

# Hicks Law vs. Code 4 Concepts

By Chad Lyman

Progressive F.O.R.C.E. Concepts

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+++++PART TWO+++++

The single biggest counter to Hicks Law involves an officer establishing the most physically dominant position possible. Once achieved, the officer should strive to maintain it, or if countered, re-establish this dominance. In this condition an officer has multiple options: they can stay attached, disengage, strike, use a weapon, or execute a takedown. The real key to dominance is not performing the “perfect” technique, but rather for the officer to achieve a platform that allows them to be dominant merely based on their position. Once the officer establishes this platform of dominance, the multiple choices do not slow them down because they can exploit numerous “correct” options.

One of the most salient platforms an officer can achieve is an angle. The angle allows the officer continuous mobility and response to counters by the suspect. Operationally defined, an angle is anytime my hips face the suspect and the suspect’s hips face away. By this definition, an angle is only achieved if I am offset from the suspect to one side or the other or I am behind them, and I am squared up to them. I can create an angle whether I am close to the suspect or far away, but distal proximity allows the suspect to easily counter the angle.

An angle is an incredibly commanding platform because from the angle an officer does not have just one or two options, there are a multitude of considerations: stay attached, disengage, strike, use a weapon, or execute a takedown. By training officers to be in a position that affords flexibility if some options may fail, the officer can remain in control of the encounter.

Training an officer to go out and face violence and danger is one of the most daunting and rewarding challenges anyone could accept. This training should put your students in the position to dominate their opponents throughout the encounter. Ultimately compliance is the goal of any encounter with a subject. When the officer achieves a superior platform, suspects often “feel” dominated, and that can lead to a resistant individual changing their mind and becoming compliant. If the suspect continues to resist from an inferior position, the officer is in better standing to manage the suspect, control their physical actions, and ultimately take them into custody.

The principles discussed in both parts 1 and 2 of this article are just a few that officers and anyone defending themselves can use in an encounter. Whatever a person decides to do, if they have been trained in a principle-based system, they will

not be at a disadvantage from the challenges of Hicks Law or a technique-centric approach. C4C-trained officers are living, breathing, problem solvers who stay outcome-based and adapt throughout the fight. Our commitment to principles, transitions, and angles lead to dominant platforms and dominant performance in the street.

Please train with us soon and gain the C4C edge yourself. Stay safe!

#### AUTHOR BIO:

**Chad Lyman** is the Director of Combatives for Progressive F.O.R.C.E. Concepts ([www.PFCtraining.com](http://www.PFCtraining.com)) and the founder of the Code 4 Concepts training system. Chad has combined his years of operational law enforcement and Mixed Martial Arts experience to emerge as one of the nation's leading defensive tactics trainers. He is the consummate professional, trainer, and street cop whose dedication to students and the advancement of officer safety through modern tactics is unparalleled. Chad's career began with a Bachelor's Degree from Portland State University in Administration of Justice and double minor in History and Terrorism Studies. Chad then entered into law enforcement as a full-time Police Officer with the Portland Bureau of Police. There he distinguished himself as a key trainer of police personnel in the areas of defensive tactics and subject control. Chad later moved to Southern Nevada to serve with a major metropolitan police department. His responsibilities have included patrol, Field Training Officer, gang detective, Mobile Crimes Saturation Team (anti-terrorism), and full-time SWAT operator. Chad is currently assigned to the training division as part of the Advanced Officer Skills Training (AOST) team. He also holds multiple law enforcement user and instructor certifications including FTO, firearms, active shooter, riot/civil unrest, and advanced defensive tactics instructor. Chad has trained in Mixed Martial Arts and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu for over ten years. He currently serves as a coach for the Gracie Humita Las Vegas Competition Team-Team Mica and has taught Mixed Martial Arts in Las Vegas since 2006. Chad is a frequent grappling competitor and currently holds a Black Belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. Because of his exceptional skills, Chad is a personal ground fighting coach for several professional MMA competitors. In 2012, Chad was inducted in the Masters Martial Arts Hall of Fame for his work in the area of police and military defensive tactics.