

Course Title: Firearms/Tactical Rifle

Course Goal: To familiarize an Officer with the Patrol Rifle. This course includes applicable policies and laws including use of force, deployment considerations and decision making, safety, firearm nomenclature, specifications, capabilities, maintenance, skill development and qualification.

This course was developed to meet the requirements specified in CA POST Regulation 1081(a) Rifle Course II and 33220(b) PC.

Course Objectives: At the end of this block of instruction, the student will be able to achieve the following objectives in accordance with the information received during the instructional period:

1. Name the basic components of the AR-15 Rifle.
2. In a practical exercise demonstrate the ability to correctly disassemble and assemble the AR-15 Rifle.
3. Identify the three (3) significant components of Marksmanship skills.
4. Demonstrate the four (4) primary shooting positions and the variations of each shooting position.
5. In a practical exercise demonstrate loading, unloading, tactical reloading, and emergency reloading of the AR-15 Rifle.
6. Correctly identify malfunctions of the rifle and perform corrective actions for each.
7. Demonstrate marksmanship skills by completing a bulls-eye course of fire.

Hours: Sixteen (16)

Instructional Method: Lecture / Demonstration / Practical Exercise

Materials Required: Lesson Plan
Pen/Note Pad
Complete Duty Belt
AR-15 Rifle w/Dummy Ammunition

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Required Content: CA POST Commission Regulation 1081

1. Law Update
2. Review of Use of Force Issues, Agency Policies and Mission
3. Safety Issues
4. Nomenclature, Specifications and Capabilities
5. Firearm Care, Breakdown and Cleaning
6. Tactical Considerations
7. Skill Development and Qualification

Expanded Course Outline:

I. Safety and Range Rules

A. The four fundamental rules of firearms safety

1. Treat all firearms as if they are loaded
2. Always keep the firearms pointed in the safest possible direction
3. Always keep fingers off the trigger until ready to fire the firearm
4. Be sure of the target and what's beyond it before firing the firearm

B. Basic safety guidelines to be followed at a firing range

1. When entering the firing range
2. On the firing line
3. When handguns are un-holstered
4. Weapons clearing areas
5. Dry practice safety considerations

C. Safety precautions for proper storage of firearms (DGO 312.5)

1. Keep all firearms inaccessible from children and other unauthorized persons
2. Store ammunition separately from firearms
3. Take all precautions against theft by storing firearms in a secure location, a locked container, with a locking device or disassembled

II. Laws and Department Policy

A. NPD General Orders related to firearms

1. DGO 300 Use of Force
2. DGO 300.4 Use of Deadly Force
 - a. Self-defense
 - b. Defense of Others
 - c. Stop Dangerous Animals
 - d. Euthanizing injured animals
3. DGO 312 Firearms
 - a. Authorized Firearms
 - (i) Pistol
 - (ii) Shotgun
 - (iii) Carbine
 - b. Firearms Qualification
 - (i) Range score sheets
 - c. Flying While Armed
 - d. Carrying Firearms out of State

B. State Laws

1. 835a PC
2. 33220(b) PC
3. 32610 (b) PC
4. 30630 PC

C. Case Law

1. Graham v. Connor
2. Tennessee v. Garner
3. Hayes v. County of San Diego

III. *AR-15 Carbine Nomenclature, Specifications and Capabilities*

A. Basic nomenclature of an AR-15 carbine and magazine

1. Primary components and their functions
 - a. Upper Receiver Group
 - b. Lower Receiver Group
 - c. Bolt Carrier Group
 - d. Magazine
2. Steps for loading/unloading
3. Steps for rendering the AR-15 carbine safe
4. Car carry ready

B. Cycle of operation for the AR-15

1. Firing
2. Unlocking
3. Extracting
4. Ejecting
5. Cocking
6. Feeding
7. Chambering
8. Locking

C. Carbine ballistics

1. Internal Ballistics
2. External Ballistics
3. Terminal Ballistics

D. Short-Barreled Rifle Considerations

1. Legal - 33220(b) PC
2. Safety - Firearms Rule #2
3. Ballistic Limitations
 - a. External Ballistics

- b. Terminal Ballistics
4. Use of the Surefire Suppressor
 - a. Mounting / Dismounting
 - b. Zero shift
5. Select-fire weapons

IV. AR-15 Disassembly / Assembly and Maintenance

A. Safety Inspection

1. Barrel
2. Lower receiver
3. Sights
4. Upper receiver
5. Bolt carrier group
6. Magazine

B. Disassembly of the AR-15

1. Clearing procedures
2. Upper receiver
3. Bolt carrier group
4. Lower receiver
5. Magazine

C. Cleaning the AR-15

1. Upper receiver
 - a. Barrel
2. Bolt carrier group
3. Lower receiver
 - a. Trigger assembly
4. Magazine

D. Reassembly of the AR-15

1. Magazine
2. Lower receiver
3. Upper receiver
4. Bolt carrier group
5. Function check

V. AR-15 Carry Positions and Manipulations

A. Shooting / Carry Positions

1. Standing Position (off-hand)
 - a. Field carry

- b. Tactical carry
- c. Low ready
- d. Indoor ready
- 2. Sling Mounts / Dismounts
 - a. Carry strap
 - b. 3-point sling
 - c. American carry
 - d. African carry
- 3. Kneeling
 - a. High Kneel
 - b. Brace Kneel
 - c. Double Kneel
 - d. Squatting
- 4. Prone
 - a. Rollover Prone
 - b. Straight Prone
- 5. Transitions
 - a. Pistol / secondary weapon
 - b. Non-dominant side shooting
- 6. Close Quarters Techniques
 - a. Index
 - b. Stock over shoulder

B. Malfunctions

- 1. Class 1 - failure to feed / fire / extract
 - a. Immediate action
- 2. Class 2 - failure to eject
 - a. Immediate action
- 3. Class 3 - double feed
 - a. Immediate action

VI. AR-15 Deployment and Tactical Considerations

A. When to deploy the rifle

- 1. Subject armed with a firearm / deadly weapon
- 2. Subject at a distance beyond ~17 yards (50 feet)
- 3. Subject wearing body armor
- 4. Role as part of Designated Apprehension Team

B. Low light engagements

- 1. Physiology - low light and the human eye
 - a. Rods / cones
 - b. Rhodopsin
 - c. Light adaptation

2. Tactical light / Flashlight
 - a. Lumens / Candle power
 - b. Bezel / tail-cap activations
 - c. Long gun techniques
 - (i) Weapon mounted lights
 - (ii) FBI modified
 - (iii) Harries (modified)
3. **Principles of low-light engagements**
 - a. Fundamentals tactical concepts
 - b. Use of cover / concealment

VII. Live fire exercises - Carbine

- A. Zeroing procedures**
 1. Practical zero distance 50 yards
 - a. Short-barreled rifle 50 yards
 2. Sight adjustment
 3. Day / night peep sight
- B. Engagements from 3-100 yards**
 1. Double tap
 2. Head shots
 3. Failure drill
 4. Shooting from intermediate / atypical positions
 5. Shooting from behind cover / concealment
 6. Multiple target engagements
 7. 30 round Bullseye course
 8. Carbine bounce drill
- C. Malfunctions and immediate action**
 1. Transitions
 2. Class 1
 3. Class 2
 4. Class 3
- D. Shooting on the move**
 1. Pivots
 2. Closing
 3. Withdrawing (rearward movement)
 4. Shooting at moving targets
 5. Shooting at moving targets while moving

VIII. Qualification and Examination

A. Carbine Bullseye 30 round course

1. Officer must adhere to all range and firearms safety rules
2. NRA 50' pistol bullseye target used for scoring
3. String 1 - start at low ready position, 10 rounds in 4 minutes from the 50 yard line
4. String 2 - start at low ready position, 5 rounds in 15 seconds from the 30 yard line
5. String 3 - repeat string 2
6. String 4 - start at low ready position, 5 rounds in 10 seconds from the 30 yard line
7. String 5 - repeat string 4
8. Scoring: Passing score of 70% (210/300) with all 30 rounds on target
9. Failure to meet time constraints, minimum score or all rounds on target results in a fail. Remedial training will be provided and the officer can re-shoot the course until a passing score is obtained

B. Carbine Bounce drill

1. Officer must adhere to all range and firearms safety rules
2. Three IPSC silhouette targets (T1 - T3). Three shooting positions are spread out laterally at the 25 yard line. T1-5 yards away, T2-15 yards away and T3-25 yards away. Carbine is loaded with 15 rounds. Time limit of 30 seconds.
3. On start command officer engages T1 with 5 rounds and moves to position 2. At position 2, officer assumes an intermediate position and engages T2 with 5 rounds, then moves to position 3. At position 3, officer assumes a prone position and engages T3 with 5 rounds.
4. Scoring: Passing score of 11 of 15 hits in A/B/C zone of target. All 15 rounds must be on target.
5. Failure to meet time constraints, minimum score or all rounds on target results in a fail. Remedial training will be provided and the officer can re-shoot the course until a passing score is obtained

C. Non-Qualification (DGO 312.6)

1. Must complete training to carry Patrol Rifle (DGO 312.6.1)
2. Additional remedial training
3. Admin memo
4. Range credit

D. Written Exam (75% Passing)

1. Policy / Legal Considerations
2. Reporting
3. Nomenclature
4. Ballistics
5. Firearms safety
6. Remedial training will be provided until a passing score is obtained or the officer will not be certified (DGO 312.6)