



# **NEW CASTLE COUNTY POLICE**

## Firearms Training Simulator (F.A.T.S.)

### **DIRECTIVE 1**

Appendix 1-M

(MAY 10, 2013)

# **NEW CASTLE COUNTY DIVISION OF POLICE** **FIREARMS TRAINING SIMULATOR (F.A.T.S.)**

## **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure is to define the policy and procedures for the New Castle County Division of Police Firearms Training Simulator, hereafter referred to as F.A.T.S. F.A.T.S. is a state-of-the-art video training firearms simulator, which effectively reinforces marksmanship skills, judgmental shoot/don't shoot training objectives, and less lethal and general weapons familiarization skills. The single screen configuration includes both marksmanship training and scenario based video training modes to provide a multi-tiered program. The flexibility, advanced features and authoring tools of F.A.T.S. allows for customized training to meet ever changing shooting trends.

## **II. POLICY**

It is the policy of the New Castle County Division of Police that the F.A.T.S. is an officially endorsed training system for this Division. All sworn personnel will have access to the F.A.T.S. in coordination with recommended annual training **for firearms, TASER, and other less lethal weapons.**

## **III. PROCEDURES**

### **A. Utilization**

1. Only F.A.T.S. certified instructors are authorized to operate the F.A.T.S. and must be present during all training use.
2. F.A.T.S. instructors must follow the approved lesson plan for all annual training or other designated training as authorized by the Primary Firearms Instructor.
3. **All** F.A.T.S. usage must be documented on a training attendance sheet for training documentation and input into the personnel database system. Training attendance sheets can be located in the F.A.T.S. Training Log book in the F.A.T.S. room.
4. There is no restriction to the F.A.T.S. hours of operation. However, usage should have minimum impact to Division operations.

5. F.A.T.S. instructors must make proper notification to and receive authorization from the effected unit's commander prior to training personnel.

B. Safety

1. Absolutely no live weapons (Firearms, TASER, etc.) or ammunition will be authorized in the F.A.T.S. room. Weapons and ammunition will be stored in the Division-approved gun lockers located outside of the F.A.T.S. room.
2. During use, all standard range and firearms safety rules are to be adhered to at all times. (Refer to Appendix #1-C, Division Firearms Policy.)
3. Instructors must ensure that all personnel who have completed F.A.T.S. training recite the end-of-training safety phrase prior to exiting the F.A.T.S. room. The safety phrase can be found posted on the wall inside the F.A.T.S. room.

a. Safety Phrase:

*"I acknowledge that I have concluded training, and I am returning to full duty with a live weapon and ammunition."*

#### **IV. TRAINING**

The F.A.T.S. will be utilized for specific training purposes as follows:

- A. Annual training will be coordinated by the Primary Firearms Instructor. It will be conducted by the Primary Firearms Instructor or designee and will be in accordance with a documented lesson plan for consistency in departmental training. Training will be judgmental and marksmanship scenario based.
- B. Remedial training will be conducted by the Primary Firearms Instructor or designee and will be in response to an official request for remedial training submitted to the Professional Development Unit by the Professional Standards Unit or supervisor, as per remedial training policy. (Refer to Directive 33, Training and Career Development.) Training will be customized according to the identified deficiency.

- C. Post Officer Involved Shooting exercise is done in conjunction with the live-fire range exercise. It will be based on the needs of the individual officer. This scenario based training should attempt to put the officer into similar situations encountered during the officer's incident.
- D. Specialized training can be authorized by the Primary Firearms Instructor or designee and can be conducted to enhance marksmanship skills.

## **V. EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE**

- A. The F.A.T.S. is located at NCCPD Headquarters in Room B03. This room is secured with limited access to authorized police personnel.
- B. When not in use, the F.A.T.S. will be turned off accordingly, the room's lights will be turned off, and the room's doors will be secured.
- C. Authorized and unauthorized access to the F.A.T.S. room will be monitored and documented via the NCCPD Headquarters security camera/video system.
- D. A maintenance log book will be used to document daily use of the F.A.T.S.
  - 1. Instructors will note the date and whether the F.A.T.S. functioned properly.
  - 2. Instructors must document system/equipment issues or failures in maintenance log book and also report them to the Primary Firearms Instructor via email.
  - 3. All F.A.T.S. equipment will be checked monthly by the Primary Firearms Instructor or designee and documented in the maintenance log book.
- E. System/equipment failures or discrepancies beyond basic instructor maintenance are to be resolved by a certified F.A.T.S. maintenance technician.
  - 1. The Primary Firearms Instructor or designee is responsible for contacting the F.A.T.S. maintenance technician and ensuring that all reported failures/discrepancies are resolved.

- F. The Primary Firearms Instructor or designee is responsible for replenishing the CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> tanks as needed.

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OTHER REFERENCES

DIRECTIVE 33  
Training and Career Development

APPENDIX #1-C  
Division Firearms Policy