



Law Enforcement Training Advisory Commission

840 S. Spring Street, Suite B • Springfield, IL 62704

Phone (217) 726-7014 • Fax (217) 726-7833 • Email letac@mtu10.com • Website www.letac.org

Bruce Liebe, Director

Close Quarter Combative Pistol

August 19-20, 2024

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center (MCLETC)

1095 Rotary Way

Decatur, IL 62521

***This course is ILETSB approved and certified for the following mandates:
Legal Updates (1-hr), Use of Force: Officer Safety (12-hrs) – Scenario (5-hrs)***

PURPOSE OF COURSE: This two-day, 16-hour course is designed to teach officers to become proficient with their sidearm in dynamic critical encounters. The focus of this program is to reinforce essential pistol fundamentals and to provide officers with specialized tactical skills associated with combative pistol.

The number of attacks on law enforcement, specifically ambush-style attacks has been on the rise. Police are experiencing threats from extremists with a variety of ideologies, be they religious, extreme left, extreme right or simply disenfranchised. In a spontaneous attack or ambush, chances are high that the officer will be armed with only a pistol. The need for tactical proficiency with a sidearm is beyond essential, it is critical.

While the value of patrol rifle programs and proficiency with those weapons cannot be overstated, the fact remains that the primary weapon carried by police is the service pistol. The pistol is compact and easily carried in a holster on a duty belt or in a concealable holster by plainclothes personnel. The sidearm is always present, whereas the patrol rifle is carried for specific details and active threat response if it is available. The safety of police and their ability to neutralize a threat(s) efficiently and effectively with their pistol is key to the saving of lives.

Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board Mobile Team Unit #10

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: Close Quarter Combative Pistol involves defensive shooting fundamentals which centers on enhancing the student's tactical pistol proficiency and involves both sighted and unsighted fire. The first day focuses on working with the body's natural reactions to a threat, movement (getting off the "X"), and proper grip and stance. Day two involves shooting from a variety of positions to include barricade, kneeling, prone, supine, and while moving forwards, backwards, and laterally. Students will shoot one handed (strong and support side) and will also be required to clear various malfunctions. All training and related drills will prepare students for defensive firearms use during a dynamic critical encounter.

This course is designed to incorporate pistol fundamentals and skill sets for officers when faced with an armed threat. These situations require that the officer respond quickly and effectively manner to protect their life and the lives of others. Unfortunately, not all agencies have trained and prepared their officers to be proficient beyond basic firearms qualifications and periodic qualification shoots. This course provides officers with the foundational knowledge and tactical skills necessary to safely manage these types of incidents.

COURSE GOALS: The goals of this course are as follows:

- Review relevant laws and case precedents to ensure proper decision making in dynamic critical events.
- Training students to work with the body's natural reactions and kinesthetic alignment to establish a solid shooting platform.
- Developing shooter's muscle memory to facilitate a consistent response to a threat.
- Imparting techniques to improve trigger pull.
- Ensure the understanding of the balance of speed and precision in combat shooting.
- Teach students when to employ intuitive sighted or unsighted fire.
- Reinforce the importance of moving offline from the attack (getting off the "x").
- Present cognitive drills to support decision making and target discrimination.
- To provide students with an understanding of why combative pistol tactics were developed and the need for them to be integrated into their tactical skill sets.
- To identify and discuss use-of-force and safety priority issues related to dynamic critical events, including immediate defense of life, law, police, procedure, and established safety priorities.
- To assist participants in demonstrating practical knowledge and performance ability while conducting combative pistol applications.

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- To provide students the opportunity to learn and practice the tactical skill sets necessary to perform:
 - Response to a threat that are congruent with the body's natural reactions.
 - Movement, i.e., moving off-line of the attack.
 - The delivery of accurate fire whether stationary or moving
 - Sighted and aimed, unsighted fire.
 - Decision-making exercises

STUDENT EQUIPMENT LIST:

- Service pistol
- (3) magazines (minimum; more is better)
- 1000 rounds pistol ammunition
- Eye and ear protection
- Duty gear (holster, mag pouches, etc.)
- Vest as worn on-duty (concealed or external)
- Range appropriate attire
- This course required movement (walking to sprinting) and students will shoot from several positions (standing, kneeling, sitting, prone and supine)

COURSE PREREQUISITES: Sworn law enforcement officers currently employed by a unit of government. While not mandatory, it is suggested that departments enroll officers in this program that have previous instruction in basic tactical pistol skills. This is a dynamic, fast-paced course geared towards officers who already have the basic knowledge and skill sets of firearms handling and deployment.

Instructor Bruce Liebe: is a 30-year veteran of law enforcement, serving 25 years with the Illinois State Police. With the ISP, he was assigned to the Tactical Response Team (SWAT) for 13 years, serving as statewide program coordinator, assistant team leader and entry team member. At retirement, he was assigned as deputy chief of staff in ISP's Division of Operations. He served an assistant professor of homeland security and senior director of the School of Professional Studies and at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Illinois. He is a member of the National Tactical Officers Association and the Illinois Tactical Officers Association. Bruce is a featured author for the National Tactical Officers journal, *The Tactical Edge*, where he has contributed 21 articles to date centering on tactical training, tactical program administration, and operations planning and management. He consults internationally on these topics. Liebe presently operates Paladin Tactical LLC which offers training and consulting services.

He is certified by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board as an Active Threat Master Instructor and is certified by the Force Science Institute as a Realistic De-Escalation Instructor. Liebe holds an A.A.S. in Criminal Justice from Illinois Valley Community College, a B.A. in Criminal Justice, and an M.A. in Legal Studies from the University of Illinois at Springfield. He is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute, Administrative Officers Course at the University of Louisville.

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Non-Member Tuition: No tuition is required for this class due to grant funding by Homeland Security.

To Register: Email registration to register@letac.org. You may also fill out and submit our online registration form through the website at www.letac.org or call 217-726-7014 to register by phone (be sure to include all pertinent information). **MTU#10 Law Enforcement members who are under the mandate requirements will be given priority on state mandated courses and then MTU#10 local members. If it is not a mandated course, all MTU# 10 local members will be given registration preference until seven days prior to the date of class. After that date, registrations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of MTU status. We cannot accept registrations from individual officers. All registrations must go through your Chief, Sheriff, or department training office, even if you are attending class on your own time.**

Cancellation: If a class must be canceled for any reason, every effort will be made to do so at least 2 weeks before the class is scheduled to begin. However, there are circumstances where last minute cancellation is out of our control. All officers who have been registered for training will be contacted at the email address given at registration, so please be sure to provide an email address which is checked often.