

Use of Firearm Simulators by BSIS Firearm Training Facilities and Instructors

The purpose of requiring a BSIS Firearms Permit applicant to complete a course of training on the carrying and use of a firearm is to provide the individual with the knowledge and skills to safely handle and use the type and caliber of handgun that he or she will use when on duty. The purpose for requiring a BSIS Firearms Permit holder to complete firearm range qualifications and review training courses is for the individual to demonstrate continued proficiency in the handling and use of a firearm.

If a BSIS certified Firearm Training Facility/Instructor employs a firearm simulation system to provide the required firearm training for a BSIS Firearm Permit, it is imperative that the simulator provide the exact experience of carrying and firing a firearm. If the exact experience of firing an actual firearm cannot be replicated with the firearm simulator, then the training is not being provided in accordance with the intent and requirements of the BSIS Firearms Training Manual.

Factors that constitute an exact experience of firing an actual firearm include but are not limited to:

- The student must qualify with the type (revolver or semi-automatic) and caliber weapon he or she will carry on duty.
- The student must be able to demonstrate the knowledge and skills of loading, unloading and clearing a jam in the same manner and consistent with the firearm that he or she will use while on duty.
- The student must experience the same weight, recoil, action, flash and sound with the firearm simulator as he or she would experience firing the actual firearm that he or she will use while on duty.

In those cases where firearm simulation equipment is used to provide a BSIS Firearm Permit applicant with firearm training, the qualifying 50 rounds for practice and 50 rounds for score should be carried out with live ammunition and with an actual firearm. Having a student qualify on an actual firearm with live ammunition is the only means for the student to demonstrate proficiency with an actual firearm.

Questions regarding the requirements for obtaining a BSIS Firearm Permit, including training, may be directed to facilitiesandinstructors.dca@dca.ca.gov.

January 2015