

Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office
Lompico Evacuation Training Expanded Course Outline
10 Hours

COURSE GOAL: To provide patrol deputies with the knowledge and practical experience necessary to effectively support wildfire evacuation operations in rural communities. This training focuses on fire behavior awareness, incident command coordination, area familiarization, communication challenges, and evacuation route management within the Lompico area.

AUDIENCE: Deputy Sheriffs

LOCATION: Lompico Corridor

DATES: May 13th, May 28th

HOURS: 0800-1600 / 10 hours

INSTRUCTOR: Lt. Baldwin

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Under the supervision of qualified instructors, each student will:

- Understand wildfire risks and environmental hazards that impact evacuation operations.
- Learn evacuation priorities and considerations during rapidly evolving fire incidents.
- Improve familiarity with the Lompico area, including primary and alternate evacuation routes.
- Identify communication limitations and operational gaps in areas with reduced or no cellular service.
- Demonstrate the ability to navigate and coordinate resources without reliance on cellular mapping applications.
- Understand the role of patrol personnel within the Incident Command System (ICS) during evacuation incidents.
- Practice directing evacuation resources, conducting notifications, and managing traffic flow during a simulated evacuation event.

MORNING BRIEFING

Introductions

1. Instructors and evaluators
2. Training objectives and expectations
3. Safety considerations
4. Radio channels and communications plan
5. Area maps and route assignments

Safety Briefing

1. Vehicle safety during rural operations
2. Fire weather and environmental hazards
3. Situational awareness in low-visibility conditions
4. Downed power lines and hazardous infrastructure

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5. Narrow roadway and limited access considerations
6. Accountability procedures for field personnel

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

I. Wildland Fire & Evacuation Overview (CalFire Instruction – 2 Hours)

- A. Fire Behavior and Spread
 1. Topography impacts on fire movement
 2. Wind-driven fire behavior
 3. Fuel loading and vegetation concerns
 4. Ember cast and spot fires
 5. Rapid fire growth considerations
- B. Evacuation Priorities
 1. Life safety priorities
 2. Notification strategies
 3. Evacuation warnings vs evacuation orders
 4. Access and egress concerns
 5. Vulnerable populations and special needs residents
 6. Traffic congestion and choke points
- C. Rural Operational Challenges
 1. Limited communications infrastructure
 2. Limited turnaround locations
 3. One-way in / one-way out roadways
 4. Dead-end roads and private driveways
 5. Resource staging limitations
 6. Coordination with fire resources
- D. Law Enforcement Role During Evacuations
 1. Door-to-door notifications
 2. Traffic control and road closures
 3. Evacuation zone security
 4. Maintaining responder access routes
 5. Public information coordination
 6. Coordination with Incident Command

Incident Command & Resource Coordination

- A. ICS Overview
 1. Establishing Incident Command
 2. Patrol supervisor responsibilities
 3. Unified Command concepts
 4. Span of control considerations
 5. Resource tracking and accountability
- B. Patrol Resource Deployment
 1. Assigning evacuation zones
 2. Radio communication discipline
 3. Coordinating mutual aid resources
 4. Reporting evacuation progress
 5. Prioritizing high-risk areas
- C. Communication Challenges

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1. Identifying cellular dead zones
2. Radio coverage limitations
3. Alternate communication methods
4. Relay communications through field units
5. Maintaining situational awareness without mobile data

Field Evacuation Exercise – Lompico Area

- A. Area Familiarization
 1. Primary evacuation routes
 2. Alternate evacuation routes
 3. Roadway bottlenecks
 4. Bridge and access limitations
 5. Turnaround locations for emergency vehicles
 6. Mapping critical infrastructure locations
- B. Navigation Exercise
 1. Navigation without cellular service
 2. Utilizing paper maps and radio direction
 3. Locating assigned evacuation zones
 4. Coordinating movement between operational areas
- C. Simulated Evacuation Operations
 1. Resource deployment from staging
 2. Establishing traffic control points
 3. Conducting evacuation notifications
 4. Managing simulated resident interactions
 5. Reporting progress updates to command
 6. Coordinating movement of incoming resources
- D. Communication Assessment
 1. Testing radio coverage throughout the operational area
 2. Identifying communication gaps
 3. Documenting locations with limited connectivity
 4. Evaluating alternate communication solutions

Operational Considerations & Debrief

- A. Lessons Learned
 1. Challenges encountered during navigation
 2. Communication limitations identified
 3. Resource coordination improvements
 4. Alternate route effectiveness
 5. Recommendations for future incidents
- B. Debrief Discussion
 1. Patrol observations
 2. Supervisor feedback
 3. Coordination with Fire personnel
 4. Area-specific operational concerns
 5. Future training recommendations
- C. Training Conclusion
 1. Collection of maps and materials
 2. Equipment accountability

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3. Final safety check
4. Completion of training documentation