
Defensive Tactics Procedure

311.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This procedure provides guidelines for the overall operation of the Defensive Tactics Program, including personnel responsibilities and use of force training.

311.2 PERSONNEL

Program Management

Oversight of the Defensive Tactics Program will be the responsibility of the Lieutenant in command of the Use of Force Team. The Program Manager's primary responsibility is to provide general management, direction, and control for the Defensive Tactics Program including but not limited to budget management; audits and assessments; approval of plans, additions and changes to training; and any necessary equipment purchases.

Program Supervision

The Defensive Tactics Program Supervisor shall be the rank of Sergeant. Though there may be more than one sergeant assigned to the Defensive Tactics Program, only one will be designated as the Program Supervisor to maintain consistency and a linear chain of command. It is desirable that the supervisor have experience as a Defensive Tactics Instructor and be familiar with the program. The program supervisor will handle the supervision and operation of the Defensive Tactics Program.

Selection to the Defensive Tactics Program

Selection to the Defensive Tactics Program will be done in accordance with UCPD Policy 1004. The selection process will consist of the following elements:

- (a) Oral board
- (b) Peer review (current Defensive Tactics Instructors)
- (c) Supervisor review and input
- (d) Program Manager review

Upon successful completion of the selection process, the Program Manager will make suggestions of the desired candidate(s) to the Command Staff. Upon final approval from the Chief of Police, candidates will be appointed to the Defensive Tactics Program.

311.3 DEFENSIVE TACTICS INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

Defensive Tactics Instructors should receive initial and recurrent training to ensure the program is using best practices and is familiar with current trends. California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-approved training is preferred and will be prioritized over other training options.

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Defensive Tactics Instructors may be called to be Subject Matter Experts (SME) in some aspects of the program. As SME's, Defensive Tactics Instructors may be called upon to testify in court or review policy and procedure. A member of the Defensive Tactics Program shall be assigned to ensure Instructors are receiving proper training. Training of Defensive Tactics Instructors should include but not be limited to the following courses:

1. Defensive Tactics Instructor (Arrest & Control)
2. Baton Instructor
3. Ground Control (Instructor)
4. Gun Retention
5. Defensive Tactics Instructor Update (Arrest & Control) (Every 2 years)
6. Baton Instructor Update

311.4 TRAINING REQUEST

If a Defensive Tactics Instructor wishes to attend a specific training, he/she will send the class information to the Program Supervisor. The Program Supervisor will complete a UCPD Training Request Form #166 and submit it to the Program Manager for approval.

311.5 DEPARTMENT TRAINING

UCPD will provide Department Defensive Tactics training as required in the POST Perishable Skills Training Program (PSP) at least once every two years. The training topics will include the following:

- (a) Arrest and Control
- (b) Baton/Impact Weapons

311.6 RESPONSIBILITIES

Instruction

Safety

The following will be required prior to all defensive tactics training:

Students are required to identify any injury or pre-existing medical restriction, which may affect their ability to safely participate in training. Students must inform Instructors of injuries sustained during training; Instructors must evaluate that injury for first aid response and/or EMT response or treatment. Instructors shall be responsible for conducting safety inspections or otherwise assessing the safety of the equipment and facilities used for training. Instructors shall incorporate the safety rules into their lesson plans and review the rules with the class prior to beginning the training. Instructors shall advise all students of their responsibility to report any unsafe actions and/or conditions during training. The following will be required when conducting any training involving weapons or scenarios. It shall be the responsibility of the supervisor in charge to ensure that these

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orders are followed. In addition, these orders apply individually to all participants. As such, they are to be read prior to commencing each training event.

1. At least two persons must inspect and ensure that all weapons are unloaded, and no ammunition is carried by any participants, unless during range training where the intention is to fire weapons at targets. Each inspecting officer will conduct the search with attention to detail and act as if it was the only search conducted.
2. After the weapons are determined to be cleared, they must be conspicuously marked to readily identify cleared and un-cleared weapons. Acceptable examples of this are chamber flags, blue painter's tape, blue paint, and blue upper or lower assemblies. Any bolt-action rifles shall have their bolts-removed when used during scenario training.
3. Other than at range training, there must be no loaded weapons allowed within a sterile training environment. This must include a cordon wherein absolutely **NOBODY**, including instructors or other persons, will be armed - even for brief trips.
4. Police Training signs must be placed at entry points to the sterile training environment and other appropriate locations to notify the public and prevent fear or calls for service.
5. There must be at least two persons at any range for training, testing, or any other reason.
6. A Safety Officer must be assigned to range and scenario training. Because there are multitudes of training types, this may be excused with prior approval by the Program Manager. The safety-officer may not be a participant as either a trainee or instructor.
7. A force-on-force safety plan will be completed prior to any training using Simunitions/UTM training cartridges. This plan will be submitted along with the training plan.
8. All firearms must be secured, monitored, or in personal possession at all times. As a reminder, Simunitions/UTM and weapons firing blanks are still functional firearms so they will be treated as such.
9. Only trained officers will handle noise-flash diversionary devices (flash-bangs). Officers using these devices will do so in accordance with their training, including wearing gloves while manipulating them.

Documentation

At the conclusion of any training assignment, the Defensive Tactics Program Supervisor will submit the class attendance roster, lesson plans, and any supplemental material to Personnel and Training for entry into the Training Management System.

311.7 TRAINING FACILITIES

1. Training shall be conducted in an appropriate location. An appropriate "mat room" or similar type area.

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2. Scenario training and/or practical field exercises can be conducted in an appropriate outdoor area if needed.
3. The size of the facility shall be adequate for the number of students being trained.
4. Instructors and/or class supervisors must ensure adequate space between students to minimizing the potential for injury.
5. Baton training shall occur in a safe area that it allows for the full-unobstructed deployment of the impact weapon being used.
6. Environmental factors should be considered when selecting a safe and appropriate training location (climate, air quality, etc.).
7. Indoor training facilities used for Arrest and Control instruction shall have adequate lighting, proper ventilation and restroom facilities.
8. The training site shall be reasonably free from outside distractions.
9. Students are required to wear appropriate clothing and footwear during training.
10. To minimize the potential for injury, watches, jewelry, and other such personal items will be removed.
11. Students with defective or unsafe equipment will not be allowed to participate in training.
12. Exercise mats, surfaces and shared safety equipment should be cleaned with a disinfectant solution prior to each training session and use.
13. Prior to the start of all training, instructors and/or training staff will conduct equipment inspections to ensure safety, cleanliness and training suitability.
14. Students are required to wear approved safety equipment as requested by the Defensive Tactics Instructors (e.g., headgear, mouthpiece) during specific training (i.e., High Gear, red suit, arrest and control exercises, etc.)

311.8 REVISIONS

Adopted; April 21, 2021