

# SANTA ANA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Red Dot Sight (RDS) Pistol Transition Course

CCN# 2490-32067

10 hours

Revised 12/11/20

### PURPOSE

To provide students with the information and hands-on experience needed to effectively use a pistol equipped with a red dot sight.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

Under the supervision of a qualified instructor and using an approved law enforcement rifle, each student will:

- I. Demonstrate their understanding of the Four Basic Safety Rules for handling firearms.
- II. Provide training to officers, on the use and application of the Red Dot Optical Sight (RDS) on authorized duty pistol.
- III. Provide officers with the ability to safely deploy the RDS pistol in the course of their duties.
- IV. Ensure Department policies are promoted.

### EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

- V. Introduction
  - A. Administrative
    1. Roll Call and sign-in sheet.
    2. Introduction of instructors
    3. Overview of RDS pistol program
  - B. Review Department Policy 306 Firearms
  - C. Law Updates
    1. AB 392
    2. SB 230
    3. PC 835a
  - D. Certification Requirements
    1. Successful completion of 10 hours of instruction.
    2. Achieve a passing score on the shooting TCS standards.
- VI. Firearms Safety Rules
  - A. Review of Firearms Safety Rules
    1. All guns are always loaded
    2. Never allow the muzzle cover anything you're not willing to destroy

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3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target and you intend to shoot
4. Be sure of your target

### VII. Range Safety Rules

- A. First Aid Procedures
- B. Medical EVAC plan
- C. Range Commands
- D. Eye & Ear protection
- E. Lead Safety

### VIII. Review of RDS Characteristics

- A. Nomenclature of RDS.
- B. Sights
  1. Optic's
    - a) Off Set (Bore Line vs. Sight Line) .7- .9"
- C. Operator Controls
  1. On / Off
  2. Brightness adjust
  3. White light washout / adjust prior to start of shift
- D. Maintenance issues
  1. Battery Replacement
    - a) Duracell / Sony
    - b) Re-Zero
  2. Periodically check set screws for tightness, mark set screw
  3. Cleaning debris from lens, soft glass cleaning cloth
  4. Fogging of lens
- E. How the RDS is used
  1. Both eyes open
  2. Target focus / overlay dot, continue to focus on target
  3. Brightness can affect eye focus or distract the eye to the dot.
  4. Accept movement in the dot

### IX. RANGE : Marksmanship Elements

- A. Grip
  1. Pinky Finger, Support hand relaxed
  2. Thumbs relaxed
- B. Stance
  1. Aggressive fighting stance
  2. Dominant hand overpowers support hand, pushing dot off target

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3. Slight natural bend in elbow vs locket out
- C. Sight Alignment
  1. One focal plane
  2. Dot centered in reticle
  3. Ignore iron sight, dot and irons do not need to be aligned
  4. Parallax issues / non-issues
- D. Sight Picture
  1. Both eyes open
  2. Hold slightly above intended point of impact, until zeroing distance is achieved
- E. Trigger Control
  1. Trigger press cause movement in gun/dot.
  2. Accept movement, do not anticipate shot or use poor trigger press
- F. Follow-Through
  1. If proper technique is used, dot should stay in reticle during firing. Dot will track back to center of target from 12'oclock.
  
- X. RANGE: Presentation of the pistol (Dry-fire)
  - A. Training the eye - Reverse presentation to the holster (15 reps)
  - B. Full presentations (15 reps)
    1. If no dot, freeze move head to find dot, not gun
    2. Lift bore axis to line of sight, under dominant eye
      - a) Reference Point– rear of slide to nose level
  - C. Cross eye dominant
    1. Occlude dominant eye
    2. Move gun over to dominant eye vs turning head
    3. Occluded optic technique – (Live fire)
  
- XI. RANGE: Acquisition / Reacquisition – Live Fire
  1. Single shots from holster x 10 reps @ 5 yards
  2. Single shots from holster x 10 reps @ 7 yards
    - a) Work to 2.0 par time
  3. Controlled pairs from holster x 10 reps
    - a) Discuss proper Follow through
    - b) Second & third sight pictures
    - c) Trigger press begins above POI
  4. Dot tracking exercise
    - a) Zip Tie – exercise (Dry Fire)
    - b) Live fire plain tan or white background – 5 rounds x 2
      - a. Discuss with student on what they see

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### 5. Discus / correct - Common Issues

#### a) FPS push

- a. Description: The habit of leaning forward violently while presenting the pistol to better control recoil.
- b. Issue: This moves the proprioceptive index of the eye line and causes confusion with the body's eye-hand coordination. The outcome is not finding the dot on presentation.
- c. Resolution: The instructor places his hands on the student's shoulders with light pressure. Tell them that the pressure should not increase or decrease during the presentation. When they draw, the pressure will remind them not to lean forward and the dot will appear.
- d. If they insist upon leaning forward then tell them to lean before the draw. This uses the concept of sooner not faster.

#### b) IDF Squat

- a. Description: The habit of squatting while they are reaching for the pistol.
- b. Issue: This ironically moves the pistol further from the hand making the draw more difficult. This in turn causes the student to rush and punch the pistol out. This usually causes the dot to present left.
- c. Resolution: Tell them not to do it. If they insist, grab them by the rear of the belt to prevent them from doing it. The student will then find the dot easily and will stop doing it. If they insist on squatting, tell them to squat before the draw.

#### c) Shoulder In The Ear

- a. Description: The habit of moving the strong side shoulder in an upward direction in an attempt to gain momentum on the draw
- b. Issue: This also moves the hand further away from the pistol and moves the eye line.
- c. Resolution: Put your hand on the students offending shoulder. Tell them the pressure on the shoulder should not increase or decrease. They will then simply grab the pistol with efficiency and stop doing it.

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- d) Lean back
  - a. Description: The habit of leaning back while drawing the pistol.
  - b. Issue: Usually not an issue for OWB duty holsters, it is can be an issue with UC officers carrying concealed AIWB. The habit is born from trying to make room for the strong hand to grab the pistol. In reality, it simply moves the hand further away from the pistol and moves the eye line.
- e) Punch Out
  - a. Description: The habit of punching the pistol out on presentation.
  - b. Issue: The body works like an X. If the right handed student punches the pistol out, the dot usually winds up left because the right hand has pushed it in that direction
  - c. Resolution: The methodology of the Judi-Chop grip coupled with bringing the gun up to your eye line as opposed to punching it out. In addition, instead of presenting the pistol out to 100% of the presentation, modulate the presentation to a 90/10 process.

- XII. RANGE: Follow-through (Multiple Rounds)
- A. 2" circle @ 4 yards, 10 round x 2 reps
  - B. 8" circle @ 7 yards, 6 rounds from low ready x 3 reps
    - 1. Work to 6.0 sec par time

- XIII. RANGE: Target transitions (Eyes will move first)
- A. Lateral transitions – 3" circles @ 4 yards
    - 1. Single shots in each x 3 reps
    - 2. Pairs in each x 2 reps
  - B. Vertical transitions
    - 1. 3 x 2 drill @ 4 yards x 3 reps
      - a) Work to 4.0 sec par

- XIV. RANGE: Primary / Support hand shooting
- A. (3) Thumb positions (Bent, Straight, Up)
    - 1. @ 5 yards x 5 rounds x 1 rep each method
  - B. Weight transfer

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- C. Switching feet
- D. Cant pistol

XV. RANGE: Optic Malfunctions

A. Occluded optic drill

- 1. Place blue “Painters” tape in front of optic
  - a) 5 rounds @ various distance 5-15 yards

B. Optic failure

- 1. Backup iron sights
- 2. Reference point
  - a) Horns of RMR at shoulder @ various distances 5-15 yards

C. Discuss other optic issues (moisture, light refraction)

XVI. RANGE: Low Light

A. Discuss and demo White light washout

- 1. Transition to iron sights
- 2. Live fire – set optic brightness to bright, activate light, fire 3 rounds x 2 reps
- 3. Live fire – set optic brightness to low, activate light, fire 3 rounds x 2 reps
  - a) Transition to iron sights

XVII. RANGE: Distance

A. 15, 20, 25 yards

- 1. Learning holds at various distances, 3 rounds from holster x 2 reps each yard line.

B. 25 yard – Single shot draws

- 1. Work to 4.0 sec par

XVIII. RANGE: Shooting on the move

A. Discuss how dot is going to move, drop in from 12 o’clock

- 1. When to start trigger press on follow up shots

B. Shooting on move techniques

- 1. Crouch
- 2. Standing
- 3. Run 2 lines x 1 rep each technique 15-5 yards.
  - a) Rate of fire should increase as distance decreases

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**XIX. RANGE: Task Conditions Standards (TCS) – Qualification**

Drill	Distance	Par Time	Scoring
1. Single Shot Draw	5 yds	2.0 sec	8” score ring
2. Failure Drill	5 yds	3.0 sec	8”/ 3” score ring
3. 6rds-low ready	7 yds	6.0 sec	8” score ring
4. 4rds-shoot on move	10-5 yds	6.0 sec	8” score ring
5. 3rds – low ready	25 yds	10.0 sec	8” score ring

**XX. Course wrap up and evaluations**

**A. Conduct debrief of course**

**B. Provide students with course evaluations**