

# **Basic Course Workbook Series Student Materials**

**Learning Domain 33  
Arrest and Control  
Version 5.1**

**Basic Course Workbook Series  
Student Materials  
Learning Domain 33  
Arrest and Control  
Version 5.1**

© Copyright 2005  
California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)  
All rights reserved.

Published 1998  
Revised July 2005  
Revised November 2005  
Workbook Correction January 27, 2009  
Workbook Correction July 19, 2012  
Revised 2014  
Correction April 2014  
Revised July 2020  
Revised February 2022

This publication may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, in any form or by any means electronic or mechanical or by any information storage and retrieval system now known or hereafter invented, without prior written permission of the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, with the following exception:

California law enforcement or dispatch agencies in the POST program, POST-certified training presenters, and presenters and students of the California basic course instructional system are allowed to copy this publication for non-commercial use.

All other individuals, private businesses and corporations, public and private agencies and colleges, professional associations, and non-POST law enforcement agencies in-state or out-of-state may purchase copies of this publication, at cost, from POST as listed below:

From POST's Web Site:  
**[www.post.ca.gov](http://www.post.ca.gov)**  
Go to Ordering Student Workbooks

## POST COMMISSIONERS

Joyce Dudley – Chair	District Attorney Santa Barbara County
Rick Braziel – Vice Chair	Educator Humboldt State University
Alan Barcelona	Special Agent California Department of Justice
Ingrid Braun	Sheriff-Coroner Mono County Sheriff’s Department
Lai Lai Bui	Sergeant Sacramento Police Department
Barry Donelan	Sergeant Oakland Police Department
Robert T. Doyle	Sheriff Marin County
Kelly Gordon	Chief Monterey Park Police Department
P. Lamont Ewell	Public Member
Geoff Long	Public Member
Tina Nieto	Chief Marina Police Department
James O’Rourke	Sergeant California Highway Patrol
Batine Ramirez	Sergeant Placer County Sheriff’s Department
John Marsh Representing Rob Bonta Attorney General Ex-Officio Member	Chief Director of Division of Law Enforcement



## **THE ACADEMY TRAINING MISSION**

The primary mission of basic training is to prepare students mentally, morally, and physically to advance into a field training program, assume the responsibilities, and execute the duties of a peace officer in society.



## **FOREWORD**

The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training sincerely appreciates the efforts of the many curriculum consultants, academy instructors, directors and coordinators who contributed to the development of this workbook. We must also thank the California law enforcement agency executives who allowed their personnel to participate in the development of these training materials.

This student workbook is part of the POST Basic Course Training System. The workbook component of this system provides a self-study document for every learning domain in the Basic Course. Each workbook is intended to be a supplement to, not a substitute for, classroom instruction. The objective of the system is to improve academy student learning and information retention and ultimately contribute to you becoming a peace officer committed to safety, and to the communities you will serve.

The content of each workbook is organized into sequenced learning modules to meet requirements as prescribed both by California law and the POST Training and Testing Specifications for the Basic Course.

It is our hope that the collective wisdom and experience of all who contributed to this workbook will help you, the student, to successfully complete the Basic Course and to enjoy a safe and rewarding career as a peace officer.

MANUEL ALVAREZ, Jr.  
Executive Director

# LD 33: Arrest and Control

## Table of Contents

---

Topic	See Page
<b>Preface</b>	<b>iv</b>
Introduction	iv
How to Use the Student Workbook	v
<b>Chapter 1: Principles of Arrest and Control</b>	<b>1-1</b>
Overview	1-1
Principles of Arrest and Control	1-3
Awareness	1-6
Balance	1-10
Control	1-11
Areas of the Body Which Require Maximum Protection	1-12
Body Parts as Personal Weapons	1-13
Chapter Synopsis	1-15
Workbook Learning Activities	1-16
<b>Chapter 2: Person Searches</b>	<b>2-1</b>
Overview	2-1
Introduction to Person Searches	2-3
Elements of an Effective Person Search	2-8
Responsibilities of Searching and Cover Officers	2-14
Chapter Synopsis	2-16
Workbook Learning Activities	2-18
Student Performance Criteria	2-20

---

*Continued on next page*



## Table of Contents, Continued

---

Topic	See Page
<b>Chapter 3: Controlling Force: Control Holds and Takedown Techniques</b>	<b>3-1</b>
Overview	3-1
Use of Control Holds and Takedowns	3-3
Control Holds	3-5
Takedown Techniques	3-7
Chapter Synopsis	3-9
Workbook Learning Activities	3-10
Student Performance Criteria	3-12
<b>Chapter 4: Restraint Devices</b>	<b>4-1</b>
Overview	4-1
Introduction to Restraint Devices	4-3
General Guidelines for Use of Handcuffs	4-5
Chapter Synopsis	4-9
Workbook Learning Activities	4-11
Student Performance Criteria	4-12

---

*Continued on next page*

## Table of Contents, Continued

---

Topic	See Page
<b>Chapter 5: Firearm Retention and Takeaways</b>	<b>5-1</b>
Overview	5-1
Officer Awareness	5-3
General Principles of Firearm Retention	5-6
General Principles of Firearm Takeaways	5-7
Chapter Synopsis	5-10
Workbook Learning Activities	5-12
Student Performance Criteria	5-14
<b>Chapter 6: Use of Impact Weapons</b>	<b>6-1</b>
Overview	6-1
Introduction to Impact Weapons	6-3
Guidelines for Impact Weapons	6-5
Chapter Synopsis	6-10
Workbook Learning Activities	6-11
Student Performance Criteria	6-12
<b>Chapter 7: Ground Control</b>	<b>7-1</b>
Overview	7-1
Ground Positions	7-3
Defense Against Takedown Attempt	7-7
Choke Escapes	7-8
Ground Control Considerations	7-9
Firearm Retention From the Ground	7-10
Chapter Synopsis	7-11
Workbook Learning Activities	7-13

---

*Continued on next page*

## Table of Contents, Continued

---

<b>Chapter 8: Transporting Prisoners</b>	<b>8-1</b>
Officer Safety and Prisoner Transportation	8-2
Positioning of the Prisoner in a Vehicle	8-4
Chapter Synopsis	8-5
Workbook Learning Activities	8-6
<b>Supplementary Material</b>	<b>S-1</b>
<b>Glossary</b>	<b>G-1</b>

---

# How to Use the Student Workbook

---

## Introduction

This workbook introduces the training requirements for this Learning Domain. It is intended to be used in several ways: for initial learning prior to classroom attendance, for test preparation, and for remedial training.

---

## Workbook format

To use the workbook most effectively, follow the steps listed below.

Step	Action
1	Read the first two sections: How to Use the Workbook and Preface, which provide an overview of how the workbook fits into the POST Instructional System and how it should be used.
2	Refer to the overview section at the start of each chapter to review the learning objectives.
3	Read the text.
4	Refer to the Chapter Synopsis section at the end of each chapter to review the key points that support the chapter objectives.
5	Complete the Workbook Learning Activities at the end of each chapter. These activities reinforce the material taught in the chapter.
6	Refer to the Glossary section for a definition of important terms. The terms appear throughout the text and are bolded and underlined the first time they appear (e.g. <b><u>term</u></b> ).

---

# Preface

## Introduction

---

### **Student workbooks**

The student workbooks are part of the POST Basic Course Instructional System. This system is designed to provide students with a self-study document to be used in preparation for classroom training.

---

### **Regular Basic Course training requirement**

Completion of the Regular Basic Course is required, prior to exercising peace officer powers, as recognized in the California Penal Code and where the POST-required standard is the POST Regular Basic Course.

---

### **Student workbook elements**

The following elements are included in each workbook:

- chapter contents, including a synopsis of key points
  - supplementary material
  - a glossary of terms used in this workbook
-

# Chapter 1

## Principles of Arrest and Control

### Overview

---

**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** The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

<b>After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:</b>	<b>Objective ID</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate principles of arrest and control to include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Awareness</li><li>- Balance</li><li>- Control</li></ul></li></ul>	33.01.1 33.01.2 33.01.3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe the areas of the body which require maximum protection during an attack.</li></ul>	33.01.4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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.</li></ul>	33.01.5

---

*Continued on next page*

## Overview, Continued

---

**In this chapter** This chapter focuses on principles of arrest and control. Refer to the following chart for specific topics.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Principles of Arrest and Control	1-3
Awareness	1-6
Balance	1-10
Control	1-11
Areas of the Body Which Require Maximum Protection	1-12
Body Parts as Personal Weapons	1-13
Chapter Synopsis	1-15
Workbook Learning Activities	1-16

---

# Principles of Arrest and Control

---

## **Introduction**

Arrest and control is a skill set that allows a peace officer to use reasonable force to establish and maintain control of a subject.

---

## **Justification for use of force**

*Penal Code 835a* states: Any peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a public offense may use reasonable force to effect the arrest, to prevent escape or to overcome resistance.

A peace officer who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from his efforts by reason of the resistance or threatened resistance of the person being arrested; nor shall such officer be deemed an aggressor or lose his right to self-defense by use of reasonable force to effect the arrest or to prevent escape or to overcome resistance.

---

## **The role of a peace officer**

Essential job functions of a peace officer are to defend the public and to safely take a subject into custody by using reasonable force. A peace officer's actions must be legally justified based on reasonable suspicion and/or probable cause.

---

*Continued on next page*



## Principles of Arrest and Control, Continued

---

### **Leadership**

A peace officer trained to the highest level of proficiency and comprehension of the law and the knowledge and skillful application of arrest methods is less likely to panic and misuse force than a peace officer who is not effectively trained. A thoughtful, well-trained peace officer is able to make good leadership decisions, intervene effectively, prevent potential conflict, and convey confidence during arrest situations.

---

### **Emotional as well as physical**

Emotions can arise from many different factors and can affect both the arresting peace officers and subjects. If peace officers allow emotions to affect their judgment, they may lose control; the same is true of subjects. Therefore, it is essential that the peace officer control those emotions.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Principles of Arrest and Control, Continued

---

### Emotional as well as physical (continued)

The following chart lists examples of the responses peace officers and subjects may experience during an arrest process:

Officers	Subjects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• anger</li><li>• fear</li><li>• prejudices</li><li>• peer pressure</li><li>• personal problems</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• anger</li><li>• fear</li><li>• embarrassment</li><li>• loss of freedom</li><li>• prejudices</li><li>• peer pressure</li><li>• personal problems</li><li>• mental illness</li></ul>

---

### The mind and body as one

To be effective in an arrest or a control situation, a peace officer must learn to develop the mind and body and train them to function as one. This interaction must become routine.

**The mind and body are one.**

---

Distractions can separate the mind from the body. When peace officers become distracted, they become vulnerable as do subjects. Distractions may be a valuable part of the arrest/detention process.

---

### Community policing

Community members want their officers to possess the skills necessary to subdue violent and dangerous subjects. They also want peace officers to use these skills to apply only the amount of force that is reasonable to effect an arrest, to overcome resistance, or to prevent escape. Force should never be used to punish subjects. In the American criminal justice system, punishment in the form of judgments is the sole responsibility of the courts.

---

# Awareness

---

## **Introduction**

**Awareness**, as it relates to arrest and control, means being alert to any potential threats a peace officer may face when approaching or interacting with a subject or a potentially dangerous situation.

---

## **Foundations of arrest and control**

There are three basic principles that make up the foundation of arrest and control. All other skills or techniques will be reduced or neutralized if an officer does not practice control in a stressful situation.

- Awareness
- Balance
- Control

NOTE: Awareness and control of the subject's hands continues to be universal safety points.

---

## **Cover and concealment**

Peace officers must be aware of surrounding objects or areas that may be used as protection and concealment for the subject as well as themselves. Cover offers protection, while concealment only offers a place to hide.

Be aware of the location of cover. Use, be ready to use, and/or move to cover when necessary. The use of available cover continues to be a basic tactical consideration.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Awareness, Continued

### Cover and concealment (continued)

The following chart gives examples that illustrate the difference between cover and concealment:

Cover	Concealment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• trees</li> <li>• walls – such as cement block or brick</li> <li>• buildings, dumpsters</li> <li>• vehicles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• shrubs, and bushes</li> <li>• doorways</li> <li>• vehicles</li> </ul>

### Potential hazards

Peace officers are vulnerable to potential harm when approaching a subject. However, if they are aware of specific hazards that could endanger them, they can minimize potential harm. The following chart suggests a few potential hazards peace officers should consider when approaching a subject:

	Potential Hazards	Avoiding Harm
<b>Proper distance</b>	Peace officers should maintain a proper distance between themselves and the subject in order to have a reactionary gap.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be aware of the subject from head to foot and everything in between</li> <li>• Be aware of any body movement which may indicate any offensive or dangerous movement</li> </ul>
<b>Subject's Hands</b>	Typically, it is the subject's hands (or what may be in them) that cause harm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be aware of the location of the subject's hands and potential contents</li> </ul>

*Continued on next page*

## Awareness, Continued

**Potential hazards**  
(continued)

	<b>Potential Hazards</b>	<b>Avoiding Harm</b>
<b>Weapons and Potential Weapons</b>	Weapons can cause serious harm or death to peace officers or others in the immediate area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be aware of any object that could be used as a weapon, including but not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- guns</li> <li>- pens/pencils</li> <li>- bottles</li> <li>- tools</li> <li>- knives</li> <li>- kitchen implement</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Visually check the subject for areas that may conceal a weapon.</li> </ul>
<b>Friends or Associates of the Subject</b>	Friends or associates in the immediate area could threaten peace officers' safety and help the subject escape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be aware of anyone who could come to the subject's aid, including but not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- relatives</li> <li>- bystanders</li> <li>- animals</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

*Continued on next page*

## Awareness, Continued

**Potential hazards**  
(continued)

	<b>Potential Hazards</b>	<b>Avoiding Harm</b>
<b>Potential Escape Routes</b>	A subject may know the area better than the peace officer; the subject may lead the officer into a trap.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be aware of potential escape routes for subject and peace officers, including but not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- doorways</li> <li>- dark rooms</li> <li>- dark yards</li> <li>- trees</li> <li>- alley ways</li> <li>- vehicles</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Footing and Environment</b>	Because of the terrain, poor footing or conditions may limit the peace officer's alternatives for responding to a threat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be aware of the surrounding conditions and obstacles including but not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- distance</li> <li>- uneven terrain</li> <li>- shrubs and bushes</li> <li>- gravel and sandy areas</li> <li>- weather conditions (e.g. rain, ice, snow)</li> <li>- water hazards</li> <li>- furniture, curbs, steps</li> <li>- footing (e.g. loose gravel, slick floors)</li> <li>- lighting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

# Balance

---

## Introduction

**Balance**, as it relates to arrest and control, is the position that allows the peace officer to move in any direction with strength and coordination to maintain an advantage.

---

## Balanced stance

A balanced stance is an essential component of any subject contact.

To safely maintain a balanced stance:

- keep the gun side away from the subject
  - keep weight evenly distributed over the balls of the feet
  - bend the knees slightly – do not lock them
  - keep feet approximately shoulder width apart
  - keep the body relaxed
  - stay alert
-

# Control

---

## Introduction

Control, as it relates to arrest and control, not only means verbally or physically gaining and maintaining control of a subject. It also means maintaining control of one's emotions.

---

## General control

**General control** is the degree of **influence** that peace officers must exert over subjects in order to take them into custody. The subject may still have options for movement while under the general control of a peace officer.

---

## Physical control

**Physical control** is the application of specific control holds or other techniques applied by a peace officer which allows the subject to move only in the direction and manner the peace officer chooses.

---

## Self-control

**Self-control** is maintaining composure and the ability to make sound judgments and decisions. Self-control is **gained through confidence**. Confidence is achieved from proper, adequate, and ongoing training to understand basic principles of arrest and control. Control is *enhanced through practice*.

To practice without understanding the principles of arrest and control, is just as impractical as having principles without the practice. They are both part of the whole. Both are equally necessary to control the subject and the situation.

It is essential to manage emotions such as anger and fear to reasonably control the situation.

---



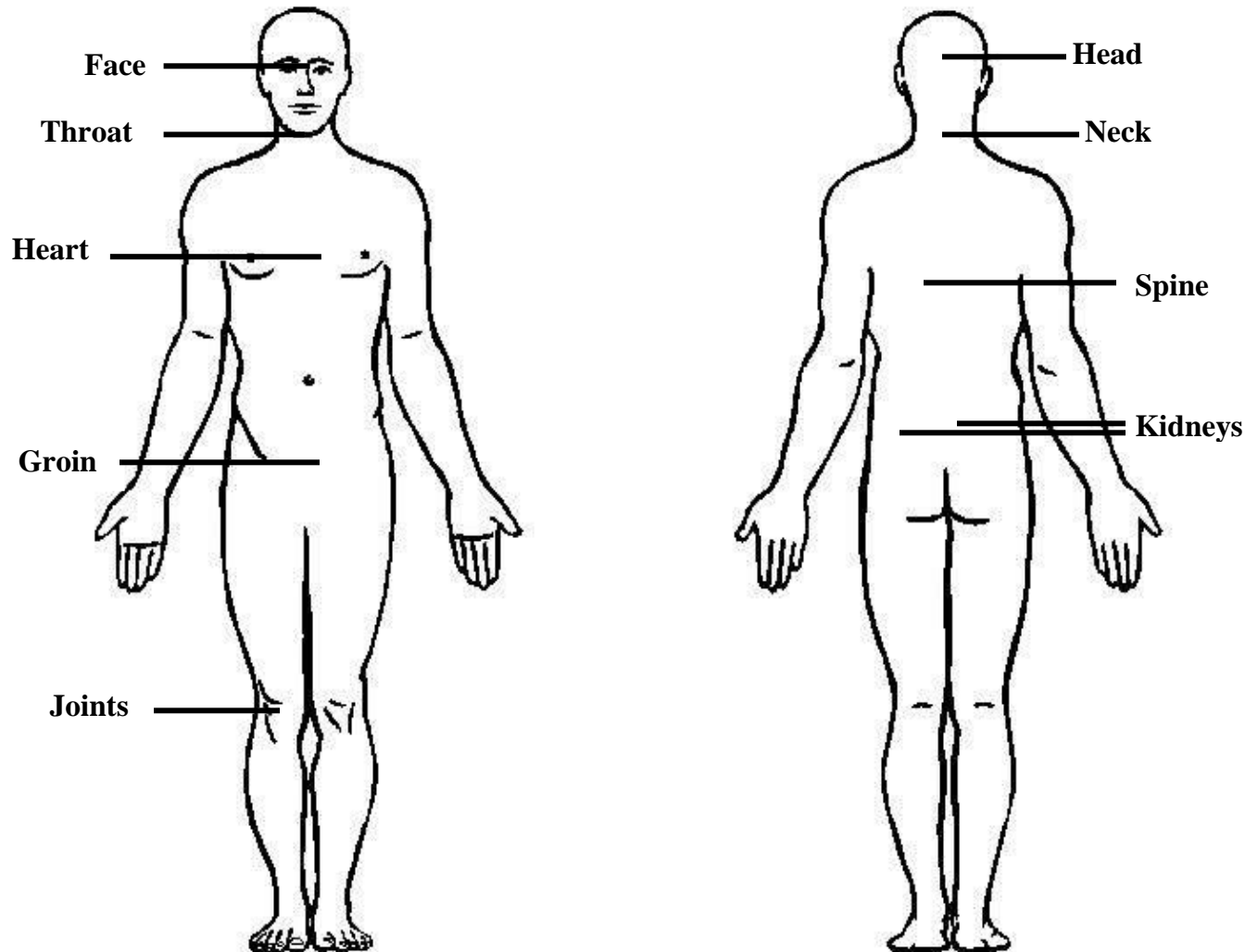
# Areas of the Body Which Require Maximum Protection

---

## Introduction

During a confrontation, peace officers need to be aware of those areas of the body which require maximum protection during an attack.

---



# Body Parts as Personal Weapons

---

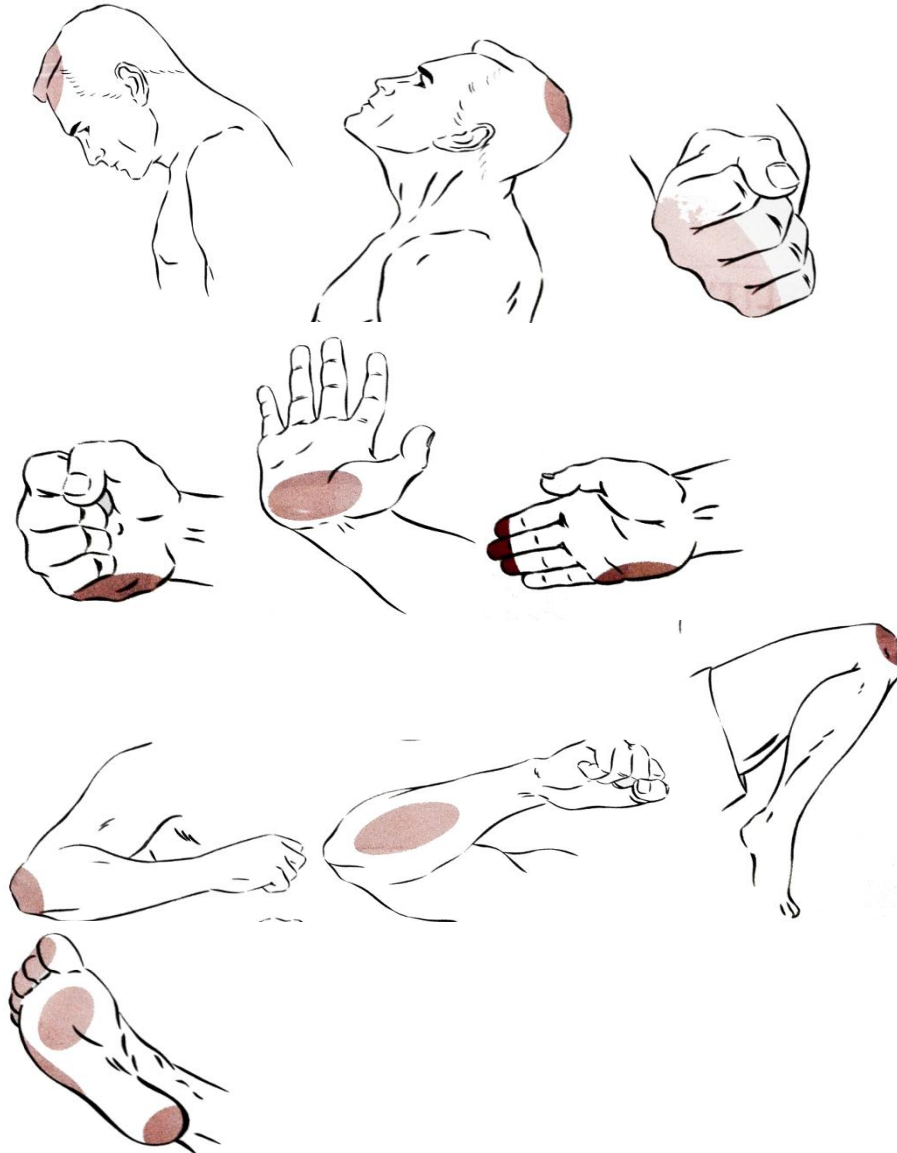
## Introduction

Some body parts may be used as personal weapons against peace officers by a combative subject. Peace officers may also use personal weapons to strike available targets during an arrest/detention to control a combative and/or resistive subject, especially during **ground control** encounters.

---

## Personal weapons

Peace officers need to learn exactly how to use personal weapons to their advantage and safety.



---

*Continued on next page*

## Body Parts as Personal Weapons, Continued

---

### Personal weapons (continued)

The following chart lists the body parts that can be used as personal weapons.

Body Part	Use
<b>Head</b>	Both the front and back of the head might be used for butting
<b>Hands</b>	Parts of the hands used for striking include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• fist – knuckle area of clenched hand used for punching</li><li>• hammer fist – lower edge of joined fist used for pounding blows</li><li>• blade edge – edge of the hand/little finger used for chopping blows</li><li>• fingers – tips of extended hand used for poking</li><li>• heel of hand – lower palm area of the hand for palm heel strikes</li></ul>
<b>Arms</b>	Parts of the arm include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• elbow – used to strike</li><li>• forearm – used for sharp, quick blows</li></ul>
<b>Legs</b>	Parts of the leg include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• knee - used to strike</li><li>• shin – used to kick</li></ul>
<b>Feet</b>	Parts of the feet include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• instep – raking</li><li>• heel – kicking or stomping (when applied to the arch, can generate serious incapacitating pain)</li><li>• ball of foot – kicking or stomping</li><li>• edge of foot – kicking or stomping</li><li>• toe – kicking</li></ul>

---

# Chapter Synopsis

---

**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.

---

**Principles of arrest and control – awareness [33.01.1]** Awareness, as it relates to arrest and control, means being alert to any potential hazard a peace officer may face when approaching or interacting with a subject or a potentially dangerous situation.

---

**Principles of arrest and control – balance [33.01.2]** Balance, as it relates to arrest and control, is the position that allows the peace officer to move in any direction with strength and coordination to maintain an advantage.

---

**Principles of arrest and control – control [33.01.3]** General control is the degree of influence that peace officers must exert over subjects in order to take them into custody. The subject may still have options for movement while under the general control of a peace officer.

---

**Areas of the body which require maximum protection [33.01.4]** During a confrontation with a hostile subject, peace officers need to be aware of those areas of the body which require maximum protection during an attack.

---

**Personal weapons [33.01.5]** Some body parts may be used as personal weapons against peace officers by a combative subject. Peace officers may also use personal weapons to strike available targets during an arrest/detention to control a combative and/or resistive subject, especially during ground control encounters.

---





## **Workbook Learning Activities, Continued**

---

**Student notes**

# Chapter 2

## Person Searches

### Overview

---

**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** The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

<b>After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:</b>	<b>Objective ID</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explain factors to consider when approaching a subject and conducting a plain view search.</li></ul>	33.02.1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate an approach to safely and effectively conduct a person search.</li></ul>	33.02.2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss locations where weapons and/or contraband can be concealed on a subject's body.</li></ul>	33.02.3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explain agency considerations and restrictions that may be common regarding a search of a person of the opposite sex.</li></ul>	33.02.4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explain cover officer responsibilities.</li></ul>	33.02.6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss cover officer responsibilities during a search of a subject.</li></ul>	33.02.5

---

*Continued on next page*



## Overview, Continued

---

**In this chapter** This chapter focuses on person searches. Refer to the following chart for specific topics.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Introduction to Person Searches	2-3
Elements of an Effective Person Search	2-8
Responsibilities of Searching and Cover Officers	2-14
Chapter Synopsis	2-16
Workbook Learning Activities	2-18
Student Performance Criteria	2-20

---

# Introduction to Person Searches

---

## **Introduction**

Person search techniques are designed to provide peace officers with a margin of safety while giving them an advantage over the subject. Person searches usually are done as part of a detention or arrest procedure.

---

## **Plain view**

Technically, plain view (visual) searches are not searches in the legal sense of the term. They do not require **reasonable suspicion** or **probable cause**. A visual search is part of an officer's general awareness, one of the basic principles of arrest and control.

As peace officers approach a subject, they should be minimally aware of:

- the subject's clothing
  - the location of the subject's hands
  - the proximity of the subject's obvious or potential weapons
  - any additional subjects
- 

## **Cursory/frisk search**

A **cursory/frisk search** of a legally detained person is to ensure the safety of the peace officer. A frisk affords the peace officers the least amount of control when compared to other types of person searches.

To lawfully conduct a cursory/frisk search, peace officers must have:

- lawfully detained the subject
- have articulable facts which support a reasonable suspicion that the subject may be armed or dangerous

The scope of a cursory/frisk is limited to searching:

- for *weapons only*
- the subject's outer clothing

During the search, once the searching peace officer realizes or decides an item is not a weapon, the peace officer must stop focusing on the particular item or location and move on with the search.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Introduction to Person Searches, Continued

---

### Consent search

A **consent search** is conducted by peace officers with the *expressed or implied consent* of the person to be searched. By consenting, the subject has temporarily relinquished any expectation of privacy for the area to be searched.

There are two conditions that are required for a peace officer to conduct a consent search.

- The peace officer must have the clear, voluntary, and unequivocal consent of the person to be searched.
  - *Expressed consent* is given orally or in writing.
  - *Implied consent* may be manifested by signs, actions, or gestures.
- The person to be searched must have the actual or apparent authority to consent to the search.

The scope of a consent search is limited to those areas specifically consented to by the subject (e.g. pockets, handbags, etc.).

---

*Continued on next page*

## Introduction to Person Searches, Continued

---

### **Searches incident to arrest**

A **search incident to an arrest** is a search that takes place at or near the time of a lawful arrest. This type and degree of search permits peace officers to search for and seize weapons or crime-related evidence which the subject might otherwise use or destroy.

The requirements of a lawful person search incident to an arrest include the following:

- The search must be pursuant to a custodial arrest.
- The arrest must be lawful.
- The search must be a part of the arrest procedure.

The scope of a search incident to arrest includes any area within the arrestee's immediate control. This may include:

- full searches of an arrestee's person
- containers on the arrestee's person, regardless of the kind of crime the person is being arrested for
- the nearby physical area from which the arrestee could grab a weapon, or conceal evidence

---

*Continued on next page*

## Introduction to Person Searches, Continued

---

**Choice of search technique and level of control**

To maximize peace officer safety during any type of person search, peace officers must select a search technique and level of control suitable to the situation and conditions. The following chart notes some of the factors peace officers should consider.

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Officer Considerations</b>
<b>Reason for Detention or Type of Offense</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Search for weapons only, with no initial intent to arrest</li><li>• Misdemeanor cite and release</li><li>• Nonviolent offense or a serious, violent, or armed offense</li></ul>
<b>Number of Subject(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Single subject</li><li>• Multiple subjects, peace officers may select a search technique that would give them a higher level of control during the search (i.e. handcuffing)</li></ul>
<b>The Subject's Appearance and Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bulges showing from under a subject's clothing</li><li>• Location of the subject's hands</li><li>• Subject's level of cooperation</li><li>• Subject's attempt to hide an unknown object</li><li>• Mannerisms that are overly nervous or aggressive</li><li>• Suspicion of drug or alcohol use</li></ul>

---

*Continued on next page*

## Introduction to Person Searches, Continued

---

**Choice of search technique and level of control**  
(continued)

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Officer Considerations</b>
<b>Conditions at Time of the Contact or Arrest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Weather (visibility)</li><li>• Terrain and other physical characteristics of the area</li><li>• Possible escape routes</li><li>• Areas of possible cover or concealment</li><li>• Potential involvement of friends and associates</li><li>• Time of day - light of day or dark of night (visibility)</li><li>• Location - isolated or high traffic</li><li>• Number of peace officers available</li></ul>
<b>Prior Knowledge of the Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Existing criminal record</li><li>• Prior knowledge of the subject possessing weapons</li><li>• History of violent behavior</li></ul>
<b>Physical/Emotional Limitations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Peace officer's size, physical ability, training and experience</li><li>• Subject's size and indications of physical ability</li><li>• Emotional state of the subject</li><li>• Realistic assessment of degree of control reasonable to take the subject safely into custody</li></ul>

---

# Elements of an Effective Person Search

---

## Introduction

Conducting a person search properly, efficiently, and safely is one of the most important steps in a detention or arrest procedure. There are a number of techniques peace officers can choose with varying levels of control to use on a subject. No matter what technique is used, though, there are issues and principles common to all.

---

## Principles of arrest and control

Every search carries an element of danger to the peace officer, as well as the potential for an escape by the subject. A peace officer's ability to apply the three principles of arrest and control are critical.

	<b>Peace officers must always:</b>
<b>Awareness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• remain constantly alert</li><li>• be aware of the surrounding environment</li><li>• be conscious of the subject's actions, no matter how slight</li><li>• maintain communication with the cover officer</li></ul>
<b>Balance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• be in a balanced position of advantage while keeping the subject off balance and in a position of disadvantage</li></ul>
<b>Control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• have control of the subject (<b>search with one hand; control the subject with the other</b>)</li><li>• maintain control of their own weapons by keeping them out of the subject's reach</li><li>• have control of all weapons</li></ul>

---

*Continued on next page*

## Elements of an Effective Person Search, Continued

---

### **Systematic approach for all person searches**

A peace officer's first goal when conducting a person search is to maximize their own personal safety. By following a systematic approach and process while conducting a person search, peace officers are less likely to overlook a potentially dangerous weapon.

A systematic search should include the most likely areas where a weapon might be hidden. This includes but is not limited to the subject's:

- front waistband
- upper body (including the chest, front pockets, armpits, sleeves, and sides)
- back (including the rear waistband and buttocks) area
- lower body (including the legs and ankles)

---

*Continued on next page*

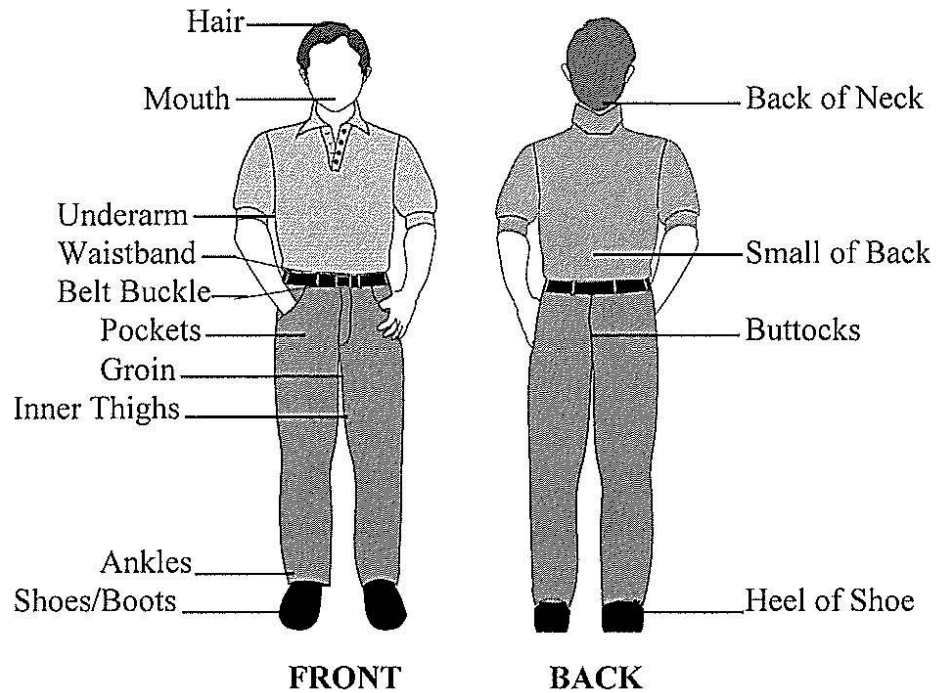


## Elements of an Effective Person Search, Continued

---

**Potential locations for weapons and/or contraband may be concealed**

There are a number of locations on a person where a weapon and/or contraband may be concealed.



---

*Continued on next page*

## Elements of an Effective Person Search, Continued

**Potential locations for weapon and/or contraband concealment**  
(continued)

The following chart lists some, but not all, of the possible sites that may be checked during a systematic person search. Potential weapons or other items that might be found in these locations are also shown:

Upper Body	Torso	Lower Body
<b>Hat or Scarf</b> - knives - gun - razors - drugs	<b>Waistband</b> - guns      - knives  <b>Front pockets</b> - knives      - contraband - guns      - ammunition - razors and blades	<b>Inner/Outer thighs</b> - guns (holster) - knives (sheaths) - contraband
<b>Hair</b> - hairpins - knives	<b>Small of back</b> - guns - knives - stun guns - ammunition	<b>Inner/Outer Ankles</b> - knives - razor blades - guns
<b>Mouth</b> - drugs - contraband	<b>Belt buckle</b> - knives - daggers - guns	<b>Shoes or Boots</b> - knives - guns
<b>Underarms</b> - guns - knives - razors - nunchaku - throwing stars	<b>Groin and buttocks</b> - contraband	<b>Heel of shoe</b> - contraband
<b>Back of neck</b> (between shoulder blades) - knives - throwing instruments	<b>Wallet or purse</b> - guns - knives - razors	

*Continued on next page*

## Elements of an Effective Person Search, Continued

**Potential locations for weapon and/or contraband concealment**  
(continued)

Upper Body	Torso	Lower Body
<b>Bras</b> - knives - guns - contraband	<b>Jewelry</b> (designed for weapon use) - necklaces or bracelets - rings	

**Locating a weapon during a person search**

If a weapon is located on a subject, peace officers must assume the subject is prepared to use it and the subject should be considered dangerous.

The following chart describes steps a peace officer may take if a weapon has been located during a person search:

Possible actions	Including:
<b>Immediately Inform the Cover Officer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying the type of weapon found (e.g., knife, handgun, etc.)</li> <li>Identifying the location of the weapon (e.g. waistband, right jacket pocket, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Maintain Control of the Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the weapon is <i>accessible</i>, confiscating the weapon</li> <li>If the weapon is <i>inaccessible</i>, escalating to a higher-risk search technique and greater level of control before confiscating the weapon</li> </ul>
<b>Continue the Search</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue searching for additional weapons</li> </ul> <p><b>**Never assume a subject carries only one weapon.</b></p>

NOTE: Individual agency policies may vary regarding actions to be taken by the searching and cover officer if a weapon is located on a subject.

*Continued on next page*

## Elements of an Effective Person Search, Continued

---

### Searching individuals of the opposite sex

Normally, the decision to search a member of the opposite sex should be based on the same criteria as a search of a person of the same sex. This includes but is not limited to the following:

- Nature of the crime (Was it a crime involving force or threat of force?)
  - Presence of a weapon (Is there an indication that a weapon was used to commit the crime?)
  - Appearance of the subject (Could the subject's clothing reasonably conceal a weapon?)
  - Known facts about the subject (Is the subject known to carry a weapon?)
- 

### Agency policy regarding searching individuals of the opposite sex

Agencies vary in policy regarding searching individuals of the opposite sex. These policies exist to protect peace officers from potential litigation regarding their conduct. **Peace officers should be aware of and follow their agency's procedures.**

Procedures common in all agency policies may include, but are not limited to:

- maintaining officer safety
  - the availability and use of peace officers of the same sex
  - acceptable search techniques
  - how to avoid false claims of misconduct or sexual assault
-

# Responsibilities of Searching and Cover Officers

---

**Working as a team**

Ideally, there will be two peace officers available when conducting a person search. Even so, both peace officers do not actively take part in the searching. The specific responsibilities of the cover officer complement those of the searching officer.

---

**Officer responsibilities**

The searching officer is responsible for controlling the subject and conducting the actual search. The primary responsibility of the cover officer is to ensure the safety of both. The responsibilities listed in the chart below are common to all search techniques.

<b>Responsibilities of the Searching Officer</b>	<b>Responsibilities of the Cover Officer</b>
Be constantly alert	
Maintain a position of advantage	
Safeguard their weapons	
Conduct the search systematically.	Maintain constant observation of the overall situation; be aware of possible dangers and potential interference.
Make sure the search is thorough.	Exhibit command presence or professional demeanor toward subject being searched.
Search from the rear and never from the front.	Protect the searching officer from possible interference by onlookers or associates of the subject.

---

*Continued on next page*

# Responsibilities of the Searching and Cover Officers,

Continued

**Officer responsibilities**  
(continued)

---

<b>Responsibilities of the Searching Officer</b>	<b>Responsibilities of the Cover Officer</b>
Maintain control of the subject; search with one hand and control with the other.	Assist in restraining the subject if necessary.
Alert cover officer if a weapon or contraband is located on the subject.	Assist the searching officer by taking possession of any found weapons or contraband, if necessary and allow the searching officer to continue the search.

**Multiple suspects**

When there is more than one subject, the cover officer's role is to protect the searching officer by watching the other subjects during the search process.

# Chapter Synopsis

---

**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.

---

**Approaching a subject and conducting a visual search [33.02.1]** As peace officers approach a subject, they should be aware of, at a minimum, the:

- subject's clothing
- location of the subject's hands
- proximity of the subject's obvious or potential weapons

---

**Systematic approach for conducting an effective person search [33.02.2]** A systematic search should include the most likely areas where a weapon might be hidden. This includes, but is not limited to, the subject's:

- front waistband
- upper body (including the chest, front pockets, armpits, sleeves, and sides)
- back (including the rear waistband and buttocks area)
- lower body (including the legs and ankles)

---

**Locations on subject's body for concealing weapons and/or contraband [33.02.3]** There are a number of locations on a subject's person where a weapon and/or contraband may be concealed. These areas include, but are not limited to:

- hair	- pockets
- mouth	- ankles
- neck	- shoes or boots
- underarms	- back of neck
- waistband	- small of back
- belt buckle	- between buttocks
- hand	- inner thighs
- groin	- heel of shoe

---

*Continued on next page*

## Chapter Synopsis, Continued

---

**Agency considerations and restrictions for person searches of the opposite sex**  
[33.02.4]

Agencies vary in their policy toward searching individuals of the opposite sex. These policies exist to protect peace officers from potential litigations regarding their conduct. **Peace officers should be aware of and follow their agency's procedures.**

---

**Cover officer's responsibilities during a person search**  
[33.02.6]

The searching officer is responsible for controlling the subject and conducting the actual search. The primary responsibility of the cover officer is to ensure the safety of the subject and the peace officer conducting the search.

---

**Cover officer's responsibilities**  
[33.02.5]

The primary responsibility of the cover officer is to ensure the safety of both himself and the contact officer he is covering.

---



# Workbook Learning Activities

---

## **Introduction**

To help you review and apply the material covered in this chapter, a selection of learning activities has been included. No answers are provided. However, by referring to the appropriate text, you should be able to prepare a response.

---

## **Activity questions**

1. Two peace officers on patrol about 2:00 a.m. stop a person of the opposite sex after the driver runs a red light. As peace officers approach, the driver exits the car and appears intoxicated, though there is no apparent smell of alcohol. The driver proceeds to fail a roadside sobriety test. Upon being informed of being under arrest, the driver becomes verbally belligerent. What factors do you feel should influence the peace officers' selection of search technique? Is a person search appropriate in this instance? Why or why not? Since no person of the same sex is available, any person search prior to transporting the driver will have to be performed by a peace officer of the opposite sex. If you were in this position, what difficulties might this present for you and what precautions should you take?

---

*Continued on next page*

## Workbook Learning Activities, Continued

---

### Activity questions

2. Peace officers arrive on the scene of a street fight. One subject is armed with a small pocketknife. As peace officers separate the subjects, the peace officers do not see a knife. In performing a person search of a subject dressed in a T-shirt, jacket, and jeans, how should the peace officers proceed for their own protection? Where might the knife be concealed on the subject? What determines if the person search of the other subject should differ in any manner? Explain.

# Student Performance Criteria

---

## **Introduction**

There are a variety of acceptable techniques for conducting person searches. The instructor will be discussing and demonstrating these techniques during class. Students will have the opportunity to practice each technique and develop their own level of skill.

---

## **Evaluation criteria**

As part of the classroom activities, students will be evaluated by their instructor on their ability to perform a person search under different conditions.

---

## **Person searches**

Exercise tests will be used to test the student's ability to safely and effectively conduct the following types of searches.

- Visual
- Cursory/pat/frisk
- Full-body incident to arrest
- High risk

The testing criteria minimally includes:

- safety
  - applying controlling force (full-body incident to arrest and high-risk searches)
  - maintaining proper balance and control
  - maintaining awareness of environment and subject(s) actions
  - searching thoroughly and systematically
  - securing and controlling contraband and weapons, if found
  - verbal commands/instructions (e.g. communication with cover officer as needed)
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Student Performance Criteria, Continued

---

**Cover  
officer  
role**

Participate in an Instructional Activity that will demonstrate the student's ability to perform the role of a cover officer during a field contact, to include:

- assuming a position of advantage and control
  - maintaining proper balance and control
  - maintaining awareness of environment and subject(s) actions
  - protecting the searching officer from possible interference
  - physical assistance of the searching officer if it becomes necessary
  - observation of subject(s)
  - awareness of cover and concealment
- 

**Criteria  
definitions**

Refer to Supplementary Material (S-1) for definitions that provide a general description of the student behavior that instructors look for when evaluating student test performance on the Arrest Methods/Impact Weapon performance objectives.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Student Performance Criteria, Continued

---

Student notes

# Chapter 3

## Control Holds and Takedown Techniques

### Overview

---

**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** The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

<b>After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:</b>	<b>Objective ID</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss a peace officer's justification to use control holds and takedown techniques on a subject.</li></ul>	33.03.1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explain advantages and limitations a peace officer should consider when applying a control hold.</li></ul>	33.03.2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explain advantages and limitations a peace officer should consider when performing a takedown technique.</li></ul>	33.03.3

---

*Continued on next page*

## Overview, Continued

---

**In this chapter** This chapter focuses on control holds and takedown. Refer to the following chart for specific topics.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Use of Control Holds and Takedowns	3-3
Control Holds	3-5
Takedown Techniques	3-7
Chapter Synopsis	3-9
Workbook Learning Activities	3-10
Student Performance Criteria	3-12

---

# Use of Control Holds and Takedowns

---

**Introduction** The primary objective of the application of control holds and takedowns is to gain control of a subject. Peace officers must be prepared to use physical force to overcome resistance and gain control of a subject.

---

**Spectrum of force options** Basic use of force philosophy defines the degree or amount of force which may be reasonable to overcome resistance. Once control is obtained, the degree of force used should be reevaluated.

---

**Ethics** It is illegal and immoral for peace officers to use their authority and position to punish anyone. When peace officers become law breakers by engaging in acts of “street justice” they lose public trust and support. Also, the peace officers subject themselves and their agency to substantial liability.

---

**Officer vulnerability** When using control holds and takedowns, peace officers must be constantly aware that they are close to the subject and therefore vulnerable to attack.

---

*Continued on next page*



## Use of Control Holds and Takedowns, Continued

---

### **Objectively reasonable force**

The primary goal of using force is to gain control of a subject. Peace officer considerations for using reasonable force include, but are not limited to, the:

- immediate threat to the safety of peace officers or others
  - active resistance or attempt to flee
  - severity of the crime at issue
  - tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving circumstances
  - subject's display of aggressive or assaultive behavior
  - physical size of the subject (compared to the peace officer)
  - need for immediate control of the subject due to tactical considerations
  - peace officer's perception of the subject's knowledge of the martial arts or other skills
  - inability to control a subject by other means
- 

### **Application of force**

If the subject resists or does not respond to the control hold, the peace officer may apply additional force or other force options, which cause the subject to comply. Once control is achieved, the force applied should be reevaluated.

---

**NOTE:** Subjects under the influence of drugs or alcohol may not comply immediately to physical force.

---

## Control Holds

---

### Definition

A **control hold** is a method for physically controlling a subject by manually applying pressure to a particular part of the body until the peace officer has control over the subject. A joint lock is a specific class of a control hold where the technique involves manipulation of a subject's joints in such a way that they reach their maximal degree of motion.

---

### Primary objective

The primary objective of a control hold is to gain control of a subject using objectively reasonable force.

---

### Benefits

The proper use of a control hold can help a peace officer:

- effectively control a subject
  - guide a subject in a desired direction
  - control a subject for searching
  - control a subject while handcuffing
  - prevent escape
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Control Holds, Continued

---

### Considerations when using a control hold

The following chart highlights a number of considerations peace officers should be aware of when a control hold is used on a subject:

Consideration	Explanation
Direction and control	If a subject resists or does not respond to the control hold, the peace officer may increase the pressure of the hold or transition to another technique in order to obtain control. Once compliance is achieved, the control hold should be reevaluated. The force used must be objectively reasonable.
Close proximity of the peace officer and the subject	Peace officers are within striking distance of the subject during the use of a control hold and the officer's weapon may be accessible to the subject. A peace officer may be able to respond faster through touch than by sight.
With multiple officers	Communication is important for coordinating control amongst peace officers.

---

### Continued training

**Ongoing training is critical for peace officers and is necessary to maintain proficiency with control holds.**

---

# Takedown Techniques

---

**Definition**

A **takedown technique** is a method for taking the subject to the ground to control the subject and the situation.

---

**Primary objective**

The primary objective of a takedown technique is to gain control of a subject.

---

**Benefits**

The proper use of a takedown technique may help a peace officer:

- defuse a situation
  - achieve greater control over a subject
  - distract a subject
  - control a situation
  - reduce the ability of the suspect to effectively attack, strike, or escape
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Takedown Techniques, Continued

---

### Considerations when using a takedown technique

The following chart highlights a number of considerations peace officers should be aware of when a takedown technique is used:

<b>Consideration</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Close proximity of the peace officer and the subject	Peace officers are within striking distance of the subject during a takedown technique and are vulnerable to attack.
Team takedown	When possible, peace officers should control the arms to prevent the subject from tucking their arms. Communication is important for coordinating control amongst officers.
A single technique may not be adequate to gain complete control of the subject.	Peace officers must be prepared to transition to another technique if the one currently being used is not working.

---

### Continued training

**Ongoing training is critical for peace officers and is necessary to maintain proficiency with takedowns.**

---

# Chapter Synopsis

---

**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.

---

**Justification for using control holds and takedowns [33.03.1]** The primary goal of using force is to gain control of a subject. Peace officer considerations for using reasonable force include, but are not limited to, the:

- immediate threat to the safety of peace officers or others
- active resistance or attempt to flee
- severity of the crime at issue
- tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving circumstances
- subject's display of aggressive or assaultive behavior
- physical size of the subject (as compared to the peace officer's)
- need for immediate control of the subject due to tactical considerations
- peace officer's perception of the subject's knowledge of the martial arts or other skills
- inability to control a subject by other means

---

**Considerations when applying a control hold [33.03.2]** The primary considerations peace officers need to be aware of when applying a control hold include control holds can be used for direction and control, the close proximity of the peace officer and the subject means peace officers are within striking distance of the subject, the peace officers' weapon may be accessible to the subject, and the peace officers may be able to respond faster through touch than by sight.

---

**Considerations when performing a takedown technique [33.03.3]** There are several primary considerations peace officers need to be aware of when employing a takedown technique including the subject's proximity, whether additional peace officers are needed, and a single technique may not be adequate to gain complete control of the subject.

---



## Workbook Learning Activities, Continued

---

**Activity  
questions**  
(continued)

3. After a foot chase a peace officer takes down a suspected drug dealer and places her in a control hold. As she continues to struggle and curse at the peace officer, she yells, “Let go! You’re breaking my arm.” What action should the peace officer take at this time? Explain your response.



# Student Performance Criteria

---

## **Introduction**

There are a variety of acceptable techniques for using control holds and takedowns. The instructor will be discussing and demonstrating these techniques during class. Students will have the opportunity to practice each technique and develop their own level of skill.

---

## **Evaluation criteria**

As part of the classroom activities, students will be evaluated by their instructor on their ability to perform control holds and takedown techniques under different conditions.

---

## **Control hold mechanics**

Exercise tests will be used to test the student's ability to demonstrate the mechanics of a control hold(s) to minimally include:

- safety
  - maintaining proper balance and control
  - maintaining awareness of environment and subject(s) actions
  - controlling force
  - proper technique
  - verbal commands/instructions
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Student Performance Criteria, Continued

---

### **Takedown technique mechanics**

Exercise tests will be used to demonstrate the mechanics of a takedown technique(s) and will minimally include:

- safety
  - maintaining proper balance and control
  - maintaining awareness of environment and subject(s) actions
  - controlling force
  - proper technique
  - verbal commands/instructions
- 

### **Criteria definitions**

Refer to Supplementary Material (S-1) for definitions that provide a general description of the student behavior that instructors look for when evaluating student test performance on the Arrest Methods/Impact Weapon performance objectives.

---

## Workbook Corrections

---

Suggested corrections to this workbook can be made by going to the POST website at: [www.post.ca.gov](http://www.post.ca.gov)

---

# Chapter 4

## Restraint Devices

### Overview

---

**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** The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

<b>After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:</b>	<b>Objective ID</b>
• Explain the purpose of using restraint devices on a subject	33.04.07
• Explain potential hazards when using restraint devices on a subject	33.04.08
• Demonstrate the proper application and correct positioning of handcuffs on a subject	33.04.09
• Explain various double-locking mechanisms on handcuffs	33.04.10
• Discuss the responsibilities of the contact and cover officers when handcuffing multiple subjects	33.04.11

---

*Continued on next page*

## Overview, Continued

---

**In this chapter** This chapter focuses on the characteristics of using handcuffs and other restraint devices. Refer to the chart below for specific topics.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Introduction to Restraint Devices	4-3
General Guidelines for Use of Handcuffs	4-5
Chapter Synopsis	4-9
Workbook Learning Activities	4-11
Student Performance Criteria	4-12

---

# Introduction to Restraint Devices

---

## **Introduction**

Restraint devices, such as handcuffs, are safety devices for both the peace officer and prisoner. Handcuffs inhibit/limit movement, but they do not provide total control.

---

## **Objective of using a restraint device**

Peace officers are responsible for their prisoners at all times while in custody. All restraint devices are *temporary* restraining devices used to limit a prisoner's actions. They do not totally immobilize a subject.

Restraint devices are used to minimize:

- attack on the peace officer or others
  - escape of the prisoner
  - destruction or concealment of evidence or contraband
  - self-inflicted injury by subject
  - combat between prisoners
- 

## **Agency policies**

Agency policies may vary regarding the use of different restraint devices. Peace officers should be familiar with their own agency's policies regarding limitations and procedures for using restraining devices.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Introduction to Restraint Devices, Continued

---

### Types of restraint devices

There are a variety of devices peace officers can use to temporarily restrain a subject. Any restraint device used by peace officers must be used only according to agency policies.

Although this chapter discusses the most widely used control device, handcuffs, there may be a number of other devices available to peace officers. The following list identifies some types of restraining devices:

- Handcuffs
  - Plastic flex cuffs
  - Leg restraint devices
  - Full body restraints
- 

### Potential hazards of restraint devices

Peace officers should be aware that the use of additional restraint devices to control a subject may cause additional concerns for the subject's physical well-being. Peace officers may consider repositioning subjects (e.g., place them on their side) to prevent injury.

Peace officers should have an operational understanding of their agency's policies and guidelines regarding recovery positions when using other restraint devices.

---

### Positional Asphyxia

Per *Government Code 7286.5(a)* a law enforcement agency shall not authorize techniques or transport methods that involve a substantial risk of positional asphyxia.

**Positional asphyxia** means situation a person in a manner that compresses their airway and reduces the ability to sustain adequate breathing. This includes, without limitation, the use of any physical restraint that causes a person's respiratory airway to be compressed or impairs the person's breathing or respiratory capacity, including any action in which pressure or body weight is unreasonably applied against a restrained person's neck, torso, or back, or positioning a restrained person without reasonable monitoring for signs of asphyxia.

---

# General Guidelines for Use of Handcuffs

---

## Introduction

The most common restraint device available to peace officers is handcuffs. In order to maximize their effectiveness peace officers must be knowledgeable and skilled in their use.

---

## Handcuff nomenclature

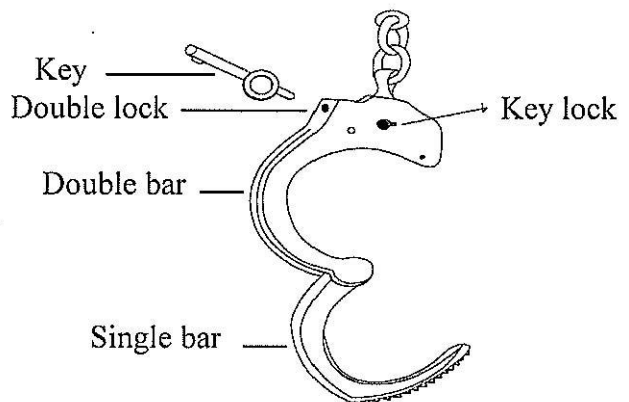
Peace officers must be familiar with the parts of the handcuff. The main components of the handcuff are illustrated below:

### Locking Mechanisms

- Key
- Double lock
- Key lock

### Restraining Bars

- Double bar
- Single bar



Be familiar with other double-locking mechanisms.

---

*Continued on next page*



## General Guidelines for Use of Handcuffs, Continued

---

### Hazards of handcuff use

Handcuffs are *temporary* restraining devices. They do not totally immobilize a prisoner. Because a subject is handcuffed does not mean peace officers can relinquish responsibility to maintain constant observation and control of their prisoner. The chart below illustrates some hazards that may be associated with handcuff use.

<b>If:</b>	<b>then there is the possibility of:</b>
a subject is left unattended in a peace officer's vehicle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• prisoner escape</li><li>• threat to peace officer safety</li><li>• harm to the prisoner</li><li>• destruction of evidence</li><li>• threat to public safety</li><li>• potential harm to the subject</li></ul>
visual contact and control of the subject are not maintained	
handcuffs are not applied properly	
a subject is handcuffed to a stationary object	

---

*Continued on next page*

## General Guidelines for Use of Handcuffs, Continued

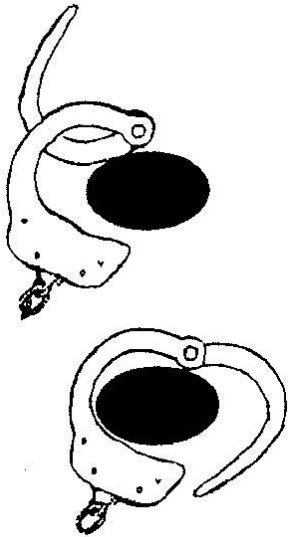
---

### Guidelines for position and application

Hands should be placed behind the prisoner's back whenever possible to enhance the peace officer's control of the prisoner. Correct placement of handcuffs on the prisoner's wrists is essential for preventing injury or escape.

Additional guidelines for positioning handcuffs on a prisoner include the following:

- Handcuffs should be applied on the subject's bare wrist between the hand and the protruding ulnar bone.
- The shape of the handcuff should correspond with the shape of the subject's wrist.
- Handcuffs should be properly adjusted. Too tight may cause reduced circulation or nerve damage. Too loose could allow the prisoner to escape.
- Handcuffs should not be applied over the top of clothing or jewelry.
- Handcuffs should be double locked when tactically safe.



---

*Continued on next page*

## General Guidelines for Use of Handcuffs, Continued

---

### **Double locking**

Double locking reduces the possibility of inflicting injury from handcuffs tightening further on the prisoner's wrists. It also reduces the possibility of the subject picking or slipping the locking mechanism.

---

### **Removing handcuffs/restraint devices**

Care must be taken when removing or exchanging handcuffs or other restraint devices from a prisoner to maximize peace officer control of the prisoner.

---

### **Contact and cover officer roles when handcuffing multiple prisoners**

Peace officers may have to employ different techniques and methodologies when applying handcuffs (restraint devices) to more than one prisoner during an arrest procedure. In such situations, the responsibilities of the contact officer and the cover officer need to be clearly understood.

<b>The contact officer:</b>	<b>The cover officer:</b>
<p>controls the subjects, directing them verbally to arrest positions and giving them arrest commands</p> <p>alerts cover officer of weapons found</p>	<p>speaks only when a situation arises that is not controlled by the contact officer. Examples of possible situations may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a subject makes a furtive move</li> <li>• to provide safety to the contact officer</li> <li>• the cover officer sees a weapon on a subject</li> <li>• the contact officer is ineffective</li> <li>• the contact officer is distracted</li> </ul>
handcuffs the subjects	positions themselves to avoid crossfire situations

---

## Chapter Synopsis

---

**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 subject(s).

---

**Purpose of restraint devices** Peace officers are responsible for their prisoners at all times while in custody. All restraint devices are *temporary* restraining devices used to limit a prisoner's actions. They do not totally immobilize a subject.

---

**Potential hazards when using handcuffs as a restraint device** Handcuffs are *temporary* restraining devices. They do not totally immobilize a prisoner. Because a subject is handcuffed does not mean that peace officers can relinquish their responsibility to maintain constant control and observation of a prisoner.

---

**Proper application and correct positioning of handcuffs on subject** Hands should be placed behind the prisoner's back whenever possible to enhance the peace officer's control of the prisoner. Correct placement of handcuffs on the prisoner's wrists is essential for preventing injury or escape.

---

**Various double-locking mechanisms on handcuffs** Peace officers should be familiar with various types of double-locking mechanisms on handcuffs.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Chapter Synopsis, Continued

---

**Responsibilities  
of the contact  
and cover  
officers when  
handcuffing  
subject**

Peace officers may have to employ different techniques and methodologies when applying handcuffs to more than one prisoner during an arrest procedure. In such situations, the responsibilities of the contact officer and the cover officer need to be clearly understood.

---



# Student Performance Criteria

---

## **Introduction**

There are a variety of acceptable techniques for handcuffing subjects. The instructor will be discussing and demonstrating these techniques during class. Students will have the opportunity to practice each technique and develop their own level of skill.

---

## **Evaluation criteria**

As part of the classroom activities, students will be evaluated by their instructor on their ability to perform tasks involving restraint devices under different conditions.

---

## **Contact officer tasks**

Exercise tests will be used to test the student's ability to safely and effectively handcuff suspects and may include the following activities:

- Handcuffing and safe removal of handcuffs from a single subject
- Handcuffing and safe removal of handcuffs from multiple subjects

The testing criteria to minimally include:

- safety
  - awareness
  - balance
  - control
  - controlling force
  - proper techniques
  - verbal commands/instructions
-

# Chapter 5

## Firearm Retention and Takeaways

### Overview

---

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

---

**Learning objectives** The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

<b>After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:</b>	<b>Objective ID</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe factors involved in retaining a peace officer's firearm</li></ul>	33.05.07
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate the basic techniques for peace officers to safely maintain control of their firearm in a physical conflict</li></ul>	33.05.08
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss a peace officer's tactical considerations when confronted by an armed subject</li></ul>	33.05.09
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss tactical considerations when disarming a subject</li></ul>	33.05.10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss the justification for a peace officer to continually train in arrest methods, weapon retention and takeaway</li></ul>	33.05.11

---

*Continued on next page*



## Overview, Continued

---

**In this chapter** This chapter focuses on handgun retention and takeaway principles. Refer to the following chart for specific topics.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Officer Awareness	5-3
General Principles of Firearm Retention	5-6
General Principles of Firearm Takeaways	5-7
Chapter Synopsis	5-10
Workbook Learning Activities	5-12
Student Performance Criteria	5-14

---

# Officer Awareness

---

## **Introduction**

On average nationwide, about one out of every six times a criminal manages to take a handgun away from a peace officer, it results in the death of the officer or the officer's partner.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Report, POST: Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted in the Line of Duty (LEOKA) Report.

---

## **Increased officer awareness**

Increased awareness, along with improved training and better equipment, can avert tragedy.

- From 2005 through 2009, one officer was killed by their firearm after it was taken from them.
  - Prisoners or convicts practice weapon takeaway in prison
  - More than one-half, or 13 of the 24 peace officers killed in California from 2005 through 2009 were attacked on approach, were set up and deliberately attacked, or were attacked while distracted.
  - 8 of the 24 on-duty officers were attacked within one minute of arriving on scene.
  - Loss of peace officer's firearm may place the officer and others in imminent danger.
  - According to the 2011 LEOKA report, 56 officers were killed feloniously nationally, 7 with their own weapon.
  - In the 2011 LEOKA report, four peace officers were killed in California by firearms, one with their own firearm
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Officer Awareness, Continued

---

### **Factors of weapon retention**

There are three factors peace officers must recognize and understand in order to safeguard their firearm.

- Opportunity
  - Equipment
  - Training
- 

### **Opportunity**

Peace officers must always be aware of the location of their own firearm and be conscious of the opportunity it presents to those people around them.

Peace officers must be continually focused on:

- what they are doing
  - why they are doing it
  - what is happening around them
- 

### **Equipment**

Peace officers must know and understand what their equipment is capable of doing and not doing.

A peace officer's holster has several functions. It must:

- securely hold the peace officer's firearm in the same position at all times
  - withstand the stress of someone pulling on it violently
  - allow the peace officer to draw the firearm quickly and safely
  - hold the firearm firmly and prevent it from falling out of the holster even when the thumb snap is released and during vigorous body movement
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Officer Awareness, Continued

---

### **Equipment** (continued)

At the same time, the peace officer's holster may have limitations the peace officer must be conscious of. The peace officer should be aware that:

- with some styles of holsters, a downward grabbing action by a subject's hand from the front could cause the holster to unsnap.
  - holsters must be maintained in good condition and at all times be mechanically sound. Peace officers are responsible for inspecting and replacing worn straps, snaps and other parts when needed.
  - the holster should have reinforced safety construction features to hold it securely and allow the peace officer to maintain control of the firearm.
- 

### **Training**

Peace officers must maintain a high level of skill in reacting to a subject's attempt to take their firearm.

No matter the type or condition of equipment a peace officer uses, there is still no guarantee that the weapon cannot be removed from the holster by a subject. Peace officers must hone their skill level with continuous firearm retention training.

---

# General Principles of Firearm Retention

---

## Introduction

In a physical conflict when a subject may have access to a peace officer's firearm, officers must be able to respond quickly and decisively to maintain control of their firearm and repel the attack.

---

## General principles

There are a variety of acceptable techniques in the area of firearm retention. No matter which technique is applied, there are a number of common basic principles to retaining control of a firearm if the officer is assaulted by a subject. The following chart illustrates these principles:

<b>Principle</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Secure Weapon</b>	Secure the firearm in the holster. This is done by trapping the subject's hand onto the firearm and forcing the firearm down into the holster.
<b>Distraction/ Response</b>	The peace officer's response should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• distract the subject from the objective of obtaining the firearm</li></ul>
<b>Gain Position</b>	The peace officer should be in a position that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• offers the greatest opportunity to exert maximum leverage</li><li>• places the subject off balance and provides the peace officer with a position of advantage and strength</li><li>• protects the peace officer against additional assault</li></ul>
<b>Effect Release</b>	To ensure the release of the firearm, the peace officer should gain complete control of the subject and the situation.

---

# General Principles of Firearm Takeaways

---

## **Introduction**

The danger of injury or death is often determined in a fraction of a second. It takes only a fraction of a second for a subject to physically pull the trigger. Selecting the appropriate time to move can be the peace officer's most critical decision.

---

## **Tactical considerations: confronting an armed subject**

There are a number of tactical considerations peace officers should consider when confronting or attempting to disarm a subject. The considerations include, but are not limited to:

<b>Before attempting to disarm a subject, peace officers should consider:</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
The danger of injury to themselves and to others.	A peace officer's first consideration must be their own safety and the safety of innocent bystanders.  NOTE: If a subject's behavior has caused or imminently threatens to cause death or great bodily harm to peace officers or other persons, peace officers are justified in using deadly force.
The type of firearm the subject is holding.	The technique to be used to disarm a subject will depend on whether the firearm is a handgun or a long gun.

---

*Continued on next page*

## General Principles of Firearm Takeaways, Continued

**Tactical considerations: confronting an armed subject**  
(continued)

<b>Before attempting to disarm a subject, peace officers should consider:</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
The distance between the peace officer and the subject.	In order to disarm a subject, the peace officer must get as close to the weapon as possible to employ a disarming technique.
Their own level of skill, physical conditioning, and training.	Peace officers must constantly train to maintain their own skills in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be aware of their surroundings and critically evaluate the perceived skill and physical condition of the subject.</li> <li>• maintain their own balance and be ready and able to respond quickly.</li> <li>• use a firearm takeaway technique that is appropriate for the situation.</li> </ul>

**Moving out of the line of fire**

One principle of taking a firearm away from a subject is to move out of the subject's line of fire. As long as the subject has a gun aimed at the peace officer, the subject has the advantage. When a peace officer moves out of the way, the subject has lost that advantage.

*Continued on next page*

## General Principles of Firearm Takeaways, Continued

---

### **Distracting the subject**

As quickly as possible move out of the line of fire or gain the advantage over a subject while the subject is distracted. There are two times when a subject may be easily distracted, as explained in the following chart.

<b>Subjects may be distracted...</b>	<b>because...</b>
while they are talking	their thoughts may be focused on what they are saying rather than the movements of the peace officer.
while listening to questions directed to them by a peace officer	they may have to refocus their own thoughts in order to answer.

---

### **Justification to retain firearm/disarm subject**

From 2005 through 2009, 22 of the 24 California peace officers killed in the line of duty were murdered with firearms (handguns, high powered rifles/assault type weapons).

One of the peace officers was overpowered, his firearm was taken away and it was used to kill him. This supports justification that peace officers continually train in arrest methods, weapon retention and takeaway.

Source: Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted in the Line of Duty (LEOKA) Report. California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST).

---



# Chapter Synopsis

---

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

---

**Factors in retaining a peace officer's firearm** There are three factors peace officers must recognize and understand in order to safeguard their firearm. These factors are opportunity, equipment, and training.

---

**Techniques for safely regaining control of peace officer's firearm** There are a variety of acceptable techniques in the area of firearm retention. No matter which technique is applied, there are a number of common basic principles to regaining control of a firearm if the peace officer is assaulted by a subject.

---

**Tactical considerations when confronting a subject** There are a number of considerations peace officers should consider before confronting an armed subject. These are based upon the specific circumstances and the peace officer's skill, physical conditioning, and training. Peace officers should consider the danger of injury to themselves and to others in the area, the type of firearm the subject is holding, the distance between the peace officer and the subject, and their own level of skill, physical conditioning, and training.

---

**Tactical considerations: disarming an armed subject** There are a number of tactical considerations peace officers should consider before confronting or attempting to disarm a subject. Peace officers should consider the danger of injury to themselves and to others in the area, the type of firearm the subject is holding, the distance between the peace officer and the subject, and their own level of skill, physical conditioning, and training.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Chapter Synopsis, Continued

---

**Justification  
to train in  
arrest methods,  
weapon  
retention, and  
takeaway**

From 2005 through 2009, 22 of the 24 California peace officers killed in the line of duty were murdered with firearms. One officer was killed with his own firearm. This reveals the need for officers to continually train in firearms retention/takeaway.

---



## Workbook Learning Activities, Continued

---

**Activity  
questions**  
(continued)

3. Peace officers should check equipment to ensure that it is properly maintained. What aspects of a holster should be considered in determining whether it can adequately perform its function?

# Student Performance Criteria

---

## **Introduction**

There are a variety of acceptable techniques peace officers may use for retaining their handgun or taking a handgun away from a subject. The instructor will discuss and demonstrate these techniques during class. Students will have the opportunity to practice each technique and develop their own level of skill.

---

## **Evaluation criteria**

As part of the classroom activities, students will be evaluated by their instructor on their ability to retain their handgun and perform handgun takeaway techniques under different conditions.

---

## **Handgun takeaway techniques**

Exercise tests will be used to test the student's ability to demonstrate handgun takeaway techniques and may include:

- front handgun takeaway techniques
- rear handgun takeaway techniques

The testing criteria to minimally include:

- safety
  - awareness
  - balance
  - control
  - controlling force
  - proper techniques
  - verbal commands/instructions
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Student Performance Criteria, Continued

---

### **Handgun retention techniques**

Exercise tests to demonstrate handgun retention techniques may include:

- a holstered handgun (front and rear) technique
- an unholstered handgun technique

The testing criteria to minimally include:

- safety
  - awareness
  - balance
  - control
  - controlling force
  - proper techniques
  - verbal commands/instructions
- 

*Continued on next page*

# Student Performance Criteria, Continued

---

Student notes

# Chapter 6

## Use of Impact Weapons

### Overview

---

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

---

**Learning objectives** The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

<b>After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:</b>	<b>Objective ID</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe a peace officer's legal authority for using an impact weapon</li></ul>	33.06.06
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss circumstances when a peace officer is justified in using an impact weapon</li></ul>	33.06.07
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate the appropriate areas on a subject's body that if struck with an impact weapon can be effective in gaining control</li></ul>	33.06.08
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe areas on a subject's body that if struck with an impact weapon could cause serious injury to the subject</li></ul>	33.06.09
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss the use of verbal commands during a confrontation</li></ul>	33.06.10

---

*Continued on next page*



## Overview, Continued

---

**In this chapter** This chapter focuses on the characteristics using the impact weapon. Refer to the chart below for specific topics.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Introduction to Impact Weapons	6-3
Guidelines for Impact Weapons	6-5
Chapter Synopsis	6-10
Workbook Learning Activities	6-11
Student Performance Criteria	6-12

---

# Introduction to Impact Weapons

---

## **Introduction**

Every peace officer must understand that an impact weapon (i.e. baton) should be used only when a peace officer is acting in an objectively reasonable manner.

---

## **Authority for use**

In law enforcement, impact weapons are to be used in an authorized and objectively reasonable manner.

Peace officers have the authority to use an impact weapon (i.e. baton):

- in self-defense
  - in defense of others
  - to effect an arrest
  - to prevent escape
  - to overcome resistance
  - in civil unrest situations
- 

## **Agency policy**

Each set of circumstances will require peace officers to exercise judgment in the decision of the force to use. Peace officers must be aware of and follow their agency's policies regarding the use of an impact weapon as a force option.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Introduction to Impact Weapons, Continued

---

### **Illegal use by a peace officer**

An impact weapon is used to gain control. Once control has been achieved, the impact weapon should not be used further against a subject.

Any peace officer who uses an impact weapon against a subject beyond objectively reasonable force (i.e. *Graham vs. Connor*) can be criminally liable under the following statutes:

<b>Offense</b>	<b><i>Penal Code Section</i></b>
Public officer unnecessarily assaulting or beating any person under color of authority	149
Assault with a deadly weapon or force likely to produce great bodily injury	245

<b>Offense</b>	<b><i>Federal Code Section</i></b>
Deprivation of rights under color of law	<i>Title 18 242 USC Section 1983</i>

---

### **Types of batons for peace officer use**

There is no one type of impact weapon used exclusively by law enforcement. They are constructed of various materials and come in various weights and lengths. Peace officers should only use the type of baton authorized by their departments and those they have been properly trained to use.

Various types of batons include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Straight batons
  - Side-handle batons
  - Expandable batons
  - Riot batons
-

# Guidelines for Impact Weapons

---

## **Introduction**

When reasonable, the peace officer may draw their impact weapon as a show of force. This action alone may control the situation. Even after an impact weapon has been drawn, peace officers should continue giving verbal commands when feasible to control the situation.

---

## **Justification for use**

As the subject's actions vary, peace officers must constantly reevaluate the situation and the amount of force needed. The immediate threat to the safety of peace officers and others and the subject's active resistance are two factors peace officers should consider during a force application. The following chart illustrates possible conditions where peace officers are justified to use their baton:

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Justification for Use</b>
Size of the subject compared with the size of the peace officer	Peace officers reasonably believe they cannot overcome the resistance of assault or gain control of the subject by using a lesser amount of force.
Subject exhibits a trained fighting skill	Stance or action of the subject leads peace officers to believe they cannot overcome the assault or gain control of the subject by use of arrest and control techniques.
Multiple subjects	Peace officer is faced with several unarmed subjects who are threatening and capable of carrying out the threat, or who make an overt act to carry out the threat.
Control needed due to tactical considerations	Peace officer is involved in a crowd control or riot situation (to move, separate, disperse, or deny access).
	Peace officer is attacked by suspect who is armed (to disarm, distract, or disable the subject).

---

*Continued on next page*

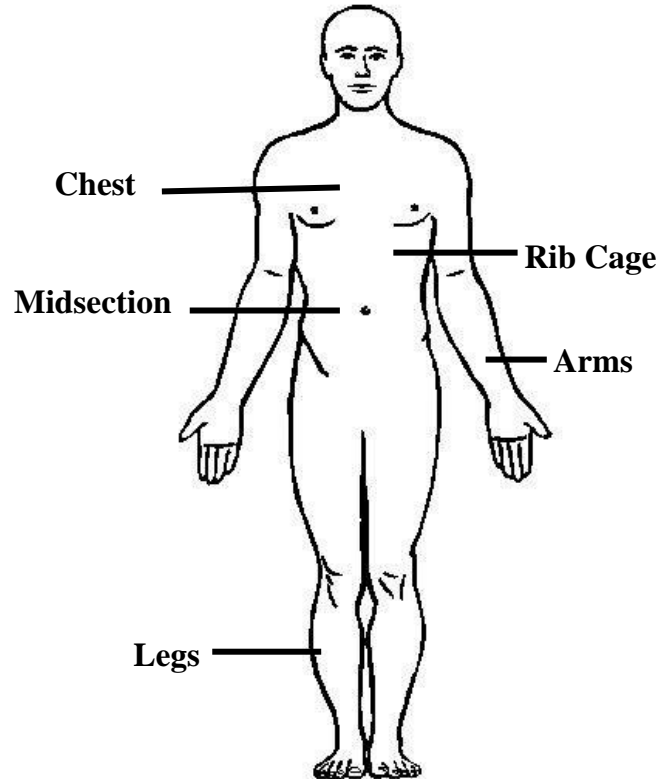
## Guidelines for Impact Weapons, Continued

---

### Possible general target areas

When using an impact weapon, the peace officer's goal is to gain control of the subject and the situation. Target areas on a subject's person should be objectively reasonable under the circumstances.

Possible target areas include:



**NOTE:** Subjects are often moving and therefore it may be difficult to strike a specific target area.

---

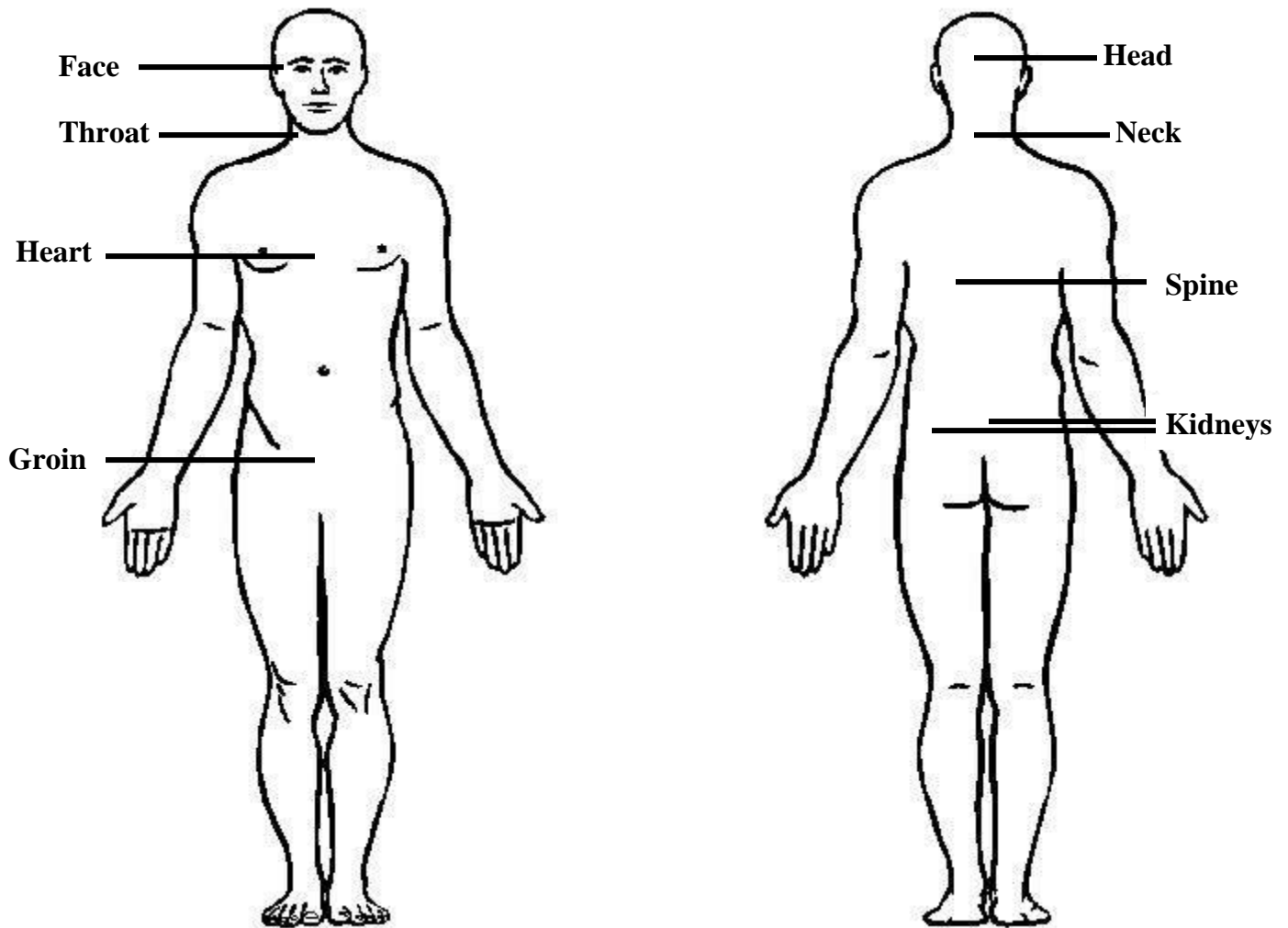
*Continued on next page*

## Guidelines for Impact Weapons, Continued

---

**Vulnerable areas**

When an impact weapon is used on certain parts of the human body, it can cause serious injury. Intentional strikes to these areas must be objectively reasonable.



---

*Continued on next page*

## Guidelines for Impact Weapons, Continued

---

### **Medical assistance**

Since the subject who has been struck by an impact weapon may suffer injury, agency policies may require whenever a peace officer uses an impact weapon on a subject, the subject should be examined by medical personnel.

Keep in mind that an injury, or the extent of an injury, may not be immediately apparent to an arresting officer and each subject struck should be assessed for the need of further medical treatment.

---

### **Need for ongoing training**

Impact weapon techniques are designed to permit a peace officer to achieve physical control over a subject as quickly as possible.

Appropriate technique requires a peace officer to develop good coordination between body and mind as well as good judgment. This means a peace officer must practice, not only during the original training period of instruction, but also on a *continuing basis* so that skill will be retained.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Guidelines for Impact Weapons, Continued

---

### **Verbal commands**

During a confrontation, peace officers need to continue to tactically communicate with the subject. Effective delivery of clear and concise verbal commands will help the peace officer gain control of subjects.

---



# Chapter Synopsis

---

**Learning need**

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

---

**Peace officer's legal authority for use of an impact weapon**

A peace officer's baton is a deadly weapon as defined in *Penal Code Section 22210*. In law enforcement, however, impact weapons are to be used in an authorized and objectively reasonable manner.

---

**Circumstances when an impact weapon is justified**

As the subject's actions vary, peace officers must constantly evaluate the situation and the amount of force used.

---

**Appropriate target areas on subject's body**

When using an impact weapon, the peace officer's goal is to gain control of the subject and the situation. Target areas on a subject's person should be objectively reasonable under the circumstances.

---

**Areas to avoid on subject's body**

When an impact weapon is used on certain parts of the human body, it can cause serious injury. Intentional strikes to these areas must be objectively reasonable.

---

**Verbal commands**

During a confrontation peace officers need to tactically communicate with the subject.

---



# Student Performance Criteria

---

## **Introduction**

There are a variety of acceptable techniques for the use of the impact weapon (i.e. baton) approved by your agency. The instructor will be discussing and demonstrating these techniques during class. Students will have the opportunity to practice each technique and develop an acceptable level of competency.

---

## **Evaluation criteria**

As part of the classroom activities, students will be evaluated by their instructor on their ability to use an impact weapon under different conditions.

---

## **Impact weapon use**

Exercise tests will be used to test the student's ability to demonstrate the use of an impact weapon and may include:

- safety
  - awareness
  - balance
  - control
  - controlling force
  - proper techniques
  - verbal commands/instructions
  - first aid assessment
-

# Chapter 7

## Ground Control

### Overview

---

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

---

**Learning objectives** The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

<b>After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:</b>	<b>Objective ID</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss the various ground positions and their associated risks</li></ul>	33.07.06
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate basic ground control positions when controlling a subject</li></ul>	33.07.07
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate a defense against a takedown attempt</li></ul>	33.07.08
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate defenses against choke holds</li></ul>	33.07.09
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate escape and/or reversal skill on the ground including the following positions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Top mount</li><li>- Back mount</li><li>- Side mount</li><li>- Guard</li></ul></li></ul>	33.07.10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate weapon retention from various positions on the ground</li></ul>	33.07.11

---

# Ground Control

**In this chapter** This chapter focuses on ground control. Refer to the following chart for specific topics.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Ground Positions	7-3
Defense Against a Takedown Attempt	7-7
Choke Escapes	7-8
Ground Control Considerations	7-9
Firearm Retention From the Ground	7-10
Chapter Synopsis	7-11
Workbook Learning Activities	7-13

---

# Ground Positions

---

## **Introduction**

During altercations Peace officers may find themselves on the ground in various positions. This chapter will describe common ground positions of control.

---

## **Objective**

Ground altercations are inherently high risk for peace officers with the potential for serious injury or death. Peace officers should be familiar with various basic ground control positions in order to establish control and survive a violent encounter.

If a peace officer is unable to establish or maintain control in a ground position, the peace officer should attempt to move to a standing position of advantage which would allow the peace officer access to other force options.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Ground Positions, Continued

---

Basic ground control position photos



---

*Continued on next page*

## Ground Positions, Continued

---

**Basic Ground Control Positions** The chart below identifies some of the advantages and disadvantages for the peace officer based on being in the dominant position and the peace officer's training and experience.

<b>Basic Ground Control Positions</b>	<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
Back mount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• multiple targets available for striking with limited defensibility</li> <li>• person on bottom unable to effectively deliver strikes</li> <li>• best position for achieving handcuffing</li> <li>• ability to tactically disengage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• may not be able to determine status of suspects hands or presence of weapons</li> <li>• reduced awareness of surroundings and other suspects</li> <li>• tunnel vision and the accelerated onset of fatigue</li> </ul>
Top mount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• control of suspect</li> <li>• preferred striking position</li> <li>• ease of additional force tools</li> <li>• ability to tactically disengage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• proximity of weapon system</li> <li>• size considerations of the suspect for control purposes</li> <li>• limits movement against multiple suspects</li> <li>• reduced awareness of surroundings and other suspects</li> <li>• tunnel vision and the accelerated onset of fatigue</li> </ul>

---

*Continued on next page*



## Ground Positions, Continued

Basic Ground Control Positions (continued)	Basic Ground Control Positions	Advantages	Disadvantages
	Side control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ability to tactically disengage</li> <li>• move to standing position in order to transition to prone handcuffing</li> <li>• ability to use personal weapons against suspect</li> <li>• greater degree of control over suspect by using leverage and / or body weight</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• presence of peace officer's handgun</li> <li>• reduces peace officer's ability to access radio or other force options</li> <li>• restricted mobility while wearing equipment</li> <li>• reduced awareness of surroundings and other suspects</li> <li>• tunnel vision and the accelerated onset of fatigue</li> </ul>
	Guard	<p><b>Top</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• striking using gravity to your advantage</li> <li>• weight distribution</li> <li>• option to stand</li> </ul> <p><b>Bottom</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• position for arm locks</li> <li>• sweeps</li> </ul>	<p><b>Top</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• exposed to arm locks</li> <li>• chokes and sweeps</li> </ul> <p><b>Bottom</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• protection from strikes limited</li> <li>• weapon retention</li> </ul>

# Defense Against a Takedown Attempt

---

## Introduction

In a physical confrontation, peace officers must be prepared to defend their standing positions from various suspect attempts to take them to the ground.

As stated earlier, a peace officer with a combative suspect on the ground becomes significantly more vulnerable to attack and has substantially reduced access to his/her weapon(s).

---

## Description

Peace officers should be aware that an attempt to take them down to the ground can come from any direction and from various distances. For these reasons, the officer must remain constantly vigilant and maintain 360-degree situational awareness to avoid a suspect's aggressive takedown. Proper and quick reactions can reduce the risk of officer injury and overcome a suspect's actions.

- Moving out of the line of attack and transitioning to other force options can protect the peace officer.
- If the suspect has tried to take the peace officer to the ground by tackling, a takedown defense technique could be used successfully.

NOTE: In the event a peace officer fails to prevent a takedown, the resultant position on the ground will dictate which escape reversal technique is used.

---

# Choke Escapes

---

## **Introduction**

Peace officers must recognize being strangled by a suspect could result in serious bodily injury or death. Peace officers should be able to defend themselves against a variety of “choke” attacks from multiple positions.

---

## **Peace officer awareness: expect the unexpected**

The critical nature of this type of attack may leave a peace officer unable to defend themselves or others. The peace officer must react quickly to regain a position of advantage.

The peace officer should be aware of the suspect accessing the officer's equipment.

The peace officer should consider other force options to assist them in escape techniques.

---

# Ground Control Considerations

---

## **Introduction**

Physical altercations often end on the ground. Peace officers must be able to respond quickly and decisively to escape, or reverse to a controlling position.

---

## **Tactical considerations**

Peace officers must maintain a high level of self discipline during a ground altercation.

Peace officers must:

- not panic
- continue to breath
- stay relaxed
- have the will to survive

Peace officers must understand the importance of developing the skill to:

- retain their weapons
  - protect against joint locks
  - protect against chokes
  - protect against being bitten
  - use escape and reversal techniques
-

# Firearm Retention From the Ground

---

## Introduction

In a physical conflict on the ground, the risks are higher and the suspect has greater access to the peace officer's firearm. Peace officers must be able to respond quickly and decisively to maintain control of their firearm and repel the attack.

---

## General principles

There are a variety of acceptable firearm retention techniques from the ground. No matter which technique is applied, there are a number of common basic principles to retaining control of a firearm if the peace officer is assaulted by a subject. The following chart illustrates these principles:

Principle	Description
<b>Secure Weapon</b>	Secure the firearm in the holster. This is done by trapping the subject's hand onto the firearm and forcing the firearm down into the holster or rolling onto the firearm using the ground as a controlling agent.
<b>Response</b>	The officer's response should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• utilize personal weapons and escape techniques</li><li>• distract the subject from the objective of obtaining the firearm</li><li>• be immediate and without hesitation</li></ul>
<b>Gain Position of Advantage</b>	The officer should be in a position that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• offers the greatest opportunity to exert maximum leverage</li><li>• places the subject off balance and provides the peace officer with a position of advantage and strength</li><li>• protects the peace officer against additional assault</li></ul>
<b>Effect Release</b>	To ensure the release of the firearm, the peace officer should gain complete control of the subject and the situation.

---

## Chapter Synopsis

---

<b>Learning need</b>	During altercations peace officers may find themselves on the ground in various positions and they must be familiar with techniques associated with ground control.
<b>Various ground positions and their associated risks</b>	Ground altercations are inherently high risk for officers with the potential for serious injury or death. Peace officers should be familiar with various basic ground control positions in order to establish control and survive a violent encounter.
<b>Basic ground control positions when controlling a subject</b>	Peace officers must maintain a high level of self discipline during a ground altercation.
<b>Defense against a takedown attempt</b>	In a physical confrontation, peace officers must be prepared to defend their standing positions from various attempts by a suspect trying to take them to the ground.
<b>Defense against choke holds</b>	Peace officers must recognize being strangled by a suspect could result in serious bodily injury or death. Peace officers should be able to defend themselves against a variety of “choke” attacks from multiple positions.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Chapter Synopsis, Continued

---

**Escape and/or reversal on the ground**

Physical conflicts on the ground create additional risks to peace officers and they must be prepared and able to use proper escapes or reversal technique.

---

**Weapon retention from various ground positions**

Peace officers are exposed to greater risks during physical conflict on the ground and they must be able to respond quickly and properly to retain their firearm.

---





## Workbook Learning Activities, Continued

---

*This page intentionally left blank*

---

# Chapter 8

## Transporting Prisoners

### Overview

---

**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** The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

<b>After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:</b>	<b>Objective ID</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe common transporting procedures that maximize officer safety and prevent prisoner escape</li></ul>	33.08.09
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe the safe and secure positioning of a prisoner in an officer's vehicle</li></ul>	33.08.10

---

**In this chapter** This chapter focuses on transporting prisoners. Refer to the following chart for specific topics.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Officer Safety and Prisoner Transportation	8-2
Positioning of the Prisoner in a Vehicle	8-4
Chapter Synopsis	8-5
Workbook Learning Activities	8-6

---

# Officer Safety and Prisoner Transportation

---

## **Introduction**

The time between a subject's arrest and incarceration is critical. A prisoner facing the loss of freedom can be extremely dangerous. If peace officers relax their vigilance during the transportation of a prisoner, that prisoner could become a safety threat to the peace officers or attempt to escape.

---

## **Officer awareness: expect the unexpected**

The unpredictable nature of prisoners creates a serious threat to peace officers while removing them from the scene of an arrest. Because a prisoner may submit peacefully at the time of arrest does not guarantee that the same prisoner will not resort to violence or trickery to escape.

---

## **Officer responsibilities**

When transporting a prisoner, peace officers are responsible for:

- the safety of themselves, fellow officers, and others in the immediate area
  - minimizing any opportunity the prisoner may have for escape
  - the welfare and safety of the prisoner
  - obtaining medical evaluation for the prisoner when needed
- 

## **Agency policy**

Agency policy regarding the transportation of prisoners will vary. It is the peace officer's responsibility to become familiar with and follow all agency policies.

Certain elements must always be addressed to assure the safe and effective transportation of a prisoner.

- Search of the prisoner
  - Search of the vehicle area
  - Proper procedures for positioning the prisoner in the vehicle
  - Use of safety belts
  - Use of additional safety devices
  - Observation of the prisoner while transporting
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Officer Safety and Prisoner Transportation, Continued

---

### **Search the prisoner**

*Before* transportation, any prisoner shall be searched by a peace officer for possible weapons. Confiscate any articles that can potentially be used for a weapon or is considered contraband. Once the prisoner is in the vehicle, the prisoner is the responsibility of the transporting officer.

---

### **Search the area**

Peace officers should always search the area where the prisoner is seated *before and after* transportation. This is key to peace officer safety. Tools, flares, flashlight, pens, pencils, or a weapon hidden by a previous prisoner could be found and used by a prisoner against a peace officer or to cause self-inflicted harm.

Although the interior of a transport car is always searched after delivering a prisoner, it should be searched again before transporting another prisoner.

---

### **Restrain the prisoner**

Any prisoner, whether male, female, adult or juvenile, should be properly restrained prior to transporting.

Normally, prisoners should be handcuffed with their hands behind their backs, unless the peace officer is limited by special circumstances (e.g. prisoner's arm in a cast, obese prisoner).

**As a reminder, peace officers should check the handcuffs for proper adjustment and ensure they are double locked.**

---

# Positioning of the Prisoner in a Vehicle

---

## **Introduction**

To ensure the safety of both peace officers and prisoners, and to maintain control, prisoners should be positioned properly within the vehicle for transport.

---

## **General procedures**

Certain procedures apply when positioning prisoners for transportation.

- Prisoners should be placed in, and removed from, a vehicle in a way that maintains advantage and control over the prisoner.
  - A second officer, if available, should act as a cover officer while the prisoner is being placed in the vehicle.
  - A peace officer may assist the primary officer in placing the subject in the vehicle by moving to the opposite side of the vehicle and positioning the subject.
- 

## **Use of seat belts**

Prisoners should be seated in an upright position and wear seat belts during transportation. The seatbelt should be fastened in a manner that reduces possible injury to the peace officer (e.g. cross face seatbelt principle). Seat belts help restrain the prisoner and increase the safety of the prisoner in case of an accident.

---

## **Observation of prisoner during transport**

Peace officers must observe prisoners closely while transporting them.

When transporting a prisoner:

- assume that any prisoner is an escape risk and a threat to peace officer safety
  - if available, have a backup or cover officer in the vehicle as well
  - if the prisoner is leg restrained, refer to agency policy
- 

## **Prisoner position in vehicle**

Prisoners should be positioned in the vehicle to:

- ensure safety and welfare of the peace officers and prisoners
  - allow for clear observation of the prisoners
-

# Chapter Synopsis

---

## **Learning need**

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

---

## **Common elements for safe transporting of prisoners**

Agencies vary in policies regarding the transportation of prisoners. It is the peace officer's responsibility to become familiar with and follow all agency policies. Certain elements must always be addressed to ensure the safe and effective transportation of prisoners.

- Search of the prisoner
  - Search of the vehicle area
  - Proper procedures for positioning the prisoner in the vehicle
  - Use of safety belts
  - Observation of the prisoner while transporting
- 

## **Safe and secure positioning of a prisoner in a peace officer's vehicle**

Certain procedures apply when positioning prisoners for transportation. Prisoners should be placed in, and removed from, a vehicle in a way that maintains advantage and control over the prisoner. A second officer, if available, should act as a cover officer while the prisoner is being placed in the vehicle.

---

# Workbook Learning Activities

---

## **Introduction**

To help you review and apply the material covered in this chapter, a selection of learning activities has been included. No answers are provided. However, by referring to the appropriate text, you should be able to prepare a response.

---

## **Activity questions**

1. Peace officers are transporting a juvenile subject to the station for booking after the subject's arrest for armed carjacking. What precautions should be taken before, during, and after transport to ensure maximum safety for all parties? Should a juvenile subject be treated in any way differently from an adult subject during transport? Explain? How would transportation procedures differ, if at all, if the juvenile had been arrested for shoplifting rather than a violent crime?

---

*Continued on next page*

## Workbook Learning Activities, Continued

---

**Activity  
questions**  
(continued)

2. Diagram the inside of a peace officer's vehicle. Repeat the diagram two more times. Use the diagrams to show the safest seating for a prisoner and cover officer, when applicable. Use one diagram for each of the following sets of circumstances.
  - a) Single prisoner with no cover officer and no screen in the vehicle
  - b) Single prisoner with a cover officer but no screen in the vehicle
  - c) Single prisoner with cover officer and screen in the vehicle

---

*Continued on next page*



## **Workbook Learning Activities, Continued**

---

**Student notes**

# Supplementary Materials

---

## CRITERIA DEFINITIONS

The following definitions provide a general description of the student behavior that instructors must look for when evaluating student test performance on the Arrest and Control performance objectives.

### 1. Safety

- Follows facility rules and regulations
- Follows instructor directions
- Demonstrates proper use of safety equipment

### 2. Awareness

- Demonstrates awareness of immediate threat(s)
- Demonstrates awareness of potential threat(s)
- Demonstrates awareness of immediate environment and other subjects
- Demonstrates awareness of subject's/suspect's hands, feet, and/or weapons
- Demonstrates awareness of possible escape routes

### 3. Balance

- Demonstrates balanced stance
- Demonstrates a strong foundation for self-defense
- Executes movements in a fluid manner in any direction

### 4. Control

- Displays self-confidence
- Demonstrates appropriate body language, voice modulation, and physical response(s)
- Demonstrates proper application of reasonable force
- Demonstrates when control over a subject has been achieved

### 5. Controlling Force

- Demonstrates control of subject/suspect
- Demonstrates use of appropriate force options
- Demonstrates instructed technique(s)
- Demonstrates appropriate speed and power

### 6. Proper Technique(s)

- Replicates technique as instructed
- Demonstrates fluidity, speed and power

### 7. Verbal Commands/Instructions

- Demonstrates proper verbal commands/instructions which demonstrate command presence
- Demonstrates appropriate voice control/tone
- Requests/demands compliance
- Allows subject/suspect reasonable time to comply

### 8. First Aid Assessment

- Student determines subject's physical condition (ABC's)
- Student determines subject's need for first aid and takes appropriate action

---

*Continued on next page*

## Supplementary Materials, Continued

---

*This page intentionally left blank*

---

# Glossary

---

**Introduction**      **The following glossary terms apply only to Learning Domain 33: Arrest Methods.**

---

**awareness**      Being alert to potential threats a peace officer may face when approaching or interacting with a subject or a potentially dangerous situation.

---

**balance**      The position that allows the peace officer to move in any direction with strength and coordination to maintain an advantage.

---

**control hold**      A method of gaining control of a subject by physical manipulation.

---

**consent search**      A search conducted by peace officers with the expressed or implied consent of the person to be searched.

---

**general control**      The degree of influence that peace officers must exert over a subject in order to take them into custody.

---

**ground control**      A method of gaining control of a subject while on the ground.

---

**cursory/frisk search**      A search of a legally detained person to ensure the safety of the peace officer. A frisk affords peace officers the ability to exercise the least amount of control compared to other types of person searches.

---

**physical control**      The application of specific control holds or other techniques applied by a peace officer which allows the subject to move only in the direction and manner the peace officer chooses.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Glossary, Continued

---

**positional  
asphyxia**

Positional asphyxia means situating a person in a manner that compresses their airway and reduces the ability to sustain adequate breathing.

---

**probable  
cause**

Probable cause to arrest exists when the totality of the circumstances of the incident would cause a person of ordinary care and prudence to entertain an honest and strong suspicion that the person to be arrested has committed a crime.

---

**reasonable  
suspicion**

The standard used to justify a detention which considers whether a peace officer had facts and circumstances that would justify a peace officer of average caution to suspect that activity of a criminal nature has, is, or is about to take place and that the person detained is connected to the activity.

---

**search  
incident to  
an arrest**

A search that takes place at or near the time of a lawful arrest. This type and degree of search permits peace officers to search for and seize weapons or crime-related evidence which the subject might otherwise use or destroy.

---

**self-control**

Maintaining composure and the ability to make sound judgments or decisions

---

**takedown  
technique**

A method for taking the subject to the ground so control can be established, and the subject can be handcuffed.

---