

**San Jose Police Department**  
**Advanced Rifle Specialist Operator Course**  
*Rev. 12/22/2020*

<b>Course Title:</b>	Advanced Rifle Specialist Operator Course Includes M-16, AR-15 Carbine, M-4, and Colt Commando Rifles.
<b>Course Hours:</b>	20
<b>Course Goal:</b>	To provide students with the information and hands-on experience needed to effectively use the Tactical Rifle utilizing various unconventional shooting positions, and various tactical movements
<b>Audience:</b>	Sworn Peace Officers, assigned to Tactical Units or Patrol, who are issued the above weapon as their secondary weapon and have passed the Basic Rifle Operator course. These Officers will qualify and carry it on duty in the scope of their employment.

**Course Objectives**

Under supervision of a qualified instructor, students will be specifically taught and expected to understand and perform with a tactical rifle the following areas:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the Four Basic Range Safety Rules.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of loading / unloading of the weapon.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of advanced shooting techniques from conventional and unconventional shooting positions.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of safe tactical movement.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of marksmanship.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of malfunction clearances.
7. Review Law and Agency Policy regarding the use of firearms & the tactical rifle.
8. Demonstrate proficiency with the weapon and pass the qualification course.

**Required Content**

The San Jose Police Department Specialist Advanced Rifle Operator course will cover the following areas of California POST Commission Regulation 1081:

- (1) Law Update – AB392 & SB230
- (2) Review of Use of Force Issues, Agency Policies, and Mission
- (3) Safety Issues
- (4) Tactical Movement and Considerations
- (5) Skill Development and Qualification

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**DAY 1**

- I. Registration / Orientation / Instructor Introductions / Overview of week
  - A. Students will complete roster sheets and waivers
  - B. Define Lead and Assistant Instructors
  - C. Map of Range presented
  - D. Timeline of the week of instruction
  
- II. Range Safety
  - A. Four Range Safety Rules:
    - 1. Treat all guns as if they are loaded
    - 2. Never point a gun at anything you do not intend to shoot.
    - 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until on target and ready to shoot.
    - 4. Always be aware of your target and backstop.
  - B. Health Hazards
    - 1. Heat/sun conditions, dehydration, snakes/animals, etc.
    - 2. Shooting at armored plating: splash back within 15 yards
  - C. Any drills performed involving movement will have a 1:1 Instructor to Student ratio
  
- III. Injured Officer Procedures
  - A. San Jose Police Department Basic / Specialist Advanced Rifle Operator Course Safety Plan will be followed
    - 1. Above listed Safety Plan will be issued to all Instructors
    - 2. Proper First Aid kit / Trauma bag will be available on site
  - B. Role of Lead Instructor
    - 1. Supervising immediate actions of instructors
    - 2. Ensure that shooters maintain muzzle discipline on the firing line
  - C. Range Instructors and their responsibilities
    - 1. Communications – Fire/Ambulance/Helicopter requested
    - 2. First Aid is rendered to the injured Officer by Instructors/EMT
    - 3. Pre-staged designated transportation vehicle to injured Officer
    - 4. Remaining Instructors take control of Live Fire Line
    - 5. Designated Life Flight Landing Pad utilized if needed
  
- IV. Range Procedures
  - A. Students will be instructed on range commands
  - B. Conditions of Carry
  - C. Dry Fire Procedures

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V. Equipment Review

A. Rifle Accessories

1. Sling
2. Lighting Systems
3. Vertical Fore-end Grip
4. Collapsible / Fixed Stock
5. Optics / Back-up Sights / Night Sights
6. Compensator / Flash hider / Muzzle Break
7. Magazines
8. Nomenclature

B. Individual Officer Equipment

1. Helmet
2. Tactical Vest
3. Tactical Belt
4. Magazine Pouches
5. Hearing Protection
6. Eye Protection
7. Knee and Elbow Pads
8. Gloves
9. Rain Gear

VI. Penal Code / Case Law / Agency Policy

A. Penal Code sections 32610(b) / 33220(b)

1. Possession Within Scope of Employment
2. Training requirement

B. PC § 196PC - Justifiable Homicide

1. AB392 revised definition to rely more heavily on PC 835a
2. PC 196 identifies the circumstances when a peace officer is justified to commit a homicide
  - a. Peace officers shall evaluate each situation in light of the particular circumstance of each case and shall use other available resources and techniques if reasonably safe and feasible to an objectively reasonable officer.
3. To defend against and Imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury
4. 835a – Ability, Opportunity and Apparent Intent
5. Officer shall make reasonable efforts to identify themselves and warn that deadly force will be used.
6. Officer does not lose right of self-defense by using reasonable force.
7. Objective Reasonableness

C. Discuss how agency policy has changed relative to AB 392 & SB230.

D. Case Law Update

1. Tennessee vs. Garner

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- 2. Graham vs. Conner
- E. Agency Firearms Use and Use of Force Policies
  - 1. Agency Specific
  - 2. Use of Force Options

VII. Review Principles of Marksmanship

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10. Visually and physically inspect the chamber (Ensure 100% certainty rifle is unloaded)

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E. Instructor Demonstration

1. Magazine Loading, Rifle Loading / Unloading Procedures to be demonstrated by Instructor
2. To be done on firing line
3. Utilizing orange “Dummy” ammunition as opposed to live ammo

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XII. Practice Qualification

- A. SJPD Specialist Bi-annual Qualification Test
  1. Lead Instructor will discuss the courses of fire and movements conducted
  2. Practice Qualification Test will include movements and courses of fire – a culmination of topics taught
  3. Course of fire with Operator movement will have a 1:1 Student to Instructor ratio at the Firing Line
  4. Practice Qualification will not be a timed event
  5. Practice Qualification conducted a second time will allow Students to demonstrate skill progression
  6. Practice Qualification conducted a second time allows for a larger sample size for Instructors to evaluate overall student progress
  7. Students with specific deficiencies will be identified & remediated



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**DAY 2**

- XIII. Review of Range Safety Rules/Procedures and Health Hazards
  - A. Review of above listed as per Expanded Course Outline
  - B. Review of loading & unloading procedures as per ECO

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D. Students will conduct Dynamic Forward movement, at direction of Lead Instructor, with an unloaded and safe rifle

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- 2. Students will repeat until competence is shown as determined by Instructors

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XXII. Night Fire – Safety Review and Effects of Night Vision

- A. Lead Instructor will discuss additional safety factors for range shooting at night

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XXV. Skill Development

- A. Dry Firing Exercises
  1. Done on the range under direct supervision of the instructors
  2. Dry fire using a “safe” and empty weapon

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XXVI. Qualification (Practice & Testing)

- A. SJPD Patrol Rifle Operator Qualification Practice
  1. Lead Instructor will discuss rules for the course of fire & scoring of the target
  2. Practice Qualification Test will include set courses of fire – a culmination of all topics taught
  3. Practice Qualification will not be a timed event, but each course of fire will have a specific round count and time element
  4. Practice Qualification will allow Instructors to evaluate student progress
  5. Students with specific deficiencies will be identified and given remediation
- B. SJPD Patrol Rifle Operator Bi-annual Qualification Test

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1. Lead Instructor will reiterate rules for the course of fire & scoring of the target
  2. Qualification Test will include set courses of fire – a culmination of all topics taught
  3. Qualification Test will not be a timed event, but each course of fire will have a specific round count and time element
  4. Qualification will allow Instructors to evaluate student progress
  5. Students with specific deficiencies will be identified and given remediation
  6. There will be a total of four (4) Pass / Fail qualification attempts
- C. Patrol Rifle Operator course written exam (Pass / Fail)
- D. Students who Pass both the Qualification course and Written exam will receive a Certificate of Completion. Students who Fail either course will receive a Certificate of Attendance.

XXVII. Range Clean Up

- A. Targets will be taken down
- B. Damaged Range supplies will be repaired or replaced

XXVIII. Evaluations and Certificates

- A. Students will be handed hard copy Certificates of Completion and/or Attendance
- B. Students will have opportunity to provide school feedback and Instructor evaluations