



California Association of Tactical Officers

## Tactical Rope Access Course

**Date:** 02/16/2026 - 02/20/2026

**Tuition:** \$1463

**POST Control #:** 1185-33577-25004

**Location:** Fire Station #1 Escondido  
Escondido, CA 92025

**Instructors:** Dana Vilander  
Greg Simon

### Course Description:

[Download Flyer](#)

### Training Description:

**COURSE INSTRUCTORS:** The course cadre is led by Dana Vilander, a 32 year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department where he spent over 25 years at the Special Enforcement Bureau working K9, SWAT, Air Rescue/SAR and SWAT Paramedic. Dana has more than 25 years training both U.S. and international tactics, tactical medicine, rope access and rescue, and helicopter operations. This course is POST certified.

### STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING:

- Bump helmet
- Harness
- Gloves
- Rope Kit to include:
  - 100' 9.5 mm Sterling Tactical Response
  - 2x 1" tubular webbing- 1x30', 1x15' Bluewater or Sterling
  - 2x VT Prusik - Bluewater 7mm
  - 5 carabiners - RockExotica Pirate self-locking
  - 1 carabiner - RockExotica Rock O self-locking
  - 1 Petzl Microtraxion or equivalent
  - 1 Petzl tibloc or equivalent
  - 1 Petzl Rollclip
  - 1 Petzl GriGri descent device
  - 1 Pulley - RockExotica Minipulley or equivalent
  - 16' 6mm Aramid cord
  - Yates 544 technora rappel daisy link
- Any agency-issued rope equipment
- Tactical gear to include weapons and NVGs if available
- Recommended Team Kit:
  - 200-300' ropes x 2 for the tallest building you have
  - CMC commercial adjustable anchor slings
  - Bluewater 4:1. Haul kit
  - Skylotec Spark for negotiator safety
  - Harness for a negotiator
  - Extra carabiners, slings, etc

## STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW THE FOLLOWING KNOTS:

Knots, Hitches, Anchors

- a) Figure 8,
- b) Figure 8 on a bight
- c) Overhand
- d) Double Bight Bowline
- e) Alpine Butterfly
- f) Bowline
- g) Bowline with Yosemite Finish
- h) Rigging Bowline
- i) Munter Hitch
- j) Girth Hitch
- k) Clove Hitch
- l) Offset Bound Overhand- tying 2 ropes together
- m) Webbing- Water knot and Frost knot
- n) Single Point Anchors
- o) Basket Hitch
- p) Wrap 3 Pull 2
- q) Wrap 2 pull 4
- r) High Strength Tie Off
- s) Bowline series
- t) Contingency Anchor- for lowering a stuck or injured roper
- u) 2 or 3-point equalized anchor
- v) 2 or 3 point self-equalizing anchor

**TRAVEL AND LODGING:** This course will begin at 0800 hours on the first day and conclude at approximately 1700 hours on the last day.

**Register online at [catotraining.org](http://catotraining.org)**

Questions? Contact CATO's Training Coordinator  
Desiree Harrington: [dharrington@catotraining.org](mailto:dharrington@catotraining.org)