be instructed that a copy of the IIPP is located in the training supervisor's office at that particular training site
4. Anyone participating in the training, whether student, observer, or instructor, has the authority to "STOP" the exercise if they observe an unsafe act or condition that may cause imminent injury or death and/or damage to the facilities

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

5. Protective eyewear and ear protection (American National Standards Institute (ANSI) approved) shall be worn if blanks or live-fire rounds are used during a practical application or during any demonstration using the same
6. Students shall immediately notify an instructor(s), or the training staff of any injury sustained during training, and use the following steps in the event of a serious injury
  - a. Render first aid and obtain appropriate medical assistance. Notify the Fire Department rescue ambulance (213-485-6185) via telephone, cellular phone, or police radio. Give specific directions to the location of the incident
  - b. In case of a serious injury, all IIPP notifications and protocol shall be followed
  - c. At each training location, there is a notebook located in the training unit's office also containing the emergency plan that is in place
  - d. The supervisor will ensure that the necessary worker compensation forms (PDAS-43) and other reports (Employee Notification Form 15.7) are completed in a timely manner
  - e. Transport to the local hospital for a minor injury

Davis Training Facility

Providence Holy Cross Medical Center  
15031 Rinaldi Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345 (818) 365-8051

Elysian Park Facility:

Glendale Adventist Medical Center  
1530 E. Chevy Chase Drive  
Glendale, CA 91206  
(818) 409-8000

7. Off-site locations
  - a. Must be inspected and approved by Medical Liaison Section
  - b. Must have an offsite safety plan at the actual location
8. Safety Equipment
  - a. American National Standards Institute (ANSI) eye and ear protection is required for any live fire or blank fire training
  - b. Basic first aid kit for incidental, non-serious injuries
9. Safely setting up the range and the safe use of steel targets
  - a. A minimum of one yard distance should be used with paper targets to avoid having the muzzle blast destroy the targets and stir up debris
  - b. With multiple targets, ensure that the downrange area is clearly delineated
  - c. Distance markers should be located outside the movement area of the range or should be painted on the ground to avoid presenting a tripping hazard

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- d. The range should be cleared of all non-essential debris prior to training, and police calls should be conducted regularly to ensure a safe training area
- e. Loading/unloading/safety tables should be set up behind the range or off the range to avoid having muzzles in unsafe directions
- f. Examine steel targets and target stands carefully for unsafe conditions
- g. Steel targets with bullet holes in them are unsafe due to penetration and ricochet concerns
- h. Steel targets with have been dented by powerful projectiles (as opposed to shallow surface dimpling caused by handgun projectiles) are unsafe due to inconsistent deflection and ricochet concerns
- i. Steel targets that have been warped into convex or concave shape through heavy use or abuse are unsafe due to inconsistent deflection and ricochet concerns. Ensure that the steel targets are fairly flat and uniform across their surface area before using
- j. Steel targets must be emplaced at an angle less than 90 degrees to the ground
- k. Steel targets must be emplaced a minimum of 10 yards from the shooter or any bystanders
- l. If steel targets are angled to each other, there must be a minimum distance of 10 yards between each target
- m. Body armor and a ballistic helmet are recommended in addition to eye and ear protection

10. Medical Emergency Plan

- a. In place in case of accident or emergency
- b. May require an ambulance or an air unit
- c. Designate the appropriate Hospital
- d. Make sure all students know where it is
- e. Select and discuss the designated route for non-emergency transportation
- f. Identify the two officers best qualified to render aid in the event of an accident or emergency (I/e, Paramedic, combat medic, or EMT training)

11. Safety Briefing at training sites

- a. Basic safety and range rules review
- b. Medical plan review and assignments if needed
- c. Instructor Ratios
  - 1) 1 to 5 on the line
  - 2) 1-1 if moving

G Los Angeles Police Department color coding of weapons

**(PSP I c,h)**

- 1. Unmarked
  - a. No color code
  - b. Lethal weapon
- 2. Orange
  - a. "Inert" or non-firing
  - b. Demonstration model
- 3. Red weapon
  - a. Laser equipped
  - b. Inert training
- 4. Blue
  - a. Inert
  - b. Marking or paint projectile

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- 5. Yellow
  - a. Inert
  - b. Capable only of firing blank cartridges
- 6. Bright Green (Less Lethal only)
  - a. Bean bag
  - b. Rubber or foam projectile

**IV. INTRODUCTION TO CONTROL AND DE-ESCALATION**

**(45 min)**

**A. Tactical De-Escalation defined**

Tactical de-escalation involves the use of techniques to reduce the intensity of an encounter with a suspect and enable an officer to have additional options to gain voluntary compliance or mitigate the need to use a higher level of force while maintaining control of the situation

**1. Tactical de-escalation techniques**

- a. Planning
- b. Assessment
- c. Time
- d. Redeployment and/or cover
- e. Other resources
- f. Lines of communication
- g. Tactical de-escalation does not require that an officer compromise their safety or increase the risk of physical harm to the public.
  - 1) Guided by the principal of reverence for human life.
  - 2) The use of techniques to:
    - a) Reduce the intensity of an encounter with a suspect; and,
    - b) Enable an officer to have additional options to gain voluntary compliance; or,
    - c) Mitigate the need to use a higher level of force.
    - d) All while maintaining control of the situation

**B. PRESENCE**

- 1. Presence: The ability to project a sense of ease, poise, and self-assurance, especially the quality or manner of a person's bearing before an audience
  - a. Character
    - 1) Who are you as a person
    - 2) What factors have contributed to who you are and your abilities
  - b. Ability
    - 1) Ability to speak to others
    - 2) Ability to interact with others
    - 3) Ability to empathize with others
    - 4) Physical skill level
    - 5) Knowledge
    - 6) Education
    - 7) Experience
- 2. Command presence: Presence as it applies to influencing or controlling individuals in a policing environment



**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- a. Character
    - 1) Who are you as a person
      - a) Biases
      - b) Life experiences
      - c) Empathy
      - d) Respect for people
    - 2) How has being a police officer affected your character
  - b. Ability
    - 1) Physical skill level
    - 2) Training
      - a) Education
      - b) Experience
  - c. Interaction with the public
    - 1) Tactical communication
    - 2) Intent
    - 3) Body language
    - 4) Appearance
    - 5) The public's perception of your intent
  - d. Quality through continuous improvement
    - 1) Personal responsibility
    - 2) The ability to adapt to an ever-changing environment
- C. CONTROL**
- 1. Control
    - a. Control of a suspect
      - 1) Control vs. illusion of control
        - a) Force
          - a. Physical superiority in numbers or strength
          - b. A restrained individual
        - b) Compliance
          - a. An individual who is willingly submitting to an officer's directions
          - b. Physical superiority in numbers or strength
      - 2) While control is often elusive, the goal is to influence others to submit to your required actions with the least amount of resistance possible
    - b. Control of the scene
      - 1) Assessment of the situation
      - 2) Planning
      - 3) Communications
      - 4) Proper amount of resources for the given incident
    - c. Control of yourself
      - 1) Self-control (3 C's): The only thing that can truly be controlled is your self
        - a) Competent
          - a. Do you have the Knowledge?
          - b. Can you apply what you have learned?
          - c. Have you maintained your skills?
        - b) Confident

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- a. Do you believe that you can perform as required?
  - b. Have you trained to maintain your skills
  - c) Control
    - a. Having a clear goal allows for the formation of a plan of action, plans may change as the situation changes but understand what you are attempting to achieve
    - b. Understanding the effects of adrenaline
    - c. Remaining professional under stress
    - d. Physiology of combat
  - d) Command and Control<sup>4</sup>
    - a. The use of active leadership to direct others while using available resources to coordinate a response, accomplish tasks and minimize risk.
    - b. Initial responsibility to begin the process to develop a plan of action falls upon the senior officer, or any officer on-scene who has gained sufficient situational awareness.
    - c. Ensure reasonable numbers of Designated Cover Officers (DCO) for both lethal and less-lethal cover.
    - d. Reduce over-response or over-deployment to specific duties and responsibilities.
    - e. Maintain officer safety through personnel location and assignment
2. Influence
- a. Tactics
    - 1) Physical advantage
    - 2) Perceived advantage
  - b. Body language
  - c. Communication
    - 1) Verbal
    - 2) Non-verbal
  - d. Appearance
    - 1) Professional
    - 2) Ready to handle the situation
- D. TACTICAL DE-ESCALATION
- 1. Definition: Tactical de-escalation involves the use of techniques to reduce the intensity of an encounter with a suspect and enable an officer to have additional options to gain voluntary compliance or mitigate the need to use a higher level of force while maintaining control of the situation
  - 2. There are many circumstances in which officers may ultimately use force even after successfully employing de-escalation techniques. The use of force in and of itself should not be construed as a failure to de-escalate. The use

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<sup>4</sup> LAPD Training Bulletin, Volume XLVII Issue 4, COMMAND AND CONTROL

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

of an appropriate amount of force may in fact be a form of de-escalation, keeping the overall situation from spinning further out of control

3. Facilitated group discussion involving command presence, control, and tactical de-escalation

E. CLOSING: Reinforce key learning points

1. Force is a last resort with the reverence for life as a guiding principle
2. An officer's presentation often influences the response of others  
De-escalation may not always be possible but should always be a consideration as a means of controlling an encounter

**V. USE OF FORCE POLICY<sup>5 6 7</sup>**

A. Use of Force by Law Enforcement

1. UOF by officers is a matter of critical importance and concern
2. Some individuals will not comply with the law unless compelled to do so
3. Law enforcement derives authority from the public
4. Every attempt should be made to de-escalate situations
5. Criteria

B. Reverence for Human Life

1. The guiding principle for our Use of Force (UOF) policy
2. The Los Angeles Police Department is guided by the principle of Reverence for Human Life in all investigative, enforcement, and other contacts between officers and members of the public

C. Fair and Unbiased Policing

1. Officers shall carry out their duties, including UOF, fairly and without bias
2. Discriminatory conduct of any kind is prohibited
3. Failure to follow through on this principle has negative effects
4. Procedural justice

D. Inappropriate uses of force

1. Violates constitutional policing principles
2. Degrades the confidence of the community we serve
3. Exposes the Department and fellow Officers to legal, physical, and personal hazards

E. Objective Reasonable Standard<sup>8</sup>

1. Factors used to determine reasonableness
2. Evaluation standard(s)
3. No 20/20 hindsight

F. Appropriate Level of Force / Proportionality

1. Actions should not be more severe than is reasonably necessary
2. Only use levels of force that are reasonably believed to be proportional to the seriousness of the suspected offense or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance
3. The guiding value when using force shall be reverence for human life.
4. De-Escalation

G. Requirement to Report / Intercede in Excessive Force Situations

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<sup>5</sup> California Penal Code Section 835a

<sup>6</sup> Department Manual Section 1/556.10, Policy on Use of Force

<sup>7</sup> LAPD Use of Force Directive, Use of Force Policy

<sup>8</sup> Graham v. Connor 490 U.S. 386 (1989)

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

1. Shall report perceptions of excessive force
  2. Shall intercede when present and observing another officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is reasonably necessary
  3. Observing officers must consider that other officers may have additional information regarding the threat posed by a subject
- H. Drawing or Exhibiting Firearms
1. Officers shall not draw or exhibit a firearm unless the circumstances surrounding the incident create a reasonable belief that it may be necessary to use the firearm.
  2. When an officer has determined that the use of deadly force is not necessary, the officer shall, as soon as practicable, secure or holster the firearm
  3. Any intentional pointing of a firearm at a person by an officer shall be reported
  4. Unnecessarily or prematurely drawing or exhibiting a firearm limits an officer's alternatives in controlling a situation, creates unnecessary anxiety on the part of citizens, and may result in an unwarranted or accidental discharge of the firearm.
- I. Use of deadly force by law enforcement officers:
1. It is the policy of this Department that officers shall use deadly force upon another person only when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of circumstances, that such force is necessary for either of the following reasons:
    - a. To Defend against and imminent threat of death of serious bodily injury to the officer or another person (or)
    - b. To apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended.
  2. Define serious bodily injury
  3. Reverence for Human life
- J. Determining if Deadly Force Was Necessary<sup>9</sup>
1. Polices and legal issues
  2. Necessity of using deadly force
  3. In determining whether deadly force is necessary, officers shall evaluate each situation considering the particular circumstances of each case and shall use other available resources and techniques if reasonably safe and feasible. Before discharging a firearm, officers shall consider their surroundings and potential risks to bystanders to the extent reasonable under the circumstances.
- K. Rendering Aid / Reverence for Human Life
1. After any use of force officers shall immediately request a rescue ambulance for any injured person

Officers shall promptly provide basic and emergency medical assistance to all members of the community based on the extent of their training/experience in First-Aid/CPR/AED, the level of available equipment and the totality of the tactical situation

**VI. HANDGUN MARKSMANSHIP** <sup>10</sup>

**(45 min) (PSP I e)**

- A. The Seven Elements of Handgun Marksmanship are vital to the accurate and effective deployment of a firearm

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<sup>9</sup> California Penal Code Section 835a

<sup>10</sup> Firearms Handgun Instructor Manuel ECO 1850-21460

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- B. They are all interrelated and must be applied consistently
1. Grip
    - a. Crossed thumbs
      - 1) Crossed thumb grip works best with the Weaver stance as it places the shooters wrists and hands in the most stable position with all of the bones and muscles aligned
      - 2) The primary hand grips the pistol high on the back-strap, into the tang
      - 3) The primary thumb remains high, pointed towards the target
      - 4) The support hand is placed on top of the primary hand, with the knuckles and fingers aligned into the ridges of the primary hand. The support hand should be as high as the pistol allows
      - 5) The support thumb crosses over the primary thumb and locks behind the first knuckle on the thumb. This positioning will force the bases of each thumb together, completely encircling the stocks of the pistol
      - 6) The support thumb can point up or bend down on top of the primary thumb
    - b. Thumbs forward
      - 1) Thumbs forward grip works best with the isosceles stance, as it takes advantage of that stances “arms forward” positioning, with all of the bones and muscles of the wrists, hands, and forearms aligned
      - 2) The primary hand grips the pistol high on the back-strap, into the tang
      - 3) The primary thumb remains high, pointed towards the target
      - 4) The support hand is placed on top of the primary hand, with the knuckles and fingers aligned into the ridges of the primary hand. The support hand should be as high as the pistol allows
      - 5) The support thumb and the base of the support thumb should be pressed high into the pocket created by the primary thumbs encircling of the stocks
      - 6) The knuckle of the primary thumb should be placed just below the tip of the primary thumb. This positioning takes advantage of the shape of the hands and will aid in recoil control
      - 7) The positioning of the hands should completely encircle the stocks of the pistol with no empty spaces or voids between the stocks and the shooters hands
  2. Shooting stances
    - a. Varying builds, physical strength, physical limitations, anatomical differences, and levels of fitness can all affect an officer’s stance and ability to utilize their duty sidearm
    - b. In keeping with basic tactical principles, officers are first taught to position their lower extremities squared to the threat
      - 1) The shooter’s feet should be placed slightly wider than shoulder width apart
      - 2) The primary foot is placed slightly behind the support foot with the knees slightly bent

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- 3) The shooter's weight is placed on the balls of their feet. This stance allows for the maximum amount of mobility in any direction and also allows the officer to seamlessly deploy and transition between all available force options
  - a) An additional benefit to this technique is that it places the maximum amount of the officer's body armor toward the threat
  - b) This stance is not labeled either "Weaver" or "Isosceles"
  - c) It is a natural fighting stance and affords the officer the best opportunity to either draw their firearm or swiftly transition to another force option
- c. From the waist up, the individual shooter must make an informed decision on which set of principles work best for them
  - 1) As previously stated, it is the instructor's responsibility to impart the knowledge that allows the shooter to make that decision
  - 2) For the sake of uniformity, we have provided a list of "Weaver" principles and "Isosceles" principles
  - 3) These principles are to be used as a tool to assist shooters in finding their best overall shooting stance
- d. Weaver Principles
  - 1) Allows quick follow-up shots by using isometric muscle tension to control the recoil
  - 2) The support elbow is bent downward at approximately a 90 degree angle to the ground
  - 3) A "crossed thumbs" grip works best with the Weaver, as it allows natural bone and muscle alignment in the shooter's hands, wrists, and arms
  - 4) Isometric tension is applied by pushing forward with the primary hand and simultaneously pulling to the rear with the supporting hand
  - 5) Weaver principles are easily integrated with the Harries flashlight technique
  - 6) Recoil reduction will be most obvious when firing multiple shots with full power ammunition, as in a typical field shooting
- e. Isosceles Principles
  - 1) The essence of isosceles is the control of recoil through static tension rather than isometric tension
  - 2) Isosceles is natural to assume, with both arms evenly extended towards the threat
  - 3) A "thumbs forward" grip works best with the Isosceles, as it places the hands, wrists, and arms in the strongest and most natural bone and muscle alignment
  - 4) Isosceles is easier to transition from target to target
  - 5) Isosceles may benefit shooters with a large build
    - a) It has been collective experience of professional firearms trainers that smaller shooters tend to benefit more from the application of Weaver principles

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- b) Both the Weaver and Isosceles principles have their pros and cons, and neither is superior
  - c) It is important that the instructor work as a coach in assisting the shooter to find what works best for them
  - d) The instructor should avoid interjecting personal biases. Once the individual shooter finds a stable, effective and comfortable shooting stance, changes should be avoided
3. Breath control
- a. Proper breath control assists the shooter in the completion of an accurate shot or series of shots
  - b. This is especially true when shooting at long range, or at a small target
  - c. The shooter should inhale normally and exhale normally, taking advantage of the natural respiratory pause between inhalation and exhalation
  - d. The natural respiratory pause is a 2-4 second window during which the shooter has ample oxygenated blood circulating and the lungs are static, allowing for minimal, consistent thoracic movement
  - e. Pushing this window past 4 seconds can lead to a lack of ability to focus on the front sight
  - f. This importance of this element is minimized during close range and full speed engagements where time is measured in milliseconds
4. Sight alignment
- a. Relationship between the shooter's eye, the front sight, and the rear sight
  - b. Correct sight alignment will consist of the front sight being centered in the rear aperture with equal distance on both sides of the front sight and level across the top
  - c. Proper sight alignment also includes eye focus being placed on the front sight
  - d. The most common error is looking over the top of the rear sight blade rather than looking through the rear sight notch, often resulting in high shot placement
5. Sight picture
- a. Relationship between the shooter's eye, the front sight, the rear sight and the target
  - b. The correct sight picture will have the properly aligned sights centered on the desired area of the target with the front sight in sharp focus
  - c. Proper sight picture consists of the front sight blade being centered in the notch of the rear sight, with the top of the front sight "level" with the top of the rear sight
  - d. Concentration and eye focus should be on the target or the suspect until a decision to shoot has been made
  - e. When the decision to shoot is made and the pistol has been raised to eye level, eye focus instantly shifts from the target to the sights
  - f. The sharpest focus on the front sight blade
  - g. The shooter focusing their eyes on the target or suspect rather than the front sight often causes poor shooting on the range and in the field. Since the eye is incapable of focusing on multiple objects at different distances at the same time, the sights are out of focus, making it impossible for the shooter to properly align the sights

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- h. Just like in sight alignment, one of the most common errors involves the shooter looking over the sights (in this case to focus on the target). This will cause the shots to be high, often “haloing” the target in a semi-circular pattern
- 6. Trigger control
  - a. Trigger control is defined as: A smooth continuous press, straight to the rear, while maintaining the sight picture, achieving a surprise break, and completing follow-through
  - b. The most important component of marksmanship, without it, even if the other elements are perfect, the result will be a poor shot
  - c. A great majority of shooter errors can be related to improper trigger control
    - 1) Jerking or snatching the trigger
    - 2) Uneven pressure rearwards
    - 3) Inability to separate the trigger finger from the master grip
  - d. The goal is to smoothly press the trigger straight to the rear without disturbing the sight picture, in order to achieve a surprise break
  - e. Trigger control is the most important and often the most difficult aspect of basic shooting principles to learn
  - f. No matter how perfectly the shooter assumes his stance and aligns the sights, if they slap or mash the trigger, in anticipation of the discharge, they will not hit the target with any consistency
  - g. The exact moment of the hammer/striker fall and subsequent discharge of the firearm must be a surprise
    - 1) This is known as the surprise break and is defined as not knowing when the hammer is going to fall so that the discharge is not anticipated
    - 2) Anticipating the moment, the shot will be fired will generally cause the shooter to push the muzzle downward in an effort to compensate for the recoil
      - a) Can be a systemic, or “whole body” reaction
      - b) Can be localized in the wrists and hands
      - c) Can be a “flinch” reaction in which the shooter actually closes their eyes and moves their head away in anticipation of the shot
  - h. Anticipation and subsequent pushing of the pistol downward will result in misalignment of the sights just as the bullet is being fired, resulting in a poor shot, and often missing the target
  - i. When shooting slowly or teaching trigger control to a new shooter, the trigger should be held to the rear momentarily after the shot has broken and then moved forward to the point of “reset”, at which time the shooter can slowly begin the trigger press again
  - j. The shooter will need to learn to only apply the amount of force necessary to activate the trigger. In cases of a duty pistol with a heavier than normal trigger, it becomes very difficult to manipulate a trigger weighing 9 pounds when the pistol itself only weighs two pounds. This can lead to crossover problems with the shooters trigger finger and master firing grip competing for dominance. Often times, this causes shots to break low and towards the shooters primary hand. (Low-right for a right-handed shooter)



**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- k. Often times, shooters have trouble manipulating their trigger finger without influencing the rest of their hand. Often, this error is confused with an anticipation issue as the rounds generally impact the target low. Instructors should pay special attention to this aspect of trigger control if the shooters shots are impacting low on the target
- 7. Follow Through
  - a. Follow-through is the continuation of all the fundamentals of marksmanship after the shot is fired
  - b. Concentration on the front sight must be constant throughout the firing sequence, up to and including after the projectile has left the barrel
  - c. The second aspect of follow-through is to maintain the trigger position after the weapon discharges
    - 1) The trigger is held in the rearward position until the weapon is brought out of recoil and the sight picture is reacquired
    - 2) Proper trigger follow-through must be learned during slow fire before progressing to rapid fire
  - d. Removing the finger completely off the trigger then bringing it back onto the trigger is inefficient and can exacerbate existing shooter errors such as “slapping” the trigger
    - 1) Even when shooting fast, the trigger finger should remain in contact with the trigger
    - 2) The training maxim “reset fast, press slow” is great for the range and is a good training tool, but is only a means to an end. We want our shooters to be able to do both quickly in a gunfight

**VII. MANIPULATIONS & MALFUNCTIONS <sup>11</sup>**

**(75 min)**

**(PSPI f,g)**

**A. Reloads**

- 1. Reloads can be separated into two distinct types
- 2. A speed reload is used when a fresh magazine is needed immediately, such as during a gun battle
- 3. A tactical reload is used when time is not a primary concern and maintaining control of the partially loaded or empty magazine is a consideration
- 4. In-Battery Speed Reload
  - a. The in-battery speed reload is used when most of the ammunition in the pistol has been expended and the deadly threat has not been stopped
  - b. The shooter knows he/she is close to depleting all ammunition and decides to change magazines in order to keep from running out of ammunition
  - c. To conduct an In-Battery Speed Reload
    - 1) Place the trigger finger along the frame
    - 2) Position the pistol in the primary hand so that the tip of the thumb is on the magazine release button (left-handed shooters place the tip of the index finger on the magazine release button)
    - 3) Bring the primary elbow into the body while the support hand obtains a fresh magazine utilizing a proper three-finger grip. A

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<sup>11</sup> Firearms Handgun Instructor Manuel ECO 1850-21460

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**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

proper three-finger grip is achieved by trapping the magazine between the thumb and middle finger. The index finger is placed in front of the first bullet in the magazine and utilized to guide the magazine to the magazine well

- 4) Eject the magazine from the pistol by pressing the magazine release button
  - d. If the magazine does not fall freely from the magazine well during the speed reload, the magazine may be stripped out using the little finger or ring finger of the support hand
  - e. The little and ring fingers may also be used if a magazine has lost its floor plate and needs to be stripped from the magazine well
    - 1) The fresh magazine is then started into the magazine well by placing the back of the magazine on the back of the magazine well
    - 2) The magazine is then rocked forward until it is aligned with the magazine well and the support hand index finger contacts the butt of the pistol
    - 3) The magazine insertion is then completed by seating the magazine into the magazine well with the raised heel portion of the support hand in one motion (the officer should be mindful not to cradle/cup the bottom of the magazine as doing so might cause the palm portion of the support hand glove to be trapped between the magazine well and the magazine base plate)
    - 4) Attempting to seat the magazine with the middle of the palm of the support hand may result in a failure to lock the magazine and a subsequent malfunction
    - 5) The shooter then reacquires a two hand shooting grip on the pistol, finishing on target with the finger on the trigger
- B. Out of Battery Speed Reload
1. When the shooter has expended all of the ammunition in the pistol and magazine, the slide will lock to the rear. The shooter will conduct an out of battery speed reload to return the pistol to a firing condition as quickly as possible
  2. To conduct an Out of Battery Speed Reload
    - a. Focus remains downrange, although a fast visual confirmation is needed to verify the condition of the weapon
    - b. Place the trigger finger along the frame
    - c. The pistol is positioned in the primary hand so that the tip of the thumb is on the magazine release button
    - d. Bring the primary elbow towards the body while the support hand obtains a fresh magazine
    - e. The muzzle remains pointed downrange, although the muzzle may be slightly elevated
    - f. Eject the magazine from the pistol by pressing the magazine release button
    - g. The fresh magazine is then started into the magazine well by placing the back of the magazine on the back of the magazine well. The magazine is then rocked forward until it is aligned with the magazine well and the support hand index finger contacts the butt of the pistol

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- h. The magazine insertion is then completed by seating the magazine into the magazine well with the raised heel portion of the support hand in one motion (the officer should be mindful not to cradle/cup the bottom of the magazine as doing so might cause the palm portion of the support hand glove to be trapped between the magazine well and the magazine base plate)
- i. Acquire an overhand grip on the rear of the slide with the support hand. The slide is grasped with the heel of the hand and the fingertips. Retract the slide fully to the rear, then release it and follow through by slapping the primary shoulder in one continuous motion
- j. For pistols equipped with a decocker, verify that the decocking lever is up using the primary thumb
- k. The shooter then reacquires a two handed shooting grip on the pistol finishing on target with the finger on the trigger

**C. Tactical Reload**

- 1. Assess the area and the situation to ensure that there are no immediate threats. The Tactical reload is best performed from behind cover. If there is the remotest possibility of a threat remaining, a speed reload is appropriate, not a tactical reload
- 2. The shooters focus remains downrange
- 3. The pistol is positioned in the primary hand so that the tip of the thumb is on the magazine release button
- 4. Bring the primary elbow towards the body while the support hand obtains a fresh magazine utilizing a three finger grip
- 5. As the magazine is drawn from the pouch, the primary finger moves from the front of the magazine to the left side (as the shooter is looking at it) of the magazine
- 6. The support thumb is held at its "open most" position
- 7. The support hand thumb and primary finger are placed directly below the magazine well of the pistol
- 8. The magazine button is depressed, allowing the used magazine to eject from the pistol into the space between the support thumb and the support index finger. Left-handed shooters may use the tip of the index finger, or their middle finger to press the magazine release button
- 9. The support thumb and the support index finger grasp the used magazine with positive control
- 10. The support hand withdraws the used magazine from the pistol
- 11. The support hand rotates outboard, placing the fresh magazine below the magazine well
- 12. The fresh magazine is then started into the magazine well by placing the back of the magazine on the back of the magazine well. The magazine is then rocked forward until it is aligned with the magazine well and the support index finger contacts the butt of the pistol
- 13. The magazine is seated with the raised heel of the support hand in one motion (the officer should be mindful not to cradle/cup the bottom of the magazine as doing so might cause the palm portion of the support hand glove to be trapped between the magazine well and the magazine base plate)
- 14. The partially loaded magazine which has been removed from the pistol is then placed in the pocket, not in the magazine pouch, for future use if necessary

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

15. Assume a ready position and assess the situation and area

**D. Pistol Malfunctions**

1. The ability to immediately recognize and clear a malfunction is essential to an officer's survival
2. A malfunction is defined as an unexpected and unintentional interruption in the firing sequence that can be quickly corrected by the shooter
3. A jam or break requires the services of an armorer

**E. Failure-to-Fire Malfunction (Class 1)**

**(PSP I f, g)**

1. Identify the malfunction by feeling normal trigger movement with no corresponding discharge of the firearm
2. Place the trigger finger along the frame
3. Firmly tap the bottom of the magazine with the heel of the support hand to ensure that it is properly seated
4. Grasp the rear of the slide with the support hand in an overhand grip between the heel of the hand and the fingertips
  - a. Do not allow the support hand to pass in front of the muzzle
  - b. Do not place the thumb of the support hand on the slide
  - c. Grasp the slide as far to the rear as possible to avoid covering the ejection port
  - d. Rotate the pistol clockwise so that its right side is horizontal to the ground
5. Retract the slide fully rearward then release it and follow through by slapping the primary shoulder in one continuous motion
  - a. "Slapping the shoulder" ensures that the slide retracts to its furthest point, allowing the widest opening of the ejection port and preventing "short stroking" (the slide failing to completely pick up the next round in the magazine)
  - b. "Slapping the shoulder" also allows the recoil spring to compress fully, Finish on target with the appropriate firing grip and the finger on the trigger
  - c. sending the slide forward with maximum spring tension

**D. Failure-to-Eject Malfunction**

1. Identify the malfunction by feeling a "static" trigger (no movement) and observing partially ejected casing protruding from the ejection port
2. Place the trigger finger along the frame
3. Firmly tap the bottom of the magazine with the heel of the support hand to ensure that it is locked in place
4. Grasp the rear of the slide with the support hand in an overhand grip between the heel of the hand and the fingertips
  - a. Do not allow the support hand to pass in front of the muzzle
  - b. Do not place the thumb of the support hand on the slide
  - c. Grasp the slide as far to the rear as possible to avoid covering the ejection port
1. Rotate the pistol clockwise so that its right side is horizontal to the ground
2. Retract the slide fully rearward then release it and follow through by slapping the primary shoulder in one continuous motion
  - a. "Slapping the shoulder" ensures that the slide retracts to its furthest point, allowing the widest opening of the ejection port and preventing "short stroking" (the slide failing to completely pick up the next round in the magazine)

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- b. "Slapping the shoulder" also allows the recoil spring to compress fully, sending the slide forward with maximum spring tension
- 3. Finish on target with the appropriate firing grip and the finger on the trigger
- E. Failure to eject (vertical stovepipe only, de-cocker or 1911 only) **(PSP I f, g)**
  - 1. Identify the malfunction. In the case of a vertical stovepipe, the casing will be protruding from the ejection port and held in place by the forward spring tension of the slide. The trigger will be "static" (1911) or "spongy" (de-cocker)
  - 2. Place the trigger finger on the frame
  - 3. Drive the support hand flat across the top of the slide, in front of the ejection port, but **BEHIND THE MUZZLE!**
  - 4. Briskly sweep the support hand across the top of the pistol, continuing directly back to the primary shoulder, dislodging the trapped case
  - 5. Assume an appropriate shooting grip
  - 6. Evaluate the tactical situation
  - 7. When sweeping the trapped case from the pistol with the support hand, do not move the slide to the rear, as this could result in a feed-way stoppage
- F. Feed-way stoppage (Class 3) **(PSP I f, g)**
  - 1. Identify the malfunction, the slide will be out of battery and the trigger will be static (Striker fired or 1911) or spongy (de-cocker)
  - 2. Place the trigger finger along the frame
  - 3. Lock the slide to the rear by simultaneously pushing up on the slide lever with the primary thumb (left hand shooters use the trigger finger) and pulling the slide to the rear with the support hand
  - 4. Depress the magazine release button and strip the magazine from the pistol
    - a. The magazine will not eject from magazine well due the malfunction and will have to be forcefully stripped out
    - b. Discard the magazine to the ground. Do not use the same magazine unless it is the last one available
  - 5. Depress the slide lever allowing the slide to go forward under full spring tension
    - a. Do not guide the slide forward with the support hand
    - b. Cycle (fully rearward then fully forward) the slide three times using the support hand
    - c. To ensure clearance of the stoppage be sure that the support hand does not cover the ejection port
  - 6. Insert a fresh magazine into the magazine well (the officer should be mindful not to cradle/cup the bottom of the magazine as doing so might cause the palm portion of the support hand glove to be trapped between the magazine well and the magazine base plate)
  - 7. Using the support hand, retract the slide fully rearward and release it under full spring tension, chambering a cartridge
    - a. The support hand should slap the primary shoulder after releasing the slide
    - b. If utilizing a 1911 ensure that the safety is disengaged
    - c. If utilizing a de-cocker equipped pistol, ensure that the de-cocking lever is up
  - 8. Assess and evaluate the tactical situation
  - 9. Under ideal conditions, this malfunction can require anywhere from 5 to 10 seconds to clear. An Officer who experiences a feed-way stoppage in a field

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

shooting should

- a. Seek cover
  - b. Deploy a back-up weapon
  - c. Communicate with their partner
  - d. Clear the malfunction
- G. After modeling the manipulations for the students, the small group instructors will walk students through the manipulations, emphasizing all of the key points

**VIII. TACTICAL DISMOUNTS AND SHOOTING POSITIONS (90 min) (PSP I b)**

A. Cover vs. Concealment<sup>12</sup>

1. Bicycles do not provide cover or concealment from rifle or pistol rounds. When confronted by an armed suspect, the bicycle officer should seek adequate cover or concealment as soon as practicable
2. Cover
  - a. Cover is something that will stop your opponent's bullets
  - b. Whenever possible officers should utilize cover when involved in an armed encounter
  - c. Officers should be aware of what kind of cover is required to stop handgun, shotgun, and rifle fire
  - d. If a serious malfunction occurs, cover should be obtained prior to attempting to clear the malfunction
  - e. When utilizing cover, an officer must weigh the ability to shoot quickly and accurately against vulnerability to a suspect's gunfire
  - f. Firing around cover is usually tactically safer than firing over the top of cover
3. Concealment
  - g. Concealment is something that prevents the suspect from observing the officer
  - h. **CONCEALMENT WILL NOT STOP BULLETS**
  - i. Stepping into a dark shadow may provide concealment (avoid silhouetting yourself)
  - j. A hollow core interior door or foliage may provide concealment
4. Officers must be aware of the difference between cover and concealment

B. Tactical Dismounts

1. Tactical dismounts will be demonstrated by an instructor and performed by students. During the students' practical application of the techniques both cover, and concealment will be available to them. The choice they make after dismounting will be addressed in the debrief
2. Step-Through Dismount
  - a. Allows the rider to move away from the bicycle while the bicycle is still in forward motion
  - b. Facilitates distance from the bicycle so that the bicycle does not become a liability to the rider
  - c. Step-Through Dismount technique

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<sup>12</sup> Firearms Handgun Instructor Manuel ECO 1850-21460

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- 1) Approach in Neutral Riding Position at approximately 8 -10 miles per hour (mph)
- 2) Stop pedaling and coast in a straight line with left foot in 6 o'clock position
- 3) Transfer body weight onto the left foot while removing the right foot from the right pedal and moving the right leg up to the rear and over the bicycle seat and bag
- 4) While maintaining balance, bring the right leg to a position between the seat tube and left leg
- 5) The rider will now be in a standing position on the left side of the bicycle while the bicycle is still in motion
- 6) Using the rear brake to control speed, the right leg will move towards the front portion of the bicycle as if the rider is taking a step forward in a walking motion
- 7) As the bicycle comes to a controllable speed, the right foot makes contact with the ground
- 8) When the right foot touches the ground, the rider removes the left foot from the left pedal and follows through in a walking or running motion
- 9) As the rider begins walking or running, the rider releases the grip on the left side of the handlebar while guiding the bicycle to the ground using the right hand only
- 10) After the left hand releases the handlebar, the left hand immediately comes up in front of the rider for protection
- 11) The rider continues walking or running forward after the rider has completely released the bicycle<sup>13</sup>

C. Shooting Positions and Tactical Dismounts Live Fire Drills **(PSP I a,b,d,e,f,g,h,i,j)**

1. A clearing run will be performed prior to the drill to ensure that all student weapons are unloaded. The student's unloaded weapon is holstered and snapped up
2. Shooting from the ground position
  - a. Instructor to student ratio is one to one, and only one student per relay
  - b. A 6 round magazine is in the student's primary magazine pouch. The second magazine pouch will contain a magazine loaded with one inert round
  - c. The student lies down on his/her support side at a distance of approximately 7 yards from the target
  - d. The student's body is parallel to the firing line and straddling a bicycle as if they were knocked to the ground, ensuring none of the student's appendages are in front of his/her muzzle
  - e. The student draws out to a modified low ready position, recovers the 6 round magazine, makes ready for live fire, and returns to the modified low ready
  - f. When instructed, the student will fire 6 rounds slow fire at a silhouette target

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<sup>13</sup> Bicycle Patrol School ECO

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- g. When the student's weapon goes to slidelock, the student will clear the bike from their support leg, recover to their feet, and reload with the magazine containing the one inert round while moving to the provided cover
  - h. Once the student reaches cover, the exercise is completed
  - i. The student will then clear and holster an empty weapon and await further direction
3. Tactical dismount to cover, shoot / don't shoot drill
- a. The instructor to student ratio is one to one and one student per relay
  - b. The student will load two magazines with six rounds in each and load
  - c. the first magazine into their weapon, make ready for live fire and holster
  - d. An instructor will take the secondary magazine from the student insert a snap cap and give back to the student
  - e. The student will place that six round magazine in their primary magazine pouch and stage in the seated guard position just outside the firing range
  - f. When instructed to do so the student will ride at approximately 6-10 mph approaching the scenario location
  - g. As the student breaks the cover of wall to his/her left side they will see a deadly threat target pointing a firearm at them
  - h. The student is in an open area and must do a tactical dismount and utilize available cover/concealment provided for them
  - i. The student will engage the threat during which time a no shoot target will present itself in the area of the deadly threat target
  - j. The student will either perform an in or out of battery speed reload with the second six round magazine
  - k. A failure to fire malfunction will be induced from the second magazine and the student will have to correct it and continue engaging the threat
  - l. When the student's weapon reaches slidelock with the second magazine, the instructor will call a code four and advise the student to clear and holster an empty weapon.
  - m. Students will be critiqued on threat Identification, tactical dismount, communication, choice/ use of cover, and weapon manipulations.
  - n. The instructor will reinforce the importance of understanding the moral obligations involved in force option decision making

**IX. SIMUNITION TRAINING**

**(75 min)**

**(PSP I a,b,c,d,e,g,h,i,j)**

**A. Safety Briefing**

- 1. NO LIVE WEAPONS IN THE TRAINING AREA. ONLY SIMUNITION (blue) weapons will be utilized during training
- 2. Instructor to student ratio for force on force training is 1 to 5
- 3. There must be a Safety Officer who is Handgun Instructor Training School (H.I.T.S.) certified. That Officer is not included in the 1 to 5 ratio
- 4. Mandatory Equipment
  - a. Simunition helmet
  - b. Vest



**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- c. Throat protection
    - d. Gloves
  - 5. Optional Equipment
    - a. Long sleeves or sweatshirts
    - b. Long pants
    - c. Groin protection
  - 6. Simunition weapons, helmet, throat protection and gloves shall be issued and collected by Bicycle Coordination Unit (BCU) personnel only
  - 7. Simunition weapons and magazines shall be loaded with a maximum of five "FX Marking Cartridge" per magazine
    - a. Allows students to reload weapons in a stressful environment
    - b. Causes students to slow down and utilize their sights
  - 8. All equipment shall be inspected for defects prior to training. Any defects noted shall be communicated to Bicycle Coordination Unit personnel
  - 9. Only ammunition marked "FX Marking Cartridge" shall be used
  - 10. Firing "FX Marking Cartridges" at one another within five feet is prohibited.
  - 11. No firing of "FX Marking Cartridges" at the back of the head
  - 12. Firing at the helmet should be avoided
  - 13. During a training scenario, no protective gear should be removed (i.e. cleaning face shield by removing helmet)
  - 14. Students and personnel not directly involved in the training shall wear appropriate eye protection
  - 15. Students observing the scenario shall not become involved in the scenario unless directed to do so by Bicycle Coordination Unit personnel
  - 16. Students will not chamber an "FX Marking Cartridge" into the Simunition weapon until directed to do so by Bicycle Coordination Unit personnel
  - 17. At the conclusion of training, all weapons will be cleared and inspected by Bicycle Coordination Unit personnel
  - 18. All weapons, equipment and location used during training shall be cleaned prior to training end of watch or after each scenario
  - 19. All weapons and equipment shall be inspected for defects prior to end of watch. Any defects noted shall be communicated to Bicycle Coordination Unit personnel
  - 20. Any extra "FX Marking Cartridges" not used during training shall be returned to Bicycle Coordination Unit personnel only
  - 21. Failure to adhere to the above rules will result in immediate removal from scenario training and may result in further disciplinary action
  - 22. The four basic firearms safety rules apply to Simunition training
    - a. All guns are always loaded
    - b. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are aligned on the target and you intend to shoot
    - c. Never allow your muzzle to cover anything you are not willing to shoot
    - d. Be sure of your target
- B. Weapons and Ammunition
  - 1. Weapons
    - a. Glock 17 semi-automatic handguns
    - b. Barrel replaced with Blue colored Simunition barrel
    - c. Grips of weapon painted blue
  - 2. Ammunition

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

- a. "FX Marking Cartridge"
- b. 9mm
- c. Blue or red marking rounds

C. Policy

1. Less Lethal Options for Bikes

a. Use of OC<sup>14</sup>

- 1) The instructor will discuss with the student, OC as an option during the scenario
- 2) The instructor will discuss the proper deployment of OC
  - a) Range 3 -12 feet
  - b) Single burst of one second
  - c) Aimed at the face
  - d) Used to gain control or resist attack
- 3) The instructor will address the need to report the deployment to a supervisor
- 4) The instructor will discuss the proper deployment of the Taser<sup>15</sup>
  - a) Suspect unsafe to approach
  - b) Optimal range 7 to 15 feet
  - c) Verbal warning when feasible
  - d) Optimal Target Areas: Back or navel area for probes. Forearm, outside of thigh, calf muscle for drive-stun/direct-stun. Avoid using the stun feature on the head, face, throat, and groin.
  - e) Report the deployment to a supervisor

b. Beanbag Shotgun

- 1) Generally, should not be carried by bike officers
- 2) The beanbag shotgun presents risks both during a fall and as an unsecured weapon while riding

c. Conclusion

- 1) Less lethal force is an option that bike officer should consider when dealing with a hostile suspect
- 2) Generally, the beanbag shotgun is not a feasible option for bike officers as there is no safe way to carry/secure the weapon

D. Traffic Enforcement Stop defined<sup>16</sup>

- 1. Reasonable suspicion that driver committed a traffic violation
- 2. Vehicle's occupants represent no unusual risk
- 3. Expectation that pullover will result in a citation

E. (Simunition Scenario) "Traffic Stop"

- 1. All parties involved in the scenario shall be wearing all required safety equipment and abide by all the Simunition safety rules listed above
- 2. Any deviations in approved tactical procedures will be discussed and used as teaching points during the debrief
- 3. All bystanders and students not directly involved in the scenarios will be positioned in an area that is not directly in potential fields of fire

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<sup>14</sup> Use of Force-Tactics Directive No 5.2 Oleoresin Capsicum

<sup>15</sup> Use of Force-Tactics Directive No. 4.5, Electronic Control Device Taser

<sup>16</sup> Post Workbook LD 22 Vehicle Pullovers, Categories of Vehicle Pullovers

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

4. All noninvolved personnel shall wear protective eyewear while on the training site
  5. The violator's vehicle used in Simunition training will be an LAPD black and white
    - a. The violator's vehicle will be pre-staged with a Simunition weapon in the visor above the driver role player
    - b. The students (working in teams of two), and the violator's vehicle will start approximately 100 yards from the planned stop location
    - c. When the scenario commences, the violator's vehicle will drive away at a slow rate of speed (approximately 10-12 miles per hour) with the students following
    - d. The students will immediately initiate a traffic stop on the vehicle by illuminating their forward facing red headlamp, activating their 115+ decibel siren, and using hand motions to direct the violator to pull to the right
    - e. The students should broadcast a Code 6 location and the violator's vehicle information to the instructor monitoring the scenario
    - f. The violator's vehicle will stop in the predetermined area that will provide the students with cover to the right rear of the violator's vehicle
    - g. The students will perform a traffic enforcement stop as taught in the basic Bicycle Patrol School<sup>17</sup>
    - h. If the enforcement stop is performed correctly, the contact officer/student will observe the Simunition weapon in the driver's side visor, unholster his/her weapon, advise the cover officer/partner of the weapon, and tactically redeploy to a position of cover
    - i. The students should also request necessary resources as soon as practicable
      - 1) Additional unit(s)
      - 2) Airship
      - 3) Supervisor, etc.
    - j. If the enforcement stop is performed incorrectly and the driver (role player) has an opportunity, he will engage the students in a brief Simunition battle prior to the scenario proctor calling a Code 4
  6. When a Code 4 is established there will be a short debrief addressing the learning objectives of the scenario
    - a. C-6 information broadcast
    - b. Use of available cover/concealment
    - c. Bicycle positioning and tactics
    - d. Additional resources if needed
    - e. Force option chosen and why
- F. (Simunition Scenario) "Pedestrian Stop" Utilizing the Bike Barricade
1. The suspect involved in the scenario will be positioned close to a wall or fence
  2. A Simunition weapon will be positioned in close proximity to the suspect but out of the immediate view of the students
  3. Students will team up as partners for this scenario

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<sup>17</sup> Bicycle Patrol School ECO XVII/C/1-4

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

4. Students will observe a low risk suspect and make the decision to initiate a pedestrian stop. Students will be given Probable Cause for the pedestrian stop
5. A Barricade Stop should be utilized, as taught in Bicycle Patrol School<sup>18</sup>
6. The suspect's Simmunition weapon will become visible as the students make their approach
7. If the pedestrian stop is performed correctly, while making their approach, the students will observe the firearm that is available to the suspect
8. At that point, they should communicate the threat to each other, upholster their firearms, redeploy to available cover, and request necessary resources as soon as practicable
9. If the pedestrian stop is performed incorrectly and the pedestrian (role player) has the opportunity, he will engage the students in a brief Simmunition battle prior to the scenario proctor calling a Code 4
10. When a Code 4 is established there will be a short debrief addressing the learning objectives of the scenario
  - a. C-6 information broadcast
  - b. Use of available cover/concealment
  - c. Bicycle positioning and tactics
  - d. Additional resources if needed
  - e. Force option chosen and why

**IV. SIMUNITION EQUIPMENT CHECK IN**

**(15 min)**

- A. At the conclusion of training, all weapons will be cleared and inspected by Bicycle Coordination Unit (BCU) personnel
- B. All weapons, equipment and buildings used during training shall be cleaned prior to training to end of watch or after each scenario
- C. All weapons and equipment shall be inspected for defects prior to end of watch
- D. Any defects noted shall be communicated to BCU personnel
- E. Any extra "FX Marking Cartridges" not used during training shall be returned to BCU personnel only

**V. DEBRIEF**

**(15min)**

- A. What worked?
- B. What didn't work?
- C. What could have been done differently?

**VI. CLOSING**

**(15 min)**

- A. Review Key Learning Points
  1. Department policy concerning the use of mandatory bicycle patrol safety equipment
  2. Reinforce the need for officers to continuously train to improve their skills and conditioning

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<sup>18</sup> Bicycle Patrol School ECO III/E/1/f

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Bicycle Patrol Tactical Firearms**  
**1850-23839**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

3. The importance of firearms safety, both on and off duty
  4. The legal and moral considerations when using force, especially deadly force
  5. The perishable nature of pistol marksmanship and manipulation skills
  6. The benefits of using appropriate cover and or concealment in tactical situations
  7. Through Simunition scenarios, point out key tactical issues that pertain to everyday bicycle patrol as well as other patrol assignments
- B. What are your Questions?