

Basic Training Module Specifications

Functional Area: IV. Police Skills
Subject Area: B. Firearms
Module Title: 2. FIREARMS SKILLS
Hours: Not less than 50 hours

Module Objectives:

IV.B.2.1. Demonstrate Proficiency in Basic Marksmanship Using a Handgun and Shotgun.

- a. Demonstrates fundamentals of shooting at various distances:
 - (1) proper stance;
 - (2) grip;
 - (3) trigger pressure;
 - (4) sight alignment; and
 - (5) sight picture.
- b. Demonstrates proficiency on the MCOLES CCW Civilian Pistol Safety Training Course.
- c. Demonstrates proficient use of a firearm to meet an acceptable standard:
 - (1) shoots accurately while maintaining control.
- d. Scores minimum acceptable score on target at various distances.

IV.B.2.2. Demonstrate Proficiency in Close-Quarter-Combat Tactics and Techniques Using a Handgun.

- a. Demonstrate appropriate close-quarter-combat tactics and techniques during various circumstances;
 - (1) extreme close quarters
 - (2) close quarters
 - (3) behind cover
 - (4) low light
 - (5) low light requiring illumination.
- b. Scores minimum acceptable score on target during various close-quarter-combat exercises.

Notes to instructor:

This training objective should be taught consistent with the Subject Control Module (IV.C.4.4.(n)).

IV.B.2.3. Discharge a Firearm in Low Light Levels.

- a. Minimizes the limitations of artificial lighting for personal advantage:
 - (1) attempts to establish and maintain night vision by avoiding looking at lights;
 - (2) uses existing light for personal advantage;
 - (3) uses darkness for concealment:
 - (a) avoids being back lighted;
 - (b) avoids back lighting other officers;
 - (4) uses flashlights so as not to target self to suspect; and
 - (5) uses flashlight to impair suspect's night vision.
- b. Minimizes the limitations of shooting accurately at night:
 - (1) uses flashlight to assist in target acquisition;
 - (2) using suspect's muzzle flash to identify target; and
 - (3) uses muzzle flash to assist in attaining sight picture.
- c. Minimizes vulnerability after discharging a firearm by shooting and moving.
- d. Prepares for engagements in low light during the day:
 - (1) Always has flashlight accessible; and
 - (2) uses available existing light.
- e. Considers use and limitations of night sights and other low light aids.

IV.B.2.4. Perform Proper Care and Maintenance for Firearms.

- a. Handles a firearm safely (e.g., never points at anything not to be shot).
- b. Performs daily inspection of a firearm's system for serviceability and functionality:
 - (1) inspects for cleanliness and damage;
 - (2) inspects for proper lubrication (is aware of improper and excess lubrication on ammunition);
 - (3) inspects each round of ammo for visible defects;
 - (4) assures that all firearms are fully loaded with proper ammunition;
 - (5) inspects leather gear for serviceability and excessive wear; and
 - (6) inspects locking racks for access and functionality.
- c. Has weapons inspected periodically (e.g., annually) by a certified armorer.
- d. Secures a firearm safely when not in use.

IV.B.2.5. Draw a Firearm Efficiently and Safely.

- a. Makes the firearm accessible.
- b. Grips the firearm properly for shooting it.
- c. Moves the firearm to clear holster, or gun rack.
- d. Maintains eye contact with the potential adversary.
- e. Releases safety, if so equipped, with finger outside the trigger guard.
- f. Presents the firearm to the appropriate target efficiently and safely.

IV.B.2.6. Holsters a Firearm Effectively.

- a. Holsters the firearm quickly, smoothly, with a minimum of motion using one hand, never raising the barrel above horizontal.
- b. Maintains eye contact on area of responsibility.
- c. Keeps finger off the trigger.
- d. Decock the firearm where appropriate.
- e. Place hand over end of hammer or end of slide.
- f. Secures handgun in the holster as appropriate.

IV.B.2.7. Assess a Threat Level to Self or Others to Determine if it is Life Threatening.

- a. Scans area of responsibility for threats.
- b. Identifies a threat (life threatening or great bodily harm) to self or others.
- c. Moves or takes cover.
- d. Determines that the threat is valid.
- e. Issues a verbal command to instruct or warn, if appropriate.
- f. Considers background and other factors.

IV.B.2.8. Use Cover/Concealment in a Life-Threatening Situation.

- a. Identifies sources of cover (e.g., solid barriers, poles).
- b. Identifies sources of concealment (e.g., bushes, shadows).
- c. Takes cover.
 - (1) Uses concealment only if cover is not available.
 - (2) Uses concealment to reach cover.
- d. Lowers profile if cover and/or concealment are not available.
- e. Protects cover and/or concealment from disclosure to the target (e.g., avoids having concealment voided by back lighting).
- f. Changes location only for a better option.
- g. Maintains distance from cover for best optical effect on the suspect.

IV.B.2.9. Neutralize All Life-Threatening Threats to Self or Others.

- a. Engages target:
 - (1) assumes an appropriate shooting position; and
 - (2) secures a snap sight picture.
- b. Discharges the firearm at threats.
- c. Continues to fire until threats are neutralized:
 - (1) reloads the firearm as necessary;
 - (2) takes corrective action if the firearm stops functioning; and
 - (3) reassesses tactical positioning.
- d. Scans field of fire for possible additional adversaries:
 - (1) looks up and down; and
 - (2) looks from side to side.

IV.B.2.10. Demonstrate Proficiency in Tactical Marksmanship.

- a. Demonstrates proper use of firearms:
 - (1) loads and unloads firearms properly; and
 - (2) uses single and double action capabilities of a semi-auto.
- b. Verifies continuously that firearms are loaded and functional.

IV.B.2.10. Demonstrate Proficiency in Tactical Marksmanship (continued).

- c. Selects an appropriate firearm to be discharged (e.g., handgun, shotgun or rifle) by considering:
 - (1) the type of firearm in suspect's possession;
 - (2) the presence of bystanders;
 - (3) the geographical location of the confrontation; and
 - (4) departmental policy.
- d. Uses verbal commands, when feasible, to instruct and/or warn others that a firearm is going to be discharged.
- e. Controls emotions:
 - (1) maintains proper safety procedures;
 - (2) maintains accuracy; and
 - (3) makes use of protective cover.
- f. Discharges the firearm from protective cover, when available.
- g. Displays correct emergency procedures if the firearm ceases to function when discharging it:
 - (1) attempts to clear stoppage;
 - (2) uses a tactical retreat when appropriate; and
 - (3) considers using a backup or alternate firearm, if available, if stoppage cannot be cleared.
- h. Demonstrates proficient use of the firearm to meet an acceptable standard by shooting accurately while maintaining control.
- i. Scores minimum acceptable score on target at various distances.

Module History:

Revised 01/10

Revised 01/19