

TRANSITIONING FROM THE PATROL RIFLE® TO THE PISTOL IS A PIECE OF CAKE, EXCEPT WHEN IT MUST BE DONE UNDER LIFE-THREATENING STRESS

42% - That's the hit rate of 24 seasoned LEO's while transitioning from the rifle to the pistol from a standing position at 6 yards in the scenario you see in this video. The total video length is roughly 20 seconds. These LEO's have been on the job for some time and collectively, they have lots of experience, including attending many different firearms schools throughout their careers.

Of the 24 LEO's who recently attended our Patrol Rifle Instructor schools over the last two weeks, here is the performance breakdown:

- 3 decided not to take the shot. These officers' transitions were very slow, missing their opportunity to hit the bad guy in the open before he grabbed a little girl to use as human shield. They wisely did not force a shot.
- 10 hit the bad guy.
- 3 forced shots and hit a hostage.
- 8 fired and missed the bad guy and the hostages.

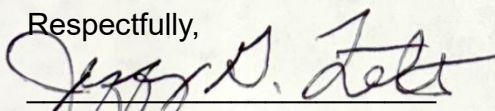
My takeaway based on this very small sample of 24 LEO's, and 20+ years of watching this scenario with undocumented but similar results, is that as a profession, we need to up the importance and realism of the transition training we are providing.

Progressive instructors will induce stress to invoke a faster transition to make the training more realistic. That is awesome, but please don't forget about how important accuracy after the transition is for your student's survival. If you're not doing that, please consider doing so at future training sessions. Think about it for a second; if an officer must transition to the pistol the situation is already an adrenaline-dumping life-threatening experience that they must navigate to survive.

Using this live-fire technology I continue to be amazed at how often LEO's miss and with how many shots officers often fire using semi-automatic weapon systems. It's very common to watch them blast multiple rounds (like 3-6) and most of those rounds are often misses. When I ask students why they fired so many rounds instead of concentrating on making a hit with the first round, they generally say that it's been embedded in them to fire until the threat stops. This makes me wonder about the clarity of the training they have received as the answer implies that missing is ok so long as you eventually hit the target. I gently remind these officers that we are not on the battlefield of Iraq or Afghanistan and that they are accountable for every single round they fire. My conclusion based on three decades of training LEO's is that missing in training and on the street is somehow generally acceptable. I do my very best to influence them to become the enemy of missing any time they fire a weapon.

Thank you for taking a minute to read this and I hope you find this information useful.

Respectfully,



Ofc. Jeff Felts (ret.)

President | Center Mass, Inc. | www.centermassinc.com