

Basic Course

Workbook Series

Student Materials

Learning Domain 39
Crimes Against the Justice System
Version Four

**Basic Course Workbook Series
Student Materials
Learning Domain 39
Crimes Against the Justice System
Version Four**

© Copyright 2006
California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)
All rights reserved.

Published 1999
Revised January 2000
Revised June 2002
Revised January 2006

This publication may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, in any form or by any means electronic or mechanical or by any information storage and retrieval system now known or hereafter invented, without prior written permission of the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, with the following exception:

California law enforcement or dispatch agencies in the POST program, POST-certified training presenters, and presenters and students of the California basic course instructional system are allowed to copy this publication for non-commercial use.

All other individuals, private businesses and corporations, public and private agencies and colleges, professional associations, and non-POST law enforcement agencies in-state or out-of-state may purchase copies of this publication, at cost, from POST as listed below:

From POST's Web Site:
www.post.ca.gov
Go to Ordering Student Workbooks

POST COMMISSIONERS

John Avila	Narcotics Detective Fresno County Sheriff's Department
Anthony W. Batts	Chief Long Beach Police Department
Lai Lai Bui	Sergeant Sacramento Police Department
Collene Campbell	Public Member
Robert G. Doyle	Sheriff Riverside County
Robert T. Doyle	Sheriff Marin County
Bonnie Dumanis	District Attorney San Diego County
Floyd Hayhurst	Deputy Sheriff Los Angeles County
Deborah Linden	Chief San Luis Obispo Police Department
Ronald Lowenberg	Director, Golden West College
Henry T. Perea	Councilman City of Fresno
Laurie Smith	Sheriff Santa Clara County
Michael Sobek	Sergeant San Leandro Police Department
Jerry Brown, Attorney General	Ex Officio Member Attorney General's Office
Hal Snow	Interim Executive Director

THE ACADEMY TRAINING MISSION

The primary mission of basic training is to prepare students mentally, morally, and physically to advance into a field training program, assume the responsibilities, and execute the duties of a peace officer in society.

FOREWORD

The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training sincerely appreciates the efforts of the many curriculum consultants, academy instructors, directors and coordinators who worked with POST to develop this workbook. The Commission extends its heartfelt appreciation to the California law enforcement agencies who freely offered personnel who gave of their time to participate in the development of this training material.

This student workbook is part of the POST Basic Course Training System. The workbook component of this system provides self-study documents for every learning domain that makes up the basic course. Each workbook is intended to be a supplement to, not a substitute for, classroom instruction. Its objective is to improve learning and retention of information by a student attending the academy.

The content of each workbook is organized into sequenced learning modules to meet requirements as proscribed both by California law and the POST Training and Testing Specifications for the Basic Course.

It is our hope that the collective wisdom and experience of all who contributed to this book helps you, the student, to successfully complete the academy course, to advance to the Field Training Officer program and to enjoy a safe and rewarding career as a peace officer serving the communities of California.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hal Snow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

HAL SNOW
Interim Executive Director

LD 39: Crimes Against the Justice System

Table of Contents

Topic	See Page
Preface	iii
Introduction	iii
How to Use the Student Workbook	iv
Chapter 1: Identifying and Classifying Crimes that Obstruct the Judicial Process	1-1
Overview	1-1
Intimidating Witnesses or Victims	1-3
Threats of Retaliation	1-6
Violating a Court Order	1-7
Chapter Synopsis	1-9
Workbook Learning Activities	1-10
Chapter 2: Identifying and Classifying Crimes of Obstruction of Law Enforcement	2-1
Overview	2-1
Resisting an Officer	2-3
Disarming an Officer	2-7
Escape	2-11
Rescue and Lynching	2-15
Chapter Synopsis	2-18
Workbook Learning Activities	2-19

Continued on next page

Table of Contents, Continued

Topic	See Page
Chapter 3: Identifying and Classifying Crimes Related to False Information	3-1
Overview	3-1
Providing False Identification	3-3
Falsely Reporting a Crime, or Emergency, or Destructive Device	3-5
Chapter Synopsis	3-10
Workbook Learning Activities	3-11
Chapter 4: Identifying and Classifying Crimes Against the Public Peace	4-1
Overview	4-1
Unlawful Assembly	4-2
Chapter Synopsis	4-5
Workbook Learning Activities	4-6
Glossary	G-1

Preface

Introduction

Student workbooks

The student workbooks are part of the POST Basic Course Instructional System. This system is designed to provide students with a self-study document to be used in preparation for classroom training.

Regular Basic Course training requirement

Completion of the Regular Basic Course is required, prior to exercising peace officer powers, as recognized in the California Penal Code and where the POST-required standard is the POST Regular Basic Course.

Student workbook elements

The following elements are included in each workbook:

- chapter contents, including a synopsis of key points,
 - supplementary material, and
 - a glossary of terms used in this workbook.
-

How to Use the Student Workbook

Introduction

This workbook provides an introduction to the training requirements for this Learning Domain. You may use the workbook in several ways: for initial learning, for test preparation, and for remedial training.

Workbook format

To use the workbook most effectively, follow the steps listed below.

Step	Action
1	Begin by reading the: Preface and How to Use the Workbook, which provide an overview of how the workbook fits into the POST Instructional System and how it should be used.
2	Refer to the Chapter Synopsis section at the end of each chapter to review the key points that support the chapter objectives.
3	Read the text.
4	Complete the Workbook Learning Activities at the end of each chapter. These activities reinforce the material taught in the chapter.
5	Refer to the Glossary section for a definition of important terms. The terms appear throughout the text and are bolded and underlined the first time they appear (e.g., <u>term</u>).

Chapter 1

Identifying and Classifying Crimes that Obstruct the Judicial Process

Overview

Learning need

Arrest and successful prosecution depend on the development of probable cause. Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes against the judicial process and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

Learning objectives

The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:	E. O. Code
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• recognize the crime elements required to arrest for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- intimidating witnesses or victims,- threats of retaliation,- violating a court order.	39.01.EO2 39.01.EO4 39.01.EO5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• recognize the crime classification as a misdemeanor or felony.	39.01.EO6

Continued on next page

Overview, Continued

In this chapter This chapter focuses on crimes related to government administration. Refer to the chart below for specific topics.

Topic	See Page
Intimidating Witnesses or Victims	1-3
Threats of Retaliation	1-6
Violating a Court Order	1-7
Chapter Synopsis	1-9
Workbook Learning Activities	1-10

Intimidating Witnesses or Victims

[39.01.EO2, 39.01.EO6]

Introduction Attempting or preventing a witness or victim from attending or giving testimony at a trial, proceeding, or inquiry authorized by law by means of threat or intimidation is a crime.

Leadership The goal of the American legal system is to seek the truth. While this may be one of the most complex and elusive tasks facing humanity, it is clear that the intentional effort to subvert the process contradicts that goal. Officers must demonstrate leadership skills and integrity through accurate communication in written documentation and during testimony.

Penal code section Intimidation of witnesses or victims is covered under *Penal Code Section 136.1*.

Crime elements To arrest a person for the intimidation of witnesses or victims, the necessary crime elements include:

- any person who
- knowingly and maliciously prevents or dissuades, *or* attempts to prevent or dissuade
- any witness or victim
- from *attending or giving testimony* at any trial, proceeding, or inquiry authorized by law, *or*
- from *making any report* of that victimization to any peace officer, probation or parole officer, correctional officer, prosecuting agency, or judge, *or*
- from causing a complaint to be sought, *or*
- from arresting or seeking arrest.

Classification The crime of intimidating witnesses or victims is a felony.

Continued on next page

Intimidating Witnesses or Victims, Continued

Attempted threats or intimidation

The mere attempt to intimidate or threaten a witness or victim is enough to arrest the person for the offense that was attempted, without regard to the success or failure of the attempt. Further, no person need be physically injured or actually feel intimidated.

Related terms

To understand the crimes involving intimidating a witness or victim, peace officers need to become familiar with the following terms.

A **witness** (*Penal Code Section 136(2)*), is any person:

- having knowledge of the existence or nonexistence of facts relating to any crime, or
- whose declaration under oath is received, or has been received, as evidence for any purpose, or
- who has reported any crime, or
- who has been served a subpoena, or
- who could be believed by any reasonable person to be one of the above.

A **victim** is any person against whom there is a reason to believe that any crime is being or has been perpetrated or attempted to be perpetrated. (*Penal Code Section 136(3)*)

Malice means an intent to vex, annoy, harm, or injure another person. (*Penal Code 136(1)*)

Continued on next page

Intimidating Witnesses or Victims, Continued

Examples

Example: A man went to the home of his estranged wife to discuss a problem they were having over their property settlement. An argument broke out and the man slapped his wife and then told her he would come back and “really beat you up” if she reported the incident to the local law enforcement. Because of his threat to harm her if she reported the assault, the man committed the crime of intimidation of a witness or victim.

Non-example: A personal friend of a rape victim tried to convince her friend not to file a report concerning the crime. She was fearful that her friend might be traumatized and embarrassed during a trial if the suspect was caught. Since her attempt was not malicious, the friend did not commit the crime of intimidating a witness or victim.

Threats of Retaliation

[39.01.EO4, 39.01.EO6]

Introduction

It is a crime to threaten the use of force or violence upon witnesses, victims, or informants in retaliation for providing assistance or information regarding a crime.

Penal code section

Threats of retaliation is covered under *Penal Code Section 140*.

Crime elements

Any person who:

- willfully and maliciously:
 - uses force,
 - threatens to use force, *or*
 - takes, damages, or destroys any property
 - of any other person
 - because that person provided any assistance or information to a:
 - law enforcement officer, *or*
 - public prosecutor in a criminal or juvenile court proceeding.
-

Classification

Threats of retaliation is a felony.

Example

Example: At a trial for embezzlement, Bill testified against the defendant, his former business partner. Two days later, while the jury was deliberating, Bill received a letter from the defendant stating “you’ll be sorry for what you did.” The letter also stated that the business they had formerly owned together would be “torched.” The defendant committed the crime of threats of retaliation.

Violating a Court Order

[39.01.EO5, 39.01.EO6]

Introduction The willful disobedience of any order that has been issued by a court is a violation of a court order.

Penal code section Violation of a court order is covered under *Penal Code Section 166*.

Crime elements To arrest a person for violation of a court order, the necessary crime elements are:

- any person
- willfully disobeying
- the written terms of any process or order
- lawfully issued by any court.

Classification The crime of violation of a court order is a misdemeanor.

Penal Code Section 166(c)(4) elevates the crime to a felony if the person:

- within seven years
- has been previously convicted of violating a court order, and
- that prior crime involved an act of violence, or
- a credible threat of violence.

Service of the court order For the crime of violating a court order to be complete, the court order must:

- have been properly served on the suspect, or
- the suspect must have been present when the order was generated.

Continued on next page

Violating a Court Order, Continued

Examples

Example: An officer arrived at the home of a woman who had reported a prowler. The officer found a man in the backyard of the home but the man claimed that he lived there. The woman identified the man as her former business partner and showed the officer a valid Temporary Restraining Order which forbade the man from coming within 100 feet of the woman. Upon questioning, the man admitted that he had been properly served with the order one week prior to the incident. The officer arrested the man for the crime of violating a court order.

Example: During a trial, the judge decided to adjourn the court proceeding for a lunch break. The judge ordered the officer witness who had been testifying to return after lunch for examination by the defense attorney. The officer witness failed to return. She was guilty of violating a court order.

Non-example: A couple in the process of a divorce agreed with each other to sell a number of items of jewelry and split the profits. Later, when the wife became uncomfortable with their arrangement, she denied the husband access to the jewelry. Since there was no court order regarding the items in question, she was not guilty of violating a court order.

Chapter Synopsis

Learning need Arrest and successful prosecution depend on the development of probable cause. Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes against the judicial process and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

Intimidating witnesses or victims
[39.01.E02,
39.01.E06] Intimidation of witnesses or victims is covered under *Penal Code Section 136.1*.

Threats of retaliation
[39.01.E04,
39.01.E06] Threatening witnesses or victims in retaliation is covered under *Penal Code Section 140*.

Violating a court order
[39.01.E05,
39.01.E06] Violating a court order is covered under *Penal Code Section 166*.

Workbook Learning Activities

Introduction

To help you review and apply the material covered in this chapter, a selection of learning activities has been included. No answers are provided. However, by referring to the appropriate text, you should be able to prepare a response.

Activity questions

1. In your own words, describe the differences and similarities between the following crimes.

Crime	Differences	Similarities
Intimidation of witnesses and victims (<i>Penal Code Section 136.1</i>)		
Threats of retaliation (<i>Penal Code Section 140</i>)		

Chapter 2

Identifying and Classifying Crimes of Obstruction of Law Enforcement

Overview

Learning need Arrest and successful prosecution depend on the development of probable cause. Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes that obstruct law enforcement in their duties and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

Learning objectives The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:	E. O. Code
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• recognize the crime elements required to arrest for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- resisting, delaying, or obstructing a public officer, peace officer, or emergency medical technician,- obstructing or resisting an executive officer by use of threats or force,- threatening a public officer,- disarming an officer,- removing any weapon, other than a firearm, from an officer,- attempting to remove a firearm from a public officer,- attempting to escape or escaping from the custody of a peace officer,	39.02.EO1 39.02.EO2 39.02.EO3 39.02.EO4 39.02.EO5 39.02.EO6 39.02.EO7

Continued on next page

Overview, Continued

Learning objectives (continued)

After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:	E. O. Code
- attempting to escape or escaping from a prison or other place of confinement,	39.02.EO8
- attempting to escape or escaping from a county or city jail,	39.02.EO9
- attempting to rescue or rescuing,	39.02.EO10
- lynching.	39.02.EO11
• recognize the crime classification as a misdemeanor or felony.	39.02.EO12

In this chapter

This chapter focuses on crimes related to the obstruction of law enforcement. Refer to the chart below for specific topics.

Topic	See Page
Resisting an Officer	2-3
Disarming an Officer	2-7
Escape	2-11
Rescue and Lynching	2-15
Chapter Synopsis	2-18
Workbook Learning Activities	2-19

Resisting an Officer

[39.02.EO1, 39.02.EO2, 39.02.EO3, 39.02.EO12]

Introduction Resisting, delaying or obstructing peace officers in the discharge of their duties is a crime. The crime, often referred to as “resisting arrest,” involves preventing officers from performing their duties.

Penal code section The crime of resisting, delaying, or obstructing any public officer, peace officer, or emergency technician is covered under *Penal Code Section 148(a)(1)*.

Crime elements To arrest a person for resisting, delaying, or obstructing any public officer, peace officer, or emergency technician, the necessary crime elements are:

- every person who
- willfully resists, delays, or obstructs
- any public officer, peace officer, or emergency technician
- in the discharge or the attempt to discharge
- any duty of that officer’s office or employment.

Classification The crime of resisting, delaying, or obstructing any public officer, peace officer, or emergency technician is a misdemeanor.

Peace officers The term **peace officer** includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- any county sheriff, undersheriff, or deputy sheriff;
- any city or district chief of police or any police officer;
- any marshal or deputy marshal of a municipal court;
- any DA investigator;
- any member of the California Highway Patrol.

Continued on next page

Resisting an Officer, Continued

Physical contact

No physical contact between the suspect and the officer is necessary for the crime of resisting, delaying, or obstructing any public officer, peace officer, or emergency technician to be complete. Verbal threats or interference can pose sufficient obstruction for the crime to take place.

Obstructing executive officers

Executive officers are charged with the responsibility of enforcing the law. This includes peace officers, district attorneys, city attorneys, and police commissioners.

Penal code section

Penal Code Section 69 identifies the elements of the crime of obstructing or resisting an executive officer as:

Crime elements

Every person who attempts:

- by means of threat or violence,
 - to deter or prevent
 - any executive officer from the performance of that officer's duties, or
 - knowingly resists any executive officer,
 - by the use of force or violence,
 - in the performance of that officer's duties.
-

Classification

It is a felony to attempt to deter or prevent executive officers from the performance of their duties.

Continued on next page

Resisting an Officer, Continued

Threatening public officers

Public officers are individuals employed by governmental agencies with certain specified law enforcement powers.

Penal code section

The crime of threatening public officers and employees, and school officials are identified under *Penal Code Section 71* and are:

Crime elements

Every person who:

- with the intent to cause,
- attempts to cause, or causes
- any:
 - public officer or employee, or
 - officer or employee of any public or private educational institution
- to do or refrain from doing
- any act in the performance of their duties,
- by means of a threat
- directly communicated to the person,
- to inflict an unlawful injury upon that person or that person's property, and
- it reasonably appears that the threat could be carried out.

NOTE: "Directly communicated" includes, but is not limited to, communication by telephone, letter, etc.

Classification

It is a felony to use threats to prevent public officers from performing their duties.

Continued on next page

Resisting an Officer, Continued

Examples

- Example: A man was being arrested for stealing a bicycle that had been locked up in front of a convenience store. While being handcuffed, he broke free from the peace officer's grip and ran away. The officer eventually subdued the man. Along with the original crime, the man committed the crime of resisting a peace officer.
- Example: A man was distraught by what he felt were false charges brought against his son. He contacted the assistant district attorney in charge of the case and threatened to harm the attorney's son if the charges were not dropped. Even though the attorney was not influenced by the threat, the man was guilty of attempting to deter an executive officer from the performance of his duties.
- Example: A college mathematics instructor found a note on his windshield stating that he would be sorry if he didn't give a passing grade to a particular athlete on the school's football team. Although the instructor ignored the first note, he took the second note seriously when he found it taped to a broken window of his home. An officer questioned the athlete mentioned in the notes and the athlete admitted that he had written the notes himself. Along with the crime involving the destruction of property, the young man was guilty of the crime of threatening public officers, employees, or school officials.
- Non-example: A woman, about to be evicted from public housing, phoned a city official in charge of her case. She told the official that she was going to go to the local newspaper with a fictitious story that would smear the official's reputation if the eviction took place. Because the woman used no threats of force or violence, she was not guilty of a crime of obstructing or resisting an officer.
-

Disarming an Officer

[39.02.EO4, 39.02.EO5, 39.02.EO6, 39.02.EO12]

Introduction

If in the course of resisting, delaying, or obstructing an officer, a person also attempts to remove the officer's firearm or any other weapons, that person is guilty of a felony.

Penal code section

The crime of removing or taking a firearm, or attempting to remove or take a firearm, from an officer is covered under *Penal Code Sections 148 (c) and (d)*.

Crime elements

To arrest a person for removing or taking a firearm, or attempting to remove or take a firearm from an officer, the necessary crime elements are:

- every person who,
- during the commission of any offense described in *Penal Code Section 148(a)* (resisting, delaying, or obstructing any public officer, peace officer, or emergency technician),
- removes or takes, or attempts to remove or take a firearm
- from the person or from the immediate presence of
- a public officer or peace officer.

To violate *Penal Code Section 148(d)*, one or more of the following must be proved:

- the officer's holster strap was unfastened by the defendant, or
 - the firearm was partially removed from the officer's holster by the defendant, or
 - the firearm safety was released by the defendant, or
 - an independent witness corroborates that the defendant stated that he intended to remove the firearm and that the defendant actually touched the firearm, or
 - an independent witness corroborates that the defendant actually had his hand on the firearm and tried to take it from the officer who was holding it, or
-

Continued on next page

Disarming an Officer, Continued

Crime elements
(continued)

- the defendant's fingerprint was found on the firearm or holster, or
 - physical evidence authenticated by a scientifically verifiable procedure established that the defendant touched the firearm, or
 - in the course of any struggle, the officer's firearm fell and the defendant attempted to pick it up.
-

Classification

The crime of taking or removing a firearm or attempting to take or remove a firearm from an officer is a felony.

Removal of weapons other than firearms

Delaying, resisting, or obstructing a peace officer or removing, taking an officer's weapon, other than a firearm, is a felony offense under the crime elements listed below.

Penal code section

The crime of removing or taking any weapon other than a firearm from the person or immediate presence of an officer is covered under *Penal Code Section 148(b)*.

Crime elements

To arrest a person for removing or taking any weapon other than a firearm from an officer, the necessary crime elements are:

- every person who
 - during the commission of any offense described in *Penal Code Section 148(a)* (resisting, delaying, or obstructing any public officer, peace officer, or emergency technician)
 - removes or takes
 - any weapon other than a firearm
 - from the person of,
-

Continued on next page

Disarming an Officer, Continued

Crime elements
(continued)

- or in the immediate presence of,
 - a public officer or peace officer
 - while that officer is engaged in the performance of the officer's duties.
-

Classification

The crime of removing or taking any weapon other than a firearm from an officer is a felony.

Examples

Example: Two officers detained a man to question him regarding an assault. As one of the officers turned to talk to his partner, the man reached for the officer's firearm and was able to pull it from the officer's holster before the officer could take action. The officer's partner grabbed the man's hand and gained control before the man could use the firearm against the officers. The man was guilty of taking an officer's firearm.

Example: A peace officer attempted to use pepper spray to subdue a belligerent suspect. In the course of the officer's actions, the suspect grabbed the can of pepper spray from the officer's hand. The officer was able to physically subdue the suspect before he could use the spray on him. By taking the officer's chemical weapon, the suspect was guilty of the crime of removing or taking any weapon other than a firearm from an officer.

Continued on next page

Disarming an Officer, Continued

Examples (continued)

Example: During a struggle to subdue a suspect, an officer's firearm fell from the officer's holster. The suspect kicked the firearm away from the officer and then attempted to pick it up. Another officer was able to intercede and prevent the suspect from reaching the firearm. The suspect was guilty of the crime of attempting to remove a firearm from an officer.

Non-example: A teenage suspect reached into an officer's gear bag when the officer was not around and grabbed the officer's baton. The teenager ran away with the weapon. The teenager was not guilty of removing or taking any weapon other than a firearm from an officer.

Posse comitatus

Posse comitatus is a Latin term that means "the power of the county." Refusal to join a *posse comitatus* simply means refusing to assist an officer when asked to do so.

According to *Penal Code Section 150*, any able-bodied person, 18 years or older, if requested, must assist or aid an officer in an arrest or in preventing a crime. Refusal to join a *posse comitatus* is an infraction.

The following table identifies a statute that applies to the crime of disarming an officer.

Circumstances of the Crime	Crime Classification	Penal Code Section
Refusing to join a posse or aid officers in an arrest	Infraction	150

NOTE: Any officer requesting the aid must be in uniform or present a badge or valid identification card.

Escape

[39.02.EO7, 39.02.EO8, 39.02.EO9, 39.02.EO12]

Introduction

Once a person has been lawfully arrested, it is a crime to free oneself or to attempt to free oneself from the custody of a peace officer or from the custodial facility where that person has been remanded.

Penal code section

The crime of attempting to escape, or escaping from the custody of a peace officer is covered under *Penal Code Section 836.6*.

Crime elements

To arrest a person for attempting to escape, or escaping from the custody of a peace officer, the necessary crime elements are:

- any person who has been
- remanded by a magistrate or judge to the custody of a sheriff, marshal or other police agency, and
- thereafter escapes or attempts to escape from that custody, or
- any person who has been
- lawfully arrested by a peace officer, and
- who knows or reasonably should have known that he/she was arrested, and
- who thereafter escapes or attempts to escape from the peace officer.

NOTE: This Penal Code section does not apply to any person confined to any city, county or state jail or prison.

Classification

The crime of escape or escaping from the custody of a peace officer is a misdemeanor.

If the escape or attempted escape is by force or violence and causes serious bodily injury to the peace officer, the crime of escape or escaping from the custody of a peace officer is a felony.

Continued on next page

Escape, Continued

**Penal
code
section**

Penal Code Section 4530 covers escapes and attempts to escape.

**Crime
elements**

Every prisoner who:

- attempts to escape or escapes while:
 - confined in a state prison,
 - being transported to and from that prison and any other place, or
 - working outside or away from that prison
- under the custody of prison officials, officers, or employees.

NOTE: A prisoner's willful failure to return from temporary release, such as work or education release, at the specified time is considered an escape. (*Penal Code Section 4530(c)*)

Classification

A prisoner who escapes or attempts to escape from a state prison has committed a felony.

**Penal
code
section**

Penal Code Section 4532 identifies the elements of this crime as:

Continued on next page

Escape, Continued

Crime elements

Every prisoner who has been:

- arrested and booked for, charged with, or convicted of a misdemeanor, or
 - committed as an inebriate under *Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 5654, 5656, or 5677*, and
 - is confined to any county or city jail, prison, or industrial farm, or is authorized for temporary release for work, education or family emergency, or participates in a home detention program pursuant to *Penal Code Section 1203.016*, and
 - who thereafter attempts to escape or escapes from that custody.
-

Classification

Attempting to escape or escaping from a county or city jail or home detention program is a felony.

Examples

Example: Two officers arrest three men for assault. One of the officers handcuffed the first man and placed him in the patrol vehicle. While that officer rejoined her partner to deal with the remaining prisoners, the first man kicked out the window of the patrol car, climbed out, and ran. That man was guilty of misdemeanor escape from the custody of a peace officer.

Continued on next page

Escape, Continued

Examples (continued)

Example: Two officers went to the apartment of a suspect to arrest her for possession of a controlled substance for sale. When the suspect opened the door, one of the officers produced a valid arrest warrant and placed the suspect under arrest. After the officer had handcuffed the suspect, the suspect shoved the officer down a flight of stairs and fled. The other officer chased the suspect and completed the arrest. The officer who was pushed sustained numerous serious injuries. The suspect was guilty of felony escape from a peace officer.

Example: Two state correctional officers were transporting a prisoner to a state prison and became involved in an automobile accident. The officer who had been driving was severely injured, but the prisoner and other officer received only minor injuries. While the passenger officer attempted to aid his partner, the prisoner took advantage of the distraction, kicked the officer in the back and fled. Additional officers who arrived on the scene gave chase and were able to take the prisoner into custody. The prisoner was guilty of attempting to escape from a state prison by means of force or violence.

Non-example: An inmate on work release from a county jail suffered a serious work-related injury while on the job. He was unconscious when he was transported to a local emergency room by a fellow worker, and was admitted to the hospital. His co-worker, unaware of the inmate's sentence, failed to notify the jail of the inmate's location. Because the inmate's failure to return to jail was not willful, no crime was committed.

Rescue and Lynching

[39.02.EO10, 39.02.EO11]

Introduction Unlawfully taking a prisoner from an officer or from a **place of confinement** for any reason is a crime.

Penal code section The crime of attempting to rescue or rescuing is covered under *Penal Code Section 4550*.

Crime elements To arrest a person for the crime of attempting to rescue or rescuing, the crime elements are:

- every person who
 - rescues or attempts to rescue, or
 - aids another in rescuing or attempting to rescue
 - any prisoner from any:
 - prison,
 - road camp,
 - jail, or
 - officer or person having that prisoner in lawful custody.
-

Classification The crime of attempting to rescue or rescuing is a felony

Continued on next page

Rescue and Lynching, Continued

Introduction One person may commit the crime of rescue. Whenever two or more people act together and use force or violence to take a legally arrested prisoner or other person in lawful custody of an officer, all have committed the crime of **lynching**.

Penal code section *Penal Code Section 405(a)* defines the crime elements of lynching as:
The taking by means of a riot of any person from the lawful custody of any peace officer is a lynching.

Crime elements

- the taking
- by means of a **riot**
- of any person
- from the lawful custody of any peace officer.

For the crime of lynching to be complete, the person who is taken must be under lawful arrest or legally detained by officers.

Classification Every person who participates in a lynching is guilty of a felony. (*Penal Code Section 405b*)

NOTE: A riot is an unlawful assembly of two or more people who disturb the peace by the use of force or violence or threats of force or violence.

NOTE: It is not necessary that people who commit the crime of lynching intend to or actually do harm to the person they have taken.

Continued on next page

Rescue and Lynching, Continued

Examples

Example: An officer arrested a man involved in a domestic violence incident. As the officer placed handcuffs on the man, the man's wife began screaming, "No! He didn't really mean to hurt me." The woman then jumped on the officer's back and scratched at the officer's eyes. During the scuffle, the man was able to break free of the officer's hold, and escape through the front door. By her actions, the wife committed the crime of rescue.

Example: Officers were called to a location where a protest demonstration had turned into a riot. When the officers arrived, they arrested the group's spokesman who was urging others to break windows and take merchandise from a store. As one of the officers escorted the arrested man to the patrol vehicle, four members of the group turned on the officer and forcibly took the man from him. Those who participated in using force to free the arrested man committed the crime of lynching.

Non-example: An officer was escorting a prisoner to court for a hearing. The officer was not aware that while en-route the prisoner had freed one hand from his handcuffs. When the officer stopped at a traffic light, the prisoner jumped over the seat and was able to escape out of the passenger door. During the escape, two young men observed what was happening and yelled encouragement to the fleeing prisoner. The fleeing prisoner was guilty of escape, but since the men on the sidewalk did not use any force or physically attempt to aid the man, they were not guilty of lynching or rescue.

Chapter Synopsis

Learning need Arrest and successful prosecution depend on the development of probable cause. Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes that obstruct law enforcement in their duties and correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

Resisting an officer
[39.02.EO1,
39.02.EO2,
39.02.EO3,
39.02.EO12]

Resisting any public officer is covered under *Penal Code Section 148(a)(1)*.

Disarming an officer
[39.02.EO4,
39.02.EO5,
39.02.EO6,
39.02.EO12]

Resisting or taking a firearm, or attempting to remove a firearm is covered under *Penal Code Section 148(c)* and *(d)*.

Escape
[39.02.EO7,
39.02.EO8,
39.02.EO9,
39.02.EO12]

Escape is covered under *Penal Code Section 836.6*.

Rescue
[39.02.EO10,
39.02.EO12]

Rescue is covered under *Penal Code Section 4550*.

Lynching
[39.02.EO11,
39.02.EO12]

The crime of Lynching is covered under *Penal Code Section 405(a)*.

Workbook Learning Activities

Introduction

To help you review and apply the material covered in this chapter, a selection of learning activities has been included. No answers are provided. However by referring to the appropriate text, you should be able to prepare a response.

Activity questions

1. Explain the distinction between the crimes of lynching and rescue.

Which crime has been committed by two brothers who help their sister get away from police custody by holding the officers at gunpoint and then fleeing with her in a vehicle? If the sister had escaped on her own, without the use of force, would this have been a less serious offense? Explain.

2. Other than by means of physical force, suggest possible actions that would constitute resisting, delaying, or obstructing an officer.

Continued on next page

Workbook Corrections

Suggested corrections to this workbook can be made by going to the POST website at: www.post.ca.gov

Continued on next page

Workbook Corrections, Continued

Student notes

Chapter 3

Identifying and Classifying Crimes Related to False Information

Overview

Learning need Arrest and successful prosecution depend on the development of probable cause. Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes related to false information and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

Learning objectives The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:	E. O. Code
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• recognize the crime elements required to arrest for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- providing a false identity to a peace officer,- falsely reporting a criminal offense,- falsely reporting an emergency,- falsely reporting a destructive device.	39.03.EO5 39.03.EO7 39.03.EO8 39.03.EO9
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• recognize the crime classification as a misdemeanor or felony.	39.03.EO10

Continued on next page

Overview, Continued

In this chapter This chapter focuses on crimes related to false information. Refer to the chart below for specific topics.

Topic	See Page
Providing False Identification	3-3
Falsely Reporting a Crime, Emergency, or Destructive Device	3-5
Chapter Synopsis	3-10
Workbook Learning Activities	3-11

Providing False Identification

[39.03.EO5, 39.03.EO6, 39.03.EO10]

Introduction

Failure to truthfully identify oneself to an officer can prevent the officer from performing a lawful duty. Such an action is considered an obstruction of justice.

Penal code section

The crime of presenting a false identification to a peace officer is covered under *Penal Code Section 148.9*.

Crime elements

In order to arrest a person for presenting a false identification to a peace officer, the necessary crime elements are:

any person who

- falsely represents or identifies oneself as another person (real or fictitious)
 - to a peace officer
 - upon a lawful detention or arrest
 - to evade the:
 - process of the court, or
 - proper identification of that person by an investigating officer.
-

Classification

The crime of presenting a false identity to a peace officer is a misdemeanor.

Continued on next page

Providing False Identification, Continued

Examples

Example: A man was stopped for a traffic violation. When the officer requested identification, the man told the officer he left his wallet along with all of his identification at home. Believing that he could avoid a ticket on his driving record, he identified himself with a fictitious name and address. The man committed the crime of presenting a false identity to a peace officer.

Non-example: A woman was lawfully detained by an officer for questioning. The woman was nervous and flustered, she unintentionally gave the officer her maiden name rather than her new married name. Since the woman had no intent to deceive the officer, no crime was committed

Related statute

The following identifies an additional statute related to crimes identified in this lesson.

Providing false information to a peace officer is a misdemeanor. (*Vehicle Code Section 31*). This statute is related to those identified in this lesson.

Falsely Reporting a Crime, Emergency, or Destructive Device

[39.03.EO7, 39.03.EO8, 39.03.EO9]

Introduction Falsely reporting a crime or emergency is not only an obstruction of justice by the misuse of personnel, facilities, and equipment, it can also jeopardize the safety and well-being of law enforcement officers and the public.

Penal code section The crime of falsely reporting a criminal offense is covered under *Penal Code Section 148.5*.

Crime elements In order to arrest a person for the crime of falsely reporting a criminal offense, the necessary crime elements are:

- every person who
- reports to any peace officer, district attorney, or deputy district attorney,
- that a felony or misdemeanor has been committed,
- knowing that the report is false.

Classification The crime of falsely reporting a criminal offense is a misdemeanor.

Continued on next page

False Reporting a Crime, Emergency, or Destructive Device, Continued

Introduction An **emergency** is any condition which results in, or could result in, the response of a public official in an authorized emergency vehicle, (e.g., patrol vehicle, ambulance, fire equipment, etc.), or any condition that jeopardizes public safety and results or could result in evacuation. (*Penal Code Section 148.3(c)*)

Penal code section *Penal Code Section 148.3* identifies the crime elements for falsely reporting an emergency.

Crime elements Any individual who:

- reports, or causes any report to be made,
- to a specified governmental department or agency,
- that an emergency exists,
- knowing that such a report is false.

Classification Falsely reporting an emergency is a misdemeanor. If great bodily injury or death is sustained by any person as a result of the false report, the crime becomes a felony. (*Penal Code Section 148.3(b)*)

Continued on next page

Falsely Reporting a Crime, Emergency, or Destructive Device, Continued

Introduction Falsely reporting a destructive device. It is a felony to falsely report that a bomb or other explosive has been, or will be, placed in a public or private location.

Penal code section *Penal Code Section 148.1* identifies the crime elements for the crime of falsely reporting a destructive device.

Crime elements Any person who:

- reports to specified personnel
- that a bomb or other explosive
- has been, or will be,
- placed or hidden
- in any public or private place,
- knowing that the report is false.

NOTE: Specified personnel can include, but are not limited to, peace officers, employees of the media, employees of airlines or other forms of public transportation, occupants of a building, telephone company personnel, etc. (*Penal Code Section 148.1(a)*)

Classification The crime of falsely reporting a bomb, or other explosive is a felony.

Continued on next page

Falsely Reporting a Crime, Emergency, or Destructive Device, Continued

Examples

Example: A young man reported to a peace officer that his car had been stolen from the parking lot of a local shopping area. The young man falsely reported the crime because he did not want his father to find out that he damaged the car in a minor traffic accident. The young man committed the crime of falsely reporting a crime.

Example: Example: A woman called 911 and reported a residential fire so that she could watch the fire equipment go by her house. While en route, one of the emergency vehicles was involved in a traffic accident, killing a passenger in the other vehicle. The woman was guilty of felony false report of an emergency.

Example: A high school principal received a phone call from an unidentified person stating that a bomb had been placed in a student locker in the school building. Law enforcement officials were notified and the building was evacuated. After the building was thoroughly searched, the report was deemed to be false. Later it was determined that a student, on a dare from some of his friends, had made the phone call and falsely reported the bomb. The student was guilty of falsely reporting a destructive device.

Continued on next page

Falsely Reporting a Crime, Emergency, or Destructive Device, Continued

Examples
(continued)

Non-example: A woman reported that her husband's car had been stolen from their garage. She was not aware that her husband had returned early from a business trip and had taken the car while she was out. The woman was not guilty of falsely reporting a criminal offense because she did not knowingly give the investigating officer false information.

Non-example: A man saw a black metal case next to a mail box and suspected that it might contain some type of explosive device. The man notified law enforcement officials who cleared the area and exploded the case. It was later determined that the case contained photographic equipment that had been left there unintentionally. The man was not guilty of any crime since he did not knowingly report false information.

Chapter Synopsis

Learning need Arrest and successful prosecution depend on the development of probable cause. Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes related to bribery or false information and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

Providing false identification
[39.03.EO5,
39.03.EO10] The crime of presenting a false identification to a peace officer is covered under *Penal Code Section 148.9*.

Falsely reporting a criminal offense
[39.03.EO7,
39.03.EO10] The crime of falsely reporting a criminal offense is covered under *Penal Code Section 148.5*.

Falsely reporting an emergency
[39.03.EO8,
39.03.EO10] *Penal Code Section 148.3* identifies the crime of falsely reporting an emergency.

Falsely reporting a destructive device
[39.03.EO9,
39.03.EO10] *Penal Code Section 148.1* identifies the crime of falsely reporting a destructive device.

Workbook Learning Activities

Introduction

To help you review and apply the material covered in this chapter, a selection of learning activities has been included. No answers are provided. However, by referring to the appropriate text, you should be able to prepare a response.

Activity questions

1. Under what circumstances would it be a felony to provide a false identity to a peace officer?

Continued on next page

Workbook Learning Activity, Continued

Student notes

Chapter 4

Identifying and Classifying Crimes Against the Public Peace

Overview

Learning need

Arrest and successful prosecution depend on the development of probable cause. Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes related to public disturbances and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

Learning objectives

The chart below identifies the student learning objectives for this chapter.

After completing study of this chapter, the student will be able to:	E. O. Code
<ul style="list-style-type: none">recognize the crime elements required to arrest for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">unlawful assembly,refusal to disperse.	39.04.EO1 39.04.EO2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">recognize the crime classification as a misdemeanor or felony.	39.03.EO7

In this chapter

This chapter focuses on crimes related to public disturbance. Refer to the chart below for specific topics.

Topic	See Page
Unlawful Assembly	4-2
Chapter Synopsis	4-5
Workbook Learning Activities	4-6

Unlawful Assembly

[39.04.EO1, 39.04.EO2, 39.03.EO7]

Introduction

The First Amendment of the Bill of Rights guarantees “*the right of the people to peaceably assemble.*” But when an assembly disturbs the public peace, that assembly becomes unlawful.

Penal code section

The crime of **unlawful assembly** is covered under *Penal Code Section 407*.

Crime elements

To arrest a person for unlawful assembly, the necessary crime elements are:

- two or more persons assembling together
 - to do:
 - an *unlawful act*, or
 - a *lawful act* in a violent, boisterous, or tumultuous manner.
-

Classification

The crime of unlawful assembly is a misdemeanor.

Related terms

To understand the crime of unlawful assembly, peace officers need to become familiar with the following terms.

A **violent manner** means when acts involve criminal violence or tend to incite others to criminal violence.

A **boisterous or tumultuous manner** means when communication becomes noise at the level that disrupts the public peace.

Continued on next page

Unlawful Assembly, Continued

Intent

There is no requirement that any overt unlawful act actually take place to make the assembly unlawful. If the purpose or specific intent of an assembly is *to commit an unlawful act*, then that assembly is unlawful.

The intent of the assembly may be proven by circumstantial evidence (e.g., the hour or location of the assembly, statements made by participants, etc.).

Violent act not required

The unlawful act during an assembly does not have to be violent to substantiate an unlawful assembly (e.g., acts of civil disobedience such as blocking an entry way or occupying an area illegally).

Refusal to disperse

If people have assembled unlawfully for purposes of disturbing the peace or committing any unlawful act, they can be ordered by a public official to disperse.

Penal code section

Penal Code Section 416(a) identifies the elements of the crime of refusal to disperse.

Crime elements

Two or more persons:

- assembling for the purpose of:
 - disturbing the peace, or
 - committing any unlawful act, and
- not dispersing on being desired or commanded to do so by a public officer.

NOTE: This section applies only to participants in the unlawful assembly.

Classification

Anyone who refuses or fails to disperse after being commanded to do so is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Continued on next page

Unlawful Assembly, Continued

Examples

Example: The members of a garment maker's union were on strike and picketed in front of a local retail store. The group was peaceful and did not block the sidewalk. The purpose of the group was to inform shoppers of a certain manufacturer's unfair labor practices. Members of the group decided they weren't getting enough attention and used bull horns and amplification devices to yell out their message. The noise became so loud that the store owner and other merchants along the street, and residents in a nearby apartment building, began to complain. The assembly became an unlawful assembly when members of the group began to disrupt the peace with their noise.

Example: The owner of the store described in the above example called the police. When officers arrived, they ordered the members of the union to disperse.

Several members walked into the street and blocked traffic directly in front of the store. The members who remained and blocked traffic were guilty of unlawful assembly.

Non-example: Before the store owner in the first example called peace officers, he went outside and ordered the group to leave. Two members left. Those who remained behind were not guilty of disobedience to a dispersal order because the store owner was not a public official and did not have the authority to issue a lawful dispersal order.

Chapter Synopsis

Learning need Arrest and successful prosecution depend on the development of probable cause. Peace officers must know the elements required to arrest for crimes related to public disturbance and to correctly categorize these crimes as misdemeanors or felonies.

Unlawful assembly
[39.04.E01, 39.04.E07] When an assembly disturbs the public peace, that assembly becomes unlawful and is covered under *Penal Code Section 407*. Unlawful assembly is a misdemeanor.

Refusal to disperse
[39.04.E02, 39.04.E07] Refusal to disperse is covered under *Penal Code Section 416(a)* and is a misdemeanor.

Workbook Learning Activities

Introduction

To help you review and apply the material covered in this chapter, a selection of learning activities has been included. No answers are provided. However, by referring to the appropriate text, you should be able to prepare a response.

Activity questions

1. In an effort to save a local landmark building from destruction, a group of ten concerned citizens sits quietly on the building's front steps. The group refuses to move, preventing the demolition crew from beginning on time. The property owner has called on law enforcement officers to solve the problem. Has a crime taken place? If so, what crime? If not, what actions can officers take?

2. A crowd of about 15 people forms in the street, watching the scenario noted above unfold. One of the concerned citizens who has been quietly sitting begins yelling to the crowd, "They're destroying your heritage. Don't let them crush your past. Act now, before it's too late!" How has the situation changed? Have any additional crimes been completed? Explain.

Continued on next page

Workbook Learning Activities, Continued

**Activity
questions**
(continued)

3. Can a person be arrested for disobedience to a dispersal order if that person claims not to have heard the order? Explain your response based on the policies and guidelines of your department or agency.

Continued on next page

Workbook Learning Activities, Continued

Activity questions
(continued)

4. In your own words, describe the differences and similarities between the following crimes.

Crime	Differences	Similarities
Refusal to disperse <i>(Penal Code Section 416)</i>		
Disobedience to a dispersal order <i>(Penal Code Section 409)</i>		

Glossary

Introduction **The following glossary terms apply only to Learning Domain 39: Crimes Against the Justice System.**

boisterous or tumultuous manner When communication becomes noise at a level that disrupts the public peace

emergency Any condition which results in, or could result in, the response of a public official in an authorized emergency vehicle (e.g., patrol vehicle, ambulance, fire equipment, etc.), or any condition that jeopardizes public safety and results or could result in evacuation (*Penal Code Section 148.3(c)*)

executive officer Any people charged with the responsibility of enforcing the law. This includes peace officers, district attorneys, city attorneys, and police commissioners

lynching The taking, by means of a riot, any person from the lawful custody of a peace officer (*Penal Code Section 405*)

malice An intent to vex, annoy, harm, or injure in any way another person (*Penal Code Section 136(1)*)

peace officer Any sheriff, undersheriff, or deputy sheriff, employed in that capacity, of a county. Any chief of police, employed in that capacity, of a city, or any police officer, employed in that capacity and appointed by the chief of police or the chief executive of the agency, of a city. Any chief of police or the chief executive of the agency, of a city. Any marshal or deputy marshal of a municipal court. Any member of the California Highway Patrol whose primary duty is the enforcement of the provisions of the Vehicle Code or of any other law relating to the use or operation of vehicles upon the highways as that duty is set forth in the Vehicle Code

Continued on next page

Glossary, Continued

place of confinement A prison, jail, industrial farm, road camp, or juvenile hall, camp, ranch or farm

public officers Individuals employed by a governmental agency with certain specified law enforcement powers

riot Two or more people gathered together unlawfully who disturb the peace or reasonably threaten to disturb the peace by means of force or violence

unlawful assembly Two or more people assembled together to do an unlawful act or a lawful act in a boisterous or tumultuous manner (*Penal Code Section 407*)

victim Any person against whom there is a reason to believe that any crime is being or has been perpetrated or attempted to be perpetrated (*Penal Code Section 136(3)*)

violent manner When acts involve criminal violence or tend to incite others to criminal violence

willfully Acting with a purpose to commit or omit an act

witness Any person with knowledge of existence or nonexistence of facts relating to a crime (*Penal Code Section 136(2)*)
