

# San Jose Police Department Basic Rifle Operator Course

Rev. 12/22/2020

- Course Title:** Basic Rifle Operator Course  
Includes M-16, AR-15, AR-15 Carbine, M-4, and Colt Commando Rifles.
- Course Hours:** 20
- Course Goal:** To provide students with the information and hands-on experience needed to effectively use the Tactical Rifle.
- Audience:** Sworn Peace Officers, assigned to Tactical Units or Patrol, who are issued the above weapon as their secondary weapon. These Officers will qualify and carry it on duty in the scope of their employment.
- Note:** Successful completion of this course satisfies the legislative training mandate to possess short barrel rifles as specified in Penal Code section 33220(b) and the Commission training requirement to possess long barrel rifles as specified in Commission Regulation 1081.

## 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 the ability to field strip and properly clean the weapon.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of loading / unloading of the weapon.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of basic shooting skills and positions.
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 Patrol 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) Nomenclature, Specifications, and Capabilities
- (5) Firearm Care, Breakdown, and Cleaning
- (6) Tactical Considerations
- (7) 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 up 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 / Advanced Specialist Rifle Operator Course Safety Plan will be followed
    - 1. Above listed Safety Plan will be issued to and read by 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
  
- V. Penal Code / Case Law / Agency Policy
  - A. Penal Code sections 32610(b) / 33220(b)
    - 1. Possession Within Scope of Employment
    - 2. Training requirement

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- 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. Case Law Update
  - 1. Tennessee vs. Garner
  - 2. Graham vs. Conner
- D. Agency Firearms Use and Use of Force Policies
  - 1. Agency Specific
  - 2. Use of Force Options
  - 3. Discuss how your agency's policy has changed relative to AB 392 & SB 230.

## VI. Nomenclature, Specifications, Field Stripping and Assembly

- A. Upper Receiver
  - 1. Compensator
  - 2. Barrel
  - 3. Front Sight
  - 4. Fore end (hand guard)
  - 5. Gas Tube
  - 6. Ejection Port
  - 7. Rear Sight
  - 8. Forward Assist
  - 9. Charging Handle
- B. Lower Receiver
  - 1. Buttstock
  - 2. Pistol Grip
  - 3. Trigger
  - 4. Trigger Guard
  - 5. Magazine / Magazine Catch
  - 6. Bolt Catch
  - 7. Take Down Pin
  - 8. Selector Lever (safety)
  - 9. Sling / Sling Attachments
- C. Bolt Carrier Assembly
  - 1. Bolt Carrier
  - 2. Firing Pin

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3. Firing Pin Retaining Pin
4. Cam Pin
5. Bolt
6. Bolt Locking Lugs
7. Extractor / Extractor Pin
8. Extractor Spring / Rubber Insert
9. Ejector
10. Gas Rings

## D. Specifications (Refer to City Memorandum on Carbine Specifications)

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

## VII. Cleaning and Maintaining the Rifle

- A. Cleaning Equipment
- B. Cleaning Technique
- C. Proper Lubrication
- D. Frequency
- E. Periodic Inspections
- F. Storage Equipment
- G. Storage Procedures

## VIII. Cycle of Operation, External and Terminal Ballistics

- A. Explanation of what occurs when the rifle is fired
  1. Firing
  2. Unlocking
  3. Extracting
  4. Ejecting
  5. Cocking



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■ [REDACTED]

## XI. Loading and Unloading Procedures and Demonstration

### A. Loading Magazine

1. Insertion of ammunition
2. Number of rounds per magazine
3. Position of top round on left or right side

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

### D. Unloading the Rifle

1. Direction of muzzle and safety issues
2. Position of strong and support hand
3. Position of Trigger Finger off the trigger and indexed on the lower receiver
4. Position of Safety Switch [REDACTED]
5. Position of Bolt [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

7. Removing the magazine [REDACTED]

8. Storage of magazine (Dump pouch / pocket / alternative magazine pouch)

9. Clearing the chamber

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

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

■ [REDACTED]

### E. Instructor Demonstration

1. Magazine Loading, Rifle Loading, Rifle Unloading Procedures to be demonstrated by Instructor
2. To be done on firing line

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XV. Initial Zeroing of Rifle

- A. 50 yard point of aim, point of impact
- B. Students will load rifles using techniques taught  
[REDACTED]
- D. Operator will establish natural point of aim on target

[REDACTED]



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- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

7. Operator returns to Low Ready position
8. Instructor will demonstrate technique to students utilizing “Dummy” rounds

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]
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9. Operator returns to Low Ready position
10. Instructor will demonstrate technique to students utilizing “Dummy” rounds

[REDACTED]





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■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

d. Safety is on during all movement

5. Lead Instructor will ask if any of the students have any injuries or physical limitations which would endanger them by assuming this position (An alternative position may be given if needed)

■ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

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■ [REDACTED]

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5. Lead Instructor will ask if any of the students have any injuries or physical limitations which would endanger them by assuming this position (An alternative position may be given if needed)

■ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]







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[REDACTED]

D. Students will practice each of the two transition methods on firing line as directed by Lead Instructor with an unloaded and safe rifle

## XXIV. Introduction to Mechanical Offset

A. Using optics on the rifle vs. irons on the rifle



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■ [REDACTED]  
■ [REDACTED]  
■ [REDACTED]

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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

■ [REDACTED]  
■ [REDACTED]

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

1. Lead Instructor will reiterate rules for the course of fire & target scoring

■ [REDACTED]  
■ [REDACTED]

## XXVII. Range Clean Up

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

## XXVIII. Written Test, Evaluations and Certificates

- A. Patrol Rifle Operator course written exam (Pass / Fail)
- B. 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.
- C. Students will be handed hard copy Certificates of Completion and/or Attendance
- D. Students will have opportunity to provide school feedback and Instructor evaluations

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