

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Driver Training (EVOC) UPD (PIT)**  
**1850-21165**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

**Instructional Goal:** To provide students with the laws and policies pertaining to emergency vehicle operations and the Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT), to review and rehearse backing/parking exercises, and enhance the student's efficiency and safety in operating police vehicles. The student will also review how to identify a hazard, select avoidance options, and execute maneuvers to avoid collisions.

**Performance Objective:** Using lecture, learning activities and practical application the student will:

- ❑ Demonstrate a minimum standard of psychomotor skills with every technique and exercise to include:
  - Judgement and Decision-Making
  - Policy/Legal and Moral Issues
  - Basic Driving Principles and Vehicle Dynamics
  - Defensive Driving
- ❑ Demonstrate proper decision making to avoid collisions
- ❑ Demonstrate the ability to back a vehicle in a safe manner and park efficiently
- ❑ Demonstrate knowledge of their Driver Training/Awareness skills and techniques
- ❑ Identify PIT as a forced rotational stop
- ❑ Identify the most desirable locations for conducting PIT
- ❑ Recognize actions of a violator that indicate the potential need for PIT
- ❑ Identify the types of vehicles to avoid when attempting the PIT
- ❑ Identify how the PIT reduces public-safety risks by ending pursuits safely
- ❑ Demonstrate the ability to properly PIT a vehicle

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

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

**I. COURSE OVERVIEW AND SAFETY BRIEF (15 min)**

- A. Introduction
    - 1. Registration/rosters
    - 2. Safety policy
  - B. Course Objectives
    - 1. Overview
    - 2. Exercises
    - 3. Evaluation/Testing
- PSP II (a)**

**II. BASIC DRIVING PRINCIPLES (30 min) PSP II (c)**

- A. Weight Transfer
  - 1. Weight distribution
  - 2. Effects of engine location
  - 3. Types of weight transfer
  - 4. Causes of weight transfer
  - 5. Elimination of weight transfer

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- 6. Minimizing weight transfer
- 7. Oversteer/Understeer
- B. Steering Control
  - 1. Seating position
  - 2. Steering method, driving forward
  - 3. Steering method, backing
- C. Roadway Position
  - 1. Definition
  - 2. Advantages
  - 3. Driving points in a turn

**PSP II (f)**

**III. DEFENSIVE DRIVING**

**(30 min)**

**PSP II (d)**

- A. Defensive Driving
  - 1. Avoid collisions
  - 2. React properly to hazards
  - 3. Maintain professionalism
- B. Dangerous Driver Attitudes
  - 1. Overconfidence
  - 2. Self-righteousness
  - 3. Impatience
  - 4. Preoccupation
- C. Collision Avoidance
  - 1. Space cushion
  - 2. Intersections
  - 3. Maintain high visual horizon
  - 4. Consider steering to the rear of a conflict vehicle
  - 5. Backing
  - 6. Lane changes
  - 7. Blind spots
  - 8. Mirrors properly adjusted
- D. Occupant Safety Devices
  - 1. Safety belts
  - 2. Supplemental Restraint System (air bags)
- E. Vehicle Dynamics
  - 1. Rear wheel cheat
  - 2. Front-end swing

**PSP II (e)**

**PSP II (f)**

**PSP II (c)**

**IV. PURSUIT POLICY & PIT POLICY/PROCEDURE**

**(90 min)**

- A. Legal and Moral Aspects
  - 1. California Vehicle Codes (CVC)
  - 2. Case law
  - 3. Emergency Equipment Requirements

**PSP II (b)**

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4. Agency policy<sup>1 2</sup>
5. Vehicle Pursuit Operations
6. Moral aspects<sup>3</sup>
- B. Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)<sup>2</sup> **PSP II (b)**
  1. Definition
  2. Purpose
  3. Policy application
  4. Vehicle dynamics
  5. Technique
  6. Tactics
    - a. Speed
    - b. Use of Force considerations<sup>4 5</sup>
    - c. Supervisory approval
    - d. Executed at the discretion of the primary officer after receiving approval
    - e. Third unit
    - f. Primary responsibility
    - g. Other units
  7. Supervisory Considerations
  8. Reporting

**V. PIT PRACTICAL APPLICATION** **(60 min)**

- A. Safety Policy/Orientation **PSP II (a)**
  1. Review Safety Policy
  2. Equipment
  3. Reporting Requirements
  4. Signals
  5. Communication
  6. Speed limits
- B. Rotations
  1. Establish groups
  2. Car assignments
- C. Instructor demonstration
  1. Conducted on track area
  2. Instructor demonstrates each of the exercises and points out key learning points
- D. Practical application and certification
  1. Demonstrate understanding of vehicle dynamics throughout road course
  2. Students rehearse and demonstrate pacing and PIT

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<sup>1</sup> Department Manual Section 4/205, Vehicle Pursuit Procedures

<sup>2</sup> Department Manual Section 4/205.20, Vehicle Intervention Techniques

<sup>3</sup> LAPD Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

<sup>4</sup> Department Manual Section 1/556.10, Policy on the Use of Force

<sup>5</sup> LAPD Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Use of Force Policy

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3. Ten PIT maneuvers will be attempted by each student
4. Students shall be successful in four of their last six PIT attempts to certify

**VI. COLLISION AVOIDANCE SIMULATOR AND BACKING/PARKING DRILLS (135 min)**

- A. Safety Policy/Orientation **PSP II (a)**
1. Review Safety Policy
  2. Equipment
  3. Reporting Requirements
  4. Signals
  5. Communication
  6. Speed limits
- B. Rotations
1. Establish groups
  2. Car assignments
- C. Demonstration: Collision Avoidance, Backing/Parking, Intersections
1. Conducted on track area
  2. Instructor demonstrates each of the exercises and points out key learning points
- D. Collision Avoidance Simulator Exercise **PSP II (c,d,g,h)**
1. Review elements of defensive driving
  2. Practical application; student practice repetitions
  3. Practical application; student evaluation
- E. Backing and Parking Maneuvers **PSP II (c,f,g,h)**
1. Review key learning points
  2. Review vehicle dynamics
  3. Practical application; student practice
- F. Intersection Exercises **PSP II (e,d,g,h)**
1. Review key learning points
  2. Practical applications conducted as students transition between road course stations; PIT, Collision Avoidance, Parking, Backing

\*Note: Intersections exercises are conducted whenever transitioning to/from other exercises and within exercises as applicable