

# **COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE**

**Subject: FIREARMS QUALIFICATIONS**

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## **I. Purpose**

The purpose of this standard is to provide guidelines for the training and qualifying of police officers with their approved weapons.

## **II. Statement of Policy**

- A. All sworn officers of the Covington Police Department will qualify twice per year with any pistol they are authorized to use in daylight, and once per year for night fire. Officers will also participate in a tactical firearms training once per year that is pass/fail. In addition, officers will review the Police Response to Aggression/Resistance policy at least annually as part of firearms qualification.
- B. Officers must qualify on the Covington Police Department semi-automatic qualification course which requires firing at a silhouette target with a qualifying score of 80% or better.
- C. Officers will be required to qualify with a score of 50% or better on the above course once a year during night fire.
- D. Any officer who fails to qualify during a required handgun qualification will be allowed another attempt to qualify if time allows. If that attempt is either unsuccessful or time did not allow for the attempt, the officer will have a maximum of 45 days to go through remedial training and then qualify. Remedial training will include classroom time and range time conducted by one of the department's firearms instructors and may also include a remedial training class offered at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center or a regional academy. If, after remedial training has been offered and an officer has still failed to qualify, he/she will be subject to administrative sanctions as determined by the Chief of Police.

## **III. Shotgun / Rifle Training**

Shotgun and rifle training will be provided annually and officers must demonstrate proficiency in their use.

#### IV. Firearms Qualification Course

**Covington Police Department Firearms Qualification Course (or a course of fire approved by POST).**

##### **25-YARD LINE**

###### **Drill Number 1**

Take a position to the right and 4 feet to the rear of your barricade. At the command of attention draw your weapon and take a covered position behind your barricade.

“ATTENTION”

At the command “search for your right target”, shooter will move to the right edge of the barricade exposing as little of the body as possible to obtain a sight picture on the right target using the pie technique. Officer will then give loud, clear verbal commands, e.g. “Covington Police, drop the weapon. You are under arrest.”

On the tone, fire 1 round in 4 seconds from the right side of the barricade at the right target and then move back behind cover. Search for the right target. Verbal Commands **TONE**

On the tone, fire 1 round in 4 seconds from right side of the barricade at left target. Search for left target and then move back behind cover. Verbal Commands **TONE**

On the tone, fire 1 round in 4 seconds from the right side of the barricade at right target and then move back behind cover. Search for right target. Verbal Commands **TONE**

###### **Drill Number 2**

Take a position to the left and 4 feet to the rear of your barricade. At the command of attention draw your weapon and take a covered position behind your barricade.

“ATTENTION”

At the command “search for your left target,” shooter will move to the left edge of the barricade exposing as little of the body as possible to obtain a sight picture of the left target using the pie technique.

On the tone, fire 1 round in 4 seconds from left side of barricade at left target and then back behind cover. Search for the left target. Verbal Commands **TONE**

On the tone, fire 1 round in 4 seconds from the left side of the barricade at right target and then back behind cover. Search for the target. Verbal Commands **TONE**

On the tone, fire 1 round in 4 seconds from the left side of the barricade at left target and then back behind cover. Search for the left target. Verbal Commands **TONE**

###### **Drill Number 3**

Take a position to the right and 4 feet to the rear of your barricade. At the command of attention draw your weapon and take a covered kneeling position behind your barricade.

“ATTENTION”

At the command “search for your right target,” shooter will move to the right edge of the barricade exposing as little of the body as possible to obtain a sight picture on the right target using the pie technique.

On the tone, fire 2 rounds in 6 seconds from the right side of the barricade at the right target. Search for the right target. **TONE**

#### **Drill Number 4**

Take a position to the left and 4 feet to the rear of your barricade. At the command of attention draw your weapon and take a covered kneeling position behind your barricade.

“ATTENTION”

At the command “search for your left target,” shooter will move to the left edge of the barricade exposing as little of the body as possible to obtain a sight picture on the left target using the pie technique.

On the tone, fire 2 rounds in 6 seconds from the left side of the barricade at the left target. Search for the left target. **TONE**

#### **15-YARD LINE**

##### **Drill Number 5**

On the tone, from the holster, you will have 12 seconds to fire a total of 6 rounds center mass from a standing position. 2 rounds at right target, 2 rounds at left target, 2 rounds at right target. **TONE**

##### **Drill Number 6**

On the tone, from the holster, you will have 12 seconds to fire 4 rounds center mass from a kneeling position. 2 rounds at the right target, 2 rounds at the left target. **TONE**

#### **7-YARD LINE**

##### **Drill Number 7**

Draw your weapon and come to a UCM position (Universal Cover Mode).

On the tone, you will have 2 seconds to fire 2 rounds center mass total standing. 1 round at the left target, 1 round at the right target, and stand by at U.C.M. position. **TONE**

On the tone, you will have 2 seconds to fire a total of 2 rounds center mass standing. 1 round at left target, 1 round at the right target and stand by at the U.C.M. position. **TONE**

##### **Drill Number 8**

###### **Failure to stop drill**

On the tone, you will have 28 seconds to fire 12 rounds total from the holster standing, 2 rounds center mass right target, 2 rounds center mass left target, 1 round head shot right target, 1 round head shot left target. RELOAD BEHIND COVER and repeat the drill. 2 rounds center mass right target, 2 rounds center mass left target, 1 round headshot right target, 1 round headshot left target, while using verbal commands. **TONE**

#### **3-YARD LINE**

##### **Drill Number 9**

At the command of attention, draw your weapon and come to a U.C.M. position with strong hand only.

“ATTENTION”

On the tone, standing, you will have 5 seconds to fire a total of 3 rounds, 2 rounds at the right target, and 1 round at the left target. Then stand by at the U.C.M. position. **TONE**

With your finger off the trigger, transfer the weapon into your support hand.

On the tone, standing, you will have 5 seconds to fire a total of 3 rounds, 2 rounds at the left target, and 1 round at the right target. **TONE**

With your finger off the trigger, transfer the weapon back into your strong hand, and recover to the holster.

### **Drill Number 10**

Note: check magazines. 4 rounds in magazine in the weapon, and 3 rounds in a reload magazine.

On the tone, you will have 10 seconds to fire a total of 8 rounds, 2 rounds in the right target, 2 rounds in the left target, reload, move to a speed kneeling position, 2 rounds in the right target, 2 rounds in the left target.

And stand by at UCM position with a locked back weapon. **TONE**

Stand, drop magazine, check weapon, clear, and holster and snap in a locked back empty weapon.

## **V. Demonstration of Proficiency**

All officers will be instructed in the safe use of firearms and only officers who demonstrate a proficiency in the use of authorized firearms will be allowed to use or carry such weapons. New officers will be trained in firearms prior to being allowed to carry a firearm. It will be the responsibility of the firearms instructor to maintain documentation of all training and proficiency in the use of departmental firearms.

***This SOP supersedes any SOP previously issued.***

BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

*Stacey L. Cotton*

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Chief of Police