



MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE OFFICER SURVIVAL TRAINING Course #00300

COURSE GOAL:

The Marin County Sheriff's Department is hosting departmental training in officer survival. The 8 hour training will take place at the Indian Valley College Campus in Novato. Currently there are approximately 200 officers scheduled to attend this training. These officers come from law enforcement agencies throughout Marin County, to include: The Marin County Sheriff's Office and police departments from College of Marin, Tiburon, Mill Valley, Novato and Belvedere.

Law enforcement officers face ever increasing threats to their safety during their response to both critical related and routine incidents. This advanced officer safety course will be an introduction to some officers and a refresher course to others on the use of tactical skills; verbal communication, approach & positioning, situational awareness, control of sense, use of force, mindset, avoiding complacency, and overall officer safety. This course consists of hands-on / practical skills and class room instruction.

DECISION MAKING:

Minimum Topics/Exercise:

1. Safety briefing/safety check/issue equipment
2. Audio/video presentations of real officer safety related incidents
3. Mindset discussion
4. Tombstone courage discussion
5. Risk vs. benefit
6. Gun fighting vs. marksmanship
7. Reaction gap
8. Class exercise/student evaluation/testing

9. Policy and/or legal issues
10. Use of Force considerations
11. Moral obligation

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The trainee will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the MCSO or Allied agency policies on Use of Force/Firearms/Taser/Less Lethal Shotgun:

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2. Demonstrate knowledge of the importance of mental and physical conditioning as it relates to critical/officer safety incidents, to include:
 - A. Judgment and decision making
 - B. Communication
 - C. Approach/contact
 - D. Situational awareness
 - E. Control of sense
 - 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 officer safety situations
 - B. Police lessons learned
 - C. Edged weapons safety concerns
 - D. Police officer rescue tactics
 - E. Police equipment and training needs
 - F. Decision making when surrounded by a crowd
 - G. Building search tactics
 - H. Felony/high risk car stop tactics

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, flashlights, Duty uniforms, safety belt, replica sidearm and no magazines. Basic eye protection and throat protection will be provided by the department.

Instructors will need to bring:

- A. 35 red guns
- B. 35 sets eye protection
- C. 4 patrol cars
- D. 10 Airsoft long rifles
- E. 10 Airsoft pistols
- F. Caution tape / training signs
- G. 15 cones

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- H. 5 safety officers
- I. 15 role players

SAFETY BRIEFING:

All basic firearms safety rules will be applied to the use of AIRSOFT followed with special attention made to the first three:

- A. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to destroy
- B. Keep your finger out of the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot
- C. Treat all guns as if they were loaded at all times
- D. Safety officers will note/announce any specific Airsoft rules dictated by specific training regimen/facility.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL PLAN:

Basic first aid kit and gunshot trauma kit are located in instructor's van.

Closet hospital:

Novato Community Hospital
180 Rowland Way, Novato
CA 94945
Emergency Room #415-209-1300

Contact method, instructor's cell phones

Transportation via ambulance/departmental or personal vehicle

Marin County Sheriff's Office Dispatch 415-479-2311

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

I. INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION

- A. Introduction, Registration and Orientation
- B. Course objectives/Overview, exercises and evaluation
- C. Airsoft safety orientation, review of shooting safety rules
 - 1. All weapons are to be considered loaded.
 - 2. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to shoot at

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- 3. Keep finger off trigger until you are ready to fire.
- 4. Be sure of your target and background.
- 5. Building environment and tactical safety:
 - a) Follow range rules
 - b) Follow instructors commands
 - c) Strict weapon discipline and muzzle control
 - d) No lasering of personal body parts
 - e) Reloading procedures
 - f) Lighting
 - g) Pivot, balance, and stance
 - h) Transition (Rifle to handgun or less lethal
 - i) Threat assessment
 - j) Tactical walking (fast and slow)
- 6. Review of Airsoft safety rules
- 7. Cover primary elements as a checklist with students
- 8. Local emergency/first aid procedures to include radio/telephone procedures, closes medical facility.

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

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- C. Supporting Case Law
 - 1. Tennessee vs. Garner
 - a) Deadly force
 - b) Fleeing felon
 - c) Graham vs. Conner
 - d) Reasonable force

III. PSYCHOLOGY OF POLICE INVOLVED SHOOTINGS

- A. "Bullet Proof Mind"
 - 1. Training / tactics
 - 2. Breathing / focus
 - 3. Totality of incident
- B. Mindset
 - 1. Training to "win"
 - 2. Losing is not an option
- C. Follow-up
 - 1. Peer counseling
 - 2. Employee Assistance
- D. Video on officer related shootings

IV. HIGH RISK INCIDENT RESPONSE-EDGED WEAPON

- A. Initial call
 - 1. Calm and Calculated Behavior (Officer)
 - 2. Know your situation-what are your immediate resources and Limitations
 - 2. Prepare mentally for deadly encounter-rehearse, practice, visualize

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- B. Handling the situation
 - 1. Watch for suspect's behavior or warning signs
 - a) Hands
 - b) Non-verbal and verbal cues
 - c) Signs or intoxication
 - d) Signs of mental illness
 - 2. Communication
 - a) With suspects and involved individuals
 - b) With dispatch and responding units
- C. Solving the Problem
 - 1. Weapons selection
 - a) Verbal compliance
 - b) Hand to hand compliance
 - c) Less lethal options- pepper spray, baton, Taser, LL shotgun
 - d) Lethal-handgun
 - 2. Wrap-up
 - a) Gain compliance
 - b) Take into custody

V. RESPONDING TO AN OFFICER RESCUE

- A. Initial Response
 - 1. Know your situation-what are your resources and limitations
 - 2. Prepare mentally for the encounter-rehearse, practice, visualize
 - 3. Listen to dispatch and partners information
 - 4. Secure radio communication
 - a) Code 33

- b) Blue 8, 9, 10
- c) Patch channel for allied agency communication

B. The Plan

- 1. Have it when on scene
- 2. Be flexible-It can change based on what you see when on scene
- 3. Start orders resources
 - a. Additional officers
 - b. Supervisor, experienced officer
- 4. Rescue
 - a. Four officer diamond or two officer minimum deployment
 - b. Weapons selection-handgun, rifle, LL shotgun
 - c. Arresting officer(s)

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C. Post Rescue Action

- 1. Do we need to ID, arrest responsible?
- 2. Complete report and investigate crime

VI. OFFICER AND VIOLENT CROWD INTERACTION

A. Preparing for the Event

- 1. This is not your routine call-what are your resources and limitations, do not go this alone if possible!
- 2. Mentally rehearse, practice and visualize incident

B. On Scene

- 1. Situational awareness
 - a. How bad is this event?
 - b. Do I need to get involved now or do I wait?
 - c. What is my escape plan
 - d. Communicate your actions
 - 1) Crowd members
 - 2) Dispatch
 - 3) Officers on scene
- 2. If officer engages crowd
 - 1) Defensive weapons-LL shotgun, pepper spray, handgun
 - 2) What are limitations of weapons use

C. Post Incident Action

- 1. What do we need to do?
 - a. What was the initial crime (business and vehicle window smash)

- b. Investigate incident, take report, determine if suspect can be IDed
2. Arrest now or later?

VII. BUILDING SEARCH METHODOLOGY

- A. Securing the perimeter
 1. Make sure the perimeter is covered-corners or diagonal coverage if limited resources
 2. Familiar with building numbering (1-4 sides, front door usually #1 side)
 3. Radio communication, is code 33, Blue 8, channel patch needed

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- B. Searching the Interior
 1. What are your available officers and resources
 2. Two officers minimum, 3 or 4 configurations are better
 3. If K-9 available, secure and wait, two additional officers needed
 4. Weapons selection-handgun, rifle, LL rifle
 5. Systematic search of building
 6. Team movement
 - a) Buddy/Diamond
 - b) Contact and cover
 - *Hall way
 - *Room-button hook, direct, cross
 - c) Muzzle integrity
 - d) Team and Tactical communications
 - *Ear pieces
 - *Hand signals
 - e) Low light considerations
- C. Engaging the Suspect
 1. Weapons on the suspect
 2. Communicate you see them
 3. Watching hands or movement
 4. If uncooperative-secure scene
 - a) Advise supervisor
 - b) Barricaded subject
 - c) SRT and HNT
- D. Second Team Search

1. Cross fire concerns
2. Communication
3. Know where all officers are

VIII. HIGH RISK VEHICLE TRAFFIC STOPS

A. Routine Traffic Stop

1. All traffic stops are dangerous-plan for worst
2. Most dangerous activity for officers (killed in line of duty)
3. Have plan, practice, visualize high risk scenarios

B. The High Risk Stop

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1. Officer draws firearm on suspect and vehicle
2. Communicates with dispatch
3. Gives verbal commands
4. Takes control of scene
 - a) Decides high risk stop formation
 - b) Advising in-coming units of direction of stop, crossfire concerns
 - c) Advises suspect(s) of why stopped and deadly force by LE
 - d) Requests less lethal-LL shotgun, Taser, pepper spray
5. Coordinates and makes arrest after cover arrives
 - a) Loud verbal commands
 - b) Hands up
 - c) Keys out
 - d) Driver out
 - turn and lift shirt
 - walk backward toward voice
 - on knees
 - handcuffing
 - e) Cover officer responsibilities
 - watch suspect
 - watch suspect vehicle
 - f) Arrest suspect
 - g) Clear vehicle

IX. SCENARIOS (No real firearms will be used, AIRSOFT only)

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

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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

