

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE  
REGULAR BASIC COURSE  
ELECTRONIC WEAPONS/ TASER

**Effective date of outline: August 1, 2013**

**I. LEARNING NEED**

TASER requires the understanding of the device and the use of force policies. Peace officers must know the TASER functions and limitations to correctly implement the use of the TASER avoid injuries and liability.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

**A. Taser Construction:**

1. Physical Construction
  - a) Constructed of impact resistant sonic welded polymer
  - b) Stainless Steel shock plates.
2. Colors
  - a) Produced in multiple colors
  - b) Primarily yellow for Sheriff's Department
2. Taser Terminology
  - a) Enhanced Grip Zones.
  - b) DPM: Digital Power Magazine
  - c) Stainless Steel Shock Plates
    - (1) Used to ground the user with the Taser
  - d) DPM release Button
  - e) Safety
  - f) Trigger
  - g) Illumination Selector
  - h) Stainless Steel Serial No. Plate
  - i) High Visibility Sights
  - j) Laser sight / LIL: Low Intensity Lights (LEDS)
3. TASER Cartridge Construction
  - a) Blast Doors
  - b) AFIDs
  - c) TASER Wire
  - d) Probes

**B. Recognize how the TASER functions**

1. Technology
  - a) The human nervous system communicates with simple electrical impulses. TASER uses electrical impulses to cause stimulation of the nerves that control movement.
  
2. Volts and Amperage
  - a) Volts
    - (1) Usually that dangerous
    - (2) TASER uses voltage
  - b) Amperage
    - (1) Dangerous at small levels
    - (2) Taser has less than 0.004A, less than a Christmas Tree light bulb.
  
3. Nervous System
  - a) Central Nervous System (CNS)
    - (1) Command Center
  - b) Sensory Nervous System (SNS)
    - (1) Nerves that carry commands from the body to the brain
      - (a) Touch, Temperature, etc.
  - c) Motor Nervous System (MNS)
    - (1) Nerves that carry commands from the brain to the muscles
  
4. STUN vs. Neuro-Muscular Incapacitation (NMI)
  - a) STUN
    - (1) generates “electric noise” that the SNS interprets as pain, does not incapacitate
  - b) NMI
    - (1) stimulates the MNS and SNS to cause incapacitation.

C. Recognize the Risks and proper use of the TASER.

1. Treat the TASER like a firearm
  - a) Do not point at anything not will to deploy the TASER at
  - b) Treat all TASER as if they are fully functional and will deploy
    - (1) Static deployment
  
2. When to use
  - a) Active Resistance
    - (1) Discuss Graham vs. Connor, Department Policy
  - b) Emanate jeopardy

- c) (1) Discuss case Bryan vs. McPherson
- 3. When not to use
  - a) Known Preexisting injuries
    - (1) Back injury
    - (2) Heart problems
      - (a) Pacemakers
  - b) Other considerations
    - (1) Repeated exposures over a prolonged period of time
    - (2) Near flammable liquids or fumes
      - (a) On subject or in the area
    - (3) When subject operating a motor vehicle
    - (4) When subject is likely to fall from a precarious position
    - (5) Obviously pregnant or known to be pregnant
    - (6) Subject is enfeebled due to advanced age or illness
      - (a) Discuss Excited Delirium

## II. LEARNING NEED

TASER requires the understanding of the device and the use of force policies. Peace officers must know the TASER functions and limitations to correctly implement the use of the TASER avoid injuries and liability

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Recognize the proper application of the TASER
  - 1. Points of Aim
    - a) Abdomen, back
  - 2. No deployment areas for the TASER
    - a) Face, soft tissues, chest
  - 3. Points of Contacts
    - a) Electricity travels the path of least resistance.
    - b) Darts
    - c) Cartridge contacts (drive stun).
- B. Requirements After TASER Deployment
  - 1. Non soft tissue hits
    - a) Proper removal probes
    - b) Medical requirements
  - 2. Soft tissue hits
    - a) Do not remove, must be done by medical professionals
  - 3. Documentation of Use of Force
    - a) Verbal Report to supervisor
    - b) TASER Report form completed by end of shift

### III. LEARNING NEEDS

Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes related to unlawful concealment of firearms and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Recognize the statutory definition of a concealed firearm
  - 1. Any device designed to be used as a firearm with a barrel less than 16 inches in length, and capable of being concealed upon a person.
    - a) Any device which has a barrel 16 inches or more in length which is designed to be interchanged with a barrel less than 16 inches in length may also be considered a concealable firearm.
- B. Recognize the exceptions of the license requirement for possession of a concealable firearm without a license
  - 1. Penal Code Section 12026 identifies specific conditions under which a person is exempt from the license requirement for the possession of a concealable firearm
    - a) In a place of residence
    - b) Place of business
    - c) On private property that is owned or lawfully possessed by that person.
  - 2. Penal Code 12027 identifies exempt persons
    - a) Peace officers
    - b) Federal government agents
    - c) Honorably retired peace officers
    - d) On duty military personnel
    - e) Guards or messengers of financial institutions
    - f) Authorized military or civil organizations
    - g) Sportsman
    - h) Members of shooting clubs
    - i)
- C. Recognize the crime elements for possession of a concealable firearm without a license
  - 1. Penal Code 12025
    - a) Any person who carries concealed a firearm that is capable of being concealed (loaded or unloaded), upon one's person, or

within any vehicle under that person's control or direction, without a license or permit

- D. Recognize the crime classification for possession of a concealable firearm without a license
1. Misdemeanor unless specified conditions are met
  2. Specified conditions for felony
    - a) The person previously has been convicted of any felony or of any crime made punishable by the firearms chapter in the Penal Code (*Penal Code Section 12025(b)(1)*)
    - b) The firearm is stolen and the person knew or had reasonable cause to believe it was stolen (*Penal Code Section 12025(b)(2)*)
    - c) The person is an active participant in a criminal street gang as defined in *Penal Code Section 186.22(a)*, (*Penal Code Section 12025(b)(3)*)
    - d) The person is not in lawful possession of the firearm (*Penal Code Section 12025(b)(4)*)
    - e) The person has been convicted of a crime against a person or property or of a narcotic or dangerous drug violation (*Penal Code Section 12025(b)(5)*)
    - f) The concealable firearm and the unexpended ammunition are either in the immediate possession of the person or readily accessible to that person
    - g) Firearm is loaded as defined in *Penal Code Section 12031* and the person is not listed with the Department of Justice as the registered owner of the firearm. (*Penal Code Section (12025(b)(6)(A)(B))*)

#### IV. LEARNING NEEDS

Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes related to possession of firearms by restricted persons or within restricted areas and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

- A. Recognize the crime elements required to arrest for possession of:
1. A firearm by a convicted felon, narcotic addict, or other restricted persons
    - a) Any person who has been convicted of a felony, or a violation of *Penal Code Sections 245, 417(2) or 417(c)*, or is addicted to the use of any narcotic drug, and owns or has possession, custody, or control of any firearm
  2. A firearm by a person convicted of a specified misdemeanor
    - a) Any person who has been convicted of a specified misdemeanor and, within ten years of the conviction, owns or has possession, custody, or control of any firearm
  2. Unauthorized weapon in a prohibited location
    - a) State or public building

- b) School safety zone
- c) Playgrounds and Youth Centers
- d) Public school
- e) University or college campus

B. Recognize the crime classification as a misdemeanor or felony.

- 1. Unauthorized possession of weapons in the aforementioned sections is a felony.

## V. LEARNING NEEDS

Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes related to the drawing, exhibiting, and unlawful use of weapons and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

A. Recognize the crime elements required to arrest for drawing, exhibiting or unlawful use of a(n):

- 1. Deadly weapon (other than firearms) *PC 417(a)(1)*
  - a) Any person who, except in self-defense, in the presence of any other person, draws or exhibits any deadly weapon in a rude, angry, or threatening manner, or unlawfully uses a deadly weapon in any fight or quarrel is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 2. Firearms *PC 417(a)(2)*
  - a) Any person who, except in self-defense, in the presence of any other person, draws or exhibits any firearm (loaded or unloaded) in a rude, angry, or threatening manner, or unlawfully uses a firearm in any fight or quarrel is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 3. Firearm in presence of a motor vehicle occupant *PC 417.3*
  - a) Any person who, except in self-defense, draws or exhibits any firearm (loaded or unloaded) in a threatening manner such as to cause a reasonable person apprehension or fear of bodily harm. In the presence of another person who is the occupant of a motor vehicle proceeding on a public street or highway, is guilty of a felony.
- 4. Imitation firearm *PC 417.4*
  - a) Any person who, except in self-defense, draws or exhibits an imitation firearm in a threatening manner against another person in such a way as to cause a reasonable person apprehension or fear of bodily harm is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 5. Loaded firearms on the grounds of any daycare facility *PC 417(b)*
  - a) Any person who while in the presence of another, except in self-defense, draws or exhibits any loaded firearm in a rude, angry, or threatening manner, or unlawfully uses a loaded firearm in a fight

or quarrel on the grounds of a daycare center when that center or facility is open for use is guilty of a felony.

6. Firearm in presence of a peace officer PC 417(c)
  - a) Any person who, in the immediate presence of a peace officer draws or exhibits any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, in a rude, angry, or threatening manner, and who knows or reasonably should know, by the officer's appearance, action, or identification, that he or she is a peace officer is guilty of a felony.

B. Recognize the crime elements to arrest, and classification, for unlawful discharging of a firearm.

1. Any person who, except as otherwise authorized by law who willfully discharges a firearm in a grossly negligent manner which could result in injury or death to a person is guilty of a felony. PC 246.3

C. Recognize the classification of crimes related to unlawful use of weapons as misdemeanors or felonies.

1. Drawing or exhibiting a deadly weapon in rude angry threatening fashion. PC 417(a)(1)
  - a) is guilty of a misdemeanor
2. Any person who draws or exhibits any firearms (loaded or unloaded) in a rude angry, threatening manner. PC 417(a)(2)
  - a) is guilty of a misdemeanor.
2. Any person who draws or exhibits a firearm in the presence of another person who is the occupant of a motor vehicle proceeding on a public street. PC 417.3
  - a) is guilty of a felony.
3. Any person who except in self defense, draws or exhibits an imitation firearm. PC 417.4
  - a) is guilty of a misdemeanor.
4. Any person who has a loaded firearm in a fight or quarrel on the grounds of a day care center. PC 417(b)
  - a) is guilty of a misdemeanor.
5. Any person who in the presence of a peace officer draws or exhibits any firearm in a rude or threatening manner of any kind. PC 417(c)
  - a) is guilty of a felony.

II. HOURLY DISTRIBUTION

<u>Description</u>	<u>Hours</u>
POST Minimum Required Hours	<u>0</u>
Agency Specific Hours	<u>8</u>
Total Instructional Hours	<u>8</u>