To Protect and Serve

Playas Training and Research Center (PTRC) currently serves local, state, federal, and the international law enforcement community. It provides a safe and secure environment for any training that supports the mission of the world’s peacekeepers. It offers a controlled and realistic training environment which offers law enforcement personnel a premier training experience.

PTRC’s range platform is unique, adaptive, and comprehensive, sharpening and advancing the effectiveness and appropriateness of law enforcement tactics, techniques, and procedures.

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PTRC is a controlled-access facility. Valid driver’s license or other government-issued ID is required for entry by anyone aged 16 or older.

PTRC is managed by the Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center (EMRTC) of New Mexico Tech, a public university in Socorro, NM. EMRTC has been known for research, testing, and training since 1947.

Realistic Training Environments

Serving your law enforcement training needs!
Unique Training Venues

PTRC's expansive urban range contains over 100 standard residential structures, some fully instrumented for remote viewing and recording. During After Action Review, training can be reviewed and trainees can evaluate their performance. These training structures are available for a full range of tactical, K-9, and patrol-based scenarios.

Capabilities and Capacities

* Multiple, 10-120 seat, fully instrumented classrooms
* Residential structures available to house instructors and students
* Dining facilities
* DoD and ATF certified storage facilities for arms, ammunition, and explosives
* Over 100 three-bedroom, two-bath residential training structures for simulated dynamic scenarios, team tactics force-on-force engagements, explosive breaching (external and internal tactical charges), gun port charges, wall breaches and break and rake for total structure domination
* "Maze houses" for training in low visibility residence entry and rescue
* Live fire sniper training can be accommodated
* Customer-provided aviation assets can be used for skid inserts, tactical rappels, or fast rope insertions
* Dignitary Protection training
* Dignitary Escort exercises
* High risk stops
* Patrol-based scenarios
* Undercover officer rescue operations
* Street jump or parking lot jump training
* Tactical tracking in urban or open desert environments

* Live fire weapons training complex with
  * high power rifle range with 1200 yard shooting distance and target butts capable of supporting up to .50 BMG semi-automatic or bolt action rifles
  * unknown distance rifle range with 60' Conex tower with multiple levels and shooting ports
  * 300 yard rifle range
  * two 100 yard rifle ranges
  * 25 yard pistol range

Realism

Reality based training is directly attributable to helping officers in high stress situations. Officers who have "lived" the situation before can:

Move faster through future situations, jumping to the important elements and reading them accurately

Reduce the number of incidents of excessive use of force

Have better recall during After Action Reviews of high stress situations

Control their breathing and heart rate during such situations

Have less incidence of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, thereby helping to extend their lives and careers.