

# PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

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## CONSTABLES' TRAINING BULLETIN

NUMBER 42

NOVEMBER 2001

### 2002 CERTIFICATION CARDS

In December 2001, the PCCD will mail new certification cards to all constables who have maintained their certification by successfully completing continuing education during 2001 and by filing current professional liability insurance information with their county clerks of courts. Ample allowance will be made for normal mailing time, so that constables should receive their new cards before the old ones expire on December 31, 2001. To ensure that cards are mailed to the correct address, any constable who has recently changed his address should report that change to the PCCD immediately, by calling toll-free (800) 692-7292, extension 3198. This must be done even if notification of a change of address has been given to the county government or regional training provider.

### Maintaining Current Professional Liability Insurance Information

Act 1994-44 provides that any constable or deputy constable who fails, neglects or refuses to maintain a current insurance policy as required, or to file proof thereof with the clerk of courts, shall cease automatically to be certified to perform judicial duties upon the expiration of the policy of which proof has been filed with the clerk of courts. In order to ensure uninterrupted constable certification, it is essential that every constable notify the county clerk of courts whenever the insurance company issues a new certificate of insurance.

### 2002 TRAINING SCHEDULE

The 2002 Constables' Training Schedule will be mailed in December 2001. Standard Registration Forms will be included with the schedule and must be used when registering for class. **Registration with the training provider is required prior to attending any class.** To register, a completed Standard Registration Form must be mailed or faxed directly to the training provider. Registrations cannot be accepted over the telephone. Copies of these forms will also be available on the PCCD's web site at [www.pccd.state.pa.us](http://www.pccd.state.pa.us)

P.O. Box 1167, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1167  
Telephone: (717) 705-3693 – Toll Free (800) 692-7292  
FAX: (717) 783-7140  
[www.pccd.state.pa.us](http://www.pccd.state.pa.us)

## **2002 Continuing Education**

### **Legal Updates - Four Hours**

This module covers legal updates and significant decisions affecting constables. It will concentrate on seizures of personal property, rules for venue, levies, orders of possession, and constable liability issues arising from *Berg v. County of Allegheny*.

### **Domestic Violence - Eight Hours**

This module includes an overview of domestic violence, statistics and trends, statutes governing domestic violence, and significant case law. The three kinds of Protection From Abuse Orders (PFAs) will be examined, as well as dangerous domestic situations that constables may encounter, safety plans, constables' responsibilities, and ways in which constables can minimize their liability.

### **Mechanics of Arrest - Eight Hours**

The classroom portion of this module includes equipment inspection and safety, a discussion of survival learning theory, and arrest and handcuffing tactics. Four hours will be devoted to practical exercises in performing the tactics discussed.

## **2002 Firearms Training**

### **40-hour Basic Firearms**

Basic firearms will be 16 hours of classroom instruction and 24 hours of range time utilizing approximately 500 rounds of ammunition. The course will include firearms safety, nomenclature, handling the weapon, fundamental shooting skills including grip, sight picture, alignment, breathing and follow-through, malfunctions, dim light shooting, and shooting positions. Constables will be required to pass a written exam and will shoot for qualification.

### **20-hour Advanced Firearms**

Advanced firearms will be four hours of classroom instruction and 16 hours of range time. The course will include a review of marksmanship, the five-count draw, reholstering, loading and unloading, position shooting, tactical movement, and reduced-light shooting. Constables will be required to pass a written exam and will shoot for qualification.

## **No-Show Policy**

- A person who registers for basic, continuing education, or firearms training and does not attend all or part of the training, without providing proper notice of withdrawal to the training delivery contractor, will receive a failing grade of zero for any and all classes missed.
- Proper notice of withdrawal will be a written notice, received by the training delivery contractor at least seven days in advance of the training start date.
- The school director may use discretion regarding emergencies, extenuating circumstances, and taking into account the positive or negative record of previous attendance of the constable when deciding whether to sanction non-attendance by submitting zero grades.