

Napa Valley Criminal Justice Training Center  
Learning Domain #35 – Chemical Agents

Expanded Course Outline/

This can include a chapter from the POST LD workbook, legal codes, or an activity that you create.

PREPARATION: LD 35 Workbook, Chapter 6

INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD: Workbook with fill in blanks, facilitated discussion

- I. Overview of course requirements .25 hours
  - A. Safety Guidelines (refer to Academy Safety)
  - B. Required learning activities
    - a. Exposure to CN and CS gas
    - b. Exposure to OC spray
    - c. Application of gas masks
- II. Laws relating to chemical agents .5 hours
  - A. Section 12403 PC – Basic training required
  - B. Section 12404 PC – Chemical agents in jails/prisons
  - C. Section 12405 PC – Security guards
  - D. Federal statutes regarding airlines and airports
  - E. Citizen use of chemical agents
    - a. No training required
    - b. Canister net weight limitations
    - c. Persons 16 – 18 years of age
  - F. Persons prohibited from carrying chemical agents
- III. Chemical agents and use of force .5. hours
  - A. Section 835(a) PC – When chemical agents may be used
    - a. Riot/crowd control
    - b. Making an arrest
    - c. Overcoming resistance
    - d. Prevent escape
  - B. Discussion of examples of local agency policies
    - a. How chemical agents relates to empty hand control
    - b. Factors that determine appropriate use of chemical agents
- IV. CN .25 hours
  - A. Color code
  - B. Classification
  - C. Odor
  - D. Physiological effects
    - a. Tearing of eyes
    - b. Burning sensation on skin
    - c. Effects on respiratory system
  - E. Psychological effects
    - a. Panic
    - b. Disorientation
  - F. Limitations
    - a. Historical data
    - b. Does not work on animals

Use a 3-part outline format to provide three levels of detail. Be sure the content at least contains what POST requires.

Learning activities specified in the training and testing specifications are required. Instructors may create whatever type of learning activity desired as long as it meets the P.O.S.T. requirements. A collection of applicable learning activities is available in the P.O.S.T. “Instructor’s Guide to Learning Activities for Leadership, Ethics, and Community Policing.”

Remember: You can free up class time for activities by having students prepare ahead of time by reading or researching

## XII. Learning Activities – Exposure to riot and crowd control chemical agents – 3.5 hours

Exercises 1 and 2 require two instructors. Both instructors shall wear gas masks throughout the exercise. Notify Napa PD dispatch ahead of time.

1. Students will line up in pairs. An instructor will ignite a CN grenade in a metal garbage can. Students will walk through the cloud into open air.

2. Students will line up in pairs. An instructor will ignite a CS grenade in a metal garbage can. Students will walk through the cloud into open air.

3. Students will work in pairs. An instructor will demonstrate how to put on and take of a gas mask. One gas mask will be issued to each pair of students. Both students will practice putting the mask on an off several times. The group will split. Students with gas masks will form a circle. An instructor will ignite an HC grenade and place it in the center of the circle. Students will drop to one knee and put on their gas masks. Once the gas mask is secured, students will walk through the smoke. The exercises will be repeated until everyone in the class has participated.

4. Students will work in pairs. A third student will act as a suspect. An instructor will spray OC across the closed eyes of the student simulating an attack with OC spray. The student will draw their red handle firearm and conduct a felony take down of the suspect. The sprayed student will approach the suspect, apply handcuffs, and double lock. The assisting student will decontaminate the sprayed student. Roles will be reversed and the exercise repeated until each student has been sprayed with OC and each student has successfully decontaminated a student sprayed.