



NRA LAW ENFORCEMENT QUARTERLY

TRAINING • COMPETITION • BENEFITS

TACTICAL POLICE COMPETITION COMES TO LEAD

The call usually comes in just as you're going off duty. You know that type of call.

A report of the sound of gunfire or a domestic abuse incident. It's one of those types of calls where your firearm might have to be drawn, and there is a chance that gunfire may occur.

The NRA Law Enforcement Activities Division (LEAD) understands those types of calls and has put together a new program to better prepare our law enforcement personnel. LEAD's new Tactical Police Competition (TPC) program was created to help encourage today's law enforcement personnel to gain more experience, training, and time on the range using their duty firearms. LEAD Director Glen Hoyer said that the program combines the use of training and competition in a reality-based scenario.

"Tactical Police Competition offers training in a competitive, fun environment where our law enforcement personnel are faced with real street scenarios to help make them better officers," Hoyer said. "While traditional standard qualification courses of fire are very important, we believe that officers need additional practice time, live-fire exercises, and



LEAD's new Tactical Police Competition program offers law enforcement a chance to train in using their duty firearms in a reality-based scenario.

challenges to hone their skills and gain additional experience in handling and deploying duty firearms."

Only law enforcement officers, members of the U.S. military, and private sector law enforcement officers are allowed to compete in a TPC match. "This restriction is due to the fact that this is serious business," Hoyer said. "Although it is a competition, the main purpose of the program is to assist in training the people who protect us."

There are also a few aspects in TPC that are difficult to find in any other combat or tactical competition. For instance, while many police competitions specifically focus on a participants' knowledge of a certain firearm, TPC lets the competitors use

an array of firearms, holsters, and other equipment. This equipment, however, is restricted to duty type gear.

Courses are separated into either Skill-Based or Scenario-Based Courses. Retired Police Captain and current NRA President John C. Sigler said that an NRA TPC program was needed because of the valuable skills that are honed when a law enforcement officer is using his or her duty firearm and gear in a competitive, hypothetical situation.

"The theory of Tactical Police Competition goes back to the founding of our organization when the NRA was formed with the purpose of training civilians in the use of military arms," Sigler said. "Our National Matches

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Law Enforcement Community Pitches In to Equip Snipers Overseas

In late 2003, a small group of police snipers formed a support network to address the operational equipment needs of U.S. military snipers deployed abroad in the war on terror.

Formerly known as the Adopt A Sniper program, the effort began as a simple request for assistance among deployed friends, who were also peace officers serving in the National Guard and Reserve. These peace officers were employed as SWAT team snipers at home in the United States and were also assigned as snipers within the military.

Due to their own experiences with law enforcement budget constraints, the police snipers were all too aware of the expenses associated with the specialized gear needs of their military brethren. They were also acutely aware of the necessary, albeit seemingly endless, red tape and agonizing wait times associated with the procurement process of any government entity.

So the police officers decided to radically broaden the scope of their efforts. They committed to help as many military snipers as possible, no matter the theater of operation, for as long as they could sustain the program.

Using contacts developed throughout the U.S. police and military sniper communities, the police snipers were able to network with military snipers deployed abroad, obtain their overseas addresses, and began sending desperately needed gear and supplies specifically tailored to a sniper's mission. Due to the immediate unity and lifelong bonds formed between the two groups of professional American snipers (most of whom had never met), the name of the organization was officially changed to American Snipers.

After four years in existence, the American Snipers effort makes no distinction between the full-fledged, fully equipped and trained sniper teams and the designated marksmen of the mechanized, mortar, and cavalry units who, like their full-fledged sniper brethren, are also assigned the daunting task of denying the emplacement of improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

These designated marksmen are often doing what is normally a sniper's job, without the training and ancillary



The American Sniper Association works to enhance the image, abilities, proficiency and safety of the professional tactical sniper.

gear normally associated with the traditional infantry sniper. They are frequently assigned to a Stryker or other non-infantry unit and equipped with an M14 rifle that is often older than the sniper's parents. Due to their unit type, sniper-related gear is not on their Modified Table of Equipment, forcing these men to literally do something with nothing. Amazingly, as they have always done, these soldiers are doing the job regardless of the obstacles.

The snipers and designated marksmen are encouraged to work through their own supply systems and to make their needs known to their superiors to maintain

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Gledhill Appointed To Manage LEAD Training Department

LEAD Director Glen Hoyer has appointed Dave Gledhill as the new manager of LEAD's Training Department. Gledhill, a Life Member of the NRA, is uniquely qualified to fill this vital position in LEAD.

Prior to accepting his new position, Gledhill spent six and one-half years as a staff firearm instructor with LEAD, followed by two years as the Firearm Inventory Manager for NRA's Publications Division.

His duties in Publications included serving as technical advisor on law enforcement articles, managing the firearm test range, and administering the NRA's Federal Firearms Licence (FFL).

Commenting on his appointment, Gledhill said that, "Having been involved in the rebirth of NRA's law enforcement firearm training programs since 1999, I'm looking forward to returning to LEAD in this new capacity. My predecessor, Glen Hoyer, did an outstanding job of leading us in the right direction, and he definitely put his fingerprint on our programs." Gledhill further remarked that, "The job now falls on me to continue to ensure that our programs remain at the top of their game. Our nation's law enforcement officers should expect no less from us, and I'm looking forward to the challenge!"

Gledhill began his law enforcement career in 1982, and gained valuable experience in small

arms and tactics while serving in the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, D.C., and the City of Fairfax Police Department in Virginia.



While working in Fairfax, Gledhill served in patrol as both an officer and a corporal. He also worked as a burglary detective for several years, and was a member of his department's Emergency Services Team. In addition, Gledhill served as a department firearm instructor/armorer and a field training officer.

Gledhill has posted an impressive record as a competitive shooter.

He shot for eight years on his department's pistol team and was a member of Virginia's prestigious "Governor's 20" list for five years in a row. He also served as a board member and vice president of the Virginia Police Revolver Association.

Gledhill's numerous achievements in the training field include his certification as a handgun/shotgun instructor, tactical handgun instructor, tactical shotgun instructor, patrol rifle instructor, chemical munitions instructor, and distraction device instructor.

In addition, he is a certified armorer on most law enforcement semi-automatic pistols, shotguns, submachine guns, and rifles. In addition to his training activities, Gledhill has written articles for NRA's *Shooting Illustrated*, *The Police Marksman* magazine, and has served as a consultant on the magazine's National Advisory Board.

Gledhill is an active member of the International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors (IALEFI), the International Law Enforcement Trainers and Educators Association (ILETEA), and the National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA). He has also been affiliated with the Special Equipment and Tactics Association (SETA), the Virginia Tactical Association (VTA), and the International Association of Credit Card Investigators (IACCI).

SNIPERS

Continued from Page 2

continuity and flow of information. However, that failing, American Snipers has the ability to provide gear that goes directly from an American Snipers shipping point to the exact military address of the sniper himself. When the sniper's deployment ends, he either gives the equipment to his replacement (if it is serviceable) or keeps it if he re-enlists and plans to return to overseas duty in a sniper billet.

The American Snipers program is completely funded by civic donations and staffed entirely by 12 operational U.S. police and military snipers from across the United States. Every penny and all gear donated goes directly towards purchasing gear, shipping charges, or conducting fund-raisers for a U.S. military sniper platoon deployed abroad. Receipts for donations are sent upon request; no person receives a salary or kickback in any form whatsoever, and the entire effort is conducted on the staff's own time.

American Snipers operates as a project under the 501(c)3 non-profit status of the organization Snipersonline UA.

Anyone wishing to assist the program with monetary or gear donations, or to obtain more information, is invited to visit American Snipers on the Web at www.AmericanSnipers.org.



Gustafson to retire from LEAD

Scott Gustafson is determined to make his third attempt at retirement stick, even if it's just part-time.

After an 11-year career as a staff instructor in the NRA Law Enforcement Activities Division (LEAD), Scott will retire on March 31 to spend some well-deserved time with his wife and family.

But don't think Scott's NRA career is over. He has agreed to stay on with LEAD as an adjunct instructor and hopes to teach twelve instructor schools a year. This fact should not surprise anyone who knows the hard-working Navy veteran and retired law enforcement officer.

"Scott's contributions to this division and the law enforcement community are immeasurable," said Glen Hoyer, Director of the Law Enforcement Activities Division. "Not only has Scott been a tremendous teacher, but he's also been a great friend – not just to myself, but to the rest of the staff and the instructors he's been able to reach during his career."

Before joining NRA, Gustafson worked 20 years for the Phoenix (AZ) Police Department, including 12 years spent as a firearm instructor at the Phoenix Police Regional Training Academy. Gustafson also served 28 years in the United States Navy, which included deployment on the rivers of

Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. He retired from the Navy as a Chief Petty Officer.

Gustafson began his NRA career as an adjunct instructor in 1990 and came on board as a full-time staff instructor after his retirement from the Phoenix P.D. in 1997. He is a certified armorer on most of the semi-automatic pistols and shotguns being utilized by law enforcement today and is also certified as a Handgun/Shotgun, Tactical Handgun, and Patrol Rifle instructor. In addition to his duties as an instructor, Scott is responsible for all data entry and maintenance of LEAD's Technical Information Center.

Above all, Gustafson is a skilled

instructor, one that has left a lasting impression on the lives of many.

"The job we do with our instructor development schools saves lives," Gustafson said. "I would like to think I've contributed to some officer's life out there by helping to teach his instructor."

In honor of his years of dedicated service, the entire LEAD family would like to extend its best wishes to Scott for a happy and fulfilling retirement. No one deserves it more.

"When I came on board in 1997, LEAD was like a family, and it still is today," Gustafson said. "When you go away from your family, you're obviously going to miss them. It'll be no different for me."

TPC

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came from the realization that if persons need to get better, they need to be challenged. This training is one of the things that we do best, and I think it's the least that we can do to give back to the law enforcement community."

The Skill-Based Courses challenge the officer's skills and abilities in handling, accuracy, and overall proficiency with a given firearm system under set conditions. The Scenario-Based Courses place the officer in a hypothetical law enforcement encounter. An officer must decide how to run the course and solve the challenges presented according to his or her own tactics and skills.

TPC matches are comprised of four to six separate courses of fire. Courses might be handgun-only, rifle-only, shotgun-only, or a combination of firearms. Each course has its own problem-solving and skill-based tests. These challenges include: assessing threat and no-threat targets; firing from unusual shooting positions; making tactical decisions of how to

NPSC Armorer Schools

Good news for competitors at the National Police Shooting Championships – tuition-free armorer schools are back!

At this time we have Beretta, Glock, and Sig Sauer confirmed. The schools are on a first come first serve basis and you must register online at www.nrahq.org/law and follow the tuition-free school links to register.

The armorer schools for the National Police Shooting Championships are listed with the schools held at NRA Headquarters.

You will be notified if you are selected to attend, as seats are limited.

move through a course; using cover and working around visual barriers; being responsible for ammunition management; assessing hits; and balancing the paramount need for accuracy with speed.

"This new program is a lot like our NRA Law Enforcement Instructor Development Schools where we try to bring the street to the range," said Marc Lipp, LEAD's Law Enforcement Competitions Manager. "Tactical Police

Competition is designed with a very similar philosophy to these schools. Officers come in and are faced with challenges that they could find when they're on patrol."

Examples of the similarities between TPC and the very popular Instructor Development Schools are that there are no separate categories for high-capacity handguns and single-stack handguns, or different scoring systems for different calibers. "Suspects on the street do not know, care, or act differently because of these factors," Lipp said. "If officers carry handguns with a capacity of only eight rounds, they should be very proficient in ammunition management, and tactical and speed reloads."

These course requirements mean that TPC does not have any equalizing formulas for various calibers, and courses are not altered to make them more accessible to certain firearms. "What an officer carries on the street

should be what he or she uses in a TPC course," Hoyer said. "When developing this program, it was crucial

to make it as close as possible to the real deal."

LEAD plans to have between five and seven TPC matches in 2008 with the possibility of expanding that number the following year. "It's the next logical extension," Sigler said. "TPC adds speed to the accuracy."

With the addition of TPC, one may wonder if the NRA will slowly shift its focus away from Police Pistol Competition

(PPC), specifically, the NRA National Police Shooting Championships (NPSC). President Sigler says no one should worry. "Being the NRA, we cannot get away from the fundamentals and the concept of accuracy, especially in law enforcement," Sigler said. "Law enforcement officers out on the street have to account for every round. Every round must be accounted for, and it must be justifiable – legally, tactically, and morally. That's why PPC is so important."

TPC was made possible by generous support from DPMS Panther Arms. To see the full DPMS line of law enforcement, competition, and sporting rifles, plus components, parts, and accessories, visit www.dpmsinc.com or your local DPMS dealer.

For more information about TPC competitions and other programs offered by LEAD, visit www.nrahq.org/law or call (703) 267-1632.



TPC forces law enforcement officers to think quickly and tactfully while also being mindful of innocent bystanders.

**IMAGINE HOW THE
BAD GUYS
ARE GOING TO FEEL.**



**TACTICAL
POLICE
COMPETITION
EVENT**

**ARMORER
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**MORE
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**MORE
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2008 NATIONAL POLICE SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

September 21-25, 2008

Albuquerque, New Mexico

<http://www.nrahq.org/law/npsc.asp>
(703) 267-1632 • lead@nrahq.org





2008 NRA Law Enforcement Firearm Instructor Development Schools



WEBSITE: <http://www.nraHQ.org/law> • **EMAIL:** LEAD@nraHQ.org • **Call:** (703) 267-1640

(New schools are added often. Check WEBSITE frequently for current Training Schedule.)

➤Range Fee, if any, is payable to some hosting agencies, amount varies.◀

➤NRA Tuition = \$525 per person◀

**See "# of Slots Available" at Website.
Apply early, before school FILLS!!**

HANDGUN & SHOTGUN INSTRUCTOR

April 21-25 Bethlehem, PA (east) – **FULL**
 April 28-May 2 Cibilo, TX (near San Antonio) – **FULL**
 May 5-9 Gulfport, MS – **FULL**
 May 19-23 Canon City, CO – **FULL**
 May 26-30 Columbia, SC – **FULL**
 May 26-30 Philippi, WV
 June 2-6 Allentown, PA (east) – **FULL**
 June 9-13 Allentown, PA (east) – **FULL**
 June 9-13 Baxter, MN – **FULL**
 June 23-27 Pittsburgh, PA (west)
 July 21-25 Florence, AL
 July 28-Aug 1 Camdenton, MO
 Aug 4-8 Smithton, PA
 Aug 11-15 San Diego, CA (public LE only)
 Aug 11-15 St. Louis, MO
 Aug 18-22 Canon City, CO
 Sept 15-19 Jackson, NJ (Ocean County)
 Sept 22-26 Leechburg, PA
 Oct 6-10 Cottonport, LA
 Oct 6-10 Las Vegas, NV ¹(public LE only) – **FULL**
 Oct 13-17 Pearl, MS²
 Oct 20-24 Defiance, MO
 Nov 3-7 Panama City, FL
 Nov 10-14 Florence, AL
 March 2-6 '09 Shreveport, LA
 March 9-13 '09 Leechburg, PA

HANDGUN INSTRUCTOR

May 12-16 Ontario, CAifornia
 Sept 15-19 Castle Rock, CO (public LE only)
 Oct 20-24 Lusby, MD

PRECISION RIFLE INSTRUCTOR

June 16-20 Philippi, WV
 July 21-25 Canon City, CO
 Aug 18-22 Evansville, IN
 Oct 13-17 Castle Rock, CO (public LE only)
 Dec 1-5 Florence, AL
 Dec 1-5 Las Vegas, NV ¹(public LE only)

SELECT-FIRE INSTRUCTOR

July 21-25 Castle Rock, CO (public LE only)
 July 21-25 Gulfport, MS
 Aug 18-22 Bethlehem, PA
 Aug 25-29 Windom, MN
 Sept 15-19 Florence, AL
 May 11-15 '09 Leechburg, PA

PATROL RIFLE INSTRUCTOR

April 21-25 Canon City, CO – **FULL**
 May 5-9 Epping, NH (SIGARMS Academy)
 May 12-16 Gulfport, MS – **FULL**
 May 19-23 Charlotte, TX (near San Antonio)
 May 19-23 Philippi, WV
 June 16-20 Florence, AL
 July 7-11 Allentown, PA (east) – **FULL**
 July 7-11 Franklin, TN
 July 28-Aug 1 Lynchburg, VA
 Sept 22-26 Castle Rock, CO (public LE only)
 Oct 6-10 Leechburg, PA
 Oct 20-24 Shreveport, LA
 Oct 27-31 Lusby, MD
 Nov 3-7 Pittsburgh, PA (west)
 Nov 10-14 Evansville, IN
 Nov 17-21 Las Vegas, NV ¹(public LE only)
 April 6-10 '09 Leechburg, PA
 Oct 5-9 '09 Leechburg, PA

TACTICAL SHOTGUN INSTRUCTOR

Apr 28-May 2 Bethlehem, PA (east)
 June 16-20 Gulfport, MS
 July 14-18 Castle Rock, CO (public LE only)
 Sept 15-19 Ontario, CAifornia
 Oct 13-17 Florence, AL
 Oct 20-24 York, PA (east)

TACTICAL SHOOTING INSTRUCTOR

May 5-9 Pittsburgh, PA (west)
 June 2-6 York, PA (east)
 June 9-13 Jackson, NJ (Ocean County)
 June 16-20 Panama City, FL
 July 14-18 Allentown, PA (east)
 Aug 11-15 Smithton, PA
 Oct 20-24 Ontario, CAifornia
 Nov 3-7 Las Vegas, NV ¹(public LE only)
 Dec 1-5 Panama City, FL

To apply to footnoted Instructor Schools, call:

¹ Las Vegas, NV –Vern Zuleger (702)828-4291

² Pearl,MS –Beverly Abernathy (601)933-2128

NRA Law Enforcement Firearm Manuals and Training Aids



To order training aids and materials on CD:
www.nrahq.org/law/training/

To order printed manuals:
<http://materials.nrahq.org/go>



DISCIPLINES AVAILABLE:
Handgun Handgun/Shotgun
Patrol Rifle Tactical Shotgun
Precision Rifle

Sales of these items are restricted to NRA Certified Instructors, sworn Law Enforcement Officers, bona fide Law enforcement agencies, armed security companies, and the U.S. military. Once your order is received, you may be contacted by a member of the Law Enforcement Activities Division to verify eligibility.

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