NORTHERN ILLINOIS TRAINING ADVISORY BOARD
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RED DOT PISTOL INSTRUCTOR COURSE

Date: December 2-3, 2026 Registration Deadline: November 2, 2026

Times: 0800-1600 hours

Location: Winnebago County Sheriff's Department
650 West State Street
Rockford, IL

Instructor: Jared Smith- DMEC

Member Fee: $0 Non-Member & Non-Sworn Fee: $150

This course has been approved by ILETSB for the following mandates:

Emergency medical response training and certification - .50
De-escalation Techniques – 7.0/Scenario-based hours – 4.0
Officer Safety techniques, including cover, concealment, and time – 5.0/Scenario-based hours – 4.0

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

This course and its Points of Instruction (POI's) are intended to teach current firearms instructors the MDRS (Miniature Red Dot Sight) System for pistol mounted optics. POI's will begin with basic operation of a pistol mounted red dot, and the benefits of implementing and authorizing the use of MRDS through department policy. Policy suggestions will be given. The proper way to mount a red dot will be discussed. Finally, live and dry fire drills will be run. These drills will focus on several topics, including a proper and efficient draw stroke to find the dot upon p[re4senetation, tracking the dot under recoil, dot specific malfunctions, and the use of the dot and close and extended distance. The class will be run as "shooter/coach" format on the line.

INSTRUCTION METHODS:

Lecture and power point, handouts, dry fire, live fire, Instructors demonstration, written test and live fire qualification.

STUDENT MATERIALS:

a. RDS Pistol , Duty Belt, 3 magazines
b. 800 rounds of training ammunition
c. Eye and Ear Protection
d. Note taking material. To include a sharpie, to be carried on person
e. Body Armor

STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:

Students in this class should have previously attended a basic firearms instructor course. This class is not intended to learn ho to teach someone to shoot, but rather how to teach specifically to the RDS systems. At the end of the class, students should have a baseline knowledge of the RDS systems, pros, and cons to be aware of, and typical maintenance. They will have the necessary knowledge to instruct other shooters on the RDS system, as well as the why. Students will also have to pass a written test with a 90% ort better score, and a live fire qualification, and again pass with a 90% or better.

Prior to training commencing at the range, a thorough safety, medical, and mindset briefing will be conducted. A primary and secondary medical officer will be established, as well as a primary and secondary communications officer. The location of the IFAK kit will be known to all. Mindset, and what is not acceptable will be delineated. Hot range will be explained, as well as that everyone on the range is a safety officer. The firearms safety rules will be explained below.

There are four types that apply to the safe handling of firearms, on or off the range:

1. **Always treat every gun as if they are loaded.**

   - Get in the habit of performing a **visual and physical** of any gun you are handling or transferring/receiving from another.

2. **Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.**

   - A safe direction is determined by your environment. A safe direction can be up, down, out, or down range, all dependent on the environment you find yourself in. For most in-service training and qualifications, a safe direction is down or down range.

3. **Know your target, what is beyond your target, the transitional space between, and your ability to hit your target.**

4. **Keep your finger off the trigger, until you have made a conscious decision to fire, and you are on target.**