



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF TACTICAL OFFICERS

SWAT Team Leader Course

Date: October 12-16, 2026
POST Control #: 1185-23015-26001
POST Plan: IV
Tuition: \$690.00
Location: Best Western Island Palms Hotel and Marina
2051 Shelter Island Drive
San Diego, CA 92106
(619) 222-0561

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This 40-hour course is designed for law enforcement SWAT Team Leaders. It is not about tactics, but rather the fundamental doctrinal principles from which all tactics are derived. The concepts, principles, and methodologies discussed have universal applications and can be applied to any unfolding dynamic tactical problem regardless of the size or nature of the event. Skills learned will be reinforced through a series of case studies, games, and practical exercises. Instruction consists of classroom discussion, student involvement by way of group exercises, tabletop exercises, presentations, and case reviews of tactical incidents. This course focuses on tactical decision-making as well as the guidelines of Penal Code Section 13514.1 and the POST SWAT Operational Guidelines and Standardized Training Recommendations (2019). ***Please DO NOT bring any weapons or tactical equipment to this course.***

COURSE INSTRUCTORS: This course is taught by a cadre of instructors with extensive SWAT experience at various ranks including operator, team leader, and commander. The instructors represent agencies of various sizes from throughout the state, providing a broad range of perspectives from which they will offer comprehensive solutions to new team leaders in the special operations community.

STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING: A laptop computer that has PowerPoint installed and the ability to connect to a projector. There are tactical exercises during the course that students will use to develop and present tactical plans.

LODGING: Class will begin at 0800 hours on the first day and conclude at 1200 hours on the last day. CATO has secured a block of rooms at the Island Palms Hotel and Marina at the government rate of \$155.00 per night plus tax. Please make reservations on or before September 23, 2026 by calling (619) 222-0561 and advise the hotel that you are with the CATO SWAT Team Leader to secure this rate or by using this link https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.05326.html?groupid=5W7EH6M9.

Register online at catotraining.org
Questions? Contact CATO's Training Coordinator
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