

# Corona Police Department Driver Training (PSP) Course Outline

## I. INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION

- A. Introduction, Registration, and Orientation
- B. Course Objectives/Overview/Exercises, Evaluation/Testing

## II. BASIC DRIVING PRINCIPLES

- A. Weight Transfer II(g)
  - 1. Weight distributed between front and rear wheels
    - a. Vehicle is a sprung mass
    - b. Center of gravity shifts depending on height of vehicle
  - 2. Engine location has greater part of weight distribution
  - 3. Types of weight transfer
    - a. Lateral: Side to side
    - b. Longitudinal: Front to rear/Rear to front
  - 4. Lateral transfer occurs when vehicle moves left or right
  - 5. Longitudinal transfer occurs when:
    - a. Braking (Rear to front)
    - b. Accelerating (Front to rear)
    - c. Decelerating (Rear to front)
  - 6. Can not be eliminated in a moving vehicle
  - 7. Minimized by good driving techniques and smooth operation
- B. Steering Control
  - 1. Seating position
    - a. Driver Comfort
    - b. Efficient vehicle control
    - c. Wrist break over top of steering wheel
    - d. Seated 12" from air bag
    - e. Adjust mirrors
  - 2. Steering Method – Two Hand Shuffle Steering
    - a. Hand position at 9 and 3 or 8 and 4
    - b. Hands do not leave steering wheel
    - c. Maximizes steering accuracy
    - d. Safer and more effective recovery
    - e. Minimizes weight transfer
    - f. Minimizes air bag deployment injury
  - 3. Steering Method – Backing II(e)
    - a. Body rotated to right
    - b. Right hand placed on right headrest
    - c. Vision directed over right shoulder
    - d. Left hand on steering wheel at 12 o'clock position

- e. Press left leg against bottom of steering wheel for stability
- f. Left foot braced on floorboard

C. Roadway Position

- 1. Definition: The position of the vehicle on the roadway that maximizes speed with minimum steering and risk of loss of vehicle control while negotiating a turn
  - a. AKA – Driving line
- 2. Driving Advantages
  - a. Minimize and control weight transfer
  - b. Minimize steering input
  - c. Smoother vehicle operation
  - d. Maximum speed through turns in the safest manner
- 3. Driving Points in Turns
  - a. Entry (point #1)
  - b. Apex (point #2)
  - c. Exit (point #3)

**III. LEGAL AND MORAL ASPECTS**

II(f)

A. California Codes

- 1. 17001 CVC
- 2. 17994 CVC
- 3. 17004.7 CVC
- 4. 21052 CVC
- 5. 21055 CVC
- 6. 21056 CVC
- 7. 21057 CVC
- 8. 21703 CVC
- 9. 21806 CVC
- 10. 21807 CVC
- 11. 22106 CVC
- 12. 22350 CVC

B. Case Law

- 1. Traffic Accidents
- 2. Pursuits

C. Agency Policy

- 1. Vehicle Pursuit Policy
- 2. Vehicle Operations

D. Moral Aspects

- 1. Due Dilligence

**IV. DEFENSIVE DRIVING**

II(c)

A. Defensive Drivers

- 1. Avoid collisions regardless of right-of-way
- 2. React properly to hazards
- 3. Maintain a professional attitude
- 4. Commentary driving

B. Dangerous Driver Attitudes

- 1. Overconfidence
- 2. Self-righteousness

- 3. Impatience
- 4. Preoccupation
- C. Collision Avoidance
  - 1. Space cushion II(d)
    - a. Three second rule
      - b. Perception/Reaction (1.5 seconds)
      - c. When stopped, see rear wheels of vehicle to front
  - 2. Intersections
    - b. Clear left, right, then left again
    - c. Cover brake on stale green light
    - d. Do not turn wheels until ready for turn
    - e. Look through turns
  - 3. Maintain high visual horizon-Look beyond hood of vehicle
  - 4. Consider steering to the rear of a conflict vehicle
  - 5. Backing
    - b. Large percentage of collisions involving LE vehicles
    - c. Use proper backing techniques
  - 6. Lane changes
    - b. Signal
  - 7. Blind spots
    - b. More equipment in LE vehicles creating more and larger blind spots
- D. Occupant Safety Devices
  - 1. Safety Belts
  - 2. Supplemental Restraint System (air bags)
- E. Vehicle Dynamics II(g)
  - Rear wheel cheat
  - 1. Front end swing
  - 2. Oversteer
  - 3. Understeer

**V. MANEUVERING COURSES EXERCISES II(a,b)**

- A. Offset Lane Exercise
- B. Turn-Around Maneuver Exercise
- C. Steering Course Exercise
- D. Parallel Parking Exercise II(e)