

I attended a Firearms Instructor School at Peacekeeper Training Academy in Bolivar, Mo from July 30th, 2018 through August 3rd, 2018. The class was for law enforcement only, and was instructing not only the teaching aspect but the practical application side of teaching law enforcement officers to be better shooters. The content of the class was based on Missouri Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) requirement and was fifty hours of training. The class consisted of both pistol and shotgun instruction.

The first day of the class we discussed liability and current format for instructors to engage with officers on the firearms range. We also were required to pass a shooting qualification to be able to advance to the next day.

On the second day we continued the conversation of liability for both the instructor and agency, as well we talked about case law in relation to officers involved shootings. We also completed multiple stages of fire in a close combat and combat tuck techniques.

On the third day we spent majority of the day working on combat shooting and close quarter combat. During the course of the day we were required to be able to do the practical application, as well instruct the other instructors in the course of fire as well correct their action to make them more successful shooters.

On day four we focused in the morning on the shotgun side of the spectrum, and discussed maintenance, and different ways to hold/handle the firearm both with flashlights and without flashlights. The second part of the day we completed several courses of fire with shotguns, including use of slug from 50-100 yards, as well as practical application of Buck shot 9 pellet.

On day five we began class by completing a written exam over the information covered in class, and reading assignments (homework). Requirement to pass the written exam was 80% or higher. I passed the written exam, and we completed in several courses of fire in stress combat requiring officers to run 500 yards and return to a firing line and shooting their weapons under stress. We also completed two rounds of pistol qualifications which required a score of 80% or higher to pass. Officer had to pass the qualifications twice to be certified. Officers then completed a shotgun qualification, again with a minimum of 80% to pass. Once all officers completed the qualifications, instructors made us teach the qualifications to individual officers. Once dark fell upon us, we completed both a night time pistol and shotgun qualification, again with a minimum of 80% shooting rate. At the end of the night the instructors passed out certifications to those who completed all needed assignments with the minimum scores. Lucky for me, I completed everything and was assigned a certification that was good for 5 years.

Because of this qualification, it will allow me to submit an action plan to POST, once completed they will assign me a POST control number, which will allow me to give continuing educations hours required for every police officers in the state to complete to maintain their licenses. By law every law enforcement officer in Missouri is required to have four hours of firearms development. Lucky at LUPD we normally have double the standard.