

MPTC FIREARMS TRAINING PROGRAM

Title: **25 Round Shotgun Qualification Course**

Course Type: Qualification

Date Written: March 2, 2009

Revised: March 31, 2011

Rounds: 28 (only 25 will be fired)

Distance: 25, 15, 10, 7 and 5 Yards

Passing Score: 94% for firearms instructors, 80% for all others

Scoring: Slug – 4 points for each valid hit

00 Buck (8 or 9 pellet)* – ½ point per valid hit

*If the agency only authorizes buckshot, the 18 rounds fired at the 10, 7 and 5 yard line stages will be buckshot. **Slugs will always be fired from the 25 and 15 yard lines.**

Fundamentals: This course of fire incorporates the fundamentals of shotgun operation and marksmanship including loading, putting the shotgun into operation, firing from different positions, tactical reloading (topping off/put back what you shoot), downloading and unloading. Additionally, officers will use good tactical fundamentals such as verbal commands, scanning, use of cover and movement.

Objectives: This course of fire was designed to better evaluate an officer's ability to –

- Load the shotgun in a safe manner;
- Access the weapon from the vehicle storage rack (if applicable);
- Place the shotgun into operation;
- Effectively put rounds on target;
- Fire the shotgun from realistic shooting positions including on the move;
- Keep the shotgun in a “ready to fight” condition by continuously topping off the magazine;
- Engage threats from various angles while pivoting and on the move;
- Scan effectively for additional threats;
- Download and unload the shotgun in a safe manner.

Notes: For ease in scoring, it is recommended the course be fired with slug ammunition. In this course of fire, the term “up” is used as the cue to fire. It should be noted that any cue such as “six” or “deadly threat” can be used as well. The command to fire should be decided by the instructor based on their agency's policy.

STAGE ONE – KNEELING FROM COVER 25 Yards 3 Rounds (slug only)

Preparation: Begin with the shotgun in the condition it is normally transported in on the 30 yard line. This can be either unloaded or “transport condition” as the department's policy dictates. If spare ammo is not positioned on the weapon, it will be positioned on the body where it can be easily accessed. Instructors are encouraged to have their officers demonstrate their ability to remove the weapon from the storage location in the vehicle if applicable. On the command “gun” or “threat”, the shooters will access their weapon, chamber a round and advance to the 25 yard line where they will cover the threat from the kneeling position using good cover and verbal commands.

On the command “UP”, the shooters will engage the target with 3 rounds, scan while covering the target then top off their magazines. On the command to “advance”, shooters will move to the 15 yard line covering their target. **Finger off the trigger – Safety ON**

STAGE TWO – OFF HAND**15 Yards 4 Rounds (slug only)**

At the 15 yard line, shooters will engage their targets with 4 rounds from the standing position on the command “UP”. Shooters will scan for additional threats, cover the target, top off magazine and move to the 10 yard line when the command “advance” is given. **Finger off the trigger – Safety ON.**

STAGE THREE – PIVOT & SHOOT**10 Yards 6 Rounds**

At the 10 yard line, shooters will demonstrate their ability to engage a target to the side or rear. Instructor will demonstrate the SAFETY CIRCLE and how to keep the muzzle depressed inside it when pivoting. Have shooters face in the desired direction with muzzles fully depressed. On the command “UP”, shooters will (in order of sequence) –

LOOK to identify the threat,

PIVOT to face the threat,

Bring the **MUZZLE UP** to the threat and

ENGAGE with ONE round.

Cover – Scan – Top Off

Pivot to the LEFT – fire one round. Repeat 1X (2 rounds).

Pivot to the RIGHT – fire one round. Repeat 1X (2 rounds).

Pivot 180 degrees – fire one round. Repeat 1X (2 rounds).

Instructors should have shooters look and pivot BEFORE bringing the muzzle up on target. If you are running a crowded line or working with novice shooters, you can reduce the angle to 45 degrees so all muzzles remain in a safe direction.

STAGE FOUR – SHOOTING ON THE MOVE**10 to 7 Yds. 4 Rounds**

Shooters should still be scanning from “low ready” on the 10 yard line. On the command “Advance and Engage” or “UP”, shooters will advance to the 7 yard line while firing two rounds. Once at the 7 yard line, shooters halt, scan and top off magazines. Repeat again for a total of 4 rounds. Instructors should encourage shooters NOT to stop when they shoot - keep the line moving.

Safety ON – Scan – Top off magazine if necessary

STAGE FIVE – CONTROLLED PAIRS w/ Movement**7 Yards 6 Rounds**

Shooters face threat with shotgun at the low ready position. On the command “UP”, shooters will engage with two rounds then move one step laterally (left or right) as directed. Scan – cover threat. Repeat twice more for total of six rounds.

Top Off if necessary

Safety ON – Low Ready

On the command “*Advance to the Five*”, shooters move forward to the 5 yard line.

STAGE SIX – HAMMER DRILL**5 Yards 2 Rounds**

Position shooters facing the threat with weapon at “low ready”. On the command “UP”, shooters will fire two rounds in rapid succession to center mass.

DEMONSTRATE ABILITY TO UNLOAD & DOWNLOAD THE SHOTGUN

The shotgun will have 3 rounds remaining (including one in the chamber). Shooter(s) will demonstrate ability to download to Transport Mode and then unload their shotgun. If necessary, this evaluation may be conducted off the range with dummy rounds. In that case, only 25 rounds are required for the qualification course.

This skill set is part of the shotgun qualification and must be demonstrated.