LASD SERGEANT PROMOTIONAL PRACTICE EXAM (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.

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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!

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Questions

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1. **Under what condition can you not impound a vehicle according to the CVC section?**

   A. 12500 CVC

   B. 14601 CVC

   C. 23152 CVC

   D. 23222 CVC

2. **For investigations, what is the one-year time limit exemption?**

   A. All cases are exempt

   B. If the case is high profile

   C. If the investigative unit can justify the need for extension

   D. Only for cases involving minors

3. **How many days does a deputy have to turn in their weapon when under Restriction of Duty (ROD)?**

   A. 3 days

   B. 5 days

   C. 7 days

   D. 10 days

4. **When interacting with a suspected individual, what constitutes a detention?**

   A. A verbal warning

   B. Any form of questioning

   C. A show of authority that limits movement

   D. A request for consent to search

5. **Who can order an employee to submit to a drug test?**

   A. Chief of staff

   B. Unit commander

   C. Watch commander

   D. Human resources

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6. Under which WIC section does habitual truancy without secured detention fall?

A. 601b

B. 602

C. 625a

D. 625c

7. A minor found in need of medical care without guardianship falls under which section?

A. 601a

B. 305

C. 300g

D. 625c

8. Which case is referenced in determining if evidence is admissible based on constitutional procedures?

A. California v. Acevedo

B. Miranda v. Arizona

C. Gideon v. Wainwright

D. Roe v. Wade

9. What is the code for possession of a cell phone in a custody facility?

A. 11370.1 PC

B. 4575a PC

C. 647(f) PC

D. 830.3 PC

10. What is the appropriate WIC section for a minor without support?

A. 300g

B. 300i

C. 300j

D. 305

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Under what condition can you not impound a vehicle according to the CVC section?

A. 12500 CVC

B. 14601 CVC

C. 23152 CVC

D. 23222 CVC

The correct answer indicates that a vehicle cannot be impounded when the driver is cited for driving without a valid driver's license, as stated in CVC section 12500. Under this specific section, a law enforcement officer may issue a citation for a violation but is generally prohibited from impounding the vehicle if there is a responsible, licensed driver readily available to take control of the vehicle. This is significant because impoundment serves as a punitive or preventive measure for serious offenses, typically aimed at enhancing roadway safety and addressing repeated violations. In the case of section 12500, since the driver may have someone available who is legally licensed, the situation does not warrant an impound as part of enforcement. In contrast, the other sections refer to more severe driving offenses—such as driving on a suspended license (CVC section 14601), driving under the influence (CVC section 23152), or having an open container while driving (CVC section 23222)—which carry higher risks to public safety and typically justify vehicle impoundment. Thus, those circumstances might result in the vehicle being impounded to ensure compliance with safety regulations and laws.

2. For investigations, what is the one-year time limit exemption?

A. All cases are exempt

B. If the case is high profile

C. If the investigative unit can justify the need for extension

D. Only for cases involving minors

The one-year time limit exemption in investigations is applicable when the investigative unit can justify the need for an extension. This means that if there are compelling circumstances or substantial evidence that support the necessity to continue the investigation beyond the standard one-year time frame, the unit can request additional time. This allows for thorough and complete investigations, especially in complex cases where additional information or leads may emerge that are crucial for achieving a successful resolution. In contrast, the other scenarios do not universally warrant an exemption from the one-year limit. Claims that all cases are exempt or that exemption applies solely to high-profile cases do not account for the procedural need for accountability and justifications in law enforcement. Similarly, while cases involving minors may require careful consideration, they do not automatically receive a blanket exemption absent a solid justification from the investigative unit. Thus, the correct understanding hinges on the ability of the investigative unit to demonstrate legitimate reasons for extending the investigation time frame.

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3. How many days does a deputy have to turn in their weapon when under Restriction of Duty (ROD)?

A. 3 days

B. 5 days

C. 7 days

D. 10 days

When a deputy is placed under Restriction of Duty (ROD), it is crucial for them to adhere to specific protocols regarding their assigned weapon. The correct timeframe for a deputy to turn in their weapon under ROD is five days. This stipulation is in place to ensure that any deputy who is not actively engaged in their duties does not retain access to their firearm, which could potentially pose a safety risk both to the individual and the community. The five-day window allows for a balance between ensuring compliance with the policy while providing a reasonable period for the deputy to comply without undue hardship. In situations such as this, adhering strictly to the established timelines is critical for maintaining operational safety and accountability within the department. Understanding this policy helps maintain the integrity of the department and adds to the professionalism expected of law enforcement personnel.

4. When interacting with a suspected individual, what constitutes a detention?

A. A verbal warning

B. Any form of questioning

C. A show of authority that limits movement

D. A request for consent to search

A detention occurs when a law enforcement officer demonstrates authority that restricts an individual's freedom of movement. This could involve various actions such as verbal commands, physical barriers, or any other means that indicate to the individual that they are not free to leave. The key factor in a detention is that the individual feels their liberty is constrained, even if they have not been formally arrested. In this context, the other options do not accurately define a detention. A verbal warning may indicate that the officer is addressing a situation, but it does not inherently limit the individual's movement. Questioning alone does not constitute a detention since the questioned individual may not feel restrained or compelled to stay. Similarly, a request for consent to search may be made under circumstances that do not involve any limitation on movement; the individual could choose to decline the request and walk away. Therefore, the correct characterization of a detention lies in the display of authority that explicitly or implicitly restricts the individual's mobility.

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5. Who can order an employee to submit to a drug test?

A. Chief of staff

B. Unit commander

C. Watch commander

D. Human resources

The unit commander is the appropriate authority to order an employee to submit to a drug test, as this position generally has the requisite oversight and responsibility for the personnel within their unit. The unit commander is typically well-versed in the department's policies regarding drug testing and is empowered to ensure the integrity and performance of their unit. This authority aligns with maintaining departmental standards and responding to situations that necessitate drug testing, such as reasonable suspicion or post-incident protocols. In contrast, while other roles like the chief of staff, watch commander, and human resources may have varying levels of involvement or influence regarding personnel matters, they do not possess the direct authority to mandate a drug test under standard operational protocols as effectively as the unit commander does. The chief of staff typically focuses on broader administrative functions, the watch commander oversees shifts and immediate operations but may not have jurisdiction over personnel actions, and human resources generally handles policy implementation and personnel records rather than direct orders for testing.

6. Under which WIC section does habitual truancy without secured detention fall?

A. 601b

B. 602

C. 625a

D. 625c

The correct choice is based on the specific provisions outlined in the California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC). The section 601(b) pertains specifically to minors who are habitually truant. Habitual truancy is considered a status offense, meaning that the behavior is only considered an offense due to the individual's status as a minor. WIC 601(b) allows for intervention aimed at addressing the underlying issues that contribute to truancy without resorting to secured detention, focusing instead on rehabilitation and guidance. This aligns with the principles of restorative justice, which seek to support minors in making better choices rather than penalizing them through detention. The other sections relate to different aspects of juvenile law and do not directly address habitual truancy without the implication of secured detention. Understanding these distinctions in the WIC helps clarify how the legal system aims to handle issues related to youth behavior and support their development positively.

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7. A minor found in need of medical care without guardianship falls under which section?

A. 601a

B. 305

C. 300g

D. 625c

The correct answer is associated with the provisions regarding minors who require medical care but do not have guardianship. In this context, the pertinent section addresses situations where a minor is found to be without support or care that is necessary for their well-being. Section 305 specifically pertains to minors who are in need of emergency medical care and are without their parents or guardians to ensure that care is provided. This section outlines the responsibilities of law enforcement and child protective services to step in when a minor is found in such vulnerable conditions. It emphasizes the immediate need for intervention to safeguard the health and safety of the minor. The other sections, while they may address related issues regarding minors, do not specifically encompass the scenario described—specifically, providing care for minors without guardianship in medical contexts.

8. Which case is referenced in determining if evidence is admissible based on constitutional procedures?

A. California v. Acevedo

B. Miranda v. Arizona

C. Gideon v. Wainwright

D. Roe v. Wade

The case referred to for determining if evidence is admissible based on constitutional procedures is Miranda v. Arizona. This landmark Supreme Court decision established that individuals taken into police custody must be informed of their rights, including the right to remain silent and the right to counsel. This requirement is rooted in the Fifth Amendment's protection against self-incrimination and the Sixth Amendment's right to counsel. Miranda v. Arizona has a direct impact on the admissibility of evidence because statements made by a suspect who has not been properly informed of these rights may not be used against them in court. Therefore, if a suspect's rights were not respected during the interrogation process, any resulting evidence or confessions could be deemed inadmissible, significantly affecting the outcome of a case. This ruling highlights the importance of constitutional procedures in protecting individual rights within the criminal justice system, ensuring fair treatment and due process. The implications of this case extend to various interactions with law enforcement, emphasizing the necessity of adhering to these constitutional requirements to validate the admissibility of evidence.

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9. What is the code for possession of a cell phone in a custody facility?

A. 11370.1 PC

B. 4575a PC

C. 647(f) PC

D. 830.3 PC

The code for possession of a cell phone in a custody facility is outlined in Penal Code 4575a. This specific section addresses the unlawful possession of a cellular phone or similar device by an inmate while in a custodial setting, which is a serious violation due to the potential for such devices to facilitate communication and contraband activities that can disrupt facility operations and security. The mention of this law highlights how regulations are put in place to prevent the introduction of unauthorized communication devices that can jeopardize the safety of both staff and inmates. Understanding this code is essential for law enforcement personnel as it directly relates to maintaining the integrity of custodial environments.

10. What is the appropriate WIC section for a minor without support?

A. 300g

B. 300i

C. 300j

D. 305

The correct choice for addressing the situation of a minor without support is found under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 300g. This section specifically pertains to situations where a child lacks appropriate parental support or care. In this context, "without support" indicates that the minor is not receiving the necessary guidance, supervision, or emotional support from their caregivers, rendering them at risk and requiring intervention by child protective services or similar authorities. It's essential to understand that the other sections refer to different circumstances involving minors. For instance, 300i typically addresses minors who are neglected and have an unstable living environment, while 300j deals with minors who are subjected to substantial risk of harm due to their guardians' behavior. Section 305 concerns the power of law enforcement to take a child into custody when they are in imminent danger, but it does not specifically address the lack of support by caregivers. Therefore, for cases where a minor is specifically identified as lacking sufficient support, 300g is the appropriate legal framework for intervention.

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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:

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

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