

# **PEIA 156**

## **Firearms and Shooting Safety**

2 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County  
Common Course Outline

### **Description**

**PEIA 156 – Firearms and Shooting Safety:** instructs members of the Baltimore County Police Academy in the legal and safe methods of using firearms with proper firing techniques. This will include safe storage of firearms and ammunition. Recruits will explore various shooting styles and be instructed in the latest, most effective techniques used in law enforcement. Specific instruction will be placed on how to care for and maintain their firearms. The legal responsibilities of firearm use and use of deadly force, as well as moral aspects, will also be explored. At the completion of the course, Recruits will participate in firearms qualification.

**Pre-requisites:** Admission to the Baltimore County Police Academy

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. apply firearms terminology;
2. explain the Maryland firearms laws;
3. explain safe handling and storage of firearms and ammunition;
4. demonstrate firing range safety protocols;
5. assess shooting ability using different forms of firearms;
6. perform maintenance and cleaning for different forms of firearms;
7. demonstrate various shooting styles and stances for each firearm;
8. demonstrate procedures for clearing stoppages for various firearms;
9. describe the legal standards for use of deadly force;
10. identify the techniques to minimize the possibility of an officer entering an ambush situation;
11. identify the areas of the body that are most vulnerable to potentially fatal attacks; and
12. identify circumstances and legal ramifications related to use of reasonable force.

### **Major Topics**

- I. Nomenclature of firearms
  - a. Long guns
  - b. Pistols
  - c. Semi-automatic weapons
  - d. Shotguns
- II. Firearms cleaning and maintenance
  - a. Equipment used for cleaning weapons
  - b. Preparation for cleaning

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.  
For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- c. Clearing firearms
- III. Firearm and ammunition safety
  - a. Safe handling
  - b. Safe storage
  - c. Stance
- IV. Legal responsibilities
  - a. Reasonable force
  - b. Deadly force
- V. Officer vulnerability
  - a. Ambush
  - b. Body threats
- VI. Fundamentals of marksmanship

### **Course Requirements**

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- practical pistol qualification examination
- practical shotgun qualification examination
- virtual and in-person scenario-based exercises
- 25 shooting drills
- four written quizzes

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

Date Revised: 2/7/2023