

**SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORDER**

DATE/TIME: JANUARY 16, 2026 1245 HOURS
NUMBER: OR 26-02
SUBJECT: MANDATORY HANDGUN QUALIFICATION SHOOT 2026
SCOPE: ALL MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT
DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE AFFECTED: 1.05

Portions of this document are deemed by the San Diego Police Department to be records of security procedures and are exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act (CPRA), Government Code Section 7923.600 or are deemed by the San Diego Police Department to be exempt from public disclosure because the public interest served by not disclosing the information clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosure, pursuant to California Government Code section 7922.000.

The yearly San Diego Police Department Handgun Qualification Shoot will begin on **(Deleted – records of security)**.

All firearms training and qualification shoots will be conducted at **(Deleted – records of security)**. The general hours of operation will be:

(Deleted – records of security)

All sworn officers and civilians authorized to carry firearms on duty are required to qualify. Dates available for the qualification shoot will be posted on the Department’s Success Factors training site, entitled **“Handgun Qualification Shoot-2026.”** Immediate supervisors will ensure their personnel are scheduled and track their attendance. Once the qualification period begins, only limited open firearms practice will be available.

All personnel must achieve a passing score of 170 out of a possible 200 points to pass the handgun qualification shoot. Those who do not achieve a passing score will re-test. Personnel will have five chances to pass the qualification shoot. Those who fail all five attempts will be pulled from the field and will receive mandatory firearms training. (See DP 1.05.)

Those personnel who shoot a 195 out of 200 on their first attempt, with no rounds in the “D” zone or a complete miss, will achieve the status of “Pistol Expert”, and will be authorized to wear the Pistol Expert pin upon their uniform.

After the qualification shoot, all personnel will receive new Department-approved duty rounds for their handgun.

Upon arrival, all personnel must wait in the parking lot for Range Staff to escort them inside the building. Personnel who arrive late may be turned away and instructed to re-schedule their qualification shoot.

NO ONE WILL HANDLE ANY FIREARMS UNLESS INSTRUCTED BY RANGE STAFF ON THE FIRING LINE. LOADING AND UNLOADING FIREARMS IN THE PARKING LOT IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. ALL LOADING AND UNLOADING WILL BE DONE ON THE FIRING LINE UNDER INSTRUCTION.

Supervisors and officers working patrol and other uniformed assignments must wear their full duty equipment. **A minimum of three magazines for a semi-automatic pistol are required for the shoot.** Supervisors and officers working investigations and non-uniformed assignments are expected to shoot with the holster that is worn in everyday use; non-uniformed assignments may NOT use patrol style leather gear.

Blackhawk “Serpa”, (or other holsters with unlocking mechanisms manipulated by the shooter’s trigger-finger), shoulder holsters and cross-draw type holsters are not authorized. Tactical “drop down” holsters / thigh rigs will not be used unless that equipment is worn in the normal course of their duties and currently authorized by their unit policy. Additional equipment such as tourniquets, etc., shall not be attached to duty holsters.

All personnel must supply their own eye protection. Sunglasses are not allowed to be used for the Department shoot. Ear protection (foamies) will be provided. However, over the ear protection is recommended due to the acoustics of the indoor range.

Personnel not in compliance with the above instructions, including unauthorized modifications to holsters, weapons and accessories, will be required to correct equipment deficiencies and re-schedule the shoot at a later date.

If there are any questions regarding this qualification shoot, please contact Sergeant (Redacted – record exempt), or contact the Firearms Training Unit at (Redacted – record exempt)

Please read at squad conferences and give a copy to all personnel.