CENTER MASS

General safety:

- **1.** Safety is everyone's job during firearms and tactical training. Anyone is authorized and encouraged to halt any training evolution whenever they see, perceive, or even sense any danger.
- **2.** Always listen to the instructor's directions and commands. Pay special attention in live fire training areas, at the firing line, or other locations where live fire or un-holstered or uncased weapons may be present.
- **3.** The use of, or being under the influence of alcohol and or illegal substances is strictly prohibited. Additionally, being under the influences of prescription or over the counter drugs to the point that could impair judgment or motor skills is also prohibited.
- 4. Leave all wild life alone.
- 5. Smoke only in designated areas.
- **6.** Ensure you hydrate, have sun block, bug juice, and clothing appropriate for the environment (heat, cold, wet weather)
- **7.** Firearms training (shooting) and cleaning weapons in unventilated areas exposes shooters to low levels of lead and other hazardous materials which can over a period of time be harmful if ingested regularly. Therefore, proper personal hygiene such as hand washing before eating, smoking, hugging loved ones in the clothes you wore shooting, and other common sense precautions must be taken by students to protect themselves and their families.
- 8. Loaded firearms should never be left unsecured or unattended for any reason whatsoever.
- 9. Abide by all local training facility rules and all laws.

Training area safety:

- **1.** Upon entering the training facility or training area assume your weapon(s) is loaded and do not handle, unholster, or uncase your weapon until you are directed to do so by an instructor in an area designated by the instructor for unloading or checking the condition of weapons.
- **2.** If for any reason you leave a training session and return to the session later, you must not resume training until you have checked back in with an instructor and verified that your weapon is unloaded.
- 3. All loading and or unloading of firearms must be done in an authorized area.

Weapon safety: Is a human function that is a direct result of proper training and good common sense.

- **1.** Treat all firearms as if they are loaded until you personally have visually and/or physically confirmed that the weapon is unloaded and safe.
 - **a.** When rendering any firearm safe, the first step is to keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. A safe direction is generally at the ground.
 - **b.** Typically, the second and subsequent steps are as follows; attempt to place the weapon on safe, remove the source of feed, lock the bolt or action open, visually / physically check the chamber for a loaded round (bullet) and remove same if present.

- 2. Never point a firearm at anything you are not willing and justified to shoot.
 - **a.** Always practice muzzle discipline and awareness and always be mindful of where your weapons muzzle is pointed.
- **3.** Keep your finger off the trigger of any firearm until you intend to shoot. When you are done shooting remove your finger from the trigger.
- **4.** Check beyond your target before you shoot to ensure innocent persons are not endangered and that there is adequate backstop to stop any rounds you fire.
- **5.** Do not allow other students to handle your weapon and do not handle weapons belonging to others unless specifically authorized to do so by an instructor.

Firing line safety:

- **1.** At the firing line or designated live fire area, if you see someone down range or some other safety violation or concern you should immediately raise your weak hand and shout "cease fire"!
- **2.** On the firing line or designated live fire area un-holstered pistols/revolvers or uncased rifles that are being handled must always be pointed down range or at the ground.
- **3.** During any live fire evolution you are encouraged to scan for additional threats, however, your muzzle must always remain pointed down range or at the ground to include the circumstance where an instructor or coach approaches you to observe your shooting or make a correction.
- **4.** At the firing line or at such other location where live fire is authorized, if you have a problem/malfunction with your weapon and you cannot correct the problem by an approved method, keep the weapon pointed down range and raise your weak hand and call for an instructor.
- **5.** Do not move off the firing line until you have been authorized to do so by an instructor.
- 6. Never move forward of the firing line until told to do so by an instructor.
- 7. Never handle or adjust your weapons when others are down range.
- **8.** Never allow your barrel to rise over the top of the backstop down range. Keep your barrel below the berm or impact area at all times.
- **9.** No firearm is ever to be taken off the firing line until it has been made safe and checked by an instructor or designee, unless "hot range" rules are authorized by the instructors.
- **10.** During rifle training where a shooter and coach method is in use, the coach's rifle must be placed on the deck, uniformly in line, fifteen feet rearward of the firing line, point perpendicular to the firing line, with the safety engaged, source of feed remove and bolt open.
- **11.** While off the firing line and while you are coaching, reloading, or waiting in line to shoot during "hot" range operations, your sidearm must be holstered and snapped in, and rifles must be placed on "safe" and slung so as to point downward at the ground at all times. Special attention must be placed on muzzle awareness when bending over.