

Legislation and procedural changes affecting
Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education

- 8/30/1965 59th Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 256 creating the Commission under Article 4413 (29aa), V.C.S. No money was appropriated for agency implementation.
- 9/1/1967 60th Legislature appropriated money – Wallace D. Beasley appointed as Director, plus four employees.
- Glen H. McLaughlin served as the first Chairman of the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education.
- Voluntary program of certification was implemented and three levels of peace officers were provided: Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced.
- 9/20/1968 First peace officer certifications awarded by the Commission.
- 9/1/1969 61st Legislature amended the original act to provide that all new peace officers appointed on or after 9/1/1970 must meet certain employment and certification standards established by the Commission.
- Legislation identified “peace officers” as those in Art. 2.12, CCP.
- Commission empowered to revoke a certification for violation of standards, and automatic revocation for commission of a felony offense.
- 9/1/1970 Peace officers required to be certified by the Commission prior to appointment.
Grandfather exemption was given for those appointed and active on this date.
A temporary certification allowed an agency to appoint a person and send them to training within a one-year period following the date of appointment.
- School certification established (academies).
- Basic Peace Officer Course (BPOC) created as 140 hours minimum with 1 year allowed for training.
- Field services division created.
- Minimum standards for employment set, including high school diploma or GED.
- Rule prohibited peace officer from being employed if convicted of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) or Driving Under the Influence of Drugs (DUID) with 10 years or ever convicted of a felony.
- 9/1/1971 SB 43 authorizes for reserve law enforcement officers. Requiring certification prior to appointment and one year to obtain training.
- 2/1/1972 Fred Toler appointed executive director.

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- 1/1/1973 BPOC increased to 240 hours.

Basic reserve course of 70 hours created.
- 9/1/1975 House Bill (HB) 1203 requires reporting of appointments and training.

Disqualification for felony conviction established.
- 1/1/1976 Mental examinations required for licensure as a peace officer or reserve.

Psychological examinations recommended for licensure as a peace officer or reserve.
- 9/1/1977 HB 451 establishes the LEOS training fund.

Only six months allowed for peace officer training. Laws changed to allow the same six months for reserves.
- 4/1/1978 Began requiring supporting documents to accompany peace officer and reserve applications with each employment. Date of appointment was date received; no backdating of files.
- 9/1/1979 Became mandatory to submit supporting documents with application, with penalty for non-reporting.

Certification of county jailers begun. Grandfather clause created for existing jailers. One-year temporary jailer license.

Psychological statement required with applications.

SB 544 establishes peace officer firearms proficiency.
- 12/11/1979 Rule prohibited peace officer and reserve officers from being appointed if convicted of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) or Driving Under the Influence of Drugs (DUID) with 10 years or ever convicted of a felony.
- 3/1/1980 Basic County Corrections Course (BCCC) approved for 36 hours.
- 1/1/1981 BPOC increased to 320 hours.
- 9/1/1981 Required probationary period for peace officers and reserves changed back to one year.

Licensing was begun – appointment standards same for peace officers, reserves, and county jailers.

“L” series forms created. Use of L-1A without supporting documents was begun.

Language added to 4413-29(aa) to allow Commission set rule for reactivation of peace officer license.

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SB 544 established weapons proficiency requirement for peace officers.

10/1/1981 Instructor certificates became permanent.

3/1/1982 Licenses printed and distribution by field representatives began.

9/1/1983 SB 155 required licensing exams for each license issued.
required all applicants for licensure to be of good moral character.
set continuing education training requirements for peace officers
established. Agencies to provide a training program during a 24-month
period, not to exceed 40 hours. Commission must approve courses.
provided for suspensions of licenses in addition to revocation

New legislation required 2 FBI fingerprint cards, CCH and L-3
Psychological Statement to be submitted with the L-1A if the individual
has been out of law enforcement for a period of 180 days.

Added to Art. 2.12, C.C.P. – water district personnel under 51.132, certain
port authorities and state medical examiners.

Termination of grandfather exemption. (See **Note** Below.)

Note: During this period, beginning in October, all peace officer
grandfathers were given a chance (notified by mail) to pass the state
licensing exam in order to “get out from under the grandfather clause.”
Those passing the exam were issued Basic Peace Officer certification.
The last test date for grandfathering was 8/31/1984.

10/19/1983 Minimum standards for retention of license established.

Rule prohibited applicants for peace officer, reserve law enforcement
officer, jailer or guard of a county jail from being appointed
if on probation for a criminal offense or

if convicted of:

Class A Misdemeanor within the last twelve months,
Class B Misdemeanor within the last six months,
DWI or DUID within the last two years, or
a felony,

not under indictment for a felony, and
not ever confessed to a felony.

U.S. citizenship required.

1/1/1984 F-6 forms discontinued. Class rosters keypunched and kept by Academy
Evaluation section.

8/1/1984 Crime Prevention Inspector certificates added to Commission
certifications.

9/1/1984 Grandfather licenses expired if the officers left their current agencies.

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Grandfather certificates no longer issued and grandfather officers no longer exempt from training requirements if newly employed after 9/1/1984.

BCCC increased to 40 hours.

9/4/1984 Out-of-state officers and applicants with college degrees given three chances to pass the state licensing exams.

9/20/1984 Reserve officers with degrees required to test for compliance with training.

8/21/1985 Basic Peace Officer certificates and permanent licenses as well as Basic Reserve Certificates and permanent licenses will be issued if an L-1 is on file, training passed, and exam passed. (1 year of employment no longer required.) Jailer certificates and permanent licenses issued after 1 year of service.

Certificates and licenses are issued on a weekly basis rather than monthly.

Fingerprint cards classified by the FBI no longer have to be on file in order to issue the licenses and certificates.

9/1/1985 Constable appointed on or after 9/1/1985 has two years to become licensed.

HB 1592 authorizes re-activation procedures.
changes the licensing ages.

BPOC increased to 400 hours.

College degree in law enforcement is no longer sufficient to qualify to take licensing exam. Now 7 course courses are required, as well as Law Enforcement 1 and Law Enforcement 2.

Three-level (Basic, Intermediate, Advanced) reserve training begins.

Basic - 145 hours
Intermediate - 131 hours
Advanced - 124 hours

Those who have been reserves and have been trained as such are "grandfathered" to Intermediate Reserve status.

Reserves that complete the basic peace officer course and pass the peace officer licensing exam are issued Basic Peace Officer certificates and permanent peace officer licenses.

Equating reserve training and in-service training to 240 hour basic peace officer course allows reserves to take peace officer licensing exam.

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L-3 Psychological form requires licensed psychologist or psychiatrist to sign approval. (Ref. Rule 211.98 for exception.) L-2 Physical form now includes Drug Dependency Statement.

- 10/1/1985 Reserves and jailers begin to be tested after completing basic reserve and basic county jailer courses.
- 11/12/1985 Reserve training now becomes creditable towards peace officer certification.
- 11/15/1985 All 9995 (basic peace officer), 9998 (basic reserve) and 9997 (basic county jailer) courses are converted to new numbering system of 1000, 1002, and 1005.
- 7/1/1986 Temporary licenses for peace officers and reserves are discontinued. County jailers still have one year to receive training and pass the state licensing exam.

Provisional license rule is approved, allowing for the issuance of a provisional license under certain conditions such as manpower shortage.

Peace officer and reserve officer minimum age exception rule approved and made effective. The rule thus requires an age of at least 21 unless the applicant has completed training or enrolled in basic training prior to 7/1/1986, has two years in the military and discharged, or has an Associate's Degree or a total of 60 college semester hours. County jailer age requirements remain at 18 years.

L-1, L-2, and L-3 forms are revised. L-2A Drug Dependency Statement is added to back of L-2, for use in reporting subsequent employment after already being licensed.

- 7/1/1986 Peace officers and reserves must be trained and licensed prior to appointment.
- 1/1/1987 \$5.00 fee charged for duplicate license or certificate, along with written request. Fee must be cashier's check or money order.
- Eligibility to test handled by district team leaders rather than licensing. This included reactivations as well as out-of-state and college equivalents.

Intermediate core courses are required for peace officer intermediate certification, if the Basic Peace Officer certificate is issued after 1/1/1987.

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Reactivation rule passed, requiring training and/or passing of re-entry test if peace officer (previously licensed) has been out of service (including reserve status) for the past two-year period. Peace officer is allowed to take the re-entry test once without training. If the test is failed, then the applicant must complete the re-entry training and pass the test. Rule states that the applicant is "unlicensed" and is not eligible to work as a peace officer until after the test is passed (Effective date is 1/1/1987, enforced 5/1/1987).

2/1/1987 Eligibility to test based on out-of-state reserve training or out of state jailer training, provided that the other state has a certification or licensing requirement.

Rule 211.101, Voluntary Surrender of License becomes effective 2/1/1987.

5/1/1987 Enforcement of reactivation rule begins.

Amendment to rule 211.74, Licensing Examination allows for any person designated by the Executive Director to serve as "proctor" and no longer requires a member of the Commission be present to administer the state licensing exam.

9/1/1987 Commission continues in existence until September 1, 1993 (Sunset Act).

VCS Article 4413(29aa) re-codified to Government Code 415.

Public Security Officer appointment added. Licensing course and exam developed.

HB 750 requires acknowledgement and training for Telecommunicators.

1/1/1989 Conditional reserve licenses replaced reserve licenses.

Class attendance rule repealed.

2/1/1989 Licensing standard increases:
Not on probation for any criminal offense above Class C misdemeanor.

Academy licenses established.

Agreement training established.

Psychological examination required after break in service established.

5/18/1989 SB 892 creates the Texas Peace Officers' Memorial project.

6/14/1989 Training in the recognition of cases involving child abuse or neglect added to the continuing education requirements.

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- 6/15/1989 Agency instruction required for recognition of child abuse or neglect, family violence, or sexual assault.
- 9/1/1989 HB 433 created the Law Enforcement Achievement Awards.

Investigative Hypnosis certificate established.
- 9/15/1989 The holder of an inactive peace officer license must reactivate their license to work as a reserve.

City Marshals elected on or after 5/26/1989 have two years to become licensed. Grandfather exemption is good only until elected.
- 9/1/1991 20 hours of civil process training required for constable or deputy constables. Requirement may be waived if a hardship exists.
- 11/12/1991 Commission continues in existence until September 1, 1997 (Sunset Act).
- 3/1/1993 Intermediate and Advanced Jailer Proficiency certificates are created. Intermediate core courses are required of jailers who receive their Basic Jailer certificate after 3/1/1993.

Master Peace Officer certificate created. An application must be completed to receive the certificate.
- 9/1/1993 SB 252 added Section 614.061 to the Health and Safety Code to require a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Texas Council on Offenders with Mental Impairments and Texas Commission on Jail Standards for continuity of care for offenders who are mentally impaired, elderly, physically disabled, terminally ill, or significantly ill.

HB 771 creates the Certification of Special Officers for Mental Health Assignment

SB 473 amended peace officer continuing education requirements:
civil rights, racial sensitivity, and cultural diversity; and
recognition of cases that involve child abuse, child neglect, family violence, and sexual assault,
a peace officer appointed to their first supervisory position must receive in-service training on supervision during the 24-month period after the date of appointment.
Agencies that appointment reserve law enforcement officers, county jailers, or public security officers may provide each of those with education and training in civil rights, racial sensitivity, and cultural diversity every 24 months.
- 1/1/1994 SB 339 establishes licensing requirement for sheriffs.
- 9/1/1994 Dr. D.C. "Jim" Dozier appointed executive director.

BPOC increased to 560 hours.

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12/1/1994 Reserve training courses increased:
Basic - 228 hours
Intermediate – 190 hours
Advanced – 142 hours

9/1/1995 Mental Health Officer proficiency certification established.

SB 1337 makes the appointment of a convicted felon a state jail felony.
requires the appointing agency maintains licensing documents.
requires the Commission developed learning objectives to be included in continuing education training courses
allows instructional material developed by agencies or training providers to supplement the Commission objectives
allows the chief to provide training other than child abuse, child neglect, family violence, sexual assault investigation training, and sex offender characteristics based on officer's duties
allows for the Commission to suspend a peace officer license for failing to complete the training requirement every 24 months
requires the Commission to develop rules that allow for mitigating circumstances to meeting the training requirement
requires the Commission to notify agencies and officers about training noncompliance

SB 80 adds sex offender characteristics to the child abuse, child neglect, family violence, and sexual assault investigation training
provides that 20 hours of training be on topics selected by the agency
allows the chief to provide training other than child abuse, child neglect, family violence, sexual assault investigation training, and sex offender characteristics based on officer's duties
allows the chief to include additional training based on the officer's duties

SB 225 adds documentation to the child abuse, child neglect, family violence, and sexual assault investigation training
allows the chief to provide training other than child abuse, child neglect, family violence, sexual assault investigation training, and sex offender characteristics based on officer's duties

SB 1135 requires the Commission to establish minimum curriculum requirements.
requires agencies to provide the details of separation (F-5) from that agency. These notices are made available to agencies by a signed release from an applicant. An attempt to combat "Gypsy Cops."
exempts retired state employees (licensed before Jan. 1981 and current on Jan. 1, 1995) from continuing education requirements
provides that 20 hours of training be on topics selected by the agency
allows the chief to provide training other than child abuse, child neglect, family violence, sexual assault investigation training, and sex offender characteristics based on officer's duties
allows the chief to include additional training based on the officer's duties

HB 752 requires the Commission to establish enrollment standards
requires the Commission to establish examination standards

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- 12/1/1996 Licensing requirements increase:
not be on court-ordered community supervision or probation for any criminal offense above Class C misdemeanor,
not been convicted of above a Class C misdemeanor within the past 5 years.
- Requirement for citizenship removed.
- 1/1/1997 BCCC increased to 80 hours.
- 9/1/1997 HB 1856 continues the Commission until September 1, 2009 (Sunset Act).
- SB 367 establishes minimum training and certification requirements for Contract Jailers.
- HB 1856 changes on requirement for basic certificate:
(1) one year of experience as a peace officer; and
(2) successful completion of a course of instruction provided by the employing agency on federal and state statutes that relate to employment issues affecting peace officers and county jailers, including:
(A) civil service;
(B) compensation, including overtime compensation, and vacation time;
(C) personnel files and other employee records;
(D) management-employee relations in law enforcement organizations;
(E) work-related injuries;
(F) complaints and investigations of employee misconduct; and
(G) disciplinary actions and the appeal of disciplinary actions.
- HB 1881 requires initial and continuing education for police chief in each 24-month period (96.641 Education Code).
- HB 2909 requires MOU with Texas Department of Criminal Justice to create Supervision Officer Firearms certificates - Holders must re-apply every two years.
- HB 1859 requires a risk assessment method to be established for training provider evaluations.
- 3/1/1998 Firearms Instructor Proficiency certificates created. Grandfather status given for all training prior to 3/1/1999, after which a Commission course is required to be completed.
- 6/1/1998 Licensing standards increase:
not ever been convicted of misdemeanor or felony offense or placed on deferred adjudication community supervision for a misdemeanor or felony offense, if the offense directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of any office requiring such license.
- 5/10/1999 Texas Peace Officers' Memorial dedication.
- 6/19/1999 HB 2023 authorizes the executive director to commission officers to investigate violations of 415 Government Code (1701 Occupations Code).

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8/30/1999 HB 2009 requires Constables to obtain a license within 270 days of taking office.

9/1/1999 HB 3155 re-codifies 415 Government Code to 1701 Occupations Code.

HB 957 recognizes reserve officers with peace officer licenses as peace officers and must comply with the 40-hour training requirement.

Academic Recognition Award established.

HB 2971 allows for TDCJ-trained personnel to be appointed as part-time county jailers without meeting training requirements of 415.054 (1701.310).

12/1/1999 Civil Process Certificate established.

6/1/2000 Decision made to allow contract jail license holders to use current training and testing if going to work at a county jail facility. Contract license must be valid or two-year rule would apply on training and testing.

3/1/2001 Rules revised to reflect Occupations Code.

Licensing requirements increase:

- not ever have been or currently on court-ordered community supervision or probation for any criminal offense above the grade of Class B misdemeanor, or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years;

- not currently under indictment for any criminal offense;

- not ever have been convicted of an offense above the grade of a Class B misdemeanor, or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years;

- never have been convicted of any family violence offense;

- is not prohibited by state or federal law from operating a motor vehicle;

- is not prohibited by state or federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition.

Fee schedule to be adopted and published.

Spanish added to Intermediate Certificate requirements.

requirement was not enforced until September 1, 2001.

5/1/2001 Fingerprint cards no longer sent to the Commission with the L-1.

9/1/2001 HB 815 provides that the next of kin of a deceased Texas peace officer may request a state flag.

SB 1074 added racial profiling to continuing education requirements for peace officers.

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SB 563 added criminal asset forfeiture proceedings to continuing education requirements.

HB 2881 amends peace officer continuing education requirements so that civil rights, racial sensitivity, and cultural diversity; and recognition of cases that involve child abuse, child neglect, family violence, and sexual assault, are to be taken once every 48 months.

HB 2585 requires motorcycle operator profiling awareness and sensitivity training.

HB 1572 requires the Commission to add crime victim's rights (Chapter 56 CCP and Chapter 57 Family Code) to training requirements.

HB 3491 requires training on dual arrests and the determination of predominant aggressors in family violence situations.

SB 1583 protects F5 from disclosure unless the person was terminated for substantiated incidents of excessive force or violations of the law other than traffic offenses.

HB 1121 requires a GED with 12 college hours at least a 2.0 grade point average.

SB 430 creates a school resource officer and requires annual training at elementary schools for firearms accident prevention.

1/1/2002 Spanish added to basic peace officer curriculum, hours expanded to 576.

Basic reserve course no longer taught.

3/1/2002 License requirements clarified:
not ever have been on court-ordered community supervision or probation for any criminal offense above the grade of Class B misdemeanor, or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years from the date of the court order;
not currently under indictment for any criminal offense;
not ever have been convicted of an offense above the grade of a Class B misdemeanor, or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years;
never have been convicted of any family violence offense;
is not prohibited by state or federal law from operating a motor vehicle;
is not prohibited by state or federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition.

8/1/2002 POSEIT training available.

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- 3/1/2003 License requirements allow for waiver process:
community supervision history:
as not ever have been on court-ordered community supervision or probation for any criminal offense above the grade of Class B misdemeanor, or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years from the date of the court order;
but
the commission may approve the application of a person who received probation or court-ordered community supervision for a Class B misdemeanor at least five (5) years prior to application if an agency administrator sufficiently demonstrates in writing with supporting documentation that mitigating circumstances exist with the case and with the individual applying for licensure, and that the public interest would be served by reducing the waiting period;
is not currently under indictment for any criminal offense;
conviction history:
has not ever been convicted of an offense above the grade of a Class B misdemeanor, or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years; but
the commission may approve the application of a person who was convicted for a Class B misdemeanor at least five (5) years prior to application if an agency administrator sufficiently demonstrates in writing with supporting documentation that mitigating circumstances exist with the case and with the individual applying for licensure, and that the public interest would be served by reducing the waiting period.
- U.S. citizenship added.
- 6/18/2003 SB 1567 moved the Texas Peace Officers' Memorial from 1701 Occupations Code to 3105 Government Code.
- 9/1/2003 SB 117 allows certain retired peace officers to carry weapons.
SB 473 adds Identity Theft training for peace officers.
- 1/1/2004 Intermediate and Advance Reserve Courses no longer taught.
- 6/1/2004 Rule amended to issue county jailer licenses to contract jailers.
- 9/1/2004 Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) added to BPOC, increases to 618 hours.
BCCC increased to 96 hours.

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- 6/15/2005 HB 2574 authorizes the Commission to waive the requirement that a deputy constable take continuing education on civil process, if the constable requests the waiver based on a representation that the deputy constable's duty assignment does not involve civil process responsibilities.
- 6/18/2005 HB 1588 established initial and continuing education required for constables.
- HB 1438 requires the Commission to credit a peace officer with meeting the continuing education requirements if during the relevant 24-month period the peace officer serves on active duty as a member of the U.S. military for at least 12 months.
- 9/1/2005 SB 1473 (Bob Meadours Act) requires training programs for law enforcement officers regarding persons with mental impairments (CIT).
- HB 2677 requires the terminating agency to identify the type of separation.
- HB 2769 amends the flag presentation requirements to limit flag presentations to the survivors of peace officers who were currently employed as peace officers or honorably retired peace officers who voluntarily terminated their employment with a law enforcement agency of this state.
- HB 2110 authorizes the head of a state or local law enforcement agency to give any honorably retired peace officer an opportunity to demonstrate weapons proficiency under certain specified circumstances and reduces from 20 to 15 years the number of years of service by a retired peace officer required for such an opportunity and allows the years of service to be counted cumulatively if service includes service in more than one law enforcement agency.
- SB 578 authorizes the head of a state or local law enforcement agency to give any honorably retired peace officer an opportunity to demonstrate weapons proficiency under certain specified circumstances. The bill reduces from 20 to 15 years the number of years of service by a retired peace officer required for such an opportunity and allows the years of service to be counted cumulatively if service includes service in more than one law enforcement agency.
- 12/2/2005 Tim Braaten appointed executive director
- 1/1/2006 Fee increased to \$250 for Certification of Reactivation of an Expired License and Reinstatement of Suspended or Expired License.
- 9/1/2006 4 Field Service Agent (FSA) positions authorized.

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6/15/2007 HB 486 requires the Commission to establish a uniform continuing education training period for chiefs of police (96.641 Education Code).

9/1/2007 3 additional FSAs authorized.

HB 2445 requires law enforcement agencies to conduct background investigations in a manner prescribed by the Commission:
consent form is also prescribed by the Commission;
requires the F5 separation form to be reported not later than seven business days;
explains the types of separation;
requires the Commission to suspend the license of an officer upon notification that the officer has been dishonorably discharged for a second time; and
allows for a hearing to change the F5 report.

HB 487 requires the Commission to establish a uniform continuing education training period for constables.

HB 1955 waives the reinstatement fee for retired officers.

HB 3167 clarifies civil process training waivers for deputy constables.

HB 488 allows revocation of a license for officers elected under the Texas Constitution.

HB 638 adds 18 U.S.C. Section 926C to retired peace officer firearms proficiency.