

SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT - 2320
ACADEMY DRIVER TRAINING (STOP STICKS)
EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This course will provide the recruit with the knowledge and techniques, legal limitations and safety considerations to safely deploy stop sticks.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the class, the recruit will display the necessary knowledge to safely deploy the stop sticks during an active pursuit, understand the legal limitations, tactical considerations, and any safety aspects required to safely deploy the stop sticks.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The recruit will:

1. Demonstrate the ability to safely deploy stop sticks during a pursuit.
 - a) Choose a safe location for deployment
 - b) Placement of patrol vehicle
 - c) Stop stick deployment and placement on roadway
 - d) Pulling stop stick into path of suspect
 - e) Safe recovery of the stop stick device
2. Recognize that stop stick deployment is legal intervention
3. Identify the circumstances when legal intervention during a pursuit would be appropriate.
4. Recognize if stop stick deployment is authorized by recruit's agency

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE:

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Orientation

1. Housekeeping Items
2. Academy Rules and Guidelines
3. Course Overview / Expectations

B. Injury Prevention

1. Safety Policy / Orientation
2. Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Location and Contact Information

C. Terminology

II. APPROPRIATE USE OF LEGAL INTERVENTION

A. Students will recognize the definition of legal intervention.

1. Legal intervention defined

B. Continued movement of the pursued vehicle

1. Place others in danger

C. Apparent risk of harm to others

1. So great as to outweigh the risk of harm in making the forcible stop

D. Conditions for Use:

1. Stop sticks should not be used on:
 - a. Motorcycles, mopeds, or bicycles
 - b. Vehicles posing an unusual hazard
 - c. Buses with passengers
2. Stop sticks should not be used in locations where specific geographic features increase the risk of serious injury to the officer, violator or public.
3. The location for deployment should have a reasonable visibility distance to allow traffic and the approaching pursuit to be seen.

III. LEGAL INTERVENTION TECHNIQUES / OFFICER SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

A. Utilizing a learning activity and facilitated discussion, students will memorize when forcible stops are authorized by their department

1. PIT maneuver
2. Stop sticks
3. Ramming
4. Use of Firearms

B. Utilizing a learning activity and facilitated discussion, the students will identify safety considerations while deploying the stop sticks

1. Deployment location

- a. Should provide adequate visibility
- b. Should provide the use of solid cover
- c. Deploying units should never overtake the pursuit in order to deploy

2. Placement of patrol vehicle

- a. Out of sight if possible
- b. Should not be used as cover

3. Use of Cover

- a. Deployment should be made from behind a solid structure that would provide a shield from being struck by the suspect vehicle
- b. If no solid structure is available, increase distance from roadway using the 100' of available string.

4. Pre-deployment of stop sticks

- a. Stop sticks should be deployed well ahead of the pursuit to maximize officer safety
- b. Stop sticks can be dropped or thrown across the roadway

5. Stop stick retrieval

- a. Recruit should never wrap cord around wrist, fingers or grab cord in any way as suspect vehicle passes

IV. TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

A. Officers that are not actively involved in the pursuit should consider maneuvering to an area where they can deploy stop sticks

- 1. Whenever possible supervisory permission should be acquired prior to deployment
- 2. Stop stick deployment location and timing should be clearly communicated to units

V. STOP STICK DEPLOYMENT

A. Utilizing a learning activity, recruits will demonstrate their ability to successfully deploy stop sticks during an active pursuit.

- 1. Locate a safe area for deployment
- 2. Safely deploy stop sticks on roadway
- 3. Pull assembly into the path of the fleeing vehicle

4. Once ran over by fleeing vehicle, recruit will use only the handle to pull stop sticks from roadway and out of the path of the pursuing officer.

B. Instructors will critique the recruit on their performance of stop stick deployment

1. If recruits' performance is below acceptable level, instruction is to continue until an acceptable performance level is reached by the recruit as this is not a tested exercise.

VI. CONCLUSION

A. Review / Critique

1. General review of the program material and activities
2. Oral feedback from students