

# San Bernardino County Sheriff's Specialized Enforcement Division SWAT Aerial Operations Course (18 hour)

Effective:

## SWAT Aerial Operations

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this course is to train peace officers the necessary skills and knowledge to be able to deploy in an aerial operations capacity during SWAT incidents. This course will cover a multitude of areas in which the individual must have a high level of competency and be able to demonstrate the skills learned during the course. The focus of the areas to be instructed on are covered by POST SWAT guidelines for Aerial Operations Course which are as follows. Instructors for the course will facilitate this learning through classroom and practical application of the core competencies. In addition there will be testing to address the core competencies. Those that complete the course in addition to an approved SWAT school, would be able to conduct SWAT aerial operations during SWAT incidents.

- I. Welcome
- II. Safety Issues
- III. Tactical Aerial Operational Concepts
- IV. Aviation method of operations and common mission profiles
- V. Aircraft Deployment Methods
- VI. Aerial Operations Testing

#### I. LEARNING NEED

Aerial Operations personnel must know and practice all procedures for safety during training and operations.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. State the four fundamental rules of firearms safety
  1. Treat all firearms as if they are loaded
  2. Always keep the firearms pointed in the safest possible direction
  3. Always keep finger off the trigger until ready to fire the firearm
  4. Be sure of the target and what's beyond it before firing the firearm
- B. Explain basic safety guidelines to be followed at a training range through TSO briefing.
  1. When entering the training range
    - a. Range safety brief

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- b. Listen carefully for range commands
    - c. Request clarification if a command is not clear
    - c. Wear approved protective equipment
  - 2. During training evolutions
    - a. Listen carefully for range commands
    - b. Request clarification if a command is not clear
    - c. Keep weapons pointed in a safe direction
    - d. Talk only when instructor speaks directly to student
    - e. Never proceed into aircraft landing zones except when commanded to do so
    - f. Ensure students wear retention lanyards when riding in an aircraft with open doors
    - g. Ensure all equipment is retained and there are no foreign object debris hazards in the landing zone
    - h. Follow all instructor, aircrew, or TSO commands
- C. Explain basic safety guidelines to be followed during operations
  - 1. Medical Emergencies
    - a. Trauma kit and medical equipment location on ranges
    - b. Emergency phone location on ranges

**II. LEARNING NEED**

Aerial Operations personnel must have a basic understanding regarding the workings, the capabilities, and limitations of aerial assets, and understand proper implementation into tactical operations in order to conduct aerial operations safely and effectively.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- A. Describe types of law enforcement airframes including:
  - 1. Light (Patrol) Helicopters
    - a. Nomenclature
    - b. Operation
    - c. Special Consideration
  - 2. Medium Helicopters
    - a. Nomenclature
    - b. Operation
    - c. Special Consideration

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3. Fixed Wing Aircraft
    - a. Nomenclature
    - b. Operation
    - c. Special Consideration
- B. Describe aircraft inventory and capabilities
1. Light (Patrol) Helicopters
    - a. Crew requirements
    - b. Available equipment
  2. Medium Helicopters
    - a. Crew requirements
    - b. Available equipment
  3. Fixed Wing Aircraft
    - a. Crew requirements
    - b. Aircraft availability
    - c. Aircraft equipment

**III. LEARNING NEED**

Aerial Operations personnel must understand the different mission profiles and proper implementation of SWAT personnel during incidents requiring aerial response.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- A. Light aircraft operations
1. Overwatch Operations
    - a. Rural operations
    - b. Vehicle pursuit
    - c. Landing zone security
    - d. Emergency aerial engagement
  2. Insertion Operations
    - a. Rapid insertions
    - b. Hover step
  3. Emergency Medical Evacuation
    - a. Ground evacuation (MEDIVAC)
    - b. Hoist evacuation

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- B. Light aircraft operational fundamentals
  - 1. Overwatch
    - a. Safety considerations
    - b. Communication
    - c. Emergency procedures
    - d. Emergency engagements
  - 2. Rapid Insertion
    - a. Safety considerations
    - b. Communication
    - c. Emergency procedures
    - d. Proper deployment technique
    - e. Emergency engagements
  - 3. Hover-Step
    - a. Safety considerations
    - b. Communication
    - c. Emergency procedures
    - d. Proper deployment technique
  - 4. Emergency Medical Evacuation
    - a. Safety considerations
    - b. Communication
    - c. Proper loading technique
- C. Medium lift aircraft operations
  - 1. Insertion Operations
    - a. Rapid insertions
    - b. Hover step
    - c. Fast rope
  - 2. Emergency evacuation
    - a. Ground evacuation
- D. Medium lift aircraft operational fundamentals
  - 1. Rapid Insertion
    - a. Safety considerations
    - b. Communication
    - c. Emergency procedures
    - d. Proper deployment technique
    - e. Emergency engagements

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2. Hover-Step
  - a. Safety considerations
  - b. Communication
  - c. Emergency procedures
  - d. Proper deployment technique
  
3. Fast Rope
  - a. Safety considerations
  - b. Communication
  - c. Emergency procedures
  - d. Proper deployment technique
  - e. Emergency engagements

**IV. LEARNING NEED**

Aerial operations personnel must demonstrate aerial deployment fundamentals through practical application and demonstrate an understanding of aerial deployment operations.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

**A. Practical Application of Aerial Operational Fundamentals**

1. Fast rope Stanchion Training
  - a. Student will be provided instruction on the fast rope stanchion
  - b. The student will demonstrate their ability to safely utilize a safety retention lanyard to secure themselves to and detach from an aircraft
  - c. The student will demonstrate their ability to dismount a simulated helicopter and descend a fast rope while not wearing tactical gear.
  - d. The student will demonstrate their ability to stop themselves on the fast rope to simulate their need to abort a descent.
  - e. The student will demonstrate their ability to descend the fast rope while wearing tactical gear without a rifle.
  - f. The student will demonstrate their ability to descend down the fast rope while wearing tactical gear and a rifle.
  - g. The student must demonstrate their ability to safely conduct a fast rope descent prior to continuing training.
  
2. Light (Patrol) Helicopter

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- a. Student will demonstrate their ability to board a patrol aircraft which is under power.
  - b. Student will demonstrate their ability to safely attach their retention lanyard to an aircraft hardpoint.
  - c. Student will demonstrate their ability to attach their communications equipment to the patrol helicopter communications system.
  - d. Student will demonstrate their ability to properly communicate with air crew.
  - e. Student will demonstrate their ability to properly disembark the aircraft during a rapid insertion.
  - f. Student will demonstrate their ability to properly disembark the aircraft during a hover step insertion.
  - g. Student will demonstrate their ability to load an injured person into the patrol helicopter during a medical emergency.
3. Medium Helicopter
- a. Student will demonstrate their ability to board a medium lift aircraft which is under power.
  - b. Student will demonstrate their ability to properly communicate with air crew.
  - c. Student will demonstrate their ability to properly disembark the aircraft during a rapid insertion.
  - d. Student will demonstrate their ability to properly disembark the aircraft during a hover step insertion.
  - e. Student will demonstrate their ability to safely descend a fast rope from a hovering helicopter.
  - f. Student will demonstrate their ability to load an injured person into the patrol helicopter during a medical emergency.

V. HOURLY REQUIREMENTS

Students shall be provided with a minimum number of instructional hours on Aerial Operations

<u>Description</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Agency Specific Hours	<u>18</u>
Total Instructional Hours	<u>18</u>

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