



## **MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CROWD CONTROL UPDATE TRAINING Course #21955**

### **COURSE GOAL:**

The Marin County Sheriff's Department is hosting a departmental training in the area of crowd control. The 6 hour training will take place at the Marin County Sheriff's Office Emergency Operations Facility. Currently there are approximately 150 officers scheduled to attend this training. Officers involved in this training will be predominately from the Marin County Sheriff's Office. Invitations to attend the training will be extended to the Central Marin Police Authority, Novato Police Department, Mill Valley Police Department and San Rafael Police Department.

Law enforcement Officers are often called to respond to crowd control situations, civil unrest or major incidents either in their jurisdiction or as a part of an organized response to a request for mutual aid. This response can be in the form of a small detachment of officers or deputies or as a part of a mobile field force.

This course will be an introduction to some and refresher course to others on multiple crowd control movements and formations; use of both voice commands and hand signals, use of force, mindset, donning and doffing a protective mask, use of shields and conducting mass arrests. This course consists of hands-on/practical skills, and class room instructions.

### **DECISION MAKING:**

#### **Minimum Topics/Exercise:**

1. Safety briefing/safety check/issue equipment
2. Audio/video presentation of current and past crowd control incidents
3. Discussion of proper alignment of crowd control formations

4. Proper deployment of the 36 inch baton
5. Presentation of proper storage and wearing of personal protective mask
6. Role and responsibilities of team leader
7. Understand overall mission is to restore order using the least amount of force
8. Use of unlawful assembly admonition
9. Effecting mass arrests

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## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The trainee will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the MCSO Use of Force Policy.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the importance of mental and physical conditioning as it relates to Crowd Control situations, to include:
  - A. Judgment and decision making
  - B. Communication
  - C. Approach/contact
  - D. Situational awareness
  - E. Team movements
  - F. Use of force
  - G. Mindset
  - H. Avoiding complacency
  - I. Mental rehearsal
  - J. Officer Safety
3. Demonstrate knowledge of Joint goals/ Objectives, to include:
  - A. Historical overview of past and current crowd control situations
  - B. Law Enforcement lessons learned
  - C. Assessing and identifying threats from crowds
  - D. Police priorities during a crowd control situation
  - E. Police equipment and training needs
  - F. Contact/ arrest/rescue team tactics
  - G. Understanding various crowd control formations
  - H. Team Leader role and responsibilities
  - I. Use of chemical agents and less lethal weapons during crowd control situations
  - J. Donning and doffing of protective mask

Minimum standards of performance shall be tested by an instructor observing the trainee during their performance of each exercise. If the trainee does not meet minimum standards, as established by the presenter, remediation will be provided until the standard is met.

Officers will wear appropriate training gear including: Ballistic vests, Duty belts, protective masks, 36 inch baton. Basic eye protection will be provided by the department.

Instructors will need to bring:

- A. 35 red guns
- B. 35 eye protection
- C. 12 shields

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- D. 35 training CEW
- E. 15 cones
- F. Caution tape
- G. 5 safety officers
- H. 15 role players

**SAFETY BRIEFING:**

- A. Unless directed by an instructor, students will not strike or swing the baton
- B. Students will only strike in approved target zones
- C. Students will report any malfunctions of their protective masks to an instructor
- D. Safety officers will note/announce any specific rules dictated by specific training regimen/facility.
- E. The attached Safety Policy will be read at the beginning of this course.

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL PLAN:**

A Basic First Aid and Trauma kit will be located in the instructor's vehicle.

Closest Trauma Hospital:

Marin General Hospital  
250 Bon Air Road Greenbrae  
Emergency Room #415-925-7000

Contact method, instructor's cell phones

Transportation via ambulance/departmental or department patrol vehicle.

MCSO Communications #415-479-2311

**EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE**

## **I. INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION**

- A. Introduction, Registration and Orientation
- B. Course objectives/Overview, exercises and evaluation
- C. Baton safety orientation, review of impact weapon policy
  - 1. Review of MCSO use of force policy, specifically impact weapons.
  - 2. Review approved baton strike target zones and non-target zones

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- 3. Nomenclature of baton and the protective mask
  - 4. Class environment and tactical safety:
    - Follow instructors commands
- D. Discussion on real Crowd control situations:
- 1. Concept
    - a) Understand overall mission of crowd control team
      - Restore order using the least amount of force
      - Be a visual deterrent to rioters
      - Protect life, property and prevent vandalism while still allowing crowd to exercise 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights.
    - b) Incident Command
      - Command Post (Incident and Tactical)
    - c). Consistency
      - Training
      - Use of crowd control formations
      - Maintaining formation/line integrity
      - Uniformity amongst different agencies
      - Chain of command
  - 2. Training
    - a) Combined County Training
    - b) Range Facility
    - c). Training scenarios
  - 3. Equipment



- k) Thrust/lunge stroke
- l) Ready position/ port Arms/ on guard
- m) 2 handed horizontal strike off lead shoulder
- n) Butt stroke
- o) Slash
- p) Parry left / right
- q) Blocks upper/lower
- r) Mass arrests
- s) Chemical Agents

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- t) Restraints (handcuffs/flex cuffs)
- u) Stomp and drag marching style

**II. USE OF FORCE/LETHAL FORCE AND FIREARMS POLICY/  
PROTOCOL**

- A. Use of Force Options
  - 1. Lethal force within the spectrum of force options
  - 2. Verbal, hands, less than Lethal, Taser, baton, chemical agent, Lethal force
  - 3. Escalation and De-escalation process
- B. MCSO Department Policy
  - 1. Reasonable cause to believe
  - 2. Imminent threat
  - 3. Death of great bodily injury
  - 4. Fleeing violent felon specifications
- C. Supporting Case Law and Penal Codes
  - 1. Tennessee vs. Garner
    - A. Deadly force
    - B. Fleeing felon
    - C. Graham vs. Conner
    - D. Reasonable force
    - E. Deorle vs. Rutherford

- F. Officers have a duty to warn, if possible, before using any force options including less lethal options (bean bag)
- G. 409 PC Remaining present at scene of riot after dispersal order given.
- H. Once the orders are given, the protesters must be given the opportunity to comply or move before action is taken.

- D. 1. Individual agency response/ immediate deployment
- 2. Responsibility
  - A. Originating agency

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- B. Outside agency
  - 3. Incident Command
    - A. Identify the crowd control mission based on information from IC
    - B. Coordinate all team movements or deployments through IC
    - C. Coordinate interaction with outside agencies
- E. Unlawful Assembly Order
  - 1. Allow crowd opportunity to disperse after order given
  - 2. Traffic admonishment
    - A. Allow crowd opportunity to comply after order given
- F. Emergency plans
  - 1. Locations for booking station (mass arrest)
  - 2. Local hospitals
  - 3. Evacuation plans
- G. Familiarization with deployment areas/crowd
  - 1. Street maps
  - 2. Aerial photos if available
  - 3. Knowledge of what issue or cause of civil unrest is about
  - 4. Intelligence or nature of crowd (known groups/ individual civil disobedience)
  - 5. Approximate number of protesters and duration of conflict

### **III. PSYCHOLOGY OF CROWD CONTROL SITUATIONS**

- A. "Under estimate crowds and understand mission"
  - 1. Training / tactics
  - 2. Show of force with large of heavily equipped officers
  - 3. No horse play or break of command presence while on line
  - 4. No individual actions, officers must maintain unit integrity
  - 5. Never speak with protesters no matter what is said
  - 6. Always assume deputies' actions are being recorded
  - 7. Do not take anything personal from protesters

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- 8. It is quicker to downsize forces than to increase size of force
- 9. Totality of incident

- B. Mindset
  - 1. Training to "win"
  - 2. Risk vs. Reward
  - 3. Command Presence

### **VI. TEAM MOVEMENT**

- A. Column Formation- 20 to 30 deputies/officers
  - 1) Several deputies/officers standing shoulder to shoulder across 2 different points (skirmish line with flank protection), baton in the ready position. Two safety positions at the end of the formation
  - 2) This formation is used to move large crowds or deny access to large areas (streets, buildings), clear streets or other obstructions
  - 3) This formation can be used as the base to rotate into other formations
  - 4) Formation can be stand alone or behind barricades in support
  - 5) Hand signal is team leader standing with legs together, arms extended out horizontal as if to depict straight line

- B. Wedge formation- 15 to 20 deputies/officers

- 1) Used to split crowds and/or enter crowds
- 2) Deputies/officers forming an introverted “V”. A larger wedge formation can have flank support.
- 3) Used to escort emergency vehicles into or out of locations with vehicle in center of wedge formation
- 4) Batons at the port arms or on guard position
- 5) Split larger crowds into smaller more manageable crowds

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- 6) Hand signal is team leader standing with legs together, arms extended up above the head in the shape of a “V”

C. Diamond Formation- 10 deputies/officers

- 1) Used in officer down/rescue
- 2) Used for hostage rescue
- 3) Used to effect arrest
- 4) Usually formed behind the Column formation
- 5) Hand signal is team leader standing with legs together, arms extended above the head, bent at the elbow and finger tips touching forming the sign of a diamond

D. Echelon Left / Echelon Right- 20 to 30 deputies/officers

- 1) Used to clear a large group from one side of the street or fence line, drive way, building front or wall
- 2) Batons held in the port arms or on guard position
- 3) Hand signal is team leader standing with legs together, with right hand up in air and left hand pointed towards ground (on an angle) to signal echelon right and the reverse with left hand up in air and right hand pointed to the ground (on an angle) to signal echelon left

E. Donning, Doffing and storage of protective mask:  
(Student should have a protective mask and carrier)

- 1) All parts and nomenclature of the protective mask described
- 2) Student will be give instruction on proper fit of the protective mask as well as how the mask should be maintained in the carrier
- 3) While in formation, deputies will be assigned a number 1 or 2. When told to do so by instructors, deputies will uncover their position or step to the left and in behind

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- 4) another deputy, remove their helmet and don their mask, clear it and get back into position. Once all the #1's have donned their mask, the #2's will do the same.

**V. SCENARIOS:**

Scenarios will be used to assess student learning of the concepts presented. Students will be tested using five different scenarios to illustrate the concepts presented in the Expanded Course Outline. Instructors will quickly gauge students' comprehension of the material being presented and provide immediate feedback.

**Debrief**

Whatever actions were taken by the deputies it will be addressed during the debriefing. This will be the time for all involved to provide information and learned from the actions taken. There will be no "perfect" plan and trainers should be open to the thought processes of those involved in the actual scenario. The evaluators need to keep in mind crowd control formations should be flexible and can switch from one formation to another.

