

MESA POLICE Department Policy Manual	MPD Firearms Range	DPM 2.10.10 Effective 01/10/2013 Revised 06/08/2021
Approved by: Chief of Police	Chapter: Specialized Units	Page: 1 of 3

1. PURPOSE

This policy provides Mesa Police Department (MPD) members with guidelines regarding the MPD Firearms Range.

2. GENERAL GUIDELINES | RANGE RULES

- A. Follow Range safety rules and firing procedures at all times.
 1. Any violation of these rules, as well as those posted by the Range Sergeant, are reported to the offending member's supervisor for appropriate action.
- B. The Range is used by officers to improve shooting accuracy and response and to enhance correct weapons handling techniques.
 1. Conduct training in a controlled, safe environment.
- C. The use of the Range is restricted to the officers of the Department and those persons and/or organizations approved by the Chief of Police or designee.
- D. Rules governing firearm practices and safety procedures are posted at the Range by the Range Sergeant.
- E. The Range will be open for regularly scheduled qualifications on designated days throughout the year.
- F. At all times, the Range Sergeant is in complete charge of the Range and all shooting.
- G. Shooting is not allowed at any time unless the Range Sergeant or designee is present.
 1. Only the Range Sergeant or designee issues instructions and commands for firearms qualifications. [ALEAP 14.4D]
- H. Access to all equipment is limited to the Training Section Lieutenant or Range Sergeant or designee.
- I. No ammunition or cartridge casings are to be removed from the range area without prior permission from the Range Sergeant.
- J. No "hot loads" or armor piercing rounds are allowed on the Range.
- K. The Range Sergeant and members assigned to the Range are to undergo **an annual audiometric examination** and blood testing for lead contamination.
- L. The Range Sergeant and members assigned to the Range receive **annual training** in hearing conservation.

3. SAFETY RULES

- A. The Range Sergeant develops and publishes, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police, Firearms Range Safety Regulations.

MESA POLICE Department Policy Manual	MPD Firearms Range	DPM 2.10.10 Effective 01/10/2013 Revised 06/08/2021
Approved by: Chief of Police	Chapter: Specialized Units	Page: 2 of 3

- B. These rules are posted at the Firearms Range and officers are subject to them during all firearms training or qualifications.
- C. In addition to those rules posted at the Range, follow the subsequent procedures:
 - 1. Never handle a firearm until the action has been opened to see if the weapon is loaded, then check again.
 - 2. Never give a firearm to anyone or take it from anyone until the action has been opened and left open.
 - 3. Never point a firearm at anyone.
- D. Officers are to wear eye and ear protection and a visor hat, as directed, when on the firing line.
- E. The Range Sergeant or instructor conducting a course shall:
 - 1. Wear a khaki/tan or light grey instructor's long- or short-sleeved shirt with "Firearms Instructor" below the official MPD emblem. Eye and ear protection and a visor hat will be worn at all times while conducting firearms training.
 - 2. Stay within close proximity of shooters to maintain verbal control as the shooters complete the course.
- F. The mixing of lethal ammunition and simunitions has an increased potential of creating serious injuries or firearms-related deaths during training. The use of simunition guns (blue bolt, blue guns, or any derivative) or simunitions in the Live Fire House and all ranges are prohibited.

4. OTHER AGENCY USE

- A. An outside agency or a group using the MPD Range is required to operate under the safety rules established by the MPD.
- B. Prior to their initial use, a representative of each agency, public or private, is to obtain authorization from the Chief of Police.
 - 1. A copy of this authorization is kept on file in the Training Section.
- C. An approved instructor must be present at all times to supervise firearms training.
 - 1. Approved instructors who are qualified to serve as range instructors:
 - a. AZPOST Firearms Instructors.
 - b. NRA Law Enforcement Firearms Instructor.
 - c. Federal Law Enforcement Firearms Instructor (FLEFI).

5. RANGE SERGEANT RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The Range Sergeant is in charge of the Range and its operations at all times, regardless of the rank of the officers on the Range.

MESA POLICE Department Policy Manual	MPD Firearms Range	DPM 2.10.10 Effective 01/10/2013 Revised 06/08/2021
Approved by: Chief of Police	Chapter: Specialized Units	Page: 3 of 3

- B. The Range Sergeant is responsible for the scheduling of all qualification shoots and developing all firearms training.
- C. All firearms lesson plans are to be approved by the Range Sergeant prior to instruction.
- D. Only those persons who have been certified as NRA Firearms Instructors, AZPOST Firearms Instructors, or FLEFIs and who have been certified as AZPOST Instructors, or who have had AZPOST Instructor certification waived by AZPOST, are used as instructors. [ALEAP 14.4D]
- E. The Range Sergeant maintains a permanent certification log for every officer authorized to carry a firearm. The log consists of the following information:
[ALEAP 14.4D] [ALEAP 1.5]
 - 1. Officer's name and serial number. [ALEAP 1.5]
 - 2. Certified on-duty weapon make, model, caliber, serial number, ammunition issued, qualification scores, type of qualification course shot, and Range Sergeant/Instructor's name. [ALEAP 1.5]
 - 3. Certified secondary and/or off-duty weapon make, model, caliber, serial number, ammunition issued, qualification scores, type of qualification course shot, and Range Sergeant/Instructor's name. [ALEAP 1.5]
 - 4. Rifle and Less-Lethal Shotgun Certification, including date of certification, make, model and serial number of the weapon used, qualification score, and type of qualification course shot.
- F. The Range Sergeant is responsible for issuing, maintaining, and budgeting all ammunition and range supplies for the Department. [ALEAP 1.5]