

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Driver Training (EVOC) UPD (PIT)**  
**1850-21165**  
**Expanded Course Outline**

**Instructional Goal:** To provide students with the laws and policies pertaining to emergency vehicle operations and the Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT), to review and rehearse backing/parking exercises, and enhance the student's efficiency and safety in operating police vehicles. The student will also review how to identify a hazard, select avoidance options, and execute maneuvers to avoid collisions.

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

- ❑ Demonstrate a minimum standard of psychomotor skills with every technique and exercise to include:
  - Judgement and Decision-Making
  - Policy/Legal and Moral Issues
  - Basic Driving Principles and Vehicle Dynamics
  - Defensive Driving
- ❑ Demonstrate proper decision making to avoid collisions
- ❑ Demonstrate the ability to back a vehicle in a safe manner and park efficiently
- ❑ Demonstrate knowledge of their Driver Training/Awareness skills and techniques
- ❑ Identify PIT as a forced rotational stop
- ❑ Identify the most desirable locations for conducting PIT
- ❑ Recognize actions of a violator that indicate the potential need for PIT
- ❑ Identify the types of vehicles to avoid when attempting the PIT
- ❑ Identify how the PIT reduces public-safety risks by ending pursuits safely
- ❑ Demonstrate the ability to properly PIT a vehicle

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

**This course provides current Penal Code Section 835a content**

**I. COURSE OVERVIEW AND SAFETY BRIEF (15 min)**

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

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

- 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

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- 2. Steering method, driving forward
  - 3. Steering method, backing
  - C. Roadway Position
    - 1. Definition
    - 2. Advantages
    - 3. Driving points in a turn
- PSP II (f)**

**III. DEFENSIVE DRIVING** **(30 min) PSP II (d)**

- 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
    - 2. Supplemental Restraint System (air bags)
  - E. Vehicle Dynamics
    - 1. Rear wheel cheat
    - 2. Front-end swing
- PSP II (e)**
- PSP II (f)**
- PSP II (c)**

**IV. PURSUIT POLICY & PIT POLICY/PROCEDURE** **(90 min)**

- A. Legal and Moral Aspects
    - 1. California Vehicle Codes (CVC)
    - 2. Case law
    - 3. Emergency Equipment Requirements
    - 4. Agency policy<sup>1 2</sup>
    - 5. Vehicle Pursuit Operations
    - 6. Moral aspects<sup>3</sup>
  - B. Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)<sup>2</sup>
    - 1. Definition
    - 2. Purpose
    - 3. Policy application
- PSP II (b)**
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<sup>1</sup> Department Manual Section 4/205, Vehicle Pursuit Procedures

<sup>2</sup> Department Manual Section 4/205.20, Vehicle Intervention Techniques

<sup>3</sup> LAPD Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

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4. Vehicle dynamics
5. Technique
6. Tactics
  - a. Speed
  - b. Use of Force considerations<sup>4 5</sup>
  - c. Supervisory approval
  - d. Executed at the discretion of the primary officer after receiving approval
  - e. Third unit
  - f. Primary responsibility
  - g. Other units
7. Supervisory Considerations
8. Reporting

**V. PIT PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

**(60 min)**

- A. Safety Policy/Orientation** **PSP II (a)**
1. Review Safety Policy
  2. Equipment
  3. Reporting Requirements
  4. Signals
  5. Communication
  6. Speed limits
- B. Rotations**
1. Establish groups
  2. Car assignments
- C. Instructor demonstration**
1. Conducted on track area
  2. Instructor demonstrates each of the exercises and points out key learning points
- D. Practical application and certification**
1. Demonstrate understanding of vehicle dynamics throughout road course
  2. Students rehearse and demonstrate pacing and PIT
  3. Ten PIT maneuvers will be attempted by each student
  4. Students shall be successful in four of their last six PIT attempts to certify

**VI. COLLISION AVOIDANCE SIMULATOR AND BACKING/PARKING DRILLS**

**(135 min)**

- A. Safety Policy/Orientation** **PSP II (a)**
1. Review Safety Policy
  2. Equipment
  3. Reporting Requirements
  4. Signals
  5. Communication
  6. Speed limits
- B. Rotations**
1. Establish groups
  2. Car assignments

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<sup>4</sup> Department Manual Section 1/556.10, Policy on the Use of Force

<sup>5</sup> LAPD Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Use of Force Policy

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- C. Demonstration: Collision Avoidance, Backing/Parking, Intersections
  - 1. Conducted on track area
  - 2. Instructor demonstrates each of the exercises and points out key learning points
- D. Collision Avoidance Simulator Exercise **PSP II (c, d, g, h)**
  - 1. Review elements of defensive driving
  - 2. Practical application; student practice repetitions
  - 3. Practical application; student evaluation
- E. Backing and Parking Maneuvers **PSP II (c, f, g, h)**
  - 1. Review key learning points
  - 2. Review vehicle dynamics
  - 3. Practical application; student practice
- F. Intersection Exercises **PSP II (e, d, g, h)**
  - 1. Review key learning points
  - 2. Practical applications conducted as students transition between road course stations; PIT, Collision Avoidance, Parking, Backing

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