



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

COURSE OVERVIEW AND INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

COURSE LENGTH: 40 Hours (5 Days)
28 Hours Classroom
12 Hours Practical

COURSE OVERVIEW

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: This course is designed for officers who are newly assigned or may soon be assigned to a corrections tactical team.

This course offers a thorough introduction to tactical principles and their practical application. Participants will learn essential Special Operations Response Team (SORT) concepts, tactics, and techniques, including team organization and structure, SORT operators' legal responsibilities, movement tactics at the individual, element, and team levels, subject control and arrest procedures, and warrant service planning. The program features numerous practical training exercises designed to develop foundational skills that enhance proficiency and competence in assigned roles. Students will be encouraged to employ critical thinking to address tactical challenges, combining legal knowledge, best practices, and ethical considerations within the safety priorities as a decision-making framework.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

Upon completion of this course, the attendee will be familiar with:

1. Introduction to the History and Purpose of SORT
2. Critical Thinking Concepts and Models.
3. Understand SORT history, organizational structure, and purpose
4. Understand recommended safety equipment and standards for safety equipment
5. Understand the use of force, liability, and applying force options consistent with established case law
6. Understand the importance of the proper SORT operator mindset, Boyd's OODA Loop, and apply it to critical thinking during tactical operations
7. Understand the three-dimensional nature of tactical environments and proper SORT team movement
8. Understand basic breaching applications
9. Understand perimeter operations, basic tactical diagramming, and operational planning concepts
10. Perform Tactical Movement and Room Clearing Fundamentals
11. Understand team culture, professionalism, and its impact on team performance and legitimacy in our community
12. Students will be familiar with the concepts of public order and riot control tactics.
13. Familiarize students with less-lethal concepts



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

14. Familiarize students with Active Assailant Incidents
15. Understand the foundations of corrections' use-of-force case law
16. Understand preplanned use of force concepts and cell extractions
17. Familiarize students with force documentation and evidence preservation.



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

DAY TO DAY / HOUR TO HOUR AGENDA

DAY ONE

Hours:	Instruction:
0800-0830	Course Administration, Course Overview, Introductions, and Safety Briefing
0830-0900	Pretest (PowerPoint) (Classroom)
0900-1200	Introduction to SORT – History/Purpose (Classroom)
1200-1300	Lunch Break (not provided)
1300-1700	SORT Critical Thinking Concepts (Classroom)

DAY TWO

Hours:	Instruction:
0800-0830	Training Takeaways and Day 1 Quiz Review (Classroom)
0830-0930	Safety & Risk Mitigation (Classroom)
0930-1030	Building Scenario-Based Integrated Training (Practical)
1030-1200	Tactical Decision Making (Building Tactical Plans) (Classroom)
1200-1300	Lunch (not provided)
1300-1400	SORT Liability & Legal Considerations (Classroom)
1400-1700	Public Order/ Riot Control Concepts (Classroom)

DAY THREE

Hours:	Instruction:
0800-0830	Training Takeaways and Day 2 Quiz Review (Classroom)
0830-0930	Fundamentals of Room Clearing & Tactical Movement (Classroom)
0930-1030	Fundamentals of Breaching (Classroom)
1030-1200	Tactical Breaching and Movement Practical Exercise (Practical)
1200-1300	Lunch (not provided)
1300-1700	Introduction to NFDD/CA/LL Concepts and the Tactical Pause (Classroom)

DAY FOUR

Hours:	Instruction:
0800-0830	Training Takeaways and Day 3 Quiz Review (Classroom)
0830-11:30	Introduction to Active Assailant Incidents (Classroom)
1200-1630	Scenario-Based Integrated Training Exercise (Practical)



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

1630-1700

Daily Review

DAY FIVE

Hours:

0800-0830

0800-0900

0900-1000

1000-1130

1130-1230

1230-1500

1500-1600

1600-1700

CELL EXTRACTION FOCUS

Instruction:

Training Takeaways and Day 4 Quiz Review (**Classroom**)

Use of Force in Corrections (**Classroom**)

Corrections Case Law for Planned Force (**Classroom**)

Emotional Intelligence at the Door (**Practical**)

Lunch (not provided)

Crafting the Move – The Calculated Cell Extraction (**Practical**)

Documentation and Evidence Preservation (**Practical**)

Course Closeout and Testing Instructions (**Classroom**)



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. Course Administration
 - A. Course Overview
 - B. Safety Briefing
 - C. Introductions
 - D. Pretest (PowerPoint)
- II. Introduction to SORT
 - A. History and Purpose
 - B. Team Selection & Responsibilities
 - C. Professionalism
 - D. Leadership
 - E. Tactical Response and Operations Standards
 - F. Critical Thinking Model: P.I.E.T.O.
- III. SORT Critical Thinking Concepts
 - A. Safety Priorities and PIETO Decision-Making Model
 - B. Boyd's Cycle and OODA Loop
 - C. Opportunity
 - D. Jeopardy
 - E. Contingency Planning
 - F. Noble Cause Mentality
 - G. Space & Time
- IV. Understanding SWAT Organizational Structure and Tier Selection
 - A. NTOA Tactical Response and Operations Standard
 - B. Understanding Capabilities and Limitations
 - C. Memorandum of Understanding
 - D. Team Mission Profiles
 - E. SWAT Team Structure and Span of Command and Control
- V. SWAT Operator Safety and Equipment Mindset
 - A. NTOA Tactical Response and Operations Standard
 - B. Understanding the Safety Equipment and Standards



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

VI. SORT Liability and Use of Force During SORT Operations

- A. Understanding Liability
- B. Canton v. Harris
- C. Qualified Immunity
- D. Graham v. Connor
- E. Tennessee v. Garner
- F. Use of Force Options

VII. SORT Operator Mindset and the OODA Loop

- A. Applying Tactical Mindset and Critical Thinking Model
- B. Operator vs. Reactor Mindset
- C. OODA Loop Cycle
- D. OODA Loop and Critical Thinking
- E. Tactical Dilemmas
- F. Brain Science

VIII. Understanding the Three-Dimensional Tactical Environment

- A. Understanding Space and Room Geometry
- B. Hallways and Intersections
- C. Stairwells
- D. Understanding Corners and Uncleared Areas
- E. Understanding Individual, Element and Team Tactics
- F. Team Movement and Tactics
- G. Tactical Dilemmas

IX. Public Order and Correction Riot Control Concepts

- A. Public Area crowd and facility disturbances
- B. Crowd Dynamics and Agitator Behavior
- C. First Amendment Considerations
- D. Basic Response Team Formations and Movements
- E. Response Support Roles
- F. Post-Event Planning



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

- X. SORT Breaching Operations
 - A. Breacher Responsibilities
 - B. Breacher Tools and Methods
 - i. Mechanical
 - ii. Shotgun
 - iii. Hydraulic
 - iv. Exothermic
 - C. Breach Team Configuration and Operations

- XI. Fundamentals of Room Clearing
 - A. Breach Plans and Blueprints
 - B. Room Size and Personnel Requirements
 - C. Terrain Assessment

- XII. Tactical Movement Types
 - A. Kinetic Movement Methodology
 - B. Slow & Methodical Team Movement
 - C. Breach and Hold/Limited Penetration
 - D. Tubular Rescues and Vehicle Take Downs

- XIII. Perimeter Operations, Tactical Diagramming, and Operational Planning
 - A. Indexing Structures for Communication
 - B. Operational Planning and Orders

- XIV. Introduction to Less-Lethal Tools
 - A. Noise Flash, Diversion Devices
 - B. Chemical Agents
 - C. Specialty Impact Munitions and Launchers
 - D. Less Lethal Opportunity
 - E. Tactical Pause
 - F. Documentation
 - G. Professionalism

- XV. Introduction to Active Assailant Incidents
 - A. Identification
 - B. Tactics



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

- C. Post-Event Investigation
- XVI. Corrections: Use of Force During Cell Extractions
 - A. Immediate
 - B. Calculated
 - C. Deadly Force
 - D. Planned Cell Removal Accreditation Standards
- XVII. Cell Extraction Specific Case Law
 - A. Whitley
 - B. Hudson
 - C. Kingsley
 - D. Turner
 - E. 2020-2025 SCOTUS Decisions for Corrections
- XVIII. Emotional Intelligence at the Door
 - A. Define and Describe Emotional Intelligence
 - B. Elements of Emotional Intelligence
 - C. Applying Officer Emotional Intelligence during Cell Extractions
- XIX. Crafting the Move
 - A. Move Sheet, Team Introduction & Inspection
 - B. Reconnaissance & Station Preparation
 - C. Movement to Contact; Confrontation Avoidance
 - D. Actions in the Objective Area – Extraction
 - E. Decontamination, Restraints, Medical Assessment
 - F. Debrief; Reality-Based Training
- XX. Documentation and Evidence Preservation
 - A. Before the Extraction
 - B. During the Extraction
 - C. Medical Clearance
- XXI. Course Closeout and Testing Instructions
 - A. LMS Login
 - B. Exam
 - i. 50 Questions,
 - ii. 60 Minutes
 - iii. 2 Attempts
 - C. Member Section of NTOA Website
 - D. Webinars Available
 - E. Command College
 - F. BrainHQ



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

CO-HOST LOGISTIC REQUIREMENTS

CLASSROOM

- Adequate seating for up to 30 students with tables, good ventilation
- Marker board or flip chart with paper & markers

AUDIO VISUAL

- LCD projector for computer presentation with a large projection screen (minimum 6' x6')
- An alternative to an LCD projector is a large TV or SMART board (minimum 60")
- Speaker system to connect to the laptop for audio
- Extension cord and power strip

MOVEMENT AREAS (PRACTICAL)

- Minimum of three (3) separate locations that have multiple rooms and floors for purposes of clearing exercises (e.g., vacant houses, large vacant apartments, and/or commercial office-type buildings, etc.)
- One (1) commercial building with multiple floors and rooms (e.g., school, office, etc.) is also preferred, if possible, in addition to the above training locations
- These movement areas must support the use of non-lethal training ammunition (NLTA)
- If diversionary devices are available, these movement areas will need to support their use.
- Simulated Corrections Environment for hallway movements and cell extractions

EQUIPMENT

- Access to a copier
- Two (2) 40mm launchers for Scenario Training. (NO MUNITIONS)

PERSONNEL

- 2-4 role players with proper protective clothing/equipment, if available, Day 4 (afternoon) and Day 5



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

STUDENT EQUIPMENT LIST

INDIVIDUAL

- Agency ID
- Appropriate tactical uniform, including tactical body armor and ballistic helmet (long sleeves)
- Proper eye and ear protection
- Rain and/or inclement weather outerwear
- Chemical agent mask / APR
- Gloves
- Neck and groin protection
- Primary entry weapon with a light system
- Secondary weapon with a light system
- Simunition® / Ultimate Training Munitions (UTM®) conversion kit for long gun and 100 rounds of non-lethal training ammunition (NLTA) marking rounds



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

NTOA PROVIDED INSTRUCTOR MATERIALS

INSTRUCTOR PACKET (mailed to co-host)

- QR Codes for walk-in and substitution registrations
- Course roster
- Instructor agreements
- Dropbox link for student notebook and resource materials

INSTRUCTOR PACKET (emailed in advance)

- Directions to the training site and hotel
- Contact numbers for the co-host point of contact

COURSE PRESENTATION MATERIALS FOR THE INSTRUCTORS

- PowerPoint presentations available on Basecamp for download

INSTRUCTOR EQUIPMENT

- Laptop computer
- SIMUNITIONS Pelican Case
- SHOTBOX
- Less-Lethal Demo Box
- Blue Gun - Pistol

OTHER



CORRECTIONS: SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM TACTICAL PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

STUDENT DROPBOX CONTENTS

SECTION	DESCRIPTION
Preface	Overview, Instructional Goals, Agenda, Outline, Student Logistic Requirements
1.	Introduction to SORT
2.	SORT Concepts
3.	Safety and Risk Mitigation
4.	Building Scenario-Based Integration Training
5.	Tactical Decision Making
6.	SORT Liability and Legal Considerations
7.	Public Order and Riot Control
8.	Fundamentals of Room Clearing
9.	Fundamentals of Breaching
10.	Introduction to Less-Lethal Concepts
11.	Introduction to Active Threat Concepts
12.	Scenario-Based Integrated Training Exercise
13.	Cell Extraction