

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Surveillance Techniques
1850-22120
Expanded Course Outline

Instructional Goal: To provide the students with a standardized foundation of the fundamentals and techniques utilized in covert surveillance operations. This is a 24-hour course of instruction that takes place during three consecutive days of instruction.

Performance Objectives: Using group learning activities, PowerPoint presentations, field training exercises, video review and critical group debriefs, the students will learn:

- Fundamentals of vehicle and foot surveillance
- Understand how to participate productively and communicate effectively as a member of a surveillance team
- Recognize common surveillance patterns and counter surveillance techniques utilized and the tactics to combat compromise
- Identify officer safety issues related to surveillance operations
- Demonstrate the ability to successfully conduct an investigation utilizing surveillance as an intelligence gathering investigative tool

References: Instructors shall ensure that the most current references are utilized

CLASSROOM: Small group; lecture, discussion, learning activities, video review, written test

DAY 1

I. SURVEILLANCE TECHNIQUES 0800-0845 (45 Min)

- A. Introduction
 - 1. Instructor(s)
 - 2. Course overview
 - 3. Student introductions

II. CASE PREPARATION¹ 0845-0915 (30 Min)

- 1. Establishing surveillance objectives, investigative focus and target identification
- 2. Research of suspect and possible locations involved
- 3. Surveillance team briefing

III. EQUIPMENT² 0915-0945 (30 Min)

- 1. Discuss necessary safety and operational equipment utilized

B. Fundamentals of Surveillance

- 1. Proper set-up
 - a. **Learning Activity:** Multiple small group table top exercise demonstrating proper location set-up

¹ LAPD Special Order No. 8 dated March 17, 2021 Surveillance Notification Procedures/Tactical Operation Plan

² LAPD Use of Force-Tactics Directive 10.3 dated March 2019, Undercover and Surveillance Operations

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2. Teamwork
 - a. Communication
3. Rules of the Road/Radio Procedures & Terminology
 - a. Importance of following the rules of the road³
4. Surveillance Techniques
 - a. Proper roadway positioning
 - b. Team exchanges & etiquette
5. Debriefing

IV. FIELD TRAINING EXERCISES **0945-1215 (150 Min)**

1215-1315 Lunch

FIELD TRAINING EXERCISES **1315-1700 (225 Min)**

A. Safety briefing

B. Learning Activity: Practical Learning Scenarios

1. Driving and effectively communicating
2. Three 45-minute field scenarios where students conduct surveillance following instructors.
3. Field Debrief of each scenario will occur immediately after the scenario to identify potential learning opportunities before the next scenario begins

DAY 2

V. CRITICAL VIDEO REVIEW **0800-1000 (120 Min)**

VI. SURVEILLANCE LOGS **1000-1015 (15 Min)**

VII. FREEWAYS, FOOT OPERATIONS and COUNTER SURVEILLANCE **1015-1215 (120 Min)**

A. Freeway Driving

1. Vehicle positions
2. Traffic conditions
3. Handling freeway transitions, on/off ramps, **Learning Activity:** Review Video
4. HOV lanes

B. Foot Surveillance

³ California Vehicle Code, 21055 CVC

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1. Officer Safety Issues
2. Operating within different environments
3. Team communications
4. Cover Stories

C. Counter Surveillance

1. **Learning Activity:** Review video
2. Common techniques and counter measures
3. Officer Safety concerns

1215-1315 Lunch

VIII. FIELD TRAINING EXERCISES

1315-1700 (225 Min)

A. Safety Briefing

B. **Learning Activity:** Practical Learning Scenarios

1. Driving and effectively communicating
2. Three 45-minute field scenarios where students conduct surveillance following instructors.
3. Field Debrief of each scenario will occur immediately after the scenario to identify potential learning opportunities before the next scenario begins

DAY 3

IX. CRITICAL VIDEO REVIEW

0800-0825 (25 Min)

X. NIGHT OPERATIONS

0825-0945 (80 Min)

XI. CASE STUDY

0945-1245 (180 Min)

A. **Learning activity:** Watch surveillance/field operations video

B. **Learning activity:** Identification exercise

1245-1345 Lunch

XII. WRITTEN AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION TESTS

1345-1510 (85 Min)

A. **Learning Activity:** Written test

B. Practical Field Test Briefing

C. **Learning Activity:** Practical Field Application Test

D. **Learning Activity:** Student lead Practical Field Application Test Debrief

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XIII. ACHIEVEMENT CEREMONY AND CLASS CRITIQUES 1510-1700 (50 Min)