Basic Training Module Specifications

Functional Area:	IV.	Police Skills
Subject Area:	D.	Emergency Vehicle Operations
Module Title:	2.	EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS TECHNIQUES
Hours:	Not less than 24 hours	

Notes to Instructor:

For the practical exercises, the instructor/student ratio shall be one/four (maximum). An instructor/student ratio of one/three is ideal.

For the practical exercises, the instructor shall use only those vehicles that are rated for pursuit and emergency use, so-called "police package" vehicles, as designated by the manufacturer. However, Special Service Package vehicles, offered by some manufacturers, are not engineered, nor are they suitable, for pursuit or emergency driving according to these manufacturers.

Module Objectives:

IV.D.2.1. Demonstrate Preparedness for Emergency Vehicle Operations.

a. Recognizes the importance for proper vehicle set up, including:
   (1) vehicle inspections;
   (2) mirror adjustments;
   (3) seating position;
   (4) proper hand position on wheel;
   (5) sitting erect with shoulders resting against the back of the seat; and
   (6) radios, knobs, trunk release, fire extinguisher.

b. Identifies the following as safety features in emergency vehicles:
   (1) air bags;
   (2) safety belts;
   (3) padded dash and visors;
   (4) collapsible steering column; and
   (5) laminated windshields.

IV.D.2.2. Demonstrate an Understanding of the Techniques of Emergency Vehicle Operations in Appropriate Situations.

a. Recognizes the principles of steering as:
(1) three-point;
(2) shuffle;
(3) hand over hand;
(4) pre-set;
(5) palm steering;
(6) 12 o'clock backing; and
(7) wheel management.

b. Recognizes the principles of cornering as:
(1) apex cornering;
(2) cornering skids; and
(3) the dynamics of weight transfer.

c. Recognizes the principles of proper backing as:
(1) weight transfers;
(2) turn-arounds;
(3) fixed-object relationships; and
(4) 90 degree and 180 degree turns.

d. Recognizes the principles of proper acceleration as:
(1) skid avoidance;
(2) smooth starting;
(3) adjustments for road conditions; and
(4) adjustments for the environment.

e. Recognizes the principles of proper braking as:
(1) threshold braking (with and without turns);
(2) anti-lock braking systems (with and without turns);
(3) avoidance of braking skids;
(4) the dynamics of vehicle weight transfer; and
(5) total stopping distance:
    (a) perception/reaction time;
    (b) road surfaces;
    (c) weather conditions; and
    (d) vehicle condition.

f. Recognizes the principles of parking as:
(1) vehicle placement; and
(2) fixed object relationships.

Notes to Instructor:

Ensure that the recruits have an awareness of vehicle dynamics in terms of front wheel drive v. rear wheel drive, for example, preventing wheel lockup, the pulsating effort of the brake pedal, the ABS warning lamps and function, etc.

IV.D.2.3. Demonstrate an Understanding of Operating an Emergency Vehicle Under Adverse Environmental Conditions.

a. Understands the proper operating techniques for ice-covered roads:
(1) applies brakes lightly when stopping;
(2) steers in desired direction of travel to control for skids;
(3) reduces speed;
(4) accelerates slowly; and
(5) increases distance between the emergency vehicle and other vehicles.

b. Understands the proper operating techniques for rain:
(1) anticipates hydroplaning;
(2) accelerates slowly;
(3) applies brakes lightly in excessive water; and
(4) reduces overall speed.

c. Understands the proper operating techniques for dirt covered roads:
(1) accelerates slowly;
(2) anticipates road defects; and
(3) applies brakes appropriately when stopping (threshold braking or ABS).

IV.D.2.4. Operates an Emergency Vehicle Using Proper Techniques in Darkness:

a. Compensates for vision limitations.

b. Protects night vision.

c. Protects against fatigue, which results in:
(1) decreased visual efficiency;
(2) longer perception time;
(3) impaired judgement; and
(4) longer decision/reaction time.

Note to Instructor:

Objective IV.D.2.4. shall be presented as a practical exercise with no artificial lighting.

IV.D.2.5. Demonstrate Proficiency on the MCOLES Emergency Vehicle Operations Course or an MCOLES Approved Course that Exceeds the Standard.

a. Demonstrates proper road position, braking and steering accuracy, backing accuracy, and skid avoidance while performing a series of driving exercises, to include:
(1) steering;
(2) braking (with and/or without ABS);
(3) accelerating;
(4) backing; and
(5) cornering.

Note to Instructor:

At the conclusion of the emergency vehicle operations training module the students must participate in a reality-based practical exercise that depicts emergency driving situations and pursuit situations. This shall be a learning exercise, not pass/fail and can be a cumulative of the skills required in IV.D.2.5.a.

All academies must include a skid control exercise as part of EVO training. This can be accomplished by using a "skid car", a skid pad, or other approved skid control exercise.

Module History

Implemented	July 2002
Revised	July 2006
Revised	Mar 2015
Edited	July 2017