

TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER STANDARDS AND EDUCATION

CLOSE UP

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, Issue 13

JANUARY 2012

Commissioners



Sheriff Joel W. Richardson, Presiding Officer



Assistant City Manager Public Safety, Steven M. Griffith, Assistant Presiding Officer



Dr. Johnny E. Lovejoy, II., Secretary



Ron E. Hood



Mr. James Oakley



Sr. Police Officer Joseph Pennington



Ms. Patt Scheckel -Hollingsworth



Chief Ruben



Mr. Randy Watson

* Commissioners listed in alphabetical order

Contact Information

Mailing Address:

Texas Commission On Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education 6330 E Highway 290, Ste. 200 Austin, TX 78723-1035 Phone: 512-936-7700

Fax: 512-936-7714

Website: www.tcleose.state.tx.us

What would you like to see? Close Up feedback, ideas, and suggestions may be made to nicole.hendrickson@tcleose.state.tx.us.

Notice

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, the publications of the Commission are available by request in alternative formats. To request an accessible format, please contact our ADA Compliance Officer at the address or phone number listed above, or through RELAY Texas at (800) 735-2989. The Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in providing services or employment.

Upcoming Events:

2012 QUARTERLY MEETINGS:

March 1

JUNE 7

SEPTEMBER 6

DECEMBER 6

- JANUARY 12 STRATIGIC PLAN-NING MEETING FOR COMMISSIONERS
- REGIONAL MEETINGS:

JANUARY 17 - MIDLAND

JANUARY 18 - AMARILLO

JANUARY 19 - ARLINGTON

FEBRUARY 21 - HOUSTON

FEB RUARY 22 - MCALLEN

FEBRUARY 29 - AUSTIN

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JANUARY 2012

Telecommunicator Law Changes

HB 3823 MADE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE OCCUPATIONS CODE

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2011:

- Defines a Telecommunicator as "a person acknowledged by the Commission and employed by or serving a law enforcement agency that performs law enforcement services on a 24-hour basis who receives, processes, and transmits public safety information and criminal justice data for the agency by using a base radio station on a public safety frequency regulated by the Federal Communications Commission or by another method of communication."
- Allows an agency to have hiring standards that exceed the minimum requirements.
- Grants TCLEOSE the authority to set minimum standards.



- Disqualifies a person from being employed or appointed as a Telecommunicator with a felony conviction.
- Requires Crisis Communication
 Training within one year of employment as a Telecommunicator.
- Requires a minimum age of 18 and holds a high school diploma or equivalency certificate.
- Repeals previous exempted agencies employing 20 or fewer employees.

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Telecommunicator Law Changes (cont.)

HB 3823 MADE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE OCCUPATIONS CODE

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1 2011:

- Temporary Telecommunicators appointed on or after December 1, 2011, will need <u>both</u> the Basic Telecommunications Course #1013 and Crisis Communications #2120 within one year of employment to receive a Telecommunicator certificate.
- Agencies who employ a person to act as a Telecommunicator and the appointment has not been reported to TCLEOSE will be subject to an administrative penalty not to exceed \$1,000 per day per violation.

SUMMARY:

Agencies that provide 24-hour law enforcement services, either by on-duty or on-call basis must report persons employed by the agency who receive, process, or transmit public safety information and criminal justice data for the agency by using a base station or another method to TCLEOSE for certification as a Telecommunicator.

A person may be appointed as a Temporary Telecommunicator and will have one year to complete the Basic Telecommunications Course #1013 and Crisis Communications Course # 2120.

Telecommunicators appointed before December 1, 2011, will only need Crisis Communications #2120 when pursuing basic or intermediate proficiency certificates.

Questions about Telecommunicators may be directed to your Regional TCLEOSE Field Agent or Commission staff at TCLEOSE Headquarters.

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College Education and TCLEOSE

College credits may be added to your record and converted into training hours. These converted 'education' hours are included in your overall training hours, but do not apply to your unit/cycle training requirements. TCLEOSE accepts all college hours earned from colleges and universities accredited under the Regional Institutional Accrediting Organizations. These accrediting organizations are:

| MSA | Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools |
|-------|---|
| NWCCU | Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities |
| NCA | North Central Association of Colleges and Schools |
| NEASC | New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. |
| SACS | Southern Association of Colleges and Schools |
| WASC | Western Association of Schools and Colleges |

An international college or university evaluated and accepted by a United States college or university accredited by the above organizations is accepted. College hours earned at institutions other than those listed above do not qualify and will not be accepted for TCLEOSE credit. If you have any questions as to the accreditation of your college or university, please contact the registrar of the school or TCLEOSE.

The Advanced Instructor Course — Before you sign up!

As many of you are aware, the Advanced Instructor's Certification recently became available. The prerequisites of this certification are:

- Holding a Basic Instructor's Certification for a minimum of three years, and
- Completion of the Advanced Instructor's Course (Course 1017).

In years past, the Commission has allowed individuals to complete a certificate course at any time regardless of qualification at the time of completion. This is not the case with the Advanced Instructor's Course. To enroll in the Advanced Instructor's Course (Course 1017), you MUST have a Basic Instructor's Certificate for at least three years prior to taking the course. Eligibility will be confirmed



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Proficiency Certificates

In recent years, proficiency level certificates have become an important consideration in the law enforcement hiring process. Many departments throughout Texas now require certain levels of certification to even apply for a position. Furthermore, the Texas Legislature has based continuing education requirements on proficiency levels. The current requirements for each proficiency certificate level are as follows:

Basic Peace Officer Certificate

An active license or appointment One year of service Courses:

> 1999 Personnel Orientation 3722 Peace Officer Field Training

These courses are completed through and reported by your appointing agency.

Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate

An active license or appointment **Basic Peace Officer Certificate** Acceptable hours/service:

| Hours | Education | Service |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|
| 400 | | 8 |
| 800 | | 6 |
| 1200 | | 4 |
| 2400 | | 2 |
| | Associate's | 4 |
| | Bachelor's or higher degree | 2 |

Courses (once during career):

| 2105 Child Abuse Prevention | 3255 Asset Forfeiture* |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2106 Crime Scene Investigation* | 3256 Racial Profiling* |
| 2107 Use of Force | 3270 Human Trafficking* |
| 2108 Arrest, Search, & Seizure | 3841 Crisis Intervention Training* |
| 2109 Spanish For Law Enforcement* | 3232 Special Investigative Topics* |
| 3277 Identity Crimes | 3939 Cultural Diversity* |

^{*}Has equivalent courses. Please refer to full chart at www.tcleose.state.tx.us, under "Training Mandates"

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Proficiency Certificates (cont.)

The current requirements for each proficiency certificate level are as follows:

Advanced Peace Officer Certificate

An active license or appointment Basic Peace Officer Certificate Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate Acceptable hours/service:

| Hours | Education | Service |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|
| 800 | | 12 |
| 1200 | | 9 |
| 2400 | | 6 |
| | Associate's | 6 |
| | Bachelor's or higher degree | 5 |

Courses (once during career):

3271 Advanced Human Trafficking* 3841 Crisis Intervention Training*

Master Peace Officer Certificate

An active license or appointment Basic Peace Officer Certificate Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate Advanced Peace Officer Certificate Acceptable hours/service:

| Hours | Education | Service |
|-------|--------------|---------|
| 1200 | | 20 |
| 2400 | | 15 |
| 3300 | | 12 |
| 4000 | | 10 |
| | Associate's | 12 |
| | Bachelor's | 9 |
| | Master's | 7 |
| | Doctorate/JD | 5 |

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^{*}Has equivalent courses. Please refer to full chart at www.tcleose.state.tx.us, under "Training Mandates"

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Proficiency Certificates (cont.)

The current requirements for each proficiency certificate level are as follows:

Basic Jailer Certificate

An active license or appointment One year of service Courses:

1999 Personnel Orientation3721 County Correction Officer Field Training

These courses are completed through and reported by your appointing agency.

Intermediate Jailer Certificate

An active license or appointment Basic Jailer Certificate Acceptable hours/service:

| Hours | Education | Service |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|
| 400 | | 6 |
| 800 | | 4 |
| 1200 | | 2 |
| 2400 | | 1 |
| | Associate's | 2 |
| | Bachelor's or higher degree | 1 |

Courses (once during career):

3501 Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails

3502 Inmate Rights and Privileges

3503 Interpersonal Communications in the Correctional Setting

3504 Use of Force in a Jail Setting

2109 Spanish for Law Enforcement*

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An active license or appointment Basic Jailer Certificate Intermediate Jailer Certificate Acceptable hours/service:

| Hours | Education | Service |
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| 1200 | | 6 |
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Master Jailer Certificate

An active license or appointment Basic Jailer Certificate Intermediate Jailer Certificate Advanced Jailer Certificate Acceptable hours/service:

| Hours | Education | Service |
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| 1200 | | 20 |
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TCLEOSE Fee Schedule

There were many changes to the Commission in September, including new fee schedule requirements. Agencies that have not purchased a subscription to TCLEDDS are now required to electronically submit F5R (Pre-Employment Separation Request) and training rosters through the Commission website under "Departmental Reporting System." There is a \$35 per document fee. Electronic submission through DRS for an L1 (Appointment of Licensee), F5 (Separation of Licensee) and T1 (Telecommunicator Appointment or

Separation) will be available soon. In the meantime, these forms should be mailed to the Commission with an accompanying \$35 fee per document. There are no submission fees for documents submitted through TCLEDDS.

TCLEDDS will continue to automatically award basic, intermediate, advanced, and master proficiency certificates as requirements are met. These achievements will be displayed on each licensee's personal status report (PSR); but individuals who want to receive a physical copy of one of their certificates by mail will need to submit an electronic application through 'MyTCLEOSEAccount' or by certificate application located under 'Forms and Applications' on www.tcleose.state.tx.us. There is a \$35 per certificate fee.

The TCLEOSE fee schedule changes also affect licensees requesting certified copies of their records (official transcripts) for college applications, or out-of-state reviews. Certified copies of records and business record affidavits are \$35.

Electronic payments with a credit card will be available soon. All money orders and bank cashier's checks should be made to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE), 6330 E. Highway 290, Ste. 200, Austin, Texas 78723.

TCLEOSE Trivia

| In what year was the LAST Reserve Officer license issued? |
|---|
| A) 1999 |
| B) 2004 |
| C) 2006 |
| |

Answer: The last Reserve Officer license was issued in June of 2004. A Reserve License becomes inactive when a licensee has a break in service for more than two years and is non-compliant in training for any unit after being licensed. This license cannot be reactivated.

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My TCLEOSE Record

Do I have all my training on my record? Was this course reported? How many hours do I have? What courses do I need to take this unit? These are some of the most frequently asked questions by callers to the Commission.

Over the past couple of years, TCLEOSE has taken great stride in making this information readily available and at your fingertips.

One easy way to see your training record is through your 'MyTCLEOSEAccount.' Creating your account takes less than a minute and gives you access to your service dates, education, training record, and awards. Go to our main webpage at www.tcleose.state.tx.us.

Another way to find out about your training record is to call our main number at (512) 936-7700 and follow the prompts on our phone system by entering your PID number. This feature gives the number of training hours you have completed from the beginning of the current training unit.

Ask your Training Coordinator! Agencies with TCLEDDS have direct access to your record.

Training providers have up to 30 days to report your course to TCLEOSE. If you are currently appointed, all training must be electronically submitted by the provider or appointing agency. For individuals not currently appointed, course certificates may be submitted to TCLEOSE for credit. Please include a written request with your PID number. Training prior to 9/1/2009 will not be accepted.

Another L2/L3 or Not?

Several questions have recently been asked regarding when a Licensee Medical Condition Declaration (L2) and a Licensee Physiological and Emotional Health Declaration (L3) for a new hire is required.

A licensee will need to complete a new L2 and L3 if he or she has a break in service of 180 days or more. If a licensee has less than a 180 day break in service, a new L2 or L3 is not required; however, TCLEOSE recommends new declarations be obtained for liability purposes.

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In Memoriam of the Fallen

In the Line of Duty — None to report at this time

End of Watch

James E. Marconi, San Antonio Police Department, October 8, 2011 Ofelia Villarreal Lowe, Midland County Sheriff's Office, October 10, 2011 Thomas E. Cheek, Comal County Sheriff's Office, October 24, 2011 James H. Smallwood, Killeen Police Department, October 29, 2011 **Edward Nahquaddy**, Wichita County Sheriff's Office, November 1, 2011 **Robert M. Galaway**, Houston Police Department, November 1, 2011 Charlie M. McInvale, San Antonio Police Department, November 3, 2011 Luis A. Baez, Houston Police Department, November 6, 2011 Tony Ingargiola, Dallas Police Department, November 8, 2011 Joseph L. Vowels, Houston Police Department, November 12, 2011 **Richard C. Wong**, Euless Police Department, November 21, 2011 Manuel Moctezuma, Houston ISD Police Department, November 24, 2011 Paul Depositario, Harris County Sheriff's Office, November 24, 2011 Billy F. Hohensee, San Antonio Police Department, November 24, 2011 Gerald C. Morris, Pasadena Fire Marshal's Office, November 30, 2011 Robert A. Cooley, Harris County Sheriff's Office, December 3, 2011 Patrick Kilough, San Antonio Police Department, December 4, 2011 Herb Steele, Dallas Police Department, December 5, 2011 Billy Joe Selfridge, Donley County Sheriff's Office, December 10, 2011 Michael P. Young, San Antonio Police Department, December 13, 2011 Rex E. Post, Dallas Police Department, December 20, 2011 Clyde Powell, Bowie County Constables Office, Precinct 1, December 21, 2011 Winaford M. Richardson, Dallas Police Department, December 22, 2011 Walter A. Dennis, San Antonio Police Department, December 23, 2011

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