

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Practical De-Escalation & Tactical Conduct**  
**1850-20811**  
**Safety Policy**

**I. RULES OF SAFETY AND CONDUCT**

**A. General Rules**

1. Instructor(s) shall conduct a safety brief with all students at the beginning of each training day at each critical stage of the training/testing as needed.
2. Instructor(s) shall supply, in written form, the safety/facility rules to each student.
3. Presenter shall verify that necessary communications equipment/devices are in place and in working order.
4. Instructional staff shall assign specific safety roles to students/staff in the case of emergencies. Those roles shall include:
  - a. Pathfinders/guides for responding emergency medical personnel
  - b. Radio/telephone communications for emergency response and required chain of command notification(s)
  - c. AED operator(s)
  - d. Identify students/staff, if any, with advanced medical training (Emergency Medical Technicians, Paramedics, etc.)
5. Training shall be conducted in a manner designed to minimize any risk of injury and to promote student, staff, and instructor safety.
6. Clothing and footwear appropriate to the training, relevant terrain and any course(s) of fire shall be required.
7. Prior to the commencement of training Instructors shall brief the location(s) of staging area(s) for students and staff not involved in the training, restrooms, and drinking water.
8. There shall be a fully equipped first aid/trauma kit and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) readily accessible as well as qualified personnel to use them.
9. Instructors/scenario evaluators shall be aware of the tendency of some students and role players to be overly aggressive or competitive while engaged in training activities/testing, thereby increasing the potential for injury to the student and/or role player(s). Necessary and appropriate steps shall be taken to ensure the safety of all participants.
10. All students participating in training shall notify the instructor of all medical restrictions prior to beginning training.
11. Students shall be instructed to immediately report any perceived safety hazard to the instructors.

**B. Course Specific Rules**

1. Instructor(s) shall conduct a safety brief with all students immediately prior to any range activities.
2. Instructors who present firearms content shall meet the instructor training course requirements delineated in section 1070(b) for Firearms.
3. Instructors/rangemasters shall have a broad, general knowledge of firearms.
4. Students shall be repeatedly reminded to follow basic firearms safety rules.
5. Instructors shall conduct a briefing of any role players before the commencement of scenario training or event simulations. Students shall not be assigned as role players.

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6. Manipulative skills training/testing shall be held in facilities and sites with controlled access to ensure that uninvolved individuals and vehicles do not present safety hazards.
7. Instructors shall follow recognized training principles in the delivery of manipulative skill training to minimize the potential for accidents and injuries.
8. Students shall remove watches, rings, necklaces, earrings and other jewelry when their presence presents a safety risk.
9. The stop word for instructors and students is "BREAK!" All activity shall stop when a student or an instructor says "BREAK!"
10. All emergency procedures will be in place and communications established before initiating scenarios.
11. General safety and procedures unique to each scenario shall be communicated to the students by the presenter before each training session.
12. Virtual reality simulator (VR) specific safety:
  - a. The wearing of loose or excessive jewelry during exercises should be prohibited since it may create a hazard to the student.
  - b. Long hair should be adequately secured as to not create a hazard to the student.
  - c. Virtual reality inert weapons shall be used. A safety check of all weapons used in scenario training shall be conducted not only prior to training, but also following any breaks in training, or when students or role-players have been allowed to leave the training site.
  - d. None of the following equipment are allowed in the training area:
    - 1) No live firearms or ammunition
    - 2) No OC spray
    - 3) No taser
    - 4) No batons/impact weapons
    - 5) No knives
  - e. Instructors shall ensure students properly wear equipment.
  - f. Instructors shall ensure students understand the compressed air powered pistol slide and how to avoid getting caught in the action.
  - g. Instructors shall ensure students understand the safety barriers in virtual reality and explain the "volume" of virtual space.
  - h. Instructors shall familiarize students with the safety cones in virtual reality and explain the concept of virtual avatars.
  - i. Instructors shall demonstrate that the ground in the "volume" is level but that virtual environments can appear to have elevation changes.
  - j. Instructors shall demonstrate that virtual objects and walls are not physical and that students should not attempt use them as support.

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- k. Instructors shall ensure students understand that motion sickness is unlikely, but if sickness is experienced, students are directed to remove the head mounted display (HMD).
  - l. Instructors shall provide contact information to Behavioral Sciences Section (BSS) for any emotional distress that may result from training in the virtual environment.
13. Every student shall wear eye and ear protection while engaged in shooting or while in the immediate vicinity of the firing line.
  14. Extra protective equipment shall be available for use by visitors, or in the event a student needs a replacement.
  15. Each handgun shooter shall use a presenter approved holster that is compatible with the type of handgun that will be used on the range.
  16. All students shall have the means to safely secure handguns in a holster or other device when not engaged in shooting.
  17. Firearms shall be subject to a safety inspection and be approved by the instructors prior to use on the range.
  18. Weapons and magazines shall be visually checked to determine if loaded or unloaded, and for indications of metal fatigue or deformities, prior to training.
  19. A firearms safety check shall be conducted after lunch breaks, transportation to remote ranges, or other breaks in training.
  20. Procedures for the safe handling of weapon malfunctions, ammunition failures, and other unusual occurrences shall be reviewed with students prior to live fire training.
  21. Students shall be instructed to wash hands, face, and clothing thoroughly after shooting to remove any lead particles or other debris deposited as a result of the weapon's discharge.

**C. Site Specific Rules**

1. Range facilities shall conform to all applicable Cal/OSHA standards.
2. The firearms training facility shall have an adequate bullet impact area to provide a reasonable margin of safety from all aimed, strayed, and ricocheted shots.
3. Staff shall conduct periodic inspections to ensure that these areas are functional.
4. Periodic inspection and maintenance of the bullet impact areas shall be conducted for ricochet hazards
5. Range facility managers shall be aware of current EPA and Cal/OSHA standards.
6. Safe areas shall be designated to accommodate persons who are not directly engaged in shooting, including areas for weapon cleaning, and unloading and reloading, and the safe areas shall be clearly identifiable to the student.
7. Range facilities and bullet impact areas shall be inspected at least daily for apparent hazards.
8. Range inspections shall be initiated prior to the beginning of each shooting session and upon return to the facility following any break in training.
9. Props and sets used in tactical shooting courses shall be constructed to minimize the danger created by ricochet.

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10. Presenters shall establish a mandatory “safety zone” and require all persons within to wear eye and ear protection.
11. Instructors/rangemaster shall conform to all applicable EPA and Cal/OSHA standards for range maintenance and cleanup to avoid potential health hazards.

## **II. REPORTING AND HANDLING OF INJURIES**

- A. The POST Regional Consultant shall be notified in writing within five (5) business days when an injury requiring more than basic first aid occurs during training.
- B. Instructors shall be familiar with the causes of common training-related injuries and strategies for preventing such injuries.
- C. Long periods of training, psychologically demanding activities, adverse weather and environmental conditions, and other factors can mentally and physically fatigue students, thereby increasing the potential for injury.
  - a. These factors could suggest a reduction in training intensity and shall be considered when establishing the instructional pace.
  - b. Frequent rest and water breaks may be necessary.
- D. Students shall immediately report any injury to the instructors.
- E. In addition to standard injury protocols, the following are specific to firearms injuries
  1. Have all personnel safely holster their weapons.
    - a. Do not unload any weapons
    - b. Secure and retain the involved officer’s weapon for the investigators
  2. Clear the range of all unnecessary personnel.
- F. Minor Injuries
  1. Each training site will keep a list of the nearest medical facilities.
  2. Locations and contact information of the nearest medical facilities shall be briefed with staff and students before training begins.
  3. Students shall immediately notify an instructor and/or supervisor of any injury sustained during training.
  4. Personnel should render first aid and obtain the appropriate medical assistance.
  5. Call for rescue ambulance via telephone or radio if necessary
  6. Transport to the local hospital for all minor injuries not requiring emergency response.
  7. All administrative notifications shall be made.
- G. Major Injuries
  1. Instructors will stop all training.
  2. Request a Fire Department Rescue Ambulance via telephone or police radio.
  3. Safety personnel will render first aid.
  4. Deploy pathfinders/guides for responding emergency medical personnel.

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5. In case of a serious injury, all Injury Identification and Prevention Program (IIPP) notifications and protocol shall be followed. <sup>1</sup>
6. All administrative notifications shall be made.

**III. RATIOS OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF TO STUDENTS**

- A. Lecture 1: 25
- B. VR practical application 1:5
- C. Firearms live fire, static 1:5
- D. Firearms live fire, moving 1:1

**IV. TRAINING LOCATIONS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL FACILITIES**

- A. Below is the designated training and medical facilities associated with this course

<b>Los Angeles Police Academy (Elysian Park)</b> 1880 N. Academy Dr Los Angeles, California 90012 323-612-4460	<b>Glendale Adventist Medical Center</b> 1530 E. Chevy Chase Drive Glendale, CA 91206 (818)409-8000
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<sup>1</sup> Los Angeles Police Department Medical Liaison Division IIPP in accordance with CAL OSHA.