CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING

Basic Course Workbook Series

Student Materials

Learning Domain 21
Patrol Techniques
Version 5.0

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THE ACADEMY TRAINING MISSION

The primary mission of basic training is to prepare students mentally, morally, and physically to advance into a field training program, assume the responsibilities, and execute the duties of a peace officer in society.

FOREWORD

The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training sincerely appreciates the efforts of the many curriculum consultants, academy instructors, directors and coordinators who contributed to the development of this workbook. The Commission extends its thanks to California law enforcement agency executives who offered personnel to participate in the development of these training materials.

This student workbook is part of the POST Basic Course Training System. The workbook component of this system provides a self-study document for every learning domain in the Basic Course. Each workbook is intended to be a supplement to, not a substitute for, classroom instruction. The objective of the system is to improve academy student learning and information retention.

The content of each workbook is organized into sequenced learning modules to meet requirements as prescribed both by California law and the POST Training and Testing Specifications for the Basic Course.

It is our hope that the collective wisdom and experience of all who contributed to this workbook will help you, the student, to successfully complete the Basic Course and to enjoy a safe and rewarding career as a peace officer serving the communities of California.

PAUL CAPPITELLI
Executive Director

LD 21: Patrol Techniques

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Preface

Introduction

Student workbooks

The student workbooks are part of the POST Basic Course Instructional System. This system is designed to provide students with a self-study document to be used in preparation for classroom training.

Regular Basic Course training requirement

Completion of the Regular Basic Course is required, prior to exercising peace officer powers, as recognized in the California Penal Code and where the POST-required standard is the POST Regular Basic Course.

Student workbook elements

The following elements are included in each workbook:

- chapter contents, including a synopsis of key points
- supplementary material
- a glossary of terms used in this workbook

How to Use the Student Workbook

Introduction

This workbook provides an introduction to the training requirements for this Learning Domain. It is intended to be used in several ways: for initial learning prior to classroom attendance, for test preparation, and for remedial training.

Workbook format

To use the workbook most effectively, follow the steps listed below.

Step	Action
1	Begin by reading the: Preface and How to Use the Workbook, which provide an overview of how the workbook fits into the POST Instructional System and how it should be used
2	Refer to the Chapter Synopsis at the end of each chapter to review the key points that support the chapter objectives
3	Read the text
4	Complete the Workbook Learning Activities at the end of each chapter. These activities reinforce the material taught in the chapter
5	Refer to the Glossary for a definition of important terms. The terms appear throughout the text and are bolded and underlined the first time they appear (e.g., **term**)

Chapter 1

Basic Concepts of Law Enforcement Patrol

Overview

Learning need

To safely and effectively fulfill their duties of public protection and service, peace officers must be able to develop appropriate law enforcement patrol strategies under a wide variety of circumstances and conditions.

Learning objectives

The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:	**E.O Code**
• Discuss patrol strategies officers may employ to provide protection and service within their assigned areas of patrol, to include: - Preventative - Directed enforcement	21.01.EO1
• Discuss considerations for selecting a patrol strategy	21.01.EO2
• Select appropriate actions for peace officers who are conducting security checks	21.01.EO4
• Distinguish between the roles and responsibilities of contact and cover officers	21.01.EO7
• Select appropriate actions officers should take to maintain their own safety and the safety of others while on patrol	21.01.EO8

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In this chapter

This chapter focuses on other background information pertaining to patrol strategies. Refer to the chart below for specific topics.

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Basic Patrol Concepts

[21.01.EO1, 21.01.EO2]

Introduction

Community patrol is one of the most frequent assignments a uniformed officer will perform.

Leadership

Uniformed officers, whether in a car, on bicycle, motorcycle, horseback, or on foot are mobile, visible and the most likely members of an agency to have contact with the community. Uniformed officers respond to calls, work on problems, initiate positive contacts, and are, in large measure, the image of the agency. Officers' demeanor and their interactions with the community they serve will determine how the entire agency is viewed.

Ethics

The Constitution and Bill of Rights apply to everyone. Making assumptions and stereotyping a whole neighborhood by assuming that everyone who lives in a troubled area or neighborhood is suspect is wrong. Don't assume that everyone living in or near a troubled area is suspect. People must be treated as individuals and assumed "innocent until proven guilty."

Community policing

People *do* care and want peace officers to help them to maintain a high quality of life. Patrol officers have a stake in their assigned areas. Community members care about their neighborhood and need patrol officers to help them keep it safe. There is a joint responsibility for this job. Where there is a low tolerance for litter, graffiti, speeding, and public disturbance, the message is clear that people care.

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Fundamental elements of patrol

Effective law enforcement patrol is made up of two fundamental elements: protection and service.

Fundamental Element	The community expects that law enforcement patrol officers will:
Protection	• provide public safety, and isolation from criminal activity
Service	• address the public's concerns and needs efficiently and professionally

Knowledge of assignment area

In order to provide protection and service, officers must acquire knowledge of the beat they have been assigned to patrol. Such knowledge includes not just knowing the basic layout and makeup of the area, but also recognizing locations within the area that may require the officers' specific attention.

The following table lists examples within their specific assignments which officers should become familiar.

Continued on next page

Knowledge of assignment area (continued)

Areas where...	**Examples**
criminal acts may occur	• Shopping centers (e.g., purse snatches, auto burglaries, etc.) • School grounds (e.g., narcotics activities, child molesters, etc.) • Bars, night clubs, and other locations of nightlife activities • Bus stops, convenience stores, isolated restaurants or bars • and other poorly lit areas with pedestrian traffic • Abandoned buildings (e.g., arson)
disturbances may occur	• Youth gathering spots such as: - recreation centers or school events - amusement centers - public parks and beaches - sporting events - secluded “drinking spots” (e.g., “lover’s lane,” wooded locations, etc.)
	• Adult congregations such as: - bars or coffee shops - sporting events - concerts - public parks and beaches - family/community celebrations - churches - swap meets - motorcycle rallies
	• Community meetings involving: - emotional issues or negative public sentiment - public political debates

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Knowledge of assignment area (continued)

Areas where...	Examples
public safety hazards may exist	• Poor road conditions such as: - dirt roads - poorly marked dead-end streets - inadequate lighting or traffic signs - streets with potholes • Construction sites • Chemical and industrial plants and storage facilities • Ponds, rivers, lakes, or beaches used for fishing, swimming, or other water recreation
there is a potential for natural disaster	• Man-made dams susceptible to seepage or erosion • Low lying areas that can easily flood • Earthquake-prone zones • Hillsides with a potential for mud or rock slides • Open fields susceptible to fire during dry periods • Areas prone to fog or other weather related conditions

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Patrol strategies

Officers may employ two basic patrol strategies to provide protection and service within their assigned patrol area.

Strategy	Primary Objective	Example
Preventative Patrol	• To be highly visible in order to discourage occurrences of unlawful or problem activity	Conducting visible patrols through a parking structure where there have been a large number of auto thefts with the intention of dissuading potential thieves from stealing cars
Directed Enforcement Patrol	• To concentrate patrol activities on particular circumstances, persons or problem areas	Hiding from view and maintaining surveillance of a parking structure where there have been a large number of auto thefts with the intention of arresting a car thief in the act of stealing a car

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Trained observer

No matter what patrol strategy is deployed, officers on patrol must rely on their own observation and **perception** skills.

Officers must function as **trained observers**. Officers on patrol are expected to:

- practice disciplined *observation*
- apply their training and experience to accurately *perceive* what is occurring or is about to occur

Observation

To an officer, **observation** means the ability to gather information by noting facts or occurrences with a heightened sense of awareness.

While on patrol, officers must use not only their eyes, but all of their senses including hearing, smell, etc., to obtain information from the outside world.

Observation can be enhanced by:

- training (*knowing what to look for*)
- experience (*knowing where and when to look for it*)
- a variety of special tools (e.g., binoculars, night vision scopes, etc.)

Preventative Patrol

[21.01.EO1, 21.01.EO4]

Introduction

Preventative patrol strategies provide protection from criminal activity. It has been consistently demonstrated that visible law enforcement presence can reduce criminal activity.

Preventative patrol techniques

To be an effective deterrent to crime, law enforcement presence should be highly visible within the community, especially in areas that are high risk crime targets. Preventative patrol actions include:

- maintaining a law enforcement presence and visibility within the community
- conducting frequent security checks of high-risk targets and businesses
- conducting checks of persons who may be involved in suspicious activities

Security checks

There are three fundamental objectives when conducting security checks of businesses, residences and other structures.

- To help the officer remain knowledgeable about the specific structure or area (e.g., layout, normal activity in and around the area, normal conditions of the structure, etc.)
- To discover any suspicious activity or evidence of criminal activity (e.g., burglary)
- To enhance community relations by maintaining high visibility

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Conducting security checks

When conducting security checks, officers should:

- cover as much of their assigned area as possible including secondary thoroughfares (e.g., alleys, walkways, parking areas, etc.) as well as primary streets
- pay extra attention to high crime risk areas
- vary patrol patterns and routines to prevent predictability
- employ appropriate investigative tactics and equipment (e.g., use of spotlights, flashlights, alley lights, etc.)
- implement additional patrol methods whenever possible (e.g., foot patrol, bicycle patrol, etc.)

Continued on next page

Indications of criminal activity

During a security check, officers prevent crime by their presence and find opportunities to detect criminal activity.

When checking structures, officers should...	**Examples**
look for signs of property damage and/or forced entry	• Broken windows • Open doors • Pry marks around windows or doors • Broken equipment • Cut phone or power lines
look for unusual conditions	• Lights off that are normally on • Activities during nonbusiness hours • Presence of suspicious vehicles • Persons involved in suspicious activity • Persons not in appropriate locations (e.g. no clerk(s) at convenience store counter)
check access areas	• Areas around the structure • Access to the roof

NOTE: For additional information regarding indicators and law enforcement actions related to potential criminal activity, refer to LD 23: *Crimes in Progress*.

Directed Enforcement

[21.01.EO1]

Introduction

Realistically, officers cannot simultaneously cover all parts of their assigned geographic areas. Use of a directed enforcement patrol strategy can target areas where problems are likely to occur by concentrating patrol activities on particular circumstances.

Determining target areas

A thorough knowledge of the (1) area of assignment and (2) available resources is necessary to be able to respond to locations where problems are likely to occur.

NOTE: Your agency's crime analysis unit may be able to provide information on day-of-week and time-of-day patterns for criminal activity, suspect and victim profiles, parolee information, field interview patterns and calls-for-service patterns just to name some of the information that can help an officer make an informed decision on where to patrol, and what suspect activity to look for.

Personnel and equipment

When employing a directed enforcement strategy, personnel and equipment can be deployed depending upon specific crime patterns or service needs.

For example:

- Undercover officers may be assigned to foot patrol in an area that has recently had a high number of violent crimes
- Additional law enforcement vehicles may be assigned to patrol an area that is plagued by a cruising problem (e.g. bicycles, horses, etc.)
- Investigative and enforcement efforts may be directed toward an area that has a high amount of drug activity

NOTE: For additional information on directed patrol activities, please refer to LD 3: *Policing in the Community*, Chapters 1 and 3.

Continued on next page

Directed Enforcement, Continued

Examples

(1) On weekend nights hundreds of juveniles gathered to "cruise" and "hang out" in the downtown area of a city. This created many law enforcement problems for officers assigned to the area. A plan was devised so that officers were deployed into three groups: uniformed foot-patrol, uniformed vehicle-patrol, and plainclothes officers. Officers on foot patrol handled problems associated with drinking, fights, vandalism, etc. Officers in vehicles handled most of the traffic violations. Plainclothes officers acted as observers and relayed information to the uniformed officers who then responded. Careful planning and effective coordination enabled the officers to respond effectively to problems as they occurred.

(2) An officer learned that a dance was to take place at a club located on her beat. The dance would attract teenagers from all over the city and, although alcohol was prohibited, there was a potential for offsite drinking. The officer made a point of frequently cruising by the club during the evening to observe and to promptly respond to any problems.

Contact and Cover Officers

[21.01.EO7]

Introduction

The first officer on scene must take a leadership role for the initial assessment, making contact with the involved parties, and determining if law enforcement action is required. To accomplish these tasks safely, this officer may need to rely on additional support from one or more officers.

Definitions

The **contact officer** is the officer initiating an action who becomes responsible for conducting the contact.

The **cover officer** is the officer responsible for surveillance and control of a suspect in order to free the contact officer to perform a thorough investigation.

NOTE: Officer safety is a primary responsibility of all peace officers at all times. The contact officer should never rely *solely* on the cover officer for protection.

Cover and concealment

"Cover" is a term often associated with combat tactics. Under such conditions, **cover** refers to anything that may *stop* or *deflect* an opponent's weapon (e.g., brick walls, buildings, portion of the vehicle with the engine block, etc.).

Concealment refers to anything that prevents an opponent from *observing* the officer (e.g., bushes, small trees, tall grass, dark shadows, large crowds, lines of moving vehicles, etc.). Concealment alone does not stop or deflect bullets.

NOTE: For additional information regarding cover and concealment, refer to LD 35: *Firearms/Chemical Agents*.

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Contact and Cover Officers, Continued

Responsibilities

It is vital that each officer understand the roles and responsibilities of contact and cover officers.

The *contact* officer is responsible for...	**The *cover* officer is responsible for...**
• initiating action • conducting the essential business required, such as, but not limited to: - alerting cover officer that a weapon or contraband is located on the suspect - conducting thorough systematic searches - maintaining control of the suspect - recovering evidence - recording necessary suspect or incident information - handling radio communication - writing traffic or misdemeanor citations • communicating with the cover officer, as appropriate, regarding force option selection (i.e, Electronic Weapons, Less-Lethal)	• protecting the contact officer from possible interference (e.g. onlookers or associates of the suspect(s)) • alerting the contact officer that a weapon or contraband is located on the suspect • maintaining constant observation of the overall situation; being aware of possible dangers and potential interferences • providing a command presence to discourage hostile acts, assaults, or escapes by the suspect • securing any weapons or contraband; this allows the contact officer to continue searches • preventing the destruction of evidence • intervening with appropriate force to protect the contact officer if a suspect reacts violently • communicating with the contact officer, as appropriate, regarding force option selection (i.e, Electronic Weapons, Less-Lethal)

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One-and two-officer units

Depending on the jurisdiction, officers may be assigned to patrol alone or with another officer in the patrol unit. The following table identifies how the roles of contact officer and cover officer pertain under each condition.

IF an officer is assigned to a...	THEN...
one-officer unit	• the first officer to arrive and initiate any activity assumes the role of *contact officer* • determines if there is a need to call for a *cover officer* (i.e., backup) • Additional personnel, whether responding to a call for cover or simply stopping at the scene to offer assistance, should automatically assume the role of *cover officer(s)*
two-officer unit	• the officers should agree upon who will act as the *contact officer* and *cover officer* in advance of each contact

Switching roles

In some instances, once the initial contact has been made, officers may decide to exchange contact and cover officer duties. The switch should be verbally communicated and understood by both officers. Such a switch may take place when:

- it is tactically advantageous to do so (e.g., when the suspect's position changes)
- one officer has specialized training or expertise in a given area (e.g., as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), better rapport with a suspect, more knowledge regarding the area, bilingual, or a specific personal skill)

Continued on next page

Switching roles (continued)

In such exchanges, the officer assuming the role of *cover officer* must be in position and fully prepared to respond to any sudden action by the suspect before the original cover officer relinquishes that duty to take on the role as contact officer.

Initial briefings

It is essential that contact officers requesting cover and officers responding *clearly communicate* with one another. Responding officers should be briefed on the details of the contact as thoroughly as possible. The following table identifies elements of such contact officer/cover officer communications.

Upon arrival, the contact officer should advise the cover officer of:	**After receiving the information, the cover officer should brief the contact officer on:**
• observations made or evidence obtained • whether or not a search for weapons has already been conducted • the reason for the contact and suspected criminal activity • the contact officer's immediate plans • any previous knowledge of the suspect(s) and/or an appraisal of their potential for violence • any other suspicious persons or activity in the area	• previous knowledge of the suspect(s) • observations made while approaching the scene • any significant radio communications the contact officer may have missed

NOTE: Both officers should verbally confirm what has been told to them by the other officer to ensure that communication was correct.

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Positioning

The exact positioning of the contact and cover officers will vary according to the situation and circumstances. The following table provides general guidelines for establishing positions of advantage.

Contact officers should position themselves to:	Cover officers should position themselves to:
• avoid moving between the cover officer and suspect(s) • not be in a position of vulnerability	• have a clear and unobstructed view of the suspect(s), and the contact officer • have the best peripheral view of the surrounding areas • avoid crossfire situations between officers • control the likeliest route of escape

NOTE: Additional information regarding contact and cover officer positioning is provided in LD 22: *Vehicle Pullovers* and LD 23: *Crimes in Progress*.

Weapon searches/ handcuffing

The most hazardous moments of the majority of contacts with suspects occurs during a cursory search for weapons or when the suspect is being handcuffed. Because of the inherent danger, the role of each officer must be clear. For example:

- contact officer conducts the search or cuffing while the
- cover officer acts as security

Continued on next page

Contact and Cover Officers, Continued

Multiple contact and cover officers

Some major crime scenes or disturbances involving several subjects may require multiple contact and cover officers (e.g., when two or more subjects must be separated and other witnesses individually questioned, when a potentially hostile crowd may interfere, etc.).

In such cases assignments should be absolutely clear and as specific as the situation permits. Assignments should be made by the:

- primary officer (i.e., the first contact officer on the scene), or
- supervisor

Release of cover officer

Circumstances such as hostile bystanders or the continued presence of suspect(s) companions may dictate that the cover officer maintain position until all of the business of the contact is completed.

Because of this fact, it is the responsibility of the contact officer to determine when the cover officer can be released.

Examples

(1) A two-officer patrol unit initiated a stop for a possible DUI. The contact officer, during the initial contact with the driver, realized that the driver might be under the influence of drugs. Because the officer's partner was a drug recognition expert, the contact officer immediately communicated this information to the cover officer and they decided to switch roles.

(2) Two officers had contacted a subject loitering in a residential area. The subject spoke only Spanish and the contact officer did not. The contact officer decided to switch roles with the cover officer, who spoke Spanish.

Officer Safety While On Patrol

[21.01.EO8]

Introduction

Due to its repetitive nature, a patrol assignment has an inherent danger of appearing routine. As a result, officers can easily become complacent and careless leading to fatal errors.

Inherent danger

While on patrol, officers can encounter some of the most dangerous and threatening conditions. Officers are killed or assaulted in the line of duty when on patrol more than any other law enforcement assignment.

Officers on patrol are more likely to encounter the following types of potentially dangerous incidents.

- Domestic violence and/or disturbance calls
- Burglaries/Robberies

  * High incidence categories

NOTE: The above list is ranked by level of risk to the officer, with the highest risk involving responding to a domestic violence/disturbance call. (*California Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted Study in the Line of Duty*, (2008). The study covers 2000 - 2005, during which 23 officers lost their lives in the line of duty due to felonious assault.

Continued on next page

Fatal errors

Statistical analysis of incidents involving officers killed or assaulted in the line of duty has found that most of the deadly incidents ***could have been prevented***. Officers should keep in mind and avoid committing any of the following fatal errors while on patrol.

Fatal Error	Example
Inappropriate attitude • Careless or complacent • Overconfident • Too aggressive	During a wind and rain storm, several business alarms were activated. After determining the first two were false alarms, the officer assumed that all the alarms would also be false. The primary contact officer decided to release the cover officer and respond to the remaining alarms alone. Later, while responding to another of the alarms, the officer was assaulted by a burglar fleeing the scene.
"Tombstone courage" • Overly anxious to show one's own courage • Attempting to handle dangerous situations beyond one's ability	A patrol officer, responding to a silent burglary alarm, observed four armed suspects drive away from the building. The officer broadcasted a crime report and requested backup. Without waiting for backup units, the officer pursued the suspects and stopped the vehicle. As the officer approached the vehicle, one of the suspects jumped from the car and shot the officer.
Poor or no planning • Rushing into the situation without any plan of action • Failure to establish a plan of action prior to engaging the suspect • Not considering alternative actions	A two-officer patrol unit saw a young man running from a convenience store followed by the store clerk yelling "stop him." The clerk was obviously injured. Without taking any of the appropriate actions (notifying dispatch, determining contact/cover roles, etc.) both officers exited the vehicle and began chasing the young man. The officers placed themselves at risk by not having a plan of action, as well as placing the store clerk and others at risk if there had been other suspects still in the store.

Continued on next page

Fatal errors (continued)

Fatal Error	Example
Inadequate communication • Not establishing roles (cover, contact, etc.) • Failure to work with other officers as a team • Failure to notify dispatch of actions	A patrol officer stopped a suspected stolen car with two occupants. A backup unit arrived and the assisting officer approached. Without asking for any information, the backup officer dragged one occupant from the car. The passenger pulled a weapon from his waistband and shot the officer. The backup officer did not wait for direction from the contact officer but acted independently, placing himself and the officer in danger.
Physical and mental fatigue • Not enough rest • Attention and reflexes are compromised • Not staying in good physical condition	An officer was up two consecutive nights with a sick child. Near the end of that day's shift, the officer stopped a pedestrian for questioning and conducted a cursory search for weapons. Because the officer was tired and anxious for the shift to end, the search was poorly conducted. Later during the contact, the officer was assaulted by the suspect with a weapon the officer had failed to find during the search.
Poor positioning • Abandoning a safe location • Being too close or in front of the suspect	While questioning a suspect detained for questioning regarding a nearby burglary, an officer became distracted by a call coming in on the radio in her patrol unit. When the officer, who failed to allow a proper distance between herself and the suspect, turned momentarily away from the suspect, the suspect grabbed for the officer's weapon. Even though the officer was able to retain her weapon and gain control of the suspect, her poor positioning had placed her at unnecessary risk.

Continued on next page

Fatal errors (continued)

Fatal Error	Example
Ignoring danger signs • Allowing the assignment to become "routine" • Lack of alertness	Over time, two officers received repeated calls regarding domestic disturbances at the same residence. The male suspect had always been cooperative and had never resisted the officers. When the officers responded again to the same location, they found the man had been drinking but appeared to be compliant as usual. The officers failed to search the man prior to transporting him and a knife was found on the man when he was searched at the detention facility. The officer's assumption that the call was "routine" could have proved deadly.
Failure to watch a suspect's hands • Becoming distracted and allowing suspects to arm themselves or assault the officer	A suspect, arrested for a DUI offence, was handcuffed with his hands behind his back, placed in the back of the patrol unit, and transported to a detention facility. When the officer removed the arrestee from the patrol car, he failed to notice that the arrestee managed to slip the handcuffs to the front of his body. The suspect struck the officer across the face with his cuffed hands and fled from the scene on foot.
Relaxing too soon • Not maintaining a position of advantage • Letting one's guard down	An officer transported a suspect to the emergency room for medical attention prior to taking the man to the detention facility. The suspect, an elderly man, had been quiet and compliant during transport. During the admission process at the hospital, the officer turned away from the man to talk to the in-take nurse. The suspect, in an attempt to escape, took advantage off the officer's distraction, grabbed a nearby metal instrument, and struck the officer.

Continued on next page

Fatal errors (continued)

Fatal Error	Example
Improper use or no use of handcuffs	One officer detained two young men for questioning. The officer handcuffed one man's left wrist to a nearby chain link fence to prevent him from running away while he conducted a cursory search on the other man. With the remaining free hand, the handcuffed man grabbed a nearby piece of wood and struck the officer in the back of the head.
Failure to search or conducting a poor search • Making assumptions based on overconfidence or inadequate technique	Two officers chased a suspect into the suspect's home and found him hiding in a closet. They took the suspect into custody. Believing the suspect was alone, the officers failed to search the remainder of the house. As the officers were escorting the suspect outside, the suspect's brother, who had been hiding in another bedroom, began shooting at the officers from the bedroom window.
Poor care and maintenance of equipment • Dirty or inoperative weapon • Failure to keep equipment in top condition	While being searched, a suspect was able to grab the contact officer's handgun and shoot the officer. When the cover officer drew her service weapon and fired at the suspect, the weapon failed to discharge. The officer had failed to properly clean her handgun when she had last used it on the firing range, causing the weapon to become jammed.

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Officer Safety While On Patrol, Continued

Elements of officer safety

Officer safety refers to the practical application of tactically sound procedures to perform law enforcement activities in a safe and effective manner.

Officer safety involves:

- the attitude and physical conditioning of the officer
- initial and ongoing training
- appropriate care and use of equipment
- utilization of available resources

Officer safety guidelines

There are several general safety guidelines which officers should know. By practicing these guidelines, officers can avoid fatal errors:

Safety Guidelines	Additional Information
Approach ***every*** contact with officer safety in mind	• Guard against complacency and overconfidence regarding stops, calls, and investigations that make up a patrol officer's daily tasks
Be mentally prepared	• ***Never*** assume a call is a "false alarm" • Maintain good communication with contact/cover officers • Prepare for a "worst case scenario"
Maintain skills	• Maintain good physical conditioning to promote self-confidence. Take advantage of recurrent training to maintain skills and overcome complacency • Stay current on improvements in equipment, tactics, and techniques
Always be aware of the suspect's hands	• In the majority of cases involving officers killed or assaulted in the line of duty, the suspects used their hands to arm themselves

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Officer safety guidelines (continued)

Safety Guidelines	Additional Information
Be aware of and use available cover	• In ***every*** situation, identify items that would provide adequate cover if needed • Use, be ready to use, and/or move to cover when necessary
Ask for backup when necessary	• Seek backup in high risk situations (e.g., building searches) • If assistance is requested, ***wait*** for that assistance to arrive before abandoning cover or taking action
Use available communication systems	• Use available communication systems to transmit appropriate and accurate safety and tactical information • Understand the limitations of your communications equipment
Be aware of distance and positioning	• Identify, plan, then move to positions of advantage • Avoid abandoning a safe location or rushing into a potentially dangerous area
Utilize proper safety equipment	• **Body armor is the single most effective item of safety equipment that a peace officer can use** NOTE: Although body armor greatly enhances an officer's survivability in a lethal confrontation, it should never replace proper tactics when handling high risk incidents.

NOTE: Additional safety guidelines are presented throughout this workbook as well as LD 22: *Vehicle Pullovers* and LD 23: *Crimes in Progress*.

Chapter Synopsis

Learning need

To safely and effectively fulfill their duties of public protection and service, peace officers must be able to develop appropriate law enforcement patrol strategies under a wide variety of circumstances and conditions.

Patrol strategies [21.01.EO1]

There are two basic patrol strategies patrol officers can employ to provide protection and service.

Selection of a patrol strategy [21.01.EO2]

An officer's choice of a patrol strategy is dependent on a number of factors:

- Desire for public visibility
- Type of criminal activity in the designated area
- Existence of problem areas
- Existing environment or conditions
- Area demographics
- Community activities
- Availability of community resources
- Geography/topography
- Adequacy of access and egress to various locations
- Department/agency policies and resources

Security checks [21.01.EO4]

When conducting security checks, patrolling officers should:

- Cover as much of their assigned area as possible including secondary thoroughfares (e.g., alleys, walkways, parking areas, etc.)
- Pay extra attention to areas that have a high crime risk
- Constantly vary patrol patterns and routines to prevent predictability
- Employ appropriate investigative tactics and equipment, (e.g., use of spotlights, flashlights, alley lights, etc.)
- Implement additional patrol methods whenever possible (e.g., foot patrol, bicycle patrol, etc.)

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Contact and cover officers [21.01.EO7]

The *contact officer* is the officer initiating an action who becomes responsible for conducting the contact. The *cover officer* is the officer responsible for surveillance and control of a suspect in order to free the contact officer to perform a thorough investigation.

Officer safety [21.01.EO8]

Officer safety refers to the practical application of tactically sound procedures to perform law enforcement activities in a safe and effective manner.

- Approach ***every*** contact with officer safety in mind
- Be mentally prepared
- Maintain physical and tactical skills
- ***Always*** be aware of the suspect's hands
- Be aware of and use available cover
- Ask for backup when necessary
- Use available communication systems.
- Be aware of distance and positioning
- Utilize proper safety equipment

Workbook Learning Activities

Introduction

To help you review and apply the material covered in this chapter, a selection of learning activities has been included. No answers are provided. However, by referring to the appropriate text, you should be able to prepare a response.

Activity questions

1. How can a cover officer's demeanor contribute to the protection of both the contact and cover officers?

2. While performing a security check of a local sporting goods store, an officer discovers a broken ground floor window near the employee entrance/delivery bays at the rear of the building. Broken glass is evident outside the building. The time is 8:00 am on a Monday, and the store is not scheduled to open until 10:00 am. How should the officer (one-person unit) proceed? How would this differ, if at all, if the officer made this discovery during store hours?

Continued on next page

Activity questions (continued)

3. Two officers arrive at the scene of a disturbance at a local high school football game. Witnesses report that three students (2 males, 1 female) had been throwing bottles. One bottle struck another student on the head, knocking her unconscious. School officials called an ambulance, which arrived just after the officers. The three bottle throwers are being held near the field by a group of teachers. The suspects are exhibiting signs of intoxication and are beginning to struggle with those detaining them. Outline appropriate contact and cover officer actions from this point through placing the suspects into the patrol vehicle.

Chapter 2

Patrol Methodologies and Tactics

Overview

Learning need

To maintain flexibility and effectiveness, peace officers need to know the basic tactics and procedures of patrol.

Learning objectives

The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:	E.O. Code
• Describe patrol officer responsibilities when preparing for each patrol assignment, to include: - Checking all personal equipment - Acquiring any necessary information and materials/supplies - Inspecting each piece of equipment issued at beginning of shift - Mental preparation	21.02.EO3
• Discuss tactical considerations and guidelines for patrolling effectively: - Determining appropriate speed - Patrol vehicle placement - Avoiding silhouetting and telltale noise	21.02.EO6
• Demonstrate proper procedures for transmitting and receiving a radio communication	21.02.EO9
• Discuss information an officer should include when generating a crime broadcast	21.02.EO10

Continued on next page

Learning objectives (continued)

After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:	E.O. Code
• Demonstrate safe and effective tactics for approaching and detaining a pedestrian subject	21.02.EO11
• Select appropriate actions when encountering a plainclothes/undercover officer while on patrol	21.02.EO12
• Discuss safe and effective tactics for initiating a foot pursuit of a fleeing subject	21.02.EO13

In this chapter

This chapter focuses on actions and tactics officers may employ while on patrol. Refer to the chart below for specific topics.

Topic	See Page
Preparing for a Patrol Assignment	2-3
Basic Patrol Tactical Considerations	2-11
Use of Communication Equipment	2-19
Pedestrian Contacts	2-28
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Preparing for a Patrol Assignment

[21.02.EO3]

Introduction

Having proper equipment to handle expected duties is key to officer safety and effectiveness while on patrol. All equipment carried by an officer while assigned to patrol must be authorized, serviceable, and well maintained. The ultimate responsibility to see that all equipment is available and meets this criteria belongs to each officer.

Preparation

Preparation prior to beginning a patrol assignment generally includes:

- preparing mentally to do the job
- checking all personal equipment
- acquiring any necessary resource information and materials/supplies
- inspecting each piece of issued equipment at the beginning of the shift

Mental preparation

Before the beginning of a patrol shift, officers must also prepare themselves. Mental preparation is vital to move from civilian routine, cares, concerns, and worries to the roles and responsibilities of professional officers.

Mental preparation must include:

- getting enough rest to prevent physical and mental fatigue
- maintaining good physical conditioning with proper exercise and diet
- continually adding to and refreshing one's own knowledge and skills focusing on the proper attitudes and emotions, and putting personal problems or issues temporarily aside (e.g., family/relationship problems, financial problems, issues and tasks outside law enforcement duties, etc.)

Continued on next page

Mental preparation (continued)

Mental preparation also includes recognizing one's own limitations that particular day. If an officer is ill or taking certain prescription or nonprescription medications that could hinder or infringe on that officer's ability to function, the officer should request a different assignment for that day. If not done, such officers may not only be placing their own safety in jeopardy, but also the safety and well being of others.

NOTE: Agencies may have specific policies regarding the use of prescription and nonprescription drugs and medications while on duty. Officers are responsible for knowing and complying with their own agency policies.

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Personal equipment and supplies

An officer's personal equipment includes any item issued to the officer which remains with the officer at all times. The specific type of personal equipment carried by officers may vary by agency.

Prior to each patrol shift, individual officers are responsible for checking their own personal equipment for serviceability, appearance, and conformance with agency policy.

Equipment to be Checked	Examples	
Components of the Officer's Uniform	• Badge and name plate • Shirt • Pants	• Hat • Shoes
Items Carried or Worn by the Officer	• Body armor (e.g., vest) • Leather/nylon web gear belt • Holster and handgun • Backup weapon (if applicable) • Chemical agents (e.g., pepper spray, etc.)	• Handcuffs and other restraint equipment • Impact weapon (e.g., baton) • Flashlight, fully charged or with working batteries • Electronic weapon • Recording devices

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Personal equipment and supplies (continued)

Equipment to be Checked	Examples
Other Supplies	• Clipboard and writing implements • Citation book • Inclement weather gear • Helmet and face shield • Gloves (e.g., leather, rubber, latex) • Binoculars • CPR mask • Evidence collection supplies (e.g., fingerprint kit) • Court calendar • Area map(s) • Legal reference materials (e.g., Penal Code, Vehicle Code, Municipal/County Code, etc.) • Report forms • Citation forms (“Notice to Appear”) • Any other equipment approved by agency policy • First Aid Kit

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Weapons

Before any firearm inspection is conducted, the weapon must be rendered safe.

Patrol officers should perform a safety inspection of their own handguns and other weapons. Problems identified during an inspection should be addressed immediately or as soon as possible.

The following table identifies inspection points when conducting a weapons inspection.

Equipment	Inspection Considerations
Handgun (including backup)	• Cleanliness • Exterior components (e.g., barrel, hammer, slide, slide lock, safety, etc.) • Interior components (e.g., chamber, cylinder, firing pin, etc.)
Holster	• General wear • Safety straps/snaps
Ammunition, Magazines, Loaders (including backup gun)	• Correct type and caliber • General cleanliness • Amount • Age or freshness • Operating parts (e.g., body, follower, spring, feed lips, floor plate)

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Weapons (continued)

Equipment	Inspection Considerations
Chemical Agent Device	• Content amount • Expiration date • Trigger device • Nozzle NOTE: Shake each device prior to each shift.
Electronic Weapons	• General wear • Battery charge • Function/spark test

NOTE: For additional information regarding inspection, care, and maintenance of weapons, refer to LD 35: *Firearms/Chemical Agents*.

Information acquisition

Prior to beginning a patrol assignment, each officer must take responsibility for acquiring all necessary resource information as well as other materials and supplies.

Possible sources for acquiring information include, but are not limited to:

- the daily incident log
- crime reports affecting assigned area
- agency crime analysis unit
- briefing boards
- the hot sheet/watch bulletin
- warrants
- debriefing by off-going shift
- specialized units such as:
  - investigation
  - narcotics
  - gangs
  - robbery
  - burglary, etc.

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Issued equipment

Typically, each officer will receive a variety of equipment at the beginning of a patrol shift that must be returned at the end of that shift.

An officer rarely has the same equipment issued each shift. Instead, each item is handed out randomly and, over time, is used by many different officers. For this reason, officers should be particularly careful and thorough when inspecting each piece of issued equipment.

The following table identifies equipment that may be issued to patrol officers and considerations for inspection of that equipment.

Issued Equipment	Inspection Considerations
Patrol Vehicle	• Rear seat for contraband/weapons • Fuel level • Emergency equipment (e.g., lights, flashers, siren, p.a. system, etc.) • Tires, brakes, horn • Vehicle code equipment violations, current registration tabs • Damage (interior and exterior) • Mileage report, service dates, etc. • Trunk equipment (e.g., spare tire, jack, flares, first aid kit, crime scene tape, fire extinguisher, less lethal delivery device, etc.) • In-car video equipment • In-car radio equipment • In-car computers NOTE: For additional information regarding vehicle inspections, refer to LD 19: *Vehicle Operations*.

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Issued Equipment (continued)

Issued Equipment	Inspection Considerations
Shotgun/Rifle	• Proper ammunition • Amount of ammunition • Components (i.e., barrel, extractor, ejector, firing pin, and safety) • Operation of shotgun/rifle rack (manual or electronic) NOTE: For additional information regarding inspecting shotguns/rifles, refer to LD 35: *Firearms/Chemical Agents.*
Portable Hand Held Radio	• Batteries/charge • Transmission/reception • Damage

NOTE: Patrol vehicles also include motorcycles, bicycles, etc. Each should be carefully inspected.

Basic Patrol Tactical Considerations

[21.02.EO6]

Introduction

Effective patrol involves more than simply driving through an assigned area and responding to radio calls. It requires officers to engage in situations which enable the officer to observe specific areas requiring attention.

Predictability

A patrol assignment is often *erroneously* referred to as "routine." One of the primary objectives of a patrol assignment is to prevent any semblance of an anticipated routine.

When officers establish predictable patrol patterns, their effectiveness in suppressing crime is often compromised. Suspects have been known to deliberately observe an officer's patrol pattern in order to plan criminal activity and avoid detection.

Appropriate Speed

Officers should patrol at a speed that is reasonable for the tasks they are performing (e.g., patrolling in heavy traffic, patrolling in a residential or business area, etc.).

Driving at a *slower* speed while on patrol:

- Provides a maximum opportunity to observe while maintaining effective control of the vehicle
- Contributes to public awareness and visibility
- Maximizes contact with members of the community and provides a positive law enforcement image
- Decreases engine noise enabling an officer to get closer to criminal activity without being detected

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Emergency responses - "Code 3"

An "emergency response call" cannot be defined exactly. However, applied to law enforcement it means a situation exists that requires immediate law enforcement attention for the protection of individuals or property. An emergency response call is also known as a *Code-3* response.

NOTE: The exceptions granted under *Vehicle Code Section 21055* may not protect officers from criminal prosecution or their agencies from civil liability if the officers cause an accident due to their own reckless driving or wanton disregard for the safety of others *(Vehicle Code Section 21056).*

NOTE: Agencies may have specific policies regarding Code 3 driving conditions. Officers are responsible for knowing and complying with their own agency policies.

NOTE: For additional information regarding emergency response driving and law enforcement vehicle operations, refer to LD 19: *Vehicle Operations*.

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Vehicle placement

Officers should always make a reasonable effort to stop or park their patrol vehicles in a lawful manner.

Although it may seem minor to the officer, a patrol vehicle illegally parked when no emergency exists can infuriate members of the community and unnecessarily damage community relations with law enforcement. Parking illegally when no emergency exists can also expose a law enforcement agency to liability if the vehicle's placement contributes to a collision.

The following table presents general guidelines for selecting a location when parking law enforcement vehicles during non-emergency and emergency situations.

Situation	General Guidelines
Non-emergency	• Select a location that is protected from vandalism or tampering (e.g., nails, pipe bombs, etc.) • If conducting *preventative patrol*, park in an area that would provide maximum visibility to the public • If conducting *directed enforcement patrol*, consider legal as well as visibility factors when selecting a location to park • Always secure the vehicle and take the keys

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Vehicle placement (continued)

The following table presents general guidelines for selecting a location when parking law enforcement vehicles during non-emergency and emergency situations.

Situation	General Guidelines
Emergency	• Consider the nature of the incident (e.g., responding to a crime in progress, traffic situations, etc.) • If the vehicle must be parked in an illegal location, the officer should move the vehicle to a legal location once the emergency is over • Allow for placement, ingress, and egress of other emergency vehicles (e.g., ambulance, fire equipment, etc.) • Consider the available terrain and type of building when selecting a location • Flashing or amber lights may be left on to let the public know the vehicle is parked in that location for a reason • Always secure the vehicle and take the keys

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Silhouetting

Being aware of artificial light (e.g., street lights, apartment/residential floodlights, etc.) while on patrol is critical to officer safety.

If an officer assumes a position between a suspect and a source of back light, the officer's silhouette could:

- make the officer a potential target
- provide the suspect with the exact location of the officer
- identify how many officers are present
- indicate what actions the officer is taking (e.g., surveillance, approach, etc.)
- take away the element of surprise on the part of the officer
- allow the suspect to plan an alternate course of action

Ways to avoid silhouetting

The following table identifies a number of actions an officer may take to avoid the potential problems associated with silhouetting while on patrol.

Officer Activity	General Guidelines
Within a Patrol Vehicle	• Be aware of sources of backlighting when traversing open areas (e.g., streets, alleys, fields, etc.) • Position the patrol vehicle away from street lights or other sources of backlighting • Disable interior patrol vehicle lighting that is activated when a door is opened
On Foot Patrol	• Avoid walking through spotlight or head lamp beams when approaching pedestrians and/or vehicles • Do not stand in doorway, hallways, or in front of windows • Do not peer openly through windows

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Ways to avoid silhouetting (continued)

Officer Activity	General Guidelines
Using a Flashlight/ Map Light	• Hold the flashlight in such a way as not to illuminate oneself or other officers or units • Use red bulbs or diffuse the light source to minimize light intensity • Keep flashlight use to a minimum and only when necessary

Telltale noise

Making any telltale noise can jeopardize officer safety while on patrol. The following table identifies a number of sounds that may indicate the presence of law enforcement officers and patrol vehicles and guidelines for avoiding them.

Activity	General Guidelines
Vehicle Approach	• Reduce vehicle noise prior to approach • Secure seat belts and doors quietly (Officers may elect to remove their seat belts immediately *before* arrival at the scene, depending on departmental policy.) • Close doors quietly rather than slamming
Using law Enforcement Radios	• Reduce the volume • Use ear piece if available

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Telltale noise (continued)

Activity	General Guidelines
Walking	• Secure all keys, handcuffs, and any other loose or small items • Ensure baton does not bang against any other objects • Ensure that leather gear and footwear are properly maintained to prevent "squeaking" • When possible, avoid stepping on leaves, twigs, rocks, and gravel that could make noise when the officer moves or compromise a solid footing
Using Electronic Devices	• Pagers should be set on vibrate mode rather than audible beeping or turned off for maximum officer safety • Carry a cellular phone only if the ringer can be silenced • Alarms on wrist watches should be deactivated
Communicating with other Patrol Officers	• Avoid unnecessary conversation • Use prearranged hand signals and word codes when appropriate

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Patrolling specific areas

Officers should be aware of many considerations when patrolling specific areas within their area of assignment.

Areas	General Guidelines
School Grounds	• Be especially aware of: - signs of drug transactions and other drug related activity - individuals attempting to accost videotape, or photograph children - indications of possible gang activity (e.g., wearing of colors, crowds of youth, etc.)
High Risk Areas (e.g., gang hangouts, known locations of drug activity, etc.)	• Become familiar with: - hazardous locations/residences - specific individuals who, based on previous contacts or information, may be a threat to law enforcement - current or impending gang warfare or potential actions of retaliation • When possible, supplement motorized patrol vehicles with foot patrols • Consider the need for cover officer(s) and adhere strictly to contact and cover tactics (e.g., use of two patrol units or one two-person unit) • Map out areas such as known gang locations, parks, dense housing complexes, etc.

Use of Communication Equipment

[21.02.EO9, 21.02.EO10]

Introduction

Proper and effective use of communication equipment such as mobile and hand-held radios and mobile digital terminals (MDTs) is every officer's lifeline to the law enforcement support system.

The specific types of equipment used by officers can vary depending on the methods of patrol and available resources of the officer's agency. Regardless of available equipment, knowledge of the system's capabilities, procedures for proper use, and communication range can save an officer's life.

Types of radio traffic

Officers will encounter two primary types of radio transmissions or "traffic": **non-emergency radio traffic** and **emergency radio traffic**.

	Examples
Non-emergency Traffic	• Status changes (e.g., back in service, routine change of locations, etc.) • All Points Bulletins (APBs) not related to emergency situations • Calls for service
Emergency Traffic	• Officer-involved shootings • Officer calls for help • In-progress felonies • Crime broadcasts • Pursuits/failures to yield • Other situations as identified by agency policies NOTE: Emergency traffic always has priority. All non-emergency transmissions should be held until the termination of emergency traffic.

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FCC rules and regulations

All law enforcement radio communication must comply with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules and regulations. Noncompliance with the FCC regulations could result in fines and/or loss of use of radio frequencies.

FCC rules and regulations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- All profanity is prohibited
- There should be no malicious interference with authorized communications
- Unnecessary transmissions are prohibited. This includes the use of:
  - humor
  - slang
  - familiar comments used in other conversation (e.g., “please,” “thank you,” etc.)
- Full identities (call signs) must *always* be used

Call signs

The use of an entire **call sign** (i.e., caller/receiver identification information) is required by the FCC to avoid misidentification between the senders and receivers of radio communications.

Although specific call signs used generally are agency specific, they may include information regarding transmitting and receiving officers’:

- specific unit identification
- designation for the area of assignment
- the agency involved

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Radio demeanor

All officers should be familiar with and employ the basic ABCs of radio communication demeanor.

	General Guidelines
Accuracy	• Use common terminology • Be specific regarding all requests • Convey critical information (i.e., crime broadcasts) accurately and completely
Brevity	• Plan all transmissions • Conserve air time • Initiate only necessary transmission
Courtesy	• Spell difficult or uncommon names phonetically • Avoid cutting off or overstepping other radio traffic • Maintain effective working relations with dispatch operators and other patrol units

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Radio transmissions

The following table presents basic guidelines for executing an appropriate radio transmission.

Action	General Guidelines
Monitor the frequency first	• Listen to existing radio traffic • Assess whether it is routine or emergency traffic • Wait until the air is clear (no traffic) before initiating a transmission
Initiate the call	• Firmly press and hold the transmit button (Officers should avoid cutting themselves off by inadvertently releasing the button.) • Wait one to two seconds before speaking • Position the microphone properly, approximately two inches from the speaker's mouth
Speak clearly	• Give a complete call sign • Speak slowly • Enunciate clearly • Use a calm normal speaking voice • Speak in a normal volume unless background noise dictates otherwise
Limit length of transmission	• Allow breaks for other emergency traffic • Allow time for the receiver of the call to speak • Be aware of distance and geographic limitations and capabilities, such as: - existing mountains, canyons, etc., that may affect transmission - the use of radio repeaters for transmission

NOTE: Officers must always be aware of when their microphones are keyed on in order to prevent the inadvertent transmission of unnecessary or inappropriate conversations.

Continued on next page

Receiving messages

Officers should listen for and always acknowledge receiving a unit transmission. Acknowledgments should include the receiver's complete call sign and follow the same basic guidelines for initiating a radio transmission.

NOTE: A radio "click" is not an identifiable or acceptable acknowledgment of a radio transmission.

Numeric radio codes

In order to enhance clear yet brief communication, officers may use agency specific numeric communication codes.

Examples of numeric codes include, but are not limited to, the use of:

- "Code 3" (emergency call for officer response)
- "Code 4" (cancellation of a "Code 3" call)
- statutory reference numbers for specific crimes or activities such as:
  - "211" when referring to a robbery *(Penal Code Section 211)*
  - "5150" when referring to a person with a possible mental disorder *(Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5150)*
  - "23152" when referring to driving while under the influence of alcohol *(Vehicle Code Section 23152)*
  - "11550" when referring to being under the influence of a controlled substance *(Health and Safety Code Section 11550)*

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Crime broadcasts

Officers are often required to gather and transmit critical information when responding to criminal activity. The effectiveness of such broadcasts can be greatly impacted by the officer's ability to clearly transmit the appropriate type and amount of information. The following table identifies types of information that should be included when communicating an emergency **crime broadcast.**

Type of Information	Examples	
Incident Specifics	• Type of incident (e.g., burglary, assault, etc.) • Exact location • Time of occurrence	
Victim Related	• Number of victims • Type of injuries sustained • Need for emergency medical assistance	
Suspect Related	Physical description	• Race/complexion • Sex • Age (estimate) • Height/weight • General build • Hair color/style • Eye color
	Clothing	• Clothing worn head to toe (e.g., shirt/blouse, pants/skirt, shoes, etc.) • Clothing worn inside to outside (e.g., shirt/sweater/jacket, etc.) • Head gear (e.g., bandana, helmet, etc.) • Glasses
	Distinguishing characteristics	• Facial hair • Tattoos • Scars/marks • Speech impediments • Physical impairments • Body piercing
	Flight	• Direction • Mode (e.g., on foot, automobile, etc.)

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Crime broadcasts (continued)

Type of Information	Examples	
Vehicle	• Color • Make • Year • Body style (e.g., two-door, four-door, convertible, pick up, etc.) • License (number and state) • Additional descriptors such as: - body damage - loud muffler - number and description of occupants - equipment (e.g., camper shell)	
Weapon	Firearms	• Type - handgun (e.g., semiautomatic, revolver) - shotgun - rifle • Caliber/gauge • Barrel length (e.g., sawed off shotgun) • Color (e.g., blue steel, chrome, etc.)
	Edged weapons	• Type (e.g., switch blade, hunting knife, etc.) • Size
	Other weapons	• Type (e.g., baseball bat, crossbow, etc.) • Specific description

Continued on next page

Crime broadcasts (continued)

Type of Information	Examples
Description of Loss	• Vehicle (e.g., make, model, license plate number, if known, etc.) • Purse (e.g., contents, amount of money, credit cards, etc.) • Jewelry (e.g., type of metal/stones, etc.) • Equipment/tools (e.g., model, serial number if known, etc.)
Law Enforcement Action to be Taken if Suspect Located	• Observe only • Field interview • Stop and arrest • Impound property

NOTE: Describe each suspect/vehicle separately.

NOTE: For additional information regarding crime scene broadcasts, refer to LD 30: *Preliminary Investigation*.

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Examples

(1) An officer contacted an individual who had just been the victim of a car jacking. The officer obtained the appropriate information and cleared the air for a Be-on-the-Look-Out (BOLO) broadcast. The officer communicated the type of crime, weapons used, location and time of occurrence, suspect description, suspect vehicle (car jacked vehicle) description, and direction of travel. The officer included all the necessary information in the broadcast.

(2) The following is a radio broadcast issued by an officer who was engaged in a vehicle pursuit of a hit-and-run suspect. "Four Sam One, I am in pursuit of a green Ford Mustang, south on Main Street. The violator hit a parked car and now is going 70+ mph. We are still south on Main passing Palm Avenue. The suspect is a white male, about 18 years old. I am too far back to see the license plate, but it's a Nevada plate." The officer communicated all the available, pertinent information.

Pedestrian Contacts

[21.02.EO11]

Introduction

In the course of patrolling, officers initiate various contacts with pedestrians observed within their area of assignment. When making such contacts, officers must be aware not only of their own safety but also of the rights of the individuals.

Legal considerations

To protect an individual's constitutional rights, officers must have a clear understanding of a pedestrian contact considered a lawful **consensual encounter** from one that would constitute a lawful **detention**.

The following table presents a comparison of both types of pedestrian contacts.

	Consensual Encounter	**Detention**
Description	Contact between an individual and an officer where the individual is not obligated to stay, cooperate or answer questions	• An assertion of authority that would cause reasonable individuals to believe that they are obligated to stay, cooperate, or answer questions
Individuals	Told they are free to leave or not cooperate at any time	• Told they must cooperate and are not free to leave the scene until told they can do so
Justification Required	None	• Officer must have reasonable suspicion; that is, a factual basis for suspecting the individuals are connected with criminal activity

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Legal considerations (continued)

	Consensual Encounter	Detention
Time Element	• None	• Limited to time reasonably necessary to resolve suspicion
Permissible Actions	• *Requests* for identification or other information • Casual conversation • Information dissemination	• Prevent suspect from leaving until reasonable suspicion is resolved • Gather identification and personal information • Ask the individual questions regarding a specific incident • Contact other individuals • Check an area, premise, or object to determine if a crime has occurred
Restraint / Use of Force	• None allowed	• *Reasonable* amount if *necessary* to compel the suspect to remain
Search Allowed	• None, unless consent is given. Also, officers may confiscate any contraband in plain sight	• None, except for a cursory search for weapons *if* officers have a factual basis for suspecting the person may be armed

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Examples

(1) A suspect began to get nervous during questioning, looked around, and started to walk away; the officer ordered the suspect to stay. When the suspect continued to walk away, the officer went after him, grabbed him by the arm, escorted him to the squad car, and placed him in the back seat.

(2) When an officer started checking whether the person she had detained had an outstanding warrant, the person turned and ran. The officer chased after him and grabbed him. When he continued to struggle, the officer handcuffed him. The officer then walked the person back to the patrol car and confirmed the outstanding warrant.

NOTE: A consensual encounter may escalate to the level of detention, or a detention to an arrest, depending on information gathered by the officers.

NOTE: For additional information regarding consensual encounters, detentions, refer to LD 15: *Laws of Arrest*, and/or *California Peace Officer's Legal Source Book*, Chapter 2.

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Checks of persons

While using a preventative patrol strategy, officers are also looking for individuals who may be involved in suspicious activities. An officer may need to detain a person in order to investigate that person's involvement in possible criminal activity.

A detention or stop is an assertion of authority that would cause a reasonable person to believe they are obligated to stay, cooperate, or answer questions.

A detention is something less than an *arrest*, but more substantial than a simple consensual encounter.

NOTE: For additional information regarding consensual encounters, detentions and arrest, refer to LD 15: *Laws of Arrest*.

Lawful detention

To be lawful, a detention must be based on *reasonable suspicion* that criminal activity has taken place or is about to take place, and the person detained is connected to that activity.

Reasonable suspicion is the standard used to determine whether a detention is legal. Reasonable suspicion exists when a peace officer has facts and circumstances to make it reasonable for the officer to suspect that criminal activity may be occurring and the person detained is connected to that activity.

Reasonable suspicion may be based on:

- observation
- personal training and/or experience
- information from eyewitnesses, victims, and/or other officers

NOTE: Reasonable suspicion *cannot* be based on a hunch or instinct. If reasonable suspicion does not exist, the case against the defendant may be dismissed or any evidence seized may be excluded from trial.

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Investigative actions

Once officers have stopped or detained a suspect, they may take whatever investigative actions are reasonable under the circumstances to determine the suspect's identity and possible participation in a crime.

Common investigative actions may include, but are not limited to:

- conducting a cursory search of the individual for weapons
- questioning the suspects about their identities and conduct
- contacting other individuals to confirm explanations, verifying identification, or determining whether a person is wanted (warrant check)
- checking premises, examining objects, or contacting neighbors or other individuals to determine whether a crime (e.g., burglary) actually occurred

NOTE: Refer to current case law addressing a detainee's legal obligation to answer questions posed by officers during a lawful detention.

Length of detention

A detention must be temporary and last no longer than is necessary to carry out the purpose of the stop. A detention which is legal at the beginning will become invalid if extended beyond what is reasonably necessary under the circumstances.

Often what officers see and hear during the detention (evasiveness, nervousness, conduct, property) will increase their suspicion, justify a longer detention, and possibly provide probable cause for arrest.

On the other hand, if the suspect satisfactorily answers all questions about the suspicious circumstances so that suspicion decreases or disappears, the suspect must be released.

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Consequences of inappropriate detentions

Without proper knowledge and understanding of the actions leading to, or during, a pedestrian contact, officers may cause:

- an improper or unlawful detention or arrest
- unsuccessful court prosecutions
- possible injury to the officers or pedestrians

Officer safety

Officers must approach ***every*** contact, whether a consensual encounter or a lawful detention, with officer safety in mind. Complacency, overconfidence, poor planning, or inappropriate positioning can leave officers vulnerable to attack.

When making contact with an individual, officers should always:

- Use a field interview position including:
  - placement of weak foot forward
  - keeping firearm side away from the individual
  - standing at a distance which is reasonably safe for the officer
- Keep their gun hand free
- Be mindful of their surroundings and not become distracted by the business of the stop (e.g, conducting a field interview, checking identification, writing a citation, etc.)
- Be aware of the individual's:
  - hands
  - size
  - demeanor

NOTE: If two officers make contact with a single individual, officers should employ proper contact and cover officer tactics.

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Multiple suspects

Along with the safety guidelines noted in the previous block, there are additional officer safety guidelines that officers should be aware of when a detention involves multiple pedestrian suspects.

	General Guidelines
Single Officer	• Consider requesting and waiting for backup prior to making the actual contact • Avoid being surrounded by individuals by not allowing them to get too close
Multiple Officers	• Use proper contact and cover officer tactics • Use a triangular or "L" shaped position configuration when conducting the field interview to prevent being in a cross-fire situation

Considerations prior to contact

Officers should consider a number of factors prior to initiating a lawful detention of a pedestrian.

Factor	Considerations
The Person's Appearance	• Does the person appear to: - fit the description of a suspect wanted for a known offense? - be suffering from a recent injury? - be under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or other intoxicants?

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Considerations prior to contact (continued)

Factor	Considerations
The Person's Actions	• Is the person: - running away from an actual or possible crime scene? - behaving in a manner indicating aggressive behavior (e.g., posturing, "staring down," etc.)? - behaving in a manner indicating criminal conduct? If so, in what way?
Prior Knowledge of the Person	• Does the person have a known arrest or conviction record? • Is the person known to have committed a serious offense? • Is the crime that has just occurred, or that the officer believes is about to occur, one that is similar to a past offense involving the person in question?
Area of the Proposed Contact	• Is the person near the area of a known crime scene shortly after it occurred? • Is the area at high risk for criminal activity? • If the area is known to have a high crime rate, is it the kind of activity the person is thought to have committed, be committing, or about to commit?
Time of Day	• Is it a very late hour? • Is it an unusual time for people to be in the area? • Is it the time of day during which known criminal activity has previously taken place?
Number of Suspects	• Are there a greater number of suspects than patrol officers? • Is there a need for backup units?

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Approaching on foot vs. from patrol vehicle

Proper safety tactics demand that officers exit their patrol vehicles to conduct pedestrian contacts. Approaching and conducting the contact on foot allows officers:

- to devote complete concentration to observing the pedestrian (rather than dividing attention between driving and observation)
- better access to weapons and a clear line of fire if necessary
- better visibility of the pedestrian
- better mobility (rather than being trapped in a vehicle)
- the ability to detain and search an individual, if necessary
- greater advantage if a foot pursuit should occur

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Tactical approach and contact

The following table identifies general guidelines for a safe tactical approach and contact with a pedestrian subject while on patrol.

Action	General Guidelines
Select Location	- with the least number of escape routes or where escape routes for the subject can be controlled - with the least number of bystanders who could be injured or used as hostages - that is well lit • Be aware of safety hazards caused by: - reflective surfaces that may mirror the officer's approach - intersections - locations that could place officers at additional risk (e.g., bars, known trouble spots, etc.)
Notify Dispatch	• Prior to the approach regarding: - location - number of subjects - reason for contact - the need for backup, if necessary
Position Patrol Vehicle	• Tactical seatbelt removal • Stop the patrol vehicle at a safe and effective distance • Park the patrol vehicle in a position that will: - maximize officer safety - keep the subject in the officers' view at all times
Approach the Suspect	• If necessary, use the patrol vehicle or other available cover while directing the subject to stop • Approach the subject from the rear, if possible • Keep the subject in view at all times • Watch for suspicious movements that may indicate escape attempts

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Tactical approach and contact (continued)

Action	General Guidelines
Establish Contact	• Properly identify oneself as a law enforcement officer • Establish cooperation by communicating in a manner that reflects both authority and courtesy (Avoid using a "Hey you, come here" approach.) • Conduct a cursory search if appropriate • Use clear and direct verbal commands • Assume a position of advantage while talking to the subject • Keep the subject's hands in sight at all times • Maintain proper contact and cover officer positions • Watch for suspicious movements to avoid unexpected attacks • Observe the subject for unusual behavior which could suggest the subject is attempting to conceal contraband or evidence • Obtain identification • Contact dispatch using the information from the identification to: - verify the information - determine if there are any wants/warrants for the subject • Conduct a field interview to obtain information • Explain reason for contact • Decide on appropriate action for the circumstances (warn, cite, arrest, or release)

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Examples

(1) An officer observed a man standing near the grounds of a grade school. The man in question resembled the description of a suspected child molester who had been approaching children as they left school. The officer explained the reason for the contact and asked for identification. The man complied, explaining that he was a parent waiting for his child. The officer verified the identification with dispatch and learned there were no wants/warrants for the person. As the officer ended the interview, the man thanked the officer for keeping the school under observation.

(2) Two officers, working an area of high frequency narcotics sales, observed young male stopping vehicle traffic and having brief conversations with the occupants. The subject was alert to police presence and when patrol units approached, he stepped back into an alleyway out of sight. The officers set up a plan to have additional officers cover the alleyway, as the officers pulled up to the subject and made contact. The subject was detained and narcotics recovered. By developing a plan of action, the officers were able to make a successful arrest.

Plainclothes/Undercover Officer Contacts

[21.02.EO12]

Introduction

While on patrol (or when off duty) officers may encounter officers who are working as plainclothes/undercover officers. If such an encounter takes place, officers should take all necessary measures *not to draw attention to the plainclothes/undercover officer*.

- Do not show any recognition towards the plainclothes/undercover officer, unless that officer initiates the contact. To do so might inadvertently compromise an undercover operation or investigation

- If the plainclothes/undercover officer does not acknowledge the officer, the officer should treat the plainclothes/undercover officer as any other private person with whom the officer is not acquainted

- If an officer initiates an enforcement contact and then realizes a plainclothes/undercover officer is part of the group being contacted, the officer should treat the plainclothes/undercover officer the same as all other individuals in the group (e.g., maintain cover and control positions, conduct a cursory search, etc.)

Example

(1) While off duty, you enter a restaurant and observe one of your academy classmates seated at a booth with two other males. They appear to be having a serious conversation. Your classmate is unshaven and somewhat disheveled, makes eye contact with you but does not give any indication of acknowledging you. In this example your classmate could be engaged in undercover activity, or merely visiting with friends. Because you don't know which, your best course of action is not to acknowledge your classmate in any way and to continue on about your business.

Foot Pursuits

[21.02.EO13]

Introduction

Foot pursuits are one of the most dangerous and unpredictable situations for officers. All foot pursuits must be considered high risk.

Inherent dangers

Foot pursuits can be difficult to control or coordinate. There are a number of inherent dangers regarding foot pursuits.

During a foot pursuit:

- The fleeing subject may be armed
- The fleeing suspect controls the route, not the pursuing officer(s)
- Officers may lose track of their own locations as well as that of the subject
- An officer may be separated from his or her partners
- Radio transmissions often become very difficult to understand
- Officers can drop and/or lose equipment (e.g., radios, batons, keys, etc.)
- Officers may be led into high risk areas and become vulnerable to an ambush situation involving additional suspects

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Safety considerations

Officers must consider not only their own safety but the safety of fellow officers and the public before initiating a foot pursuit. The following table identifies factors and safety considerations regarding foot pursuits.

Factor	Considerations
Public safety	• If a foot pursuit represents an unusual risk to the officer or the public, it may be more desirable to establish a perimeter and initiate a systematic search of the area
Physical condition of pursuing officers	• During a foot pursuit, the blood supply to an officer's brain slows in order to supply blood to the officer's muscles enabling the body to "speed up" • When sprinting after a subject, officers may inadvertently hold their breath during the initial 30+ yards of the pursuit. This can further deplete the brain of oxygen • If two officers are in very different degrees of physical condition, there is a greater possibility of the officers becoming separated during the pursuit (e.g., One officer becomes winded and has to drop back or quit while the other continues alone) • Officers who are winded or fatigued may have greater difficulty maintaining control of their firearms during a physical confrontation with a suspect

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Safety considerations (continued)

Factor	Considerations
Available Equipment	• Officers wear and/or carry ***in excess of 25 pounds*** of leather and equipment. Fleeing subjects may have no additional weight to carry • Officers may be wearing heavy footwear unsuitable for running while fleeing suspects may be wearing running shoes
Retention of Weapons and Equipment	• Holsters can break or snaps come loose during a rigorous pursuit making it more difficult for officers to maintain control of their primary and backup firearms and weapons • Pieces of equipment can easily flap or shake loose or get caught on objects during a foot pursuit leaving the officer without necessary items such as radios, handcuffs, keys to the patrol vehicle, etc. • Officers lose the capability of retrieving equipment that may be left behind in the patrol vehicle
Ability to Follow Through at end of Pursuit	• Officers must be physically capable of functioning effectively even at the end of a lengthy foot pursuit • If a physical confrontation between the subject and officer takes place at the end of the pursuit, the pursuing officer must still be capable of gaining and maintaining control of the subject

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Justification

Officers should have justification for initiating a foot pursuit of a fleeing suspect (e.g., the officer observing suspected or actual criminal activity).

Individuals may attempt to flee from an officer for reasons which are unknown to the officer. For example, they:

- are on probation or parole and do not wish to come into contact with officers
- have committed other unrelated offenses
- have known wants or warrants out for them
- fear retaliation if seen talking to officers
- already have "two strikes" against them and do not want to be arrested for the third

The implication that "only a guilty person would run from an officer" may not always be true. In some cultures, law enforcement officers are feared and an individual may simply be afraid.

Indications of a plan to flee

Officers should be aware of a number of possible indicators that a subject, (who they are approaching or have approached), is about to flee. These may include, but are not limited to, subjects:

- looking around or "scanning" for an avenue of escape
- standing on the balls of their feet
- rocking back and forth or "bouncing" in position
- jumping off of or out of a vehicle
- backing away from an approaching officer (or patrol unit)
- attempting to distract an officer's attention

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Guidelines for foot pursuits

The following table presents basic guidelines for conducting a safe and effective tactical foot pursuit of a fleeing subject.

	General Guidelines
Plan of Action	• Officers should discuss safety factors as well as possible plans for taking action in situations involving fleeing subjects • Plans may include, but are not limited to: - actions they would take if a fellow officer is wounded and a subject flees on foot - coordination of who will transmit radio traffic - appropriate use of or escalation of force
Working with a Partner	• If partner officers stay together during a foot pursuit, there is a greater likelihood that a safe and successful outcome will occur • If partners become separated, officers should reevaluate the level of risk before continuing the pursuit
Vehicle Pullovers	• If a foot pursuit begins with the subject fleeing from a vehicle the officer has just stopped, officers should generally remain with the vehicle rather than pursue the subject on foot • The remaining vehicle may contain: - additional suspects - items that would identify the fleeing suspect - other evidence of criminal activity

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Guidelines for foot pursuits (continued)

	General Guidelines
Pursuits Around Blind Corners	• Officers should pursue subjects around blind corners as widely as possible in order to better see what they may be approaching (This tactic may also be referred to as "cutting the pie," "slicing the pie," or "fanning.") • If conditions prevent such action, officers may choose to, when possible: - use a hand-held mirror to see around the corner first - peer around the corner at a level lower than where a subject would expect to encounter the officer - call off the pursuit
Pursuits in Unfamiliar Areas	• If officers become disoriented or in an unfamiliar area they should provide dispatch with: - house numbers - easily recognizable landmarks - building descriptions
High Obstacles (e.g., fences, walls, etc.)	• High obstacles may prevent officers from seeing: - a subject who is lying in wait - a vicious dog or other animal - dangerous drops or hazardous terrain, or - other hazardous obstacles on the other side • Before pursuing a suspect over a high fence or wall, officers should: - stop - listen - attempt to peer though, over, or around the obstacle near the point where the subject went over

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Guidelines for foot pursuits (continued)

	General Guidelines
Drawn Firearms	• Whether or not officers should pursue a subject with their firearms drawn is generally based on specific agency policy and may depend on the: - seriousness of the offense - officer's perception of risk - potential for an accidental discharge - risk of creating a weapon retention problem
Poor Visibility	• Officer safety hazards are greatly increased when a pursuit is initiated in bad weather, low light or nighttime conditions • Officers may be inhibited from: - keeping sight of the suspect - staying with a partner - identifying hazardous obstacles (e.g., ditches, rocks, barbed wire, etc.)
Pursuits into Buildings or Structures	• Officers should avoid continuing the pursuit if the subject flees into a building or other structure. • Following the subject could lead to: - an ambush situation with "suspect-friendly" supporters - a possible hostage situation - the likelihood that the subject may have access to weapons within the building/structure • Under such conditions, officers should: - establish a perimeter around the building/structure - call for additional support or backup - if conditions allow, coordinate with other officers to conduct a systematic tactical search of the building/structure

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Guidelines for foot pursuits (continued)

	General Guidelines
Losing Sight of the Suspect	• If officers should lose sight of the fleeing subject at any time during the pursuit, they should: - stop, look, and listen for possible locations where the subject could be hiding or the direction the subject may be moving - consider establishing a perimeter in the area - call for additional support or backup - if a K-9 is available, ensure that the area is not contaminated - if conditions allow, coordinate with other officers to conduct a systematic tactical search of the area

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Examples

(1) An officer initiated a traffic stop. The driver of the target vehicle stopped the vehicle and immediately exited the car and began running down the street. Rather than pursue the subject on foot, the officer remained with the subject's vehicle and contacted dispatch to advise other units of the situation. The officer gave the location, direction in which the subject was running, subject description, and requested assistance. Other units in the area responded and set up a perimeter. The subject was located and arrested. By keeping dispatch advised and requesting backup, the officer apprehended the suspect.

(2) An officer responded to a domestic violence call. The suspect in question was on parole for assault. As the officer drove up to the subject's residence, he observed the subject standing outside the house. Before exiting the car, the officer advised dispatch of the situation, gave the subject's history, and requested additional units to respond to the location. The officer exited the patrol car and approached the subject who began to run toward an alley. The officer pursued on foot, advising dispatch of the direction of travel. As the officer continued the pursuit, he directed the responding backup units to set up a perimeter. The fleeing subject ran toward a waiting officer on the perimeter and was apprehended. The officer coordinated efforts with other units to safely locate a potentially violent subject.

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Student Notes

Chapter Synopsis

Learning need

To maintain flexibility and effectiveness, peace officers need to know the basic tactics and procedures of patrol.

Preparing for a patrol assignment [21.02.EO3]

Preparation prior to beginning a patrol assignment generally includes:

- preparing mentally to do the job
- checking all personal equipment
- acquiring any necessary resource information and materials/supplies
- inspecting each piece of equipment issued at the beginning of the shift

Appropriate speed [21.02.EO6]

Officers should patrol at a speed that is reasonable for the tasks they are performing (e.g., patrolling in heavy traffic, patrolling in a residential or business area, etc.).

Driving at a slower speed while on patrol:

- Provides a maximum opportunity to observe while maintaining effective control of the vehicle
- Contributes to public awareness and visibility
- Maximizes contact with members of the community and provides a positive law enforcement image
- Decreases engine noise enabling an officer to get closer to any criminal activity without being detected

Patrol vehicle placement [21.02.EO6]

Officers should always make a reasonable effort to park their patrol vehicles in a lawful manner.

Silhouetting and telltale noise [21.02.EO6]

If an officer assumes a position between a suspect and a source of backlight, the officer's silhouette could clearly identify the officer's position to a suspect.

Making any telltale noise can jeopardize officer safety while on patrol.

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Radio transmissions [21.02.EO9]	Monitor the frequency, initiate the call, speak clearly, limit the length of the transmission.
Crime broadcast [21.02.EO10]	The effectiveness of crime broadcasts can be greatly affected by the officer's ability to clearly transmit timely and relevant information.
Approaching /detaining a pedestrian subject [21.02.EO11]	Officers must approach ***every*** contact, whether a consensual encounter or a lawful detention, with officer safety in mind.
Plainclothes/ undercover officers [21.02.EO12]	While on patrol (or when off duty) officers may encounter other peace officers who are functioning as plainclothes/undercover officers. If such an encounter takes place, patrol officers should take all necessary measures not to draw attention to the plainclothes/undercover officer.
Foot pursuits of fleeing suspects [21.02.EO13]	Foot pursuits are one of the most dangerous and unpredictable situations for officers. All foot pursuits must be considered high risk.

Workbook Learning Activities

Introduction

To help you review and apply the material covered in this chapter, a selection of learning activities has been included. No answers are provided. However, by referring to the appropriate text, you should be able to prepare a response.

Activity questions

1. Why is the term "routine patrol" inappropriate?

2. In addition to preparing all assigned equipment for duty and ensuring its working condition, officers are also responsible for ensuring their own mental preparedness. How do you prepare yourself mentally for concentrating on your course activities? How do you think you will have to adapt your mental preparation strategies to work effectively as a patrol officer?

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Activity questions (continued)

3. Officers on vehicle patrol receive a report of a five-year-old girl abducted from her day care center by her noncustodial father. As their unit passes by a large park/recreation area at dusk, one officer spots a man fitting the suspect's description carrying a young girl down a park path toward a wooded picnic area. How should officers proceed? Should they pursue on foot? What factors should influence this decision? How could the patrol vehicle be used to best tactical advantage?

4. Officers receive an emergency call to the scene of a domestic violence incident in which the victim received several blows to the head and is now unconscious. The incident was reported to 911 by the victim's mother who saw the victim's ex-husband assault her daughter. The mother gives officers a complete description of the suspect and his clothing. She also informs officers that the fight was over the victim's late model pick-up, in which the suspect drove off after the assault. The mother adds that her daughter kept a handgun in the truck's glove compartment for protection. Write a script of the crime broadcast the contact officer should transmit regarding this crime. Fill in specific descriptive details where needed.

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Activity questions (continued)

5. As an officer conducting a pedestrian interview, how could you tell if the person you are interviewing might be about to attempt to flee on foot?

6. A bicycle patrol officer has as part of her patrol area a convenience store located at the end of a wooded suburban bike/walking path. Because the store is relatively close to the high school, the store is frequented by groups of teens who often hang out outside of the store. The officer frequently stops to talk with individual teens. One day, the officer spots a girl who seems upset. She begins a conversation, but when she asks the girl what is wrong, the girl says, "I don't want to talk about it," and begins to walk away. The officer says, "Wait a minute," and the girl freezes. How should the officer proceed?

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Activity questions (continued)

7. Refer to the background information in question six. Residents who use these paths have reported to law enforcement that groups of students have been smoking marijuana on a path bridge approximately 1/4 mile from the convenience store. The officer and her partner spot a group of about five teens walking away from the convenience store, down the path toward the bridge. The officers decide to follow. They observe the group gathered at the bridge, smoking some sort of cigarette. One teen throws the cigarette in the creek when she sees the officers approaching. The officers recognize two members of the group and choose to make contact. How should officers continue the approach? What should they consider, and what should they watch for? How would the situation change if officers smell marijuana as they make contact?

8. The manager of a local supermarket calls officers to the scene after a cashier is robbed at gunpoint. The cashier provides a detailed description of the suspect, including what he was wearing. On patrol following this interview, officers spot a person matching this description and detain him. The suspect refuses to answer questions until he sees an attorney. How should officers proceed? If the cashier has gone off duty and is not expected home for approximately two hours, should officers continue to detain the suspect? Why or why not?

Glossary

Introduction	**The following glossary terms apply only to Learning Domain 21: Patrol Techniques**
call sign	law enforcement radio caller/receiver identification information
concealment	anything that prevents an opponent from *observing* the officer
consensual encounter	contact between a private person and a peace officer where the person is not obligated to stay, cooperate or answer questions
contact officer	the officer initiating an action who becomes responsible for conducting the contact
cover	anything that may *stop* or *deflect* an opponent's weapons
cover officer	the officer responsible for surveillance and control of a suspect in order to free the contact officer to perform a thorough investigation
crime broadcast	critical information regarding criminal activity transmitted by law enforcement radio communication
detention	an assertion of authority that would cause reasonable persons to believe they are obligated to stay, cooperate, or answer questions

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emergency radio traffic	law enforcement radio communications with the highest priority (e.g., in-progress felonies, officer calls for help, crime broadcasts, etc.)
non-emergency radio traffic	lower priority law enforcement radio communications (e.g., status changes, calls for service, etc.)
observation	the ability to gather information by noting facts or occurrences with a heightened sense of awareness
officer safety	the practical application of tactically sound procedures to perform law enforcement activities in a safe and effective manner
perception	the personal analysis derived from an observation; involves interpreting observations, organizing them, and attaching meaning or significance to them
reasonable suspicion	when a peace officer has facts and circumstances to make it reasonable for the officer to suspect that criminal activity may be afoot, and that the person detained is connected to that activity
trained observers	officers who practice disciplined *observation*, and apply training and experience to accurately *perceive* what is occurring or is about to occur