

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Firearms/Tactical Rifle Advanced
1850-32076
POST Perishable Skills Program
20 Hour for Specialized Operators
Expanded Course Outline

Instructional Goal: To provide specialized operators assigned to Metropolitan Division (Metro) and/or Special Investigative Section (SIS) with the ability to safely deploy the Patrol Rifle in an urban environment which will allow them to contain heavily armed suspects, or suspects who are protected in body armor, or have barricaded themselves. Additionally, it provides students the ability to rapidly respond to active shootings in progress resulting in enhanced public confidence, safety and a significant reduction in the fear of crime

Metropolitan personnel are required to deploy rifles in several assignments including but not limited to: Dignitary Protection (POTUS, Heads-of-States, VIPs, etc.), High-Risk Warrants, Counter Assault Teams (National Events, Riots, etc.), Stake-Outs (Bank Robbery Suspects, etc.), Witness Protection Details. Metro personnel are the primary additional units utilized during all SWAT and K-9 high-risk incidents

Performance Objectives: Using lecture, group discussion and learning activities students will:

- o Understand and follow the firearms safety guidelines
- o Pass the Patrol Rifle exam with a score of 100%
- o Be able to pass the Patrol Rifle Manipulation test with a minimum score of 70%
- o Be able to pass Metro's 50-round Rifle Course with a minimum 90% score for Metro
- o Be able to pass Department UPR qualification with a minimum 70% for SIS
- o The student will demonstrate an understanding of how our Department's guiding value of Reverence for Human Life is the moral and ethical foundation of de-escalation, tactics, reasonable force, and Officer safety.
- o By the conclusion of the training, students will understand how the application of this training is in keeping with our Department's UOF police, philosophy, and tactical planning.
- o Students will attend an additional Night Shoot Training Day (LAPD Course F228) where they will be required to pass Metro's 50-round Rifle Course (including lighting system) with 80%

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

This course provides updated legislative content of Penal Code Section 835a

DAY ONE

I. COURSE OVERVIEW

(30 mins)

A. Introduction and Overview

1. Instructors
 - a. Name, assignment
 - b. Experience
 - c. Class roster
2. Overview Course Objectives

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- a. Overview of Patrol Rifle Related Policies
- b. Use of Force Policy Case Studies
- c. The Patrol Rifle
- d. Patrol Rifle Written Test
- e. Patrol Rifle Manipulation training drills
- f. Range Safety Considerations
- g. Patrol Rifle Manipulation Test
- h. Shooting Positions
- i. Live Fire Practice
- j. Patrol Rifle Qualification

B. *GROUP DISCUSSION:* Overview of Patrol Rifle Related Policies

Procedure: Large Group Activity

1. Key Responsibilities

- a. Regular re-qualification and re-certification is required to remain in the Patrol Rifle Cadre
- b. Cadre members who fail to re-certify are placed on inactive status
- c. Cadre members who fail to re-certify twice consecutively, are decertified
- d. Decertified cadre members must attend and pass the Basic Patrol Rifle course again
- e. Patrol Rifle certified officers are issued rifles and are responsible to secure the rifle at assigned Division's kit room. It is strongly recommended that the Patrol Rifle be secured in a lockable hard case prior to storing it in the kit room. If the cadre member discovers that an unauthorized person has tampered with the rifle including disassembly or changing sights, the Firearms and Tactics Section (FTS) OIC should be notified. Officers that are assigned Department vehicles (e.g. Command Officers and Metropolitan Division) may keep the Patrol Rifle secured in the vehicle trunk. Command Officers may keep the Patrol Rifle in their office in a secured storage unit.

2. Required Equipment

- a. Department manual sections: 3/610.50 to 3/611.50 explain the requirement to be armed according to duty status and assignment and identifies ammunition requirements
- b. **DISTRIBUTE:** List of equipment required for each phase of training

II. FIREARMS SAFETY

(30 mins)

A. *GROUP DISCUSSION:* Four Basic Firearm Safety Rules

(PSP I c)

Purpose: To review the Four Basic Safety Rules by causing the student to think about and consider their importance and application on the range as well as in the field

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Procedures: Large Group Activity

1. Conduct an open discussion that will cause the student to review and think about the importance of the Four Basic Firearm Safety Rules
 - a. All guns are always loaded.
 - b. Never allow the muzzle to cover anything you are not willing to shoot.
 - c. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are aligned on the target and you intend to shoot.
 - d. Be sure of your target
2. Point out that these rules apply to training as well as tactical situations and anytime a weapon is being handled

B. LEARNING ACTIVITY: 4 Basic Safety Rules

Procedures: Large group activity

1. Conduct an open discussion that will cause the student to review and think about the importance of the Four Basic Firearm's Safety Rules
 - a. All guns are always loaded
 - b. Never allow the muzzle to cover anything you are not willing to shoot
 - c. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are aligned on the target and you intend to shoot.
 - d. Be sure of your target
2. Point out that these rules apply to training as well as live tactical situations such as traffic stops, building searches and anytime a weapon is being handled
3. Consider asking the class questions about the application of the safety rules and solicit their responses. Use the following examples or some of your own:
 - a. Which of the Four Basic Firearm's Safety Rules:
 - Do you think is the most important and why?
 - Is most violated on the range and why?
 - Is most violated in the field and why?
 - Is most violated in the home off-duty and why?
 - b. Reinforce that the range safety rules apply at on-duty and off-duty

C. Overview Firearms Safety and Security

1. California Penal Code section 12035 states that firearms must be kept inaccessible to children (Reverence for the law)
 - a. Maintain physical control, or
 - b. Inaccessible, or
 - c. Ammunition separate from firearm, or
 - d. Locked in a secure container, or

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- e. Trigger lock, or disassemble
2. Distribute Range Safety Rules handout
 - Advise the students that serious violations of the Safety Rules will be grounds for dismissal from the class
 - point out off site training considerations prior to going out to the range
 3. Range set up and safety briefing
 - Review the Four Basic Safety Rules
 - Review the range safety rules
 - Review the consequences for violating a safety rule
 - Assign students to specific duties in case of an emergency
 - Describe the days training and objectives
 4. Off-site training considerations
 - Unique communication problems
 - Safety considerations regarding medical treatment
 - Wild animal briefing
 - 1) Poisonous snakes and countermeasures (Summertime Tips, Issue 3/00, Angles National Forest, USFS, USDA) and (Living with Wildlife, The Pomona Valley Humane Society)
 - 2) Rattlesnakes are most active during the spring and summer months
 - 3) Rattlesnakes are an important part of the environment, and should not be bothered or destroyed when seen away from inhabited areas
 - 4) If a rattlesnake is seen, move away slowly to avoid an encounter
 - 5) If anyone is bitten by a rattlesnake, they should be taken to the hospital for treatment
 - 6) Watch where you step, rattlesnakes may defend themselves vigorously if threatened. Snakebites are reported every year in the Angeles National Forest
 - 7) Africanized Honey Bees (AHB), Training Bulletin XXXI and (Living with Wildlife, The Pomona Valley Humane Society)
 - a) AHB are known for their tendency to aggressively defend their hives
 - b) The AHB sting is no more venomous than that of the common honeybee; however, AHB are known to deliver more stings per encounter
 - c) Away from their hives they are not inclined to sting unless they are physically disturbed
 - 8) Bears and countermeasures (Living with California Black Bears, California Department of Fish and Game)
 - a) The best way to avoid conflict with bears is to prevent it
 - (1) Never feed a bear
 - (2) Remove or contain all attractants

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- (3) Never approach a bear
 - (4) Do not run from a bear
 - b) If a bear approaches, try to demonstrate you may be a danger to it. Make yourself appear larger, stand up raise your hands and open your jacket. Yell at the bear, bang pots and pans or whatever objects you have with you and create a general commotion
 - c) If the bear attacks. Research indicates that bear attacks have been avoided or injuries reduced when the victims fought back using any means available. Throwing rocks and striking the bear with branches or camping equipment have been shown to be effective
 - d) Report bear threats and attacks immediately to California Department of Fish and Game, Southern California Office, Long Beach, (310) 590-5132
- 9) Mountain lions and counter measures (Living with California Mountain Lions, California Department of Fish and Game)
- a) Do not approach a lion, give them a place to escape
 - b) Do not run from a lion, this may stimulate its instinct to chase. Instead, make eye contact and face the animal. Try to demonstrate you may be a danger to it by making yourself appear larger, stand up raise your hands and open your jacket. Yell at the lion, bang pots and pans or whatever objects you have with you and create a general commotion. The idea is to convince the lion that you are not prey and you may be a danger to it
 - c) Do not crouch down or bend over
 - d) Research has shown that large cats have killed prey while ignoring humans standing nearby
 - e) It is believed that the human form, when standing, is not the right shape for a cat's prey
 - f) If the lion attacks fight back. Lions have been successfully fought off, in Southern California, by hikers who have used sticks, caps, jackets, garden tools, rocks and their bare hands. Since a Mountain Lion usually tries to bite the head or neck, try to remain standing and face the attacking animal
 - g) Report lion threats and attacks immediately to California Department of Fish and Game, Southern California Office, Long Beach, (310) 590-5132

D. Overview Safety Plan: Illness and Injury Prevention Program

(PSP I c)

1. **DISTRIBUTE:** Safety Guidelines handout
2. Discuss the safety guidelines and ensure all students have a clear understanding of their responsibilities to safety

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3. 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
 - a. All personnel should be instructed that a copy of the IIPP is in the Metro Training Unit
 - b. A Metro EMT will be assigned to each firearms training day
 - c. 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
 - d. Protective eyewear and hearing 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
 - e. Students shall immediately notify an instructor(s) or the training staff of any injuries sustained during training, and use the following steps in the event of a severe injury
 - 1) 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
 - 2) In case of a severe injury, all IIPP notifications and protocol shall be followed
 - 3) At each training location, there is a notebook located in the training unit’s office also containing the emergency plan that is in place
 - 4) The supervisor will ensure that the necessary worker compensation forms (PDAS-43) and other reports (Employee Report, form 15.7) are completed in a timely manner
 - 5) Transport to the local hospital for a minor injury

III. PATROL RIFLE OVERVIEW

(PSP I c)

(15 mins)

A. Nomenclature Overview

DISTRIBUTE: Patrol Rifle Nomenclature Handouts

1. Overview handout
2. Discuss LAPD Manual section 2/296.52 (paragraph 12) and 3/610.15 (sub-notation)
 - a. States that only a Department Armorer can repair City owned firearms
3. Discuss authorized modifications
 - a. Dedicated light
 - b. Tritium sights
 - c. List of approved optional equipment

B. Patrol Rifle Specifications

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1. Patrol Rifles in the field are zeroed for 100 yards, Managers' and Specialized Operators Patrol Rifles will be zeroed for 50 yards
2. Patrol Rifle duty ammunition
 - a. Military designation 5.56mm
 - b. Civilian designation .223 Remington
 - c. Department approved ammunition and nomenclature
 - 1) Winchester Q3131 or Q3131A
 - 2) 55 Grain
 - 3) Full metal jacket
 - d. Penetration for the Patrol Rifle duty ammunition (FBI, CQC Ammunition Test Results, 1993)
 - 1) 16.5 inches without body armor over ballistic gelatin
 - 2) 11.5 inches with body level IIA armor over ballistic gelatin
3. Effective range and maximum lethal range (US Army FM No. 23-9)
 - a. Current LAPD duty Patrol Rifle effective range 100 yards
 - b. Effective range determined by using a distance which the Patrol Rifle cadre has demonstrated its ability to score a minimum of 70% or Metro 90%
 - c. Current LAPD duty Patrol Rifle Max lethal range 2/3rds mile
 - d. Current LAPD duty Patrol Rifle Max range 1.7 miles

IV. EQUIPMENT ISSUANCE AND FIELD STRIP

(30 mins)

A. Issue Equipment to students

- Rifle
 - Slings
 - Case
 - 2 - 20 round magazines
 - 2 - 30 round magazines
 - Magazine pouch
1. Verification of Equipment
 - a. Have students double check all numbers
 - b. Have student sign for all the assigned equipment
 2. *Demonstrate* Care and Cleaning
 - a. The student will then field strip, clean, lubricate, and re-assemble their Patrol Rifle prior to manipulation demonstration on the range
 3. Demonstrate Disassembly
 - a. Describe each component and cover cleaning and lubrication
 - b. Verify that the weapon is empty of any ammo
 - c. Point out locations to place lubrication
 4. Reassemble
 - a. Show the reassembling of the weapon

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- b. The importance of the order of the assembly
- 5. After lunch a practical application where the students field strip, clean, lubricate, and re-assemble their Patrol Rifle will occur prior to manipulation demonstration on the range

V. MARKSMANSHIP¹

(45 mins)

A. DEMONSTRATION: Sequence of Marksmanship **(PSP I, d)**

Purpose: Review the seven elements of marksmanship in sequence as a mental checklist and a requirement to reliably, accurately and quickly fire the Patrol Rifle

Procedures: Use the Patrol Rifle and demonstrate the seven elements, have students ask questions, during the demonstration conduct an open discussion, addressing the key points related to the proper sequence of marksmanship. Advise students that these skills will be incorporated in the slow fire drills

1. Stance

- a. The body is bladed at 30-45 degrees to the target with the support side forward. This is essentially the position of advantage. Feet are shoulder width apart with approximately 60% of the body weight on the support or lead foot
- b. The primary arm is at a right angle to the body, parallel to the deck. This creates a pocket in the primary shoulder area for the butt stock. The support arm is bent with the elbow pointing down
- c. Only two-thirds to three-quarters of the butt is placed in the shoulder pocket. The heel of the butt is above the shoulder
- d. The primary cheek must be firmly pressed against the comb of the stock. Failure to obtain a consistent cheek weld could result in poor accuracy.

2. Grip – two aspects or components

- a. The primary hand grasps the pistol grip and pulls the stock into the shoulder with the thumb, middle, ring, and little fingers. The trigger finger remains free to manipulate the trigger
- b. The support hand is positioned under the hand guard, so the rifle is supported in the palm of the hand and the index finger is parallel with the barrel
- c. The amount of tension or pressure applied by the hands to the Patrol Rifle
 - 1) Low-ready grip tension (40-50%)
 - 2) Firing grip tension (80-90%)

¹ 2003 LAPD Urban Police Rifle School Manual

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- 3) Must acquire the proper grip tension on the Patrol Rifle before firing and must maintain a consistent grip tension while firing
- 4) A proper firing grip tension will promote the following:
 - Proper rifle functioning and reliability
 - Reduced group size on the target
 - Faster follow-up shots

3. Breathing

- a. Breath control assists the shooter in the completion of an accurate shot by reducing upper body movement
- b. This is especially true when shooting at long range, or at a small target
- c. To assimilate the proper amount of oxygen, several deep breaths should be taken prior to any course of fire
- d. The shooter should exhale a portion of the last breath and then hold his breath while firing the weapon
- e. When the situation does not allow the shooter time to take several breaths such as in a field shooting, the shooter should avoid heavy breathing at the actual moment of firing

4. Sight Alignment

- a. Sight alignment is the relationship between the eye, the front sight, and the rear sight
- b. The front sight is centered in the rear sight aperture
- c. Eye focus is on the front sight
- d. The shooter is required to use the eye on the same side as the rifle is shouldered; regardless of which eye is dominant

5. Sight Picture

- a. Sight picture is the relationship between the eye, the front sight, the rear sight, and the target. The correct sight picture will have the aligned sights centered on the target with the front sight in sharp focus
- b. Properly aligned sights must be placed on the part of the target you intend to shoot
 - 1) The top of the front sight centered into rear sight aperture
 - 2) With eye focus being placed on the front sight
- c. Once a flash sight picture has been obtained, then the rifle can be accurately discharged
- d. While on the range and in the field, 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 rifle has been raised to eye level, eye focus shifts from the target to the front sight
- f. Correct follow-through requires the shooter to obtain a sight picture after every shot

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- g. After shooting ceases, the rifle is lowered from eye level to low ready, and eye focus is placed on the target or suspect
- h. Correct eye focus will give the shooter a clear and sharp view of the front sight. The rear sight and the target should appear out of focus or slightly blurred
- i. The shooter focusing on the target or suspect often causes poor shooting on the range and in the field, the sights are out of focus making it difficult to correctly align them, since the eye is incapable of focusing on objects at different distances at the same time

6. Trigger Control

- a. The trigger finger must be placed properly on the trigger, with the trigger centered on the pad of the finger between the tip of the finger and first joint
- b. The trigger finger should be placed on the trigger after the decision to fire has been made and the as the sights align on the target
- c. Trigger control is a smooth continuous press on the trigger, straight to the rear, while maintaining the sight picture, before, during, and after the discharge
- d. Anticipating the moment that the shot will be fired will generally cause the shooter to push the muzzle downward to compensate for recoil resulting in a poor shot, often missing the target
- e. No matter how perfectly the shooter assumes their stance and aligns the sights, if the trigger is slapped or jerked, the target will not be hit with any consistency

7. Follow-through

- a. The continuation of all the elements of marksmanship after the shot is fired. Concentration on the front sight must be constant throughout the firing sequence, up to and after the projectile has left the barrel. Maintain eye focus on the front sight before, during and after the discharge
- b. The second aspect of follow-through is to maintain the trigger position after the weapon fires when first learning trigger reset. During rapid fire, the trigger should be reset during recoil. The trigger is held in the rearward position until the weapon is brought out of recoil and the sight picture is reacquired. Correct trigger follow-through must be learned during slow fire before progressing to rapid fire. After follow-through is completed, the trigger is reset approximately 1/8". Removing the finger completely off the trigger then bringing it back onto the trigger results in lost time and slapping the trigger causing low or missed shots
- c. For advanced shooters, follow-through can be utilized for rapid multiple shot accuracy. As the rifle recoils the trigger finger moves forward approximately 1/8", enough for the trigger to reset. Since the shooter's eye maintains sharp focus on the front sight, no time is lost searching for it. As the rifle is brought back on target after recoil, the slack is removed from the trigger. The sights return to the center of the target and the shooter is ready

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B. CONCLUSION

1. the mastery of the above fundamentals is essential before progressing to the modern combat technique where speed, accuracy and power are equally stressed

VI. USE OF FORCE POLICY REVIEW (1 hr.)

A. Use of Force Review

Purpose: To Discuss use of force considerations, policy, legal issues, moral and ethical dilemmas to include De-Escalation and Reverence for Human Life.

Procedures: Large group discussion **(PSP I a, k, j)**

Review Department Manual Section 1/556.10, Policy on the Use of Force² and openly discuss how it affects the use of less-lethal force options. **(PSP I h)**

1. Reverence for Human Life
 - a) In Preamble for Use of Force Policy
 - b) Why?
 - c) How does this play into our decisions when using force?
2. **California Penal Code section 835(a)**³ As set forth below, it is the intent of the Legislature that peace officers use deadly force only when necessary in defense of human life. In determining whether deadly force is necessary, officers shall evaluate each situation in light of the particular circumstances of each case and shall use other available resources and techniques if reasonably safe and feasible to an objectively reasonable officer.
 1. The totality of the circumstances
 2. That individuals with physical, mental health, developmental, or intellectual disabilities are significantly more likely to experience greater levels of physical force during police interactions, as their disability may affect their ability to understand or comply with commands from peace officers. It is estimated that individuals with disabilities are involved in between one-third and one-half of all fatal encounters with law enforcement.
 3. Totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary
 4. Any peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a public offense may use reasonable force to;
 - a. Effect the arrest
 - b. Prevent escape
 - c. Overcome resistance
 - d. Only reasonable force may be used

² Department Manual Section 1/556.10, Policy on the Use of Force

³ California Penal Code Section 835a

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- e. You must have reasonable suspicion to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a public offense
3. **Graham v. Connor 490 U.S. 386 (1989)** affirms the “objectively reasonable” standard and states that the “reasonableness” of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, and its calculus must embody an allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force necessary in a particular situation.
 - a) No 20/20 hindsight
 - b) Based on the totality of facts known at the time
 - c) Would another officer with similar training and experience, facing similar circumstances act the same way or use similar judgement?
 - d) Does not have to be the best decision, just a reasonable decision
4. **Tactical De-Escalation Techniques⁴**
 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
 3. Tactical de-escalation **DOES NOT** require that an officer compromise their safety or increase the risk of physical harm to the public
 4. Tactical de-escalation techniques should only be used when it is safe and prudent to do so
 - **P**lanning
 - **A**ssessment
 - **T**ime
 - **R**edeployment and/or Containment
 - **O**ther Resources
 - **L**ines of Communication
5. **Command and Control⁵**
 1. The use of active leadership to direct others while using available resources to coordinate a response, accomplish tasks and minimize risk.
 2. 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.
 3. Tactical Consideration
6. **Less Lethal Weapons and Ammunition**
 1. California Penal Code Section 16780(a)

⁴ LAPD Use of Force-Tactics Directive No. 16, Tactical De-Escalation Techniques

⁵ Training Bulletin, Volume XLVII Issue 4, COMMAND AND CONTROL

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- a) "Less lethal weapon" means any device that is designed to or that has been converted to expel or propel less lethal ammunition by any action, mechanism, or process for the purpose of incapacitating, immobilizing or stunning a human being through the infliction of any less than lethal impairment of physical condition, function or senses including physical pain or discomfort. It is not necessary that a weapon leave any lasting or permanent incapacitation, discomfort, pain or other injury or disability in order to qualify as a less lethal weapon.
2. California Penal Code Section 16770
 - a) As used in this part, "Less Lethal Ammunition" means any ammunition that both of the following requirements.
 - 1) Designed to be used in any less lethal weapon or any other kind of weapon (including but not limited to firearms, pistols, revolvers, shotguns, rifles and spring, compressed air and compressed gas weapons; and
 - 2) When used in less lethal weapon or other weapon is designed to immobilize or incapacitate or stun a human being through the infliction of any less lethal impairment of physical condition, function of senses, including physical pain or discomfort.

B. Less-Lethal Force-Clarification⁶

(PSP I, i)

1. Less-Lethal force options (OC Spray⁷, Baton⁸, TASER⁹, Beanbag Shotgun¹⁰, 40mm LLL and Less-Lethal munitions¹¹) are only permissible when:
 - a) An officer reasonably believes the suspect or subject is violently resisting arrest;
or,
 - b) Poses an immediate threat of violence or physical harm.
2. Less-Lethal force options shall not be used for a suspect or subject who is:
 - a) Passively resisting, or
 - b) Merely failing to comply with commands.
3. Verbal threats of violence or mere non-compliance do not alone justify the use of Less-Lethal force.
4. In addition, generally, an officer shall give a verbal warning prior to using such force when feasible.

C. United States Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit

1. Defines "Intermediate Force" as force capable of inflicting significant pain and causing serious injury. (Young v. County of Los Angeles)

⁶ Office of Administrative Services Notice 1.3, Use of Less-Lethal Force Clarification

⁷ Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Oleoresin Capsicum

⁸ Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Baton

⁹ Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Electronic Control Device

¹⁰ Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Beanbag Shotgun

¹¹ Use of Force-Tactics Directive, 40mm Less Lethal Launcher

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D. *Deorle v. Rutherford* (2001DJDA 2725)

1. Officers have a duty to warn, if possible, before using any force option, including beanbags
2. The cloth cased shot constitutes force which carries significant risk of serious injury and thus is not to be deployed lightly

E. *Bryan v. McPherson* (630 F.3d 805)

1. X26 TASER and similar devices, when used in dart mode, constitute an “intermediate, significant level of force that must be justified by the governmental interest involved.”
2. Placed the taser at a higher level of force than most law enforcement agencies and the International Association of Chiefs of Police had placed them

F. *Young v. County of Los Angeles*

1. Traffic stop for a seatbelt violation (infraction)
2. Pepper spray and baton blows are “intermediate force” because they are “capable of inflicting significant pain and causing serious injury,” and therefore “present a significant intrusion upon an individual’s liberty interests.”

VII. PATROL RIFLE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

(1 hr.)

A. DEPLOYMENT¹²

1. Responsibility of Personnel Equipped with Patrol Rifle or Slug Ammunition
 - a. Only certified personnel are authorized to deploy based on Department policy
 - b. Respond to the request for a Patrol Rifle as assigned
2. “Code Robert”¹³ Shall be broadcasted when an employee needs a Patrol Rifle or Slug Ammunition
 - a. Requesting unit shall broadcast his/her unit designation, location and
 - 1) Code Robert- Rifle or
 - 2) Code Robert-Slug
 - b. The requesting unit shall determine the urgency of the situation and request either Code 2 or Code 3 response
 - c. A supervisor shall respond to all “Code Robert” requests and may respond Code 3 when necessary, upon notifying Communications Division
 - d. If no longer needed, the requesting officer shall cancel the Code Robert

B. TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS¹⁴

¹² 2009 LAPD Manual 4/245.50 Deployment of the Patrol Rifle and Slug Ammunition

¹³ 2009 LAPD Manual 4/120.40 Radio Codes and Procedures

¹⁴ 2003 LAPD Urban Police Rifle Manual-Tactical Considerations

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1. Patrol Rifle projectiles will penetrate and defeat soft body armor
 2. Slug Ammunition will not penetrate soft body armor
 3. Slug Ammunition is useful against suspects wearing soft body armor due to the blunt force trauma and the possibility of being able to shoot unprotected areas of the suspect
 4. Blunt force trauma occurring to a suspect wearing soft armor impacted by Slug Ammunition may or may not cause incapacitation
 5. Slug Ammunition will generally penetrate more intermediate barriers than pistol or Patrol Rifle projectiles
 6. Patrol Rifle projectiles will generally penetrate fewer intermediate barriers than pistol projectiles

 7. There is no arbitrary limit on the number of Patrol Rifle or Slug Ammunition equipped officer which may be deployed
 - a. Four or more may be required to cover all sides of a structure containing one armed suspect
 - b. Three or more may be appropriate to compose a rescue team for rapid deployment against an active shooter
- C. Review SWAT call out policy as stated in LAPD Manual section 4/212.76 and Training Bulletin Part One XXVI and Part Two XXVII
1. Armed, barricaded felony suspect who has refused to come out
 2. Detailed briefing via land line to Metropolitan Division
 - a. Review system for numbering building sides and openings
- D. Contact Teams
1. Contact teams should be structured according to the Department guidelines
 - a. Based on the specific incident
 - b. Immediate Action Rapid Deployment
 - c. MACTAC
 2. Contact Teams may have many missions
- E. An Active Shooter
1. An armed person who has used deadly physical force on other persons and aggressively continues to do so while having unrestricted access to additional victims¹⁵
- F. Overview the Immediate Action/Rapid Deployment Tactics
1. Use of cover fire
- G. Point out that with expedited and decisive leadership in implementing these tactics, officers will bring order to chaos, and increase the safety of all those involved¹⁶

¹⁵ Training Bulletin Volume XXXV, Issue 11 & 12 July 2003, Immediate Action Rapid Deployment

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VIII. MANIPULATIONS

(3 hrs.)

A. *GROUP DISCUSSION:* Range Safety Considerations

Procedure: Large group activity

1. Range set up and safety briefing
2. Review the Four Basic Safety Rules
3. Review the range safety rules
4. Review the consequences for violating a safety rule
5. Assign students to specific duties in case of an emergency

B. *LEARNING ACTIVITY:* Patrol Rifle Manipulation

(PSP I f)

Procedure: Individual activity

1. **DEMONSTRATE:** The following manipulations

- a. Port arms
- b. Chamber checking/low light chamber checking
- c. Administrative loading/unloading
- d. On target safety manipulation
- e. In/out battery speed reload
- f. Tactical reloading
- g. Sling techniques
 - 1) Support side muzzle down carry
 - 2) Primary side muzzle up carry
 - 3) Muzzle up/down climbing carry
- h. High ready
- i. Low ready
- j. Close contact

2. **DEMONSTRATE:** The following drills

- a. Transition drills (transition from rifle to handgun)
 - 1) Overhead
 - 2) Hasty (Gizzy)
- b. Malfunction drills
 - 1) Failure to fire
 - 2) Feed way stoppage

3. **DRILLS:** Students will practice the manipulations skills and drills while instructors monitor

IX. SHOOTING POSITIONS and SIGHT IN

(2.5 hrs.)

A. *LEARNING ACTIVITY:* Shooting Positions

(PSP I b, d, e)

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Procedure: Individual activity

1. **DEMONSTRATE:** The following shooting positions

- Offhand
- Prone
 - 1) Offset
 - 2) In-line
- Military squat
- Kneeling
 - 1) Reverse
 - 2) Braced
 - 3) Speed
 - 4) Double
- Sitting
 - 1) Cross leg, support over primary
 - 2) Cross ankle, support over primary
 - 3) Open leg
- Rapid assumption of positions
 - 1) CLOSE CONTACT

2. **DRILLS:** Students will practice the shooting positions

- Being proficient with the shooting positions enhances the ability to use the Patrol Rifle
- The ability to effectively conduct manipulation to ensure the Patrol Rifle can function when needed during gun fight

B. LEARNING ACTIVITY: Live Fire Drills Instruction **(PSP 1 b, d, e, g)**

Procedure: Large group and individual activity

1. Sight in and zero rifles
2. Prone position, sight in for 50 yards from the 50-yard line or the 25-yard line on standard silhouette target
 - a. 5 shots and check group, correct, repeat as necessary
 - b. Trigger Drill 1, if necessary
 - c. Verify zero
3. Police range and weapon maintenance

C. PRACTICAL APPLICATION: Live Fire

Procedure: Individual activity

1. Students will practice Metro's 50-round qualification course

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2. Instructors and student will analyze and discuss individual targets

END DAY ONE

DAY 2

Class Roster

Range Safety Brief (same as day one)

X. POLICY AND PROCEDURE TEST

(1 hr.)

A. TEST: Patrol Rifle Test

B. Including the following:

1. Use of Deadly Force
2. Write out the four Firearm Safety Rules (verbatim)
3. Authorized Ammunition
4. Must score 100% to pass and continue in the class

C. Review Safety Guidelines from Day 1 and 2

XI. MANIPULATIONS TEST

(2 hrs.)

A. LEARNING ACTIVITY: Patrol Rifle Manipulation Review and Practice

Procedure: Individual activity

1. **DRILLS:** Manipulations
2. Students will practice the manipulation skill and drills
 - Port arms
 - Chamber checking/low light chamber checking
 - Administrative loading/unloading
 - On target safety manipulation
 - In/out battery speed reload
 - Tactical reloading
 - Sling techniques
 - 1) Support side muzzle down carry
 - 2) Primary side muzzle up carry
 - 3) Muzzle up/down climbing carry
 - High ready
 - Low ready
 - Close contact
 - Transition drills
 - 1) Overhead

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- 2) Hasty (Gizzy)
- Malfunction drills
 - 1) Failure to fire
 - 2) Feed way stoppage

B. TEST: Manipulation Test (PSP I b)

1. Students will perform the manipulations as described and practiced above
2. One or Two RITS instructors will evaluate each student
3. No live fire
4. Students need a minimum score of 70% to pass
5. The instructors will record the scores on a manipulation's test sheet
6. Students who fail to achieve a passing score will be offered remediation and a re-test
7. A second failure to qualify will result in a counsel between the student and supervisor (Sgt or Lt) from Metro's firearms cadre and possibly result in removal from the School
8. Documentation will be maintained by Metro's Training Unit

C. LEARNING ACTIVITY: Live Fire Drills Instruction (PSP 1 b, d, e, g)

Procedure: **Large group and individual activity**

1. Sight in and zero rifles
2. Prone position, sight in at 50 yards on standard silhouette target
 - a. 5 shots and check group, correct, repeat as necessary
 - b. Trigger Drill 1, if necessary
 - c. Verify zero

XII. MARKSMANSHIP AND SHOOTING POSITIONS (2 hrs.)

A. PRACTICAL APPLICATION: Slow-Fire Drills Emphasizing Accuracy (PSP I b, d, e)

Procedures: Individual activity

1. Have students practice the 7 elements of marksmanship
2. Instructor corrects and has students continue to practice

B. LEARNING ACTIVITY: Shooting Positions Live Fire (PSP I d, e, g)

Procedure: Individual activity

1. **DRILLS:** The following shooting positions
 - Offhand
 - Prone
 - 1) Offset
 - 2) In-line

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- Military squat
- Kneeling
 - 1) Reverse
 - 2) Braced
 - 3) Speed
 - 4) Double
- Sitting
 - 1) Cross leg, support over primary
 - 2) Cross ankle, support over primary
 - 3) Open leg
- Rapid assumption of positions

2. **ADDITIONAL DRILLS:** Metropolitan Division

- Shooting On-the-Move
 - 1) Perpendicular
 - 2) Parallel
 - 3) Oblique Angles

XIII. RIFLE DAY-TIME QUALIFICATION (PSP I b) (5 hrs.)

A. LEARNING ACTIVITY: Manipulation Review

Purpose: Review the manipulations and shooting positions to ensure proper handling of the Patrol Rifle and solid positions prior to Qualification.

1. **DRILLS:** Manipulations review (optional based on the proficiency of the students and how quickly they have moved through the previous drills)
 - Port arms
 - Chamber checking/low light chamber checking
 - Administrative loading/unloading
 - On target safety manipulation
 - In/out battery speed reload
 - Tactical reloading
 - Sling techniques
 - 1) Support side muzzle down carry
 - 2) Primary side muzzle up carry
 - 3) Muzzle up/down climbing carry
 - High ready
 - Low ready
 - Close contact
 - Transition drills
 - 1) Overhead
 - 2) Hasty (Gizzy)
 - Malfunction drills
 - 1) Failure to fire
 - 2) Feed way stoppage

B. PRACTICAL APPLICATION: Patrol Rifle Qualification Course

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1. Students will practice the qualification course
2. Each phase is repeated three times
 - 1 dry fire
 - 1 slow fire
 - 1 real time

C. TEST: Rifle Qualification Overview

1. Range safety briefing
2. 50-yard, standing to prone, pair to body, 3 times
3. 35-yard, standing to kneeling, pair to body, 3 times
4. 25-yard, pair to body, 3 times
5. 15-yard, failure drill, 3 times
6. 10-yard, headshot, 3 times
7. 7-yard, 2 pair to body & 1 pair to head, 2 times
8. 5-yard, off-line Right & Left, pair to body
9. 3-yard, pair to body, 2 times

10. Minimum of 90% for Metro personnel on each phase with 450 minimum points totals
11. Students must successfully pass (2) qualifications
 - 1 Day Time and 1 Night Time during Basic Metro School
12. The time that will be required to fire one relay of the 50-roundcourse and score it will be approximately 30 minutes
13. The instructors will score the target and record the scores on a qualification sheet
14. Students who fail to achieve a passing score will be offered remediation and a re-test
 - A second failure to qualify will result in a counsel between the student and supervisor (Sgt or Lt) from Metro's firearms cadre and possibly result in removal from the School
 - Documentation will be maintained by Metro's Training Unit

D. DRILLS: Familiarization Fire **(PSP I, e)**

1. Set targets at 100 yards
2. Students will fire 10 rounds, 1 shot at a time at the 100-yard targets
3. Inspect and analyze targets
4. This drill is for familiarization only and is not scored

E. TACTICAL LIVE FIRE DRILLS: Terrain, Positioning, Decision Making **(PSP I, g)**
and Marksmanship

1. Provide students an opportunity to take all the information and skills that they have been developing and utilize them in a live fire tactical drill

2. The focus of the drill would include
 - identifying the terrain

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- determine the appropriate cover and position
- identify and analyze the presented targets
- accurate marksmanship once determination to fire has been made

F. CLOSING: Reinforce key learning points for the course

1. Students must know the roles and responsibilities of Patrol Rifle certification
 - Regular re-qualification and re-certification is required to remain in the Patrol Rifle Cadre
 - Cadre members who fail to re-certify are placed on inactive status
 - Cadre members who fail to re-certify twice consecutively, are decertified
 - Decertified cadre members must attend and pass the Basic Patrol Rifle course again
 - Patrol Rifle certified officers are issued rifles and are responsible to secure the Department rifle at assigned Division's kit room. It is strongly recommended that the Patrol Rifle be secured in a lockable hard case prior to storing it in the kit room. If the cadre member discovers that an unauthorized person has tampered with the rifle including disassembly or changing sights, FTS OIC should be notified. Officers that are assigned Department vehicles (e.g. Command Officers and Metropolitan Division) may keep the Patrol Rifle secured in the vehicle trunk. Command Officers may keep the Patrol Rifle in their office in a secured storage unit.
2. Frequent practice of the various shooting positions is important to retain proficiency
3. Patrol Rifle officers must be familiar with the different lighting systems because most shootings occur at night or in low light conditions
4. Reinforce the understanding of how our Department's guiding value of Reverence for Human Life is the moral and ethical foundation of de-escalation, tactics, reasonable force, and Officer safety
5. Ensure that the students understand how the application of this training is in keeping with our Department's UOF police, philosophy, and tactical planning

G. ADDITIONAL

1. Metropolitan personnel will receive an additional day of firearms training (LAPD-Only [Non-POST] Course-F224)
 - Night time qualification
 - Gas Mask Drills
 - Team Movement Drills
 - 1) Officer Rescue
 - 2) Counter Assault Teams
 - 3) Motorcade Deployment
 - 4) MACTAC