

# RANGE SAFETY RULES

### = Fundamental Safety Rules =

- 1. Treat all firearms as always loaded.
- 2. Never point the muzzle of the firearm at anything that you are not willing to kill or destroy.
- 3. Keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until your sights are on target and you have decided to fire the handgun, shotgun or rifle.
- 4. Be sure of your target, the surrounding area and what is behind it.

### = Safety Equipment and Attire =

- 5. Always wear eye and ear protection when shooting. Wear a baseball style ball cap or sun visor for auto eject weapons.
- 6. If your division or agency has issued you a bullet resistant vest, it is optional and recommended wear during all "live fire" exercises.
- 7. Dress appropriately for officers being paid by their agency. No tank tops, sandals, open toed shoes, shorts or clothing (blue denim) resembling inmates incarcerated at the NNCC prison facility.

## = Range and Firing Line Safety =

- 8. If you lose control of the pistol, revolver, rifle or shotgun, do not try to catch it.
- 9. On this range, never anticipate a command.
- 10. Do not bend over to pick anything up or move forward of the firing line until told to do so by the range safety officer.
- 11. If you are unsure of what to do, how to do it or when to do it, **re-holster your handgun first or keep it safely pointed down range** before asking the range safety officer. Do not ask another participant!
- 12. If you have an emergency, such as a hot shell casing down the shirt, **re-holster your handgun first** before taking the appropriate action.
- 13. Treat every handgun, shotgun or rifle as if it can fire at anytime, whether or not there is pressure on the trigger. This caution also applies to a "hang fire." In a range setting, keep the muzzle down range for at least 11 seconds before checking the pistol, rifle or shotgun.
- 14. Check every round that you load for correct caliber, style or gauge of ammunition. Examine each cartridge for deformities or irregularities. Report any concerns to the range safety officer.
- 15. Be sure that the barrel is clear of obstructions before shooting. This caution also applies to a "squib" load.
- 16. At the conclusion of the firing exercises and at the direction of the range safety officer, the participant shall remove the magazine from the auto-pistol, rack the slide back, visually and physically inspect the firing chamber and remove any live ammunition from the auto-pistol. The participant will hold the unloaded auto-pistol down range in a "low ready" position with the slide locked back. A range safety officer will inspect the pistol. If the pistol is found to be safe, the range safety officer will tell the participant to release the slide and holster a safe and unloaded firearm.
- 17. A range safe handgun is defined as unloaded with no magazine in the magazine well. The handgun is securely placed in the holster with the slide forward and the retention snap engaged. For safety purposes the participant will follow all of the four fundamental safety rules when removing it from the holster for cleaning, loading or firing.

#### = Range Requirements =

- 18. Know the mechanism and the handling characteristics of your firearms before coming to the range.
- 19. Unless instructed otherwise, this is a **silent** range. All questions or comments will be directed to the range safety officer.
- 20. Immediately report an unsafe condition to the range safety officer. Range safety is the responsibility of everyone.
- 21. Do not consume alcoholic beverages or certain prescribed or non-prescribed medications or drugs twelve (12) hours of arriving at the range.
- 22. Do not have chewing gum, smokeless tobacco, lozenges or related items in the mouth during the firing exercises. The NNCC range is a tobacco free area. Leave your cigarettes and chewing tobacco in your car. If you must smoke or chew, please leave the facility.

#### = Classroom Safety =

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