

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE  
REGULAR BASIC COURSE  
LEARNING DOMAIN 21  
PATROL TECHNIQUES

**Effective date of outline: August 1, 2015**

**I. LEARNING NEED**

To safely and effectively fulfill their duties of public protection and service, peace officers must be able to develop appropriate law enforcement patrol strategies under a wide variety of circumstances and conditions.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- A. Discuss patrol strategies officers may employ to provide protection and service within their assigned areas of patrol, to include:
  - 1. Preventative
  - 2. Directed enforcement
  
- B. Discuss considerations for selecting a patrol strategy
  - 1. Desire for public visibility
  - 2. Type of criminal activity in designated area
  - 3. Existence of problem areas
  - 4. Area demographics
  - 5. Community activities
  - 6. Availability of community resources
  - 7. Geography/topography
  - 8. Adequacy of access and egress to various locations
  - 9. Department/agency policies and resources
  
- C. Select appropriate actions for peace officers who are conducting security checks
  - 1. Cover assigned area
  - 2. Extra attention to high crime area
  - 3. Employ investigative tactics
  - 4. Implement additional patrol methods
  
- D. Distinguish between the roles and responsibilities of contact and cover officers
  - 1. Contact Officer: Initiating action responsible for conducting contact
  - 2. Cover Officer: Responsible for surveillance and control of suspect.
  
- E. Select appropriate actions officers should take to maintain their own safety and the safety of others while on patrol
  - 1. Approach with officer safety in mind
  - 2. Mentally prepared
  - 3. Aware of suspects hands
  - 4. Be aware of cover
  - 5. Ask for backup when necessary.
  - 6. Use communications systems

7. Be aware of distance and positioning
8. Utilize safety equipment

## II. LEARNING NEED

To maintain flexibility and effectiveness, peace officers need to know the basic tactics and procedures of patrol.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Describe patrol officer responsibilities when preparing for each patrol assignment, to include:
  1. Checking all personal equipment
  2. Acquiring any necessary information and materials/supplies
  3. Inspecting each piece of equipment issued at beginning of shift
  4. Mental preparation
- B. Discuss tactical considerations and guidelines for patrolling effectively:
  1. Determining appropriate speed
  2. Patrol vehicle placement
  3. Avoiding silhouetting and telltale noise
- C. Demonstrate proper procedures for transmitting and receiving a radio communication
  1. Monitor frequency
  2. Initiate call
  3. Speak clearly
  4. Limit length of transmission
  5. Acknowledge transmission
- D. Discuss information an officer should include when generating a crime broadcast
  1. Incident specifics
  2. Victim related
  3. Suspect related
  4. Vehicle
  5. Weapon
- E. Demonstrate safe and effective tactics for approaching and detaining a pedestrian subject
  1. Select location
  2. Notify dispatch
  3. Position patrol vehicle
  4. Approach suspect
  5. Establish contact
- F. Select appropriate actions when encountering a plainclothes/undercover officer while on patrol
  1. Do not show recognition towards plain clothes officer.
- G. Discuss safe and effective tactics for initiating a foot pursuit of a fleeing subject
  1. Public safety

2. Physical condition of officers
3. Available equipment and retention of weapons and equipment
4. Ability to follow through at end of pursuit

### III. REQUIRED TESTS

- A. A scenario test that requires the student to demonstrate, by application, proficiency of a pedestrian approach. At a minimum, the test shall evaluate the following competencies:
1. Use of force - The ability to distinguish and apply reasonable force options in given circumstances.
  2. Problem solving/Decision-Making - Analyzing situations and implementing plans to solve problems in a timely manner. Using verbal or physical skills to determine the appropriate resolution to a situation.
  3. Legal authority/Individual Rights - The identification of laws and constitutional rights governing consensual encounters, detentions, and arrests.
  4. Officer safety - The demonstration of situational and tactical awareness and appropriate response.
  5. Communication - The use of effective verbal and non-verbal skills to convey intended meaning and establish understanding.
  6. Stress Tolerance and Emotional Regulation - Maintaining self-control and making timely, rational decisions in stressful situations.

Presenters must use the POST-developed Scenario Test and the POST Scenario Competency Evaluation and Grading Test Forms or presenter-developed forms approved by POST, which minimally include the performance dimensions used for this scenario test.

### IV. REQUIRED LEARNING ACTIVITY

- A. The student will participate in a learning activity that reinforces the student's ability to observe an event and after a short delay, describe, either verbally or in writing, the nature of the event and any pertinent observations made, including:
1. The nature of the event (what appears to have occurred)
  2. Physical descriptions of persons involved, if applicable
  3. Statements made by the involved parties, if any
  4. Any differences in perception among the students who observed the incident
- B. The student will participate in a learning activity that reinforces the student's ability to initiate a radio broadcast using proper procedures and techniques of radio communications which minimally include:
1. Unit identification
  2. Type of incident and location
  3. Number of suspects with complete known description
  4. Description of loss, if any
  5. Weapon(s) used, if any
  6. Time, direction of flight, and vehicle description

<u>Description</u>	<u>Hours</u>
POST Minimum Required Hours	<u>12</u>
Agency Specific Hours	<u>2</u>
Total Instructional Hours	<u>14</u>