

Training Name: Firearms

Course Name: TTPOA Advance Sniper School

Dates: 11/29/2026 - 12/04/2026

Venue: Austin Public Safety Training Center
Austin, TX 78744

Price: \$700

Instructors: Michael Castillo

Course Description:

Austin PD will be hosting a 6 day advanced sniper school on Sunday in Austin Texas from 7am to 5pm. The course will November 29 th through December 4 th which will consist of 60 hours of training on various sniper specific topics that will build upon skills and expose students to new areas of operational readiness. This course will deep dive into areas such as hostage rescue tactics, shooting through barriers, moving targets, improvised but stable positions and tripod specific deployment considerations. The course will be taught across the city at various locations so expect to travel to training within a 45 minute radius. The course is led by former Austin PD SWAT sniper team leader Mike Castillo and Retired SWAT sniper Matt Harmatuk who bring over three decades of combined experience with hundreds of sniper deployments in urban and rural areas in central Texas. The class will also host guest instructors from high level competition shooters to marine corps scout snipers who bring a wealth of knowledge including rare access to live stalking exercises, camouflage and long-range sniper engagements between 500 and 1000 yards. Additionally, students will be educated on covert over watch assignments, site advances, current case law applications led by SWAT supervisors and repetitions on hide construction with expert evaluation/feedback. The course is heavy on student repetition, and will test beyond basic sniper skills with a focus on data collection and development of and/or validation that your sniper program is in line with current national standards. Based on the ASA (American Sniper Association) This is a certification course that will have a skills assessment at the end of the week and will test the student mentally and physically. The following are the minimum requirements to be eligible to participate in the course:

- ? Active member of a US based Police SWAT team
- ? Certified law enforcement sniper
- ? Deployed as a sniper on a part time or full time swat team for at least one year with operational experience
- ? All requirements will be verified prior to class with the agency
- ? Austin PD basic sniper school preferred but not required

Each student will be expected to download “whatsapp” so that the group is able to communicate and you will be contacted the week prior to the start of the course. Each student needs to have a working knowledge of ballistic software with the weapon system profile pre-set up prior to class. Hornady 4DOF,

Geo ballistics or AB Quantum is preferred. Each student needs to have dopes confirmed out to at least 500 yards prior to the start of class. See below for the equipment requirements:

Ammunition

650 rounds of match grade DUTY ammunition

25 Barrier rounds

NOTE: No armor piercing or frangible ammunition. No .338 or 50 caliber.

Weapon System

Precision rifle capable of 1 MOA or better accuracy

Precision optic with a minimum of 10x magnification with associated tools needed to make adjustments

Bipod capable of canting left and right

Adjustable rifle sling with carabineer

Rifle data book

Rear shooting support bag

Bubble level system on the rifle,

Gas Mask

Support Gear

Shooting tripod capable of standing height
Appropriate cleaning equipment
Callout gear (armor, LBV, gloves, or any gear required by your department SOP)
Sniper pack or drag bag
Kestrel (optional)
Individual camouflage (veils, hoods, sheets, covers, ghillie, hide materials)
Plain clothes for UC day
Binoculars of at least 7X
Shooting mat (optional)
Laser rangefinder
Note taking material, pen, pencil (laptop computer optional for classroom)

Hearing protection
Sunscreen/bugspray
Long sleeve uniform
Boonie hat (Stalking)
Bag of medium sized rubber bands
Earth colored bungee cords (Harbor freight)

There is no particular host hotel however the primary training location will be at 4800 Shaw Ln, Austin Tx, 78744 at the APD public safety training center. I suggest pick a hotel that is NOT near downtown or in the Lamar/Rundberg area. The domain or north Austin areas will be a better choice.

For question regarding this class, please contact Region 1 Director AJ Rivera

call/text: 281-796-1889

email: aj.rivera@ttpoa.org

Training Description:

TTPOA believes in bringing in some of the best instructors in the country to share their knowledge and experience. If you have requests for a specific instructor or course, contact your [Regional Director](#).