

## INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

**July 8, 2020**

**1.0**

**TO:** The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

**FROM:** Executive Director, Board of Police Commissioners

**SUBJECT:** CONTINUATION OF THE MORATORIUM ON TRAINING AND USE OF THE CAROTID RESTRAINT CONTROL HOLD OR RESCINDING THE USE OF FORCE - TACTICS DIRECTIVE AUTHORIZING ITS USE

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

That the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) discuss and take possible Board action on the continuation of the moratorium on the Training and Use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold or rescind the Use of Force - Tactics Directive authorizing its use.

### DISCUSSION

On June 5, 2020 Governor Gavin Newsom announced that he was directing the State of California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) to stop training law enforcement on the Carotid Restraint Control Hold. Subsequently on June 7, 2020 Commission President Eileen Decker requested an immediate review of the Department's policy regarding the use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold.

After that review on June 8, 2020 President Decker and the Chief of Police agreed to an immediate moratorium on the training and use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold until such time that the Commission can conduct a detailed review.

On June 9, 2020 POST issued Bulletin Number 2020-29, "Notice of Emergency Rulemaking – Regulations 1005, 1007, and 1008; Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses" (Attachment 1).

On July 1, 2020, The State of California, Office of Administrative Law approved the Emergency Regulatory Action, (Attachment 2) amending the above listed regulations to remove training in the use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold from Learning Domain #33 of the Training and Testing Specifications for the Peace Officer Basic Courses effective July 1, 2020.

The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

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1.0

Since the training and use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold are no longer part of the curriculum in the Peace Officer Basic Courses this matter is before the Commission to discuss the continuation of the moratorium or the rescinding of the "Use of Force – Tactics Directive No. 18, April 2020, Carotid Restraint Control Holds" (Attachment 3), which authorizes the use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold.

Should you have any questions please contact me at 213-236-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

  
RICHARD M. TEFANK, Executive Director  
Board of Police Commissioners

Attachments

**Attachment 1**

**Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training**

**Notice of Emergency Rulemaking – Regulations 1005, 1007, and 1008; Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses**



**Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training**

860 Stillwater Road, Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95605-1630  
[www.post.ca.gov](http://www.post.ca.gov)

Date: June 9, 2020

Bulletin: No. 2020-29

Subject: **Notice of Emergency Rulemaking – Regulations 1005, 1007, and 1008; Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses**

The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training is proposing amendments to Learning Domain 33 – *Arrest and Control* in the document Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses, incorporated by reference into Commission Regulations 1005, 1007, and 1008. The Commission will be presented the proposed changes at the June 18, 2020, Commission meeting, following publication of the Notice of Emergency Rulemaking.

The proposed changes involve removing the training in the use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold and updates to the incorporation by reference statements in Sections 1005, 1007, and 1008.

The attached notice describes the proposed changes, includes an invitation for written input on this proposal, the deadline for written comments, and information about requesting a public hearing. The following related information is available on the [POST Website](#).

- POST Bulletin and Notice of Emergency Rulemaking
- Text of Proposed Regulatory Action

Questions regarding this proposed regulatory action may be directed to [Cheryl Smith](#), Commission on POST, 860 Stillwater Road, Suite 100, West Sacramento, CA 95605-1630, by telephone at (916) 227-0544. General questions regarding the regulatory process may be directed to [Katie Strickland](#) at (916) 227-2802.

MANUEL ALVAREZ, JR.  
Executive Director

MA:cs  
Attachment: Notice of Emergency Rulemaking

## **NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULEMAKING**

### **Amend and Update the Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses Regulations 1005, 1007, and 1008**

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Notice is hereby given that the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) proposes to amend regulations in Division 2 of Title 11 of the California Code of Regulations as described below in the Informative Digest.

#### **Statement of California Code of Regulations, Title 1, Section 48**

Government Code section 11346.1(a)(2) requires that, at least five working days prior to submission of the proposed emergency action to the Office of Administrative Law, the adopting agency provide a notice of the proposed emergency action to every person who has filed a request for notice of regulatory action with the agency. After submission of the proposed emergency action to the Office of Administrative Law, the Office of Administrative Law shall allow interested persons five calendar days to submit comments on the proposed emergency regulations as set forth in Government Code section 11349.6.

#### **Justification of Emergency**

The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) finds an emergency exists and that this proposed emergency regulation is necessary to address a situation that calls for immediate action to avoid serious harm to the public peace, health and safety, and the general welfare.

In response to current events and to ensure the safety of the public. POST is recommending the removal of the training in the use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold in Learning Domain 33 *Arrest and Control* in the basic courses.

The tragic death of Mr. George Floyd during a law enforcement action with the Minneapolis, Minnesota Police Department on May 25, 2020, has stemmed global public outcry and heated debate over the safety concern of law enforcement "chokeholds." This debate has included law enforcement's use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold.

On June 4, 2020, California Assembly member Mike Gipson introduced Assembly Bill 1196, which if passed will eliminate the use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold by California law enforcement.

On June 5, 2020, an article published in the LA Times alleged the following: "*A Times analysis of California Department of Justice data found that law enforcement around the state reported officers seriously injuring 103 people while using carotid neck restraints from 2016 through 2018, the most recent years for which data are available. Two people were killed and 91 were left unconscious. Black people, who compose about 6.5% of California's population, made up 23% of people injured by neck restraints. White people accounted for 33% of the incidents and Latinos 38%.*"

On June 5, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom held a press conference and stated he was directing that POST stop training law enforcement on the Carotid Restraint Control Hold. Governor Newsom simultaneously applauded Assembly Bill 1196 and stated he would sign it.

On June 8, 2020, the U.S. House of Representatives introduced H.R. 1957, which if passed, will among other things, eliminate national law enforcement use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold.

Since June 1, 2020, the following California law enforcement agencies have banned the use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold, just to name a few: Santa Cruz Sheriff's Department, all city and county law enforcement agencies in San Diego County, Davis Police Department, Mountain View Police Department, Pasadena Police Department, Sacramento Police Department, and Watsonville

## **NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULEMAKING**

### **Amend and Update the Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses Regulations 1005, 1007, and 1008**

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Police Department. Several other California law enforcement agencies had already banned the Carotid Restraint Control Hold prior to the public outcry, such as the San Francisco Police Department and the California Highway Patrol.

Therefore, POST is seeking a proposed emergency regulation to remove training in the use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold in Learning Domain 33 *Arrest and Control* in the basic courses.

#### **Authority and Reference**

This proposal is made pursuant to the authority vested by Penal Code §13503 (authority of Commission on POST) and Penal Code §13506 (POST authority to adopt regulations). This proposal is intended to interpret, implement, and make specific Penal Code §13503(e) which authorizes POST to develop and implement programs to increase the effectiveness of law enforcement, including programs involving training and education courses.

#### **Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview**

Penal Code §13510 requires that POST develop guidelines and a course of instruction and training for law enforcement officers who are employed as peace officers, or who are not yet employed as a peace officer but are enrolled in a training academy for law enforcement officers. This proposed action will update the incorporated by reference document, Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses (revised Effective on Filing with the Secretary of State), to include the removal of the training in the use of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold. Additionally, the incorporation by reference statements in POST Regulations sections 1005, 1007, and 1008 will be revised to reflect the updated revised date for the Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses.

The benefit anticipated by the proposed amendments to the regulations will be to update the training specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses, which will increase the effectiveness of law enforcement standards for peace officers in preserving peace, protection of public health and safety, and welfare of California.

During the process of developing these regulations and amendments, POST has conducted a search of any similar regulations on this topic and has concluded that these regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

All changes to curriculum begin with recommendations from law enforcement practitioners or in some cases via legislative mandates. Upon adoption of the proposed amendments, academies and course presenters will be required to teach and test the updated curriculum. The proposed effective date will be Effective on Filing with the Secretary of State.

#### **Document Incorporated by Reference**

Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses, revised Effective on Filing with the Secretary of State.

## **NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULEMAKING**

### **Amend and Update the Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses Regulations 1005, 1007, and 1008**

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#### **Estimate of Economic Impact**

Fiscal impact on Public Agencies including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None

Non-Discretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None

Local Mandate: None

Costs to any Local Agency or School District Affecting Government Code § 17500-17630 requires reimbursement: None

Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting California Businesses, including Small Business: The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training has made an initial determination that the amended regulations will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting California business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training has found that the proposed amendments will not affect California businesses, including small businesses, because the Commission sets selection and training standards for law enforcement which does not impact California businesses, including small businesses.

Affect on Housing Costs: The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training has made an initial determination that the proposed regulations would have no affect on housing costs.

#### **Results of Economic Impact Assessment per Government Code § 11346.3(b)**

The adoption of the proposed amendments of regulations will neither create, nor eliminate, jobs in the State of California, nor result in the elimination of existing businesses or create, or expand, businesses in the State of California.

The proposed amendments of regulations will increase the effectiveness of law enforcement standards for peace officers in preserving peace, protection of public health and safety, and welfare of California. There would be no impact that would affect worker safety or the state's environment.

#### **Cost Impact on Representative Private Persons or Businesses**

The Commission is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

#### **Contact Person**

Questions regarding this proposed regulatory action may be directed to Cheryl Smith, Commission on POST, 860 Stillwater Road, Suite 100, West Sacramento, CA 95605-1630 at (916) 227-0544. General questions regarding the regulatory process may be directed to Katie Strickland at (916) 227-2802, or by FAX at (916) 227-5271.

**Attachment 2**

**State of California Office of Administrative Law**

**Notice of Approval of Emergency Regulatory Action**

**Amending Sections 1005, 1007, and 1008**

**Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses**



**State of California  
Office of Administrative Law**

**In re:**  
**Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training**

**Regulatory Action:**

**Title 11, California Code of Regulations**

**Adopt sections:**

**Amend sections: 1005, 1007, 1008**

**Repeal sections:**

**NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY  
REGULATORY ACTION**

**Government Code Sections 11346.1 and  
11349.6**

**OAL Matter Number: 2020-0622-02**

**OAL Matter Type: Emergency (E)**

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The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training submitted this emergency action to amend three regulations that incorporate by reference a document entitled "Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses" (Training and Testing Specifications). The proposed amendments add a new incorporation by reference date for the Training and Testing Specifications to the three regulations and remove training in the use of the carotid restraint control hold from Learning Domain #33 of the Training and Testing Specifications.

OAL approves this emergency regulatory action pursuant to sections 11346.1 and 11349.6 of the Government Code.

This emergency regulatory action is effective on 7/1/2020 and will expire on 4/28/2021, based on the 60-calendar-day extensions authorized by Executive Orders N-40-20 and N-66-20. The Certificate of Compliance for this action is due no later than 4/27/2021.

Date: July 1, 2020



Richard L. Smith  
Senior Attorney

For: Kenneth J. Pogue  
Director

Original: Manuel Alvarez, Jr., Executive  
Director

Copy: Cheryl Smith

**TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATION ACTION**  
**Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses**  
**Regulations 1005, 1007, and 1008**

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**§ 1005. Minimum Standards for Training. (Reference Regulation 1007 and Commission Procedure H for reserve peace officer training standards.)**

[(a) – The document, Training Specifications for the Investigation and ...]

The document, *Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses*, adopted effective January 1, 2001, and amended effective October 1, 2001, January 1, 2002, July 1, 2002, January 1, 2003, January 1, 2004, August 15, 2004, September 15, 2004, July 1, 2005, January 1, 2006, January 19, 2007, July 1, 2007, August 8, 2007, January 1, 2008, July 1, 2008, January 1, 2009, July 1, 2009, January 1, 2010, July 1, 2010, July 1, 2011, January 1, 2012, July 1, 2012, January 1, 2013, August 1, 2013, February 1, 2014, August 1, 2014, August 1, 2015, February 1, 2016, August 1, 2016, February 1, 2017, February 15, 2017, August 1, 2017, July 1, 2018, April 1, 2020, July 1, 2020, per agency request and October 1, 2020, is herein incorporated by reference.

[The document, Instructor's Guide to Learning – the end....remains unchanged]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 832.1, 832.3, 832.6, 13503, 13506, 13510, 13510.3, 13510.5, 13515.26 and 13519.8, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 830.33, 832, 832.1, 832.3, 832.6, 835a, 13506, 13510, 13510.3, 13510.5, 13511, 13513, 13514, 13515.29, 13515.295, 13516, 13517, 13519.8, 13519.10, 13520 and 13523, Penal Code

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**§ 1007. Reserve Officer Minimum Training Standards.**

[(a) – PAM Section H-4 adopted...]

The document, *Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses*, adopted effective January 1, 2001, and amended effective October 1, 2001, January 1, 2002, July 1, 2002, January 1, 2003, January 1, 2004, August 15, 2004, September 15, 2004, July 1, 2005, January 1, 2006, January 19, 2007, July 1, 2007, August 8, 2007, January 1, 2008, July 1, 2008, January 1, 2009, July 1, 2010, July 1, 2011, January 1, 2012, July 1, 2012, January 1, 2013, August 1, 2013, February 1, 2014, August 1, 2014, August 1, 2015, February 1, 2016, August 1, 2016, February 1, 2017, February 15, 2017, August 1, 2017, July 1, 2018, April 1, 2020, July 1, 2020, per agency request and October 1, 2020, is herein incorporated by reference.

[The document Instructor's Guide – to the end.....remains unchanged]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 832.3, 832.6, 13503, 13506, 13510 and 13515.26, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 832.2, 832.3, 832.6, 835a, 13503, 13506, 13510, 13510.5, 13512, and 13519.10 Penal Code; Section 48412, Education Code; and Section 1031(d), Government Code.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATION ACTION**  
**Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses**  
**Regulations 1005, 1007, and 1008**

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**§ 1008. Basic Course Waiver and Requalification Requirement.**

[(a) – (i) Requalification Requirement remains unchanged...]

The document, *Training and Testing Specifications for Peace Officer Basic Courses*, adopted effective January 1, 2001 and amended effective October 1, 2001, January 1, 2002, April 26, 2002, September 15, 2004, July 1, 2005, January 1, 2006, July 1, 2007, August 8, 2007, January 1, 2008, July 1, 2008, January 1, 2009, July 1, 2009, January 1, 2010, July 1, 2010, July 1, 2011, January 1, 2012, July 1, 2012, January 1, 2013, August 1, 2013, February 1, 2014, August 1, 2014, August 1, 2015, February 1, 2016, August 1, 2016, February 1, 2017, February 15, 2017, August 1, 2017, July 1, 2018, April 1, 2020, July 1, 2020, per agency request and October 1, 2020, is herein incorporated by reference.

[The document, Instructor's – the end... remains unchanged]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 832.3, 13503, 13506, 13510 and 13515.26, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 832.3, 835a, 13505, 13506, 13510, 13510.5, 13511, and 13519.10 Penal Code.

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# ATTACHMENT A

## TRAINING AND TESTING SPECIFICATIONS FOR LEARNING DOMAIN #33 ARREST AND CONTROL

February 1, 2014 July 1, 2020

RBC	Other Basic Courses				Requal
	832	III	II	I	
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

### I. LEARNING NEED

For their own safety and the safety of others, peace officers must maintain awareness and respond appropriately when confronted by a potential hazard or threat.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Demonstrate principles of arrest and control, to include:
  - 1. Awareness
  - 2. Balance
  - 3. Control
- B. Describe the areas of the body which require maximum protection during an attack
- C. Describe parts of an officer's body that may be used as personal weapons during an arrest/detention to control a combative and/or resistive subject

### II. LEARNING NEED

Conducting a person search can be dangerous for peace officers. A peace officer's actions and reactions in these situations should always allow for a margin of safety while maintaining a position of advantage.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Explain factors to consider when approaching a subject and conducting a plain view search
- B. Demonstrate a systematic approach to safely and effectively conduct a person search
- C. Discuss locations where weapons and/or contraband can be concealed on a subject's body

# ATTACHMENT A

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
X	X	X		X	X	X
X				X	X	X

- D. Explain agency considerations and restrictions that may be common regarding a search of a person of the opposite sex
- E. Explain cover officer responsibilities
- F. Discuss cover officer responsibilities during a search of a subject

### III. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must be ready and physically capable of taking control of a subject and to justify their actions if the subject refuses to follow verbal commands, physically resists, or attempts to attack the peace officer during a detention or arrest situation.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Discuss a peace officer's justification to use control holds and takedown techniques on a subject
- B. Explain advantages and limitations a peace officer should consider when applying a control hold
- C. Explain advantages and limitations a peace officer should consider when performing a takedown technique

### IV. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know the advantages of the use of a carotid restraint control hold, the risks involved, the follow-up procedures, and safety precautions.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Discuss the justification for using the carotid restraint control hold

# ATTACHMENT A

RBC	Other Basic Courses				Requial	
	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	

- B. Describe factors which cause unconsciousness and physiological responses when a carotid restraint control hold is applied, to include:
1. Structures of the human neck
  2. Breathing
  3. Circulation
- C. Demonstrate the prescribed application of the carotid restraint control hold
- D. Describe potential effects associated with the improper application of a carotid restraint control hold, to include:
1. Physiological responses a subject may experience
- E. Demonstrate procedures for handling a subject after a carotid restraint control hold has been applied
- F. Explain procedures regarding medical care after a carotid restraint control hold has been applied

### IV. LEARNING NEED

The application of a restraint device (i.e., handcuffs, plastic flex cuffs, leg restraint devices, full body restraints) on a subject can be a difficult and potentially dangerous task for a peace officer. Peace officers must be proficient in the use of proper methods to ensure their safety and the safety of the subjects.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Explain the purpose of using restraint devices on a subject
- B. Explain potential hazards when using restraint devices on a subject
- C. Demonstrate the proper application and correct positioning of handcuffs on a subject

# ATTACHMENT A

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

- D. Explain various double-locking mechanisms on handcuffs
- E. Discuss responsibilities of the contact and cover officers when handcuffing multiple subjects

**VI. LEARNING NEED**

Peace officers must maintain control of their firearm(s) and, when appropriate, be physically capable of disarming a subject.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- A. Describe factors involved in retaining a peace officer's firearm
- B. Demonstrate the basic techniques for peace officers to safely maintain control of their firearm in a physical conflict
- C. Discuss a peace officer's tactical considerations when confronted by an armed subject
- D. Discuss tactical considerations when disarming a subject
- E. Discuss the justification for a peace officer to continually train in arrest methods, weapon retention and takeaway

**VII. LEARNING NEED**

Peace officers must know that an impact weapon is a force option.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- A. Describe a peace officer's legal authority for using an impact weapon

# ATTACHMENT A

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				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	

- B. Discuss circumstances when a peace officer is justified in using an impact weapon
- C. Demonstrate the appropriate areas on a subject's body that if struck with an impact weapon can be effective in gaining control
- D. Describe areas on a subject's body that if struck with an impact weapon could cause serious injury to the subject
- E. Discuss the use of verbal commands during a confrontation

VIII. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must be familiar with the basic movements and Arrest and Control techniques associated with ground control.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

- A. Discuss the various ground positions and their associated risks
- B. Demonstrate basic ground control positions when controlling a subject
- C. Demonstrate a defense against a takedown attempt
- D. Demonstrate defenses from choke holds
- E. Demonstrate escape and/or reversal skill(s) on the ground including the following positions:

1. Top mount
2. Back mount
3. Side mount
4. Guard



# ATTACHMENT A

- F. Demonstrate weapon retention from various positions on the ground

## IXVIII. LEARNING NEED

When transporting a prisoner, peace officers must recognize that the unpredictable nature of prisoners can create a serious threat. Officers must be aware of safety hazards and appropriate transporting procedures to ensure their safety and the safety of the prisoner.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Describe common transporting procedures that maximize officer safety and prevent prisoner escape
- B. Describe the safe and secure positioning of a prisoner in an officer's vehicle

## IX. REQUIRED TESTS

Exercise testing is mandated and regulated by POST Commission Procedure D-1, which states:

Academies/presenters shall provide the following to students who fail a required exercise test on the first attempt:

- An opportunity to review their results
- A reasonable amount of time, as determined by the academy/presenter, to prepare for a retest
- An opportunity to be tested on the failed test, if the student fails the second test, the student fails the course

Required exercise testing for each format of the basic course is set forth in the Training and Testing Specifications (TTS). The student is required to successfully pass each exercise test outlined below for the specific course of instruction the student is enrolled in.

## ARREST AND CONTROL SAFETY

All Arrest and Control exercise testing must be conducted under written academy/presenter safety procedures and/or

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

















# ATTACHMENT A

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		
60	10	24	16	32	60	30

1. Foot pursuit
2. Tactical movement
3. One or more aggressor(s)
4. Personal weapons/hand strikes
5. Impact weapons
6. Tactical communication
7. Ground control
8. Weapon(s) retention
9. Handcuffing/searching

**XII. HOURLY REQUIREMENTS**

Students shall be provided with a minimum number of instructional hours on arrest and control.

**XIII. ORIGINATION DATE**

January 1, 2001

**XIII~~IV~~. REVISION DATE**

January 1, 2004	January 1, 2009
January 1, 2006	July 1, 2009
January 19, 2007	July 1, 2010
July 1, 2008	July 1, 2011
	February 1, 2014
	<u>July 1, 2020</u>

**Attachment 3**  
**Los Angeles Police Department**  
**Use of Force – Tactics Directive**  
**Carotid Restraint Control Holds**  
**Directive 18 – April 2020**



# LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT USE OF FORCE-TACTICS DIRECTIVE

Directive No. 18

April 2020

## CAROTID RESTRAINT CONTROL HOLDS

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Use of Force-Tactics Directive is to provide an understanding of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold, how it works, when it may be applied and the reporting procedures when used.

In all situations, officers should, when practicable, use tactical de-escalation techniques to reduce the intensity of an encounter and mitigate the need for physical force. The Los Angeles Police Department is guided by the principle of Reverence for Human Life in all investigative, enforcement, and other contacts between officers and members of the public.

### DEFINITION

**Carotid Restraint Control Hold:** A Carotid Restraint Control Hold is the application of sustained bilateral pressure to the carotid arteries. Carotid Restraint Control Holds affect the carotid arteries, which are located on both sides of the neck and supply blood to the brain. When a carotid restraint control hold is properly applied, an officer should be able to render a suspect unconscious within eight to 15 seconds, regardless of the suspect's physical or mental condition.

**Note:** Although the Department trains two techniques of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold, *any* force applied by an officer (e.g. headlock, firm grip to the neck, etc.) that causes restriction to the airway or carotid arteries of a person's neck, that is more than momentary and incidental, regardless of intent, will be investigated AND evaluated as a Categorical Use of Force.

### APPLICATION

Officers shall use the Carotid Restraint Control Hold only when necessary in defense of human life. In determining whether the Carotid Restraint Control Hold is necessary, officers shall evaluate each situation in light of the particular circumstances presented and shall use other available resources and techniques if reasonably safe and feasible to an objectively reasonable officer. Law enforcement officers are authorized to use the Carotid Restraint Control Hold when an officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary to:

- Defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person; or
- Apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. When feasible, a peace officer shall, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the officer has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts.

An officer shall not use the Carotid Restraint Control Hold against a person based on the danger that person poses to themselves, if an objectively reasonable officer would believe that person does not pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or another person.

## PHYSICAL EFFECTS

Carotid Restraint Control Holds affect the carotid arteries, which are located on both sides of the neck and supply blood to the brain. If the Full or Locked Carotid Restraint Control Holds are properly applied, an officer should feel the suspect go limp within eight to 15 seconds, regardless of the suspect's physical or mental condition. Limpness is an indication that the suspect is unconscious. As soon as unconsciousness is detected or once the officer perceives that the risk of death or serious bodily injury no longer exists, the Carotid Restraint Control Hold shall be immediately released and the suspect handcuffed. Based on the physical health and age of the suspect, **serious brain damage may occur if the blood flow to the brain is interrupted from 30 seconds to three minutes**. A Carotid Restraint Control Hold shall not be maintained after unconsciousness occurs.

## MEDICAL TREATMENT

Whenever a Carotid Restraint Control Hold has been applied, officers shall immediately request a rescue ambulance.

## REPORTING

When an officer has used a Carotid Restraint Control Hold, the officer shall immediately notify a supervisor. All uses of a Carotid Restraint Control Hold shall be investigated by Force Investigation Division (FID) as a Categorical Use of Force. If an officer used force that involved a suspect's neck, and any doubt exists whether a Carotid Restraint Control Hold was used, the investigating supervisor shall contact FID for guidance.

As stated previously, *any* force applied by an officer (e.g. headlock, firm grip to the neck, etc.) that causes restriction to the airway or carotid arteries of a person's neck, that is more than momentary and incidental, regardless of intent, will be investigated AND evaluated as a Categorical Use of Force.

## CAROTID RESTRAINT CONTROL HOLD TECHNIQUES

The Department teaches two techniques for the application of the Carotid Restraint Control Hold:

### Full Carotid Restraint Control Hold Technique

#### Key Points

- Achieve a back-control position with an over/under grip
- Encircle the suspect's neck with your arm
- Align your elbow with the suspect's chin
- Use a thumbless palm to palm grip with your non-controlling arm
- Keep your head down opposite of the controlling arm
- Adjust the suspect's chin alignment if necessary
- Squeeze using your back muscles
- Breathe during the squeeze and expand your chest
- Continually assess for unconsciousness
- Release the hold once unconsciousness is perceived



The hold shall be released once the officer perceives that the suspect is unconscious or that the risk of death or serious bodily injury no longer exists.

### **Locked Carotid Restraint Control Hold Technique**

An officer may apply the Locked Carotid Restraint Control Hold as an alternative to the Full Carotid Restraint Control Hold. The advantage of the locked carotid is that it affords the officer greater safety and control should the suspect resist the hold.

#### **Key Points**

- Achieve a back-control position with an over/under grip
- Encircle the suspect's neck and align your elbow with the suspect's chin
- Grab your shirt at the shoulder or your opposite bicep with the controlling arm
- Lock in the carotid by sliding the non-controlling arm behind the suspect's head
- Ensure that the non-controlling arm is on top of the controlling arm
- Keep your head down opposite of the controlling arm
- Adjust the suspect's chin alignment if necessary
- Squeeze using your back muscles
- Breathe during the squeeze and expand your chest
- Continually assess for unconsciousness
- Release the hold once unconsciousness is perceived



The hold shall be released once the officer perceives that the suspect is unconscious or that the risk of death or serious bodily injury no longer exists.

## **POTENTIAL APPLICATION SCENARIOS**

The following hypothetical scenarios depict situations in which the suspect poses an imminent threat of death or seriously bodily injury to a person and it would be reasonably necessary for an officer to use a Carotid Restraint Control Hold to stop the suspect's deadly actions.

- Two officers receive a radio call of a "Prowler Suspect" and conduct a pedestrian stop on a suspect who matches the suspect description. While completing a Field Interview Card, the suspect launches a surprise attack with a takedown against one of the officers. The takedown causes the officer's spine and head to hit the concrete sidewalk. The suspect straddles the officer, clenches his fist, and reaches back to throw a punch at the officer's head, which is still on the concrete. The partner officer runs to the rear of the suspect and uses a Carotid Restraint Control Hold to stop the suspect's deadly actions.
- Two officers receive a radio call of a "415 Fight" at a park. Upon arrival, they observe the suspect kneeling over another man with his hand squeezing the man's throat. The officers give commands as they are approaching the scene. Upon seeing the officers, the suspect places his second hand on the man's throat and continues to strangle the man. The officers observe that the victim appears to be losing consciousness. One of the officers quickly moves to a position behind the suspect and uses a Carotid Restraint Control Hold to stop the suspect's deadly actions.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Carotid Restraint Control Hold can be a viable use of force option in certain deadly force situations. When applied, officers shall ensure the suspect receives immediate medical attention. Any situation where an officer's actions restrict the carotid arteries or airway of a person's neck shall be investigated as a Categorical Use of Force. If an officer uses force that involves a suspect's neck, the investigating supervisor shall contact Force Investigation Division for guidance.

**Important Reminder**

Deviation from these basic concepts sometimes occur due to the fluid and rapidly evolving nature of law enforcement encounters and the environment in which they occur. Deviations may range from minor, typically procedural or technical, to substantial deviations from Department tactical training. Any deviations are to be explained by the involved officer(s), and justification for substantial deviation from Department tactical training shall be articulated and must meet the objectively reasonable and in the case of deadly force *necessary* standard of the Department's Use of Force policy.

**AMMENDMENT**

This Directive replaces Training Bulletin Volume XXXVII, Issue 1, Use of Force-Carotid Restraint Control Hold, August 2005.



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Chief of Police

DISTRIBUTION "A"