

San Diego Police Department

Response to Resistance and De-Escalation Courses

Report to Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods
Committee

February 12, 2020

Our Goals

Ongoing training to improve community relationships, meet or exceed training mandates for California Law Enforcement and to achieve voluntary compliance during enforcement actions.

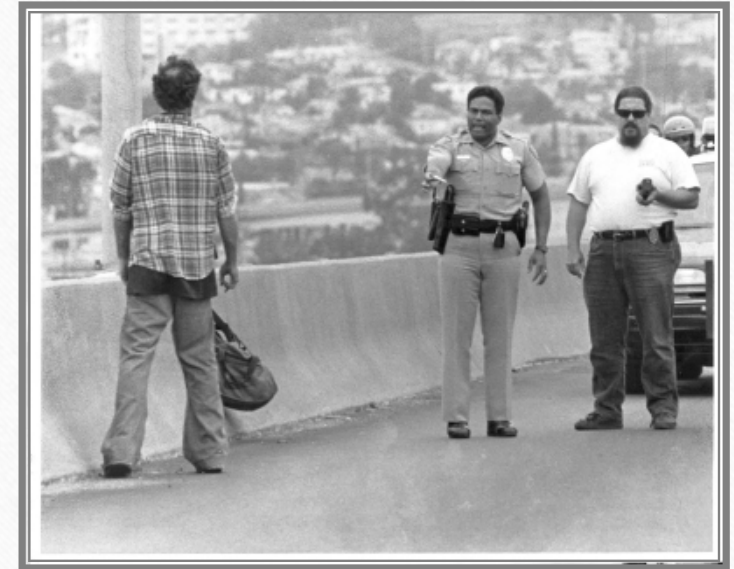


Historical Background

In the 1970's and 1980's The San Diego Police Department had more officers killed in the line of duty than any other department in the nation.

In the 1990's, The San Diego Police Department had more officer involved shootings than police departments in 40 of the 50 largest metropolitan areas nationwide

(Research shows 78% of the involved suspects had alcohol and or drugs in their system) .



Officer Safety Task Force

- In 1999, The Officer Safety Task Force was created. Each committee member reviews past task force work, engaged in patrol ride-a-longs, attended academy training and specifically sought input from the public.
- In 2004, The San Diego Police Department implemented the Crisis Response Team Training Program (CRT) and the use of the X26 Taser to improve the response to crisis situations with the goal of reducing the risk of injury.
- The Department's current philosophy and de-escalation training reflect those recommendations

Factual Data

Population of San Diego is
1,400,000

(8th largest city in The United
States)

Approx. 1800 San Diego Police
Department officers
(1 per 775 citizens)



San Diego Police Officer involved
shootings in 2019 were 7.

Comparison Cities

Population of Los Angeles is
4,000,000

(2nd largest city in The United
States)

Approx. 10,000 Los Angeles Police
Department officers
(1 per 400 citizens)

Los Angeles Police Officer
involved shootings in 2019 - 36.



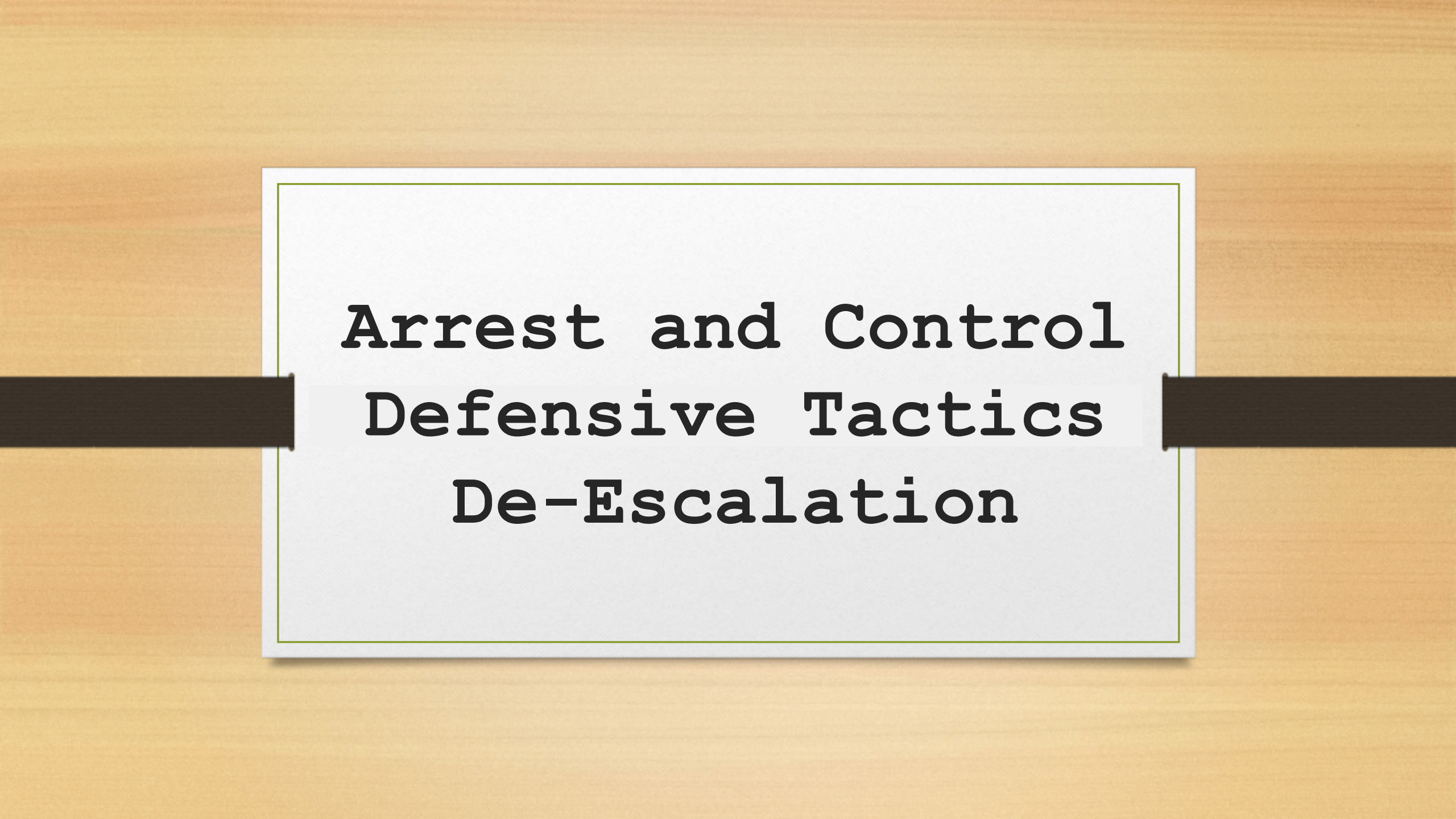
Comparison Cities

Population of Phoenix, AZ is
1,600,000
(5th largest city in The United
States)

Approx. 2,900 Phoenix Police
Department officers
(1 per 550 citizens)

Phoenix Police Officer involved
shootings in 2019 - 15.





Arrest and Control Defensive Tactics De-Escalation

Citizens Duty to Comply

Penal Code 834a : creates a duty to submit to an arrest by a peace officer. Penal Code 834a states, “If a person has knowledge, or by the exercise of reasonable care, should have knowledge, that he/she is being arrested by a peace officer, it is the duty of such person to refrain from using force or any weapon to resist such arrest.”

PC 834a is not a charging section. ***The subject's level of resistance will determine the charging offense.***



Arrest and Control

Defensive Tactics

De-Escalation

- There can be no de-escalation without cooperation from the subject.
- **De-Escalation** - the use of **strategies** and/or **techniques** to gain voluntary compliance from a subject in order to maintain control of an incident while reducing the need for physical coercion. These strategies and/or techniques are used to increase time and distance from the subject while attempting to establish effective communication.
- *Officers are not expected to place themselves or the community in jeopardy to de-escalate.*

Force used to overcome resistance is based on the **Totality of the Circumstances**

FACTORS:

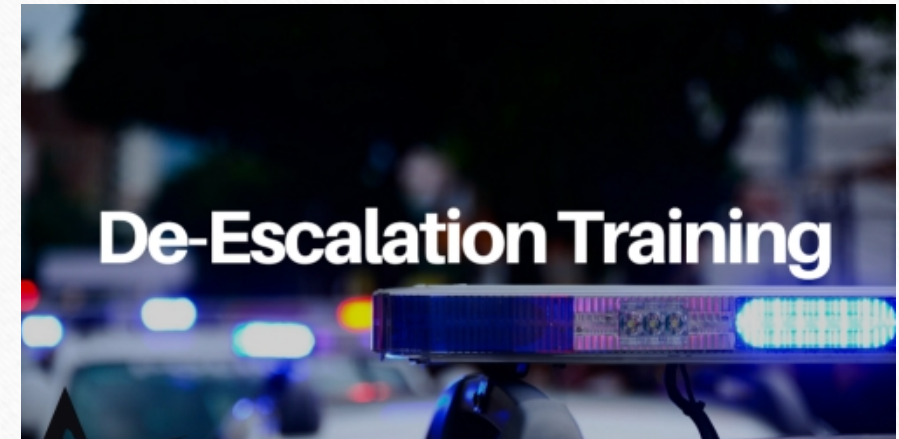
- Age, Size, Strength and skill of subject compared to officer
- Under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs
- Exhaustion or fatigue
- Number of subjects vs number of officers
- Injuries

ADDITIONAL FACTORS TO CONSIDER:

- Opportunity/Time, provided by subject, to allow for de-escalation
- Crowds and bystanders. (Their proximity to the officers)
- Type of call-Information provided to the officer prior to arriving on scene
- Location of the encounter or event
- Type of weapon subject is armed or reasonably perceive to be armed with
- Availability of other options

Using Appropriate Options Is De-Escalation

- Intended to stop a subject's resistive behavior or gain compliance.
- Used early and decisively may prevent a higher level of force later
- Reduces the risk of injury to the community, officers, and subject
- When safe to do so, hands on techniques are encouraged to gain control



Assembly Bill 392

- AB 392 is an amendment to Penal Code section 835a. This bill defines the circumstances under which a homicide by a peace officer is deemed justifiable to include when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that deadly force is necessary. The bill affirmatively prescribes the circumstances under which a peace officer is authorized to use deadly force to effect an arrest, to prevent escape, or to overcome resistance.
- AB392 also addresses an officer's decision making, leading up to their use of force, when given the time and opportunity to do so. When feasible, officers shall take reasonable steps in the pre-planning of responses to critical incidents, taking into consideration the need for additional officers, force options and other available resources.

Psychiatric Emergency Response Team

P.E.R.T. Training

What is P.E.R.T.?

- Psychiatric Emergency Response Team
- P.E.R.T. responds to calls involving people who show signs of having a mental disorder
- P.E.R.T. consists of trained mental health clinicians who are paired with officers who have had advanced mental health training
- P.E.R.T. availability for each shift varies
- P.E.R.T. provides countywide training
 - 3 Day Academy
 - 1 Day Training



Mental Illness and Persons with Disabilities

***Academy (15 hours):
(3)***

Communication skills

Interaction

Understanding of behavior cues
for developmental disorders

Understanding of mental illness to
determine proper interaction

Resource Information

Advanced Officer Training

Communication /

Upon Graduation / Newly Promoted Sergeants

Crisis Response Training (40 hours)

Crisis Management

Mental Illness

Concepts of De-escalation

Resource Gathering and Implementation

Less Lethal Options

Communication skills

Field Training Officers (Upon appointment)

Field Training Officer Academy (40 hours)

Mental Health Training (4 hours)

Field Training Officers Mental Health Training

State mandated by SB29 (8 hours)

Must be completed within 180 days of
appointment

Racial/Cultural Interactions

***Academy (26 hours) :
(2)***

Tactical Communication
Community Mobilization
Community Policing
Introduction to Problem Solving
Resource Development
Training
Crime Prevention Techniques
Training
Victim Assistance
Victimology

Advanced Officer Training

Tactical Communication

New Officer Training

Community Bus Tour
Effective Interactions

Emotional Intelligence

***Academy (38 hours):
Training (2)***

Community Partnerships
Policing (2017-2018) Gay & Lesbian Populations
Hate Crimes
Cultural Diversity
Racial Profiling
Spanish for Law Enforcement

Advanced Officer

Non-Biased Based

POST Minimum vs.

DOMAIN DESCRIPTION	POST Minimum Hours	SDRPSTI Academy Hours	SDRPSTI Over Minimum
Policing in the Community (Includes Tac. Communications)	18	24	6
Arrest and Control	60	80	20
Cultural Diversity/Discrimination	16	22	6
Handling Disputes/Crowd Control	8	13	5
Domestic Violence	10	13	3
People with Disabilities/ Mental Health	15	15	0

Critical Response Team Training

- All new SDPD Academy graduates receive 40 hours of CRT training.
- All newly promoted Sergeants receive 40 hours of CRT training.
- Topics include Less Lethal Force Options, PERT, Communication/De-Escalation, FOS, and Emergency Negotiations Team.
- 10 of the 40 training hours are dedicated to Mental Illness Education/Recognition.



Crisis Management and De-escalation Training (AB392/SB230)

- In-Service Training Unit in partnership with the DA's office and PERT developed POST approved training to meet mandates of AB-392 and SB-230.
- 10 hour training covering the concepts of De-Escalation.
- Component of Continued Profession Training
- The training began January 10, 2020.



Questions?