

LAW ENFORCEMENT SEMINARS LLC SYLLABUS

Course Title

COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE AWARENESS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

Length of Course

12 HOURS

History and Purpose

Law enforcement agencies and officers are responsible for enforcing laws, maintaining public order, and managing public safety on roads and highways. Police officers strive to promote driver compliance to traffic laws and regulations in an effort to prevent dangerous road obstructions and to protect the safety of all participating in transportation.

Traffic enforcement requires an understanding of Commercial Motor Vehicle laws and regulations as well as procedures to safely conduct a stop of a Commercial Motor Vehicle. This course will assist officers during traffic stops with procedures to properly verify Commercial Driver's Licenses in accordance with federal law and to inspect the driver's medical cards.

Participants

This course is designed for Patrol Officers, Traffic Unit Personnel and Patrol Supervisors.

COURSE COMPOSITION

	<u>HOURS</u>
1.1 Administrator's Guide, Introduction, and Course Overview	0.5
1.2 Defining Commercial Motor Vehicle, Safe Stop and Approach	1.5
1.3 CDL, Registration, IRP, Tax Regulations and Enforcement	2.0
1.4 Hours of Service and Logbooks, Revisions	1.5
1.5 Dimensions, Escorts, Permits, Moving and Equipment Violations	2.0
1.6 Hazardous Materials and Emergency Response Guidebook	1.25
1.7 Commercial Motor Vehicle Accidents	1.5
1.8 Uniform Traffic Ticket and Counter Terrorism Interdiction	1.25
1.9 Summary/Critique/Graduation	0.5

Course Goals

Upon completion of this seminar, the participants will be able to:

- **Properly observe moving violations that provide cause to stop a Commercial Motor Vehicle. Safely stop and approach a CMV and verify Commercial Driver's Licenses.**
- **Accurately fill out a Motor Vehicle Accident Report involving a CMV as well as properly issue a traffic citation under the Federal Motor Vehicle Law or local state law.**
- **Check a driver's logbook for accuracy and fraud.**

Class Title: Introduction and Course Overview

Learning Goal: Instructors will describe goals and objectives, as well as student responsibilities during the course. An overview of the course material will be presented. Instructor and students will self-introduce. During this time the instructor will review terminology related to Commercial Motor Vehicle laws and enforcement.

Performance Objectives: Students will have an understanding of course content and topical areas. Students will also have a practical knowledge of the nomenclature of commercial motor vehicles in the law enforcement environment.

Class Title: Defining Commercial Motor Vehicle, Safe Stop and Approach

Learning Goal: The instructor will provide examples of the different types of commercial motor vehicles in use by companies and define their variances. During this segment the instruction will be given for safe stops and approaches to commercial motor vehicles in varying circumstances.

Performance Objectives: Students will be able recognize and understand the difference between vehicles such as a box truck, straight truck, tractors, tractor trailers and other commonly used commercial vehicles. The students will understand the common approaches to stopping commercial vehicles and the importance of a safe stopping location.

Class Title: Commercial Driver's Licenses, Commercial Vehicle Registration, International Registration Plans (IRP), Tax Regulations and Enforcement

Learning Goal: Instruction will be provided regarding the various levels of commercial driver's licenses available in the transportation industry as required by Federal Department of Transportation Regulations. Students will be able to identify a valid Commercial Driver's License for enforcement purposes. Students will be taught to recognize vehicle registration documentation by cab card (IRP requirements) review.

Performance Objectives: Students will learn to recognize the different levels of Commercial Drivers Licenses that the Department of Transportation issues for commercial vehicles and understand the validity of the license. Students will recognize each type of license and the

circumstances of usage depending on the level of CDL in their possession. Students will understand the limits of enforcement base on their DOT certification level. Students will be able to read a cab card to obtain the proper license plate number, vehicle identification number, year, make, and model of the vehicle to ensure the stopped vehicle matches cab are documentation.

Class Title: Tax Permits, Hours of Service, Logbooks, Revisions

Learning Goal: Students will be instructed in the variety of tax permits that are required to obtain a Commercial Driver’s License in their respective states. Students will gain a basic understanding of logbooks and regulations regarding driver’s hours of service.

Performance Objectives: Students will be able to identify and understand the AFC certificate of registration for vehicles over 18,000 pounds, the international fuel tax agreement (IFTA) sticker and any other permits that apply to their respective states. Students will demonstrate how to read properly completed logbook.

Class Title: Dimensions, Escorts, Permits, Moving and Equipment Violations

Learning Goal: Students will gain a basic understanding of the different types of permits required and used to escort vehicles associated with oversized loads. Students will also learn to proper procedure to develop and obtain probable cause for a commercial vehicle stop.

Performance Objectives: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the requirements for the number of escorts required for oversized loads. Each student will give an example of a moving violation that they would find on a commercial motor vehicle and then be able to articulate the procedures that would be required to process the stop.

Class Title: Hazardous Materials and Emergency Response Guidebook

Learning Goal: Student will gain a basic understanding of hazardous materials and the required placards and proper placement of those placards on the CMV based on the nature of the hazardous load.

Performance Objectives: Students will be able to properly recognize a hazardous material load and take enforcement action based on the proper display of legally required placards on the vehicle.

Class Title: Commercial Motor Vehicle Accidents

Learning Goal: Students will learn the necessary information required to complete an accident report on a Commercial Motor Vehicle and understand the types of information that will be requested regarding the accident during any civil proceedings related to the accident.

Performance Objectives: Students will be able to demonstrate how to properly work, record and provide a DOT number to a commercial motor vehicle accident report. Students

will also understand the importance of this information for any future litigation.

Class Title: Interdiction

Learning Goal: Students will learn how Commercial Motor Vehicles are used in organized crime and the importance of CMV interdiction efforts by law enforcement to counter the use of a CMV in criminal enterprise.

Performance Objectives: Students will be able to provide examples of how organized crime uses Commercial Motor Vehicles in transportation of illegal materials in their illicit efforts.

Class Title: Summary/Critique/Graduation

Learning Goal: The instructor will provide students an opportunity for questions and answers of any previously covered material. Course evaluations will be completed, and certificates will be distributed.

Performance Objectives: Students will clarify any misunderstanding they may have from the course material. Students will also have an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the program and instructional staff.