

STC Course Certification Lesson Plan

Course Name: Use of Firearms and Tactical Lights	
Course Hours:5	Min Class Size: 6 Max Class Size: 10
<p>Course Summary: (<i>Brief description of the course</i>) This course will provide probation officers with the basic skills, training and knowledge to safely and effectively utilize a handheld flashlight and weapon mounted light in conjunction with a pistol.</p> <p>The course will review general lowlight principles, and present five techniques for using a handheld flashlight in conjunction with a pistol as well as use of a rail-mounted weapon light.</p> <p>This course consists of lecture, instructor demonstration, and both dry fire and live fire drills.</p>	
<p>Performance Objectives: (<i>What the trainees will be able to do at the conclusion of the course.</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainee will be able to describe and demonstrate concepts of low-light movement and light management/discipline • Trainees will be able to demonstrate safe and effective weapon handling • Trainees will be able to use a handheld flashlight, or weapon mounted light, in conjunction with a handgun to accurately engage threat targets from the holster or out the of holster under time constraints • Trainees will demonstrate the ability to clear malfunctions while managing their flashlight • Trainees will demonstrate movements necessary to get off the line of attack while assessing the environment 	
<p>Justification for Class Size Less than 16: Due to the amount of dynamic movement on the range required, no more than 10 students should be enrolled in this class at a time.</p>	
<p>If testing is required, check applicable tests.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Post Test <input type="checkbox"/> Final Examination <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Performance (Behavior Skills) <input type="checkbox"/> True/False <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Choice (Job Knowledge) <input type="checkbox"/> Written Skills (Essay) </p>	
<p>Lesson Plan: Best practices indicate detailed lesson plans enhance the development and delivery of training. Lesson plans help ensure quality training delivery by providing detailed information about the delivery of instructional objectives, instructional methodology, testing, and classroom activities. Furthermore, lesson plans provide written documentation of training. The lesson plan must be in such detail that a substitute instructor with requisite knowledge of the subject could teach from the lesson plan without contacting the instructor for clarification.</p> <p>➤ Room Set-Up: <i>(Describe below how the classroom needs to be set up (e.g., classroom style, small group, theater, etc.).)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outdoor range that is designed to have multiple shooters on the line at a time. 2. Tables and chairs for lecture <p>➤ Instructor Material(s)/Equipment Needed: <i>(Indicate below all material and equipment needed, including handouts and reference material for the class or module.)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Threat targets 2. Barricades and/or doorways 3. Masking Tape 4. Black sharpie (1 per instructor) 5. Staple gun and staples 6. Target stands w/ target backers 7. Ammunition (60-100 rounds per student) 8. Trainees and Instructors: Eyes/Ears, duty gear/vest, duty weapon and backup weapon 9. First-aid kit 	

➤ **Time for Each Section or Exercise/Activity:**

(In the "Training Agenda" below, specify the beginning and end time or amount of time needed for each exercise/activity, section, or topic.)

1700-1805: Introduction (5 min)

1805-1820: General Low-Light Principles (15 min)

1820-1850: Harries technique (30 min)

1850-1920: Ayoob/Modified Ayoob (30 min)

1920-1950: Rogers/Surefire (30 min)

1950-2000: Break (10 min)

2000-2030: Neck Index (30 min)

2030-2100: FBI (30 min)

2100-2130: Rail-Mounted Weapon light (30 min)

2130-2200: Final exercise (30 min)

➤ **Trainer's Speaking Notes: (per section)**

(Include below any notes to remind the trainer of anything pertinent in that section. This may include key concepts, targeted responses, activity instructions, etc. It is not necessary to capture everything the instructor will say, for example, stories drawn from the instructor's own experience to illustrate or underscore a key concept would not necessarily be included. This should be written to a level that a person that is familiar with the content and course could step in and complete the training.)

I. Introduction: (1 hour 5 minutes)

A. Review of the Course Outline- Distribute handouts.

B. Conduct safety briefing to include:

1. Four cardinal rules of firearms safety
 - a. Hot brass procedure
2. Emergency medical plan
3. Range instructions
 - a. Safe weapon handling on the range (only handle firearm at the direction of the firearms instructor
Weapons can be out of the holster at the safety table or down range while on the firing line.
 - b. No bending down to pick up equipment on the firing line until instructed to do so.
 - c. No walking off the firing line until instructed to do so.
4. Cold/Hot Range procedures
5. Ensure that locations of the first aid kit and AED are known to all participants.
6. Cell phone rule

II. General Low-Light Principles (15 minutes, lecture and demonstration)

A. Five primary flashlight applications

1. Searching
 - a. Investigative vs. known threat
 - b. Weapon light vs. handheld
2. Navigating
3. Threat Identification
4. Control
 - a. Blinding effects of light can be used to officer's advantage
5. Communication

B. Eight Key Principles of Low-light Tactics

1. Light and Move
 - a. Do not leave flashlight constantly lit while conducting search. This gives advantage to threat by identifying your location, speed, and direction of movement.
2. Intermittent Use of Light at Random Heights
 - a. Avoid searching with flashlight held at center mass. Research and experience indicate this can provide a targeting point for threats.
3. Avoid or Control Backlighting
 - a. You are most at-risk in low-light environment when backlit
 - b. Most common cause of backlighting is stopping in doorways or partners activating lights behind you
4. "Dominate with Light"
 - a. This action can be used protectively to assert a low level of control over a potential threat in your immediate presence by limiting his visual acuity with bright light. It can also be used to counter being backlit when you cannot immediately move to an unlit position or while transitioning to such a position.
5. Operate from the Lowest Level of Light
 - a. Moving to areas of darkness can aid in concealment
 - b. Move to this area only after verifying no threat
6. Read the Light and Adapt
 - a. Assess the varying levels of light caused by different light sources.
 - b. Identify areas of greatest threat, dark spots
 - c. Adapt tactics and respond to lighting problems
 - i. Front lighting response: dominate with light and move away from dangerous light source
 - ii. Backlighting response: dominate with light and/or move to lowest level of light or control dangerous light source
 - iii. Side lighting response: dominate with light and/or move to lowest level of light or control dangerous light source
7. See from the Threat's Viewpoint
8. Align Three Things
 - a. Eyes, weapon, and flashlight should be focused to the same area when searching for a threat

*Additional recommendation to consider: carry more than one light!

III. Use of Firearms and Tactical Lights

Reminder: Although we want good alignment of weapon and light, perfect alignment is NOT necessary for making good hits; focus on the flash sight picture

A. Harries (5 minutes- Lecture, Demonstration)

1. 5-count presentation of the firearm from holster except support hand indexes and draws flashlight from holder in position to activate prior to being brought to the centerline between the body and target.
2. Instead of the firing hand and support hand coming together as in step 4, the support hand gripping the flashlight slips under the weapon hand staying tight to the body.
3. The back of support hand or support wrist meshes with the back of the weapon hand, wrist or arm creating isometric pressure and a more stable shooting platform.
4. Pros: Semi-supported single-handed grip (also a con?), use with any type of flashlight, quick to employ, quick alignment of beam and muzzle

5. Cons: Separation of hands during fire, isometric tension is fatiguing, self-blinding when cornering, poor ergonomics except with Weaver stance, possible crossing of muzzle with support arm, light identifies your location and center-of-mass

(10 minutes- Dry Practice, skill demonstration, remediation)

6. 10 solid presentations with Harries technique complete to dry fire
7. Head up, eyes on target not weapon, holster, flashlight or holder
8. Individual assessment and coaching by instructor

(15 minutes- Live fire drills)

9. At threat command, draw light and weapon simultaneously, step offline, failure drill from 5 yard line
10. Move off line of fire, light & assess
11. Failure drill will be completed three times
12. Combat/Speed reload between repetitions with flashlight secured under weapon side armpit during reload
13. Holster loaded weapon and secure flashlight back into holder

B. Ayoob/Modified Ayoob *(5 minutes- Lecture, Demonstration)*

1. 5-count presentation of the firearm from holster except support hand indexes and draws flashlight from holder in position to activate prior to being brought to the centerline between the body and target.
2. Instead of the firing hand and support hand coming together as in step 4, the support hand gripping the flashlight meets the weapon hand.
3. Both hands are pressed against each other creating isometric tension.
4. Modified Ayoob: the middle, ring, and pinky fingers of the flashlight hand may be wrapped around the hand gripping the weapon. The user must be cautious to not press the magazine release.
5. Pros: Semi-supported, single-handed grip (greater two-handed support with Modified Ayoob) quick alignment of beam and muzzle
6. Cons: Separation of hands during fire, isometric tension is fatiguing, self-blinding when cornering, side-mounted switch only, accidental mag release with improper usage, light identifies your location and center-of-mass

(10 minutes- Dry Practice, skill demonstration, remediation)

7. 10 solid presentations with Ayoob/Modified Ayoob technique complete to dry fire
8. Head up, eyes on target not weapon, holster, flashlight or holder
9. Individual assessment and coaching by instructor

(15 minutes- Live fire drills)

10. At threat command, draw light and weapon simultaneously, step offline, failure drill from 5 yard lines.
11. Move off line of fire, light & assess
12. Failure drill will be completed three times
13. Combat/Speed reload between repetitions, flashlight secured under weapon side armpit during reload
14. Holster loaded weapon and secure flashlight back into holder

C. Rogers/Surefire *(5 minutes- Lecture, Demonstration)*

1. 5-count presentation of the firearm from holster while support hand simultaneously draws flashlight from holder and grasps in a "cigar" or "syringe" grip.
2. Two-handed grip is assumed with tailcap activation button of flashlight oriented to palm for activation.
3. Pros: True 2-handed support, close approximation to normal 2-handed grip, quick & closer alignment of beam and muzzle

4. Cons: Only works with small, tailcap-operated lights, slow to implement unless flashlight properly oriented prior to draw, light identifies your location and center-of-mass

(10 minutes- Dry Practice, skill demonstration, remediation)

5. 10 solid presentations with Rogers technique complete to dry fire
6. Head up, eyes on target not weapon, holster, flashlight or holder
7. Individual assessment and coaching by instructor

(15 minutes- Live fire Drills)

8. At threat command, draw light and weapon simultaneously, step offline, failure drill from 5 yard lines.
9. Move off line of fire, light & assess
10. Failure drill will be completed three times.
11. Combat/Speed reload between rounds, flashlight secured under weapon side armpit during reload
12. Holster loaded weapon and secure flashlight back into holder

D. Neck Index *(5 minutes- Lecture, Demonstration)*

1. One-handed draw of weapon from holster is performed while support hand simultaneously draws flashlight from holder in a position to activate the light.
2. The flashlight is brought to and indexed along the neck/jawline in an “ice pick” grip.
3. The handgun is thrust forward in a single-hand grip.
4. Pros: Works w/ large or small flashlights regardless of switch configuration, simultaneous illumination of sights and target, conducive to searching and quickly transitioning from search to shooting, quick to employ, quick alignment of beam and muzzle
5. Cons: One-handed grip, can create excess reflection of light back on user, light identifies location and is next to user’s head

(10 minutes- Dry Practice, skill demonstration, remediation)

6. 10 solid presentations with Neck index technique complete to dry fire
7. Head up, eyes on target not weapon, holster, flashlight or holder
8. Individual assessment and coaching by instructor

(15 minutes- Live fire drills)

9. At threat command, draw light and weapon simultaneously, step offline, failure drill from 5 yard line
10. Move off line of fire, light & assess
11. Failure drill will be completed three times
12. Combat/Speed reload between repetitions with flashlight secured under weapon side armpit during reload
13. Holster loaded weapon and secure flashlight back into holder

E. FBI *(5 minutes- Lecture, Demonstration)*

1. A single-hand draw of the firearm from the holster is performed while the support hand draws the flashlight from holder in position to activate the light.
2. The flashlight is held extended diagonally upward away from the head and body.
3. The firearm is thrust forward in a single-handed firing grip.
4. Pros: Works w/ large or small flashlights regardless of switch configuration, conducive to searching and quickly transitioning from search to shooting, quick to employ, light is held away from user’s body and head
5. Cons: One-handed grip, light identifies user’s general location

(10 minutes- Dry Practice, skill demonstration, remediation)

6. 10 solid presentations with FBI technique complete to dry fire

7. Head up, eyes on target not weapon, holster, flashlight or holder
8. Individual assessment and coaching by instructor
(15 minutes- Live fire drills)
9. At threat command, draw light and weapon simultaneously, step offline, failure drill from 5 yard line
10. Move off line of fire, light & assess
11. Failure drill will be completed three times
12. Combat/Speed reload between repetitions with flashlight secured under weapon side armpit during reload
13. Holster weapon and secure flashlight back into holder

F. Rail-Mounted Weapon lights (5 minutes- Lecture, Demonstration)

1. 5-count presentation of the firearm from the holster
2. Proper attachment, fit, operation, constant vs. temp illumination, grip switches??
3. Discuss sympathetic trigger pull, small motor movement under stress
4. Proper hand position, operation w/ support hand thumb
5. Low light principles, illuminate & move
6. Pros: Most stable position allows for full two-handed grip, can be operated with one hand w/ grip switch, support hand is freed to do other tasks, closest alignment of beam with muzzle
7. Cons: Light identifies location and center of mass. Officer is reminded that a light mounted on a weapon is NOT a flashlight.

(10 minutes- Dry Practice, skill demonstration, remediation)

8. 10 solid presentations with support thumb operation
9. Head up, eyes down range not on weapon light, manipulate weapon light with weapon in firing position without canting or adjusting grip to reach light toggle
10. Individual assessment and coaching by instructor

(15 minutes- Live fire drills)

11. 3 rounds drawing from holster activating weapon light into failure drill from 5 yard line 9 rounds total
12. Combat/speed reload between rounds
13. Deactivate light and holster loaded weapon

G. Final Live-Fire Exercise (30 minutes)

1. The final live fire exercise will be a multi-stage course of fire that that requires the student to utilize the above-described skills. The exercise may include movement across open ground, entry through doorways, movement through hallways into rooms, and use of available cover. The students will utilize their lighting equipment to distinguish threat targets from non-threat targets and engage the threats with live fire.

➤ **Handout/Classroom Materials:**

(The distribution of handouts and classroom materials should be noted in the section of the lesson plans where the distribution occurs.)

The handout will include a course outline, a listing and full description of the low-light principles listed in section II, and a list of the techniques listed in section III with full description and pictures.

➤ **Testing Type and Description of BST/WST completion (if applicable):**

(The type of test(s) to be given in the class or module; i.e., Multiple Choice Test (MCT), Job Knowledge Test (JKT), Behavior Skills Test (BST), and Written Skills Test (WST). Describe in writing each BST and WST to be completed in the class or module. This can be attached to the lesson plan as a handout and labeled appropriately as to when to administer it.)

**Training Agenda
Day 1**

Time Begin	Time End	Subject or Topic	<i>Select one or more</i> Lecture Group /Discussion Demonstration Group Exercise Trainee Practice Evaluation	Instructor(s)
1800	1805	<i>Introduction</i> - Review class schedule - Four firearm safety rules - Range Rules - Range Safety Briefing	<i>Lecture</i>	
1805	1820	<i>General Low-Light Principles</i>	<i>Lecture Demonstration</i>	
1820	1850	<i>Harries</i>	<i>Lecture Demonstration Dry Practice Live Fire Drills</i>	
1850	1920	<i>Ayoob/Modified Ayoob</i>	<i>Lecture Demonstration Dry Practice Live Fire Drills</i>	
1920	1950	<i>Rogers/Surefire</i>	<i>Lecture Demonstration Dry Practice Live Fire Drills</i>	
1950	2000	<i>Break</i>		
2000	2030	<i>Neck Index</i>	<i>Lecture Demonstration Dry Practice Live Fire Drills</i>	
2030	2100	<i>FBI</i>	<i>Lecture Demonstration Dry Practice Live Fire Drills</i>	
2100	2130	<i>Rail-mounted Weapon lights</i>	<i>Lecture Demonstration Dry Practice Live Fire Drills</i>	
2130	2200	<i>Final Exercise, Discussion, evaluation</i>	<i>Live Fire Drill Group Discussion</i>	