

**TRAINING AND TESTING  
SPECIFICATIONS FOR LEARNING DOMAIN #20  
USE OF FORCE**

~~July 1, 2012~~ August 1, 2015

RBC	Other Basic Courses					Requal
	832	III	II	I	SIBC	
X	X	X			X	X
X	X	X			X	X
X	X	X			X	X
X	X	X			X	X
X	X	X			X	X
X	X	X			X	X

I. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must recognize that they have the authority to use reasonable force to affect an arrest, to prevent escape, or to overcome resistance as authorized by the California Penal Code. For their safety, and for the safety and well-being of fellow officers, it is critical that peace officers know the laws governing the use of force.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Discuss reasonable force as stated by law
- B. Discuss the components of the Fourth Amendment standard for determining objective reasonableness as determined by the U.S. Supreme Court
- C. Explain the legal framework establishing a peace officer's authority during a legal arrest, including:
  - 1. A subject's requirement to submit to arrest without resistance
  - 2. Peace officer's authority to use reasonable force during a detention or arrest
- D. Identify the circumstances set forth in the California Penal Code when a peace officer has the authority to use force
- E. Discuss the level of authority agency policies have regarding the use of force by a peace officer

II. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must recognize that they have a range of force options available to them. However, in all cases the use of force must be reasonable compared to the threat, resistance, and other circumstances known to the officer at the time the force was used.

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	832	III	II	I	SIBC	
X	X	X	X		X	X
X	X	X	X		X	X
X	X	X	X		X	X
X		X	X		X	X
X		X	X		X	X
X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X	X	X

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Define the term “force option”
- B. Identify that the objective of using force is to overcome resistance to gain control of an individual and the situation
- C. Recognize force options and the amount of force peace officers may use based on the subject’s resistance
- D. Explain the importance of training and ongoing practice when responding to potentially dangerous situations that may require the use of force
- E. Discuss the importance of effective communication when using force

#### III. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must fully comprehend their authority, responsibility, and liability regarding the use of deadly force as authorized by law.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Identify the legal standard for the use of deadly force
- B. Identify the factors required to establish sufficiency of fear for the use of deadly force
- C. Recognize facts an officer should consider when determining whether or not to use deadly force
- D. Discuss the role of agency policies regarding the use of deadly force



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	832	III	II	I	SIBC	
X		X	X		X	X
X		X	X		X	X
X	X	X	X		X	X
X	X	X	X		X	X
X		X	X		X	X
X			X		X	
X					X	
X				X	X	
		X				
			X			

#### VI. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must recognize the consequences of using unreasonable force, and their legal and ethical responsibilities to intervene if the force being used by another peace officer is inappropriate or unlawful.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Explain the legal and administrative consequences associated with the use of unreasonable force
- B. Explain an agency's potential liability associated with the use of unreasonable force
- C. Explain the consequences of an officer's failure to intervene when unreasonable force is used by another peace officer
- D. Discuss immediate and delayed intervention techniques
- E. Discuss factors that may inhibit a peace officer from intervening in a situation where a fellow officer may be applying unreasonable force

#### VII. REQUIRED TESTS

- A. The POST-Constructed Knowledge Test on the learning objectives in Domain #20.
- B. The POST-Constructed Comprehensive Mid-Course Proficiency Test.
- C. The POST-Constructed Comprehensive End-of-Course Proficiency Test.
- D. The POST-Constructed Comprehensive Module III End-of-Proficiency Test.
- E. The POST-Constructed Comprehensive Module II End-of-Proficiency Test.



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X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	

The student is required to demonstrate proficiency in the following competencies:

1. Use of Force
2. Problem Solving
3. Legal Authority
4. Officer Safety
5. Communication
6. Ethics
7. Stress Tolerance

- J. A scenario test that requires the student to demonstrate proficiency in the use of effective communication, command presence, and appropriate physical control during the detention of a verbally uncooperative individual.

The student is required to demonstrate proficiency in the following competencies:

1. Use of Force
2. Problem Solving
3. Legal Authority
4. Officer Safety
5. Communication
6. Ethics
7. Stress Tolerance

## VIII. REQUIRED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

RBC	Other Basic Courses					Requal
	832	III	II	I	SIBC	
X		X	X		X	X
X		X	X		X	X
X		X	X		X	X
X		X	X		X	X
12	3	5	5	4	12	4

A. The student will participate in one or more learning activities from the POST-developed *Instructor's Guide to Learning Activities for Leadership, Ethics and Community Policing (December 2005)* or other comparable sources regarding use of force. At a minimum, each activity, or combination of activities must address the following topics:

1. Exercise of leadership in the application of reasonable force
2. Impact of ethical decision-making on the selection of appropriate force options
3. Evaluation of the effectiveness of force option choices
4. Consequences for the use of unreasonable force on the officer, community perception and public trust

IX. HOURLY REQUIREMENTS

Students shall be provided with a minimum number of instructional hours on the use of force.

X. ORIGINATION DATE

January 1, 2001

XI. REVISION DATE

January 1, 2002	January 1, 2006	July 1, 2010
January 1, 2004	January 19, 2007	July 1, 2012
September 15, 2004	July 1, 2008	<a href="#">August 1, 2015</a>
July 1, 2005	July 1, 2009	