

Driver Awareness

Course Outline – 8 hours

A. Registration and Orientation

1. Registration
 - a. Class documentation.
 - b. Course grade cards.
2. Program purpose and philosophy
 - a. Enhance the efficiency and safety of Police vehicle operations.
 - b. Reduction in accident statistics.
 - c. Departmental Liability.
 - d. Proper use of basic driving principles.
 - e. All principles are interrelated.
3. Overview of Course

B. Basic Driving Principles

II-g

1. Five principles of precision vehicle operation
 - a. Weight transfer.
 - b. Steering control.
 - c. Throttle control.
 - d. Brake application.
 - e. Road position.
2. Safety belt utilization

C. Legal Aspects and Responsibilities

II-f

1. Vehicle operations liability
 - a. Sections 17001, 17004, 21052, 21055 a&b, 21056, 21057, and 22350 C.V.C.
 - b. Personal liability factors, 669 Evid. C.; Code 3 Driving Techniques.
2. Agency emergency driving policy

II-d,f

D. **Vehicle Care and Maintenance (Inventory and Safety Implementation)**

1. Pre-driving Inspection

1. Areas to inspect
 - a. Beneath vehicle
 1. Leaks
 2. Suspension
 - b.. Exterior
 1. Body
 2. Tires / wheels
 3. Lights
 - c. Interior
 - d. Trunk
 1. Spare tire
 - e. Engine Compartment
 1. Fluid levels
 2. Fan Belts / Hoses
 3. Battery

E. **Vehicle Operation Factors/Defensive Driving**

II-c

1. Defensive Driving

- a. Definition
- b. Recognition of potential hazards
- c. Initial and on-going training
- d. Turning / Backing Movements
 1. Left turn
 2. Right turn
 3. Backing issues
- e. Driving Conditions
 1. Weather
 2. Road conditions
 3. Traffic conditions

2. Attitudes and Emotions

- a. Psychological factors
 1. Controlling emotions
- b. Physiological factors
 1. Fatigue
 2. Illness

- 3. Tunnel Vision
- 3. Occupant Safety Devices
 - a. Seat Belts
 - b. Air bags
- 4. Perception / Reaction time
- 5. Steering Control
- 6. Braking Techniques
 - a. Threshold
 - b. Straight line
 - c. ABS
- 7. Skids
 - a. Under steer
 - b. Over steer
 - c. Skid recovery

F. Maneuvering Course Exercises

II-a,b,e

- 1. The student will demonstrate the ability to park the vehicle including:
 - a. Approaching the parking position (18-24 inches)
 - b. Controlling steering
 - c. Entering at a proper angle
 - d. Controlling front end swing
 - e. Visually locating obstacles to the rear
 - f. Parking a distance of 18 inches or less from the curb
 - g. Placing the vehicle in a single movement
 - h. Exiting safely in one moment
 - i. Parallel parking from the passenger
 - j. Test would be the Parallel Parking Exercise which is part of the Slow Speed Maneuvers
- 2. The student will demonstrate a series of slow speed precision driving exercise including:
 - a. Rear wheel cheat
 - b. Front end swing
 - c. Vehicle placement
 - d. Hazard awareness
 - e. Speed control
 - f. Backing
 - g. Visually locating hazards to the rear
 - h. Test would be Turn Around, Off Set and Serpentine exercises.