

POST FIREARMS / TACTICAL RIFLE COURSE

NEVADA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE / 7400

CCN: 32075 | POST Certification II | 16 hours

Revised Date: **August 9, 2023**

COURSE TITLE:	FIREARMS/TACTICAL RIFLE Includes all shoulder-fired weapons that are not a shotgun
COURSE NUMBER:	32075
COURSE HOURS:	16
COURSE GOAL:	To provide students with the information and hands-on experience needed to effectively use a Rifle
AUDIENCE:	Sworn Peace Officers, including Level I and Level II Reserve Officers who are being introduced to a rifle and will qualify and carry it on duty in the scope of their employment
NOTE:	Successful completion of this course satisfies the legislative training mandate to possess short barrel rifles as specified in Penal Code section 33220(b) and the Commission training requirement to possess long barrel rifles as specified in Commission Regulation 1081.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Under the supervision of a qualified instructor, and using an approved law enforcement rifle, each student will:

- I. Demonstrate their understanding of the Four Basic Safety Rules for handling firearms.
- II. Demonstrate the ability to field strip the weapon and to properly clean and maintain it.
- III. Be provided with and demonstrate understanding of the agency policy regarding the use of firearms.
- IV. Demonstrate the ability to properly load, unload, and fire the weapon and to clear malfunctions that might occur with the weapon.
- V. Demonstrate the ability to apply the fundamentals for rifle marksmanship to fire accurately from the prone, kneeling, sitting and standing positions.
- VI. Demonstrate proficiency with the weapon and obtain agency qualification.

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REQUIRED CONTENT

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. Laws and Agency Policy
 - A. Penal Code section 32610(b)
 1. Possession of Within Scope of Employment
 - B. Penal Code section 33220(b)
 1. Training requirement
 - C. Agency Firearms Use and Use of Force Policies
 1. Use of Force options
 2. Department Policy
 - a. Policy 300
 - b. Policy 305
 - D. Law Update
 1. Tennessee vs. Garner
 2. Graham vs. Conner
- II. Safety and Range Rules
 - A. The Four Basic Safety Rules include
 1. Treat all guns as if they are loaded.
 2. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to destroy.
 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target.
 4. Always be sure of your target and beyond.
 - B. Range Rules
 1. After weapons have been grounded, and the line has been called safe by an instructor do not touch the weapon until all students are back from their targets, and the instructor has given the okay.

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2. If a problem arises on the line, raise your non-gun-hand to summon an instructor.

III. Nomenclature, Specifications and Capabilities

A. Nomenclature

1. Front and Rear Sights
2. Bolt Catch
3. Magazine Release
4. Safety/Selector
5. Magazine
6. Sling and Sling Attachments
 - a. Tactical three point systems
 - b. Two point systems

B. Specifications

1. Type of Weapon
2. Barrel Length
3. Overall Length
4. Caliber
5. Magazine Capacity
6. Weight (empty)
7. Type of Sights
8. Approximate Muzzle Velocity

C. Capabilities

1. Maximum Range
2. Maximum Effective Range
3. Penetration of Soft Body Armor
4. Full/Semi-Automatic

IV. Firearm Care, Disassembly/Assembly, and Maintenance

A. Refer to the manufacturer's care and operation manual.

B. Operator Control Devices

1. Selector level (Left Side / Lower Receiver)
 - a. Rotating lever operation
 - b. Position index
 - c. Cam control
2. Trigger (Bottom / Lower Receiver)
 - a. Pull operation
 - b. Disconnecter
 - c. Sear re-set
3. Bolt catch release (Left Side / Lower Receiver)
 - a. Pivot lever operation
 - b. Press in at bottom to catch, press in at top to release
 - c. Finger or hand activation

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- d. Blocking control
- 4. Magazine Catch / Release (Right Side / Lower Receiver)
 - a. Push operation
 - b. Press right to left
 - c. Spring loaded return
 - d. Locking rib will catch on slot machined into left side of magazine
 - e. On depleted magazine, magazine follower will raise to height that will act upon bolt catch causing bolt to be locked to rear on empty magazine
- 5. Charging Handle (Top / Upper Receiver)
 - a. Pull/push operation
 - b. Position lock on left side
 - c. Must be unlocked prior to rearward movement
 - d. Will be counteracting buffer spring pressure
- 6. Forward Assist (Right Side / Upper Receiver)
 - a. Push operation
 - b. Held in retracted position by spring pressure
 - c. Thumb or hand operation
 - d. Contact point pushes against machined grooves on right side of bolt.
- B. The Three Main Groups
 - 1. Upper receiver
 - 2. Lower receiver
 - 3. Bolt carrier
- C. Upper Receiver Group
 - 1. Compensator/Flash suppressor
 - 2. Barrel
 - 3. Chamber/barrel extension and locking lugs
 - 4. Feed ramps
 - 5. Front sight post shields
 - 6. Sling swivel
 - 7. Upper and lower fore grip
 - 8. Sling ring
 - 9. Gas tube
 - 10. Carrying handle/fixed/removal and add-on equipment mounting positions
 - 11. Rear sight evaluation knob and wind knob
 - 12. Rear Flip Sight Aperture
 - 13. Charging handle
 - 14. Bolt Locking Area
 - 15. Brass deflector
 - 16. Forward assist
 - 17. Ejection port
 - 18. Dust cover
- D. Lower Receiver Group
 - 1. Butt stock

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2. Buffer/buffer spring
3. Sling Swivel
4. Take down pin/pivot pin
5. Trigger and Trigger Mechanism
6. Trigger Guard
7. Hammer and Hammer Mechanism
8. Rifle Grip
9. Bolt catch
10. Selector Lever and Mechanism
11. Magazine well
12. Magazine Catch/Release

E. Bolt Carrier Group

1. Bolt carrier
2. Bolt
3. Bolt carrier key
4. Gas rings
5. Ejector/extractor
6. Extractor spring/pin
7. Bolt cam pin
7. Firing pin
8. Firing pin retaining pin

V. Basic Shooting Skills

A. Stance/Position

1. Standing
2. Kneeling
3. Sitting
4. Prone

B. Sight Alignment/Picture

1. Sight Alignment
2. Top of front sight post centered in the rear peep.
3. 100 percent focus is on the top edge of the front sight post. The rear peep and target are blurred.
4. Instructor will illustrate proper sight alignment.

C. Sight Picture

1. Defined as the relationship of sight alignment to the target.

D. Trigger Control

1. Emphasize that this is the single most important element.
2. Shooter must apply gradual pressure on the trigger for a surprise trigger break so as to not disturb sight alignment when the shot is made.

E. Grip/Stock Weld

F. Breathing

1. Breath must be held at the moment the shot is made.

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2. Breathing while firing will cause vertical stringing of shots.
 3. Holding breath too long will cause vision to blur and muscles to tremble, so the shot must be made before this happens.
- G. Follow Through
1. Maintain all the elements throughout the shot.

VI. Clearing Malfunctions and Stoppages

- A. In close quarter confrontations, consider immediate transition to the handgun
- B. Failure to fire considerations
 1. Failure to feed
 - a. Empty Magazine
 - b. Magazine not properly seated
 - c. Double feed
 - d. Round behind bolt carrier
 - e. Dirty weapon
 2. Failure to fire
 - a. Bad ammo
 - b. Ammo improperly loaded into magazine
 - c. Broken firing pin
 - d. Dirty weapon
 3. Failure to extract
 - a. Broken or damaged extractor
 - b. Worn or broken extractor spring
 - c. Bad ammo
 - d. Dirty weapon
 4. Failure to eject
 - a. Stove pipe
 - b. Broken or damaged ejector
 - c. Dirty weapon
 5. Failure to think
 - a. Operator error
 - b. Lack of proper preparation
- C. Malfunction procedures
 1. Transition to handgun
 2. Maintain muzzle control
 3. Engage threat if necessary
 4. Deploy to cover
 5. Immediate action procedures
 - a. Tap magazine
 - b. Rotate 45 degrees to the right

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c. Charge weapon
(If this does not clear the malfunction, initiate clearance drills)

6. Clearance drill
 - a. Remove magazine
 - b. Charge weapon two to three times
 - c. Lock bolt to the rear
 - d. Visually and physically check the chamber and magazine
 - e. Remove any obstructions
 - f. Insert fresh magazine into magazine well
 - g. Release the bolt by slapping the bolt catch
7. "Tap, Rack, Assess"
 - a. Seat magazine by hitting it with heel of hand
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
8. Stove pipe
 - a. Tilt rifle so that ejection port faces the ground
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
9. Feed way stoppages
 - a. Lock the bolt to the rear
 - b. Remove the magazine from the weapon
 - c. Clear live rounds from the receiver and chamber
 - d. Insert a fresh loaded magazine
 - e. Chamber a round
 - f. Obtain sight picture
 - g. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary

VII. Tactical Considerations

- A. Based on agency guidelines and training
- B. Physical environment
- C. Be aware of cover and concealment
- D. Rifle caliber rounds will penetrate soft body armor...(yours or theirs!).
- E. The Patrol Rifle affords the opportunity to maintain safe distances to adversaries.
- F. The Patrol Rifle affords an increased effective range over the service shotgun and handgun.
- G. The Patrol Rifle affords more accuracy than a service shotgun with a rifled slug.
- H. The Patrol Rifle is easier to load and re-load than a service shotgun.
- I. The Patrol Rifle has a larger ammunition capacity than a service shotgun.

VIII. Shooting Decision

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- A. Know your abilities and limitations, and those of your weapon.
- B. Exercise fire discipline within agency guidelines and the parameters of applicable State and Federal laws.

IX. Skill Development

A. Dry Firing Exercises

- 1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
- 2. Dry fire each position
 - a. Standing
 - b. High Kneeling
 - c. Modified/low kneeling
 - d. Sitting
 - e. Prone

B. Live Firing Exercises

- 1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
- 2. Live fire each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, and prone).
- 3. Live fire at various distances based on agency mission and environment.
- 4. Live fire at multiple targets.
- 5. Precision shooting exercises.
- 6. Reloading and firing exercises.
- 7. Malfunction exercises.
- 8. Move and fire exercises.
- 9. Close quarter tactical shooting.

C. Courses of Live Fire

(All courses of fire will be fired from the 50-yard line with a center mass point of aim at the EXC-TT1 silhouette target, unless otherwise noted)

- 1. 10 Rounds from the standing position with tactical reload
- 2. 10 Rounds from the high kneeling position with tactical reload
- 3. 10 rounds from the modified/ low kneeling position with tactical reload
- 4. 10 rounds from the sitting position with tactical reload
- 5. 10 rounds from the prone position with tactical reload
- 6. 10 rounds from 25 yard line from a barricaded position 5 rounds from the standing position and 5 rounds from the high or modified kneeling position
- 7. 10 rounds from 25 yard line from the standing position, 2 round controlled pairs with transition to handgun after each pair. (5 strings 2 round each)

X. QUALIFICATION COURSE

- A. The course will consist of a total of 60 rounds fired at an EXC-TT1 silhouette target from various positions and ranges.
- B. All rounds fired (55), except the 5 head shots, will be required to be within the shaded FBI Q target printed on the EXC-TT1 to receive a passing score. Rounds that break the outer edge of the target area will count as a miss.
- C. Remediation will be conducted per department policy.

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- D. Qualification Course of Fire (All courses of fire will be from the 50 yard line unless otherwise stated.)
1. 5 rounds from the prone position to the head of the EXC-TT1 (the head is from the collar upward) in 25 seconds
 2. 10 rounds from the prone position with tactical reload in 60 seconds
 3. 5 rounds from the standing in 45 seconds
 4. 5 rounds from the kneeling in 45 seconds
 5. 5 rounds from the sitting position in 45 seconds
 6. 5 rounds from the 25-yard line in the standing position in 25 seconds
 7. 5 rounds from the 25-yard line from the kneeling position in 25 seconds (the shooter will transition to the kneeling position from the standing position)
 8. 10 rounds from the 25-yard line with 5 rounds standing and 5 rounds kneeling in 30 seconds with a tactical reload
 9. 10 rounds from the 15-yard line with controlled pairs being fired at each command of threat (5 strings of 2 rounds each)

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