

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

K-9 Basic CUR Code: SP469 LAPD Only

Instructional Goal:

To provide the student with an overview of the Metropolitan K-9 Platoon purpose, history, functions, and objectives. To teach students how to better integrate tactical de-escalation techniques, less lethal devices and command and control tactics to preserve human life, reduce the intensity of tense encounters with violent suspects, and mitigate the need for higher levels of force; with the use of a police service canine.

Performance Objective:

- To identify the students' responsibilities as a Metropolitan K-9 Platoon officer and what will be expected of them during the probationary training and what will be required of them after completing the training as an active member of the Platoon.
- Review Use of Force Policy and Guidelines
- Students will discuss tactical de-escalation techniques to reduce the intensity of an encounter with a suspect and mitigate the need for a higher level of force.¹
- 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.²
- By the conclusion of the training (certification), student(s) will understand how the application of this training is in keeping with our Department's UOF policy, philosophy and tactical planning.³
- To review the basic principles of Command and Control, including:
 - Active Leadership
 - Using Available Resources
 - Accomplishing Tasks
 - Minimize Risks⁴
- To introduce the students to the basic nature of canines (how they think and react) and familiarize students with terminology specific to parts of the canines.
 - To enable the students to maintain the welfare, housing, and transport of a police canine. Students will learn canine care and maintenance through lecture, and demonstrations. To enable the students to control a working canine in a safe and effective manner utilizing their verbal, leash (collars), hand commands, and physical control to gain required responses. These skills will be used on a daily basis during on-duty status. Students will learn canine obedience through lecture, live demonstrations, practical exercise and repetition.
- K-9 Handling. The ability to deploy a service canine in safely locating felonious and armed suspects, with the efficient utilization of resources to bring calm to chaos.
- K-9 Search Team Member Responsibilities/Functions. The ability to operate safely and efficiently as a handler on the team not operating the canine.
- K-9 Search Tactics. The ability to formulate a search plan once the criteria has been met, brief personnel, deploy K-9 teams, operate a K-9 team with the best potential for locating and apprehending a suspect(s).
- 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.

¹ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, De-escalation Techniques

² Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, De-escalation Techniques

³ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, De-escalation Techniques

⁴ Training Bulletin, Command and Control

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- By the conclusion of the training, students will understand how the application of this training is in keeping with our Department's UOF policy, philosophy, and tactical planning.
- Officers must always be guided by our overarching value of reverence for human life. Command and Control must be established as quickly as possible to contain, de-escalate, and minimize the negative impact of an incident.
- To provide officers a better understanding of, and accountability for, Command and Control, and how it is used to manage incidents.
- To ensure handlers can manage various field situations in a tactically sound manner while managing a police service canine. The tactics described in this module are presented as a guide to assist officers in safely deploying, locating and apprehending suspects.
- Police work by nature is unpredictable and the tactics utilized by officers are often determined by the actions of the suspect(s), environmental concerns, available resources, and other unforeseen factors. Nothing in this module is intended to replace an officer's training, experience and common sense. Officers are expected to use their best judgment with respect to their safety, the safety of the canines, and the safety of the public when contacting suspects.
- Apply the laws and policy related to Use of Force from intermediate force options to deadly force weapons
- Use of each weapon system proficiently
- Demonstrate how to maintain and care of each weapon system
- Review Use of Force Policy and Guidelines⁵
- Students will discuss tactical de-escalation techniques to reduce the intensity of an encounter with a suspect and mitigate the need for a higher level of force.⁶
- 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.⁷
- By the conclusion of the training, students will understand how the application of this training is in keeping with our Department's UOF policy, philosophy and tactical planning.⁸
- To review the basic principles of Command and Control, including:
 - Active Leadership
 - Using Available Resources
 - Accomplishing Tasks
 - Minimize Risks⁹
- By graduation from basic training, students are able to be deployed along with the rest of the platoon on a major demonstration or disturbance and perform all of our maneuvers and techniques in an efficient manner.
- The officers should be able to perform all of the tasks required in this certification to a satisfactory level while maintaining control of their police service canine.
- The officers should be able to perform all of the tasks required in this certification to a satisfactory level while maintaining control of their police service canine.

⁵ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 1

⁶ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

⁷ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

⁸ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

⁹ Training Bulletin, Command and Control

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- ❑ The officers should be able to perform all of the tasks required in this test to a satisfactory level while maintaining the proper care, transport, and deployment of their police service canine and issued equipment.

References: Instructors/trainers, facilitators and training supervisor shall ensure that the most current references are utilized.

This course provides current Penal Code Section 835a content

This course is given by instructional lecture, videos of various past Metro K-9 Platoon functions (K-9 Searches), and a live demonstration.

I. ORIENTATION (POLICY)

(30 min)

- A. Creation of Metropolitan K-9 Platoon
 - 1. Primarily for search and location of felony and armed suspect(s)
 - 2. Additional duties, (assist patrol with high risk tactics, static displays, demos, train department personnel)
- B. Reasons for K-9 in searches
 - 1. Search tool (outstanding odor detection)
 - 2. Reduce use of force through de-escalation.
 - 3. Able to search/clear areas systematically and efficiently.
- C. SWAT Deployments
 - 1. K-9 Searches with SWAT missions
 - 2. K-9 as an asset¹⁰
- D. Officer Safety
 - 1. Safer to search behind a police service canine.
 - 2. K-9 Platoon has additional tools providing more tactical options for Department missions
- E. Static Displays
 - 1. The K-9's are often used (Department wide) to establish and maintain better public relations by displaying them at various community events.
 - 2. Educates the Department and Community on K-9 Platoon advantages

II. BASIC ANATOMY AND PSYCHOLOGY OF CANINES

(30 mins)

- A. Canine Anatomy
 - 1. Terminology of various parts of canines
 - 2. Familiarize students with parts of canines that tend to create medical problems due to type of work we do.
 - a. Heart rate
 - b. Temperature
 - c. Panting (release of heat)
 - d. Fur/coat
 - e. Paws
 - f. Muzzle
 - 3. Vision and hearing capabilities
 - a. Actual vision is greater than humans in low-light and picks up movement very well even at long distances.

¹⁰ LAPD K-9 Manual, SWAT assist

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- b. Excellent hearing (sensitive to gunfire noises)
- B. Psychology
 - 1. Pack animals
 - a. Alpha, searcher of the pack
 - b. Typically, herding animals
 - 2. Predator as opposed to prey mentality
 - 3. Desired/ideal service dog reactions, i.e. when confronted, will defend (as well as the pack)
- C. Reward driven for goal demonstrated behavior
 - 1. Universal Training Technique to acquire conditioned responses from canines through operant conditioning. Reward based behavior.

III. CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- A. Body
 - 1. Body brush
 - 2. Shedding blade
 - 3. Softer brush for head/face
- B. Paws
 - 1. Pads
 - 2. Nail maintenance (length)
- C. Teeth
 - 1. Routine annual maintenance (dental)
 - 2. Recognize decay
- D. Vaccinations/Injuries
 - 1. Annual checkup and vaccinations
 - 2. Supplements
- E. Transportation
- F. Kenneling
 - 1. Residential
 - 2. Station (transitional)
 - 3. K-9 Platoon member's kennel (other K-9 members)
- G. Compensation (MOU)¹¹
 - 1. Single police service canine; 20 hours straight per DP
 - 2. Two police service canines; 30 hours straight per DP

IV. OBEDIENCE

(420 mins)

- A. Collar
 - 1. Flat
 - 2. Pinch
 - 3. Choke chain
 - 4. Fur Saver
 - 5. Dominant
- B. Leashing
 - 1. Collar (location)
 - 2. Positioning (handler's left side)
- C. Healing/Walking/Follow
 - 1. Control (at handler's side)

¹¹ Memorandum of Understanding, Lieutenants and below

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- 2. Body position
 - a. Standing
 - b. Sitting
 - c. Down
- D. Off-leash
 - 1. Side control
 - 2. Forward control
 - a. Directional
 - b. Forward Downs
 - c. Recall
 - 3. Safety Factors
 - a. Reward (i.e. kong, tug toys, etc.)

V. BASIC HANDLING SKILLS

(240 mins)

- A. Basic obedience and control skills
 - 1. On leash
 - a. Control movement
 - b. Verbal commands (i.e. heal, sit, and downs)
 - 2. Off leash
 - a. Direct/indirect control
 - b. Forward downs
 - c. Recall
 - 3. Bite
 - a. Bite/hold
 - b. Release

VI. POLICY/KNOWLEDGE

VII. REVIEW OF OBEDIENCE AND CARE & MAINTENANCE

(60 mins)

VIII. REVIEW OF OBEDIENCE AND CONTROL

(180 min)

IX. BASIC HANDLING SKILLS

(240 mins)

- A. Basic K-9 Handler Skills
 - 1. Search Team Member
 - a. Operate safely and efficiently as a member of a K-9 Search Team.
 - 2. K-9 Handler
 - a. Handler displays the required alertness to effectively read and interpret canine behavior during training and field operations
 - b. Handler appropriately recognizes behavioral and performance problems with canine
 - c. Handler develops subject matter knowledge related to canine behaviors, canine drives and canine training
 - d. Handler demonstrates command presence and exercises appropriate levels of verbal, physical and E-collar control over canine during training and field operations
 - e. Handler demonstrates the ability to adapt and meet various circumstances presented in differing situations and changing drive levels of canine during training and field operations

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- f. Handler provides corrections and reinforcements to canines in a timely manner
- g. Handler interacts with canines in a manner that motivates and enhances the drives of the canines
- h. Handler demonstrates confidence and comfort while working with canines
- i. Handler demonstrates the ability to multi-task during field deployments by effectively handling a canine, managing a search team and coordinating resources
- j. Handler properly deploys personnel and equipment for K-9 operations, sufficient to maximize the probability of success, while ensuring the safety of police personnel and the public
- k. Handler broadcasts and processes the radio communications during field deployments in a manner that enhances the cooperative efforts of involved personnel
- l. Handler is proficient in K-9 search team tactics and officer safety protocols
- m. Handler develops, understands and implements effective K-9 search team plans
- n. Handler conducts thorough search of assigned search areas
- o. Handler demonstrates problem-solving skills, reasoning ability, and flexibility sufficient to develop effective solutions to difficult field problems

X. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI (480 mins)

XI. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI (240 mins)

XII. SEARCH TEAM MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES/FUNCTIONS (240 mins)

A. Search Team Member Skills

- 1. Handler utilizes appropriate tactics during K-9 searches, which includes but not limited to:
 - a. Entries
 - b. Search patterns
 - c. Teamwork
 - d. Use of cover and concealment
 - e. Light discipline
- 2. Handler demonstrates a strong understanding of current law:
 - a. Search for suspect(s)
 - b. Evidence

XIII. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII (480 mins)

XIV. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII (240 mins)

XV. K-9 SEARCH TACTICS (240 mins)

- A. The handler properly deploys personnel and equipment for K-9 operations, sufficient to maximize the probability to success while ensuring the safety of police personnel and the public.
- B. The handler broadcasts and processes radio communications during field deployments in a manner that enhances the cooperative efforts of involved personnel.
- C. The handler is proficient in K-9 search team tactics and officer safety protocols.
- D. The handler develops, understands, and implements effective K-9 search team plans.
- E. The handler conducts through searches of assigned search areas.

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- F. The handler demonstrates problem-solving skills, reasoning ability, and flexibility sufficient to develop effective solutions to difficult field problems.

XVI. TACTICAL DE-ESCALATION

(30 min)

A. Tactical De-escalation defined (handout)

Tactical de-escalation involves the use of techniques to reduce the intensity of an encounter with a suspect and enable an officer to have additional options to gain voluntary compliance or mitigate the need to use a higher level of force while maintaining control of the situation.

1. Tactical de-escalation techniques¹²
2. P.A.T.R.O.L. Acronym

B. Presence

1. Presence: The ability to project a sense of ease, poise, and self-assurance, especially the quality or manner of a person's bearing before an audience
 - a. Character
 - 1) Who are you as a person
 - 2) What factors have contributed to who you are and your abilities
 - 3) Ability
 - a) Ability to speak to others
 - b) Ability to interact with others
 - c) Ability to empathize with others
 - d) Physical skill level
 - e) Knowledge
 - f) Education
 - g) Experience
 - b. Command Presence: Presence as it applies to influencing or controlling individuals in a policing environment
 - c. Character
 - 1) Who are you as a person
 - a) Biases
 - b) Life experiences
 - c) Empathy
 - d) Respect for people
 - 2) How has being a police officer effected your character
 - d. Ability
 - 1) Physical skill level
 - 2) Training
 - a) Education
 - b) Experience
 - e. Interaction with the public
 - 1) Tactical/Strategic communication
 - 2) Intent
 - 3) Body language
 - 4) Appearance
 - 5) The public's perception of your intent
 - 6) Quality through continuous improvement
 - 7) Personal responsibility

¹² LAPD, Directive No. 16, Tactical De-Escalation Techniques

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- 8) The ability to adapt to an ever-changing environment
- C. Control
1. Control
 - a. Control of a suspect with a canine
 - 1) Apprehension
 - a) Force (Use of Force)¹³
 - 2) Controlling agent
 - a) Physical force utilizing a bite hold. Reportable UOF.
 - b. While control is often elusive, the goal is to influence others to submit to your required actions with the least amount of resistance possible
 - 1) Control of the scene
 - 2) Assessment of the situation
 - 3) Planning
 - 4) Communications
 - 5) Proper amount of resources for the given incident
 - c. Control of yourself
 - 1) Self-control (3 C's): The only thing that can truly be controlled is your self
 - a) Competent
 - (1) Do you have the knowledge?
 - (2) Can you apply what you have learned?
 - (3) Have you maintained your skills?
 - b) Confident
 - (1) Do you believe that you can perform as required?
 - (2) Have you trained to maintain your skills?
 - c) Control
 - (1) Having a clear goal allows for the formation of a plan of action, plans may change as the situation changes but understand what you are attempting to achieve
 - (2) Understanding the effects of adrenaline
 - (3) Remaining professional under stress
 - (4) Physiology of combat
- D. Influence
1. Tactics
 - a. Physical advantage
 - b. Perceived advantage
 2. Body language
 3. Communication
 - a. Verbal
 - b. Non-verbal
 4. Appearance
 - a. Professional
 - b. Ready to handle the situation
- E. Force
1. Non-lethal
 2. Less lethal
 3. Lethal

¹³ LAPD, Directive No. 1, Use of Force

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XVII. COMMAND AND CONTROL (30mins)

- A. Command and Control¹⁴
 - 1. The use of active leadership to direct others while using available resources to coordinate a response, accomplish tasks and minimize risk.
 - 2. *Command* uses active leadership to establish order, provide stability and structure, set objectives and create conditions under which the function of control can be achieved with minimal risk.
 - 3. *Control* implements the plan of action while continuously assessing the situation, making necessary adjustments, managing resources, managing the scope of the incident (containment), and evaluating whether existing Department protocols apply to the incident.
- B. The Four Key Components of Command and Control:
 - 1. **Active Leadership** – Using clear, concise, and unambiguous communication to develop and implement a plan, direct personnel, and manage resources.
 - 2. **Using Available Resources** – Identifying and managing those resources that are needed to plan and implement the desired course of action.
 - 3. **Accomplishing Tasks** – Breaking down a plan of action into smaller objectives and using personnel and resources to meet those objectives.
 - 4. **Minimize Risk** – Taking appropriate actions to mitigate risk exposure to those impacted by the incident, including the community and first responders.
- C. Reverence for human life is the primary consideration in developing tactics and strategies to resolve critical incidents.

XVIII. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII, X (420 mins)

XIX. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII, X (480 mins)

XX. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII, X (240 mins)

XXI. TACTICS (240 mins)

- A. Procedural Justice
 - 1. When community members perceive the justice system and process is fair they are more likely to comply and to obey laws
 - 2. Community members are less likely to file complaints when they see the process is fair and impartial
 - 3. Perceived fairness is key point involving procedural justice.
 - a. Respect for people, by demonstrating respect for others, we will earn respect for the Los Angeles Police Department¹⁵
 - b. Treat everyone as you would want your family to be treated
 - c. All parties are treated with dignity and respect
 - d. Community members' voices should be heard
 - e. Be as friendly as the situation permits
 - f. Be tolerant of verbal abuse
 - g. Maintain composure

¹⁴ LAPD, Training Bulletin Command and Control Volume XLVII Issue 4

¹⁵2010 Los Angeles Police Department Manual 1/110.50 Core Value: Respect for People

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- h. Utilize verbal persuasion techniques to generate voluntary compliance
 - i. Be aware of the indirect or implied messages that your behavior may be sending
 - j. Ensure you maintain neutrality and your decisions are unbiased and trustworthy.
 - k. In order to obtain the community's trust, decisions should be sincere and honest about the basis for the actions
 - l. Understand how decisions are made between officers and the community
 - m. Take a genuine interest and empathize with the individual(s) and the situation
 - n. Perception is everything
- B. Implementation Strategies
- 1. Humanize the experience
 - 2. Explain what you are doing and why you are doing it
 - 3. Create dialogue for community members to be heard
 - a. Be objective and reasonable in making decisions
- C. Encounters with community members and residents
- 1. Verbal approach/demeanor
 - 2. Officers will often obtain information that useful in minimizing the search area through eyewitness statements.
 - 3. Community members or residents often provide detailed locations where suspect(s) have secreted themselves to elude capture.
 - 4. Discretion
 - a. Handlers and officers using discretion, while speaking to the public generally encounter those willing to provide information but fear retaliation from the local criminal element, often receive more info than demanding cooperation.
- D. High Risk/non-cooperative encounters
- 1. Approach, search, and contact
 - a. Handlers' tactical plan should be flexible and adapt plan as additional information or factors become known.
 - b. Handlers should maintain control of their police service canine, while managing their search team to seek cover when possible and maintain the best position of advantage to contain and take the suspect into custody. In a high-risk situation, however, officers need to be more aware of the distance between themselves and the suspect(s) being sure to take advantage of any available cover.
 - c. Maintaining open and effective lines of communications with the suspect is critically important when managing a potentially dangerous encounter.
 - d. Command of the scene is best when available resources are properly deployed to provide the team with the most advantageous position.
 - e. Firearms: The drawing of a firearm and/or use of deadly force is currently governed by Department policy, as well as State and Federal law, however, there are some unique concerns for officers engaged in high-risk canine searches. Officers confronted with deadly force in the field, or the strong possibility of the same, are encouraged to evaluate and transition to available intermediate force options when feasible, while still maintaining designated cover with lethal force. The reasons are obvious; having additional force options available to the K-9 search team greatly increases the probability of de-escalation. Of course, an immediate deadly force encounter may require an immediate response in immediate defense of human life. These possibilities are discussed, and situational training is set up and presented so handlers learn how canines might react to this type of situation.
- F. Aggressive Suspect(s)

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1. If a suspect(s) becomes aggressive and combative towards a handler or search team member, handlers have their police service canine as additional force option to defend against a suspect's assaultive behavior.
Note: A K-9 Handler's use of the police service canine to control a suspect(s) is a reportable use of force. The K-9 Handler shall be guided by State law and Department policy, regarding a reportable use of force incident. The use of a police service canine is a form of de-escalation.¹⁶
2. Officers' tactical plan should be flexible and adapt plan as additional information or factors become known.
3. Continuously assess the situation as circumstances change and new information is received.
4. While officers have at their disposal a multitude of methods, tools and training to take action regarding the control of aggressive/assaultive suspects, only the K-9 Handler can deploy and articulate the direct deployment use of his/her police service canine as a de-escalation tool or controlling agent.
5. Maintaining open and effective lines of communications with the suspect is critically important when managing a potentially dangerous encounter.

G. Foot Pursuits

1. If a suspect run from the police service canine or search team, a secured containment is the primary method of control. However, police service canine may take a bite-hold as reactive-trained behavior should the suspect attempt to flee upon the police service canine locating the suspect. The K-9 handler will be responsible for the safe and timely recall of the police service canine with considerations to the public's, suspect(s)', and search team's safety from the suspect(s)' behavior.
Note: The K-9 Handler will articulate the known factors involved in the use of force.
2. Continuously assess the situation as circumstances change and new information is received.
3. In the case of a tense or potentially dangerous encounter, to help control and contain an incident, requesting additional resources can provide officers with maintaining open and effective lines of communications with the suspect is critically important when managing a potentially dangerous encounter.

H. Secreted suspects, who are located

1. Position of advantage (cover and/or concealment). Upon locating the suspect, the K-9 officers must balance the positional safety of the team with the timely recall (and control) of the police service canine, prior to contacting the suspect. The guarding officer(s) should take a position of advantage allowing a visual observation of the suspect.

Note: In field situations, officers may not be able to immediately approach or call the suspect out due to barriers or other unsafe conditions and/or hazards.

2. Time

- a. Distance + Cover = Time
- b. Time is an essential element of de-escalation
 - 1) Allows officer to communicate
 - a) With each other
 - b) With the suspect

¹⁶ LAPD, Directive No. 16, Tactical De-Escalation Techniques

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XXII. WEAPONS PROFICIENCY

(960 mins)

A. Introduction

1. Introduction of instructors (P.O.S.T. and Department certified)
2. Instructors' experience
3. Share the backgrounds of the instructors and why they are qualified to lead this training
4. Include field experience and academic work
5. Administrative Duties
6. POST Roster
7. Metro Desk contact information (213) 352-4700
8. Health and Safety Guidelines
9. Overview the training schedule
10. Classroom training
 - 1) Use of Force policy¹⁷
 - 2) Use of force policy as it relates to each weapon system.
 - 3) California Penal Code 835(a) defining when force can be used by a police officer
 - 4) UOF Directive 16 De-Escalation
 - 5) Training Bulletin Vol. XLVII issue 4. July 2018 Command and Control
 - 6) Maintenance, care, and use of each weapon system.
11. Skill Development
12. Practical Application and drills
13. Minimum Standards: Department and Metropolitan Division weapons qualifications

B. **LECTURETTE:** Use of Force

1. **DISTRIBUTE:** LAPD Metropolitan Division K-9 Platoon Manual
2. California Penal Code Section 835(a)¹⁸
 - a. Updated pursuant to Assembly Bill 392 that was signed into law on August 19, 2019 and effective as of January 1, 2020.
 - b. Any peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a public offense may use objectively reasonable force to:
 - (1) Effect the arrest,
 - (2) Prevent escape, or
 - (3) Overcome resistance.
 - c. The authority to use physical force, conferred on peace officers by this section, is a serious responsibility that shall be exercised judiciously and with respect for human rights and dignity and for the sanctity of every human life.
 - d. A peace officer who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from their efforts by reason of the resistance or threatened resistance of the person being arrested. A peace officer shall not be deemed an aggressor or lose the right to self-defense by the use of objectively reasonable force in compliance with subdivisions (b) and (c) to effect the arrest or to prevent escape or to overcome resistance. For the purposes of this subdivision, "retreat" does not mean tactical repositioning or other de-escalation tactics.
3. Department Use of Force policy states that force must be "objectively reasonable" to:

¹⁷ Department Manual Section 1/556.10, Policy on the Use of Force

¹⁸ California Penal Code Section 835a

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- a. Defend themselves
 - b. Defend others
 - c. Effect an arrest or detention
 - d. Prevent escape
 - e. Overcome resistance
 - f. Use of force policy does not change in crowd control situations
4. Department Tactical De-Escalation Techniques In circumstances not involving imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury, officers should consider tactics and techniques that may persuade the suspect/s to voluntarily comply or that may mitigate the need to use a higher level of force to resolve the situation safely.
 5. Tactical de-escalation does not require that an officer compromise their safety or increase the risk of physical harm to the public.
 - 1) Guided by the principal of reverence for human life.
 - 2) The use of techniques to:
 - 1) Reduce the intensity of an encounter with a suspect; and,
 - 2) Enable an officer to have additional options to gain voluntary compliance; or,
 - 3) Mitigate the need to use a higher level of force.
 - 4) All while maintaining control of the situation.
 6. De-escalation techniques (PATROL) should only be used when safe to do so:
 - 1) Planning- Arrive and Coordinate
 - 2) Assessment- Change tactics as needed
 - 3) Time- Distance + Cover= Time for planning and communicating
 - 4) Redeployment and/or Containment- Maintain control and buy time
 - 5) Other Resources- Request additional resources and/or specialized personnel
 - 6) Lines of Communication- Helps to improve decision-making
 7. Deadly Force can only be used when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary for either of the following reasons:
 - 1) To defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or another person; or,
 - 2) To apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Where feasible, a peace officer shall, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the officer has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts.

Note: *In determining whether deadly force is necessary, officers shall evaluate each situation in light of the particular circumstances of each case and shall use other available resources and techniques if reasonably safe and feasible.*

- 3) "Deadly force" means any use of force that creates a substantial risk of causing death or serious bodily injury, including, but not limited to, the discharge of a firearm.
- 4) "Totality of the circumstances" means all facts known to the peace officer at the time, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of deadly force.
- 5) A threat of death or serious bodily injury is "imminent" when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a reasonable officer in the same situation would believe that a person has the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to immediately cause death or serious bodily injury to the peace officer or another person. An imminent

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harm is not merely a fear of future harm, no matter how great the fear and no matter how great the likelihood of the harm, but is one that, from appearances, must be instantly confronted and addressed.

- 6) A peace officer shall not use deadly force against a person based on the danger that person poses to themselves, if an objectively reasonable officer would believe the person does not pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the peace officer or to another person.

Note: The Department will analyze an officer's use of deadly force by valuating the totality of the circumstances of each case consistent with California Penal Code Section 835(a) as well as the factors articulated in *Graham v. Conner*.

8. Proportionality¹⁹
9. Rendering Aid.
 - a. After any use of force, officers shall immediately request a rescue ambulance for any person injured. In addition, officers shall promptly provide basic and emergency medical assistance to all members of the community, including victims, witnesses, subjects, suspects, persons in custody, subjects of a use of force and fellow officers: to the extent of the officer's training and experience in first aid/CPR/AED; and
 - b. To the level of equipment available to an officer at the time assistance is needed.
 - c. Requirement to Intercede when Excessive force is observed
 - d. Requirement to report potential excessive force
 - e. Vulnerable Populations - include, but are not limited, children, elderly persons, people
 - f. who are pregnant, and people with physical, mental, and developmental disabilities.
 - 1) Age is not a legal consideration
 - 2) The Department has always utilized extreme caution with respect to the use of deadly force against youthful offenders
 - 3) Nothing in the use of force policy is intended to reduce the degree of care required in such cases
 - g. Command and Control²⁰
 - 1) The use of active leadership to direct others while using available resources to coordinate a response, accomplish tasks and minimize risk.
 - 2) Initial responsibility to begin the process to develop a plan of action falls upon the senior officer, or any officer on-scene who has gained sufficient situational awareness.
 - a) Ensure reasonable numbers of Designated Cover Officers (DCO) for both lethal and less-lethal cover.
 - b) Reduce over-response or over-deployment to specific duties and responsibilities.
 - c) Maintain officer safety through personnel location and assignment
10. Use of Force Guidelines for each system:
 - a. The use of force policy for all intermediate to deadly force does not differ from the Department policy²¹.
 - b. While control of a suspect through verbalization is preferable, when verbalization appears to be ineffective and an officer has reasonable belief that the situation may

¹⁹ Department Manual, 1/556.10, Policy on Use of Force

²⁰ LAPD Training Bulletin, Volume XLVII Issue 4, COMMAND AND CONTROL

²¹ Department Manual, 1/556.10, Policy on Use of Force

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escalate to a physical confrontation, the display of the appropriate force option has the same Department drawing and exhibiting policy.²² This action may de-escalate the situation.

- c. Officer must constantly evaluate the situation and use reasonable force accordingly.
 - d. There are many variables that can dictate the amount of force used
 - 1) Mental illness
 - 2) Type of weapon used by suspect
 - 3) The size of the suspect compared to that of the officer
 - 4) Location and number of suspects
 - e. A verbal warning, when feasible, shall be provided to a suspect(s) prior to the actual use of any force option.
 - f. The warning is not required when an officer is attacked and must respond to the suspect's actions.
 - g. Additionally, if a tactical plan requires the element of surprise in order to stabilize the situation, a warning need not be given.
 - h. The verbal warning and the person who gave it, or the reason it was not given shall be documented in the appropriate reports.
11. What constitutes a reasonable amount of force in a "lone officer" or "one-on-one" situation may not fit a similar field situation where several officers are present. An officer's response in each incident must be based upon the tactical situation, Department policy on the use of force, and relevant State and Federal case law.
12. Tactics De-Escalation Techniques Directive No. 16²³
13. Reverence for human life
- a. Guiding principle in any use of force situation
 - b. It is both moral and ethical to place the highest value on human life
 - c. Not policy, but a philosophy for how to approach police work
 - d. Consistent with the department's mission, vision, and values
 - e. Helps build public trust
 - f. Using tactical de-escalation techniques and reasonable force demonstrates this principle
14. Definition of tactical de-escalation
- a. The use of techniques
 - b. To reduce the intensity of an encounter with a suspect
 - c. And enable an officer to have additional options
 - d. To gain voluntary compliance
 - e. Or mitigate the need to use a higher level of force
 - f. While maintaining control of the situation
15. Officer safety considerations
- a. Tactical de-escalation does not require that an officer compromise his or her safety
 - b. Nor increase the risk of physical harm to the public

²² Department Manual, 1/556.10, Policy on Use of Force

²³ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

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- c. De-escalation techniques should only be used when it is safe and prudent to do so
 - d. In many incidents, using force may be the best way to reduce the intensity of the encounter
 - 1) Officers should not be hesitant to use force when reasonable²⁴ if they reasonably believe that it would mitigate the need for a higher level of force
 - 2) When the use of deadly force is justified and reasonable, officers should not hesitate to protect themselves or others
 - 3) Officers who fail to use force when warranted may endanger themselves, the community, and fellow officers
16. Purpose of de-escalation
- a. Overall objective of any tactical situation
 - 1) Safely gain control
 - 2) Resolve the situation (Reverence for human life)
 - 3) Public
 - 4) Suspects
 - 5) Victims
 - 6) Officers
 - a) Increases the likelihood of safely and successfully resolving a situation
 - b) Managed and coordinated response
 - c) Includes the transition from one force option to a lower level force option, thereby reducing the intensity of the encounter
 - d) Build public trust
17. Elements of de-escalation
- a. Planning
 - b. Assessment
 - c. Time
 - d. Redeployment and or containment
 - e. Other resources
 - f. Lines of communication
18. De-escalation is not always a viable option
- a. Tactical situations vary greatly
 - b. There is no single solution to resolving every incident
 - c. There are situations that cannot be de-escalated
 - d. The safety of all parties involved is of the highest priority
19. Learning Activity
- a. Show video case study
 - b. Ask students to identify what the officers did well
 - c. Ask students to identify how the officers could improve
 - d. Facilitate an overhead discussion to bring the key points of Tactical De-escalation into the video case study scenario

²⁴ *Graham vs. Connor, Reasonable and Objective*

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- C. Command and Control Training Bulletin Volume XLVII, Issue 4²⁵
 - 1. Four key components
 - a. Active leadership
 - b. Using available resources
 - c. Accomplishing tasks
 - d. Minimize risk
 - 2. Initial Responsibility
 - 3. Individual Officer responsibility
 - 4. Preservation of life
 - 5. Making decisions
 - 6. Establishing command and control
 - a. P.A.T.R.O.L.
 - 1) Planning
 - 2) Assessment
 - 3) Time
 - 4) Redeployment and/or Containment
 - 5) Other resources
 - 6) Lines of communication
 - b. Tactical Four C's
 - 1) Control
 - 2) Communicate
 - 3) Coordinate
 - 4) Contain
 - 7. Incident command system
 - 8. Supervisor's responsibility
 - 9. Commanding Officer's responsibility
- D. **SHOW VIDEO:** (UOF Video)
 - 1. Debrief the video by asking the following questions and discussing the students' responses
 - a. How many strikes?
 - b. What part of the body was struck?
 - c. Other officers involved?
 - d. In Policy? Justify why
 - e. Out of policy? Justify why
- E. SAFETY Guidelines: Safety overview
 - 1. Overview the safety plan
 - a. Safety guidelines apply to all training given by the Department. These guidelines insure that staff and participants are aware of potential hazardous situations and how to avoid
 - b. **DISTRIBUTE** and discuss: Safety Guidelines K-9 Basic handout

²⁵ Training Bulletin, Command and Control

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- c. Anyone participating in the training, whether student, observer, or instructor, has the authority to “STOP” the exercise if they observe an unsafe act or condition that may cause imminent injury or death and/or damage to the facilities
- d. Students shall immediately notify an instructor, or the training staff of any injury sustained during training, and use the following steps in the event of a serious injury
 - 1) Render first aid and obtain appropriate medical assistance
 - 2) Notify the Fire Department rescue ambulance (213-485-6185). Give specific direction to the training location
 - 3) In case of a serious injury, all IIPP notifications and protocols shall be followed
 - 4) At each training location, there is a notebook located in the training unit’s office also containing the emergency plan that is in place.
 - 5) The supervisor will ensure that the necessary worker compensation forms and reports are completed in a timely manner
 - 6) Transport to the local hospital for a minor injury
- 2. Advise the class that prior to conducting the training at their specific training site they need to ensure that they have a site-specific safety plan developed and in place. At a minimum, the plan needs to include the following:
 - a. Weapon appropriate for each training location
 - b. Safety rules for simulator weapons
 - c. Emergency information for training location
- F. The Safety Guideline that was distributed and passed out during this block can be used as an exemplar for developing the site-specific safety plan
- G. Live Suspect Attack (Suspect attacking team members vs. attack to police canine)
 - 1. Reverence for human life
 - a. Officers should remember this principle any time that they are using force
 - b. Using tactical de-escalation techniques and reasonable force demonstrates this principle
 - 2. Remind students of the importance of Tactical De-escalation Techniques and to use proper PATROL tactics²⁶ prior to using any force option
 - 3. Remind students that all force must be reasonable based on the Graham factors and the totality of the circumstances²⁷
 - 4. Scenario setup
 - a. An instructor (suspect) wearing protective gear will attempt to attack the student/handler
 - b. The student will defend himself by utilizing appropriate force options (including police canine)
 - c. The instructor (suspect) will simulate attack on the police canine prompting the appropriate response from the student (handler)
 - d. Students must be controlled and able to recall their police canine during a suspect assault on the police canine

²⁶ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

²⁷ Department Manual Section 1/556.10, Policy on the Use of Force

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- e. Student will be required to defend themselves and others while balancing any options to de-escalate encounters from a violent suspect
5. Scenario practice
 - a. Students will run through searches (i.e. civil, accessible, and violent encounters)
6. Students will rotate roles as K9 Handler and decoy/suspect
7. Scenario Debrief
 - a. The instructor will lead a short debrief after each scenario.
 - b. Highlight the key points of the techniques used and any specific takeaways
 - c. Debrief should focus on the students use of the proper techniques, as well as the reasonableness of the Use of Force
 - 1) Use of Force Policy²⁸
 - 2) Tactical De-escalation Techniques Directive²⁹
 - 3) Command and Control Training Bulletin³⁰
 - 4) Any other applicable Use of Force Directives
 - 5) Reasonable force based on the totality of the circumstances
 - 6) PATROL de-escalation techniques³¹
 - 7) Any other applicable UOF policy based on the techniques used
- H. Maintenance and Care
 - a. Advise the students of proper maintenance of all K9 equipment
 - b. Inspect all K9 prior to deploying in training and the field (this will include the E-collar daily checks and recharging of battery equipped devices)
 - c. Proper storage of equipment to prevent lost and theft (also environmental, i.e., extreme heat and cold)
 - d. If damaged how to replace
- I. CLOSING
 1. Debrief the Training
 2. Clarify any questions.

XXIII. CHEMICAL AGENTS

(240 mins)

- A. Chemical agents by Metropolitan Division K-9 Platoon,³² use of De-escalation³³
 1. Chemical agent deployment policy
 2. The primary objectives that must be addressed to accomplish this mission are
 - a. Reverence for human life
 - b. Protect life
 - c. Introduction of chemical agent to alter environment in order to move the suspect (into a position that will afford the safest condition to take the suspect into custody)
 - d. Medical examination and treatment

²⁸ Department Manual Section 1/556.10, Policy on the Use of Force

²⁹ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

³⁰ Training Bulletin, Command and Control

³¹ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

³² Metropolitan K-9 Manual, Chemical Agents

³³ Use of Force Tactics Directive No. 16, Tactical De-escalation Techniques

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- e. Proper documentation and reporting
- B. Oleoresin Capsicum (OC)
 - 1. Field Deployment
 - a. Approved OC products
 - b. Method of dispersal (specific to each product)
 - c. Criteria for deployment
 - d. Approval levels for deployment
 - e. Chemical agent warnings
 - f. Volleys
- C. Reporting Procedures
 - 1. Patrol
 - 2. K-9 Deployment

XXIV. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF INTERMEDIATE RIDING SKILLS (240 mins)

XXV. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII (480 mins)

XXVI. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV (480 mins)

XXVII. REVIEW AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV (240 mins)

XXVIII. INTRODUCTION TO CERTIFICATION TEST (240 mins)

- A. Proper collar (including E-collar) placement/function
 - 1. Appropriate tightness
 - 2. Proper pinch/choke/flat/E-collar positioning
 - 3. Leashing
 - 4. Function check
- B. Obedience
 - 1. Leash and verbal control
 - 2. Verbal commands
- C. Man Work (with assisted and unassisted verbal recalls)
 - 1. Holds with alert
 - 2. Bark alerts with and without bite holds
 - 3. Direct deployment (straight hits)
- D. Search
 - 1. Officer is given search parameters to locate a hidden decoy
 - 2. Officer maintains control of the search, while directing directing police service canine.
 - 3. Upon locating the decoy (bark alert and/or without bite hold) officer is able to recall and take control of his/her police service canine.

XXIX. CERTIFICATION TEST (480 mins)

- A. Proper collar (including E-collar) placement/function
 - 1. Appropriate tightness
 - 2. Proper pinch/choke/flat/E-collar positioning
 - 3. Leashing

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4. Function check
- B. Obedience
 1. Leash and verbal control
 2. Verbal commands
- C. Man Work (with assisted and unassisted verbal recalls)
 1. Holds with alert
 2. Bark alerts with and without bite holds
 3. Direct deployment (straight hits)
- D. Search
 1. Officer is given search parameters to locate a hidden decoy
 2. Officer maintains control of the search, while directing police service canine.
 3. Upon locating the decoy (bark alert and/or without bite hold) officer is able to recall and take control of his/her police service canine.

XXX. GROOMING AND EQUIPMENT CLEANING (240 mins)

XXXI. CLOSING/DEBRIEF (60 mins)

- A. Reinforce key learning points:
 1. Assist and teach officer's the proficient ability to complete necessary tasks with a police service canine.
 2. To enable the students to control their police service canine in a safe and effective manner utilizing their consistent training.
 3. Ensure Metropolitan Division K-9 Platoon's various functions and missions in the field in a safe and efficient manner.
 4. Force is a last resort with the reverence for life as a guiding principle.
 5. The officer will have the ability to deploy a police service canine to locate felonious and armed suspects during the most stressful and high-risk situations.
 6. Use all issued and certified equipment proficiently while maintaining controlling of their police service canine.

XXXII. CERTIFICATION/CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION (180 mins)

- A. Field Certification (Test)
 1. Obedience
 2. Control/Man-work/Recalls
 3. Verbal with E-Collar
 4. Verbal Only
- B. Search Certification (Area and Building)
- C. Certification PIN and presentation of new Metropolitan Division K-9 Platoon Members
 1. Debrief
 2. Official Pin (certification)