

**SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURE**

**DATE:** MAY 5, 2020  
**NUMBER:** 5.23 – HUMAN RESOURCES  
**SUBJECT:** FIREARMS PROFICIENCY AWARD PROGRAM  
**RELATED POLICY:** 1.05  
**ORIGINATING DIVISION:** TRAINING & EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT  
**NEW PROCEDURE:**   
**PROCEDURAL CHANGE:**  **MINOR CHANGES**  
**SUPERSEDES:** DP 5.23 – 08/27/2018

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**I. PURPOSE**

This Department procedure establishes guidelines for the Firearms Proficiency Award Program (i.e., Pistol Expert and Rifle Expert).

**II. SCOPE**

This procedure applies to all sworn members of the Department.

**III. PROCEDURES**

A. The handgun course of fire will be established and conducted by the Firearms Training Unit staff at the San Diego Police Range located at 4008 Federal Boulevard.

1. To be awarded “Pistol Expert” status, the minimum passing score will be a 97.5% (195 points out of a possible 200 points). All rounds must be fired and strike the target in the two center target zones (“A” and “C”) in the torso area of the target.
2. Only the first attempt at the course will be used to determine eligibility for the Firearms Proficiency Award Program.
3. Officers will be required to use their Department-issued or personal duty weapons to qualify.

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NEW

- B. The rifle caliber carbine course of fire will be established and conducted by the Firearms Training Unit staff at the San Diego Police Range.
  - 1. To be awarded “Rifle Expert” status, the minimum passing score will be a 97.5% (195 points out of a possible 200 points). All rounds must be fired and strike the target in the two center target zones (“A” and “C”) in the torso area of the target.
  - 2. Only the first attempt at the course will be used to determine eligibility for the Firearms Proficiency Award Program.
  - 3. Officers will be required to use their Department-issued or personal duty weapons to qualify.
- C. The annual award-testing period shall be during the months of September through January of each year. Testing shall be in conjunction with the annual qualification shoot.
- D. Officers who qualify for this award will be allowed to wear the approved bar on their uniform shirt for the following year commencing January 1 until the onset of the next testing period. Those officers who re-qualify will be allowed to continue wearing the pin.
- E. Overtime compensation is not provided for attendance and participation in this program. Additionally, there will be no monetary compensation for this award.
- F. The approved pin for handgun will be 1.5 inches long. It will be navy blue in color, with “Pistol Expert” written in gold across the face of the pin. The Pistol Expert pin will be worn in accordance with the San Diego Police Department Uniform Specifications Manual.
- G. The approved pin for rifle caliber carbine will be 1.5 inches long. It will be navy blue in color, with “Rifle Expert” written in gold across the face of the pin. The Rifle Expert pin will be worn in accordance with the San Diego Police Department uniform Specifications Manual.
- H. The Firearms Training Unit staff will maintain a database of those officers who qualify for the award.
- I. The Firearms Training Unit will be responsible for purchasing and maintaining a supply of the Department-approved pins for issuance to qualifying employees.
- J. The Firearms Proficiency Award program is independent of the regular Department shoots, and may not be used in place of this requirement.

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