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**COMBAT ARMS TRAINING AND
MAINTENANCE (CATM) PROGRAM**

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This publication implements Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 31-1, *Integrated Defense*. This publication describes the Department of the Air Force (DAF) CATM program. It applies to the entire DAF, including DAF civilian employees and uniformed members of the United States Air Force (USAF), the United States Space Force (USSF), the Air Force Reserve (AFR), the Air National Guard (ANG), and those with a contractual obligation to abide by the terms of DAF issuances, except where noted otherwise. All references to USAF terminology, units, grades, and positions will also apply to the equivalent in the USSF, as appropriate. For example, references to Airmen will also apply to Guardians. This Instruction requires the collection and or maintenance of information protected by the Privacy Act of 1974 authorized by Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 5400.11, *DoD Privacy Program*. The applicable System of Records Notice (SORN) is F032 AF CE G, *Automated Civil Engineer System Records* (June 23, 2011, 76, FR, 36903) available at <https://dpcl.d.defense.gov/privacy/SORNS.aspx>. Ensure all records generated as a result of processes prescribed in this publication adhere to Air Force Instruction 33-

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(USAFE-AFAFRICA) This supplement implements and extends the guidance of DAFI31-131, *Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) Program*. This publication applies to all civilian employees, AFRC, and ANG assigned to USAFE-AFAFRICA. This publication does not apply to the United States Space Force. This publication outlines the sustainment and proficiency firing program for Security Forces personnel assigned to USAFE-AFAFRICA. Ensure all records generated as a result of processes prescribed in this publication adhere to AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and are disposed in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule, which is located in the Air Force Records Information Management System. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the OPR using the DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route DAF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. The authorities to waive wing/unit level requirements in this publication are identified with a Tier number (“T-0, T-1, T-2, T-3”) following the compliance statement. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the appropriate Tier waiver authority, or alternately, to the publication OPR for non-tiered compliance items. See DAFMAN 90-161, *Publishing Processes and Procedures*, for a description of the authorities associated with the Tier numbers. The use of the name or mark of any specific manufacturer, commercial product, commodity, or service in this publication does not imply endorsement by the Department of the Air Force.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This document has been revised and should be completely reviewed. Major changes include adding Space Force-equivalent language where appropriate, Air Force Force Generation training guidance, removed references to SEI 312, and organization updates throughout.

Chapter 1—ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	5
1.1. Overview.....	5
1.2. Director of Security Forces (AF/A4S).....	5
1.3. Director of Logistics (AF/A4L) will:.....	6

1.4. Director of Resource Integration (AF/A4P): 6

1.5. Air Education and Training Command (AETC) will: 6

1.6. Major Command (MAJCOM) Security Forces (MAJCOM/SF) will:..... 7

1.7. Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) will: 7

1.8. Air Force Security Forces Center (AFSFC) will: 7

1.9. Air Force Small Arms Program Office (SAPO) will:..... 8

1.10. Commanders and Directors (or Equivalents) (as defined in AFI 38-101) will:..... 8

1.11. Security Forces/CATM Organizational Commander will: 9

1.12. Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) Section Chief or Civilian
Equivalent (CATM Manager) will: 9

1.13. Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) Trainer will:..... 10

Chapter 2—TRAINING PROGRAM 11

2.1. Overview..... 11

2.2. Qualification and Frequency..... 11

2.3. Sustainment, Proficiency, and Mechanical Training Frequencies..... 12

2.4. Initial Live-Fire Qualification..... 12

2.5. Recurring Qualification Training..... 12

2.6. Remedial Firearms Training..... 13

2.7. Orientation Training..... 13

2.8. Deployment Qualification Training Requirements..... 13

2.9. Overseas Firearms Qualification Information..... 14

2.10. SA/LW qualification training for DAF personnel by other than CATM personnel. 15

2.11. Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (SAEMR)..... 18

2.12. Virtual Training Systems (VTS)..... 18

2.13. Blanks and Close Combat Mission Capability Kit (CCMCK). 19

2.14. General Exception..... 19

2.15. Qualification Extensions..... 19

2.16. General Requirements..... 20

2.17. General Individual Equipment Requirements..... 23

2.18. Competitions/Courses..... 24

Attachment 1—GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION 25

**Attachment 2—(Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) USAFE-AFAFRICA SUSTAINMENT
FIRING PROGRAM 31**

Chapter 1

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1.1. Overview. This publication supports a family of publications each containing its own purpose. This instruction establishes policy for the Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) program under most circumstances. Use this instruction in conjunction with DAFMAN 31-131 Volume 1, *Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) Operations*, DAFMAN 31-131 Volume 2, *Small Arms and Light Weapons Qualification Programs*, and DAFMAN 31-131 Volume 3, *Small Arms and Light Weapons Handling Procedures*. Personnel managing, performing, conducting, participating in, observing, and supporting CATM, and range operations must adhere to program requirements, policies, procedures, roles, and responsibilities outlined in DAFMAN 31-131 Volumes 1-3 and this publication.

1.2. Director of Security Forces (AF/A4S). AF/A4S, under the leadership of the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS), Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection (AF/A4), serves as lead agent for the CATM program, virtual/synthetic training systems, small arms and light weapons (SA/LW), accessories, enablers, and ground-munitions (excluding demolition) requirements, for the different portfolios for both lethal and non-lethal capabilities. This includes budget formalization and submittal, strategic direction and planning, modernization, requirements, adoption, development, fielding, sustainment, training, maintenance, employment, and ground combat lethality. AF/A4S will:

1.2.1. Administer the DAF SA/LW – Enterprise Governance (DAF SA/LW – EG) structure, which consists of the DAF SA/LW – Capabilities Working Group (DAF SA/LW – CWG), DAF SA/LW – Forum (DAF SA/LW – F), AF/A4S, and the AF/A4 Enterprise Council.

1.2.2. Oversee the different DAF SA/LW – EG managing responsibilities for SA/LW, accessories, enablers, and ground-munitions requirements development and approvals to include modifications, adoptions, S&T/R&D, non-lethal, and COTS (other than ground-munitions) through the different working groups designed to synchronize with key stakeholders.

1.2.3. Establish the DAF SA/LW – F to serve as the senior cross-functional forum for finalizing and approving DAF SA/LW – CWG recommendations including budgeting and execution, planning and programming, and governance oversight to inform AF/A4S, and AF/A4, as required.

1.2.4. Establish, review, and approve policies related to the CATM program, SA/LW, accessories, enablers, and forecasting ground-munitions, to include weapons training and maintenance requirements of personnel and missions.

1.2.5. Establish strategy, policy and guidance, and modernization for the SA/LW, non-lethal weapons, and ground munitions portfolios supporting SA/LW.

1.2.6. Serve as the DAF representative on the Joint Service Small Arms Program (JSSAP), Joint Service Small Arms Synchronization Team (JSSAST). Appoints personnel to the Joint Service Small Arms Requirements Integration Working Group (JSSARI), Joint Service Small Arms Metrics and Evaluation Working Group (JSSAME), and the Joint Service Small Arms Program Science and Technology Advisory Council (JSTAC), as required.

1.2.7. Serve as the DAF representative as the Air Staff's Non-Lethal Weapons (NLW) focal point on the Department of Defense (DoD) Executive Agent's NLW, Joint Integrated Product Team (JIPT).

1.2.8. Serve as the DAF representative for engagements with industry, other Services and internal or external agencies for all SA/LW and CATM program processes, programs, technology, and issues.

1.2.9. Manage Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) 3P0X1B and DoD civilian equivalent to support the CATM program.

1.2.10. Assist and coordinate with appropriate functional area managers and key stakeholders to submit programming initiatives and obtain funding for developing, modernizing, or procuring legacy and new SA/LW and their support.

1.2.11. Participate in Joint Service SA/LW training, science and technology (S&T), research and development (R&D), coordination, working groups, and associated equipment activities.

1.2.12. Appoint other representatives as needed for DoD, other government agencies, JSSAP, JNLWD, and other required events and boards or technology evaluation and selection groups.

1.2.13. Approve all RDT&E plans and events as well as any deviations to same.

1.2.14. Approve all DAF positions and decisions associated with the CATM & SA/LW portfolios.

1.2.15. Manage and perform headquarters-level functional area manager (FAM) duties for CATM AFSC and coordinate with other FAMs, as required.

1.2.16. Participate as a core member (AF/A4SO) of the Small Arms Range Working Group (SARWG).

1.2.17. Approve SA/LW, accessories, enablers, and ground-munitions supporting SA/LW prior to fielding, to include COTS (other than ground-munitions).

1.3. Director of Logistics (AF/A4L) will:

1.3.1. Provide overall management of SA/LW and ground-munitions inventories.

1.3.2. Provide policies and procedures for management of munitions accountability, forecasting, and logistics support under the Theater Integrated Combat Munitions System (TICMS).

1.4. Director of Resource Integration (AF/A4P): Prepares and manages resource programs for munitions, War Reserve Materiel, support equipment (SA/LW), vehicles, as well as installations, facilities, emergency services, integrated defense, combat support, command support, public affairs, and Headquarters Air Force.

1.5. Air Education and Training Command (AETC) will:

1.5.1. Ensure technical training capabilities in support of initial and follow-on skills development for the CATM skill sets (AFSC 3P0X1B and civilian equivalent).

1.5.2. Manage CATM training and SA/LW maintenance in support of Basic Military Training (BMT), Officer Training School (OTS), Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), Warrant Officer Training School (WOTS), and technical training courses.

1.5.3. Through Second Air Force (2 AF), provide oversight for CATM operations performed at the 37th Training Support Squadron (37 TRSS) and the 343d Training Squadron (343 TRS), with assistance from AETC/A4S. For SA/LW qualification training programs, range operations, weapon maintenance and training management of assigned CATM personnel, these organizations use the guidance in this publication and DAFMAN 31-131 Volumes 1-3.

1.5.4. Ensure the 37th Training Group (37 TRSS Combat Weapons Flight) provides CATM training and SA/LW maintenance support to 2nd Air Force formal courses.

1.5.5. Provide base CATM functions for Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA). This includes all the responsibilities normally performed by the Security Forces Squadron CATM Section for base support and funded through AFIMSC.

1.6. Major Command (MAJCOM) Security Forces (MAJCOM/SF) will:

1.6.1. Review waiver requests applicable to CATM organizations within the MAJCOM.

1.6.2. Coordinate recommendations for changes to qualification and or orientation courses to AF/A4SO.

1.6.3. Establish a sustainment-training program for security forces personnel to include frequency, type, and courses of fire. The Shoot, Move, and Communicate (SMC) course may be incorporated in the sustainment-training program.

1.6.4. For the Air Reserve Component (Air Force Reserve Command and National Guard Bureau), appoint a CATM program manager and if necessary, an assistant program manager to oversee the component's small arms training and maintenance, range modernization and ground munitions programs. This individual must be a noncommissioned officer (NCO) with an AFSC 3P071B or DoD civilian equivalent.

1.7. Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) will: Provide funding for active-duty combat arms base support functions for organizations with a CATM mission.

1.8. Air Force Security Forces Center (AFSFC) will:

1.8.1. Conduct periodic reviews on training material every four years to ensure accuracy and currency.

1.8.2. Review and approve non-qualification SA/LW training programs conducted at formal training courses, readiness training centers, and readiness training sites. Changes to expeditionary training courses must also be approved with guidance provided in AFI 10-405, Ready Airman Training. Note: This does not include unit-level proficiency training, which the CATM Section Chief approves.

1.8.3. Perform MAJCOM Munitions User Functional Manager (MUFM) duties for MAJCOMs that did not retain Security Forces MUFM responsibilities.

1.8.4. Assist career field managers with training development to support proficiency and sustainment training programs, as needed.

1.8.5. Provide technical assistance and guidance to MAJCOM/SF and CATM sections.

1.8.6. Maintain the AF/A4S approved Authorized Small Arms and Light Weapons Accessories listing on the CATM SharePoint® site.

1.8.7. Conduct virtual and or in-person program management reviews (PMR) utilizing Management Information Control Toolset (MICT).

1.8.8. Coordinate on MAJCOM/SF developed sustainment-training (AFSFC/S3T & AFSFC/S4W) prior to implementation.

1.8.9. Coordinate activities with AF/A4S to ensure all official positions and plans are approved.

1.9. Air Force Small Arms Program Office (SAPO) will:

1.9.1. Centrally obtain only those AF/A4S approved SA/LW, associated enablers, and accessories, tools, and test measurement diagnostic equipment for existing and future items per required life cycle management procedures to support validated requirements processes, projects, and programs which have, as appropriate, been subject to legal review in accordance with the requirements in DoDI 2311.01, *DoD Law of War Program* and AFI 51-401, *Law of War*.

1.9.2. Advise AF/A4S by providing life cycle management data and recommendations such as engineering risk assessment, budget execution, projects, cost analysis for legacy and proposed SA/LW and associated enablers, and equipment, as required.

1.9.3. Approve cleaners not listed in the applicable technical orders (TO) for SA/LW use.

1.9.4. Provide overall life cycle logistic management of SA/LW following the guidance provided in the applicable 23-series publications and takes funding direction from AF/A4S.

1.9.5. Be responsible for SA/LW acquisition and sustainment following the guidance provided in the applicable 63-series publications.

1.9.6. Work closely with AF/A4S (DAF SA/LW – EG) for all users and requirements.

1.10. Commanders and Directors (or Equivalent) (as defined in AFI 38-101) will:

1.10.1. Ensure compliance with guidance in this publication and ensuring weapons, weapon systems, modifications of weapons and weapons systems receive a legal review in accordance with the DoDD 2311.01 and AFI 51-401. Furthermore, ensure the completion of legal reviews for all SA/LW modifications of existing weapons or uses not reasonably contemplated or authorized by prior legal reviews. Process requests through the DAF SA/LW – Enterprise Governance, which will be forwarded to AF/JAO, Operations and International Law Directorate, to ensure appropriate reviews (e.g., legal / Non-Nuclear Munitions Safety Board) are conducted prior to fielding. This includes ground-munitions, accessories, and enablers that modify a previously approved weapon or weapon system prior to procurement and or employment.

1.10.2. Ensure personnel conducting SA/LW training follow the applicable technical order (TO) guidance pertaining to maximum allowable number of rounds per day, safe distances, personal protective equipment, and backblast danger area restrictions.

1.10.3. Ensure personnel follow the guidance in the DoD Blast Overpressure Reference and Information Guide (D-BOP-RIG) to the maximum extent possible when training on Tier 1 weapon systems (e.g., M3A1, M2A1, M136, M72). The guide is located on the DoD Environment, Safety & Occupational Health Network and Information Exchange (DENIX)

website at <https://denix.osd.mil/auth/soh/denix-files/sites/21/2024/04/D-BOP-RIG-20240408.pdf>.

1.11. Security Forces/CATM Organizational Commander will:

1.11.1. Rely on the CATM Section Chief for analysis and input on weapons employment decisions, such as weapon and munitions capabilities, placement, and selection to enhance base defense. Include CATM in planning weapons and munitions solutions to support all missions.

1.11.2. Ensure the CATM section submits budget forecasts for equipment and supplies to meet the installation's SA/LW training and maintenance program, to include range equipment such as advanced target systems, target retrieval systems, and virtual training systems (simulators).

1.11.3. Ensure the CATM Section Chief is a 3P071B (formally SEI 312) with the minimum grade of E6 or a DoD civilian equivalent.

1.11.3. (USAFE-AFAFRICA) At USAFE-AFAFRICA units that are not authorized a 3P071B per the Unit Manning Document, the CATM Section Chief duties will be performed by an authorized 3P051B. **NOTE:** Specifically, this occurs at units who do not own and operate CATM ranges, but where a CATM SME is required.

1.11.4. Ensure lead instructors, tower operators, and SA/LW repair personnel are AFSC 3P0X1B or DoD civilian equivalent or other tasked certified personnel as permitted.

1.11.5. Ensure task priority meets the installation training and maintenance requirements for base defense, contingency plans and deployments including during range closures, instructor shortages and instructor deployments.

1.11.6. Provide training using the priorities outlined in DAFMAN 31-131 V1.

1.11.7. Ensure adequate quantities of trained and certified non-CATM personnel are available to perform firing line official and assistant instructor duties during live fire and classroom training when staffing is not sufficient to meet mission requirements.

1.11.8. Ensure the CATM section uses the Automated Readiness Information System (ARIS) to enter and maintain CATM Program records.

1.11.9. Provide assigned CATM instructors opportunities to attend advanced training courses/programs conducted by other DoD agencies and civilian schools when possible.

1.11.10. Appoint a Staff Sergeant (minimum) or DoD civilian equivalent, as the NCOIC of the Security Forces armory.

1.12. Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) Section Chief or Civilian Equivalent (CATM Manager) will:

1.12.1. Review proposed host tenant support agreements in coordination with the office of the servicing Staff Judge Advocate when tenant units request SA/LW maintenance, qualification-training, or range use from the host wing.

1.12.2. Manage the installation's CATM Program, Security Forces' Armory Operations, and serve as the SA/LW and ground munitions capabilities employment tactics subject matter expert for the Security Forces commander.

1.12.3. Ensure installation budget and resource requirements are submitted to applicable authority for consideration into the annual budget and maintain a list of unfunded requirements for the CATM program.

1.12.4. Forecast for munitions requirements flowing the guidance in DAFMAN 21-209 Volume 1, AFMAN 21-209 Volume 2, *Demolition Munitions*, and the Ground Munitions Authorization Tables (GMAT).

1.12.5. Maintain training statistics for all CATM training scheduled and accomplished. CATM will use ARIS to maintain records of all training scheduled and conducted.

1.12.6. Ensure CATM personnel are aware of the hazards (e.g., airborne lead, noise, solvents, weather exposure) associated with their duties as outlined in DAFI 91-202, *The Department of the Air Force Mishap Prevention Program*, and coordinate with appropriate support agencies to ensure personnel are aware of range-unique health hazards.

1.12.7. Plan and conduct Excellence-In-Competition (EIC) matches with approval from the Air Force Services Center, DAF Shooting Program, using the Services Tools for Activity Reporting & Tracking (START) SharePoint site at <https://usaf.dps.mil/teams/start/eic/SitePages/Home.aspx#/EIC/>. Only currently certified CATM personnel may conduct EIC matches. **(T-1)**

1.12.8. Ensure the CATM Trainer is AFSC 3P051B with the minimum grade of E5 or a DoD civilian equivalent.

1.13. Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) Trainer will: Assist the CATM Section Chief with their roles and responsibilities in the family of publications.

Chapter 2

TRAINING PROGRAM

2.1. Overview. This chapter defines policy and procedures to execute the CATM training program. Air Force Doctrine Publication (AFDP) 3-10, *Force Protection* outlines all military Airmen should be trained and equipped to protect and defend the base against threats. Training includes basic ground combat skills training (e.g., weapons familiarization, tactical combat casualty care [TCCC]) and other relevant training required to prepare Airmen to better protect themselves and the base. We must move to a constant state of readiness that better supports home station (peacetime) arming, deployments to combat zones and or designated hostile fire areas, to act quickly in response to dynamic adversaries within the changing future environment.

2.2. Qualification and Frequency.

2.2.1. DoDD 5210.56, *Arming and the Use of Force*, identifies the minimum training requirements and frequency of qualification training needed to arm DoD personnel. This guidance governs home station (peacetime) arming and specifically states requirements do not apply to DoD personnel engaged in military operations subject to the standing or other rules of engagement. Personnel who receive this training (based on mission need) may be military, DoD civilian or civilian contractors in support of DAF missions. **Note:** Civilian position descriptions (e.g., Office of Personnel Management [OPM] series 0083) must annotate any specific training requirements for that position. Personnel with an arming requirement will complete live fire qualification training every 12-months on all SA/LW with which they are armed or employ. **(T-0)**

2.2.2. Personnel with an in-garrison (home station) arming requirement and or as a requirement of their AFSC (e.g., Security Forces, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, aircrew armed for anti-hijacking) will qualify every 12-months. **(T-0)**

2.2.3. Personnel (e.g., Expeditionary Medical Support System [EMEDS], Rapid Engineering Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer [RED HORSE], Tactical Air Control Party [TACP], Capability Generation Team, and Air Force Force Generation [AFFORGEN]) filling a deployment tasking or deployment tasking to a combat zone in time of war or a designated hostile fire area that requires weapons qualification will complete live-fire qualification training on all specifically identified individual (e.g., rifle, carbine, handgun, grenade launcher, shotgun, submachine gun, automatic rifle) and or crew-served (e.g., light, medium and heavy machine guns) weapons. Qualification training must be completed within 12-months of their arrive in country date. **(T-1)** This qualification will be valid for 12-months or the entire duration of the deployment, regardless of length, providing qualification training was successfully completed as required by this instruction prior to deployment.

2.2.4. Force & Infrastructure Category (FIC) 2, under AFFORGEN (e.g., labs, depots, test ranges, schools, hospitals) are not required to receive qualification-training.

2.2.5. Accessions (i.e., BMT trainees, WOTS, OTS, and United States Air Force Academy [USAFA] cadets) may receive a one-time training event (qualification or orientation) on either the rifle or handgun on an “as available” basis. **Note:** BMT trainees and WOTS cadets’ complete qualification training on the Air Force Basic Qualification Course (AFBQC) using

the Close Combat Optic (CCO) only. Accessions are not required to wear individual combat equipment (ICE) during training.

2.3. Sustainment, Proficiency, and Mechanical Training Frequencies.

2.3.1. The unit is responsible for conducting sustainment and proficiency training. **Note:** See DAFMAN 31-131 V1 for unit-level training requirements.

2.3.2. AFSCs directed by their functional, MAJCOM, or Air Force Career Field Manager (AFCFM) are required to complete mandatory unit live fire sustainment training after completion of qualification training on their primary weapon(s). **Note:** MAJCOM/SF sustainment training programs will not exceed the munitions quantities listed in GMAT, Table 2B.1, *Security Forces Members Proficiency or Familiarization Training Allowance*. If forecasted on different Functional User Codes (e.g., S3 [Security Forces] or C1 [Combat Arms]), the total numbers will not exceed **Table 2B.1**.

2.3.3. M2A1, MK19 machine gunners, and assistant gunners must complete mechanical training 5- to 7-months after live-fire qualification training. **(T-1) Note:** Any other unique qualification frequencies are identified in the applicable chapter of DAFMAN 31-131 V2.

2.3.3. **(USAFE-AFAFRICA)** The identified mechanical training is the equivalent to the MK19, M2, and M240B mechanical sustainment training outlined in DAFMAN 31-131V2, *Small Arms and Light Weapons Qualifications Programs*.

2.3.4. Advanced Designated Marksman (ADM) personnel will qualify twice each year and complete mandatory sustainment training twice each year, alternating between qualification and sustainment each calendar year quarter until the arming requirement no longer exists. See ADM Air Force Qualification Course (AFQC) guidance in DAFMAN 31-131 V2.

2.3.5. Personnel are exempt from unit live-fire sustainment, mechanical training, and semi-annual qualification requirements while deployed and qualifications remain valid for the entire length of deployment.

2.4. Initial Live-Fire Qualification. This is detailed, in-depth academic and live-fire training designed to give an individual the knowledge and skills necessary to meet qualification standards for arming with a specific type of SA/LW (individual, gunners, and assistant gunners) and passing all training objectives.

2.5. Recurring Qualification Training. This is qualification training after initial qualification and consists of classroom instruction, passing performance evaluations, and qualifying on the appropriate qualification course to counter proficiency and skill retention lost over time. Individuals must have already been initially qualified (live fire) on the weapon. **(T-1)**

2.5.1. A “training session” is defined as one trip to the classroom/range to receive qualification training. A “same-day re-fire” is defined as one additional attempt during a qualification training session to qualify if a student fails to qualify on the first attempt. If the student fails the one additional same day re-fire attempt, they must be scheduled for remedial training, as only one same day re-fire is permitted. **Note:** Same day re-fire attempts are not mandatory nor automatic and are at the discretion of the CATM Section Chief.

2.5.2. Individuals who fail to meet a specific qualification training standard during multiple phase courses may continue to fire the entire course before receiving an on-the-spot re-fire

attempt on the phase they failed. Group re-fire attempts may be administered after the entire course is fired or anytime between phases.

2.6. Remedial Firearms Training. This is in-depth training to emphasize shooting fundamentals and focus on specific problems to afford the trainee an opportunity to improve. CATM may provide training and live-fire evaluation on only the phases of the course the individual did not successfully complete. Same day refires or on-the-spot corrections are not considered remedial training. **Note:** Do not mix initial or recurring students with remedial students in the same classes.

2.6.1. Instructors may issue additional ammunition for use during remedial zeroing and teaching phases. Conduct ball and dummy exercises, similar drills, or simulator training, as needed, before evaluation.

2.6.2. Students are permitted one re-fire during the remedial training session(s). If they fail on the second attempt; schedule them for a second remedial class.

2.6.3. If a student fails to qualify and has been scheduled for remedial training, the firing line official will prepare a written assessment of the shooter's problems. **(T-3)** This evaluation assists future instructors to focus efforts on the problems. Maintain the assessment until the next scheduled remedial training class.

2.6.4. If the student fails to qualify after the second remedial class, the CATM Section Chief will provide the individual's unit commander a written summary of probable causes of the failures. **(T-3)** If the commander determines the individual's duties require arming and recommends the individual for additional training, the student will attend another remedial class with no more than two attempts at qualifying. **(T-3)**

2.6.5. If the individual still fails to qualify after the third remedial training session, the commander determines the individual's continued need for armed duty or contingency deployment. **(T-3)**

2.7. Orientation Training. Orientation training does not qualify an individual for armed duty.

2.7.1. Handgun orientation training may be conducted for USAFA and ROTC accessions. This training consists of classroom instruction in general firearms safety, basic operation, and marksmanship fundamentals outlined in DAFMAN 31-131 V2.

2.7.2. Rifle orientation training may be conducted for USAFA and ROTC officer accessions. This training consists of classroom instruction in general firearms safety, basic operation, and marksmanship fundamentals. After completion of classroom training, students participate in a live-fire session on the AFBQC with guidance provided in DAFMAN 31-131 V2.

2.8. Deployment Qualification Training Requirements. For deployment, individuals must complete the applicable qualification course in its entirety as required without a waiver, other than those approved by the combatant command (CCMD) for the weapons required for the deployment. **Note:** The CCMD may impose requirements that are more stringent or may not approve the application of home station waivers.

2.8.1. The unit deployment manager will verify reporting instructions to ensure their personnel receive required training and that CCMD requirements are met. **(T-3)**

2.8.2. Personnel complete qualification-training wearing ICE and perform all reloading portions from the magazine pouches or vest they expect to use when deployed. **(T-2)**

2.8.2.1. As a minimum, ICE must include helmet, body armor, load bearing apparatus, magazine pouches (if not incorporated in a vest), holsters for the handgun (if applicable), and protective (gas) mask. Commanders may require other unique ICE to be worn during firing, with approval from the CATM Section Chief to ensure range safety is not compromised. For ranges where helmets cannot be worn during live-fire due to hearing protection requirements, CATM will perform dry-fire training with students wearing helmets in the classroom and on the range and conduct performance evaluations to ensure proficiency. **(T-2)**

2.8.2.2. Aircrew personnel who will not perform any ground combat duties at the deployed location or use ICE in their duties are exempt from the ICE requirement during qualification training. Aircrew personnel with an arming requirement with the GAU-5A (Aircrew Self Defense Weapon) will complete qualification training with guidance provided in DAFMAN 31-131 V2.

2.8.3. Personnel permanently assigned to sister service installations and directly supporting joint service missions who are authorized to use sister service firearms qualifications as outlined in **Paragraph 2.10** may use this qualification for deployment if accomplished within the required time.

2.8.4. Personnel whose qualifications were current prior to departure from home station for deployment will remain qualified for 30-days upon return to home station if the original expiration date surpassed 12-months, not to exceed a total qualification length of 24-months.

2.8.5. Personnel who are taking an issued weapon on the deployment will complete live-fire zero with the issued weapon, utilizing all issued aiming devices and sights (optics) prior to leaving home station or staging area if they used a different weapon to complete qualification-training. This includes individuals deploying with a weapon from extended storage and or weapon changed for any reason. When possible, individuals fire and qualify with the actual assigned military weapon they will be assigned during deployment. There are locations with pre-positioned SA/LW and firing the actual weapon before the deployment is not feasible. In these cases, if possible, the installation/site commander at the deployed location should make allowances for conducting zero fire at the deployed location.

2.9. Overseas Firearms Qualification Information.

2.9.1. Personnel Processing Code (PPC) identifies if an assignment requires individuals to be qualified. Personnel with questions about PPCs or overseas firing requirements should contact their local Military Personnel Section (MPS), Military Personnel Flight (MPF) or gaining command for guidance. The CATM section only provides qualification training not interpretation of the codes or justification. For unique situations, refer to **Paragraph 2.15** for qualification extension options. **Note:** Contiguous United States (CONUS) to CONUS assignments may have a PPC assigned, in this case, provide training per the PPC. MAJCOM PPC identified individuals with outside the CONUS (OCONUS) assignments normally receive either rifle/carbine or handgun qualification training unless function or mission dictate otherwise.

2.9.2. Personnel being reassigned from OCONUS to bases in the CONUS do not require SA/LW qualification. They receive qualification training at their gaining base, if required.

2.9.3. The unit scheduler for personnel requesting qualification training for a PCS assignment is responsible for verifying the individual's requirement to receive training before scheduling them for a class. **(T-3)** The goal is for individuals to meet live-fire qualification training standards. If an individual fails to qualify after three attempts, the losing MPS/MPF should contact the gaining command for guidance.

2.9.4. If training is not entered in ARIS, the individual or the individual's unit ensures the DAF Form 522, *Ground Weapons Training Data*, is provided to the MPS/MPF for transfer to the new assignment. During in-processing, the gaining MPS/MPF ensures the DAF Form 522 is given to the member's new unit. See the MPS/MPF for further guidance.

2.10. SA/LW qualification training for DAF personnel by other than CATM personnel. There are select circumstances where personnel may receive qualification or other firearms training by personnel not identified as CATM instructors.

2.10.1. Qualification training for personnel by sister services for deployment. In short notice or unanticipated circumstances, personnel may have no alternative other than to report to deployment training conducted by another service (e.g., US Army Power Projection Platform) without prior qualification. This is an exception to policy and only used after all efforts to get the individual qualified by CATM have been exhausted.

2.10.1.1. When personnel report to deployment training conducted by another service under such conditions, training and qualification by the host service may be required. Commanders may use one of two courses of action to offset this shortfall: send CATM personnel to the training location to qualify members, or if not feasible, request approval from AF/A4SO to utilize host service training, qualification courses and training personnel to qualify personnel.

2.10.1.2. If leadership selects the second option above, qualification training must satisfy the training objectives for the appropriate weapon(s) listed in DAFMAN 31-131 V2. **(T-1)**

2.10.1.3. Other service qualifications under these conditions are only valid for the specific mission requiring the training and may not be used for home station arming of personnel.

2.10.1.4. Route request for sister service qualification via DAF Form 679, *Department of the Air Force Publication Compliance Item Waiver Request/Approval*, through the AFSFC and courtesy copy the MAJCOM/SF, then to AF/A4SO for approval or disapproval.

2.10.2. Qualification training for personnel permanently assigned to sister services. Personnel permanently assigned to sister service installations and directly supporting joint service missions, such as Tactical Air Control Party or Air Support Operations Center personnel, are authorized to use sister service approved qualification courses conducted by host service personnel as their primary method of accomplishing qualification training during their tour of duty. Units with personnel receiving qualification training from other services must arrange to have their qualification data entered into ARIS. **(T-2)** The CATM section at the installation providing administrative support is responsible for updating qualification data submitted by the unit in ARIS. This ensures a record of qualification is visible within in the Air Force system.

2.10.2.1. Other service qualifications cannot be used to arm personnel for home station arming missions on DAF installations. Individuals who are reassigned from a sister service

installation to a DAF installation must complete DAF qualification training to remain qualified. **(T-2)**

2.10.2.2. Units using this option must ensure individuals receive combat mindset training during qualification following the guidance in DAFMAN 31-131 V1. **(T-1)**

2.10.3. Qualification training for AFOSI agents attending US Air Force Special Investigations Academy (USAFSIA). HQ AFOSI manages use of Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) employed certified instructors and task certified AFOSI agents to ensure enough personnel to support the USAFSIA firearms training program. The following paragraphs apply only to training conducted at the USAFSIA.

2.10.3.1. USAFSIA/CC may authorize FLETC employed firearms instructors who have successfully completed the Firearms Instructor Training Program and Law Enforcement Instructor Training Program to perform lead instructor, tower operator, assistant instructor, and firing line official duties for DAF qualification training of AFOSI students/agents on the AFOSI issued military handgun, and the M4 series carbine. FLETC firearms instructors must successfully complete the live-fire qualification course before conducting Basic Arms Training (BAT) and annually thereafter. **(T-1)** These personnel will be trained and evaluated by a task certified CATM instructor whenever possible.

2.10.3.2. FLETC firearms instructors follow the guidance in this instruction as well as the guidance in the appropriate chapter of DAFMAN 31-131 V1, while conducting DAF qualification training to trainees. FLETC firearms instructors use DAF approved lesson plans for this training.

2.10.3.3. FLETC firearms instructors that meet the requirements in **Paragraph 2.10.3.1** may certify AFOSI agents to perform assistant instructor and/or firing line official duties at the USAFSIA following the guidance in DAFMAN 31-131 V1.

2.10.3.4. If CATM maintenance support is unavailable (lack of assigned CATM personnel or not reasonably available at a nearby installation), USAFSIA/CC may approve use of the FLETC Gunsmith Shop to inspect and repair student/agent DAF SA/LW. Inspect and repair SA/LW using guidance provided in DAFMAN 31-131 V1 and the applicable Air Force Technical Order (AFTO). When FLETC gunsmiths perform inspections or maintenance, they will provide a copy of the inspection report and/or repair documents to the DAF office designated by USAFSIA/CC for entry into ARIS. **(T-2)** All inspections and repairs must be entered into ARIS on the AFTO Form 105, *Inspection Maintenance Firing Data for Ground Weapons*. **(T-2)**

2.10.3.5. Upon completion of BAT training, FLETC instructors will provide graduating AFOSI agents with a hardcopy DAF Form 522 to provide to the servicing CATM section at their first duty station. The gaining CATM section will enter the qualification information into ARIS.

2.10.4. Qualification training for Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Series 0083, *Civilian Police Officers (CPO)*, Military Law Enforcement SEI 3LE/L3, and SF Investigators attending Veteran Affairs (VA) Law Enforcement Training Center (VALETC). AFSFC/CC manages use of VALETC employed certified instructors to ensure enough personnel to support the firearms training program. The following paragraphs apply only to training conducted at VALETC.

2.10.4.1. When sufficient numbers of CATM or civilian equivalent personnel are not available, AFSFC/CC may authorize VALETC employed firearms instructors who have successfully completed the instructional development (ISD), firearms instructor (FAI) and long gun instructor (LGI) courses to perform lead instructor, tower operator, assistant instructor, and firing line official duties for qualification training of DAF CPO and SF Law Enforcement students on the handgun and rifle/carbine Basic Defender Qualification Course (BDQC). VALETC firearms instructors must successfully complete live-fire qualification on the course(s) before conducting training and annually thereafter. These personnel will be trained and evaluated by a task certified CATM instructor whenever possible.

2.10.4.2. VALETC firearms instructors follow the guidance in this instruction as well as the guidance in the applicable chapter of DAFMAN 31-131 V1 when conducting DAF qualification training. VALETC firearms instructors use DAF approved lesson plans for this training. VALETC firearms instructor certifications will be reviewed annually as part of curriculum review conducted by the AFSFC. **(T-2)**

2.10.4.3. Upon completion of BDQC training, VALETC instructors will provide graduates with a DAF Form 522. Graduates will provide the servicing CATM section with a copy of the DAF Form 522. The gaining CATM section will enter the qualification information into ARIS.

2.10.5. Qualification-training by sister service instructors assigned to a CATM section. The Security Forces/Combat Arms organizational commander must approve the use of sister service instructors assigned to a CATM section. Use the following paragraphs when sister service personnel conduct qualification-training:

2.10.5.1. Sister service personnel must be a graduate of a service specific SA/LW instructor certification course.

2.10.5.2. Sister service personnel must meet all instructor certification training procedures outlined in DAFMAN 31-131 V1.

2.10.5.3. CATM Section Chief will create a localized training plan to teach sister service personnel DAF specific processes and TTPs. This training will be documented and maintained in the sister service instructor's training folder. **(T-2)**

2.10.5.4. Sister service personnel are not authorized to perform CATM Section Chief, CATM trainer, or Instructor Supervisor duties regardless of rank. **(T-1)**

2.10.6. Qualification-training by Defender Weapons Trainer (DWT).

2.10.6.1. Security Forces commanders may implement a DWT program within their unit.

2.10.6.2. DWTs are Security Forces' noncommissioned officers, appointed in writing by the commander, who have completed the AF Job Qualification Standard (AFJQS) DWT, and is lead instructor certified by the CATM Trainer on the Rifle/Carbine and or Handgun Defender Qualification Course (DQC).

2.10.6.3. Once certified, DWTs may qualify Security Forces personnel only on the M4/M4A1 carbine and M18 handgun. DWTs operate in the same manner as CATM instructors and receive annual instructor evaluations thereafter following the guidance in DAFMAN 31-131 V1.

2.10.6.4. Document qualification training on a DAF Form 710, *Combat Arms Training Record* and provide it to the servicing CATM section to upload in ARIS.

2.11. Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (SAEMR).

2.11.1. Personnel may not fire any qualification courses or other service's qualification programs for the sole purpose of obtaining the expert ribbon. Award the SAEMR to the following personnel:

2.11.1.1. Personnel who live-fire qualify with an expert score on the Pistol/Handgun AFQC, Rifle/Carbine AFQC, Rifle/Carbine AFBQC, BAT, BDQC, DQC, and meet all course objectives outlined in DAFMAN 31-131 V2.

2.11.1.2. Personnel who achieve an expert score (through live fire) on another service's qualification program. **Note:** AF/A4SO must pre-approve this course for personnel and or units and be physically assigned to another branch of the military. **(T-2)**

2.11.1.3. Personnel who live-fire qualify with an expert score on the rifle or handgun orientation training and meet all other course objectives identified in DAFMAN 31-131 V2.

2.11.2. The DAF Form 522 is the basis for the SAEMR award. The individual awarded the SAEMR is responsible for bringing the DAF Form 522 to the MPS/MPF Awards and Decorations section. The MPS/MPF enters the award on the individual's automated personnel record.

2.11.3. DAFMAN 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures* prescribes authority for the award of this ribbon. DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*, shows proper wear of the SAEMR. One Bronze Service Star can be awarded in addition to the SAEMR when an individual qualifies as expert with both the rifle and a handgun. Only one award per weapon type (rifle or handgun) is made no matter how many times the individual qualifies as expert.

2.12. Virtual Training Systems (VTS). VTS (firearm simulators) are efficient and time effective tools to provide real world training at the unit level in the following areas: use of force, theater or command specific rules of engagement, tactical and judgmental scenarios. VTS are beneficial for all levels of marksmanship to include remedial training, and personnel are encouraged to utilize VTS to practice marksmanship fundamentals prior to qualification training.

2.12.1. Units requiring proficiency and sustainment training (e.g., AFFORGEN) are encouraged to use VTS. Additionally, units should use VTS to mitigate training gaps, such as non-availability of full-distance rifle and machine gun ranges, as well as other problems with inadequate training facilities.

2.12.2. VTS firearm simulators must meet the capabilities requirements outlined by AF/A4S. Units may obtain these requirements from the CATM SharePoint® site. AF/A4S and the AFSFC will not be able to support systems that do not meet these requirements with operation and training guidance.

2.13. Blanks and Close Combat Mission Capability Kit (CCMCK).

2.13.1. Unless specified in a training program personnel are not required to maintain firearms qualification strictly to participate in blank or dye-marking training. See DAFMAN 31-131 V3 for more information.

2.13.2. CATM should assist unit trainers in on-the-job training task certifying bird/wildlife aircraft strike hazard (BASH) personnel using blanks operationally. BASH personnel are not certified until they have completed training as outlined in the approved local BASH plan. **Note:** Individuals who carry a weapon with ammunition (e.g., EOD, BASH, large mammal removal or pest control agencies), other than marking cartridges/blanks, which fires any type of projectile (including shot) must complete the appropriate qualification course outlined in DAFMAN 31-131 V2 prior to carrying the weapon for official duty. **(T-0)**

2.14. General Exception. Individuals stationed OCONUS or areas within a country where customs, laws or international agreements make it impossible to receive firearms training are not required to have firearms training for the duration of the assignment, not to exceed 24-months. This provision does not preclude MAJCOMs from maintaining qualification intervals at established temporary duty (TDY) locations. **Note:** Individual SA/LW qualifications must be current prior to being granted this 24-month exception. **(T-1)** This 24-month exception is the total length of qualification, and no extensions will be granted (individuals cannot be qualified longer than 24-months). **(T-0) Note:** Personnel must complete training required by international agreement and or host nation law as applicable.

2.15. Qualification Extensions. When mission requirements or small arms range limitations or both prevent CATM personnel from conducting qualification training, organizations may use the following options to extend qualifications. Individuals must be currently qualified (not past the expiration date on the DAF Form 522) on the weapon and course to receive an extension. **(T-1)** Personnel on an extension are not permitted to deploy to a contingency operation, combat zone or designated hostile fire area that requires weapon qualification. **(T-2)** Extensions do not change the requirement for firearms familiarization (classroom academic / unit led) and annual use of force training in non-deployed circumstances. The total length of qualification, including all extensions, cannot exceed 24-months from the date of qualification training under any circumstance. **(T-0)** Unit training sections ensure qualification extensions are posted on the individual's DAF Form 522.

2.15.1. Squadron Commander Extensions. The authorizing official (arming authority) for the squadron may grant a one-time qualification extension of up to 180-calendar days per qualification event. **(T-3)**

2.15.1.1. Commanders may grant a 30-day qualification extension to individuals who were qualified at the time they reported for training but failed the course. This extension cannot cause the individual's qualification to exceed 12-months. This 30-day extension gives commanders some flexibility in meeting home station arming requirements. **Note:** This provision is not automatic. It can only be administered on a case-by-case basis with the written approval of the individual's unit commander/designated official. This option does not permit personnel to deploy to high threat areas.

2.15.1.2. If a person fails to qualify during the same day re-fire, the person is considered unqualified at the time, and they are not authorized an extension.

2.15.2. Installation Level Extensions. Installation commanders, senior-level Air Force Reserve and ANG commanders may grant a one-time qualification extension of up to 12 continuous months for their affected personnel. **(T-2)** Installation and squadron commander extensions may not exceed a total of 12 continuous months when combined. **(T-0) Note:** MAJCOM authorizing officials may approve qualification extensions of 12 continuous months following the same guidance as installation level extensions. Consider the following before granting lengthy extensions.

2.15.2.1. The number of individuals requiring an extension, the extension effects, specific arming requirements, and impact on the mission.

2.15.2.2. The reason for the extension, corrective action, compensatory measures, and get-well date.

2.15.2.3. The granting authority documents extensions in memorandum format, ensuring the type(s) of firearm(s), courses of training, duration of extension, and authorizing documents are listed.

2.16. General Requirements.

2.16.1. Completion of qualification training does not authorize an individual to be armed and is only one step in the process commanders use to authorize arming of their assigned personnel. See DAFI 31-117, *Arming and the Use of Force*.

2.16.2. Commanders follow the guidance in this instruction and DAFI 31-117 to ensure personnel meet all requirements before allowing them to be scheduled for training, armed, or to have access to SA/LW. Commanders are responsible for ensuring their personnel scheduled for any type of training are following the Gun Control Act of 1968 (18 USC § 922(d)(9) and (g)(9)/Lautenberg Amendment), as implemented by DoDI 6400.06, *DoD Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel*. **(T-0)** CATM personnel do not verify compliance or complete required documentation concerning the Gun Control Act, this is a unit responsibility.

2.16.3. Qualification training culminates in an evaluation by certified CATM instructors that ensures students demonstrate their ability to employ the weapon safely and effectively.

2.16.4. Due to resource limitations and limited training availability, non-essential training is prohibited. **(T-2)** The DAF does not conduct familiarization training. This includes activities such as weapons demonstrations, morale shoots, firepower demonstrations, training of civilian community organizations, and allowing non-DoD personnel to fire government SA/LW or ammunition. **(T-2) Exception:** This does not include qualification or sustainment training of personnel contracted by DAF who require qualification and arming as part of their contract. Furthermore, this policy does not include qualification/sustainment training or arming of personnel employed by the State or contracted by the State to provide security for the ANG as part of their contract.

2.16.5. The unit commander requesting qualification training must ensure personnel are within 12-months of the arrive in country date. **(T-1)** When a unit scheduler (e.g., Unit Deployment Manager, Unit Training Manager, training section) uploads a student in ARIS, they are validating the individual is within the specified period of their AFFORGEN cycle or

have a home station arming requirement prior to scheduling an individual for qualification training. **(T-2)**

2.16.6. Personnel with an AF Form 469, *Duty Limiting Condition Report*, excluding them from live weapons firing or range duties, are not permitted to participate in training. Personnel who report for weapons training must be able to operate in an environment of hazardous materials, noise, vibration, airborne and chemical irritants, and toxins as well as perform all physical requirements, to include assuming all firing positions, unassisted. Personnel are not permitted to cover their non-shooting eye with patches, cloth, or other material to control eye dominance problems. Personnel on a temporary physical profile (e.g., wearing a cast or leg brace) may be permitted to live-fire if the injury does not prevent them from meeting course objectives, proper firing positions, or detracts from safe weapons handling.

2.16.7. Only task certified CATM personnel (3P0X1B or DoD civilian equivalent) or others identified in this instruction are authorized to conduct qualification and or orientation training. **(T-1)**

2.16.8. If live-fire cannot be accomplished the same day, students must complete qualification training evaluations (live-fire) within 30-days (ARC members have two Unit Training Assemblies (UTAs) to meet this requirement) of completion of mechanical and classroom marksmanship training (this also applies to remedial training). **(T-3)** If more than 30-days (two UTAs for ARC) have passed since the original class date, the individual re-accomplishes the entire training program, including live-fire on all required tables and phases.

2.16.9. All qualifications expire on the last day of the month.

2.16.10. The CATM SharePoint® site is the official site for current guidance, training materials, approved commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) clearing barrels, and authorized SA/LW accessories.

2.16.11. AFOSI Agents reporting for qualification training may be in agent or casual civilian attire.

2.16.12. Changes to the BAT Course are authorized when requested by HQ AFOSI, *Directorate of Strategic Programs and Requirements (AFOSI/XR)*. Changes are then coordinated and approved by AF/A4S. AFOSI makes any specialized targets (not already used for normal qualification courses), special equipment required for the course and SA/LW available to CATM to conduct instructor training, maintenance, and qualification training.

2.16.13. Agents authorized by the AFOSI commander (or designee) to carry a privately owned firearm (i.e., handgun) for official duty will qualify annually on the BAT Course with the AFOSI government issued handgun(s) as outlined in this instruction. **(T-0)**

2.16.13.1. Once qualified with the AFOSI government-issued handgun, agents who choose to carry an authorized privately owned firearm (i.e., handgun) will complete the mandatory live-fire sustainment training (i.e., proficiency firing) on the BAT Course with the privately owned firearm (i.e., handgun) before being authorized to carry the privately owned firearm for official duty. **(T-1) Exception:** If the privately owned firearm is the same make and model (regardless of generation) as the government-issued handgun additional live-fire training is not required.

2.16.13.2. Document training within the AFOSI 173, *Privately Owned Weapon Authorization and Registration*, as prescribed by AFOSI Manual (AFOSIMAN) 71-113, *Weapons, Arming, Search and Seizure, Apprehension, Arrest, and Use of Force*.

2.16.14. Personnel who are not AFOSI agents but have a mission requirement to carry a concealed handgun (e.g., credentialed Security Forces Investigators, Armed Transfer Agents) are assigned the current service handgun (i.e., M18) as their primary duty weapon. They must qualify on the Handgun Basic Arms Training (BAT) Course using the authorized concealed carry holster. **(T-1) Exception:** When tasked to deploy, they qualify on the handgun AFQC/DQC. Once they have completed initial BAT Course qualification with their commander's approval, they continue to qualify using BAT until they are no longer performing this duty. **Note:** Personnel reporting for CATM training who are authorized concealed carry must present documentation from the authorizing official to receive concealed carry training (e.g., a properly completed and current DAF Form 523, *USAF Authorization to Bear Firearms*, indicating concealed carry meets this requirement). **(T-3)**

2.16.15. Staff personnel assigned at the Group level and above, who would normally maintain firearms qualification by virtue of their AFSC, are not required to complete qualification training. **(T-2)** However, the staff agency director may establish qualification training requirements.

2.16.16. Personnel with individually assigned SA/LW (e.g., rifles/carbines/handguns with adjustable sights,) or assigned weapon replaced or having major repairs affecting the sight setting (e.g., replaced barrel, slide, upper receiver, sights) will be provided the opportunity to zero their assigned weapon prior to being armed with it. **(T-2) Note:** Security Forces personnel will not be armed at home station with personally assigned SA/LW with adjustable sites, without completing zeroing on that specific weapon. **(T-2) Note:** This is highly recommended for deployed locations, at the discretion of the deployed commander.

2.16.16.1. CATM sections forecast for these munitions with guidance provided in DAFMAN 21-209 V1 and the GMAT. CATM ensures the range and certified unit personnel are available to conduct this operation. The GMAT identify the maximum authorizations approved for use by functional areas.

2.16.16.2. If live fire is not possible, commanders may authorize the use of an approved bore sighting device to accomplish zero of individually assigned SA/LW. This technique should be used as a last resort.

2.16.17. Where applicable, the DAF has adopted US Army Field Manuals and training circulars as instructor guides and references. CATM sections use them and other sister service training publications as a guide for conducting training. However, DAF publications and policies take precedence when there are conflicts in guidance or procedures.

2.16.18. Personnel are not authorized to fire government procured ammunition, including COTS procured items, using privately owned weapons. **Exception:** When authorized as outlined in DoDD 5210.56, personnel may use government procured ammunition in authorized privately owned firearms when performing official duties.

2.16.18.1. The DAF procures ground ammunition to support specific military training and operational missions. DAF ground munitions must meet specific performance and quality control requirements to ensure they will function safely.

2.16.18.2. Personnel are not authorized to fire non-government procured (privately owned) ammunition using government SA/LW. Non-government procured ammunition may not meet military specifications and their use could result in injury or death to personnel or damage to government equipment.

2.16.19. Instructors may provide additional rounds during the grouping and zero phases and practice orders before the student attempts to qualify. Identify additional rounds on the DAF Form 710.

2.16.20. When a squadron earns CATM manpower (e.g., RED HORSE and Special Tactics Squadron), other than the installation/host CATM section, they are authorized to perform CATM instructor duties for their respective organization/squadron and may assist the host CATM section to maintain instructor proficiency. **Note:** An MOA/MOU may need to be established to document issues of general understanding between two or more parties that do or do not involve reimbursement. The host CATM section retains overall program management for the installation.

2.16.21. Personnel must be live-fire qualified before participating in any non-qualification live-fire training, this includes training provided by DAF, sister service, contractor, civilian entities, or any other agency. **(T-2) Exception:** Air Task Force and Deployable Combat Wing commanders may authorize their personnel to participate in non-qualification live-fire training for rifle and or handgun prior to the culminating qualification event to train and exercise together throughout the deployment (e.g., AFFORGEN) cycle. **Note:** This does not eliminate the need for classroom instruction and or the requirement for commanders to follow the guidance in DAFI 31-117 to ensure personnel meet all suitability and additional requirements before allowing them to be participate in training or have access to SA/LW.

2.17. General Individual Equipment Requirements.

2.17.1. The *Authorized Small Arms and Light Weapons (SA/LW) Accessories List* and the additional equipment items in the applicable TO are the only authorized items for use on SA/LW. **(T-1)**

2.17.2. SA/LW accessories, such as aiming devices, require the individual to complete academic instruction, zero, and live-fire qualification using the device, before they are authorized to use or mount it to a weapon operationally. Refer to the applicable qualification training program for each weapon in DAFMAN 31-131 V2 for more information. If an individual is currently qualified on the weapon/course and receives a requirement for a new accessory, they are only required to complete academic training/evaluation, zero, and the live fire qualification portion of the course of fire that is applicable to the device. The original qualification expiration date remains unchanged, but CATM annotates the remarks section of the DAF Form 522 in ARIS to indicate that the individual is qualified to use the new accessory (e.g., AN/PEQ-15).

2.17.3. The *Authorized Small Arms and Light Weapons (SA/LW) Accessories List* includes approved holsters for use within DAF. Personnel will only train, qualify, and use an authorized holster, whether the holster is part of their field gear or concealed wear. **Exception:** AFOSI/XR directs holster types for AFOSI personnel for operational use; however, AFOSI personnel will use a strong side hip mounted holster during qualification training. Agents receiving training provide CATM personnel the opportunity to become familiar with the holsters they will use

for live fire. This ensures range officials are familiar with the agents' equipment and to provide appropriate range commands. Instructors should accomplish this during classroom training. **Note:** AFOSI units are not required to purchase holsters for CATM or loan them for an extended time. When unit commanders authorize individuals to use more than one type of holster, CATM uses the procedures in the following paragraphs to qualify them.

2.17.3.1. Individuals will live fire with their primary holster unless prohibited. Individuals will not complete live fire using shoulder or cross draw holsters.

2.17.3.2. CATM will include a combination of classroom and range dry-fire training on the proper techniques for drawing the weapon from these types of holsters/carry (personnel will be performance tested on their ability to draw from a cross draw/shoulder safely and correctly) without ammunition in the weapon. **(T-1) Exception:** AFOSI agents, Security Forces investigators and Security Forces Armed Transfer Agents utilize their standard concealed duty holster and are authorized to live-fire using a cross draw/concealed weapon on the firing line. CATM is authorized to live fire using a cross draw/concealed weapon only while qualifying on the BAT course of fire.

2.17.3.3. Document qualification and holster type(s) in the remarks section of the DAF Form 522.

2.17.4. Personnel will bring a protective (gas) mask to qualification training when a protective mask is required. **(T-2)** CATM sections do not maintain protective masks and they are issued through the installation readiness section.

2.18. Competitions/Courses. Commanders may approve the use of government owned SA/LW and authorized munitions for personnel to participate in military or civilian or both shooting competitions and courses. DAFMAN 21-209 V1 and the GMAT provides allowances for matches conducted consistent with DAFI 34-114, *Fitness, Sports, and World Class Athlete Program*, and other competitions.

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Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

18 USC § 922(d)(9) and (g)(9), *The Domestic Violence Amendment to the Gun Control Act of 1968* (“the Lautenberg Amendment”)

DoDD 2311.01, *DoD Law of War Program*, 02 July 2020

DoDD 5210.56, *Arming and the Use of Force*, 18 November 2016

(Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) None

DAFI 31-117, *Arming and Use of Force*, 10 December 2024

DAFI 34-114, *Fitness, Sports, and World Class Athlete Program*, 15 December 2022

DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of Department of the Air Force Personnel*, 29 February 2024

DAFI 91-202, *The Department of the Air Force Mishap Prevention Program*, 20 March 2020

DAFMAN 31-131 Volume 1, *Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) Operations*

DAFMAN 31-131 Volume 2, *Small Arms and Light Weapons Qualification Programs*

DAFMAN 31-131 Volume 3, *Small Arms and Light Weapons Handling Procedures*

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AFMAN 21-209 Volume 2, *Demolition Munitions*, 25 April 2018

AFOSIMAN 71-113, *Weapons, Arming, Search and Seizure, Apprehension, Arrest, and Use of Force*, 18 May 2023

Prescribed Forms

DAF Form 522, *Ground Weapons Training Data*

(Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) None

DAF Form 710, *Combat Arms Training Record*

Adopted Forms

DAF Form 679, *Department of the Air Force Publication Compliance Item Waiver Request/Approval*

DAF Form 523, *USAF Authorization to Bear Firearms*

DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

AF Form 469, *Duty Limiting Condition Report*

AFTO Form 105, *Inspection Maintenance Firing Data for Ground Weapons*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AETC—Air Education and Training Command

AFCFM—Air Force Career Field Manager

AFFORGEN—Air Force Force Generation

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFIMSC—Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center

AFLCMC—Air Force Life Cycle Management Center

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

AFMC—Air Force Materiel Command

AFOSI—Air Force Office of Special Investigations

AFOSIMAN—Air Force Office of Special Investigations Manual

AFSFC—Air Force Security Forces Center

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

AFQC—Air Force Qualification Course

AFSC—Air Force Specialty Code

AFSFC—Air Force Security Forces Center

AFTO—Air Force Technical Order

ANG—Air National Guard

ARIS—Automated Readiness Information System

BAT—Basic Arms Training

(Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) CCMCK—Close Combat Munitions Capability Kit

CCMD—Combatant Command

CONUS—Contiguous United States

COTS—Commercial Off the Shelf

DAFI—Department of the Air Force Instruction

DAFMAN—Department of the Air Force Manual
DCS—Deputy Chief of Staff
DD—Department of Defense Form
DoD—Department of Defense
DoDD—Department of Defense Directive
DoDI—Department of Defense Instruction
(Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) DRU—Direct Report Units
DWT—Defender Weapons Trainer
FLETC—Federal Law Enforcement Training Center
GMAT—Ground Munitions Authorization Tables
(Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) GSU—Geographically Separated Units
ICE—Individual Combat Equipment
MAJCOM—Major Command
(Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) MOB—main operating bases
MPF—Military Personnel Flight
MPS—Military Personnel Section
NCO—Noncommissioned Officer
OCONUS—Outside Contiguous United States
OPR—Office of Primary Responsibility
PCS—Permanent Change of Station
PPC—Personnel Processing Code
ROTC—Reserve Officer Training Corps
SA/LW—Small Arms and Light Weapons
SAEMR—Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon
SMC—Shoot, Move and Communicate
START—Services Tools for Activity Reporting & Tracking
TCCC—Tactical Combat Casualty Care
TDY—Temporary Duty
TO—Technical Order
UQ—Unqualified
USAFA—United States Air Force Academy
USAFSIA—United States Air Force Special Investigations Academy

USAF—United States Air Force

USC—United States Code

US—United States

UTA—Unit Training Assembly

UTC—Unit Type Code

VALETC—Veterans Affairs Law Enforcement Training Center

VTS—Virtual Training System

WOTS—Warrant Officer Training School

Office Symbols

AF/A4—Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection

AF/A4L—Director of Logistics

AF/A4P—Director of Resource Integration

AF/A4S—Director of Security Forces

AF/JAO—Operations and International Law Directorate

AF/A4SO—AF/A4S, Operations Division

AETC—Air Education and Training Command

Terms

Armed—A person equipped with a firearm that has a live round of ammunition in a magazine inserted into the firearm, chamber, or cylinder.

Carry—The carrying of a weapon, loaded and ready for employment, on one's person. Authority to carry may include the retention, transport, and storage to and from the work place to domicile. (DoDD 5210.56)

CATM Section Chief—Used for the Senior Noncommissioned Officer and occasionally Noncommissioned Officer who is responsible for installation's CATM section and the SF Armory.

Certification—A formal indication of an individual's ability to perform a task to required standards.

Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS)—Commercial items that require no unique government modifications or maintenance over the life cycle of the product to meet the needs of the procuring agency.

Contingency Operations—A military operation that is either designated by the Secretary of Defense as a contingency operation or becomes a contingency operation as a matter of law (10 USC 101[a][13]). It is a military operation that: a. is designated by the Secretary of Defense as an operation in which an individual of the Armed Forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations, or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against an opposing force; b. is created by definition of law. Under 10 USC 101 (a)(13)(b), a contingency operation exists if a military operation results in the (1) call up to (or retention on) active-duty of an

individual of the uniformed Services under certain enumerated statutes (10 USC Sections 688, 12301(a), 12302, 12304, 12305, 12406, or 331-335); and (2) the call up to (or retention on) active-duty individuals of the uniformed Services under other (non-enumerated) statutes during war or national emergency declared by the President or Congress.

Contingency—A situation requiring military operations in response to natural disasters, terrorists, subversives, or as otherwise directed by appropriate authority to protect United States interests. (JP 5-0)

Deployment—The movement of forces into and out of an operational area. See also deployment order; deployment planning; prepare to deploy order. (JP 3-35)

DoD Civilian Equivalent Qualification—A DoD civilian who has graduated from the AFSC awarding Small Arms or CATM Technical School.

Firearm—Defined in Section 921 of Title 18, U.S.C.

Firing Line Official—The assigned individual(s) on the firing platform who enforces safety procedures, policies and coaches shooters during range training.

Firing Position—The point or location where a weapon, other than demolitions, is placed for firing. (For demolitions, the firing position is the point or location where the firing crew is located during demolition operations).

Functional Manager—The office of primary responsibility for a particular Air Force specialty. Examples: AF/A4S for Security Forces; AF/A4C for civil engineers; AF/A1 for personnel and education and training specialists.

High Threat Area—Deployment location where the theater commander requires all personnel be fully qualified to participate in the force protection mission based upon the threat condition. Deployment requirements are usually identified in the deployment tasking order.

In-Garrison—Performing duties at home station or on the installation at a non-deployed location.

Proficiency Training—Additional unit-level training available to personnel to increase their skills, competence, and knowledge on weapons they are qualified on and have a ground-munitions training account.

Qualification Training—The minimum training and evaluation necessary for personnel to be considered qualified to employ small arms and light weapons (SA/LW) for the purpose of armed duty.

Range—An area reserved and normally equipped for qualification/practice in SA/LW delivery and/or shooting at targets.

Security Forces/CATM Organizational Commander—The unit commander of the organization performing the base CATM function or the unit CATM function. Usually the Security Forces squadron commander.

Small Arms and Light Weapons—Small arms and light weapons are defined as man-portable weapons made or modified to military specifications for use as lethal instruments of war that expel a shot, bullet, or projectile by action of an explosive. Small arms are broadly categorized as those weapons intended for use by individual members of armed or security forces. They include handguns, rifles and carbines, submachine guns, and light machine guns. Light weapons are

broadly categorized as those weapons designed for use by two or three members of armed or security forces serving as a crew, although a single person may use some. They include heavy machine guns, hand-held under-barrel and mounted grenade launchers, portable anti-aircraft guns, portable anti-tank guns, recoilless rifles, man-portable launchers of missile and rocket systems and mortars.

Sustainment Training—Career Field Manager, Air Staff Functional, or MAJCOM Functional directed training to maintain, support, and prolong the knowledge and skills acquired from qualification training and have a ground-munitions training account.

Tower Operator—The person who monitors the entire range at all times, paying particular attention to the firing line.

Trainer—A trained and qualified person who teaches personnel to perform specific tasks through on-the-job training methods. Also, equipment that the trainer uses to teach personnel specified tasks.

Attachment 2 (Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA)

USAFE-AFAFRICA SUSTAINMENT FIRING PROGRAM

A2.1. (Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) Purpose: IAW Paragraph 1.6.3. the following attachment establishes the USAFE-AFAFRICA Sustainment Firing Program.

A2.2. (Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) Security Forces members will conduct a minimum of three M4 Carbine and/or M18 handgun proficiency firing drills in between annual qualifications. Subsequently, upon completion of the annual qualification, individuals are required to complete a minimum of ten proficiency firing drills annually in any combination (See [Attachment 1](#)). Commanders may choose to exceed this minimum. **Example:** A squadron conducts seven M4 Carbine drills and three M18 handgun drills for a total of ten drills annually. Although the minimum requirement is ten drills annually, Commanders are highly encouraged to utilize each Defender's entire ammunition allowance IAW the Ground Munitions Authorization Table (GMAT) 2B.1. for proficiency fire. All drills will be accomplished utilizing live fire training.

A2.2.1. (Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) For Geographically Separated Units (GSU) and Direct Report Units (DRU) that do not have organic range facilities, are limited by Host Nation agreements, and/or are restricted by quiet hours, each Defender is still required to accomplish a total of ten M4 Carbine and/or M18 handgun proficiency drills in any combination. Given the restrictions outlined above, Commanders may choose to accomplish proficiency firing drills in conjunction with existing range days that are available throughout the year.

A2.2.2. (Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) For main operating bases (MOB), GSUs or DRUs that are unable to meet the live fire requirement, Commanders may authorize the use of the Close Combat Munitions Capability Kit (CCMCK) and/or virtual training systems (VTS) firearm simulators approved by the Career Field.

A2.3. (Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) CATM Managers along with Unit Weapons and Tactics personnel are responsible for determining the proficiency level of students prior to selecting drills to be performed. Below is a list of drills that may be used, other approved drills available on the CATM SharePoint™ are authorized to use during proficiency fire. Proposed new drills will be routed through USAFE-AFAFRICA/A4S prior to implementation.

Figure A2.1. (Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) Proficiency Firing Drills

PRO-1 Fundamentals			
DRILL	TIME	WEAPON	ROUND COUNT
25 Meter Bull	10 min	M18	One 10 round handgun mag
Trigger Stripe	5 min	M4/M18	Three 5 round rifle/handgun mags
Feel/Eyes/Finger	15 min	M4/M18	Five 5 round rifle mag/five 5 round handgun mags
Shifting Gears	5 min	M4/M18	One 16 round rifle mag/handgun mags

Twister	5 min	M4/M18	One 25 round rifle mag/one 15 and one 10 round handgun mags
Shoulder Transition	5 min	M4	One 30 round rifle mag
Barriers	10 min	M4/M18	One 30 round rifle mag/two 15 round handgun mags
Triple Threat	3 min	M4/M18	One 15 round rifle/handgun mag
PRO-2 Advanced Skills			
DRILL	TIME	WEAPON	ROUND COUNT
Cadence Drill	5 min	M4/M18	One 20 round rifle mag/two 10 round handgun mags
1”2”3”	5 min	M4/M18	Three 10 round rifle mags/three 10 round handgun mags
Lucky Charms	5 min	M4/M18	One 5 round rifle mag/one 5 round handgun mag
Up/Down	5 min	M4/M18	One 5 round rifle mag/one 5 round handgun mag
2x2x2	5 min	M4/M18	One 6 round rifle mag/one 6 round handgun mag
1-5	5 min	M4/M18	One 15 round rifle/one 15 round handgun mag
Chaos	5 min	M4/M18	One 15 round rifle/one 15 round handgun mag
9-Hole	5 min	M4	Two 9 round rifle mags
Known Distance Training	20 min	M4	Six 10 round rifle mags
Numbers	5 min	M4/M18	One 10 round rifle/one 10 round handgun mag
Displacement	5 min	M4/M18	Six 6 round rifle/six 6 handgun mags
Zig-Zag	5 min	M4/M18	One 18 round rifle mag/two 9 round handgun mags

Barrel Weave	10 min	M4/M18	Three 30 round rifle mags/three 15 round handgun mags
Pistol Mayhem	10 min	M18	Three 10 round handgun mags
Highsmith	15 min	M4/M18	One 25 round rifle mag/two 15 round handgun mags
Stress Fire	15 min	M4/M18	Three 10 round rifle/three 10 round handgun mags

Figure A2.2. (Added-USAFE-AFAFRICA) Firing Drill Instructions

25 Meter Bullseye M18
<p>PURPOSE</p> <p>This drill is used as a benchmark for M18 Marksmanship. It can be conducted at any time but normally is reserved for the beginning and the end of the day.</p> <p>DESCRIPTION</p> <p>This drill is conducted at 25 meters from the target.</p> <p>Fire 10 rounds within 10 minutes. First shot MUST be from the holster.</p> <p>EQUIPMENT</p> <p>Rapid Fire Pistol Target (B-8) or Excellence in Competition (EIC) Target</p> <p>AMMUNITION REQUIRED</p> <p>1, 10 Round Magazine, 9mm</p> <p>TIME per Shooter</p> <p>Approximately 10 minutes</p> <p>INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE</p> <p>All drills will be accomplished in a <i>crawl – walk – run</i> format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill. Grade and record. If the round simply breaks the circle, it does not count as the higher value ring. In order for the round to count as the higher of the two rings, the majority of the bullet hole must be within the higher value ring. The rips in the paper do not count as breaking the ring either. The “X” is only a reference point and counts as 10 points. The total score will be out of 100 points</p>
Trigger Stripe M4/M18
<p>PURPOSE</p>

This drill will build confidence in the shooter to deliver accurate shots in rapid succession. It will show the shooter at what pace and to which direction rounds begin to drift. Knowing this, shooters can apply the correct amount of tension in the correct direction which will increase accuracy.

DESCRIPTION

Deliver 5 rounds at a slow, consistent pace on the black stripe. Continue delivering 5 round volleys with an increased pace on each volley.

EQUIPMENT

1, "Trigger Stripe" Target

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

3, 5 Round Magazines, 5.56mm or

3, 5 Round Magazines, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill. The black stripe is merely a reference. We want to see how close the shooter can stay to that line at ever increasing speeds/distances.

Feel/Eyes/Eyes/Finger M4/M18

PURPOSE

Each line focuses on something different (as described below).

DESCRIPTION

Deliver one round in each circle across each line. Focus on the following:

Line 1 - Feel (Friction, Leverage)

Line 2 - Eyes (Hard Sight Picture): focus on the front sight. Say to yourself "clear front sight, clear front sight" before every shot.

Line 3 - Eyes (Body Alarm Response): Focus on the target circle, not the front sight. You won't always gain a hard sight picture in a quick, fighting response. Say to yourself, "clear circle, clear circle" before every shot.

Line 4 - Finger: M18 trigger is a fulcrum (back and up). When you squeeze the trigger with your finger, your finger is a fulcrum (back and to the side). Think of "90/10/Finish Flat." Press through the slack of the trigger (90), but finish through the trigger press (10) flat across the trigger face as the shot breaks.

Line 5 – Combine all learned skills.

EQUIPMENT

1, “Feel/Eyes/Finger Drill” Target

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

5, 5 Round Magazines, 5.56mm or

5, 5 Round Magazines, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 15 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Shifting Gears M4/M18**PURPOSE**

The shift gears drill focuses the attention of all fundamentals. It does not matter how big of a circle you are engaging because the shooters should strive for center impact (on the number) every time. “Aim small, miss small.”

DESCRIPTION

This drill can be conducted from anywhere between 2 - 5 meters from target, depending on shooter capabilities. Begin firing at the top row, circle 1. Engage each row of circles in ascending numerical order. Finish each row of circles before moving to the next row, working from top to bottom.

EQUIPMENT

1, “Shift Gears Drill” Target

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 16 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or 1, 16 Round Magazine, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill. If a shooter is struggling delivering rounds on target, remind them to focus only on the number inside the circle, not the circle itself. If necessary, conduct remedial training with the shooter

Twister M4/M18

PURPOSE

You must be a thinker before you can be a shooter. This drill incorporates a mental drill in which the shooter must develop the ability to do multiple things at once by discerning each target before, during, and after engaging.

DESCRIPTION

Instructor chooses a series of 5 colors and announces them aloud. Give the shooter a time frame of your choosing to memorize the sequence. Shooters will then engage the colored circles in the sequence indicated starting with the top row and working down.

EQUIPMENT

1, “Twister Drill” Target

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 25 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

1, 15 and 1, 10 Round Magazine, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill

Shoulder Transitions M4**PURPOSE**

Practice transitioning the weapon from shoulder to shoulder in order to obtain a better firing position.

DESCRIPTION

The proper shoulder transition sequence is as follows:

1. Move weapon to the limit of the sling or just far enough to clear the gear on vest
2. Move buttstock across to opposite shoulder (now in *dirty bump* configuration and can fire from here, as needed)
3. Move firing hand up to C-clamp and move support hand back to pistol grip (now in *full transition*)

EQUIPMENT

Selective Targets (“E”, steel, or paper)

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 30 Round Magazine, 5.56mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

The main purpose of this drill is to practice shoulder transitions. It can be conducted as dry or live fire. Any ammunition used during this drill is up to you. The normal routine however is to engage the target with a controlled, transition shoulders, engage with another controlled pair, and repeat this process until all ammunition has been expended, usually using a 30 round magazine. It can be self-paced or at the command of the firing line official. It is suggested to do this drill on command at first in order to better critique each student on each step of the process

Barriers M4/M18

PURPOSE

Shooters must learn to fire from different positions around cover and concealment.

DESCRIPTION

This basic concept of this drill is to have the shooter practice firing from the left/right side and over barricade positions. The shooter will keep their outside knee up, step at ~45 degree angle to the barrier, and keep their upper body as vertical as possible (explain spinal rigidity if need be). The movement and engagement must be quick and calculated.

EQUIPMENT

1 Sheet, 8.5”x11” Paper or

1, Hostile Target or

1, IPSC Steel Target 1, Barrier

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 30 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

2, 15 Round Magazines, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 10 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Ensure students utilize the proper techniques of transitioning shoulders and the proper movement when moving from behind cover to engage a target. Shooters do not have to have their muzzles beyond the edge of the barrier but you must stress the importance of their proprioception of their weapon (just because you can see the target through your optic doesn't mean your muzzle can).

Stress the importance of utilizing their tactical mindset. If they need to reload, do so behind cover. If you step out to engage and you must perform immediate/remedial action, do so behind cover. To take it a step further, after fixing the issue you could change sides of the barrier

Triple Threat M4/M18**PURPOSE**

Rapid engagements with target transitions and engaging multiple vital areas of a target.

DESCRIPTION

One, two, or three targets are placed on the target line with one meter between targets. The three areas the shooter must engage are the chest (2 shots), groin (2 shots), and head (1 shot). Shooters will engage targets from left to right, engaging all three areas before moving to the next target.

EQUIPMENT

9, 5" Circle Targets (4 per Target) or

3, Hostile Targets

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 15 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

1, 15 Round Magazine, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 3 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

This drill is normally conducted at a distance of five meters. To increase difficulty, you may increase the distance from the target and increase the distance between targets.

Variation 1

Stagger the target distances (i.e. place targets at 5, 10, and 12 meters from the shooter). This will force the shooter to assess the situation before engaging in order to engage each target in tactical importance.

Variation 2

Add in a mix of hostile and non-hostile targets. Now the shooter must choose which target to engage first as determined by their threat level. (Once shooter has successfully engaged hostile targets, you may instruct them to engage the final target(s) to expend remaining ammunition.)

Variation 3

Combine variations 1 and 2

Cadence Drill M4/M18**PURPOSE**

Studies show the brain likes rhythm. Accuracy can be increased by using a constant rhythm.

DESCRIPTION

Deliver 5 rounds to one circle w/ a “one thousand 1, one thousand 2, one thousand 3” pace. Deliver 5 rounds to the next circle w/ a “1 and 2 and 3...” pace. Continue on to the next two circles w/ an increased pace on each. Strive to deliver all 5 rounds of each volley with perfect cadence.

*Due to the nature of this drill, cadence drills can be utilized with any number of rounds per volley and on any target.

EQUIPMENT

Zero Dot Target

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 20 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

2, 10 Round Magazine, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill

1” 2” 3”

M4/M18

PURPOSE

To depict different shot groupings with different speeds of firing.

DESCRIPTION

Shooters will engage all targets from anywhere between 2-7m. Shooters will strive to keep shot groupings within the center mass area of the target circle. Shooters will be standing with no support for all firing. The first 10 round magazine will be used on the 1” circle where students will practice weapons fundamentals along with grouping and hold-off (if necessary). The second 10 round magazine will be used on the 2” circle. This time shooters will fire controlled pairs using all weapons fundamentals to achieve the best grouping while using hold-off (if necessary). The third 10 round magazine will be used on the 3” circle. This time shooters will fire hammered pairs using all weapons fundamentals to achieve very quick shots. Grouping is not as much a concern as is shot speed.

EQUIPMENT

1, 1” 2” 3” Target

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

3, 10 Round Magazines, 5.56mm or

3, 10 Round Magazines, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill. Assess student’s biomechanics and help them become more efficient in their movements

Lucky Charms M4/M18**PURPOSE**

You must be a thinker before you can be a shooter. This drill incorporates a mental drill in which the shooter must develop the ability to do multiple things at once by discerning each target before, during, and after engaging.

DESCRIPTION

A sequence of 5 targets will be identified. Upon command, the shooter must engage those 5 targets. When establishing a target sequence, vary between number, color, and shape of the desired target sequence to be engaged (i.e., 1, Red, Blue, Star, 4).

EQUIPMENT

1, “Lucky Charms” Target

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 5 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

1, 5 Round Magazine, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

The instructor may call for multiple rounds to be delivered into each target. Adjust loadout accordingly

Up/Down M4/M18**PURPOSE**

Work on forming your stock weld (bringing the weapon up, not head down – (*make the weapon a part of you, not you a part of the weapon*)) as you raise your weapon from the low or high ready position. As you raise the weapon to engage, you must learn to trust what you are going to see as the optic now becomes a part of your sight picture. It will look the same every time, so get used to it. You should be able to raise the weapon/optic into your line of sight, placing your optic on your desired point of aim instantly and consistently.

DESCRIPTION

This drill can begin from any weapon position (i.e., Holster, Low-Ready, High-Ready, High-Port, etc.) This drill can be self-paced or at the cadence of the instructor.

This drill can be done from various ranges on various targets with single shots, controlled pairs, hammered pairs, or even a random number of rounds. For beginner level training, start at close range with paper targets. For more advanced training, utilize a steel target at progressively farther distances.

EQUIPMENT

1 Sheet, 8.5”x11” Paper or

1, Hostile Target

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 30 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

2, 15 Round Magazines, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Assess student's biomechanics and help them become more efficient in their movements

2 x 2 x 2 M4/M18

PURPOSE

This drill will force rapid target acquisition between multiple targets which, in turn, will necessitate rapid sight picture/sight alignment, a deliberate series of trigger squeezes,

DESCRIPTION

This drill can be conducted at various ranges and with various targets. At a beginner level, utilize paper targets at close range. At an advanced level, utilize steel targets at farther ranges with larger lateral separation between targets. Shooters will fire two rounds at each target.

EQUIPMENT

3 Sheets, 8.5"x11" Paper or

3, Hostile Targets or

3, IPSC Steel Targets

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 6 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

1, 6 Round Magazine, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Assess the student's biomechanics and help them become more efficient in their movements while engaging the targets and transitioning between targets

1 – 5

M4/M18

PURPOSE

The point of this drill is to break personnel of the bad habit of just double tapping and moving on to a different target. This drill forces students to shoot multiple targets with a varying shot strings each time. This drill can be done with either the M4 or M18.

DESCRIPTION

There are 3 targets 5m from shooter with 1m lateral separation. Shooters will begin at the low ready and will engage on command:

1st target with 1 round. 2nd target with 2 rounds. 3rd target with 3 rounds. 2nd target with 4 rounds. 1st target with 5 rounds.

Shooters will strive for center mass hits within a 5" circle.

EQUIPMENT

3 Sheets, 8.5"x11" Paper or

3, Hostile Targets or

3, IPSC Steel Targets

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 15 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

1, 15 Round Magazine, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill

Chaos M4/M18**PURPOSE**

The point of this drill is to break personnel of the bad habit of just double tapping and moving on to a different target. This drill forces students to shoot multiple targets with a varying shot strings each time. This drill can be done with either the M4 or M9.

DESCRIPTION

Faced with 5 targets, spaced 1m apart, and numbered in order 1-5 from left to right, the shooter will fire one shot per target at each of the 5 targets in numerical order up to 5 then back down to 1. However, before shooting the next number in the sequence, shooters must return to target 1 and engage with one round. The target engagement sequence is as follows:

1-2-1-3-1-4-1-5-1-4-1-3-1-2-1. After the last shot is fired, the engagement is over.

EQUIPMENT

5 Sheets, 8.5"x11" Paper or

5, Hostile Targets or

5, IPSC Steel Targets

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 15 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

1, 15 Round Magazine, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Timed event

9-Hole M4**PURPOSE**

This drill will help shooters learn to utilize different shooting positions and techniques. They will also learn to utilize cover to its full potential and find ways to return fire.

DESCRIPTION

The target will be placed anywhere from 15 meters out, depending on the target being used and the objective of the training. Shooters will fire one round through each hole. The barrel of the weapon must pass the threshold of each hole in the barricade to avoid damage to the barrier or injury to shooter and/or bystanders. Shooters must make safe to all weapons when transitioning to different firing positions. Shooters should strive to maintain a covered position behind the barrier at all times while firing.

EQUIPMENT

1, 9-Hole Barrier

1, IPSC Steel Target or similar

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

2, 9 Round Magazine, 5.56mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Assess student's biomechanics and help them become more efficient in their movements.

Instruct alternate firing positions if not done so already. Demonstrate what happens to the trajectory of a bullet when canting of the weapon is applied to the weapon system. Explain for different ranges as well

Known Distance Training M4**PURPOSE**

This training focuses on firing at targets from 100 – 300 meters. This process can be time consuming, but it is important to give each shooter accurate shot data for each round and distance. Some students have never actually fired out to distance which makes this training doubly important.

DESCRIPTION

DISTANCE FIRING PRACTICE: Half of the team will be in the pits marking targets and relaying shot placement, the other half will be firing. Split the half that is firing into half again so that each shooter has a partner and run two relays per berm. Each student will fire 10 rounds per berm. After each round, the pit crew will relay via radio shot placement for each point (clock position and distance from center mass). The shooters partner will mark each shot as described by the pit crew on a piece of note paper. It is important for the shooter to annotate their point of aim after each shot and correlate that data with their point of impact. Students will switch positions and repeat above description for each berm. Start at the 100m berm working backwards to the 300m berm. Once finished at the 300m berm, begin the moving targets training at that berm.

MOVERS: Students will gather into teams of three. One team will fire at a time. Upon command, the pit crew will begin random exposures of a set of three targets, composed of one pop-up target, one walking target, and one running target. Teams will have one minute to fire 10 rounds each, for a total of 30 rounds per team. The pit crew will mark all shots on target and relay effectiveness via radio. All students will fire at the 300m berm before moving to the 200m berm.

EQUIPMENT**Distance Firing Practice:**

1, Green Silhouette with Center Mass Circle

Movers:

1, Green Silhouette with Center Mass Circle (Walking) 1, Green Silhouette with Center Mass Circle (Running) 1, Green Silhouette with Center Mass Circle (Snap Shot)

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

6, 10 Round Magazines, 5.56mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 20 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill

Numbers M4/M18**PURPOSE**

You must be a thinker before you can be a shooter. This drill incorporates a mental drill in which the shooter must develop the ability to do multiple things at once by discerning each target before, during, and after engaging.

DESCRIPTION

Instructors will portray a sequence of 10 numbers, either verbally or visually. Shooters will be given 1 minute to memorize the sequence. On command, shooters will engage the 10 number sequence with one round per target.

EQUIPMENT

1, Law Enforcement Target VB-24 (See Example)

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 10 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

1, 10 Round Magazine, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Variation 1

Decrease the time given to memorize the 10 number sequence.

Variation 2

Increase the number of targets to be engaged.

Variation 3

Sanction a time limit within which shooters must engage all their targets. This time could be as long as 60 seconds to as short as 10 seconds, depending on skill level

Displacement M4/M18**PURPOSE**

Displacement is often overlooked, even though it can be very important on the battlefield. This technique operates on the premise that “action is faster than reaction.” With this in mind, we do not want to remain a stationary target for the adversary; therefore, we will train to move, or “displace,” ourselves at any given time. Consequently, the adversary must now react to our movement which gives us an advantage.

DESCRIPTION

Refer to the attached diagram for a general layout. The shooter will start at cone #1. Upon command, the shooter will engage the target with two rounds, at which point the shooter will need to perform a rapid reload. While conducting this reload, the shooter will move laterally to cone #2. Once reloaded and behind cone #2, the shooter will engage the same target with two rounds.

EQUIPMENT

1, “E” Target or Steel 2, Cones

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

6, 6 Round Magazines, 5.56mm or

6, 6 Round Magazines, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Ensure to practice this motion in a controlled environment with dry runs prior to executing. This drill can be conducted at any range with any number of rounds. However, when utilizing steel targets, ensure not to fire onto the target within 10 meters.

Variation 1

Utilize this drill to practice displacing while transitioning

Zig-Zag M4/M18**PURPOSE**

This drill focuses on enhancing the shooter's ability to shoot, move and work on their situational awareness.

DESCRIPTION

See attachment for target layout. All firing will be done while moving forward or laterally. While moving from cone 1 to cone 2, the shooter will engage target 1 with 3 rounds. These rounds must be fired prior to passing cone #2. From cone #2, shooter will move forward/laterally towards cone #3 while engaging the 3 center targets with two rounds each. Once this engagement is complete, the shooter will turn and "break for cover" at cone #4. While moving from cone #4 to cone#5, the shooter will engage steel target #2 with 3 rounds. Again, these rounds must be fired prior to passing cone #5. From cone #5, the shooter will move forward/laterally towards cone #6 while engaging the 3 center targets with two rounds each. This completes the scenario.

EQUIPMENT

2, IPSC Steel Targets or similar 3, Hostile Targets

6, Cones

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 18 Round Magazine 5.56mm or

2, 9 Round Magazines, 9mm

TIME PER SHOOTER

Approximately 5 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill. Timed event, if possible. This drill is conducted with a 1:1 student to instructor ratio.

Variation 1

You can increase the distance of the targets from the shooter/cone set-up. Generally, the distance to target increased up to 25 meters and the steel targets are spread laterally 25 meters. This increases the area in which the shooter must scan and traverse from target to target.

Variation 2

You can vary the distance of the cones to a tighter set-up. The movement will be the same; however, the shooter will be able to maintain their sights down range throughout the entire movement

Pistol Mayhem M18**PURPOSE**

This drill focuses on the shooter's ability to move quickly from cover with the M18 and engage multiple targets of opportunity.

DESCRIPTION

Each steel target will be engaged with 2 rounds, while each green silhouette will be engaged with 3 rounds for a total of 30 rounds. Shooters will begin standing 5 meters behind barrier #1 with their backs to the targets. Upon command, the shooter will rush to cover behind barrier #1, draw their M18, and commence firing. Shooters should engage their targets with a tactical precedence. Shooters may conduct rapid and tactical reloads at any time but should be encouraged not to conduct them while outside of cover.

EQUIPMENT

6, IPSC Steel Targets or similar 6, Hostile Targets
6, Barriers

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

3, 10 Round Magazines, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 10 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill. Ensure all shooters understand the rules of engagement prior to executing this drill. Dry runs may be accomplished to ensure understanding of which targets to engage from which barrier. Only one shooter will perform this drill at a time. At the conclusion of training, discuss each shooter's decision making on their tactical precedence, ask why they decided to engage each set of targets in the order they engaged, and discuss how to improve for next time

Highsmith M4/M18**PURPOSE**

The Highsmith drill is our introduction to dynamic firing drills. It begins to bring together many techniques previously taught. This drill utilizes barriers which simulate cover and concealment and forces the shooter to fire from both sides of the barrier. It also forces students to move laterally while engaging targets and keeping their plate facing the target for protection. Additionally, this drill forces shooters to fire from both their strong and support side fire positions.

DESCRIPTION

Refer to attached diagram for equipment layout. Shooters will start behind barrier #1 at the 25-meter line facing the targets. Upon command, the shooter fire from left side, then right side barricade with one shot each to the steel target directly in front of them. Once complete, the shooter will move laterally towards barrier #2 while engaging the three targets in the center, each with three rounds while firing from the right shoulder. Once the shooter has reached barrier #2, they will fire from left side, right side, and left side barrier each time firing one shot and the steel target directly in front of them. Once complete, the shooter will move laterally towards barrier #1 while engaging the three targets in the center, each with three rounds while firing from the left shoulder. Once the shooter has reached barrier #1, the shooter will fire from right side and left side barricade with one shot each to the steel target directly in front of them. This concludes the scenario.

EQUIPMENT

2, IPSC Steel Targets or similar 3, Hostile Targets

2, Barriers

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

1, 25 Round Magazine, 5.56mm or

2, 15 Round Magazines, 9mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 15 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Timed event. If utilizing the M18, the shooter will have leftover ammunition. The shooter may conduct a tactical or rapid reload wherever they so choose.

Stress Fire Training

This training focuses on firing at targets from 100 – 300 meters under moderate to severe stress levels, induced by physical exercise. Like the known distance training, this process can be time consuming, but it is important to give each shooter accurate shot data after completion of the training. It is paramount that each shooter begins to learn what these stress levels, simulations of stress found in combat, do to their bodies and minds and how they affect accuracy.

DESCRIPTION

About 5 students will conduct the stress fire at a time. The goal is to stress them out physical, mentally, and emotionally. Instruct the students to fire on their target and their target only. The student's mission is 100% accuracy. At the end of the stress fire, shots on target will be counted, recorded, and shown to the students. Instructors will maintain all loaded magazines and place them at each berm for the shooters. No student will transition between berms with ammunition. This training begins at the 1,000m berm. Students will sprint to the 300m berm where they will be instructed to fire 1, 10 round magazine at their target. No additional stressors will be introduced while running to the 300m berm. Once all firing is complete at the 300m berm, instructors will ensure all weapons properly cleared then the students will move to the 200m berm while conducting exercises as directed by the instructors. This transition will take no longer than 5 minutes. Once in position at the 200m berm, students will fire 1, 10 round magazine at their target. The same movement will continue up to the 100m berm while conducting exercises as directed by the instructors. Again, the transition will take no longer than 5 minutes. Once in position at the 100m berm, students will fire 1, 10 round magazine at their target. After the last student has fired at the 100m berm, the stress fire is complete.

EQUIPMENT

1, Green Silhouette or 1, Hostile Target

AMMUNITION REQUIRED

3, 10 Round Magazines, 5.56mm

TIME per Shooter

Approximately 15 minutes

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE

All drills will be accomplished in a *crawl – walk – run* format. Specifically, instructors will explain/walk through the drills, then the instructors demonstrate the drill by executing it themselves, and then students execute the drill.

Follow the timelines as outlined above to ensure standardization of the stress fire training.
Closely monitor the students for any signs of illness and address as appropriate