

# Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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## **Questions**

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- 1. What does the acronym FALCON stand for?**
  - A. Florida's Advanced Criminal Lookup Online Network**
  - B. Florida's Automated Criminal Law Online Network**
  - C. Florida's Integrated Criminal History System**
  - D. Florida's Accessed Law Criminal Online Network**
- 2. Ordinance violations can be classified as which two types?**
  - A. Felonies and misdemeanors**
  - B. Civil and criminal**
  - C. Statutory and common**
  - D. Administrative and civil**
- 3. What should be avoided when approaching an abandoned vehicle?**
  - A. Approaching from the rear**
  - B. Identifying hazards**
  - C. Using ungloved hands**
  - D. Assessing public safety measures**
- 4. What term refers to the failure to use due or reasonable care resulting in harm to another person?**
  - A. Omission**
  - B. Negligence**
  - C. Liability**
  - D. Contravention**
- 5. According to Florida law, what is considered any force that is likely to cause death or great bodily harm?**
  - A. Excessive force**
  - B. Deadly force**
  - C. Unreasonable force**
  - D. Force**

- 6. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of driving under the influence?**
- A. Increased risk of accidents**
  - B. Increased awareness of surroundings**
  - C. Legal penalties**
  - D. Health risks**
- 7. What is the primary purpose of conducting an investigation for law enforcement officers?**
- A. Gathering evidence to support a case**
  - B. Impartial investigation**
  - C. Establishing rapport with the community**
  - D. Training new recruits**
- 8. What is the standard of justification needed to support a legal Terry stop?**
- A. Mere suspicion**
  - B. Reasonable suspicion**
  - C. Probable cause**
  - D. Articulable suspicion**
- 9. What is the center point of any curve called?**
- A. Radius**
  - B. Apex**
  - C. Tangent**
  - D. Vertex**
- 10. Which term describes a smaller segment of the population that differs from the majority?**
- A. Majority**
  - B. Minority**
  - C. Population group**
  - D. Subculture**

## **Answers**

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1. C
2. B
3. C
4. B
5. B
6. B
7. B
8. B
9. D
10. B

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What does the acronym FALCON stand for?**

- A. Florida's Advanced Criminal Lookup Online Network**
- B. Florida's Automated Criminal Law Online Network**
- C. Florida's Integrated Criminal History System**
- D. Florida's Accessed Law Criminal Online Network**

The correct answer is Florida's Integrated Criminal History System. FALCON serves as a robust database that provides law enforcement agencies across Florida with access to integrated criminal history data. This system is crucial for effectively sharing and managing criminal history information, which can be essential during investigations, background checks, and ensuring public safety. Understanding the premise of FALCON highlights the importance of an organized system that aids law enforcement in managing data efficiently. Integrated systems like FALCON streamline the process of retrieving information, making it easier for officers to obtain vital criminal history records which can enhance their decision-making capabilities in the field. The other options do not accurately reflect the established purpose of FALCON. For instance, while they may include relevant keywords associated with law enforcement databases, they fail to encompass the specific function of providing integrated access to criminal history, which distinguishes FALCON in its operation and utility.

**2. Ordinance violations can be classified as which two types?**

- A. Felonies and misdemeanors**
- B. Civil and criminal**
- C. Statutory and common**
- D. Administrative and civil**

Ordinance violations are typically classified as civil and criminal. Civil violations are usually less severe and may result in fines or administrative penalties, while criminal violations can lead to more serious consequences, including potential incarceration. This classification highlights the legal implications of ordinance violations, distinguishing between offenses that affect the public order and necessitate a response from law enforcement or the judicial system. Understanding this distinction is crucial for law enforcement officers, as it determines the appropriate response and enforcement strategies for different types of violations. Civil violations may involve a more administrative approach, while criminal violations often require a higher level of scrutiny and may involve criminal charges. This comprehensive framework aids officers in effectively addressing various ordinance violations within their communities.

### **3. What should be avoided when approaching an abandoned vehicle?**

- A. Approaching from the rear**
- B. Identifying hazards**
- C. Using ungloved hands**
- D. Assessing public safety measures**

When approaching an abandoned vehicle, it is crucial to ensure personal safety and minimize risk, which is why using ungloved hands should be avoided. When handling equipment or any unfamiliar surfaces, gloves serve as a barrier that protects against potential hazards such as sharp objects, biological contaminants, or chemical residues that may be present on the vehicle or its surroundings. Wearing gloves is a fundamental safety precaution that helps prevent injury or exposure to harmful substances, supporting the health and safety protocols typically emphasized in law enforcement practices. In contrast, the other options involve actions that are generally recommended or neutral when assessing a situation surrounding an abandoned vehicle. Approaching from the rear can help avoid surprises that might occur if someone is inside the vehicle. Identifying hazards is essential to ensure a safe approach, while assessing public safety measures is vital for ensuring that the area surrounding the vehicle does not pose any risks to the officer or the public.

### **4. What term refers to the failure to use due or reasonable care resulting in harm to another person?**

- A. Omission**
- B. Negligence**
- C. Liability**
- D. Contravention**

The term that refers to the failure to use due or reasonable care resulting in harm to another person is negligence. This legal concept signifies a breach of duty that the individual had to act with care and caution, which leads to injury or damage to another party. Establishing negligence typically involves proving that a duty of care existed, that the duty was breached, and that this breach directly caused harm. Negligence encompasses various scenarios, such as a driver failing to obey traffic laws and causing an accident, or a professional not adhering to standard practices, resulting in client injury. The focus lies on the actions (or inaction) that reflect a lack of reasonable care, showing that the responsible party did not meet the expected standards of conduct in a given situation. Understanding negligence is crucial in legal contexts, especially in tort law, where individuals seek compensation for damages caused by another's failure to act responsibly. This concept emphasizes the balance of rights and responsibilities in society, as individuals are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that does not put others at undue risk.

**5. According to Florida law, what is considered any force that is likely to cause death or great bodily harm?**

**A. Excessive force**

**B. Deadly force**

**C. Unreasonable force**

**D. Force**

The term that is properly defined as any force likely to cause death or great bodily harm is deadly force. In the context of law enforcement and self-defense, deadly force refers specifically to actions taken that are intended to cause serious injury or the potential loss of life. The use of deadly force is often regulated by strict guidelines and is only justified in specific situations, such as when an officer's or an individual's life is in imminent danger. In contrast, excessive force refers to a level of force that exceeds what is necessary to handle a situation, but does not necessarily imply that the force will cause death or great bodily harm. Unreasonable force implies that the action taken is not justifiable based on the circumstances, but again does not specifically denote the potential for death or severe injury. Lastly, the term "force" on its own is too broad and does not capture the critical aspect of the potential for causing significant harm as outlined in the definition of deadly force. Understanding these distinctions is essential for law enforcement officers to make informed decisions in the field regarding the use of force.

**6. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of driving under the influence?**

**A. Increased risk of accidents**

**B. Increased awareness of surroundings**

**C. Legal penalties**

**D. Health risks**

Driving under the influence (DUI) significantly impairs a driver's ability to operate a vehicle safely. Among the serious consequences is the increased risk of accidents, as intoxication reduces motor skills, judgment, and reaction times. Legal penalties associated with DUI can include fines, license suspension, and even jail time, reflecting the serious nature of this offense. Additionally, health risks are associated with DUI, not only because of the potential for injury from accidents but also due to the long-term effects of substance abuse. In contrast, increased awareness of surroundings contradicts the effects of alcohol or drugs, which typically lead to diminished cognitive and situational awareness. Thus, this choice correctly identifies a statement that does not align with the well-documented consequences of driving under the influence.

**7. What is the primary purpose of conducting an investigation for law enforcement officers?**

- A. Gathering evidence to support a case**
- B. Impartial investigation**
- C. Establishing rapport with the community**
- D. Training new recruits**

The primary purpose of conducting an investigation for law enforcement officers is to gather evidence to support a case. Investigations are essential in building a comprehensive and factual basis for legal prosecution. Officers collect and analyze various types of evidence, such as witness statements, physical evidence, and forensic data, to establish the facts of a case. While impartial investigation contributes to the integrity of the procedure and is critical for ensuring that evidence is handled fairly, it is ultimately about assembling a robust foundation that can hold up in court. This focus on gathering evidence underlines the investigative process's role in criminal justice, enabling law enforcement to act effectively and uphold the rule of law. Establishing rapport with the community and training new recruits, although important aspects of law enforcement, are not the primary objectives of conducting investigations. Their roles are more about fostering relationships and operational readiness rather than directly contributing to case-building through evidence collection.

**8. What is the standard of justification needed to support a legal Terry stop?**

- A. Mere suspicion**
- B. Reasonable suspicion**
- C. Probable cause**
- D. Articulable suspicion**

A Terry stop, established by the Supreme Court in *Terry v. Ohio*, requires law enforcement officers to have reasonable suspicion to justify stopping and briefly detaining an individual. This standard is lower than probable cause, which is necessary for arrests and obtaining search warrants but higher than mere suspicion. Reasonable suspicion is based on specific, articulable facts that the officer observes or knows about the individual in question—such as behavior that suggests criminal activity might be taking place. This means that officers must have a rationale that is grounded in the facts available to them at the moment of the stop, even if these facts are not sufficient for probable cause to make an arrest. Mere suspicion does not provide enough legal basis for a Terry stop as it does not meet the threshold of specific articulable facts supporting a belief that criminal activity is afoot. Probable cause reflects a higher standard requiring a reasonable belief that a crime has occurred or is occurring, which is not applicable for brief stops. Articulable suspicion refers to the ability of an officer to explain their reasoning for the stop in terms of observed behavior, but it is reasonable suspicion that encompasses the broader concept necessary for justifying a Terry stop.

**9. What is the center point of any curve called?**

- A. Radius**
- B. Apex**
- C. Tangent**
- D. Vertex**

The center point of a curve is referred to as the vertex. In mathematical terms, when dealing with curves such as parabolas or certain geometric figures, the vertex represents the point at which the curve changes direction. It is often considered the peak or lowest point in a parabolic shape, depending on the orientation of the curve. Understanding the concept of a vertex is crucial in various areas of mathematics and physics, especially in graphing functions and analyzing the properties of shapes. The position of the vertex can provide valuable information about the behavior of the curve, such as its maximum or minimum values. In contrast, the other terms listed refer to different concepts; for instance, radius pertains to circles and defines the distance from the center to any point on the circle, while tangent relates to lines that touch a curve at a single point without crossing it, and apex is commonly used to describe the highest point in a cone or pyramid, which can lead to confusion in the context of curves. Thus, the term vertex accurately captures the essence of the center point of a curve.

**10. Which term describes a smaller segment of the population that differs from the majority?**

- A. Majority**
- B. Minority**
- C. Population group**
- D. Subculture**

The term that describes a smaller segment of the population that differs from the majority is "minority." This designation is used in various contexts, particularly in social science, to refer to groups that may have less power or representation compared to the dominant or majority group. In discussions about demographics, sociology, or cultural studies, a minority can be defined not just by size but also by distinct characteristics such as ethnicity, religion, language, or cultural practices that set them apart from the majority. Recognizing and understanding the dynamics of minority groups is crucial for fostering inclusivity and addressing issues of social justice. The other terms do not accurately capture the essence of a smaller population segment with distinct differences. "Majority" refers to the larger segment of the population and does not apply to smaller groups. "Population group" is too broad and does not specifically imply a smaller or differing subset. "Subculture" refers to a cultural group within a larger culture, which may or may not be smaller in number and isn't exclusively defined by size as a minority is.