

SAN JOSE POLICE COMMUNICATIONS
Basic Dispatch Academy

COURSE TITLE: Geography – 16 HOURS

COURSE GOAL: To introduce students to the general geography, topography and street network of San Jose and the surrounding area; to familiarize students with San Jose Police jurisdictional areas; to be able to identify and use other Communications geographic references including CAD, map books and the internet.

COURSE Objectives

- I. Introduction to San Jose
- II. Bordering Cities and Counties
- III. Street Network
- IV. Major Landmarks
- V. Maps and Street Numbering
- VI. Divisions / Channels / Districts
- VII. Neighborhoods
- VIII. Jurisdictional Concerns

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

- I. Introduction
 - a. Physical Characteristics of San Jose
 - i. Rural upbringings
 1. Agricultural history
 2. El Pueblo San Jose de Guadalupe – first civil settlement in California November 29, 1777
 3. 1st Capitol of California in 1849-1851
 4. Did not grow much in early 1900s due to floods, earthquakes and fires
 5. Next 80 years San Jose experienced significant growth, transforming in to “Capitol of Silicon Valley”
 6. Very high quality of life – 300 days of sun, average temperature between 50s and 70s
 7. Safest big city in the nation for several years
 8. Fastest growing economy job growth in California in 2016
 - ii. Population (as of 2017)
 1. San Jose: 1.046 million
 - a. 3rd largest city in California
 - b. 10th largest city in the nation
 - c. Diversity is hallmark of San Jose
 - d. Average household statistics
 - e. Jobs and Crime
 - f. Metropolitan population of area 1,955,400
- II. Surrounding Cities and Counties
 - a. Bordering Cities

- i. Santa Clara, Campbell, Milpitas, Los Gatos, Saratoga (S.O.) Cupertino (S.O.), Morgan Hill
 - b. Nearby Cities
 - i. San Martin/Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, Fremont
- III. Street Network
 - a. Highways & Freeways
 - i. 280/680 (Sinclair), 17/880 (Nimitz), 101 (Bayshore), 87 (Guadalupe), 85 (West Valley), 237 (Alviso-Mt. View-Milpitas Rd)
 - b. Expressways
 - i. Almaden Ex, Capitol Ex (aka Capitol Auto Mall between Almaden Ex & Hy 87), Lawrence Ex, Southwest Ex, San Tomas Ex – Montague Ex (interchange in north San Jose)
 - c. Handouts
 - i. Major Streets
 - 1. Breakdown of major streets by district
 - ii. Streets that change names (not exhaustive)
 - 1. List of streets that change names
 - iii. Sound alike streets
 - 1. List of streets that sound alike
 - iv. Hard to pronounce streets
 - 1. List of streets that can be hard to pronounce
 - d. Geographical Areas
 - i. Composers (Chopin, Mozart, Brahms), Storybook (Galahad, Sleepy Hallow, Van Winkle), _____ haven (Houndshaven, Stoneyhaven, Knights Haven), Glen _____ (Glen Donegal, Glen Hanleigh, Glen Sharon), Native American Tribes (Shawnee, Mohican, Arapaho), _____ Estates (Silver Estates, Creek Estates, Harvest Estates), _____ wood (Allenwood, Norwood, Centerwood), Avenida _____ (Avenida Del Roble, Avenida Arboles, Avenida Nogales), Wine Country (Rue Bologne, Rue Bordeaux, Rue Cannes)
- IV. Major Landmarks (not exhaustive)
 - a. Tourist Landmarks
 - i. Winchester Mystery House, SAP Center/Shark Tank, City Hall, San Jose Theatre/San Jose Improv, Lick Observatory
 - b. Religious Centers
 - i. Sikh Gurudwara Sahib – 3636 Murillo Av – Largest Gurdwara in North America
 - ii. Betsuin Buddhist church – 640 N 5th St. The mission of the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin is to learn and to share the Jodo Shinshu understanding of the Three Treasures-Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. One of 17 Buddhist temples in SJ.
 - iii. Center for Spiritual Enlightenment – 1146 University Av - meditation center in the spiritual tradition of Kriya Yoga, welcoming people from all backgrounds who are seeking Self- and God-realization—a path to spiritually conscious, fulfilled living.
 - iv. Sri Krishna Vrundavana Temple – Established in 2013, this is the sixth such temple in North America, associated with Sujnana Religious & Charitable Foundation (SRCF), conducts Veda, Stotra, Yoga, and Samskrita classes for adults and children on weekly basis.
 - c. Fire Stations

- i. 33 SJFD stations numbered 1-35 (no 32 or 33)
 - ii. 5 SJFD Battalion Stations (1, 2, 5, 10, 13)
 - iii. South Substation is our alternate PSAP (formerly Station 29)
 - d. Hospitals
 - i. VMC – 751 S Bascom Av (Trauma center, burn center, EPS), KSJ – 250 Hospital Py, RMC – 225 N Jackson Av (Trauma Center, formerly Alexian Brothers Hospital), OCH – 2105 Forest Av, GSH – 2425 Samaritan Dr, KSC – 710 Lawrence Ex
 - e. Shopping Malls/Centers
 - i. Valley Fair – 2855 SCB, Eastridge – 2200 Eastridge Loop, Westgate – 1600 Saratoga Av, Oakridge – 925 BHR, Pruneyard (CA), Santana Row, Almaden Fashion Plaza, Downtown Pavilion, El Paseo de Saratoga, Grand Century, Westgate West, The Plant
 - f. Schools
 - i. Public Schools
 - 1. 144 ELEM (14 school districts)
 - 2. 39 MS
 - 3. 51 HS (4 school districts)
 - 4. 4 Unified school districts
 - ii. Private Schools
 - 1. Over 100, including: Achiever, Action Day, Challenger, Harker, Kindercare, Stratford, Valley Christian.
 - iii. Colleges & Universities
 - 1. SJSU
 - 2. Evergreen Valley College
 - 3. SJ City
 - 4. SJ Hispanic University
 - 5. Other private and trade schools...
 - g. Parks and Trails
 - i. Over 200+ city parks
 - 1. Info Index and sjparks.org
 - ii. Regional/County parks
 - 1. Kelly Park, Almaden Lake Park, Alum Rock Park, Lake Cunningham Park, Almaden-Quicksilver County Park, Jose Grant County Park, Santa Teresa County Park, Calero Reservoir County Park, Motorcycle County Park
 - iii. 50+ miles of trails, goal is 100+ miles
 - 1. Sjparks.org/trails
 - h. Airports
 - i. San Jose International Airport
 - 1. District David
 - 2. Terminal A
 - 3. Terminal B
 - 4. Temporary Terminal (connected to Terminal B)
 - 5. CONRAC
 - ii. Reid Hillview
 - iii. San Martin (county)
 - i. Event Centers
 - i. San Jose Convention Center

- ii. City National Civic Auditorium
 - iii. SAP Center
 - iv. Spartan Stadium
 - v. County Fairgrounds
 - vi. Hayes Mansion
 - vii. PAL Stadium
 - viii. SJ Giants Stadium
 - ix. Avaya Stadium
 - x. Levi Stadium (Santa Clara)
 - j. Mass Transit
 - i. Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)
 - 1. 62 stations along 42 miles of light rail
 - 2. 440 buses – 70 routes
 - ii. CalTrain – 5 of 32 stations in San Jose
 - 1. College Park, Diridon (Cahill), Tamien, Capitol, Blossom Hill
 - iii. BART?
- V. Maps & Street Numbering
- a. Maps
 - i. Map Types
 - 1. San Jose Police Beat Maps
 - 2. SJFD Response Maps
 - 3. Large jurisdictional maps
 - 4. Barclay's Maps
 - 5. CAD Maps
 - 6. Internet maps
 - b. Map Reading
 - i. Top of the page is North unless otherwise indicated
 - ii. Use the legend, assigned scale, reference points
 - iii. Attributes of a street number:
 - 1. Part of a mailing address
 - 2. Numeric can indicate jurisdiction
 - 3. Clue to location (ex. 200 block)
 - iv. Use NOW SEE
 - v. Zero points:
 - 1. North/South: Santa Clara, The Alameda
 - a. 100 digits per block
 - 2. East/West: 1st street, Monterey
 - a. 50 digits per block
 - c. Special Problems
 - i. Postal addresses vs Jurisdictional boundaries
 - 1. San Jose addresses in county jurisdiction
 - 2. Campbell addresses in San Jose jurisdiction
 - ii. Direction of travel to determine district jurisdiction
- VI. Divisions, Channels, Districts
- a. Western Division
 - i. SJ02 District Frank District Nora
 - 1. Problem Areas
 - ii. SJ06 District Lincoln District Sam

1. Problem Areas
- b. Central Division
 - i. SJ01 District David District Robert District Victor
 1. Problem Areas
 - ii. SJ05 District Edward District King
 1. Problem Areas
- c. Foothill Division
 - i. SJ03 District Mary District William
 1. Problem Areas
 - ii. SJ04 District Charles District Paul
 1. Problem Areas
- d. Southern Division
 - i. SJ07 District Adam District Tom
 1. Problem Areas
 - ii. SJ08 District X-ray District Yellow
 1. Problem Areas
- VII. Neighborhoods
 - a. Over 390 Neighborhoods in San Jose
- VIII. Beat Borders & Jurisdictional Concerns
 - a. Beat Borders
 - i. Beat Map Handout
 - ii. Most boundaries between beats are streets (see Handout)
 - iii. If event is on a street/border, determine the direction of travel or side of the street
 - iv. Locations (including intersections that are borders) are automatically assigned a beat/district but you can and will override it if necessary
 - v. Examples:
 1. 242 at white/story
 2. 1182 on SCB/Winchester
 - b. Jurisdictional Concerns
 - i. Unincorporated Areas
 - ii. California Highway Patrol
 - iii. Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office
 1. Buses & Light Rail
 - iv. Caltrain

Learning Activity:

Road Rally (52 locations total):

Your group is responsible for determining a route which includes each of the locations listed below. You may use CAD maps, beat maps or Thomas Guides to map out your locations but you cannot use electronic GPS devices. Each group is responsible for determining their route and giving driving instructions to their driver (Training Unit personnel) without assistance from their driver. You decide the order and you must pass by or through each location. At the locations listed in bold, your group must stop and pose for a group photo. You may stop at any of the other locations also, though this will be at your discretion. All photos taken during the day will be collected by the Training Unit for verification and preparation of a presentation to be shown at your graduation. Road rally start time is 0700 hours. Lunch is at 1100 hours scheduled into your route. All groups must be Substation Lobby by 1545 hours. The goal of this exercise is to become better acquainted with the geography of San Jose and to have fun.