We attempt to schedule two dates each calendar year for qualifications. They fall approximately 6 months apart, one in each half of the year.

Who is eligible for HR 218 / L.E.O.S.A.?

You can research the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA) of 2004 and its amendments in 2010 and 2013 to see if you are eligible to attend.

Do I have to supply all the information on the registration form?

Yes. We must verify to do a criminal history check prior to the qualification date. A good phone number is important.

Can I live outside the Sarasota county area and still participate?

No. You must reside inside the geographic boundaries of Sarasota County.

What type of firearm is acceptable for qualification?

The weapon must be a handgun capable of double action fire. (Striker fired weapons, Glock, Sigs etc. are acceptable).

How many firearms will I be allowed to bring?

One firearm per person.

Is ammunition provided?

No, you must bring your own ammunition.

How much ammunition do I need to bring and what kind is acceptable?

The course is 40 rounds, so to be safe bring two boxes of 50 rounds each of any currently produced ammunition.

How many attempts to qualify will I get?

You will be allowed two attempts at qualification.

What type of holster is required?

Any holster that can be secured to the waist area of the shooter.

Will eye and ear protection be provided for me?

No, you will need to bring your own, earplugs or earmuffs and safety glasses. Prescription eyewear is acceptable.

Are we allowed to practice before we attempt to qualify?

No.

Are friends or relatives allowed to come with me to watch?

No, for liability reasons civilians not qualifying under L.E.O.S.A. are not allowed at the range.

How long can I expect to be at the range?
1-3 hours depending on the number of shooters.

After qualification what will I get showing that I have qualified?

You will get a Florida Department of Law Enforcement qualification card.

How long is the qualification card valid?

1 year (365 days from date of issue).

Can I get extra copies or replacements if lost or damaged?

Because the F.D.L.E. cards are serialized you can only receive one card per year.

If I am disqualified for safety, equipment or failure to qualification, is there anyway grievance procedure?

No. The Range master or his designee has the final word on all range matters.

Are there any others times through the year that I can qualify?

No, due to the high demand for range time we only schedule the HR 218 twice each year.

Do I need to contact anyone if I register for the qualification but I can’t make it on this day?

No.

Can I register with you to qualify by any other means?

Registration can only be done online through the Sheriff’s Office webpage.

If I do not get registered via the website by the cutoff date can I still show up?

Walk-ins will not be permitted.

Once I register online will I hear back from the Sheriff’s Office?

Not unless there is a problem that needs clarification.

Where is the HR 218 qualification held?

The Sheriff’s firing range is located inside Knight Trail Park at 3445 Rustic Rd, Nokomis FL 34275

What time should I be there?

Attendance starts at 8:00 a.m. so be there 15-30 minutes.