

OAKLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT 900 RADIO CODES PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. A key outcome of post-incident debrief is to train on gaps and then what?**
 - A. To review actions
 - B. To identify improvements
 - C. To conduct a separate investigation
 - D. To update SOPs
- 2. Which code corresponds to Disturbing the Peace - Music Party?**
 - A. 415D Disturbing the Peace - Drinking
 - B. 415E Disturbing the Peace - Music Party
 - C. 415F Disturbing the Peace - Family/Domestic Disturbance
 - D. 901 Vehicle Collision - Property Damage
- 3. Which of the following best supports after-action reporting in 900 codes?**
 - A. Use informal notes after the incident ends.
 - B. Document findings using standardized incident numbering and concise summaries.
 - C. Rely on memory rather than written records.
 - D. Post only weather-related details.
- 4. Besides reviewing actions, debriefs should focus on what other aspect?**
 - A. Archiving the incident with no changes
 - B. Scheduling a follow-up incident
 - C. Identifying improvements
 - D. Canceling SOP updates
- 5. What does radio code 918 mean?**
 - A. Person Screaming for Help
 - B. Drunk in Auto
 - C. Go to Your Office
 - D. Go to Communications Division

- 6. Which best describes the purpose of status updates in 900 codes?**
- A. to communicate incident progress, scene status, and when units can clear or standby
 - B. to issue new assignments
 - C. to log equipment inventory
 - D. to report weather conditions
- 7. To ensure interoperability with other agencies during 900 code events, which practice is recommended?**
- A. Use standard terms, share essential information, and follow mutual-aid protocols.
 - B. Create agency-specific jargon and avoid sharing terms.
 - C. Refuse to use mutual-aid protocols.
 - D. Only communicate through written reports.
- 8. Code 906 refers to which situation?**
- A. Abandoned automobile
 - B. Person breaking in
 - C. Vehicle Collision - Drunk Involved
 - D. Out of Service - Rest Relief
- 9. What is the purpose of a command post update in 900 codes?**
- A. To provide centralized situational awareness for incoming units and supervisors.
 - B. To document daily administrative tasks.
 - C. To assign overtime pay for responders.
 - D. To log equipment issues.
- 10. Which of the following best explains the primary benefit of using standardized 900 codes?**
- A. They encrypt all communications.
 - B. They are only used for non-emergency situations.
 - C. Conciseness and standardization to convey incident type, location, and unit status quickly.
 - D. They replace all other forms of communication.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. A key outcome of post-incident debrief is to train on gaps and then what?

- A. To review actions
- B. To identify improvements
- C. To conduct a separate investigation
- D. To update SOPs**

After a debrief identifies gaps, the next step is to turn those lessons into official, standardized procedures. Updating SOPs codifies the improvements so everyone follows the same, current steps in future incidents. This makes the changes durable—informing training, drills, and day-to-day responses—and helps ensure consistency and accountability across the organization. While reviewing actions and identifying improvements are part of the process, formalizing the changes in SOPs is what solidifies and disseminates those improvements. A separate investigation is not the immediate objective of the debrief.

2. Which code corresponds to Disturbing the Peace - Music Party?

- A. 415D Disturbing the Peace - Drinking
- B. 415E Disturbing the Peace - Music Party**
- C. 415F Disturbing the Peace - Family/Domestic Disturbance
- D. 901 Vehicle Collision - Property Damage

In this radio code system, the base number 415 covers Disturbing the Peace, and the letter suffix identifies the specific type of disturbance. The scenario described as Disturbing the Peace - Music Party is encoded with the suffix that stands for music-related disturbance, which is 415E. That makes 415E the best fit because it directly maps to the "music party" subtype rather than other disturbances like drinking (415D) or family/domestic issues (415F). The 901 code, by contrast, refers to a Vehicle Collision with Property Damage, which is a completely different category of incident. So using 415E communicates precisely that the call involves a music party causing disturbance.

3. Which of the following best supports after-action reporting in 900 codes?

- A. Use informal notes after the incident ends.
- B. Document findings using standardized incident numbering and concise summaries.**
- C. Rely on memory rather than written records.
- D. Post only weather-related details.

After-action reporting relies on clear, consistent documentation. Using standardized incident numbering ties every piece of information from the incident—the report, audio, notes, dispatch logs, and any evidence—together under one unique identifier. That structure makes it possible to review what happened, when it happened, who was involved, and what resources were used, which is essential for learning, accountability, and future planning. Concise summaries distill the essential facts, actions taken, outcomes, and any gaps or lessons, so supervisors and investigators can quickly grasp what occurred and how well responses performed. Informal notes and memory are unreliable for this purpose; they can be incomplete or inconsistent, leading to confusion. Weather details are only relevant if they directly affected tactical decisions or outcomes, so they don't drive the after-action evaluation on their own. In short, standardized numbering plus clear, brief summaries provide a reliable, actionable basis for reviewing and improving incident response.

4. Besides reviewing actions, debriefs should focus on what other aspect?

- A. Archiving the incident with no changes
- B. Scheduling a follow-up incident
- C. Identifying improvements**
- D. Canceling SOP updates

The main idea being tested is that debriefs are about learning and improving how operations are carried out. After reviewing what happened, the focus should be on identifying ways to improve—whether that's refining procedures, updating training, or adjusting equipment and tactics so the next response is more effective. This helps close the loop and drives ongoing betterment of policies and practices. Archiving the incident with no changes misses the opportunity to learn from the experience. Scheduling a follow-up incident isn't the primary purpose of the debrief, though it can be part of future planning. Canceling SOP updates would undermine the intent of learning from the event and making necessary improvements.

5. What does radio code 918 mean?

- A. Person Screaming for Help**
- B. Drunk in Auto
- C. Go to Your Office
- D. Go to Communications Division

Radio codes are shorthand used to convey situations quickly and unambiguously. When 918 is spoken, it signals a person who is screaming for help and in immediate distress, calling for rapid, high-priority response. Responders would prioritize locating the caller, ensuring scene safety, and providing aid or backup as needed. The other phrases describe different scenarios—a person who is drunk in a vehicle is a separate condition that requires attention but not the same urgent distress signal, while directions like going to an office or to the communications division are administrative commands rather than live distress reports.

6. Which best describes the purpose of status updates in 900 codes?

- A. to communicate incident progress, scene status, and when units can clear or standby**
- B. to issue new assignments
- C. to log equipment inventory
- D. to report weather conditions

Status updates are all about keeping the incident commander and responding units informed of how things are progressing on scene. They provide current progress, the status of the scene, and when units can clear or switch to standby. This creates clear situational awareness, helps allocate or reallocate resources quickly, and keeps everyone safe by avoiding guesswork or duplicated effort. Other activities, like issuing new assignments, logging equipment inventory, or reporting weather, are handled separately and don't capture the real-time flow of an active incident. That focus on ongoing progress and clearance status is what makes this the best description of the purpose of status updates.

7. To ensure interoperability with other agencies during 900 code events, which practice is recommended?

- A. Use standard terms, share essential information, and follow mutual-aid protocols.
- B. Create agency-specific jargon and avoid sharing terms.**
- C. Refuse to use mutual-aid protocols.
- D. Only communicate through written reports.

During multi-agency events, the key is to operate with a common language and established procedures that let everyone coordinate quickly and safely. Using standard terms keeps everyone on the same page right away, avoiding misunderstandings that arise when different agencies use different jargon or codes. Sharing essential information—like exact location, incident type, hazards, and resource needs—creates a shared situational awareness so responders can prioritize and allocate support efficiently. Following mutual-aid protocols provides a tested framework for cooperation across agencies, including roles, command structure, and interoperable radio and data practices, so teams can integrate smoothly even if they come from different agencies. Agency-specific jargon and isolated protocols would slow or confuse communication, and relying only on written reports lacks the real-time clarity needed for effective coordination.

8. Code 906 refers to which situation?

- A. Abandoned automobile
- B. Person breaking in**
- C. Vehicle Collision - Drunk Involved
- D. Out of Service - Rest Relief

This code is used to quickly indicate a person actively breaking in. It signals a burglary-in-progress or attempted entry, so responding officers treat the scene as a high-priority intrusion where someone is trying to gain access. The emphasis is on immediate awareness of an ongoing entry threat, prompting swift, cautious action and backup as needed. Abandoned automobile describes an unattended vehicle, not an active entry event. A vehicle collision with a drunk involved is an accident scenario, not an entry attempt. Out of service or rest relief refers to a unit's status, not an active incident.

9. What is the purpose of a command post update in 900 codes?

- A. To provide centralized situational awareness for incoming units and supervisors.**
- B. To document daily administrative tasks.
- C. To assign overtime pay for responders.
- D. To log equipment issues.

Command post updates are about keeping everyone on the same page by delivering a concise, up-to-date picture of the incident to the command post and to units as they arrive. The goal is centralized situational awareness: supervisors and incoming responders know where units are, what actions are in progress, what resources are needed, and any safety concerns. This shared view supports coordinated decisions, proper task assignments, and safer, more efficient operations at the scene. The other options describe routine administration, overtime decisions, or equipment logging, which aren't the purpose of a command post update.

10. Which of the following best explains the primary benefit of using standardized 900 codes?

- A. They encrypt all communications.
- B. They are only used for non-emergency situations.
- C. Conciseness and standardization to convey incident type, location, and unit status quickly.**
- D. They replace all other forms of communication.

Using standardized 900 codes emphasizes speed and shared understanding. Each code is designed to compress key information into a brief, universally understood shorthand that communicates the incident type, location, and the current status of responding units in a single transmission. This rapid, consistent format lets everyone listening—dispatchers and responders alike—grasp the situation quickly, which is crucial when time is a critical factor. At the same time, it provides a common framework so multiple units can coordinate smoothly, track progress, and log events consistently. This approach is about efficient, clear communication rather than encryption or replacing all other forms of communication, and it applies to both emergencies and non-emergencies.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://oaklandpolice900radiocodes.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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