# HAYWARD POLICE DEPARTMENT

# POST PERISHABLE SKILLS PROGRAM (PSP) TACTICAL PISTOL

#### **COURSE GOAL:**

The course will provide the officer with the skills needed to properly deploy tactical pistol and the proper use of lethal force required in the POST Perishable Skills Training Program (PSP). The officer will develop the necessary firearms tactical knowledge and skills to survive and <u>win</u> a lethal force encounter.

The course consists of a hands-on/practical skills firearms training for in-service officers. The course is not designed as a qualification course or basic marksmanship course. In-service officers are expected to be qualified with their duty handgun and have a working knowledge of basic gun handling skills for each weapon.

This course is designed as a 4 hour course where the officer will demonstrate and explain what and why they have learned the listed skills.

## **TACTICAL FIREARMS**

# **Topics Covered**

- 1) Basic Firearms Safety and Range Safety Procedures.
- 2) Firearms Policy #312, Use of Force Policy #300 and Shooting Policy #304.
- 3) Seven basic shooting fundamentals.
- 4) Weapon presentation from the holster (handgun five step draw).
- 5) Target recognition and analysis.
- 6) Weapon malfunction drills (weapon clearing).
- 7) Proper use of cover.
- 8) Positional shooting.
- 9) Student exercise, evaluation and testing.
- 10) Judgment and Decision Making Exercise.
- 11) Live fire exercise.
- 12) Moral Obligations.

#### The Officer will:

- 1. Demonstrate knowledge of their individual Department Use of Force/Firearms Policy.
- 2. Identify the tactical analysis key points related to tactical firearms as reported in the POST Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) Studies (1994 to Present).
- 3. Demonstrate a minimum standard of tactical firearms proficiency with every technique, exercise, and course-of-fire, to include:
  - A. Judgment and Decision Making
  - B. Weapons Safety
  - C. Basic Weapon Presentation Technique
  - D. Fundamentals of Shooting
  - E. Target/Non-Target Identification
  - F. Speed, Accuracy and Effectiveness under stress and movement conditions
  - G. Shot Placement: Multiple rounds, failure drill and disabling shooting.

Minimum standards of performance shall be tested by an instructor observing the trainee during their performance of each technique, exercise and course-of-fire. If the trainee does not meet minimum standards, as established by the presenter, remediation will be provided, possibly at a later date, until the standard is met.

# EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

#### I. INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION

- A. Introduction, Registration and Orientation
- B. Course Objectives/Overview, Exercises, Evaluation/Testing
- C. Basic Firearms Safety

I(c)

- 1. Treat all weapons as if they are loaded.
- 2. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to shoot.
- 3. Keep finger off trigger until you are on target and ready to fire.
- 4. Be sure of your target and background.

## D. Range Safety Procedures

- 1. Range and Tactical Safety
  - a. Follow Range Rules
  - b. Follow Instructor commands
  - c. Strict Weapon Discipline and Muzzle Control
  - d. Do not muzzle personal body parts
  - e. Know where your partners are, left and right

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- 2. Review of Range Safety Rules
  - 1. Cover primary elements as a checklist with students

2. Local emergency/first aid procedures to include radio/telephone procedures, closest medical facility

## II. LETHAL FORCE OVERVIEW

I(h,i,j)

- A. Legal/Moral/Ethical Issues involving Use of Force/Lethal Force
- B. Civil Implications of using Force/Lethal Force
- C. Report Writing and Preliminary Investigation Overview

## III. USE OF FORCE/LETHAL FORCE AND FIREARMS POLICY

I(h,i,)

- A. Use of Force Options
  - 1. Lethal Force within the spectrum of force options
  - 2. Verbal, Hands, Less-Lethal, Lethal Force
  - 3. Escalation and De-escalation Process
- B. Department Policy
  - 1. Reasonable Cause to believe
  - 2. Imminent Danger
  - 3. Death or Great Bodily Injury
  - 4. Fleeing Violent Felon Specifications
  - 5. Other policy areas and issues
- C. Supporting Case Law
  - Tennessee vs. Garner
    - a. Deadly Force
    - b. Fleeing Felon
  - 2. Graham vs. Conner
    - a. "Objective Reasonableness"

## IV. POST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED/ASSAULTED (LEOKA) STUDIES

- A. 1994/2001 Reports
- B. Vital Statistics from LEOKA Reports

C.



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## V. FUNDAMENTALS OF SHOOTING

I(d)

- A. Stance or stable shooting position
  - 1. Strong, Balanced Ready Position

2. Modern Isosceles or Weaver for standing position

## B. Grip

- 1. Strong, Effective two-handed grip
- 2. Isometric Pressure. A firm grip is all that is needed. Do not place a "death grip" on the weapon.

# C. Sight Alignment

- 1. Lining up the top of the rear sight with the top of the front sight.
- 2. Equal light or distance between both sides of the front sight in relation to the front sight

## D. Sight Picture

- 1. Once sight alignment has been achieved, place the tip of the front sight on your designated target
- 2. The tip of the front sight should be in focus. The rear sight and target should be blurred or out of focus

## E. Breathing

- 1. Practice firing during the natural breathing pause
- 2. Do not hold your breath while pulling the trigger

## F. Trigger Control

- 1. Place the pad of your index finger on the trigger. Do not place too much of the finger onto the trigger
- 2. Apply steady, rearward pressure on the trigger. The shot should come as a surprise. Do not anticipate the shot
- 3. Once the round has been fired, allow the trigger to move forward until you feel and hear the sear reset (a small click). DO NOT remove your finger from the trigger while it is moving forward. Once the sear has been reset, do not allow the trigger to move forward any further
- 4. Apply steady rearward pressure to the trigger, taking up the slack but not allowing another round to be fired.

## G. Follow Through

1. Once the shot is fired, bring your weapon back onto target. Realign your sights, acquire another sight picture on your target, and reset your trigger sear preparing to shot another round.

Shooting fundamentals applies to all types of firearms (handgun, rifle, shotgun, less-lethal).

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## VI. FIVE COUNT PISTOL PRESENTATION

# A. Count One

- 1. Good Grip, hand high on the back strap
- 2. Holster Unsnapped, both snaps.

- 3. Rock handgun rearward
- 4. Support hand/arm into chest position

## B. Count Two

- 1. Pull handgun upward, clearing the front of the barrel from the holster
- 2. Trigger finger indexed along the side of handgun
- 3. Forearm parallel to ground

### C. Count Three

- 1. Rotate handgun so the barrel is pointing forward, slide now parallel to the ground
- 2. Ensure the trigger finger is still indexed along the slide
- 3. Handgun should be slightly canted outward to ensure slide does not get caught on clothing if weapon is fired from this position

#### D. Count Four

- 1. Aggressively punch the handgun forward toward the target
- 2. At the same time, slide the support hand across the chest and get a firm grip on the handgun while it is being extended forward toward the target. Ensure the support hand does not cross in front of the muzzle

#### E. Count Five

- 1. Align the sights and acquire a sight picture
- 2. Press the trigger, and follow through
- 3. Assess the threat, move to gun ready position and check for secondary threats. Move to cover if available and tactically sound. **I(e)**

Reverse the steps when re-holstering the weapon. Ensure the officer does not look at their holster when re-holstering.

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#### VII. Target Assessment and Analysis

I(e, i, j)

- A. Was the target hit? Do I need to fire more rounds?
  - 1. Fire at the suspect until it is no longer a threat
  - 2. DO NOT count your rounds



VIII.





