

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Narcotics Investigation**  
**1850-32660**

**Instructional Goal:**

To provide students with a foundation on methods used to conduct basic narcotic investigations

**Performance Objectives:**

Using lecture, audiovisual presentation and facilitated discussion, the students will:

- Understand current drug trends
- Recognize stimulants appearance, packaging, and symptoms
- Recognize opiates and opioids appearance, packaging and symptoms
- Explain the differences of a consensual encounter, detention, and arrest
- Understand the elements that must be included in a narcotic arrest report
- Understand legal parameters of a search warrant
- Understand how to develop a plan for warrant service
- Know policy and appropriate procedure when encountering clandestine labs
- Understand the requirements when to complete an informant package
- Understand the inherent dangers of undercover and plainclothes operations
- Basic understanding of state asset forfeiture
- Understand how to develop and document expertise
- Properly book drug evidence and eliminate kickbacks
- Recognize the value of pre/post incident planning strategies in the area of risk management

**DAY 1**

**I. Course Introduction (90 Min)**

- A. Introduction of instructors
  - 1. Instructor BIO
- B. Overview of 3-day block of instruction
- C. Student Introductions
  - 1. Students Background Experience

**II. Narcotics Crime Trends (60 Min)**

- A. Summary of Drugs and Crime Relationship
  - 1. Drug defined offenses
  - 2. Drug related offenses
  - 3. Drug using lifestyles

**III. Drug Identification (90 Min)**

- A. California Health and Safety Code
  - 1. 11041 H&S

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- 2. Drug Schedules
- B. Cocaine and other stimulants
  - 1. History,
  - 2. Identification,
  - 3. Packaging of cocaine
  - 4. Physical and Behavioral Symptoms
- C. Major sub-categories of Controlled Nervous Stimulant (CNS) stimulants
  - 1. Cocaine
  - 2. Amphetamines
  - 3. Other Stimulants
  - 4. Effects on the body
- D. Amphetamines
  - 1. Brief history of amphetamines
  - 2. Present day medical purposes for amphetamines
  - 3. Amphetamines are also illegally manufactured in this country
  - 4. Product appearance
  - 5. Paraphernalia
  - 6. Physical influence identification
  - 7. Behavioral influence identification
  - 8. Chronic abuser identification
  - 9. Time factors: smoked or injected
- E. Methods of Ingestion of CNS Stimulants
  - 1. A brief history of amphetamines
  - 2. Present day medical purposes for amphetamines
  - 3. Amphetamines are also illegally manufactured in this country
  - 4. Product appearance
  - 5. Paraphernalia
  - 6. Physical influence identification
  - 7. Behavioral influence identification
  - 8. Chronic abuser identification
  - 9. Time factors: smoked or injected
- F. Heroin and Opiates
  - 1. History
  - 2. Identification
  - 3. Packaging
  - 4. Ingestion
  - 5. Effects on the body
- G. Rave Drugs
  - 1. Identification of drugs commonly found at Rave events
  - 2. Lysergic Diethylamide (LSD),
  - 3. Hallucinogens
  - 4. Psychostimulants
  - 5. Dispensaries

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**IV. Cannabis** **(60 Min)**

- A. History
- B. State Law vs. Federal
- C. Indoor Grows
- D. City Codes

**V. Law Update** **(60 Min)**

- A. 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - 1. 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment definitions are reflective of those most commonly utilized by appellate courts.
  - 2. Discuss defining the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - 3. Discuss consensual encounters
  - 4. Discuss detentions
  - 5. Discuss arrests
  - 6. Discuss searches

**VI. Arrest and Narcotic Reports** **(120 Min)**

- A. Arrest Reports
  - 1. Probable Cause
  - 2. Substance
  - 3. Relevance
  - 4. Observation posts
  - 5. Informant information
- B. Case Analysis
  - 1. Students will be given a report based on a case study
  - 2. Students will review the report to identify issues that need to be corrected
- C. Students will observe a narcotics transaction/arrest and complete an arrest report<sup>1</sup>
  - 1. Complete Report
  - 2. Review report with students

**DAY 2**

**VII. Search Warrants** **(120 Min)**

- A. Purpose of search warrant
  - 1. 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment compliance
  - 2. Evidence recovery
- B. Parameters
  - 1. Timelines
  - 2. What can you search for?
- C. Search warrant process<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 2019 LAPD Manual 4/258.14 Receiving Narcotic Information

<sup>2</sup> 2019 LAPD Manual 4/742.10 Search Warrant Procedures

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1. Completion
  2. Review process
  3. Magistrate approval
- D. Search warrant service
1. Operational planning
  2. Resources available
  3. Notifications

**VIII. Clandestine Labs**

**(90 Min)**

- A. Trends in Lab Investigations
1. Manufacturing methamphetamine
  2. Phencyclidine (PCP)<sup>3</sup>
  3. Butane Honey Oil (BHO)
- B. Dangerous nature of drug labs and their chemicals
1. The volatile nature of drug labs
  2. Flash fire
  3. Chemical routes of entry into the body
  4. Modes of action
  5. Degree of exposure
  6. Distribution/removal – fate of the chemical in the body
  7. Common chemicals and manufacturing items
  8. Handling flammables
  9. Chemical First Aid
- C. LAPD guidelines policies and procedures for clandestine labs
1. O.O Notice #34: Dangers of Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratories, LAPD Manual Vol. 4/212.49: Investigations Involving Hazardous Materials, LACRCIC Officer Safety Bulletin: Methanol Hazard and Meth Lab Booby trap
  2. Resources

**IX. Gang and Narcotics Division**

**(60 Min)**

- A. Familiarize students with Gang and Narcotics Division (GND)
1. Resources available within GND

**X. Informants**

**(90 Min)**

- A. Informant Management and control<sup>4</sup>
1. LAPD Policy
  2. Informant management restrictions
  3. Informant package process

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<sup>3</sup> 2019 LAPD Manual 4/648.16 Medical Treatment for Arrestees Under the Influence of PCP

<sup>4</sup> 2019 LAPD Informant Manual

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**XI. Narcotics Investigations/Plan Clothes Operations (120 Min)**

- A. Notifications
  - 1. Supervisor
  - 2. Local PD
- B. Equipment
  - 1. Safety equipment<sup>5</sup>
- C. What is your mission?
  - 1. Surveillance
  - 2. UC vs CS meet
  - 3. Enforcement
- D. Blue on blue
  - 1. Safety briefing

**DAY 3**

**XII. Asset Forfeiture (90 Min)**

- A. What is an asset
  - 1. Real property
  - 2. Personal property
- B. What is asset forfeiture entail?
  - 1. 11470 H&S
  - 2. Federal statute
  - 3. Ethical guidelines
  - 4. State forfeiture filing statutes
  - 5. Federal statutes
  - 6. Minimum requirements for state filing
  - 7. Guidelines for the seizure of assets
  - 8. Conveyances
  - 9. Forfeiture filing due dates
- C. Distribution of seized assets
  - 1. State
  - 2. Federal
- D. How to contact Asset Forfeiture
  - 1. Contact GND

**XIII. Risk Management (90 Min)**

- A. Brief overview of Law Enforcement Risk Management
  - 1. Nature of Scope of the Problem
- B. Law Enforcement Risk Management
  - 1. The creation of Risk Management (Legal Affairs Section)
  - 2. Risk Management Group primary function

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<sup>5</sup> LAPD Use of Force Directive 10.3 Undercover and Surveillance Operations

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- C. Learning Activity
  - 1. Nature and scope of the problem
  - 2. Large Group activity
  - 3. Show video
- D. Public Opinion of Law Enforcement
  - 1. Public Scrutiny
  - 2. Source of unfavorable media focus increases litigation
  - 3. Positive perception of Law enforcement
  - 4. Negative perception of Law enforcement
  - 5. Sources of unfavorable media focus of the Los Angeles Police Department
  - 6. 90/70/50 Rule
- E. Learning Activity-Civil Action
  - 1. Show video
  - 2. What effect media and public opinion has on the outcome of a civil trial
  - 3. Short discussion about the video and how litigation isn't about right or wrong but what people perceive and believe about law enforcement
  - 4. Customer Service-Dignity and Respect
- F. Learning Activity-Courtesy and Demeanor
  - 1. Video presentation
  - 2. Short discussion about the video and how a positive demeanor can have an unparalleled impact on public opinion of the police department
- G. Closing Review of Risk Management
  - 1. The importance of dignity and respect in the area of reducing civil liability
  - 2. Positive outcome of potential jury and public perception can be enhanced with a professional demeanor, courtesy, and interaction with the community
- H. Risk Management Concepts and Principles
  - 1. Negative Consequences-When things don't go right
  - 2. Professional Conduct Model
- I. Learning Activity: Gordon Graham "The Value of Training" (Optional)
  - 1. Show video
  - 2. Debrief the points brought up in the video
  - 3. Good training/training employees
    - a. Show video
  - 4. Initial and Ongoing
  - 5. Achieving Professional Conduct
  - 6. 6. Identify your critical job tasks
- J. Post Incident Strategies
  - 1. Threshold Incidents
  - 2. Evidence
  - 3. Witnesses
  - 4. Photographs and video
  - 5. Resume
  - 6. Summons & Complaint

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- K. Closing
  - 1. The importance of dignity and respect in the area of reducing civil liability
  - 2. Ensure reports are accurate, consistent, thorough and sufficiently detailed
  - 3. The pre and post assessment will assist in reducing the potential for civil liability
  - 4. Risk Management Personnel are available for assistance thru the Department Command Post

**XIV. Evidence Processing<sup>67</sup> (60 Min)**

- A. Property report completion
  - 1. Accuracy
- B. Packaging Evidence
  - 1. Department Policy
  - 2. Basic rules on booking narcotics
  - 3. Weights and measures
- C. Notifications
  - 1. GND
  - 2. SID

**XV. Developing and Maintaining Expertise (90 Min)**

- A. Documentation of knowledge and skills
  - 1. Schools
  - 2. Assignments
  - 3. Training
- B. Statement of expertise
  - 1. Resume

**XVI. Practical Application (120 Min)**

- A. Narcotic and Arrest report
  - 1. Student will write an arrest report based on a scenario
  - 2. Review report with students
- B. Video Presentation
  - 1. Debrief Video

**XVII. Evaluation (30 Min)**

- A. Review topics and collect evaluations
  - 1. Complete course evaluation

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<sup>6</sup> 2019 LAPD Manual 4/540.70 Processing Narcotics

<sup>7</sup> 2019 LAPD Manual 4/540.72 Phencyclidine Handling Procedures