

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Foot Pursuit Overview
Expanded Course Outline
1850-21123

Instructional Goal: To provide the student an opportunity to review and apply issues related to foot pursuits, including tactics, communications, firearms, use of force, and perimeters.

Performance Objectives: Using learning activities and practical application the students will:

- ❑ Work as a team to develop a plan for engaging in a foot pursuit, including risk assessment
- ❑ Identify and develop a flexible tactical approach to the pursuit situation
- ❑ Participate in a foot pursuit and apprehend the suspect
- ❑ 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.
- ❑ Understand the Use of Force Policy and use of Tactical De-escalation Techniques
- ❑ Articulation of force options chosen

References: Instructors, facilitators and training supervisors shall ensure that current references are utilized.

This course provides updated legislative content of Penal Code Section 835a

I. OPENING

A. Introduction

1. Instructor
2. Brief overview of training schedule

B. Course Goals

1. Trainings goal - to provide officers practical experience in foot pursuits and the reporting of use of force incidents
2. Training Benefits - refresh perishable skills and develop new skill in the articulation of the force option chosen.
3. Use of Force Review¹
 - a. Reverence for Human Life
4. California Penal Code section 835(a)
5. Graham v. Connor 490 U.S. 386 (1989)
6. Tactical De-Escalation Techniques²
7. Command and Control³
8. Adjudicating A Non-Categorical Use of Force⁴⁵
 - a. Reporting Use of Force
 - b. Levels of Review

C. Foot Pursuit Overview

1. Key Points to consider during a foot pursuit.

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

² LAPD Use of Force-Tactics Directive, Tactical De-Escalation Techniques

³ Training Bulletin, Volume XLVII Issue 4, COMMAND AND CONTROL

⁴ Department Manual Section 3/793. Adjudicating A Non-Categorical Use of Force

⁵ Department Manual Section 3/793.01 Levels of Review

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- a. Apprehension or Containment Mode
- b. Communications
- c. Setting up the perimeter
2. Seek a student volunteer to talk about a foot pursuit they had.
3. Distribute: High-Risk Physiological Response to Field Situations Handout

II. SAFETY ORIENTATION AND WARM-UP

- A. Review of Safety Policies and Injury Precautions
 1. Review safety policy
 2. Emergency exits
 3. AED
 4. Avoiding injury
- B. Warm-up
 1. Stretching exercises
 2. Mental preparation
- C. Physical conditioning
 1. Heart Attacks
 2. Lower Back and Knee Injuries
 3. Peptic Ulcers
- D. How to Reduce Individual Risk to Above Disablers
 1. Nutrition
 2. Lifetime Fitness

III. OFFICER AWARENESS/TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Initial Approach with Subject
 1. Hands
 2. Cover
 3. Weapons/bulges
 4. Footing/balance, officer's ability to stay on his/her feet
- B. Tactical Considerations
 1. Associates, subjects, and officers (resources available)
- C. Escape routes, subjects – tactical retreat, officers

IV. FOOT PURSUIT PRACTICAL EXERCISE

- A. Exercise
 1. Danger of foot pursuits.
 2. Instinct to chase.
 3. Physical and mental preparedness.
 4. Tactical advantage during a foot pursuit.
 5. Limiting the potential for injury.
 6. Constant assessment during a foot pursuit.
 7. Adjust tactical plans when appropriate.
 8. Scenario overview.
 9. Reinforce the safety guidelines.
 10. Training techniques

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11. Designate partnerships.
12. Students plan their response to the scenario
13. Scenario
 - a. Learning Activity: Foot Pursuit Use of Force, two officers responding to a radio call of a “459 suspect there now.” As the officers approach the call location, a suspect walk out from between the buildings carrying a bag of property. A foot pursuit occurs on a pre-designated course and the officers will chase the suspect on foot to the termination point in the backyard of a residence. A reportable use of force will occur.
 - b. Assessment of Learning: Instructors will evaluate student’s performance in the scenario for officer safety, reasonableness of force, compliance with agency policy, and articulation of the applied use of force

B. Debrief:

1. Instructor will facilitate a debrief of the scenario.
2. Use of Force Review/Reverence for Human Life
3. If a deviation occurred seek articulation to justify
4. Communication
5. Actions During foot pursuit
6. Termination
7. Perimeters
8. Student Evaluation/Critique

V. CLOSING

- A. Reinforce the key learning points**
1. Foot pursuits are inherently dangerous.
 2. Require officers to think.
 3. Succumb to the natural urge to give chase
 4. Officer must be physically prepared.
 5. Mentally prepared.
 6. Maintain perishable skills.
 7. Communicate
 8. Use of Force Reporting
 9. The Department’s guiding value when using force shall be reverence for human life.