

**VERNON POLICE DEPARTMENT
FIREARMS TRAINING UNIT
PISTOL TRAINING 4 HR. COURSE
SMITH & WESSON M&P 9MM
COURSE OUTLINE**

I. Introduction

A. Roll Call

1. Performance objective: To provide students with the ability to safely and effectively deploy and maintain the Smith & Wesson M&P 9MM 2.0 pistol. The course will include lecture, inert training aids, and practical exercises.
2. Course requirements:
 - a. Students must attend all 4 hours and be on time
 - b. Students must pass the pistol qualification course
 - c. Students must demonstrate the ability to safely manipulate the pistol
 - d. 100 % compliance with all safety rules

Prerequisite: Students must have completed a basic P.O.S.T. approved Police Academy

B. Safety lecture

1. Who is the most dangerous person on the range?
 - a. Complacency
 - b. Law of Statistical Probability
2. **Four Universal Rules of Firearms Safety:**
 - a. **All guns are always loaded and they're to be treated as such at all times**
 - b. **Never allow your muzzle to cover anything that you are not willing to destroy**
 - c. **Keep your finger off the trigger until you've made a conscious decision to shoot**
 - d. **Be sure of your target, backstop, and everything beyond**
3. Additional Rules and safety considerations
 - a. Body armor is to be worn during live fire training
 - b. Talk about "Hot Brass"
 - c. No speed re-holstering (pause on count 2)
 - d. All personnel are Deputy Rangemasters and may call "Cease Fire!"
 - f. Discuss emergency phone procedures.

C. Issue equipment

1. Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm with three 17-round magazines.
 - a. One basket weave holster with one basket weave or nylon magazine pouch.
 - b. Surefire X300Ultra light with DG activation switch (assemble DG switch and discuss)

D. Disassemble, clean, and lubricate pistol prior to shooting.

- a. Demonstrate the proper technique and lubrication points of pistol. Discuss cleaning magazine (no lube).
- b. Different grip options.
- c. Discuss slide stop

- d. Demonstrate how the disassembled barrel can be used as a tool to check your duty ammo.
- e. Discuss the advantages of having everyone trained on the same pistol while still allowing the carry of individually owned weapons.
- f. Training magazines vs. duty magazines.
- g. Review how to use the slide stop or for reloading.

II. Range training - Start with four 10-round training magazines fully loaded

- A. Grip: Demonstrate the proper grip with the firing hand. Let officers get used to the feel of the new trigger and sight picture. Explain the checklist. Have officers hold the pistol and go through their proper grip checklist.
 1. Dry practice: One handed, pinkie grip, C-clamp, no target. 10 presses.
 2. Live fire: One handed, pinkie grip C-clamp, no target. 10 shots
 3. Review Weaver and Isosceles Stances and proper grip
 - a. Web up high
 - b. Base of thumbs mate
 - c. Support trigger finger touches trigger guard
 - d. wrist is extended downward. Use handshake drill to demonstrate
 - e. Rotational torque or nutcracker.
 4. Dry practice, Two hands, no target. (torque muzzle to get hands high)
 5. Live fire: Two hands, no target. 10 shots.
 - a. Manually work the slide to make them assume a proper stance.
 6. Live fire: 5 yards on Bullseye target. Two hands sighted fire. Fire 5 shots/Evaluate/fire 5 more shots.
 - a. When everyone is finished shooting, instruct them to freeze their feet in place. Have them sprint forward and touch the target before sprinting back. If they had to significantly adjust their feet before moving, they should rethink their fighting stance.
- B. Trigger work. Dry Practice
 1. Split into teams. Have one team member assume a balanced fighting stance while the other balances an expended shell casing on their front sight. The shooter should press the trigger without disturbing the casing. Look at their finger position on the trigger and correct if necessary.
- C. Trigger work. Live Fire
 1. Ball and Dummy drill. Equipment needed: Three 10-round magazines with 2-4 dummy rounds loaded among live rounds.
 - a. Students should go through all three magazines at their own pace and do at least 3 perfect dry practice presses every time an incorrect trigger press is noted.

III. Holster training

- A. Demonstrate and explain the features of the Safariland 6285 series holster.
 1. Rotating hood released in one movement
 2. Retention screws
 3. Precise fit (demonstrate weapon retention position)

- a. Discuss “binding” and potential fixes (tighten belt, loosen retention, correct belt placement, or correct elbow position during presentation)
- B. Dry practice presentation from holster. Review 4 or 5 count presentation.
 1. Firing side two handed presentation. Continue with multiple presentations until some degree of smoothness is noted.
- C. Live fire presentation from holster
 1. Draw and fire a single shot on a bullseye target until some degree of smoothness is noted.
- D. Dot Torture Drill

IV. Weapon mounted lights and avoiding Negligent Discharges

- A. Explain X300 light and demonstrate different switches. Explain the advantages and potential problems with having a light on a pistol and why we still need to carry an additional flashlight.
 1. Case studies from LASO, NYPD, Colorado, Washington, Feds, and USMC, and how they conflict with personal experience.
 2. Alternate techniques for searching with a hand held light.
 - a. Have a good grip on pistol in holster with retention undone
 - b. Hold the pistol next to the leg pointed down
 - c. Drop the light or use a lanyard to switch from hand held to weapon light
 - d. Always carry a second light.
- B. Principles for avoiding N.D.'s
 1. Believe that it can happen to you. *Everyone is the hero of their story.*
 2. Don't perform tasks with the gun in hand.
 - a. Postural imbalance
 - b. Startle response
 - c. Sympathetic inter-limb interaction
 3. Don't switch hands unless injured. *Less mind-body connection with non-dominant hand*
 4. How my experience ignored the above mentioned principles.

V. Pistol qualification course.

- A. Pistol qualification should be shot with duty ammo to verify reliable operation and sight adjustment.
 1. Score targets and obtain serial numbers.
 2. Clean and lubricate pistol for duty. Clean range and issue fresh duty ammunition.

Debrief and student questions and comments.