

CHAPTER 8
OPERATOR TRAINING
REVISED JANUARY 2025
TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>RADAR OPERATOR TRAINING</u>	8-3
General.....	8-3
Classroom Training	8-3
Range and Speed Determination Test	8-3
<u>ONGOING RADAR TRAINING</u>	8-5
Annual Recertification.....	8-5
<u>LIDAR OPERATOR TRAINING</u>	8-5
General.....	8-5
Classroom Training	8-5
Range and Speed Determination Test	8-6
<u>ONGOING LIDAR TRAINING</u>	8-6
Annual Recertification.....	8-6

ANNEX

<u>A</u> – CHP 99A, RADAR/LIDAR RANGE AND SPEED DETERMINATION TEST	8-7
--------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

CHAPTER 8
OPERATOR TRAINING

1. RADAR OPERATOR TRAINING.

a. General. Numerous court cases have shown radar/lidar operator training and certification is critical to radar speed enforcement. The Department's radar/lidar training process exceeds training standards recommended by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The departmental radar/lidar program consists of classroom training, which includes a range and speed determination test.

b. Classroom Training.

(1) All radar operators, including the Area radar/lidar coordinator, shall attend 24 hours of Academy-supervised radar training. Training may be conducted at either the Academy or Area level, depending upon the number of officers to be trained.

(2) A written examination score of 80 percent or higher is required in order to successfully complete the classroom portion of radar training. Any officer who does not pass the written examination shall repeat the classroom training and pass the written examination before being permitted to take a range and speed determination test.

(3) Officers who complete classroom training and show proficiency in the range and speed determination test, demonstrated by the completion of five moving and five stationary visual speed and distance estimations, which are documented on a CHP 99A, Radar/Lidar Range and Speed Determination Test (Annex A), will be certified in the use of radar and issued a certificate of attainment upon completion of classroom training.

(4) Officers who do not show proficiency in the range and speed determination test at the conclusion of classroom training, although certified, will not be permitted to take enforcement action for speed-related violations. The certificate of attainment will be held by the respective Area radar/lidar coordinator. Once proficiency is shown in the range and speed determination test, a certificate of attainment will be provided to the officer and a copy shall be placed in the officer's training file, as outlined in paragraph 1.c.(4). At this point, the officer will be permitted to take enforcement action for speed-related violations.

c. Range and Speed Determination Test. Proficiency for visual range and speed estimations may be demonstrated during classroom training for officers already

proficient in the skillset. Should an officer require additional practice, proficiency should be demonstrated within 90 days of classroom training. Officers who require additional training with range and speed determination may be tested beyond 90 days at the discretion of Area management.

(1) At the conclusion of the radar training course, or within 90 days of course completion, the following personnel may test the speed and distance capabilities of each officer:

- (a) Certified radar/lidar instructor.
- (b) Certified Area radar/lidar coordinator.
- (c) Certified radar/lidar operator at the rank of sergeant or above.
- (d) Sergeant, with assistance of a certified radar/lidar officer.
- (e) Certified radar/lidar Division radar coordinator.

(2) Testing will consist of the following:

- (a) Five stationary speed estimations within 5 miles per hour (mph).
- (b) Five moving speed estimations within 5 mph.
- (c) Ten reasonably accurate distance estimates (within approximately 30 percent).

(3) The CHP 99A shall be used by the certifying radar/lidar personnel to record the officer's estimations, as outlined in paragraph 1.c.

- (a) Officers who pass this test with 80 percent correct, or more, may utilize radar immediately for enforcement of speed violations.
- (b) Officers who do not pass this test shall continue to practice until they demonstrate sufficient expertise to be retested and subsequently certified.

(4) The certificate of attainment shall serve as official documentation of radar operator course completion. Divisions shall issue a certificate of attainment for each officer upon successful completion of a radar operator course. Officers who show range and speed determination proficiency during classroom training will be issued their certificate of attainment upon the completion of classroom training.

- (a) The Area shall place a copy of the certificate of attainment in the officer's personnel file; and,

(b) Ensure the initial certification information is documented in the Employee Training Records System (ETRS).

(5) Certificates of attainment for officers who do not show proficiency in range and speed determination during classroom training will be held by their respective Area radar/lidar coordinator until proficiency is shown. Certificates of attainment for officers who do not show proficiency during classroom training may be sent via e-mail or intra-office mail to the officer's Area radar coordinator.

NOTE: It is not the intent of the radar/lidar program for an officer to retake the course, but to become proficient with speed and distance determination. Area management discretion will dictate the need to retake the 24-hour class should an officer fail to show speed and distance determination proficiency within 90 days.

2. ONGOING RADAR TRAINING.

a. Annual Certification. There is no requirement to recertify annually; however, an online refresher course is available on the CHP Intranet, under Online Training.

3. LIDAR OPERATOR TRAINING.

a. General. Numerous court cases have shown lidar operator training and certification is critical to lidar speed enforcement. The Department's lidar training process meets lidar training standards recommended by the NHTSA. The departmental lidar program consists of classroom training, a range and speed determination test (which may be satisfied during radar training), and a calibration sequence and lidar test sequence which can be completed on the lidar training day.

b. Classroom Training.

(1) A prerequisite to lidar training is successful completion of departmental radar training.

(2) All lidar operators, including the Area radar/lidar coordinator, shall attend eight hours of Academy-supervised lidar training. Training may be conducted at either the Academy or Area level, depending upon the number of officers to be trained.

(3) A written examination score of 80 percent or higher is required in order to successfully complete the classroom portion of lidar training. Any officer who

does not pass the written examination shall repeat the classroom training and pass the written examination.

c. Range and Speed Determination Test.

(1) Officers who have demonstrated proficiency by completion of the CHP 99A, as outlined in paragraph 1.b.(3), are not required to retest for speed and range determinations; however, they must show proficiency with the calibration sequence and lidar test sequence, as documented on the lower portion of the CHP 99A.

(2) Should an officer complete radar and lidar training prior to showing proficiency in range and speed determinations, proficiency shall be demonstrated by completion of only one CHP 99A.

(3) The certificate of attainment shall serve as official documentation of lidar operator course completion. Divisions shall issue a certificate of attainment for each officer at the completion of a lidar operator course.

(a) The Area radar/lidar coordinator shall place a copy of the certificate of attainment in the officer's personnel file; and,

(b) Ensure the initial certification information is documented in the ETRS.

(4) Officers who show proficiency in range and speed determinations and calibration sequence and lidar test sequence during classroom training will be issued a certificate of attainment upon the completion of classroom training.

(5) Certificates of attainment for officers who do not show proficiency in range and speed determinations and calibration sequence and lidar test sequence during classroom training will be held by their respective Area radar/lidar coordinator until proficiency is shown.

4. ONGOING LIDAR TRAINING.

a. Annual Certification. There is no requirement to recertify annually; however, an online refresher course is available on the CHP Intranet, under Online Training.

ANNEX A

CHP 99A, RADAR/LIDAR RANGE AND SPEED DETERMINATION TEST

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

RADAR / LIDAR RANGE AND SPEED DETERMINATION TEST

CHP 99A (Rev. 1-25) OPI 091

OPERATOR'S NAME <i>John Smith</i>		ID NUMBER 12345	AREA NUMBER 0580	
STATIONARY (RADAR/LIDAR)		MOVING (RADAR ONLY)		
VEHICLE NUMBER	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL	
	SPEED	DISTANCE	SPEED	DISTANCE
1	50	350	48	374
2	40	460	42	488
3	40	470	40	455
4	35	300	34	322
5	45	400	50	444
ESTIMATED SPEED		ESTIMATED DISTANCE		ACTUAL SPEED
				47
				69
				82
				37
				74
CERTIFYING OPERATOR'S SIGNATURE <i>J.S. Smith</i>		ID NUMBER 12345	DATE 01/06/25	

CERTIFIED LIDAR OPERATORS MUST ALSO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

CERTIFYING OPERATOR MARK AN "X" WHEN COMPLETED BY OPERATOR			
CALIBRATION SEQUENCE		DOCUMENT LIDAR TEST SEQUENCE	
CIRCUIT	LIGHT	HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL
		FIXED DISTANCE	DISTANCE #1
			DISTANCE #2
			SPEED

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE NAMED OPERATOR HAS DEMONSTRATED PROFICIENCY IN THE CALIBRATION OF LIDAR.

CERTIFYING OPERATOR'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK