



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF TACTICAL OFFICERS

Tactical Rappel Master Course

Date: May 11-14, 2026
POST Control #: 1185-33579-25001
POST Plan: IV
Tuition: \$1,308
Location: San Jose FD Training Center
1591 Senter Road
San Jose, CA 95112

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to provide SWAT team members with the ability to instruct Tactical Rope Access (or equivalent) to SWAT personnel. In addition to rappel techniques, students will be taught how rope access techniques can assist SWAT tactics for a variety of scenarios. Students will teach other students throughout the week and prepare a training presentation as part of the final exam. The course covers instructing/training SWAT Team members in:

- Tactical application of rope access standards
- Development of training plans
- Equipment selection, maintenance, inspection, and documentation
- Rappel tower operations (inspection, safety rigging, briefing, rope inspection, conduct of operations, de-rigging, collection, and storage)
- Evaluation of team abilities and capabilities
- Practical application of anchors, belaying, descending, rope rescue, raising/lowering systems, and mechanical advantages
- PACE (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, Emergency) methodology for rope operations

Taught by a team of highly skilled professionals with extensive experience in rope operations led by Dana Vilander, a 32-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department where he spent over 25 years at the Special Enforcement Bureau working K-9, SWAT, Air Rescue/SAR and SWAT Paramedic. Dana has more than 30 years training both U.S. and international tactics, tactical medicine, rope access and rescue, and helicopter operations.

TRAVEL AND LODGING: This course will begin at 0800 on the first day and conclude at approximately 1700 on the last day. Recommended Hotel: Holiday Inn and Suites Silicon Valley 2660 Monterey Rd San Jose, CA 95111

Register online at catotraining.org

**Questions? Contact CATO's Training Coordinator
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