

CONSTABLES' TRAINING BULLETIN

NUMBER 94**SEPTEMBER 2019**

In Memoriam

Gene Alan "Geno" Francesconi, 53, of Elizabeth Township, passed away Wednesday, February 27, 2019. He was born November 30, 1965 in McKeesport and was the son of the late Eugene P. and Nancy L. (Sawyers) Francesconi. Geno was proprietor of American Precision Contracting and was a Firearms Instructor for Penn State University. He was retired from the Elizabeth Township Police Department and was a US Air Force Veteran. He was a member of the Fryburg Sportsman's Club.

He is survived by his aunt, Linda (Jerry) Cavanaugh of Elizabeth, cousins, Kristi Cavanaugh of Elizabeth Township and Jerry (Carla) Cavanaugh of Bentleyville, his loving companion and best friend, Kara Rendulic, and many friends. Interment with Military Honors was at Round Hill Cemetery, Elizabeth Township. Condolences may be made at Gilbertfuneralhomeandcrematory.com.

Geno was an instructor for the Constables' Program since 2012 and he will be missed by all who were fortunate to have known him.

Retirement Recognition

Ted Mellors retired June 28, 2019 after 32 years with Penn State University and has been an intricate part of both curriculum development and training delivery for the Constables' Program since the inception of the Constables' Program in 1994. We would like to thank Ted for his expertise and guidance over the last 25 years. Program staff wish him the best in his retirement!

Important Information

Program Staff will be sending out multiple Constables' Training Bulletins over the next several months. Please make sure that you are reading these bulletins in their entirety because they will contain important information regarding registering for the online training and other pertinent issues.

**Constables' Education and Training
Board Members:**

**Board Chair – John Bruno
Board Vice Chair - Francis C. Peitz, Jr.**

**Craig Westover
Rodney D. Ruddock
Thomas S. Brletic**



**Charles H. Ramsey
Chairman, PCCD**

**Michael Pennington
Executive Director, PCCD**

**John Pfau
Manager,
Bureau of Training Services**

2019 Training Classes

If you have not enrolled into either an 8-Hour Continuing Education or 4-Hour Annual Qualification Course, you should do so immediately because there are very few spots available in the remaining classes.

Program Staff have added two additional 4-Hour Annual Qualification Courses in CCETS:

NE08AF19, October 6, 2019 (afternoon class) at Silver Brook Rod and Gun Club, 318 Silverbrook Road, McAdoo

SW14AF19, October 19, 2019 (afternoon class) at Fayette County Range, Uniontown.
No more additional classes will be added in 2019.

Online Training Coming in 2020

A 4-Hour online module, Reacting to Witnessed Criminal Behavior, will be a part of the 2020 Continuing Education Course. This module will only be accessible through CCETS. If you are not currently a registered CCETS user, you should register as soon as possible. More details will be outlined in upcoming Constables' Training Bulletins.

Personal Information in CCETS

All constables and deputy constables need to ensure that their personal contact information is updated in CCETS. This information will be critical for the online training in 2020. Please ensure that your primary email address is valid under your personal information because your primary email address will be used for the online training integration. All constables and deputy constables **MUST** have a valid email address on file in CCETS in order to be registered in the online learning management system. Also make sure that all your listed telephone numbers are accurate in CCETS.

Clarification on Firearms Certifications

Some questions have been asked regarding firearms certifications for 2019; below are several scenarios that have been discussed.

If a constable qualified in 2018 with two weapons, Weapon 2 certification only remains valid until December 31, 2019. Since constables will only be qualifying with a single weapon in 2019, only the qualified Weapon 1 from 2019 will be valid going forward.

If a constable qualified in 2018 with two weapons and Weapon 1 malfunctions, a constable could use Weapon 2 in place of Weapon 1 until December 31, 2019. After that date, Board Regulations, Sections 431.47(d) or (f) apply (see page 3 of this bulletin).

If a constable qualified in 2018 with two weapons, but fails to qualify in 2019 with Weapon 1, firearms certification is removed for both Weapon 1 and Weapon 2.

If a weapon is replaced for any reason, the Constable must qualify with a new weapon even if the weapon is the same make and model. Board Regulations, Sections 431.47(d) applies; PCCD must have accurate serial number information on the weapon that is being used for qualification.

§ 431.47. Attendance policies.

(d) New weapons. If a constable obtains a new weapon after having successfully completed the annual firearms qualification, the constable may attend, without penalty, another firearms training class and complete the qualification course-of-fire using the new weapon. Attendance at another firearms course is subject to course availability.

(f) Weapons malfunctions. If a constable fails to successfully complete the qualification course-of-fire during a firearms qualification course because of a weapon malfunction, the constable may attend, without penalty, another firearms qualification course in its entirety, or may retake, without penalty, the portion of the firearms qualification course during and after which the malfunction occurred. Attendance at another firearms course is subject to course availability. A firearms instructor shall document weapons malfunctions.

Firearm Failures

According to Regulations, you are only afforded two attempts to successfully qualify with your duty weapon. The Regulations state:

§ 431.44. Requirements.

(c) A constable who fails to attain a passing score in a retest of a written examination or practical skill proficiency examination shall attend a second firearms qualification course in its entirety and complete it successfully to obtain a firearms qualification. The constable shall bear financial responsibility for the second firearms qualification course.

(d) A constable who fails two successive firearms qualification courses will not be afforded an opportunity to attend a third course.

Resignations

§ 431.15. Certification numbers.

(c) A person is required to notify the Board by telephone, facsimile transmission or electronic mail within 48 hours after the person has vacated the office of constable or deputy constable. The Board will place the person's certification number into inactive status upon notification.

If you are aware of a constable or deputy constable vacating the office (e.g., passing away, moving away, etc.), please notify Program Staff as soon as possible. This information is appreciated, particularly for training slot availability.

State-Wide Constable Radio Network

*As an officer safety issue, the Constables' Training program is making constables aware of the following service. Communications in an emergency for many constables can be an issue. This is **not an endorsement** of this service, only an informational item.*

911iNET is an Alabama based company that is now providing a Nationwide Public Safety Dispatch Network for PA State Constables. This dispatch center is a 24/7 staffed public safety dispatch center staffed by public safety trained dispatchers. In addition to having 24/7 access to a professional dispatch center, Constables will have access to defendant address verification information, Spanish interpreters, live location monitoring, officer down button, CAD incident logging, and much more.

To learn more about the PA Constable Radio Network, visit a specially designated website at www.constableradio.org. Information can be obtained on the website; do not contact 911iNET directly. Orders for service, pricing, and radio options can also be found on their website or by calling the PA Constable Radio Coordinator at 717-479-6196.