

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

In the Matter of:)	
)	
COURT SECURITY OFFICER)	Administrative Directive
FIREARMS TRAINING, AUTHORIZED)	No. 2020 - 01
DUTY WEAPON, AMMUNITION,)	
CONDUCTED ELECTRICAL WEAPON)	
AND HOLSTERS)	
_____)	

As provided by Arizona Code of Judicial Administration (ACJA), §§ 5-306 and 5-307, the Administrative Director shall:

1. Approve uniform, standardized and statewide firearms training academies and annual re-qualification for court security officers (CSOs);
2. Approve the conducted electrical weapon (CEW), firearms and ammunition officers are authorized to carry while on duty; and
3. Issue guidelines for approved holsters.

Therefore,

IT IS DIRECTED that the Director of the Education Services Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) shall administer the CSO firearms program and establish policies and procedures as necessary, including standardized forms, initial qualification and annual re-qualification, and approving course instructors and armorers.

IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED that the curriculum of the CSO Firearms Training Academy be adopted as summarized in Appendix A and maintained by the Director of the AOC Education Services Division.

IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED that the duty weapon of Arizona court security officers shall be Glock handguns chambered in .40 S&W or 9mm with a minimum factory magazine capacity of 13 rounds. CSOs may be authorized by the Director to carry a specialized duty weapon while serving on specialized assignments.

IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED that the Speer Gold Dot 180 gr Jacketed Hollow Point .40 S&W cartridge and the Speer Gold Dot 9mm 124 gr +P Jacketed Hollow Point 9mm cartridge are the approved ammunition for CSO duty carry.

IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED that the TASER X26, X26P, X2, and TASER 7 are the approved CEWs for CSO carry and use.

IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED that the duty firearm and CEW holsters for Arizona Court Security Officers shall:

1. Properly fit the firearm or CEW;
2. Cover the trigger guard of the firearm or CEW; and
3. Contain at least one (1) retention device other than friction.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2020.

DAVID K. BYERS
Administrative Director of the Courts

Appendix A

Court Security Officer Firearms Training Academy Curriculum

The Court Security Officer (CSO) Firearms Training Academy curriculum shall include the following content in a delivery format that may include self-paced computer-based instruction and that shall include live and in-person classroom instruction with practical exercises.

Judicial Branch CSO Firearms Standards: The Arizona Code of Judicial Administration defines statewide standards for armed CSOs. This course provides an overview of standard procedures and policies required by the ACJA to be implemented in a uniform fashion across Arizona courts.

Nomenclature: Reviews the function and mechanics of the approved duty weapon, providing participants with a shared terminology that is used throughout the Academy and shared among the field.

Firearm Safety and Range Rules: Provides clear direction about handling and using firearms while performing drills and live-fire qualifications. The course also informs participants of practices that must always be implemented to safely handle, store and transport duty weapons.

Weapon Retention, Manipulation and Marksmanship: Provides participants with the basic tenants of marksmanship along with techniques for safely and efficiently retaining, removing and reloading a duty weapon. The movement and mechanics necessary for safe and efficient weapon manipulation and accurate placement of rounds are practiced extensively throughout the program.

Weapon Care and Maintenance: Provides participants with basic instructions to safely maintain a duty weapon to ensure its proper and consistent function while on duty and conducting training exercises.

Malfunctions: Provides techniques for rapidly assessing a firearm malfunction and taking quick, safe action to restore a duty weapon to proper useable condition.

Use of Force: While maintaining order and protecting all who conduct business in the courthouse and on court grounds, officers may encounter a critical incident where the use of force is necessary. This instruction expands upon use of force content from the basic CSO academy to provide officers with knowledge about polices governing the use of deadly force; especially as applied to firearm-involved incidents.

Mental conditioning and tactics: Explores the mindset of an officer during a use of force situation, preparing officers with tactics to control stress and maintain awareness before, during and after a use of force incident, including incidents that may involve the use of deadly force.

Low Light Shooting: Includes considerations and provides techniques for safe and effective low-light marksmanship. Classroom instruction is paired with a practical qualification that demonstrates the ability of an armed CSO to operate safely and effectively and to place rounds accurately during low light conditions.

Threat Recognition and Judgmental Shooting: CSOs participate in scenario-based drills to apply the content and techniques learned in the course. Participants must make decisions in stressful situations to employ an appropriate level of force, protect themselves and others in the court, and appropriately address a wide range of potential threats.

Firearm Qualification: To complete the course, CSOs must demonstrate proper movements and achieve a standard level of accuracy during a series of timed shooting drills.