Los Angeles Port Police
Dive Team Orientation

Day One

0600-1030  **Introductions: team members & collateral candidates**
- Orientation overview
  - Welcome, congratulations & introductions (waivers)
  - Why they want to be on the team and their expectations
  - Expectations for training & call outs
    - Certified diver – begin diving in Jan
    - Non certified – hump equip & deckhand, once certified begin diving the 1st training dive after certification
    - Department will certify sometime between 4 & 6 months after showing commitment to the team & its mission
    - Min of 6 training dives & 6 dive calls per calendar year
  - Training – advanced diver (boat, deep, full face mask & navigation) training spring 2017
  - Advanced training classes fall 2017/2018
- Course Objectives
  - Introductions
  - Expectations
  - General history, guidelines & responsibilities
  - Discover Scuba Diving explanation & homework
- Team history
  - 1989 – The Los Angeles Port Police dive club was established and worked closely with US Customs and Border Protection to intercept illegally smuggled narcotics being attached to the hulls of vessels calling on the Port
    - Divers purchased their equipment & received training from now Lt Capodanno
  - 1990 – The team was formally recognized as a specialized unit within the Los Angeles Port Police Department after recovering drowning victims at Berth 68
    - Team continued to work closely with US Customs and Border Protection conducting hull searches
    - Began more involved with PSD diving and search techniques
  - 2001 - The team took a more aggressive posture on maritime domain awareness and the protection of the Port’s critical infrastructure. The team also partnered with regional agencies to form the PDOG (Port Dive Operations Group)
2008 – The Department created a permanently assigned dive unit consisting of 5 police officers (1 SGT + 4 OFCRS) and launched its underwater sonar program. In addition to public safety diving, the team took on the responsibility of conducting pre-emptive security sweeps of the Port’s critical infrastructure using sonar and remotely operated vehicles. Partnership w/NAVOCEANO

2009/2010 – dive team & its sonar program written into the Port of Los Angeles’ resiliency & reconstitution plan

dive team consists of 4 primary divers (1 vacancy), 4 non-divers (3 dive boat captains & 1 topside support) & 21 collateral divers. Our primary mission is to protect the Port of Los Angeles’ supply chain and transportation infrastructure. We accomplish the mission through pre-emptive searches of critical infrastructure, route sonar operations and hull searches of high value assets.

- Dive team manual
  - “G” drive
  - Dive team activity – 6 training dives & 6 dive calls
  - New divers will dive with an experienced diver until thorough evaluation and confirmation from the dive supervisor that they can now dive solo
  - Reporting
  - Right to refuse or cancel dive op
  - CFR 29 (FED OSHA)
- Team roles & responsibilities

- Underwater investigations
- Evidence recovery and salvage ops
- Body recoveries
- Critical infrastructure searches
- Hull searches of high asset vessels
- Dignitary sweeps
- Sonar surveys & channel conditioning

- Introduction to dive equipment
  - Wetsuit
  - Mask
  - Regulators, 1st stage and computer
  - Tank
  - BCD
  - Weights
  - Dive boots
  - Fins

1030-1100 Lunch
1100 - 1430  **Watermanship Assessment**

- **Exercise 1: 400 Yard Swim**
  
The diver must swim 200 yards without stopping using a forward stroke (free style, breast stroke and side stroke) and without using any swim aids such as a dive mask, fins, snorkel, or flotation device. Stopping or standing up in the shallow end of the pool at any pint during this exercise will constitute a failure of this evaluation station.

- **Exercise 2: 15 Minute Tread**
  
Using no swim aids and wearing only a swimsuit the diver will stay afloat by treading water, drown proofing, bobbing or floating for 10 minutes.

- **Exercise 3: 800 Yard Snorkel Swim (mask/snorkel & boots/fins)**
  
Using a dive mask, fins, snorkel, and a swimsuit (no BCD or other flotation aid) and swimming the entire time with the face in the water, the diver must swim non-stop for 800 yards. The diver must not use arms to swim at any time.

- **Exercise 4: 100 Yard Inert Rescue Tow (mask/snorkel & boots/fins)**
  
The swimmer must push or tow an inert victim wearing appropriate PPE (mask, snorkel and fins) on the surface 100 yards non-stop and without assistance.

- **Exercise 5: Free Dive to a depth of nine feet and retrieve an object (3lb weight)**
Day Two

0600 – 0630 **Review and wellness check**

0630 – 0830 **Discover to Scuba**
- Overview
- Standards
- Risks of scuba diving
  - Breathing rules
  - Hand signals
  - Explain the use of a mask, fins, BCD, regulator, pressure gauge and alternate air source
  - Exposure protection, weight system, etc.
- Breathing rules
- Equalization techniques
- Respect for aquatic life and avoiding potentially hazardous creatures
- Test

0830 – 0930 **Lunch**

1000 – 1200 **Discover Scuba (pool confined water)**
- Don/doff scuba equipment
- Demonstrate the following skills underwater
  - Breathing underwater
  - Regulator clearing
  - Regulator recovery
  - Mask clearing
  - Equalization techniques
  - Hand signals and underwater communication
  - Relaxation techniques

1230-1400
- Open Water dive
  - Berth 260 – orientation dive
    - Descent line & horizontal bar

1400-1430 **Wellness check, answer questions and secure equipment**