



WSTOA

Newsletter

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WSTOA

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By: Wayne DuBois, Director of Operations

As training dollars continue to get tighter, most administrations are requiring a more judicious approach to spending. I am not sure about you, but at my agency, I have to give a justification to support going away for training as my agency has to prioritize all their spending.

At WSTOA, we understand the difficulties of getting good training at a reasonable cost. We are again partnering with the Oregon State Tactical Officers Association to bring the Second Annual Pacific Northwest Tactical Conference & Vendor Show. Our goal is to bring in excellent presenters and trainers at low cost to members. As we have done in the past, the first day will be free for law enforcement. The dates for the conference are May 21st to 23rd, 2012, and it will be held in Vancouver again, with the Heathman being the host hotel. Please continue to check our website for details.

Additionally, WSTOA is partnering with the Port of Seattle PD to assist in hosting the NTOA conference which will be held in Seattle next year, September 9th – 14th, 2012. Don't miss out on these excellent opportunities to attend great conferences and excellent training.

WSTOA will continue to work to provide training opportunities to its members that meet their needs. Please contact us if you have any special training requests as we can also tailor courses to your needs at a reasonable cost.

If you any comments or suggestions you feel could help the WSTOA improve, please contact Wayne DuBois at wdubois@ci.richland.wa.us

Professionalism

By: Steve Lobdell, Vice President

What is a tactic? Basically it is an action designed to accomplish a mission. And the safest most effective tactic should be chosen to accomplish this. So the tactic I am choosing is “Professionalism”. How is that a tactic? Simple! My mission is to do the best job possible whether it is SWAT, patrol or some other specialty unit.

We choose tactics that will help us return from the mission that day whatever that mission is. Being professional will help you return the next day, month or year.

By being professional I mean things like integrity, honesty and accountability. You can add in as many more traits as you wish.

As SWAT operators we are held to a higher standard in the eyes of our agencies and the public. If someone says a team is professional that is because all of the operators are professional. At all times they operate within their policies and procedures. They respect their teammates, they respect other teams and yes they actually respect the suspects. No we are not friends with the suspects or occupants of a residence but we do follow proper use of force, etc when contacting these individuals. If we fail ourselves or our team in things like this, you may be removed, investigated or even sued. Teams have been stood down and even disbanded due to acts that were deemed un-professional.

I often hear “we better watch what we are doing because there are or maybe cameras around”. Well, guess what, if you act professional all the time then you need not worry about the cameras.

I mentioned accountability as part of professionalism. If you have a team member who never takes responsibility during a mission, debrief or training it may be worth looking at dealing with the issue whether it is counseling, probation or removal.

I could go more into depth about this “tactic” but I cannot due to the confines of this article. I hope you understand how important it is to be professional.

Steve Lobdell can be contacted at lobdell.s@portseattle.org

SIRT Training Pistol: Features & Benefits

By: Steve Gowin, Chief Administrative Officer

TRIGGER PREP TRAINING

The internal switch indicates when the trigger is **“taken-up” and partially pressed, as prepping a trigger is imperative for maximizing accuracy and trigger control. When the trigger is taken-up, the red laser is on, providing a visual awareness of the muzzle movement, and further indicating when the trigger is prepped to the shooter and/or a trainer or firearms instructor.**

MAXIMIZE TRIGGER MECHANICS

When the simulated sear is “broken” the solid-state internal switching system activates the green, shot-indicating laser providing visual feedback indicating proper trigger follow-through and generally proper grip and trigger mechanics.

TAKE-UP AND SHOT INDICATORS WORK FOR EVERYONE

Whether your shooting style is target-focused or strict front-sight-focused, the general visual awareness of the lasers provides the requisite feedback to improve shooting mechanics without compromising your vision focal at your desired vision focal length.

SHOT INDICATING LASER WORKS ON ANY TARGET

The short bursts of the green shot indicating laser provide sufficient visual verification to the shooter because of our natural flash visual memory. The use of the first prototypes (which were initially made for individual training by the company’s founders) unveiled the effectiveness of a simple laser shot indicator on practically any target. The green laser can be seen while training outside and allowed more training and does not require the hassle, setup and restrictiveness of full-blown expensive target simulation systems. The compact and simple training tool system works.

RESETTING TRIGGER ALLOWS FOR ENGAGING TARGETS IN A CONTINUOUS STRING

An auto-resetting trigger is necessary to reset the internal simulated sear to represent multiple consecutive shots. Traditional dry firing requires racking the slide or cocking the hammer (to shoot in single action mode). The action between shots breaks the natural flow of engaging numerous targets in an array.

MORE SHOTS = MORE TRAINING

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