

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Foot Pursuit
Expanded Course Outline
1850-21124

Instructional Goal: To provide the student an opportunity to review and apply issues related to foot pursuits, including tactics, communications, firearms, use of force, and perimeters.

Performance Objectives: Using learning activities and practical application the students will:

- ❑ Work as a team to develop a plan for engaging in a foot pursuit, including risk assessment
- ❑ Identify and develop a flexible tactical approach to the pursuit situation
- ❑ Participate in a foot pursuit and apprehend the suspect
- ❑ Understand the Use of Force Policy and use of Tactical De-escalation Techniques
- ❑ 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.
- ❑ Articulation of force options chosen

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

Note: This course provides current Penal Code Section 835a content

I. OPENING (15 Min)

- A. Introduction
 - 1. Instructor
 - 2. Brief overview of training schedule
- B. Course Goals
 - 1. Trainings goal - to provide officers practical experience in foot pursuits and the reporting of use of force incidents
 - 2. Training Benefits - refresh perishable skills and develop new skill in the articulation of the force option chosen.
- C. Foot Pursuit Overview
 - 1. Key Points to consider during a foot pursuit.
 - a. Apprehension or Containment Mode
 - b. Communications
 - c. Setting up the perimeter
 - 2. Seek a student volunteer to talk about a foot pursuit they had.
 - 3. Distribute: High-Risk Physiological Response to Field Situations Handout

II. USE OF FORCE POLICIES AND LEGAL ISSUES (60 Min) (PSP III a, b)

- A. Case Law Update, report documentation and policy
 - 1. Tennessee v Garner
- B. Graham v Connor
- C. Overview of Penal Code Updates
 - 1. AB 392
 - 2. PC 835a
 - 3. PC 196

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- D. Local Policies
 - 1. SB 230 guidelines
 - 2. Use of Force policy updates¹
 - 3. Command and Control²
- E. Report Writing
 - 1. Proper documentation of use of force incidents
 - 2. Articulation of events
 - 3. Documentation of injuries/aid rendered to subjects, officers, bystander

III. SAFETY ORIENTATION AND WARM-UP (10 Min) (PSP III c)

- A. Review of Safety Policies and Injury Precautions
 - 1. Review safety policy
 - 2. Emergency exits
 - 3. AED
 - 4. Avoiding injury
- B. Warm-up
 - 1. Stretching exercises
 - 2. Mental preparation
- C. Physical conditioning
 - 1. Three Biggest Disablers
 - a. Heart Attacks
 - b. Lower Back and Knee Injuries
 - c. Peptic Ulcers
 - 2. How to Reduce Individual Risk to Above Disablers
 - a. Nutrition
 - b. Lifetime Fitness

IV. SUBJECT'S ACTIONS AND OFFICER'S RESPONSE (20 Min) (PSP III h, j)

- A. Subject's actions
 - 1. Compliant
 - 2. Passive non-compliant
 - 3. Actively Resistant
 - 4. Assaultive
 - 5. Life Threatening
- B. Officer's Response to Resistance
 - 1. Non-deadly
 - 2. Intermediate force
 - 3. Deadly force
- C. Students will participate in a scenario-based exercise to demonstrate
 - 1. Safety

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

² Training Bulletin, Volume XLVII Issue 4, COMMAND AND CONTROL

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2. Awareness
3. Balance
4. Control
5. Controlling Force
6. Proper Techniques
7. Verbal Commands/Instructions

V. OFFICER AWARENESS/TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (20 Min) (PSP III e)

- A. Initial Approach with Subject
 1. Hands
 2. Cover
 3. Weapons/bulges
 4. Footing/balance, officer's ability to stay on his/her feet
- B. Tactical Considerations
 1. Associates, subjects, and officers (resources available)
 2. Escape routes, subjects – tactical retreat, officers

VI. BODY BALANCE/STANCE AND MOVEMENT FROM POSITION OF INTERVIEW AND POSITION OF ADVANTAGE (20 Min) (PSP III e)

- A. Footwork Review
 1. Forward shuffle
 2. Rear shuffle
 3. Normal pivot
 4. Shuffle right and left
 5. Pivot right and left
 6. Progressive pivot
 7. Shuffle pivot
- B. Body Balance and Movement
 1. How to fall to the ground safely and assume a position of advantage
 2. Access to equipment on duty belt while in a position of advantage and on the ground

VII. SEARCH/HANDCUFFING (Min 15) (PSP III f, k)

- Search
 1. Visual Search (plain view)
 2. Pat Down
 3. Incident to Arrest/complete search
- B. Handcuffing Techniques from
 1. Standing
 2. Kneeling
 3. Prone
- C. Assess for Officer and Suspect Injuries
 1. Render First Aid or request additional medical as needed

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2. Document

VIII. CONTROL HOLD/ TAKE DOWNS **(20 Min) (PSP III i, k)**

- A. Control Hold
 1. Joint Manipulation
 2. Pain Compliance
- B. Take Downs
 1. Various Positions
 - a. Handcuffed
 - b. Non-cuffed
 2. Single Officer
 3. Multiple Officer
- C. Assess for Officer and Suspect Injuries
 1. Render First Aid or request additional medical as needed
 2. Document

IX. DE-ESCALATION OF FORCE³ **(60 Min) (PSP III d)**

- A. Verbal Commands
 1. Tone of voice
 2. Gain voluntary compliance
 3. Single communicator
- B. Assessment
 1. Ability
 2. Opportunity
 3. Intent
 4. Recognize when to escalate vs. de-escalate
 - i. When verbal commands fail – time to take action
 - ii. Use of force warning when feasible
- C. Tactics
 1. Distance plus cover equals time
 2. Resources
 3. Contiguously Plan

X. STUDENT RECOVERY **(10 Min) (PSP III k)**

- A. Cool Down
 1. Stretching
 2. Hydration
- B. Injuries
 1. Treat
 2. Document

³ LAPD Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Tactical De-Escalation Techniques

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XI. FOOT PURSUIT PRACTICAL EXERCISE (100 Min) (PSP III b, c, d, e, g, h, i, c)

A. Group Exercise

1. Foot pursuits are dangerous in nature and officers need to control the instinct to chase.
2. Physical and mental preparedness are essential to maintaining a tactical advantage during a foot pursuit and limiting the potential for injury.
3. Constant assessment during a foot pursuit will allow officers to adjust tactical plans when appropriate.
4. Facilitator instructions:
 - a. Scenario overview: (do not advise students of the outcome)
Foot Pursuit Use of Force
Two officers responding to a radio call of a “459 suspect there now.”
As the officers approach the call location, a suspect walk out from between the buildings carrying a bag of property. A foot pursuit occurs on a pre-designated course and the officers will chase the suspect on foot to the termination point in the backyard of a residence. A reportable use of force will occur. ⁴
 - a. Reinforce the safety guidelines and ensure that all involved parties have the necessary safety equipment
 - b. Utilize training techniques to facilitate growth and understanding for students and instructors.
5. Gather the students in a stand-by location where they can obtain the necessary equipment to participate in the scenario
 - a. Equipment
 - 1) Black/white vehicle
 - 2) Radios
 - a) Radios are set on a training TAC frequency
 - 3) Inert weapons
 - a) Orange Handle
 - b) Facsimiles recreations
 - c) Inert OC⁵
 - d) Inert TASER⁶
6. Designate partnerships for the scenario and allow the team time to plan their response to the scenario
7. Role Player instructions:
 - a. Suspect: As the officers approach the call location, walk out from between the buildings carrying a bag of property. Look in the officer’s direction, throw the bag down and run on the pre-designated course.

⁴ Los Angeles Police Department Manual 4/245

⁵ Los Angeles Police Department, Use of Force Tactics Directive, Oleoresin Capsicum

⁶ Los Angeles Police Department, Use of Force Tactics Directive, Electronic Control Device-TASER

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Run at a pace that will encourage the officers to chase you. Once you enter the back-yard turn and take on a combative stance. Branch your actions accordingly in relation to the officer's actions or in-actions.

- 1) Allow the officer to take control⁷
 - a) Handcuff
 - b) Search
 - c) Equipment/restraint devices
 - c. Safety Officer: The safety officer is responsible to monitor the scenario for overall safety and be in a position to stop the actions prior to any physical contact occurs.
 - b. Evaluation/Critique Form Completion
 - 1) Complete the Foot Pursuit/Use of Force Critique form
 - 2) Critique each team's performance
 - 3) Assist in the debrief
 - c. Instructor: Facilitate a debrief of the scenario and complete any associated paperwork if applicable.
- B. Debrief: ^{8 9 10}
1. Instructor will facilitate a debrief of the scenario.
 - a. Call response
 - 1) Deployment
 - 2) Tactical Communications (code 6)
 - 3) Legal Justification
 - a) Discuss reasonable suspicion vs probable cause (117c, e)
 - b) Discuss how mere flight plays into the above legal standards and court rulings on such actions.
 - c) Discuss relation to the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments
 - 4) Contact/cover
 - a) If adhered to, comment as such
 - (1) If a deviation occurred seek articulation to justify.
 - b. Foot pursuit- initiation
 - 1) Assessment and balancing of the risk vs reward of the foot pursuit.
 - a) Students should note suspect, public, and officer safety.
 - 2) The rapidly changing nature of these encounters require that officers develop a flexible tactical approach to each pursuit situation
 - a) Have a plan

⁷ Los Angeles Police Department Training Bulletin, Handcuffing

⁸ Notice, OSS Notice, Code Six Notification

⁹ POST workbook LD 22 Patrol Techniques, Foot Pursuits

¹⁰ LAPD Directive Foot Pursuit Concepts

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- b) Plans should include
 - (1) Actions they would take if a fellow officer is wounded and suspect flees on foot
 - (2) Coordination of who will transmit radio traffic
 - (3) Appropriate use of or escalation of force
- 3) Communication
 - a) Radio broadcast (secondary officer's responsibility)
 - (1) What sort of information should be included
 - (2) What is the intent of this information
 - b) Partners-
 - (1) Tactical Communication between partners
 - (2) Your partner may not have seen what you saw
- c. Actions During foot pursuit.
 - 1) Debrief on going tactical communication
 - 2) Debrief the path taken by the officers in relation to the suspect
 - 3) Debrief decision to continue or stop if suspect visual lost
 - 4) Apprehension vs Containment Mode
 - 5) Parallel Foot Pursuit Tactics
- d. Termination
 - 1) Debrief possible occurrences at the termination
 - a) Suspect submits to arrest
 - b) Suspect resists
 - c) Officers loose suspect
- e. Perimeters
 - a) Purpose of a perimeter¹¹
 - b) Boundaries for the perimeter
 - c) The Four C's

XII. CLOSING

(5 min)

Reinforce the key learning points

- A. Foot pursuits are inherently dangerous, and require officers to think, rather than blindly succumb to the natural urge to give chase
- B. Officer must be physically and mentally prepared to apprehend a fleeing suspect. Maintain perishable skills, i.e. defensive tactics
- C. Communicate with your partner and have a flexible tactical approach to foot pursuit situations
- D. Use of Force Reporting
- E. The Department's guiding value when using force shall be reverence for human life.¹²

¹¹ LAPD Directive Foot Pursuit Concepts

¹² Department Manual Section 1/556.10, Policy on the Use of Force