

**OFF  
DUTY**

**FCPD Range Staff**

# Off Duty

- ▣ We can carry our duty weapon or more compact pistols while off duty.
- ▣ Duty pistol is difficult to conceal.
- ▣ Compact pistols:
  - Smaller, easier to conceal
  - Shorter barrel lengths - Can produce more recoil
  - Generally hold less rounds
  - Reduced grip on the pistol
  - Different sized rounds - Less/More effectiveness
- ▣ Need to practice and be proficient with our off duty weapons.
  - Shooting
  - Drawing the weapon

# General Orders for Off Duty Firearms

## 386.2 POLICY

Initiating law enforcement action while off-duty is generally discouraged. Officers should not attempt to initiate enforcement action when witnessing minor crimes, such as suspected intoxicated drivers, reckless driving or minor property crimes. Such incidents should be promptly reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Officers are not expected to place themselves in unreasonable peril. However, any sworn member of this department who becomes aware of an incident or circumstance that he/she reasonably believes poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death, or significant property damage may take reasonable action to minimize the threat.

When public safety or the prevention of major property damage requires immediate action, officers should first consider reporting and monitoring the activity and only take direct action as a last resort.

# General Orders Continued...

## 386.3 FIREARMS

Officers of this department may carry firearms while off-duty in accordance with federal regulations and department policy. All firearms and ammunition must meet guidelines as described in the department Firearms and Qualification Policy. When carrying firearms while off-duty officers shall also carry their department-issued badge and identification.

Officers should refrain from carrying firearms when the consumption of alcohol is likely or when the need to carry a firearm is outweighed by safety considerations. Firearms shall not be carried by any officer who has consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage or taken any drugs that would tend to adversely affect the officer's senses or judgment.

# General Orders Continued...

## 386.4 DECISION TO INTERVENE

There is no legal requirement for off-duty officers to take law enforcement action. However, should officers decide to intervene, they must evaluate whether the action is necessary or desirable, and should take into consideration the following:

- (a) The tactical disadvantage of being alone and the fact there may be multiple or hidden suspects.
- (b) The inability to communicate with responding units.
- (c) The lack of equipment, such as handcuffs, OC or baton.
- (d) The lack of cover.
- (e) The potential for increased risk to bystanders if the off-duty officer were to intervene.
- (f) Unfamiliarity with the surroundings.
- (g) The potential for the off-duty officer to be misidentified by other peace officers or members of the public.

# General Orders Continued...

## 386.5 REPORTING

Any off-duty officer who engages in any law enforcement activity, regardless of jurisdiction, shall notify the Watch Commander as soon as practicable. The Watch Commander shall determine whether a report should be filed by the employee.

Officers should cooperate fully with the agency having jurisdiction in providing statements or reports as requested or as appropriate.

# Off Duty Holsters

- ▣ There are many different styles/holsters to choose from. They all have pro/cons
- ▣ Paddle Holster
  - Pro - Easy access to get pistol
  - Con - Least concealable holster
- ▣ In Waistband Holster
  - Pro - Well concealed
  - Con - Can be more difficult to access
- ▣ Shoulder Holster
  - Pro - Concealed and easy to access
  - Con - The muzzle is always pointed behind you, instead of being pointed at the ground
  - Not the normal place we draw from
- ▣ Ankle Holster
  - Pro - Well concealed
  - Con - Difficult to access

# Badge Placement

- ▣ Badge should be in a holder:

## 1. Wallet Badge

- ▣ Badge is concealed
- ▣ Can be difficult to get the wallet/badge out

## 2. On belt next to pistol

- ▣ Lowers suspicions by civilians when they see the Badge and gun together.
- ▣ Badge in not is a high visibility location
- ▣ Can be difficult to get to depending on location of the badge.

## 3. On chain around neck

- ▣ Easiest location to hold up for identification
- ▣ Highest visibility of the Badge – Can hold it up or leave on your chest



# Ways to Draw from the Holster

## ▣ Hackathorne Rip:

- Grab at the bottom of the shirt near the holster.
- Pull the shirt up and twist it away from the pistol.
- All obstructions should be out of the way of the pistol and you are clear to draw from the holster.

## ▣ Opening Jacket:

- Grab the opening of the jacket.
- Pull it away from your body, which will expose the pistol.
- Run hand straight down to the holster.

# Ways to Draw from the Holster

- ▣ Thumb Hook – (Tactical Approach)
  - Gun hand hooks the bottom of the shirt and lifts it up. Hand slides down to grip the gun and draw.
- ▣ Shoulder Holster
  - Shoulder raises up, grip the gun, rotate down (To avoid muzzle exposure), bring gun to front or chest, grip with both hand and present the weapon.
- ▣ Ankle Holster
  - Step forward (Foot with gun), grab pant leg below the knee and pull up as you drop to a knee. Draw gun.

# Involved In An Off Duty Situation

- ▣ Once you've engaged the suspect remember:
  - Hold up your badge/Police ID
  - Give an announcement that you are an off duty police officer with the FCPD
  - Tell people to call the police and send an ambulance
  - Stay with the suspect and wait for responding units to arrive
  - \*Remember they don't know you and can't confirm you're a police officer, so be prepared to be treated like a suspect.
  - \*Listen to and follow all commands given by the responding PD.\*

# Off Duty Situation Continued...

- ▣ If you are responding to the call of an off duty officer involved in an incident:
  - Approach the situation with caution
  - Determine who is the suspect and who is the off duty officer
  - Have them drop the weapon and call them out to you.
  - Southern California Police Departments are utilizing a system of asking people penal codes to help determine who is the police officer.