## 15-25 - Using a Firearm Against a Vehicle

## Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

## NEWSLETTER

Field Operations Support Services, (323) 890-5411



## **USING A FIREARM AGAINST A VEHICLE**

Shooting at a vehicle is inherently dangerous and almost always ineffective. An assaultive suspect driving a motor vehicle shall not presumptively justify a Department member's use of deadly force. A Department member threatened by an oncoming motor vehicle shall move out of its path instead of discharging a firearm at it or its occupant(s), allow the vehicle to pass, and utilize other tactical or investigative means to apprehend the suspect.

In the extraordinary instance that a Department member feels compelled to fire at a vehicle or its occupant(s), the conduct of the involved personnel shall be evaluated in accordance with sound tactical principles which include:

- Cover and/or tactical relocation;
- Safe distance;

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- Incident command and tactical leadership;
- Coordinated personnel placement;
- Tactical approach;
- Regard for viable target acquisition;
- Due regard for background, including the location, other traffic, and innocent persons;
- Due regard for crossfire;
- Controlled fire and management of ammunition.

A Department member shall not discharge a firearm at a motor vehicle, unless the member has an objectively reasonable belief that:

FOSS Newsletters: 15-25 - Using a Firearm Against a Vehicle

Volume 15 Number 14 Shooting at Vehicle Tires
Field Operations Support Services Newsletter
3-10/150.00 Tactical Incidents
3-10/220.00 Use of Firearms Against Vehicles
Manual of Policies and Procedures
Manual of Dalicias and Dassadones
References:
Questions regarding the content of this newsletter may be directed to Field Operations Support Services.
This Newsletter was created with the assistance of the Tactics and Survival Unit.
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Department members and others in the immediate area.
Shooting at the tires of a vehicle is inherently dangerous and presents additional risk to
<ul> <li>The vehicle or suspect poses an immediate threat of death or serious physical injury; and</li> <li>The member has no reasonable alternative course of action to prevent death or serious physical injury.</li> </ul>

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