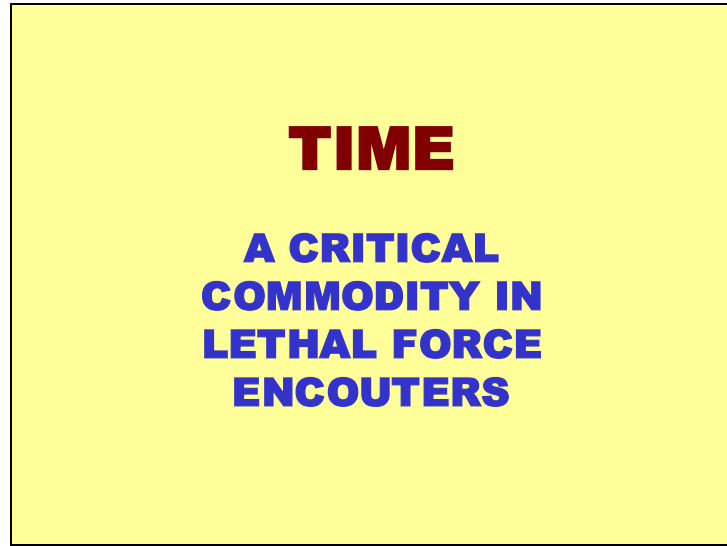


Slide 1



ATSA STUDY GROUP

MARCH 21, 2009

Slide 1

In any lethal force encounter, particularly those that initiate at distances of 10 feet or less, response time is of singular importance to the Practitioner.

The Practitioner must know the amount of time he needs from the point of recognition to the termination point of execution for response.

The Practitioner must also know the amount of time the VCA will need to complete his deployment and engagement.

Conditions that effect the amount of time needed

- **Distance**
- **Environment**
- **Weapons choice**
- **Weapons transport system**
 - **Clothing**
 - **Physicality**

Slide 3

DISTANCE

- **Distance = Time**
- **Recognition + Distance = +/- Time**
- **Distance + Transport System = Time**
- **Distance + Clothing = Time**

Slide 3

Distance = Time

The greater the distance from the problem when it is recognized the more time available to resolve the problem.

The best solution is to recognize the problem at a sufficient distance to avoid the need to confront the problem

The closer the problem the less time available to select a resolution scheme from an array of possibilities.

The closer the problem the fewer the possible resolution schemes.

Recognition + Distance = +/- Time

The closer the distance to the problem at the time of recognition the less time available.

Distance + Transport System = Time

Transport systems must make the chosen equipment immediately accessible.

They must rigidly hold the weapons system in place.

Flimsy holsters and common dress belts can not be relied upon.

Transport systems that force the body into attenuated positions to access the weapon require more time.

Reaching across or around the body takes more time.

- **Ankle holsters**
- **Shoulder holsters**
- **Cross draw holsters**
- **Back holsters**

Each of these requires extraordinary body movements to access the weapon. When the weapon is accessed the muzzle is not immediately on target and must be moved in a fashion that brings it to bear.

If the distance is at contact such transport systems can create access problems.

e.g. Dallas Stodenmier carried two revolvers. One in each of two holsters sewn as hip pockets. During a fight his arms were pinned to his sides by an antagonist who placed him in a bear-hug.

Distance + Clothing = Time

Clothing choices, or those imposed by weather conditions, effect the time needed to access the weapons system.

As a rule, only one layer of clothing should cover the weapon and the transport system.

Alternatively, a second weapon can be carried in an off-side exterior pocket for immediate access.

ENVIRONMENT

- **Environment can be used to increase the time available to assess the actuality and nature of the problem.**

Slide 4

When possible, Practitioners should select a location that allows the monitoring of activities in the area.

If there is some indication of a possible problem natural and/or man-made impediments can be used to confirm that VCA have focused their intentions on you.

Environmental impediments can also be used to reduce the obvious manner of weapons access by the Practitioner.

Similarly, the Practitioner should be aware of any use of such impediments by those suspected of hostile intent.

WEAPONS CHOICE

- **Size Matters**
- **Grip-frame size is most important.**
- **Service pistol and compacts are useable.**

Slide 5

Size Matters

Rapid acquisition of a master firing grip on a holstered hand gun must index the sights for one handed firing. The size of the grip frame, particularly those handguns with grip frames of greater girth, can effect the time needed to complete a one handed presentation that indexes the sights.

As a general rule, the smaller the weapon, the more time is needed to access quickly.

A possible exception is those weapons small enough to be accessed without noticed when carried in a pocket on outer-wear.

- **J-frames and sub-compact single stack magazine 9m/m's can be carried in outer garment jackets allowing surreptitious acquiring of a master firing grip.**

Grip-frame size is most important.

In circumstances where rapid acquisition of a master firing grip on a holstered pistol is needed the size of the grip frame can effect the time required to deploy the weapon.

Assuming hands in the average or better size range, full-length and compact length frames are better suited for rapid acquisition of a master firing grip.

Grip frame girth can effect the time required for acquiring a master firing grip that indexes the sights.

Service pistol and compacts are useable.

WEAPONS TRANSPORT SYSTEM

- **The Weapons Transport System Significantly Effects Time.**
- **The Weapons Transport System Should Compliment Body Mechanics.**

Slide 6

Weapons Transport System

The Weapons Transport System Significantly Effects Time.

The system must be reliable in maintaining the weapon in the location needed for a consistent, rapid deployment of the weapon.

Searching for the moved weapon requires time.

The Weapons Transport System Should Compliment Body Mechanics.

Time is effected when the weapon is, or is not in a location where the hands tend to spend a dominate amount of time.

Time is effected when the body or portions thereof must be contorted for the purpose of accessing the weapon.

CLOTHING

- **Clothing Effects Time**
- **Dealing with Clothing as an Impediment Effects Time.**
- **Clothing Can Be Used to Manipulate Time.**

Slide 7

Clothing

Clothing Effects Time

Generally, time required to acquire a master firing grip and deploy a weapon is reduced by open carry.

Dealing with Clothing as an Impediment Effects Time.

Time is required to move clothing out of the way of acquiring a master firing grip and completing a presentation.

The more layers of clothing, particularly heavy clothing, covering the weapon and transport system the more time required.

Clothing must have adequate body to allow it to be effectively moved out of the way of acquiring a master firing grip.

Thread count on suit material should not exceed Super 110.

Synthetic fleece material requires more time to move out of the way because it has little body and has a tendency to drag/cling on other material.

Clothing Can Be Used to Manipulate Time.

Brimmed hats can be used to mask acquisition of a master firing grip.

They can be used in a Frisbee fashion to be thrown at the head of a VCA to disrupt his presentation. They can be used to rake the eyes or slap the face of a VCA for the same purpose.

Jackets draped over the dominate side shoulder can be used for the same purposes.

Physicality

- **Time Can Be Manipulated By Physical Contact.**
- **Time Can Be Manipulated By Movement.**
- **Body Position Effects Time Requirements**

Slide 8

Time Can Be Manipulated By Physical Contact.

If a VCA has managed to get into immediate danger distance at the time he starts his presentation time can be manipulated by making physical contact with him.

- **Eye rake.**
- **Single or double palm heel strike to the diaphragm.**
- **Shoulder impact.**
- **Step to his rear and drive a single palm heel strike into the shoulder blade using your non-dominant hand while acquiring a master firing grip.**

Time Can Be Manipulated By Movement

As it becomes apparent the VCA is producing a weapon, movement forward and at a 45 degree angle will force a reorientation by the VCA. That will take usually .75 to 1.25 seconds.

Body Position Effects Time Requirements

The body position of the Practitioner at the time of recognition of need to do a presentation.

Standing, sitting, prone and supine all effect the amount of time needed.

MORE AMMO THAN TIME

- **Time Is Precious**
- **Know the Amount of Time the VCA Needs**
- **Know the Amount of Time You need**
- **Know How to Manipulate Time**