



## **DRIVER TRAINING/AWARENESS**

### **New Hire Orientation Training**

Sonoma County Sheriff Office 5380  
CCN: 21155 | 16 hours

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#### **Statement of Purpose:**

This course will provide the trainee with more than the minimum topics of driver training/awareness skills and techniques required in the POST Perishable Skills Training Program including; basic driving principles, legal and moral aspects, department policy, defensive driving and maneuvering course exercises. The course consists of classroom instruction and hands-on behind-the-wheel, practical driver training and awareness and scenario based training.

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##### **Minimum Topics/Exercises:**

- a. Safety Policy/Orientation
- b. Policy, legal and moral issues
- c. Vehicle Dynamics
- d. Defensive driving
- e. Intersections exercise(s)
- f. Backing/parking exercise(s)
- g. Behind the wheel exercises to improve driving skills – judgment and decision making
- h. Class Exercises, Student Evaluation, and or optional Testing

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The trainee will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of their Driver Training/Awareness skills and techniques
2. Demonstrate a minimum standard of psychomotor skills with every technique and exercise to include:
  - A. Judgment and Decision Making
  - B. Policy, Legal and Moral Issues
  - C. Basic Driving Principles and Vehicle Dynamics
  - D. Defensive Driving

**Minimum standards of performance shall be tested by an instructor observing the trainee during their performance of each technique and exercise. If the trainee does not meet minimum standards, as established by the presenter, remediation will be provided until the standard is met.**

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#### **I. Introduction**

1. POST roster distribution
2. Course overview
3. Exercises
4. Evaluation and testing
5. Track and training safety policy

#### **II. Sonoma County Vehicle Use Policy 7.04.14**

1. Vehicle care and maintenance (Inspection prior to shift)
  - a. General Appearance
    1. Body damage
    2. Cleanliness
  - b. Tire/Wheels
    1. Air pressure
    2. Wear
    3. Condition
    4. Damage
  - c. Lighting and emergency equipment
    1. Siren
    2. Horns
    3. P.A. (mic and speaker)
    4. Headlights, brake lights, turn signals, parking lights.
  - d. Trunk Equipment
    1. Fire extinguisher
    2. Medical kit
    3. Flares
    4. Spike strip
    5. Spare tire
  - e. Reporting of damage
    1. Supervisor responsibilities

#### **III. Sonoma County Sheriff's Office Policy 307**

1. Officer Safety Considerations

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- a. Driving tactics
- 2. Risk Assessment
  - a. Conditions of vehicle (suspect and patrol)
  - b. Conditions of roadway
  - c. Hazards
  - d. The want
    - 1. Known or unknown offender
- 3. Communications
- 4. Legal Requirements
  - a. Liabilities
  - b. Moral responsibilities
- 5. Response to calls
  - a. Code 3 responsibilities
- 6. Pursuit deputy responsibilities
  - a. Primary
    - 1. When to initiate
    - 2. When to terminate
    - 3. Balance test
  - b. Secondary
  - c. Not involved
  - d. Number of units allowed
- 7. Supervisor responsibilities
- 8. Other agency pursuits
  - a. Communications
  - b. Jurisdiction
- 9. Pursuit Intervention
  - a. Blocking
  - b. Boxing in
  - c. Ramming
  - d. Roadblocks
  - e. Spike strips
  - f. Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)
- 10. Reporting requirements

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#### **IV. Driving knowledge**

1. California Vehicle Code
  - a. 17001 CVC
  - b. 17004 CVC
  - c. 21055 CVC
  - d. 21056 CVC
  - e. 21806 CVC
  - f. 22350CVC
  - g. 13519.8 CA Penal Code
2. Case law pertaining to Law Enforcement Vehicles
3. Seatbelt use

#### **V. Vehicle Dynamics and Driver Dynamics**

1. Weight transfer
  - a. Lateral
    1. Turning
    2. Roadway
    3. Compounding
    4. Vehicle (traction control)
  - b. Longitudinal
    1. Braking
    2. Acceleration
    3. Roadway
    4. Spring loading
2. Steering
  - a. Hand position
  - b. Front end swing
  - c. Rear wheel cheat
  - d. Understeer
  - e. Oversteer
3. Braking
  - a. Straight-line
  - b. Threshold

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- c. ABS braking
- 4. Vision
  - a. High visual horizon
  - b. Peripheral vision
  - c. Tunnel vision
  - d. Blind spots
  - e. Environmental factors
- 5. Roadway Position
  - a. Apex
  - b. 90 degree
  - c. Increasing radius turn
  - d. Decreasing radius turn
  - e. Braking- steering- acceleration
- 6. Environmental Factors
  - a. Roadway
  - b. Weather
  - c. Driver
    - 1. Fatigue
    - 2. Attitude
    - 3. Adrenaline
    - 4. Knowledge of area
    - 5. Driver tactics
  - d. Stopping distance

### **VI. Slow Speed Maneuvers**

- 1. Offset Lane exercise
- 2. Turn-Around Maneuver exercise
- 3. T-Box exercise
- 4. Parallel parking exercise
  - a. Both left and right side
- 5. Evaluation/Test
  - a. Any student scoring below standard on any exercise, as established by the instructor/presenter, will be immediately remediated/tested. If standard is continually not met, the student will be scheduled for a remedial training/testing date to achieve further instruction.

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#### **VII. Accident Avoidance**

1. Learning phase
  - a. 5 passes at 35 mph
2. Testing phase
  - a. 5 passes at 35 mph
  - b. Must pass 4 out of 5
3. Evaluation/Test
  - a. Any student scoring below standard on any exercise, as established by the instructor/presenter, will be immediately remediated/tested. If standard is continually not met, the student will be scheduled for a remedial training/testing date to achieve further instruction.

#### **VIII. Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)**

1. Verbal presentation
  - a. Stationary vehicle positioning
  - b. SCSO policy
  - c. Vehicle dynamics
  - d. Safety
2. Instructor demonstration (student in passenger seat)
  - a. Two vehicle Diamond Formation pace (no vehicle contact)
    1. 25mph and 35mph driver and passenger sides
  - b. Two vehicle contact pace
    1. 25mph and 35mph driver and passenger sides
  - c. PIT
    1. 25mph and 35mph PIT driver and passenger sides
3. Student exercises (instructor in passenger seat)
  - a. Two vehicle Diamond Formation pace (no vehicle contact)
    1. 25mph and 35mph driver and passenger sides
  - b. Two vehicle contact pace
    1. 25mph and 35mph driver and passenger sides
  - c. PIT
    1. 25mph and 35mph PIT driver and passenger sides

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4. Felony stop procedures
5. Evaluation/Test
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### **IX. Spike Strip Deployment**

1. Policy review
2. Safety Considerations
3. Deployment options
  - a. Throw
  - b. Pull across
4. Post deployment

### **X. 65 Deceleration exercise**

1. Roadway positioning
2. Braking techniques
  - a. ABS vs. threshold
3. Steering technique
4. Acceleration control
5. Evaluation/Test
  - a. Any student scoring below standard on any exercise, as established by the instructor/presenter, will be immediately remediated/tested. If standard is continually not met, the student will be scheduled for a remedial training/testing date to achieve further instruction.

### **XI. High Speed Steering**

1. 4 tall delineator chicane
  - a. 5 passes at 45

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1. Compounding lateral weight transfer
2. Shuffle steering
3. High visual horizon
- b. 5 passes at 55
  1. Oversteer
    - a. Caster effect
  2. Understeer
2. Not tested.

#### **XII. Controlled Speed/High Speed Backing Exercise**

1. Roadway positioning
  - a. 90 degree turn
  - b. 180 degree turn
  - c. S turn
2. Braking
3. Acceleration
4. Hand placement
  - a. Shuffle steering
  - b. High speed backing (hand at 12 o'clock knee at 6 o'clock)
5. Not tested.

#### **XIII. Lead and Follow Exercise**

1. Instructor led, student with instructor follow.
  - a. Roadway positioning
  - b. Following distance
  - c. Braking
2. 35 to 45 mph controlled speed
3. Extended hot lap with increased speeds
  - a. Simulate code 3 response
  - b. Simulate pursuit driving
4. Not tested.



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#### **XIV. City Grid / Emergency Response**

1. Course familiarization
2. Code 3 Driving
  - a. Judgement of circumstance
    1. Simulated dispatch call evaluation of code 3 response
  - b. Intersection clearing
    1. Due Regard
  - c. Traffic avoidance
    1. Interference car (instructor driven)
  - d. Vehicle spacing
  - e. Roadway positioning
  - f. Braking
  - g. Steering
    1. Weight transfer
    2. Hand placement
  - h. Acceleration
  - i. Use of associated equipment
    1. Multi-tasking
    2. Hand placement
  - j. Rate of performance
3. Evaluation/Test
  - a. Any student scoring below standard on any exercise, as established by the instructor/presenter, will be immediately remediated/tested. If standard is continually not met, the student will be scheduled for a remedial training/testing date to achieve further instruction.
    1. Tested as primary and secondary responding unit.

#### **XV. City Grid / Pursuit**

1. Code 3 Driving
  - a. Judgement of circumstance
    1. Evaluation of when to initiate a pursuit
  - b. Intersection clearing

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1. Due Regard
  - c. Traffic avoidance
    1. Interference car
  - d. Vehicle spacing
  - e. Roadway positioning
    1. Following a bad line
  - f. Braking
  - g. Steering
    1. Weight transfer
    2. Hand placement
  - h. Acceleration
  - i. Use of associated equipment
    1. Multi-tasking
    2. Hand placement
  - j. Radio Traffic
  - k. Rate of performance
2. Evaluation/Test
    - a. Any student scoring below standard on any exercise, as established by the instructor/presenter, will be immediately remediated/tested. If standard is continually not met, the student will be scheduled for a remedial training/testing date to achieve further instruction.
      1. Tested as primary and secondary pursuing unit.

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