



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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NOTICE TO CWP INSTRUCTORS

NEW LESSON PLAN TO COVER THE TRAINING TOPICS AND 25-ROUND COURSE OF FIRE IN THE OPEN CARRY WITH TRAINING ACT

(MANDATORY ON AND AFTER AUGUST 15, 2021)

On May 17, 2021 Governor Henry D. McMaster signed the Open Carry with Training Act into law. This law goes into effect on **AUGUST 15, 2021**.

This law changes the “Proof of Training” requirements defined by S.C. Code Ann. § 23-31-210(4) that is required on or after August 15, 2021. This means that all new CWP applications received or postmarked on or after August 15, 2021 must contain “Proof of Training” consistent with the updated legal requirements and there is no “grandfathering” for prior training that is received after that date. The new topics of instruction are:

- (v) properly securing a firearm in a holster;
- (vi) ‘cocked and locked’ carrying of a firearm;
- (vii) how to respond to a person who attempts to take your firearm from your holster; and
- (viii) deescalation techniques and strategies.

In addition, the Open Carry with Training Act reduced the minimum number of rounds that must be fired to satisfy S.C. Code Ann. § 23-31-210(4)(a)(iv). This means that on or after August 15, 2021, CWP applicants must successfully complete an approved course that includes “the actual firing of the handgun in the presence of the instructor, provided that a minimum of twenty-five rounds must be fired”.

Attached is SLED’s approved lesson plan to include the new topics and a standardized course of fire for 25 rounds. Also attached is an updated South Carolina Concealed Weapons Permit Instructor Student Checklist. These forms must be used beginning on **AUGUST 15, 2021**.



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LESSON PLAN COVER SHEET

LESSON PLAN TITLE:	LESSON PLAN #:	STATUS (New/Revised):
CWP Instructor Updated Content 2021		New

TRAINING DEPARTMENT:	TIME ALLOCATION:
South Carolina Law Enforcement Division	

PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR:	ALT. INSTRUCTOR:	LESSON PLAN PREPARED BY:
SLED Regulatory Unit	SLED Training Unit	SLED Regulatory Unit

DATE LESSON PLAN PREPARED:
August 5, 2021

LESSON PLAN PURPOSE:

To provide guidance to SLED Certified CWP instructors related to new content required to be instructed during CWP courses under the new “Open Carry with Training Law”, and to provide a standardized course of fire for the live firing of a minimum of 25 rounds.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES:

TRAINING AIDS, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, SPECIAL CLASSROOM/INSTRUCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

LESSON PLAN TITLE:	LESSON PLAN #:	STATUS (New/Revised):
OPEN CARRY WITH TRAINING – CWP TOPICS		New

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide guidance to CWP Instructors on the new instructional topics that will be required for “Proof of Training” on or after August 15, 2021.
2. Provide a standardized course of fire for a minimum of 25 rounds of live fire on or after August 15, 2021.

LESSON PLAN EXPANDED OUTLINE

LESSON PLAN TITLE:	LESSON PLAN #:	STATUS (New/Revised):
OPEN CARRY WITH TRAINING – CWP TOPICS		New

I. INTRODUCTION

Effective August 15, 2021 the Open Carry with Training Act changes the content required to be taught by CWP instructors.

This law changes the “Proof of Training” requirements defined by S.C. Code Ann. § 23-31-210(4) that will be required on or after August 15, 2021. This means that all new CWP applications received or postmarked on or after August 15, 2021 must contain “Proof of Training” consistent with the updated legal requirements.

In addition, this law reduces the minimum number of rounds that must be fired to satisfy S.C. Code Ann. § 23-31-210(4)(a)(iv). This means that on or after August 15, 2021, CWP applicants must successfully complete an approved course that includes “the actual firing of the handgun in the presence of the instructor, provided that a minimum of twenty-five rounds must be fired”.

II. BODY

A. ADDITIONAL TOPICS OF INSTRUCTION

1. SLED CWP Instructors must include the below four additional topics required by the Open Carry with Training Act as part of the “Proof of Training” beginning on August 15, 2021. These topics are:

- a. properly securing a firearm in a holster;
- b. ‘cocked and locked’ carrying of a firearm;
- c. how to respond to a person who attempts to take your firearm from your holster;
- d. de-escalation techniques and strategies.

**** These topics are required for any application received or postmarked on or after August 15, 2021.**

2. **Properly securing a firearm in a holster** – SLED CWP Instructors shall instruct students on how to properly carry a firearm in a holster whether concealed or open carry. Instructors should discuss retention holsters, methods of retention, familiarization to include practicing drawing with a holster, and the importance of a retention holster when openly carrying to prevent the weapon from being easily taken.

3. **‘Cocked and locked’ carrying of a firearm** – SLED CWP Instructors shall instruct students on the proper method of carry for single action firearms. Instructors should cover carrying a single action firearm with the hammer locked back and the safety engaged to prevent an accidental or negligent discharge while carrying. Although single action semi-automatic pistols are not common for concealed carry, the carrying of “1911” style pistols openly are more common, and instructors should address with all students the method of carry and what “cocked and locked” means as well as why it is important from a safety standpoint.

4. **How to respond to a person who attempts to take your firearm from your holster** – SLED CWP Instructors shall instruct students on basic weapons retention defense to familiarize the student with how to stop someone from taking their weapon while open carrying. Instructors should discuss the risks of open carry with the students related to persons attempting to grab the weapon because it's visible to the public. Instructors should discuss with students' topics like, awareness, blading the body, verbal de-escalation, and defense techniques to defend against the weapon being taken. Basic weapons retention techniques after the weapon has been grabbed involve; grabbing the subject's hands to prevent the weapon from being removed from the holster, stepping down or away from the subject in a violent manner to dislodge their hands, and if possible, delivering a strike to the forearm to loosen the subject's grip.
5. **De-escalation techniques and strategies** – SLED CWP Instructors shall instruct students on de-escalation techniques related to the use of deadly force, confrontations, and scenarios that may occur which may be legally justified by using deadly force but could be de-escalated. Instructors should discuss with students the criminal, civil, and mental ramifications related to using deadly force and how attempting to de-escalate a situation may be beneficial to the CWP holder. Using deadly force as a last resort should always be considered and when safe to do so, attempting to de-escalate a situation verbally can be a better option not resulting in death or injury to either party.

B. 25-ROUND MINIMUM COURSE OF FIRE

On or after August 15, 2021, the below standardized course of fire is suggested for use to satisfy the "Proof of Training" requirement set forth in S.C. Code Ann. § 23-31-210(4)(a)(iv). However, the course of fire is up to the instructor's discretion related to distance, manner of fire, and timing so long as the minimum 25 rounds are fired in the presence of the instructor.

Students will draw from a concealed holster in the manner that they intend to carry:

- (1) 3-yard line - Student will draw and fire 5 rounds in 10 seconds;
- (2) 5-yard line - Student will draw and fire 5 rounds in 10 seconds;
- (3) 7-yard line - Student will draw and fire 5 rounds in 10 seconds;
- (4) 10-yard line - Student will draw and fire 5 rounds in 12 seconds; and
- (5) 12-yard line - Student will draw and fire 5 rounds in 15 seconds.