



*Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
**Municipal Police Training Committee - Firearms Training**  
Sgt. William Leanos, Firearms Training Coordinator



**LESSON PLAN**

Course Title: Basic Firearms Instructor Certification

Lesson Title: Patrol Rifle Instructor

Author: Todd A. Bailey      Date Written: Oct 1, 2003      Date Revised: November 15, 2009

Time Allocation: 16 hours (4 classroom, 12 range)

Lesson Plan #: MPTC PATROL RIFLE 1

Target Population: Law enforcement officers seeking instructor certification

Class Size: 24 or less

Goal:

To give the prospective instructor the knowledge necessary to prepare an instructional program and to instruct patrol officers in the safe, accurate and efficient use of the patrol rifle or carbine.

Student Performance Objectives (SPO):

At the completion of this block of instruction the student will be able to:

1. Define the term "patrol rifle"
2. Define the Mission of the Patrol Rifle
3. State the advantages of the patrol rifle compared to the service pistol and shotgun
4. Identify the basic nomenclature of a patrol rifle
5. Demonstrate the ability to load, unload and safety fire the patrol rifle at selected targets
6. Demonstrate the Primary Firing Positions
7. State the Secondary Firing Positions
8. Demonstrate the ability to identify and clear stoppages
9. Describe the relationship the rifling rate of twist has with bullet weight
10. Define "mechanical zero"
11. Demonstrate an ability to zero in a rifle to a specified distance
12. Demonstrate the ability to properly use both sides of cover with the rifle
13. Demonstrate the advantages and use of a rifle sling.
14. Attain minimum of 90% proficiency on live fire courses with 100% round accountability
15. Attain minimum score of 80% on written examination

References:

1. MLEFIAA Patrol Rifle Instructor Course by MAJ A. J. Belleville, Essex Co. S.O.
2. .223 Ammunition Data Analysis, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Dec 2004
3. Weapons Selection Test, Federal Bureau of Investigation
4. Structural Penetration Testing, San Diego Co. Sheriff's Office

5. .223 Rem vs. 5.56mm, Paul Nowak, Winchester Ammunition Co., May 2001
6. M4-A2, U.S. Army Field Manual, 2002
7. Zero the M16-A1/M16-A2 Rifle, AM STP 21-1-SMCT
8. Police Rifle & Tactical Carbine, Center Mass Training Institute, 2003
9. The Patrol Rifle, Gilbert DuVernay, 1998 ASLET Conference Presentation
10. Patrol Rifle Instructor Trainer, SGT Pat Poirier, NHSP (ret.), 2007
11. Urban Rifle, Thunder Ranch / Clint Smith, 2006

Training aids:

- MPTC Firearms Instructor Manual
- MLEFIAA Firearms Instructor Course Manual
- Red Gun (AR15, M4 or MP5)
- MPTC Patrol Rifle Instructor Power Point Presentation (2009 edition)

Preparation:

Review lesson plan and assure presence of teaching aids.

Prerequisites:

Instructional skills course

Training Environment:

Classroom setting with adequate desk space for students, room for chalkboards and projection equipment and control of light level, electrical power.

Suitable rifle range with firing points for 50% of the class which is at least 50 yards (100 yds. preferred) with adequate backstop to handle available rifle ammunition.

Safety Considerations:

- Clean floor
- No protruding objects to fall upon

Instructor Qualifications:

Instructor must be a certified MPTC Firearms Instructor Trainer or better.

## INSTRUCTOR OUTLINE

### I. Introduction

#### A. Welcome

1. Introduction of Instructors and staff
2. Student introduction
3. Collect forms, paperwork, etc required for attendance
4. State program goal

#### B. Student Performance Objectives

1. Define the term “patrol rifle”
2. Define the Mission of the Patrol Rifle
3. State the advantages of the patrol rifle compared to the service pistol and shotgun
4. Identify the basic nomenclature of a patrol rifle
5. Demonstrate the ability to load, unload and safety fire the patrol rifle at selected targets
6. Demonstrate the Primary Firing Positions
7. State the Secondary Firing Positions
8. Demonstrate the ability to identify and clear stoppages
9. Describe the relationship the rifling rate of twist has with bullet weight
10. Define “mechanical zero”
11. Demonstrate an ability to zero in a rifle to a specified distance
12. Demonstrate the ability to properly use both sides of cover with the rifle
13. Demonstrate the advantages and use of a rifle sling.
14. Attain minimum of 90% proficiency on live fire courses with 100% round accountability
15. Attain minimum score of 80% on written examination

### II. Patrol Rifle – Definition

#### A. A rifle or carbine (preferably a semi-automatic) with the following features

1. Barrel length of 20 inches or less
  - a. To fit in a cruiser
2. Accurate and effective out to 100 meters
  - a. Better than Shotgun w/slugs or pistol
  - b. Rural departments may choose to increase this distance
3. Inherent accuracy of 4 to 6 MOA or better
  - a. MOA = Minute of Angle which is about 1” @ 100 yards
4. Fires an Intermediate Rifle Cartridge
  - a. Will discuss rifle and pistol cartridges
  - b. Minimizes over penetration
5. Significant ammo capacity (15+ rounds)
6. Proven record of reliability
  - a. Reliability is extremely important

### III. Mission

#### A. Force Multiplier

1. One officer with a patrol rifle can effectively contain 2 or more persons with handguns
  - a. Due to greater effective range and accuracy
  - b. Cite Texas Tower sniper who pinned down officers for several hours
  - c. Cite N. Hollywood Shoot Out where 2 gunman out shot 200 officers for 2 hours

B. Deliver controlled accurate fire out to 100 meters w/ guaranteed torso hits

1. Versus 20 to 30 meters with a handgun and shotgun

C. Defeat Soft Body Armor

1. Response to increasing trend of criminals to possess soft body armor
  - a. Bank of America robbers in N. Hollywood
    - i. Completely layered in soft armor
  - b. 15 vests taken from bad guys in Fall River in 2004

D. Deliver incapacitating hits

1. Versus handgun ammunition
  - a. While there is no “magic bullet”, a hit from a rifle is usually more debilitating than one from a handgun

E. Stand off weapon

1. Allows the officer to create more distance (thus higher degree of safety) to threat
  - a. We preach creating and keeping distance – the patrol rifle does this

IV. Advantages of the Patrol Rifle

A. More accurate

1. At ranges of 15 yards or greater compared to handgun
2. At ranges of 18 yards or greater compared to shotgun with buckshot
3. At ranges of 25 yards or greater compared to shotgun with bead sight and slugs
4. At ranges of 50 yards or greater compared to shotgun with rifle sights and slugs

B. Greater effective range than handgun or shotgun

C. Less recoil than the shotgun

1. Very important when considering officers of smaller stature

D. Greater magazine capacity

1. Shotgun maximum of 8 rounds
  - a. Has faster reload time than shotgun
2. Handgun maximum of 18 rounds (but limited effective range)
3. Rifle can have maximum capacity of 30, 50 or 100 rounds depending on type of magazine

E. Less chance of over penetration

1. With proper ammunition selection
  - a. .223/5.56 will not penetrate a house with 62gr JHP

F. Defeats soft body armor

G. Less liability

1. As a result of better accuracy, greater effective range and less recoil
2. Chiefs are generally very liability conscious so they should jump on this

V. Disadvantages (if they can be called that)

- A. Perceived “military” appearance
  - 1. May be an issue with communities where political correctness is more important than officer safety
  - 2. Appearance should not be a consideration when officer safety is at stake
- B. Defeats the soft body armor we wear
  - 1. Will defeat any concealed soft armor currently produced
- C. Concussion when fired inside a confined space
  - 1. Cite FBI shootout with Platt & Maddox in Miami
    - a. Agents reported the muzzle blast from the Mini 14 was “devastating”
  - 2. Noise hazard when discharged in confined space
    - a. Argument for purchasing suppressors
- D. Longer effective range
  - 1. Requires officers to pay more attention to their backstop and what is behind the target
- E. Additional acquisition expense
  - 1. May be mitigated by getting surplus weapons or purchasing them 1 at a time
- F. Additional cost of ammo and man hours for training/qualification

## VI. Nomenclature

- A. Semi Auto versus Burst versus Full Auto
  - 1. Semi Automatic – one round is fired and the action cycles to reload one round for each pull of the trigger. (standard commercial rifles) **RECOMMENDED FOR PATROL**
  - 2. Burst – Each press of the trigger will fire and cycle a specific number of rounds (usually 3).
    - a. BATFE and state considers this “full auto” for paperwork (M16-A2)
  - 3. Full Automatic – The weapon continues to fire and cycle as long as the trigger remains depressed. (M16-A1)
  - 4. Full Auto / Burst not recommended for typical patrol function
- B. Review basic parts of patrol rifle
- C. Rate of Twist (Rifling)
  - 1. Refers the pitch of the rifling (the lands and grooves which impart spin to the bullet) and the distance the bullet must travel down the barrel to complete one complete revolution).
    - a. Expressed as a ratio
      - i. 1:7 1 turn in 7 inches of barrel length
      - ii. 1:9 1 turn in 9 inches of barrel length
  - 2. Extremely important when determining the weight of bullet for your ammunition.
    - a. In the .223/5.56 category
      - i. Heavier bullets (62+gr.) require a faster pitch (1:7 to 1:9)
      - ii. Lighter bullets (less than 55gr.) work best with 1:12
    - b. Mismatching can lead to decreased performance
- G. Operation of Gas Operated Semi Auto weapons

1. Gas from the combustion of the powder is scavenged out of the barrel via a port in the barrel where it is routed (directly or indirectly) to the bolt assembly where it causes the bolt to cycle thus initiating the extraction, ejection and feeding of the ammunition.
  - a. Ex: AR15 family of rifles, Ruger Mini 14, M-14 (M-1A)
2. Proper maintenance is essential
  - a. Keep clean
  - b. Keep lubricated

## VII. Caliber Selection

### A. More important than weapon selection

1. The weapon merely is the launching platform for the bullet
2. The bullet (ammunition) is the tool that neutralizes the threat
3. Thus, the bullet (type of ammo) should receive our primary attention during selection
4. Very few agencies think like this

### B. Caliber

1. Pistol calibers – Not recommended
  - a. All will yield inferior performance
2. Intermediate Rifle caliber (NOTE – we are talking about rifles here, not ammo)
  - a. .223 Remington, 5.56mm NATO
    - i. .223 and 5.56 are DIFFERENT (difference in chamber dimensions)
      - .223 barrel has smaller chamber and throat dimensions than 5.56
      - 5.56 ammo can stick in .223 chamber
      - 5.56 is MILSPEC
      - .223 caliber rifles are commercial spec (unless otherwise stated)
      - 5.56 is preferred since both 223 and 5.56 ammo will work OK
    - b. Optimum compromise between velocity, bullet weight and recoil
    - c. Highly recommended
    - d. 6.8 SPC did not pan out (lack of military backing)
3. Standard Rifle caliber
  - a. 7.62 NATO (.308 Win), .30-06, .30 WCF (.30-30)
  - b. Heavier bullet (generally)
  - c. Longer effective range (asset for rural officers)
  - d. Generally a longer and heavier rifle

### C. Ammo Selection

1. Choose your ammo to suit your intended task
  - a. JHP or JSP for human threats
  - b. FMJ for practice and training
    - i. Same bullet weight as duty ammo for same ballistic performance

### D. Penetration characteristics

1. FBI protocol states 12 to 18 inches is desired
  - a. Less than 12 inches may not reach vital organs from the side
  - b. Over 18 inches may result in full transit of the threat
    - i. Possible hazard to bystanders
2. FBI protocol based on the likelihood of encountering threats in vehicles
3. Frangibility – design which encourages bullet to expand in controlled fashion

- a. Creates a larger wound channel
- b. Expends 100% of energy on target
- c. More shock and damage per round
- d. To a certain extent, a bullet that breaks up during transit does more damage
- 4. For soft targets, Jacketed Hollow Point bullets w/ **9 to 12 inches of penetration is optimum**
  - a. Reduces likelihood of over penetration
  - b. Sufficient to incapacitate threat if using JHP bullets
  - c. Ideal for patrol use
- 5. If basing your choice on another agencies protocol, be sure their parameters agree with yours

#### E. Bullet weight vs. rate of twist

- 1. 1:12 use 55 grain or lighter bullets
  - a. Very early M16's (watch this if you acquire surplus rifles)
- 2. 1:9 use 55 to 70 grain bullets (RECOMMENDED)
  - a. Ruger Mini 14
  - b. Commercial AR-15 (Bushmaster, etc.)
- 3. 1:7 use a 55 grain or heavier bullet (RECOMMENDED)
  - a. 60 grain or heavier match bullets work best
  - b. M16-A2, M4's

### VIII. Sighting Systems

#### A. Open Iron Sights

- 1. Urban and Suburban settings rarely see shooting distances greater than 100 yards
  - a. Minute adjustment target sights are not necessary (or desired)
- 2. Ideal choice is the M16-A1 style sights which deters unauthorized tinkering
- 3. M16-A2 style has greater adjustment capability
- 4. All rifles, regardless of other sights, must have a set of iron sights

#### B. Optical (non-magnifying & telescopic)

- 1. Non-magnifying
  - a. EOTech, AimPoint, Red Dot type sights
  - b. Milspec
  - c. Fast to use
- 2. Magnifying (telescopic)
  - a. Limit to 4x or less (ACOG)
- 3. Optical sights are easier for bifocal and trifocal users to sight with.

#### C. Nuclear (chemical or nuclear isotope)

- 1. Don't require batteries
  - a. Trijicon, ACOG (may also use fiber optic)
  - b. Tri Power

#### D. Laser

- 1. Generally overrated except for close in work
  - a. Insight M6
  - b. Surefire

E. Regardless of what auxiliary system you mount, have a good set of iron sights to fall back on

## IX. Sighting In

- A. The process of bringing the point of aim into coincidence with the point of impact
  - 1. Windage – horizontal adjustment
  - 2. Elevation – vertical adjustment
  - 3. Trajectory – the curved path the bullet takes from the time it exits the muzzle to impact
  - 4. Sight Axis – the straight line created when the rear sight and front sight are aligned
  - 5. Bore Axis – the straight line running through the center of the bore down range
  
- B. Mechanical Zero – the setting on your adjustable sights which is used as base line for further adjustment
  - 1. Windage – sight is centered left to right
  - 2. Elevation – sight is bottomed out or set at “0”
    - a. AR style front sights set flush with front sight tower
  
- C. Movement
  - 1. Move the rear sight in the same direction you want the point of impact to go
  - 2. Move the front sight in the opposite direction you want the point of impact to go
    - a. On AR front sight, arrow indicates direction you want point of impact to move
  - 3. Note cumulative adjustments
  - 4. Rifle is now “Zeroed” or “Sighted In” for you
  
- D. When rifle is sighted in, make a record of the cumulative adjustments so you can rezero the rifle at a later date (mark on tape w/permanent marker and affix to stock)
  
- E. Because of trajectory, your rifle is sighted in at two distances (see diagram)
  - 1. These distances depend on the type of rifle (M16 is 25 meters and 300 meters)

## X. Slings

- A. Provides a means to retain the weapon when both hands are needed for another task and can be used as a marksmanship aid
  - 1. Should be a **REQUIRED** piece of equipment regardless of style selected
  
- B. Jiffy or Hasty Sling
  - 1. Simple strap attached at the front and rear of the rifle
    - a. Should be adjustable to eliminate excess slack when stowed
    - b. Simple design which requires little or no special training
    - c. Best design for general patrol duties
  
- C. Three Point Tactical Sling
  - 1. Designed to position the rifle to the side of the user when weapon is released
    - a. Excellent design for dedicated user but not as easy to use for typical officer
  
- D. Single Point Sling
  - 1. Sling loops around user and attaches to rifle via a clip at one location, usually near the balance point



## XI. Shooting Positions

### A. Primary Shooting Positions

1. Stable shooting positions providing support and mobility
  - a. Offhand (Standing)
  - b. Kneeling
    - i. Brace Kneel
    - ii. Speed Kneel
    - iii. California Kneel
  - c. Prone
    - i. Rollover Prone

### B. Secondary Shooting Positions

1. Stable but usually less mobility or combat application
  - a. Olympic Offhand
  - b. Sitting
    - i. Cross Leg
    - ii. Cross Ankle
    - iii. Open Leg

### C. In reality, we make do with what we have at hand

### D. Use of Cover

1. Use of cover with the long gun is rarely taught
  - a. Non-dominant side long gun shooting almost never taught
  - b. We do not get to choose which side of cover we get to use
  - c. We must be able to use either side – high or low and use it effectively
2. Stay back from cover
  - a. Reduce spall impact
3. It is crucial we can handle the rifle using either side and can teach same

### E. Illumination Tool

1. All Patrol Rifles should have a weapon mounted light
  - a. If it does not, can you shoot it while holding a hand held light?

## XII Malfunctions (Explain briefly in classroom and teach on range)

### A. Operating functions same as handgun

1. Feed, Fire, Extract and Eject

### B. Malfunction will be a failure of one of the functions

### C. Type I

1. Simple and easy to fix
  - a. Dud round
  - b. No round in chamber
    - i. Magazine not seated
    - ii. Forgot to cycle action
2. Tap – Rack – Reassess
  - a. Tap (and tug) the magazine to insure fully seated

- b. Rack the charging or bolt handle to cycle the action
      - i. Feed new round up into the action
- 3. Reassess to determine if Deadly Force still necessary

#### D. Type II

- 1. A little more complicated but still fixable by operator
  - a. Double Feed
- 2. Rip – Rack – Rack – Reload – Reassess (RRRRR or R<sup>5</sup>)
  - a. Lock the bolt to the rear
  - b. Rip the magazine out
  - c. Rack the action (several times to clear)
    - i. Shake side to side
  - d. Reload fresh magazine
  - e. Reassess the need for Deadly Force

#### E. Type III

- 1. Complex requiring the attention of a trained armorer
- 2. Broken part – Weapon out of commission
- 3. Immediately transition to alternate weapon

### XIII. Misconceptions

- A. There are a number of misconceptions and out right falsehoods that are generally circulated
  - 1. “5.56mm rounds will go through a house”
    - a. FBI, DEA and other tests prove this FALSE
    - b. 5.56mm penetrates less than typical pistol or 12 GA slugs
  - 2. Female officers have problems with rifles
    - a. Because of lighter recoil, female officers like and shoot the rifle better than the shotgun
  - 3. Patrol Officers can not be trusted with rifles
    - a. If an officer can be trusted with a handgun, they certainly can be trusted with a rifle
  - 4. The shotgun is far more intimidating
    - a. Reports from FBI agents involved in the Miami shoot out contradict this falsehood
    - b. They report the Mini 14’s use by Platt/Maddox was “devastating”
  - 5. Patrol Rifles are too complicated
    - a. Rifles are no more complicated than semi auto pistols (which we routinely carry)
    - b. Proper and effective training is the solution to implementing any new tool
  - 6. Patrol Rifles are too military looking
    - a. Glock is the official military service pistol of Norway and 17 other nations
    - b. Beretta is the official military service pistol of the USA and Italy
    - c. SIG-Sauer is the official military service pistol of several European nations
    - d. Colt and S&W .38 cal. revolvers were issued to U.S. forces for over 50 years
    - e. We need to select our duty weapons based on performance, reliability and projected length of service – not whether they appear military looking.

### XIV. Qualification & Training

- A. Minimum standard
  - 1. Utilizing all four shooting positions

2. Variable light conditions (day, dim and night)
3. Integrate with handgun and other force levels

B. Qualification interval

1. At least annually

C. Training

1. Following items need to be addressed regularly
  - a. Check and confirm sight zero for each weapon
  - b. Shooting from all four positions with and without sling
  - c. Reload drills
  - d. Transition drills
  - e. Malfunction/Stoppage drills
  - f. Day, dimlight and night shooting
  - g. Skill development programs including use of cover (both sides)
  - h. Relevant and realistic courses of fire
  - i. Scenario based training

D. Training Interval

1. At least annually, quarterly is better

E. Weapon Inspection and Maintenance program in place

F. Document all training and qualification

1. Document all use of the rifle in the line of duty and incorporate lessons learned into training
2. Document all instructor training
  - a. Ballistic data testing
  - b. Weapon testing
  - c. Research

Additional points for consideration:

1. If you won't use it – leave it off (accessories)
2. The DOD spent millions of your tax dollars testing weapons. Don't reinvent the wheel.
3. Stay away from accessories that look “cool” but serve no practical purpose;
4. Do not waste money on something you can't bet your life on;
5. Keep it simple. Murphy is alive and well – and he is looking for YOU!

## PATROL RIFLE RANGE DRILLS

*Drills*

*Notes*

### ***Dry Fire Drills from the Low Ready***

#### ***Off Hand:***

Check for proper platform, toes pointed toward the target area, shoulders square to the target

#### ***Kneeling:***

*Speed Kneeling* – Unsupported style kneeling one knee on the ground and body erect. Aka “High Kneel”

*Braced Kneeling* – Elbow is braced on knee  
Aka “Low Kneel”

*California Kneeling* – Down on both knees

#### ***Prone:***

Start from the low ready

### ***CHECK SIGHT ZERO***

**Zero all weapons at 25 yards Line with 5 shot group  
This should not take more than 15 rounds**

Hint:

If point of impact 1.5 inches low from point of aim at 25 yards,  
the rifle is zeroed for 100 yards

If the point of impact is the same as point of aim at 25 yards,  
the rifle is zeroed at 300 yards

*Live Fire Drills*

**12 Yard Line**

1. *Off Hand:* - (1Shot at a time)
  - a. Starting from the low ready
  - b. Check for proper platform
  - c. Make sure the trigger finger comes OFF the trigger when finished
  - d. SCAN for additional threats and BREATHE
  - e. The selector is placed on SAFE
  
2. *Kneeling:* - (1 shot at a time)
  - a. Speed kneeling
  - b. Braced kneeling
  - c. California kneeling
    1. Starting from the low ready
    2. Checking for proper platform
    3. Making sure the finger comes out of the trigger guard and the safety is on
    4. After the shot is made search for additional targets and breathe

*Live Fire Drills***25 Yard Line**

1. *Prone Shooting:* - (1 Shot at a time)
  - a. Starting from the low ready
  - b. On command, assume the prone position.  
Check for proper platform
  - c. Making sure that the opposite hand is used to guide the student to the ground and that no dirt is going into the barrel. Watch the muzzle!
  - d. Making sure the finger comes out of the trigger guard and safety is on after shot is fired
  
2. *Offhand Shooting:* - ( 2 Shots at a time)
  - a. Starting from the low ready
  - b. Checking for proper platform
  - c. Make sure the finger come out of the trigger guard and the safety is on after the shot
  - d. After the shot is made search for additional targets and breathe

*Live Fire Drills***25 Yard Line**

3. *Kneeling:* - (2 shots at a time)
  - a. *Speed Kneeling:*
  - b. *Braced Kneeling:*
  - c. *California Kneeling:*
    1. Starting from the low ready
    2. Check for proper platform
    3. Make sure the finger comes out of the trigger guard and the safety is on after the shot
    4. After the shot is made, make sure that the student is searching for additional targets and breathing

**7 Yard Line***Hammer Drills & Double Taps:*

1. Start at the 7 yard line students will fire a Hammer drill\* onto their target
2. Instructors will be watching to make sure the cadence of the hammer drill is correct and the students are searching for additional targets and breathing
3. The line will be moved back one large step at a time and the drill will be repeated
4. At about the 18 yard line the students will shift to the Double Tap\*\* technique
5. At this point the line will be moving backwards two steps at a time to 35 yard line

**Note:** You need to emphasize zero misses to your students and that a solid platform is critical

*\*Hammer Drill – two shots as fast as accurately possible driving the 2<sup>nd</sup> shot right in on top of the 1<sup>st</sup>.*

*\*\*Double Tap – two shots with a slight pause between shots to allow a sight picture to be obtained for 2<sup>nd</sup> shot*

*Live Fire Drills***25-Yard Line**

*Secondary shooting positions - (double taps)*

*Olympic Off Hand:*

*Squat Shooting:*

*Sitting:*

*Sitting- Cross Ankle*

*Sitting- Cross Leg*

*Sitting- Open Leg*

**15 Yard Line**

*Loading – Set magazines up with 2 & 3 rounds. Load the 2 round magazine and reload with the 3 rounder.*

1. *Speed loading:*

Fire 2 rounds, do a speed reload and then fire 3 more rounds into the target

- a. Speed Reload – Weapon empty, bolt locked open. Dump empty magazine, reload new.
- b. Speed reloading should be performed from the kneeling position unless you are on the move or behind cover
- c. Make sure that the student is pushing and pulling on the magazine to ensure the magazine is locked into the weapon TAP & TUG



*Live Fire Drills**Loading (continues)*2. *Tactical reloading:*

Fire 2 rounds do a tactical reload  
and fire 2 more rounds into the target

- a. Tactical Reload – exchanging a full magazine for a partially expended magazine.
- b. Tactical reloading should be performed from kneeling position unless you are behind cover or on the move.
- c. Tactical reloading should only be performed when there is a lull in the shooting
- d. Make sure that the student is pushing and on the magazine to ensure that the magazine is locked into the weapon.

**15- Yard Line***STOPPAGES*

***If your rifle stops working – transition to your handgun and finish the fight! Clear the rifle only when it is safe to do so***

*Phase 1 Stoppage (Failure to Feed or Fire)*

- a. Student will make their weapon ready.  
Release the magazine but keep it in the magazine well with the opposite hand
- b. Attempt to fire a hammer drill
- c. When rifle fails to fire, student will “push pull” (Tap/Tug) the magazine to make sure the magazine correctly seated then work the charging handle to chamber a round
- d. The student will then fire the hammer drill.  
Scan & breathe
- e. Repeat until proficient

*Drills*

*Notes*

*Live Fire Drills*

*Stoppages (continues)*

*Phase 2 Stoppages (Double Feed)*

- a. Student will set up the “double feed”.
  - Lock the bolt open.
  - Insert a loaded magazine
  - With the bolt still locked open, drop a clean piece of fired brass into the ejection port on top of the rounds in the magazine.
  - Release the bolt to set up the double feed
- b. On command, the student will come to the Ready position and try to fire the weapon. (Nothing will happen – not even the ‘click’ of a Phase 1 stoppage) The trigger should be pulled at least twice to make sure that the stoppage is not an operator issue
- c. The student verifies (identifies) the type of stoppage by looking at the ejection port
- d. To clear the stoppage -
  1. Lock the bolt to the rear
  2. Remove the magazine
  3. Do a 4 o’clock to 8 o’clock vigorous shake or insert finger into the ejection port to break loose the stuck cartridges. If a cartridge is stuck in the chamber, work the charging handle 2-3 times or until the chamber is cleared.
- e. ~~If the student is unable to clear the weapon the will “transition to their secondary weapon” and fire a hammer drill. 9/5/11~~

*Live Fire Drills**Transition Drills*

1. Student will stagger 10 pieces of empty brass or dummy rounds into two fully loaded magazines. Students will be at 15 yard line starting in the low ready position.
2. On command, student will attempt to fire a hammer drill into their target. If the weapon fails to fire, student will trap the rifle to their thigh with the support hand, or if using a team sling, let the rifle hang free.
3. Student will transition to their service pistol and fire two rounds into the target.
4. After the student has successfully engaged the target with the handgun, they will holster the handgun and go to kneeling position or seek cover. Clear the stoppage.

***Instructors should make sure that their students are immediately transitioning to their secondary weapon system and not trying to clear their primary weapon system when they should be firing at their threat.***

**10 Yard Line**

Failure drill 3 shots: 2 rounds (hammers) to the body of the target, 1 round (smooth sight transition) to the head of the target

Alternate target failure drill 4 shots: 2 rounds (hammers) to the left pelvic area and then 2 rounds (hammers) to the right pelvic area

1. *Off Hand*
2. *Kneeling*
  - a. *Speed kneeling*
  - b. *Braced kneeling*
  - c. *California kneeling*

*Live Fire Drills*

**25 Yard Line**

*Off Hand shooting – Failure Drill*

1. Instructors watch to make sure that the student's shooting platform is correct and that there are no safety violations.
2. Students begin from the low ready position and upon completing the failure drill they will scan for additional threats and breathe. Trigger fingers come OFF the trigger and safety is ON.
3. Repeat 3 times

**25 Yard Line**

*Prone Shooting – Failure Drill*

1. Student starts in the low ready position. On the command of "UP", shooter moves into the prone position using the support hand to guide them to the ground and keep the muzzle clear of the dirt.
2. Instructors will make sure that their students are in a well supported prone shooting platform.
3. After the failure drill has been fired, the student will scan for additional threats and breathe. Fingers OFF the trigger and safety is ON.
4. This drill should be repeated 3 times to make sure that it is being performed properly

*Live Fire Drills*

*Failure Drill (continues)*

**25 Yard Line**

*Kneeling*

1. *Speed Kneeling – Failure Drill*
2. *Braced Kneeling – Failure Drill*
3. *California Kneeling – Failure Drill*
  - a. Instructors are watching to make sure that the shooting platform is correct
  - b. Instructors are watching their student and making sure that there are no safety violations
  - c. Students will start in the low ready position and on the command move to the required position and fire their failure drill into the target. After they have completed their failure drill they will search and breathe looking for additional targets. Safety should be on when the student recovers to the ready positions
  - d. Drill should be repeated three times to make sure it is being performed properly.

**25 Yard Line**

*Squat – Failure Drill*

- a. Instructors are watching to make sure that the student's feet are flat and they are using the inside of their thighs to support their elbows.
- b. Start from the low ready position. On command move into the squat position and fire a failure drill. Scan & Breathe. Finger off trigger, safety on.

*Live Fire Drills*

*(Failure drills continue)*

- c. This drill should be repeated three times to make sure that it is being performed properly

**25 Yard Line**

*Sitting Positions*

1. *Cross Leg – Failure Drill*
2. *Cross Ankle – Failure Drill*
3. *Open Leg – Failure Drill*

*Sitting Failure Drill*

- a. Student assumes the crossed leg sitting position. Transition to crossed ankle and open leg from this position as required. Do not get up and down. This reduces the chances of the student inadvertently pointing their rifle at another student.
- b. Instructors watch the students to insure their shooting platform is correct and that the inside of the knee is being used for support. (No bone on bone contact)
- c. Repeated three times

*Live Fire Drills*

*(Failure drills continue)*

12 Yard Line

*Failure Drill Multiple Targets*

1. Student fires a failure drill into the target directly in front of them. Immediately shift to the target to the left or right (as instructed) and fire another failure drill into that target.
2. Instructors will check student's shooting platform and stance is correct. Insure they are smoothly transitioning to the next target and that there are no misses.

Alternate Target Areas

Substitute pelvic girdle area into drill

**25 Yard Line**

*Roll Over Prone*

1. Working with the step wall
  - a. Students will be working in their assigned teams. Each team will be approximately 15 feet from the step wall and all students will be in the squat position waiting their turn.
  - b. Students will "duck walk" to the step wall using the wall as cover. Fire two rounds from each individual step. When student gets to the bottom cut out on the step wall, roll onto their strong shoulder and turn their rifle sideways (rollover prone position). **Use the sights! Get hits on the target!**
  - c. Students will maintain muzzle control at all times while moving to and from the step wall.
  - d. The student that just shot will coach the student that is working the wall or duck walking back to the starting point.

*Live Fire Drills**Shooting On the Move (Assault Fire Drills)*

1. Students will be at the 15 yard line in the low ready position.
2. This drill is run at three movement speeds:  
Covert speed (slow and careful),  
Warrant service speed (medium / smooth), and  
Hostage Rescue (no delay) speed.  
All movement is done using “heel / toe” walking method keeping knees slightly bent. “Groucho Walk”  
(no stomping and dragging)
3. On command, students advance on their target. When the threat command is given, student will bring their rifle up to the ready position and issue verbal commands. On the “UP” command the student fire a failure drill. **ALL SHOOTING WILL BE DONE ON THE MOVE.**
4. Stop at the 4 yard line. Scan & breathe. Fingers off the trigger – safeties ON.
5. If a student experiences a stoppage with their rifle - immediately transition to the handgun, fire the appropriate number of rounds and continue moving forward to the four yard line. Clear the stoppage at the 4 yard line.

*Back Out Drills*

1. Students will be at the 4 yard line from the last drill in the low ready position.
2. Back Out Drills are only performed at covert speed due to the fact the body does not like to go where the mind cannot see the area that the body is moving to.
3. On the command to “back out”, the student will walk “heel toe” while backing out maintaining some bend in the knees.



*Live Fire Drills*

4. While the student is backing out, give the “threat” command which prompts the student to bring the muzzle up on target and issue verbal commands. On the “UP” command, the student will fire a failure drill into their target. All firing will be while the student is in motion.
5. Continue to back out to the 15 yard line scanning for more threats and breathing. Fingers should be off the triggers. At the 15 yard line, safeties ON.
6. If a student has a stoppage with their rifle, transition to the handgun and finish the fight while continuing to back out to the 15 yard line. At the 15, holster the handgun and clear the stoppage.

*Oblique Shooting on the Move*

1. The line will be set up so that there is an empty lane on the left and right of each student. Oblique shooting on the move is when the student is moving forward and their target that they will be engaging will be on their left or right.
2. The student will continue to move straight forward and they will rotate their upper body to the target, while continuing to move straight forward. The student will engage their target with a failure drill
3. ***Set up the range:***  
All students will start from the 15 yard line while standing directly in front of their target. The range instructor will give the students the command that they are engaging on the left or on the right. This command will be given before the students go in motion
4. The instructor will emphasize to the student that while advancing to walk –heel-to –toe, one foot in front of the other and to keep their movement on their sights

---

*Live Fire Drills*

*Oblique Shooting on the Move (continued)*

5. While backing out the instructor will emphasize to the students to walk heel-to toe with a exaggerated step backwards, keeping the bend in their knees to absorb the bounce of their movement of their sights.
6. The movement Commands will be:
  - a. The line is ready
  - b. The instructor will give the command for left or right oblique shooting
  - c. Stand by
  - d. Advance or Back out
  - e. "Threat" The student will come out of the low ready position to the ready position
  - f. "UP" – students will fire a failure drill on their target

**Note:**

Instructor will be watching to make sure that the student is doing a torso turn and not changing the direction of their movement to the target.

Behind each student there will be a coach/ instructor to keep the line even and to make sure that the student is doing the torso turn while moving and not walking directly at their target.

This drill is used with a failure drill, you are looking to develop a good solid shooting on the moving platform. Real world would be multiple hammer drills

Live Fire Drills

Moving Target

**15 Yard Line**

1. *Stationary Hold*

Weapon is held stationary and the target moves into the sights of the weapon.

2. *Follow Through*

Weapon moves faster than the target usually moving from behind the target to the front of the target and firing when the sights are on the target.

3. *Consistent Lead*

Weapon moves at the same speed as the target and the sights of the weapon are on the target all the time.

**Note on Consistent Lead Method** – *Instruct the student NOT to lead the target. If you lead the target, your rounds will arrive before the target actually gets there. Remember, the bullet is traveling at between 2700 and 3000 feet per second. The target is very close and only moving at 10 to 15 MPH at the most. Aim for what you want to hit.*

*Live Fire Drills**Static Turns - 90 & 180 degrees***12 Yard Line**

The instructor will always stress safety. The student will never break the laser rule with the weapon.

Instructor will stress stance

Student will always move into known territory. This will require the student to look over their shoulder of the direction that they are moving into.

Student will always pivot on the heel or ball of their foot in the direction that they want to turn.

After the student finishes firing, they will always scan for and additional targets and breathe.

*Moving Turns*

Students will perform moving turns from the three speeds; (covert speed, warrant speed, & hostage rescue speed)

Targets will be staggered across the firing line. Students will be moving across the range at the three movement speeds in a rectangular pattern.

Students will start at the 7 yard line and move to the 12 yard line in a rectangular pattern.

On the command the student will pivot doing a 90 degree turn and only engage a target that is directly in front of him/her with a failure drill (two shots to the body one shot to the head of the target with zero misses)

Students will perform the drill moving from left to right of the range and then from right to left. This will ensure that each student has mastered pivoting to left and right side.

Students will not break the laser rule with their weapon.

*Live Fire Drills*

**50 Yard Line**

1. *Off Hand Shooting – Failure Drill*
2. *Kneeling:*
  - a. *Speed Kneeling – Failure Drill*
  - b. *Brace Kneeling – Failure Drill*
  - c. *California Kneeling – Failure Drill*
3. *Prone Shooting – Failure drill*

**Note:**

Failure drills should be fired three times from each position. You are trying to get the student confident in themselves at distance and they will realize which platform is their strongest.

**100 Yard Line (if possible)**

*Off Hand Shooting*

*Speed Kneeling*

*Braced Kneeling*

*California Kneeling*

*Prone Shooting*

Students will fire 10 rounds at each of these firing positions to get the feel of their weapon system at this distance/

*Weapon Retention Drills*

All weapons must be cleared for this drill - including handguns

All weapons shall be checked by the three different instructors to make sure that all weapons are clear,

Weapons retention drill shall be performed at 1/3 speed so that no one gets hurt

Students will practice the figure 8 and the “J” break techniques

Students should practice these techniques for about 10-15 min each.

*Patrol Rifle Qualification Course*  
*50 Rounds*

*The starting position will be from the “Low Ready Position”*

On the Command (“Deadly Threat”)

If student experiences a malfunction, immediately transition to pistol.

**50 Yards – Load** **Total Rounds**

---

**50 Yards**

Command “UP”  
6 Rounds Semi-Auto 6 Rounds  
Center Mass  
Shooters Choice  
No Time Limit

**25 Yards**

Command “UP”  
2 Rounds on Semi-Auto 6 Rounds  
Center Mass Shots  
3 Seconds Standing  
Repeat Twice

**15 Yards**

Command “UP”  
1 Round Head Shot 2 Rounds  
2 Seconds Standing  
Repeat Once

**10 Yards**

Command “UP”  
2 Rounds on Semi-Auto 4 Rounds  
Reload Fire  
2 Rounds on Semi-Auto  
12 Seconds

**7 Yards**

Command “UP”  
Semi-Auto, 2 Rounds  
Center Mass  
1.5 Seconds  
Repeat 3 Times 8 Rounds

*(continued on next page)*

*Patrol Rifle Qualification Course*

**5 Yards**

Command "UP"  
Semi-Auto Failure Drill  
One Pair (2 Rounds) Center Mass  
1 Round to Head  
2.5 Seconds  
Repeat Twice 9 Rounds

**15 Yards**

**On the move  
to 3 Yards**

Command "UP"  
Semi- Auto Shooting "On the Move"  
Failure Drill,  
2 Rounds Center Mass  
1 Round to Head  
Repeat 4 Times 15 Rounds

**3Yards**

Unload, Safety Selector "ON" Clear & Safe Weapon  
Magazine Out  
Bolt Locked to the Rear  
Look and Feel,  
Look and Feel the Chamber

Qualification Score is 90% 45 Hits

Pass / Fail