

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Driving (PSP)**  
**1850-29502**

**Instructional Goal:** Provide the trainee with the minimum topics of Driver Training/Awareness required in the POST Perishable Skills Training Program including: Basic Driving Principles, Legal and Moral Aspects, Defensive Driving and Maneuvering Course Exercises to enhance students' efficiency and safety in operating police vehicles.

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

- Demonstrate knowledge of their Driver Training/Awareness skills and techniques
- Demonstrate a minimum standard of psychomotor skills with every techniques and exercise to include:
  - Judgement and Decision-Making
  - Policy/Legal and Moral Issues
  - Basic Driving Principles and Vehicle Dynamics
  - Defensive Driving

\*Note: Minimum standards of performance shall be tested by an instructor observing the trainee during their performance of each technique and exercise. If the trainee does not meet minimum standards, as established by the presenter, remediation will be provided until the standard is met.

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

**I. INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION (10 min) (PSP II a)**

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

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

- 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
  - 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

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**III. LEGAL AND MORAL ASPECTS**

**(30 min) (PSP II b)**

- A. California Codes
  - 1. 17001 CVC
  - 2. 17004 CVC
  - 3. 17004.7 CVC
  - 4. 21052 CVC
  - 5. 21055 CVC
  - 6. 21056 CVC
  - 7. 21057 CVC
  - 8. 21806 CVC
  - 9. 21807 CVC
  - 10. 22350 CVC
- B. Case law
- C. Agency policy<sup>1</sup>
  - 1. Pursuit
  - 2. Code-3
- D. Moral aspects<sup>2</sup>
  - 1. De-escalation
  - 2. Reverence for Human Life
  - 3. Public Safety
  - 4. Fraud, Waste and Abuse

**IV. DEFENSIVE DRIVING**

**(60 min) (PSP II c, d, e, f)**

- 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

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1 Department Manual Section 4/205, Vehicle Pursuit Procedures

2 LAPD Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

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- 2. Supplemental Restraint System (air bags)
- E. Vehicle Dynamics
  - 1. Rear wheel cheat
  - 2. Front-end swing

**V. MANEUVERING COURSE EXERCISES** (110 min) (PSP II (e, f, g, h,))

- A. Safety Brief
- B. Rotations
  - 1. Establish groups
  - 2. Car assignments
- C. Conduct exercise rotations
  - 1. Offset Lane Exercise
  - 2. Turn-Around Maneuver Exercise
  - 3. Steering Course Exercise
  - 4. "T" Driveway
  - 5. Parallel Parking Exercise

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

- D. Testing/Evaluation
  - 1. Students scoring below standard on any exercise, as established by the presenter, will be remediated and re-tested
  - 2. Remediation and re-testing will continue until standards are achieved.