

**TURLOCK POLICE DEPARTMENT (2870)**  
**PATROL RIFLE OPERATOR COURSE/ TACTICAL RIFLE**

Revised: 01/22/2021

- COURSE TITLE:** FIREARMS/TACTICAL RIFLE (32075)  
Includes all shoulder-fired weapons that are not a shotgun
- COURSE NUMBER:** 32075
- COURSE HOURS:** 24
- COURSE GOAL:** To provide students with the information and hands-on experience needed to effectively use a Rifle for law enforcement applications
- This Course provides updated Legislative content of Penal Code Section 835a
- AUDIENCE:** Sworn Peace Officers, including Level I and Level II Reserve Officers who are being introduced to a rifle and will qualify and carry it on duty in the scope of their employment
- NOTE:** Successful completion of this course satisfies the legislative training mandate to possess short barrel rifles as specified in Penal Code section 33220(b) and the Commission training requirement to possess long barrel rifles as specified in Commission Regulation 1081.

**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. Demonstrate the ability to field strip the weapon and to properly clean and maintain it.
- III. Be provided with and demonstrate understanding of the agency policy regarding the use of firearms.
- IV. Demonstrate the ability to properly load, unload, and fire the weapon and to clear malfunctions that might occur with the weapon.
- V. Demonstrate the ability to apply the fundamentals for rifle marksmanship to fire accurately from the prone, kneeling, sitting and standing positions.

- VI. Demonstrate proficiency with the weapon and obtain agency qualification.

### **REQUIRED CONTENT**

#### Commission Regulation 1081

- (1) Law Update
- (2) Review of Use of Force Issues, Agency Policies, and Mission
- (3) Safety Issues
- (4) Nomenclature, Specifications, and Capabilities
- (5) Firearm Care, Breakdown, and Cleaning
- (6) Tactical Considerations
- (7) Skill Development and Qualification

### **EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE**

- I. Classroom
  - A. Instructor Introduction
    - 1. Student Introductions and Expectations
  - B. Statement of Purpose of the Program
    - 1. Qualification Requirements
  - C. Safe Weapon Condition for Classroom Training
- II. Laws and Agency Policy
  - A. Penal Code section 32610(b)
    - 1. Possession of Within Scope of Employment
  - B. Penal Code section 33220(b)
    - 1. Training requirement
  - C. Agency Firearms Use and Use of Force Policies
    - 1. Use of Force options
    - 2. Department Policy
  - D. Law and Penal Code Updates
    - 1. Tennessee vs. Garner
    - 2. Graham vs. Conner
    - 3. AB 392
    - 4. SB230
    - 5. Including revisions to PC 835a
- III. Safety and Range Rules

- A. The Four Basic Safety Rules include
  - 1. Treat all guns as if they are loaded at all times.
  - 2. Never let the muzzle cover at anything you are not willing to destroy.
  - 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target and you have made a conscious decision to shoot.
  - 4. Always be sure of your target, between and beyond.
- B. Range Rules
  - 1. All weapons will remain on safe unless students are actively shooting or have been instructed to manipulate the firing mechanism for maintenance or dry firing exercises.
  - 2. If a problem arises on the line, bring it to the attention of an instructor.
  - 3. All students are Safety Officers and can call a cease fire at any time.

#### IV. Nomenclature, Specifications and Capabilities

- A. Nomenclature
  - 1. Front and Rear Sights
    - a. Front sight post moved up, the round impact will move down.
    - b. Rear sight moved left, the round impact will move left. Rear sight moved right, the round impact will move right. Rear sight moved up, the round impact will move up. Rear sight moved down, the round impact will move down.
    - c. Sight off-set consideration
  - 2. Bolt Catch
  - 3. Magazine Release
  - 4. Safety/Selector
  - 5. Magazine
  - 6. Sling and Sling Attachments
  - 7. Rifle Mounted Lights
  - 8. Rifle Optics (Reflex/Red-Dot/Magnified)
  - 9. Three main groups of the AR style rifle
    - a. Upper Receiver
    - b. Lower Receiver
    - c. Bolt Carrier group
  - 10. Cycle of operation
- B. Specifications
  - 1. Type of Weapon
  - 2. Barrel Length
  - 3. Overall Length
  - 4. Caliber
  - 5. Magazine Capacity
  - 6. Weight (empty)
  - 7. Type of Sights
  - 8. Approximate Muzzle Velocity (Varies on Ammunition Used)
- C. Capabilities

1. Maximum Range
2. Maximum Effective Range
3. Penetration of Soft Body Armor
4. Full/Semi-Automatic

V. Firearm Care, Disassembly/Assembly, and Maintenance

- A. Refer to the manufacturer's care and operation manual.
  1. Department Armorer
- B. Field Stripping
  1. Inspections
  1. Function Checks

VI. Basic Shooting Skills

- A. Stance/Position
  1. Standing
  2. Kneeling
  3. Sitting
  4. Prone
  5. Unconventional Shooting Positions
- B. Sight Alignment
  1. Sight Alignment is centering your front sight post vertically and horizontally in the rear sight aperture.
  2. Top of front sight post centered in the rear aperture.
  3. Focus is on the top edge of the front sight post. The rear aperture and target are blurred.
  4. Instructor will illustrate proper sight alignment.
- C. Sight Picture
  1. Defined as the relationship of sight alignment to the target.
- D. Trigger Control
  1. Emphasize that this is a very important element coupled with proper mechanics and proper sight picture.
  2. Shooter must apply gradual pressure on the trigger for a surprise trigger break so as to not disturb sight alignment when the shot is made (Reminder- Finger only goes on trigger after you have made a conscious decision to fire).
- E. Grip/Stock Weld
  1. Fixed stock
  2. Collapsible stock
- F. Breathing
  1. Shot should be fired at the natural pause in your breathing cycle.
  2. Breathing while firing will cause vertical stringing of shots.
  3. Holding breath too long may cause vision to blur and muscles to tremble, so the shot should be made before this happens.
  4. Continue to breath.

- G. Follow Through
  - 1. Maintain all the elements throughout the shot.

VII. Zeroing Rifles

A. Initial Zero

- 1. Mechanical Sights at 50 yards
- 2. Optics at 50 yards

VIII. Clearing Malfunctions and Stoppages, Reloading

A. In close quarter confrontations, consider immediate transition to the handgun

B. Failure to fire (Stage 1, Stage 2 & Stage 3)

- 1. "Push pull, Rack and Roll, Assess" (Stage 1)
  - a. Seat magazine by hitting it with heel of hand and pulling it to ensure it is seated
  - b. Pull bolt to rear while rotating ejection port toward the ground and release
  - c. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
- 2. Stove pipe (Failure to Eject- Stage 2)
  - a. Seat magazine by hitting it with heel of hand and pulling to ensure it is seated
  - b. Pull bolt to rear while rotating ejection port toward the ground and release
  - c. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
- 3. Feed ramp stoppages (Double Feed-Stage 3)
  - a. Complete a Stage 1 malfunction clearing procedure and identify stoppage
  - b. Lock the bolt to the rear
  - c. Strip the magazine from the weapon
    - 1. Discard magazine unless it is the only one in student's possession.
  - d. Clear live rounds from the receiver and chamber by repeatedly working the charging handle
  - d. Insert a fresh loaded magazine
  - e. Chamber a round
  - f. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary

C. Reloading

- 1. Combat Reload
  - a. Necessary when you have fire to the point you are empty or nearly empty and need to reload quickly.
- 2. Tactical (Sustain) Reload
  - a. Tactical reload is used when there is an opportunity to reload when there is a lull in shooting situation and/or you have available cover or concealment.

## IX. Tactical Considerations

- A. Based on agency guidelines and training
- B. Physical environment
  - 1. Urban terrain
  - 2. Open areas
  - 3. Indoor vs. Outdoor
- C. Be aware of cover and concealment
  - 1. Proper concealment will prevent you from being seen
  - 2. Proper cover will prevent you from being shot
- D. Rifle caliber rounds will penetrate soft body armor...(yours or theirs!).
  - 1. Plate carrier
  - 2. Ballistic Capabilities
    - a. Rifle
    - b. Pistol
    - c. Shotgun (one ounce slug)
- E. The Patrol Rifle affords the opportunity to maintain a safer distance to adversaries.
- F. The Patrol Rifle affords an increased effective range over the service shotgun and handgun.
- G. The Patrol Rifle affords more accuracy than a service shotgun with a rifled slug.
- H. The Patrol Rifle is easier to load and re-load than a service shotgun.
- I. The Patrol Rifle has a larger ammunition capacity than a service shotgun.

## X. Shooting Decision

- A. Know your abilities and limitations, and those of your weapon.
- B. Exercise fire discipline within agency guidelines and the parameters of applicable State and Federal laws.

## XI. Skill Development

- A. Dry Firing Exercises
  - 1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
  - 2. Dry fire each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, squatting and prone).
- B. Live Firing Exercises
  - 1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
  - 2. Live fire each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, squatting and prone).
  - 3. Live fire at various distances based on agency mission and environment.
  - 4. Live fire at multiple targets.
    - a. Target identification
  - 5. Precision shooting exercises.
    - a. Long range
    - b. Short range (Sight off-set)
  - 6. Reloading and firing exercises.

- a. Combat
    - b. Tactical (Sustain)
  - 7. Malfunction exercises.
    - a. Stage 1, 2 & 3
  - 8. Move and fire exercises.
    - a. Single student
    - b. Team/Partner movement
    - c. Leapfrog/Peel movements
    - d. Toward the threat
    - e. Away from the threat
    - f. Lateral movement
    - g. Oblique (45 degree) movement
  - 9. Close quarter tactical movement/shooting.
    - a. Basic room clearing (Rule of two)
    - b. Communication
    - c. Areas of responsibility
- C. Carry Positions
  - 1. Ready
  - 2. Low Ready
  - 3. Indoor Low Ready
  - 4. EMT (Eyes Muzzle Threat)/High Port
  - 5. Slung (Front/Rear)
- D. Transition to Handgun
- F. Pivots
- G. Weapon Retention

## XII. Qualification

- A. Rifle Qualification (Sights/Optics)
- B. Written Exam/Weapon Manipulation/Weapon Carry Positions