


[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-66](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

[§ 52:17B-66. Findings, declarations \[Effective January 1, 2024\]](#)

The Legislature of New Jersey hereby finds and declares that a serious need for improvement in the administration of local and county law enforcement exists in order to better protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; that police work, a basic adjunct of law enforcement administration, is professional in nature, and requires proper educational and clinical training in a State whose population is increasing in relation to its physical area, and in a society where greater reliance on better law enforcement through higher standards of efficiency is of paramount need; that the present need for improvement can be substantially met by the creation of a compulsory educational and training program for persons who seek to become permanent law enforcement officers wherein such persons will be required, while serving in a probationary capacity prior to permanent appointment, to receive efficient training in this profession provided at facilities selected, approved and inspected by a commission created for such purpose; and that by qualifying and becoming proficient in the field of law enforcement such persons shall individually and collectively better insure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this State in their respective communities.

The Legislature further finds and declares that, in addition to providing proper educational and clinical training to law enforcement officers in this State, it is also important, in order to help protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, that appropriately situated State authorities are accorded the ability and responsibility to monitor and take appropriate action against any law enforcement officer who acts outside the bounds of professionalism or engages in illegal or improper conduct. Professional licensure provides the means to help ensure that those individuals who serve as law enforcement officers in this State uphold the public trust by meeting and maintaining appropriately high standards of training and professionalism, in qualifying for the positions, and in performing the duties. Therefore, it is necessary and appropriate to establish a Statewide licensure system, through which the Police Training Commission will promulgate and apply uniform standards of professional conduct by law enforcement officers, establish minimum standards for licensure, review and take action on initial and renewal applications of applicants and law enforcement officers and applicants who meet those standards, and deny, revoke, or suspend licenses due to failure to meet or maintain those standards.

Nothing in this act is intended to limit in any manner the powers and authority granted to the Attorney General as the chief law enforcement officer of the State pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act of 1970, P.L.1970, c.74 ([C.52:17B-97](#) et seq.).

History

§ 52:17B-66. Findings, declarations [Effective January 1, 2024]

L. 1961, c. 56, p. 542, 1; Amended by L. 1965, c. 8, 1, effective July 1, 1965; [2022, c. 65](#), § 1, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-67](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

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§ 52:17B-67. Definitions [Effective January 1, 2024]

As used in this act:

“Applicant” means an individual who applies to the Police Training Commission to become licensed as a law enforcement officer in accordance with [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.).

“Approved school” shall mean a school approved and authorized by the Police Training Commission to give police training courses or a training course for State and county correctional police officers and juvenile detention officers as prescribed in this act.

“Commission” shall mean the Police Training Commission or officers or employees thereof acting on its behalf.

“County” shall mean any county which within its jurisdiction has or shall have a law enforcement unit as defined in this act.

“Discipline subject to appeal” means a removal, disciplinary demotion, suspension, or fine of more than five days, or fewer where the aggregate number of days the employee was suspended or fined in any one calendar year is 15 or more days, or where the employee received more than three suspensions or fines of five days or fewer in one calendar year.

“Law enforcement officer” means any person who is employed as a sworn member of any State, county, or municipal law enforcement agency, department, division, or instrumentality of those governments who is statutorily empowered to act for the detection, investigation, arrest, conviction, detention, or rehabilitation of persons violating the criminal laws of the State. This term shall include, but is not limited to, sworn members of the New Jersey State Police, the Division of Criminal Justice, and the Juvenile Justice Commission; State correctional police officers pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1968, c.427 ([C.2A:154-4](#)); county correctional police officers pursuant to [N.J.S.2A:154-3](#); State Parole officers pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1968, c.427 ([C.2A:154-4](#)); special law enforcement officers of all classes pursuant to P.L.1985, c.439 ([C.40A:14-146.8](#) et seq.); humane law enforcement officers appointed pursuant to section 25 of [P.L.2017, c.331 \(C.4:22-14.1\)](#) or section 28 of [P.L.2017, c.331 \(C.4:22-14.4\)](#); transit police officers appointed by New Jersey Transit pursuant to section 2 of [P.L.1989 c.291 \(C.27:25-15.1\)](#); and campus police officers appointed pursuant to P.L.1970, c.211 ([C.18A:6-4.2](#) et seq.).

“Law enforcement unit” shall mean any State, county or municipal law enforcement agency, department, division, or instrumentality of such government that is statutorily empowered to act for the

§ 52:17B-67. Definitions [Effective January 1, 2024]

detection, investigation, arrest, conviction, detention, or rehabilitation of persons violating the criminal laws of the State, and shall include all agencies that employ law enforcement officers as defined in this section.

“Licensing committee” means the committee established by the Police Training Commission to perform duties with respect to law enforcement officer licensing as set forth in subsection c. of section 9 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a\)](#).

“Municipality” shall mean a city of any class, township, borough, village, or any other type of municipality in this State which, within its jurisdiction, has or shall have a law enforcement unit as defined in this act.

“National Decertification Index” shall mean the national registry of law enforcement officer decertification or license revocations maintained by the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training, or a successor database.

“Permanent appointment” shall mean an appointment having permanent status as a law enforcement officer in a law enforcement unit as prescribed by Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes, Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations, or of any other law of this State, municipal ordinance, or rules and regulations adopted thereunder.

“Police training course” means a training course approved by the Police Training Commission and conducted at an approved school.

“Probationary law enforcement license” means a license issued by the Police Training Commission to a person appointed by a law enforcement unit on a probationary or temporary basis which authorizes the person to perform the functions of a permanent law enforcement officer during the person’s probationary or temporary appointment term.

“Sustained finding” shall mean a determination by an employing law enforcement unit that a law enforcement officer violated a law; regulation; directive, guideline, policy, or procedure issued by the Attorney General or County Prosecutor; agency protocol; standing operating procedure; rule; or training.

History

L. 1961, c. 56, § 2; amended 1971, c. 321, § 1; 1985, c. 491, § 1; [1988, c. 176](#), § 2; [1995, c. 280](#), § 54; [2008, c. 29](#), § 109, eff. June 30, 2008; [2019, c. 219](#), § 8, effective December 1, 2019; [2022, c. 65](#), § 2, effective January 1, 2024.

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-67.1](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

§ 52:17B-67.1. Valid, active license required for law enforcement officer employment [Effective January 1, 2024]

A person shall not be employed as a law enforcement officer, as defined in section 2 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-67), in this State unless the person holds a valid, active license as a law enforcement officer issued in accordance with [P.L.2022, c.65](#) (C.52:17B-71a et al.). A person shall not act as a law enforcement officer, as defined in section 2 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-67), in this State beyond the scope of the authorization provided pursuant to any designations to the license approved by the Police Training Commission.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 10, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-68](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-68. Authority to require training of policemen prior to permanent appointment; exception [Effective January 1, 2024]

- a. Every State, county, and municipal agency, with the exception of the New Jersey State Police, that employs law enforcement officers as defined in section 2 of P.L.1961, c.56 (*C.52:17B-67*), as applicable, shall authorize attendance at an approved school by persons holding a probationary appointment as a law enforcement officer, and every agency shall require that no person shall hereafter be given or accept a permanent appointment as a law enforcement officer unless such person has successfully completed a police training course at an approved school; provided, however, that the commission may, in its discretion, except from the requirements of this section any person who demonstrates to the commission's satisfaction that the person has successfully completed a police training course conducted by any Federal, State or other public or private agency, the requirements of which are substantially equivalent to the requirements of this act.
- b. A law enforcement officer who is terminated from an agency for reasons of economy or efficiency shall be granted an exemption or waiver from retaking the basic training course if, within three years from the date of termination, the law enforcement officer is appointed to a similar law enforcement position in another agency or is reemployed by the agency from which the officer was terminated.

History

L. 1961, c. 56, p. 544, § 3; Amended by L. 1965, c. 8, § 2, eff. July 1, 1965; L. 1967, c. 252, § 1, eff. Dec. 22, 1967; L. 1971, c. 321, § 2, eff. Oct. 28, 1971; [2011, c. 158](#), § 1, eff. Jan. 5, 2012; [2022, c. 65](#), § 3, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-68.2](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

§ 52:17B-68.2. Development of modified basic training program for county corrections officers

- a. The Police Training Commission in the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety shall develop a supplemental course to be known as the modified basic training program for county corrections officers. The program shall provide the additional training necessary to allow an eligible county corrections officer to be certified as a county sheriff's officer. The Police Training Commission shall develop the program within 180 days of the effective date of this act.
- b. A county corrections officer is eligible for the modified basic training program if the officer has:
 - (1) previously completed a basic training course administered by the Police Training Commission pursuant to P.L.1961, c.56 (*C.52:17B-66 et seq.*);
 - (2) been designated by the county sheriff as eligible to transition into the position of sheriff's officer based on the officer's law enforcement examination test score and seniority;
 - (3) served in the county correction's officer title for a minimum of 36 months in the facility under the jurisdiction of the county sheriff; and
 - (4) a criminal history record background check of the officer has been conducted by the appointing authority and the officer has not been deemed ineligible to transition to the position of sheriff's officer on the basis of any conviction disclosed by the background check.
- c. The modified basic training program shall, at a minimum, provide comprehensive and consistent training in law enforcement practices and concepts. Each course instructor shall be proficient and experienced in law enforcement practices and concepts.
- d. The modified basic training program shall be offered at an academy approved by the Police Training Commission to provide police training courses pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1961, c.56 (*C.52:17B-66 et seq.*).
- e. The waiver rule set forth in [N.J.A.C.13:1-8.4](#) authorizing the Police Training Commission to waive all or part of a basic training course shall apply to an eligible county corrections officer taking the modified basic training program developed pursuant to subsection a. of this section.
- f. A county corrections officer who successfully completes the modified basic training program shall be eligible for a lateral transfer to the position of sheriff's officer in the county in which the officer serves. An officer eligible for a lateral transfer shall not be denied a transfer to an available position without cause.
- g. The Civil Service Commission shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (*C.52:14B-1 et seq.*), to implement the provisions of this section.

History

L. [2019, c. 247](#), § 1, effective August 23, 2019.

§ 52:17B-68.2. Development of modified basic training program for county corrections officers

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End of Document

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-68.1](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-68.1. Basic training, course for investigators [Repealed effective January 1, 2024]

History

L. [1988, c. 176](#), § 5; amended [2005, c. 263](#), § 1, eff. Jan. 5, 2006; repealed by [2022, c. 65](#), § 23, effective January 1, 2024.

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End of Document

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-68.3](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

§ 52:17B-68.3. Basic training program for county correctional police officers, revised

- a. The Police Training Commission shall revise the modified basic training program for county correctional police officers established in section 1 of [P.L.2019, c.247 \(C.52:17B-68.2\)](#) to provide the additional training necessary for an eligible county correctional police officer to be certified as detective or investigator in the county prosecutor's office or a county or municipal police officer.
- b. The commission shall complete the revisions to the modified basic training program no later than 60 days following the effective date of [P.L.2021, c.107](#).
- c. A county correctional police officer is eligible for the revised modified basic training program established in subsection a. of this section if:
 - (1) the officer served in a county correctional facility that closed in calendar year 2021;
 - (2) the officer served in the county correctional police officer title for a minimum of 12 months in the facility under the jurisdiction of the county sheriff or the chief executive officer of the county, whichever is applicable;
 - (3) the officer previously completed a basic training course administered by the Police Training Commission pursuant to P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-66 et seq.);
 - (4) the officer has been designated by the county sheriff as eligible to transition into the position of sheriff's officer or by the chief executive officer of the county or municipality, as appropriate, as eligible to transition into the position of detective or investigator in the county prosecutor's office or county or municipal police officer; and
 - (5) a criminal history record background check of the officer has been conducted by the appointing authority and the officer has not been deemed ineligible to transition to the position of detective or investigator in the county prosecutor's office or county or municipal police officer on the basis of any conviction disclosed by the background check.
- d. The waiver rule set forth in [N.J.A.C.13:1-8.4](#) authorizing the Police Training Commission to waive all or part of a basic training course shall apply to an eligible county correctional police officer taking the revised modified basic training pursuant to subsection a. of this section.
- e. An eligible county correctional police officer who successfully completes the modified basic training established pursuant to section 1 of [P.L.2019, c.247 \(C.52:17B-68.2\)](#) shall be eligible for a transfer to a position as sheriff's officer in any county in the State and an eligible officer who successfully completes the revised modified basic training established pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be eligible for a transfer or lateral title change, as appropriate, to the position of detective or investigator in the county prosecutor's office or county or municipal police officer in any county or municipality, as applicable, in the State. An officer eligible for a transfer or lateral title change pursuant to the provisions of this section shall not be denied a transfer or title change to an available position without good cause.

§ 52:17B-68.3. Basic training program for county correctional police officers, revised

f. The Civil Service Commission may adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 ([C.52:14B-1](#) et seq.), to implement the provisions of this section.

History

L. [2021, c. 107](#), § 1, effective June 11, 2021.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-69](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-69. Probationary, temporary appointment of police officer [Effective January 1, 2024]

- a. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S.11:2-6, a probationary or temporary appointment as a law enforcement officer may be made for a total period not exceeding one year for the purpose of enabling a person seeking permanent appointment to take a police training course as prescribed in this act, provided, however, that the time period may exceed one year for those persons enrolled prior to the one-year limit in a police training course scheduled to end subsequent to the one-year limit, and for those persons who, prior to the one-year limit, have been scheduled to attend a police training course which commences subsequent to the one-year limit. In no case shall any extension granted for the reasons herein listed exceed six months. Every person holding such a probationary or temporary appointment shall enroll in a police training course, and such appointee shall be entitled to a leave of absence with pay during the period of the police training course.
- b. A person holding a probationary or temporary appointment on the effective date [Jan. 1, 2024] of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.) shall not be permitted to continue in the probationary or temporary appointment beyond one year after the effective date of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.) unless the person enrolls in or completes a basic training course approved by the commission.
- c. A person appointed on a probationary or temporary basis on or after the effective date of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.) shall not perform the functions or duties of a permanently appointed law enforcement officer unless the person completes a basic training course approved by the commission. Upon successful completion of the basic training course, a person appointed on a probationary or temporary basis on or after the effective date of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.) shall receive from the commission a one-year probationary law enforcement license, as defined in section 2 of P.L.1961, c.56 ([C.52:17B-67](#)), and the person shall be permitted to perform full police functions or duties during the person's probationary or temporary appointment.
- d. Upon successful completion of a probationary or temporary appointment, a person may apply for licensure as a permanent law enforcement officer in a manner prescribed by the commission pursuant to [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.). The probationary license shall remain in force and effect until the commission acts upon the application for licensure as a permanent law enforcement officer.

History

§ 52:17B-69. Probationary, temporary appointment of police officer [Effective January 1, 2024]

L. 1961, c. 56, § 4; amended 1974, c. 186, § 1; [1998, c. 146](#), § 1, eff. Dec. 23, 1998; [2022, c. 65](#), § 4, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-69.1](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-69.1. Enrollment in police training course for persons seeking probationary, temporary appointment [Effective January 1, 2024]

a. A person who does not hold a probationary or temporary appointment as a law enforcement officer, but who is seeking such an appointment may enroll in a police training course provided that person:

- (1) meets the general qualifications for a police officer set forth in [N.J.S.40A:14-122](#) and such other qualifications as the commission may deem appropriate; and
- (2) applies to and is accepted by a commission approved school for admission to a police training course.

The person may be charged a fee by the commission or approved school, as the case may be, not exceeding that which the commission approved school charges a governmental employer for the training of an employee holding a probationary or temporary appointment.

An appointing authority may, at its discretion, reimburse a person who has completed a police training course pursuant to this section for all or part of the costs of training.

b. The commission, in accordance with the provisions of the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 ([C.52:14B-1](#) et seq.), shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this section.

History

L. [1998, c. 146](#), § 2, eff. Dec. 23, 1998; amended by [2022, c. 65](#), § 5, effective January 1, 2024.


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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-69.2](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

[§ 52:17B-69.2. Eligibility for appointment \[Effective January 1, 2024\]](#)

A person who completes a police training course pursuant to section 2 of [P.L.1998, c.146](#) (C.52:17B-69.1) shall only be eligible for appointment as a permanent full-time member of a law enforcement unit or as a Class Two Special Law Enforcement Officer pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1985, c.439 ([C.40A:14-146.11](#)).

History

L. [1998, c. 146](#), § 3, eff. Dec. 23, 1998; amended by [2022, c. 65](#), § 6, effective January 1, 2024.


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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-70](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

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§ 52:17B-70. Police training commission established; members; terms [Effective January 1, 2024]

There is hereby established in the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety a Police Training Commission whose membership shall consist of the following persons:

- a. Four citizens of this State who shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate for terms of three years.
- b. The president or other representative designated in accordance with the bylaws of each of the following organizations: the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police; the New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association, Inc.; the New Jersey State League of Municipalities; the New Jersey State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police; the State Troopers Fraternal Association of New Jersey; the County Prosecutors' Association of New Jersey; the Sheriffs' Association of New Jersey; the Police Academy Directors Association; the New Jersey County Jail Wardens Association; the New Jersey Juvenile Detention Association; and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.
- c. The Attorney General, the Superintendent of State Police, the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Corrections, and the Chairman of the State Parole Board, ex officio, or their designees.
- d. The Special Agent in Charge of the State of New Jersey for the Federal Bureau of Investigation or a designated representative.
- e. The Police Training Commission shall ensure that all commission members, during their tenure as commissioners, annually complete confidentiality, ethics, and other training as required by the Attorney General's Office. The commission shall also ensure that all newly appointed public members of the commission complete a course designed to familiarize the members with relevant law enforcement training concepts, including but not limited to the use of force policy and internal affairs policy and procedures to help the members carry out their duties under [P.L.2022, c.65](#) ([C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.).

History

§ 52:17B-70. Police training commission established; members; terms [Effective January 1, 2024]

L. 1961, c. 56, § 5; amended 1964, c. 94; 1971, c. 41, § 1; 1975, c. 163, § 1; 1985, c. 491, § 2; [1988, c. 176](#), § 3; 1992, c. 15, § 1; [2005, c. 268](#), § 1, eff. Jan. 5, 2006; [2009, c. 30](#), § 1, eff. Mar. 21, 2009; [2015, c. 258](#), § 1, effective March 1, 2016; [2022, c. 65](#), § 7, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-71. Powers, responsibilities, duties of commission [Effective on dates stated in L. 2022, c. 65, § 24]

The commission shall establish requisite standards for the training of law enforcement officers and oversee the implementation of those standards.

The commission shall have the authority:

- a.** To prescribe standards for the approval and continuation of approval of schools at which police training courses authorized by this act and in-service police training courses shall be conducted, including but not limited to currently existing regional, county, municipal, and police chief association police training schools or at which basic training courses and in-service training courses shall be conducted for State and county juvenile and adult correctional police officers and juvenile detention officers;
- b.** To approve and issue certificates of approval to these schools, to inspect the schools from time to time, and to revoke any approval or certificate issued to the schools;
- c.** To prescribe the curriculum, the minimum courses of study, attendance requirements, equipment and facilities, and standards of operation for these schools and prescribe psychological and psychiatric examinations for police recruits;
- d.** To prescribe minimum qualifications for instructors at these schools and to certify, as qualified, instructors for approved police training schools and to issue appropriate certificates to the instructors;
- e.** To certify law enforcement officers who have satisfactorily completed training programs and to issue appropriate certificates to the officers;
- f.** To advise and consent in the appointment of an administrator of police services by the Attorney General pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1961, c.56 ([C.52:17B-73](#));
- g.** (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1985, c.491)
- h.** To make rules and regulations as may be reasonably necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes and objectives of this act;
- i.** To make a continuous study of police training methods and training methods for law enforcement officers and to consult and accept the cooperation of any recognized federal or State law enforcement agency or educational institution;

§ 52:17B-71. Powers, responsibilities, duties of commission [Effective on dates stated in L. 2022, c. 65, § 24]

- j. To consult and cooperate with universities, colleges, and institutes in the State for the development of specialized courses of study for law enforcement officers in police science and police administration;
- k. To consult and cooperate with other departments and agencies of the State concerned with police training or the training of law enforcement officers;
- l. To participate in unified programs and projects relating to police training and the training of law enforcement officers sponsored by any federal, State, or other public or private agency;
- m. To perform other acts as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out its functions and duties as set forth in this act;
- n. To extend the time limit for satisfactory completion of police training programs or programs for the training of law enforcement officers upon a finding that health, extraordinary workload, or other factors have, singly or in combination, effected a delay in the satisfactory completion of the training program;
- o.
 - (1) To furnish approved schools, for inclusion in their regular police training courses and curriculum, with information concerning the advisability of high-speed chases, the risk caused by them, and the benefits resulting from them, and to include any other relevant police training courses that will assist the commission in providing efficient training;
 - (2) [Effective July 21, 2022] To consult the New Jersey State Police with respect to its administration of police training courses or programs for the training of law enforcement officers to be certified as a Drug Recognition Expert for detecting, identifying, and apprehending drug-impaired motor vehicle operators, and to consult with the Cannabis Regulatory Commission established by 31 of [P.L.2019, c.153 \(C.24:6I-24\)](#) with respect to any aspects of the course curricula that focus on impairment from the use of cannabis items as defined by section 3 of [P.L.2021, c.16 \(C.24:6I-33\)](#) or marijuana.
- p. (Deleted by amendment, [P.L.2022, c.65](#))
- q. To administer and distribute the monies in the Law Enforcement Officers Training and Equipment Fund established by section 9 of [P.L.1996, c.115 \(C.2C:43-3.3\)](#) and make rules and regulations for the administration and distribution of the monies as may be necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purpose for which the fund was established.

History

L. 1961, c. 56, § 6; amended 1967, c. 252, § 2; 1971, c. 321, § 3; 1974, c. 186, § 2; 1979, c. 102; 1985, c. 1, § 1; 1985, c. 491, § 3; [1988, c. 176](#), § 4; [1995, c. 280](#), § 55; [1996, c. 115](#), § 6; [2019, c. 219](#), § 9, effective December 1, 2019; [2021, c. 16](#), § 85, effective February 22, 2021; [2022, c. 65](#), § 8.

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71a](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-71a. Licensing process established; powers, responsibilities, duties [Effective January 1, 2024]

The commission shall establish the process by which law enforcement officers shall be licensed and the implementation of that process. The commission is vested with the power, responsibility, and duty:

- a. to prescribe minimum standards and requirements for the licensure for law enforcement officers and to maintain the status as a licensed law enforcement officer for the purpose of promoting and assuring integrity, competence, professionalism, and fitness for duty. The minimum standards shall include, but not be limited to:
 - (1) minimum pre-employment qualifications for law enforcement officer applicants, including but not limited to, age requirements, residency requirements, background investigations, psychological examinations, and educational requirements;
 - (2) minimum post-academy training and educational requirements, including but not limited to required field training hours for recent academy graduates and required continuing educational courses for law enforcement officers; and
 - (3) minimum standards of professional conduct;
- b. to establish a licensure process and applicable criteria for license issuance, renewal, suspension, revocation, or denial; and
- c. to perform or cause to be performed through the licensing committee the following activities related to law enforcement officer licensing:
 - (1) review applications for and, if warranted, issue initial law enforcement officer licenses to qualified applicants;
 - (2) review and act upon matters related to law enforcement officer license renewal, suspension, revocation, or denial;
 - (3) conduct license renewal, suspension, revocation, or denial hearings; and
 - (4) suspend, revoke, place conditions upon, or deny a license in the event an individual does not meet any standard or requirement prescribed by the commission.
- d. The commission shall establish a licensing committee to assist it in exercising the authority provided under this act [[C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.], including duties with respect to law enforcement officer licensing as set forth in subsection c. of this section and section 19 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71f\)](#), and including, but not limited to, making recommendations for licensure to be considered by the full commission.

The composition, membership, terms of membership, and procedures applicable to the function and operations of the licensing committee shall be determined by the commission, provided that the membership of the licensing committee shall include the Attorney General's designee and no less than one public member.

§ 52:17B-71a. Licensing process established; powers, responsibilities, duties [Effective January 1, 2024]

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 9, effective January 1, 2024.

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§ 52:17B-71b. License requirements [Effective January 1, 2024]

- a. The applicant for an initial law enforcement license or a probationary license shall have the burden of demonstrating to the satisfaction of the commission that the applicant meets all requirements for the issuance of a law enforcement license. The requirements for an initial license and a probationary license shall include, but not be limited to, that an applicant:
- (1) be at least 18 years of age;
 - (2) be a citizen of the United States, if required for the position for which licensure is sought;
 - (3) be at least a high school graduate or have earned a General Educational Development (GED) diploma;
 - (4) be fingerprinted in accordance with the standards established by the commission;
 - (5) have passed a medical examination by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse, based on specifications established by the commission;
 - (6) have passed a psychological examination by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist based on specifications established by the commission;
 - (7) be of good moral character as determined by a background investigation conducted under the procedures established by the commission and successfully pass a criminal background records check in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), [28 C.F.R. 115.317](#), if applicable;
 - (8) successfully meet and complete all required basic physical and educational training courses as required by the commission;
 - (9) successfully pass a drug screening test as prescribed by the commission;
 - (10) possess a valid driver's license;
 - (11) not have received a dishonorable discharge from military service;
 - (12) successfully complete any probationary period prescribed by the commission;
 - (13) not have been convicted of any of the following:
 - (a) a crime in this State or any other state, territory, country, or of the United States, including a conviction of an offense which if committed in this State would be deemed a crime under either State or federal law without regard to its designation elsewhere;
 - (b) an act of domestic violence pursuant to [P.L. 1991, c.261 \(C.2C:25-17 et seq.\)](#);
 - (c) an offense that would preclude an applicant from carrying a firearm as defined by [N.J.S.2C:39-1](#);
 - (d) a disorderly persons offense or petty disorderly persons offense involving dishonesty, fraud, or a lack of good moral character, unless the commission determines the offense to be de minimis in

§ 52:17B-71b. License requirements [Effective January 1, 2024]

nature or inconsequential to the applicant's ability to meet the standards expected of a law enforcement officer;

(e) two or more motor vehicle offenses for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol pursuant to [R.S.39:4-50](#) or two or more motor vehicle offenses for reckless driving pursuant to [R.S.39:4-96](#); or

(f) any offense listed in (b) through (e) of this paragraph committed in violation of the laws of another state, territory, country, or the United States;

(14) not be the subject of or had a domestic violence restraining order pursuant to [P.L.1991, c.261 \(C.2C:25-17 et seq.\)](#), an extreme risk protective order, or a temporary extreme risk protective order pursuant to [P.L.2018, c.35 \(C.2C:58-20 et seq.\)](#) issued against the applicant;

(15) not be an active member of a group or organization that advocates for, espouses, or promotes the overthrow of a local, state, or federal government or discrimination or violence against or hatred or bias toward individuals or groups based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other protected characteristic under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 ([C.10:5-1 et seq.](#)), or knowingly engage in any activity, conduct, or behavior relating to such group or organization with the intent to support, endorse or advocate for, or which the applicant knows or should know will have the effect of supporting, furthering, or advocating for, the goals of such group or organization, where active membership or knowing engagement would undermine public confidence in the ability of the individual law enforcement officer or the employing law enforcement agency to carry out the public safety mission, or where active membership or knowing engagement would cause substantial disruption to proper law enforcement functioning;

(16) not have engaged in conduct or behavior in the applicant's personal or professional life, including, but not limited to, making statements, posting, sharing, or commenting in support of any posting, on social media or otherwise, that demonstrates, espouses, advocates, or supports discrimination or violence against, or hatred or bias toward, individuals or groups based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other protected characteristic under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 ([C.10:5-1 et seq.](#)), where the conduct or behavior would undermine public confidence in the ability of the individual law enforcement officer or the employing law enforcement agency to carry out the public safety mission, or where the conduct or behavior would cause substantial disruption to proper law enforcement functioning;

(17) provide to the commission and the applicant's employing law enforcement unit a complete list of all social media accounts maintained by the applicant and grant to the commission and the applicant's employing law enforcement unit access to all outwardly facing activity and publicly accessible components of the accounts;

(18) not currently be listed on the National Decertification Index as being decertified as a law enforcement officer or having the license or certification as a law enforcement officer revoked or denied;

(19) pay or cause to be paid any fees, if applicable, established by the commission; and

(20) any other requirements established by the commission.

b. The commission may waive the requirements of subparagraphs (d) and (e) of paragraph (13) of subsection a. of this section if the applicant demonstrates to the licensing committee's satisfaction that:

(1) the applicant's conviction or convictions occurred five or more years prior to submission of an application for licensure as a law enforcement officer;

§ 52:17B-71b. License requirements [Effective January 1, 2024]

- (2) the applicant has taken rehabilitative steps since the applicant's conviction or convictions to become a law-abiding citizen through actions, including but not limited to continuing education, maintaining gainful employment, and having no further convictions; and
- (3) the applicant is currently of good moral character and submits at least three letters of recommendation from members of the applicant's community detailing the applicant's good moral character.
- c. An applicant for licensure shall provide to the commission or the applicant's employing law enforcement unit documented proof, in a form and manner as required by the commission, that the applicant is in compliance with paragraphs (1) through (20) of subsection a. of this section. The commission shall promulgate in its rules and regulations the form, manner, and substance of documents required by the commission to provide sufficient proof of the qualifications required by this section. An application for initial licensure or license renewal of a person employed as full-time sworn member of any State, county, or municipal law enforcement agency or department, division or instrumentality of those governments on the effective date [Jan. 1, 2024] of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a et al.\)](#) shall not be denied based solely on consideration of disciplinary actions based on conduct occurring prior to the date of enactment of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a et al.\)](#).
- d. The commission shall have the authority to issue a license for employment as a law enforcement officer if an applicant satisfies all licensing requirements. A license issued pursuant to this section shall expire three years after its date of issuance, before which time the law enforcement officer shall be required to apply for a license renewal pursuant to section 17 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71d\)](#).
- e. Law enforcement officers from jurisdictions outside of New Jersey and federal law enforcement officers applying for licensure in this State shall be required to meet all of the requirements set forth in this section and also shall be required to complete a waiver form that allows the commission and any hiring law enforcement unit to review the officer's internal affairs records from any and all prior law enforcement positions.
- f. A person appointed as a permanent law enforcement officer prior to the effective date [Jan. 1, 2024] of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a et al.\)](#) shall apply for a law enforcement license in accordance with section 17 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71d\)](#). The commission shall devise a process and schedule for submission of a law enforcement license application for the officers.
- g. At the discretion of the commission, licenses issued pursuant to this section may serve as authorization for a licensee to serve in one of the following positions, provided the licensee meets the requisite qualifications for that status: a full-time permanent law enforcement officer; a Class One, Class Two, or Class Three special law enforcement officer; or a probationary law enforcement officer.
- h. In all situations where a law enforcement officer has been convicted of an offense set forth in subparagraph (a), (b), or (c) of paragraph (13) of subsection a. of this section, the commission shall deny the issuance of a license to an applicant.
- i. Any decision to deny a license shall be accompanied by a written statement in a form to be prescribed by the commission.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 14, effective January 1, 2024.

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71c](#)

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§ 52:17B-71c. Employing law enforcement unit responsible for collection, verification, maintenance of qualification documents [Effective January 1, 2024]

- a. An employing law enforcement unit shall be responsible for the collection, verification, and maintenance of documentation establishing that an applicant meets the minimum qualifications for employment as a law enforcement officer.
- b. When all of the documentation concerning an applicant is obtained, the employing law enforcement unit shall submit the documentation to the commission for verification and review in a manner prescribed by the commission.
- c. The commission shall adopt rules and regulations establishing the procedure to submit licensing application documents.
- d. The commission shall review an applicant's documentation submitted for licensure to determine eligibility for the issuance of a law enforcement license.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 15, effective January 1, 2024.

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§ 52:17B-71d. Law enforcement license renewal, process [Effective January 1, 2024]

a. A law enforcement officer required to renew the officer's license or a person appointed as a permanent law enforcement officer prior to the effective date [Jan. 1, 2024] of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a\)](#) et al.) shall submit an application for law enforcement license renewal through the officer's employing law enforcement unit to the commission. The application for law enforcement license renewal shall be on a form adopted by the commission and shall require the law enforcement officer and the chief law enforcement officer of the officer's employing law enforcement unit to certify that the officer:

- (1)** is of good moral character as determined by a background investigation conducted under the procedures established by the commission;
- (2)** successfully meets and has completed all commission required physical and educational training courses;
- (3)** has not been convicted of:
 - (a)** a crime in this State or any other state, territory, country, or of the United States, including a conviction of an offense which if committed in this State would be deemed a crime under either state or federal law without regard to its designation elsewhere;
 - (b)** an act of domestic violence pursuant to [P.L.1991, c.261 \(C.2C:25-17\)](#) et seq.);
 - (c)** an offense that would preclude an applicant from carrying a firearm as defined by [N.J.S.2C:39-1](#);
 - (d)** a disorderly persons offense or petty disorderly persons offense involving dishonesty, fraud, or a lack of good moral character, unless the commission determines the offense to be de minimis in nature or inconsequential to the applicant's ability to meet the standards expected of a law enforcement officer;
 - (e)** two or more motor vehicle offenses for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol pursuant to [R.S.39:4-50](#) or two of more motor vehicle offenses for reckless driving pursuant to [R.S.39:4-96](#); or
 - (f)** any offense listed in subparagraph (b) through (e) of this paragraph committed in violation of the laws of another state, territory, country, or the United States.
- (4)** is not an active member of a group or organization that advocates for, espouses or promotes the overthrow of a local, state or federal government or discrimination or violence against or hatred or bias toward individuals or groups based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other protected characteristic under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 ([C.10:5-1](#) et seq.), and has not knowingly engaged in any activity, conduct, or behavior relating to the group or organization with the intent to support, endorse or advocate for, or which the officer knows or should know will have the effect of supporting, furthering, or advocating for, the goals of the group or organization, where active membership or knowing

§ 52:17B-71d. Law enforcement license renewal, process [Effective January 1, 2024]

engagement undermines or tends to undermine public confidence in the ability of the individual law enforcement officer or the employing law enforcement agency to carry out the public safety mission, or where active membership or knowing engagement causes or threatens to cause substantial disruption to proper law enforcement functioning; and

(5) has not engaged in conduct or behavior in the officer's personal or professional life, including but not limited to, making statements, posting, sharing, or commenting in support of any posting on social media or otherwise that demonstrates, espouses, advocates or supports discrimination or violence against, or hatred or bias toward individuals or groups based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other protected characteristic under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 ([C.10:5-1](#) et seq.), where the conduct or behavior would undermine public confidence in the ability of the individual law enforcement officer or the employing law enforcement agency to carry out the public safety mission, or where the conduct or behavior would cause substantial disruption to proper law enforcement functioning.

b. A law enforcement officer who is unable to certify to any item enumerated in subsection a. of this section shall disclose to the commission the reason the officer cannot make the certification. The commission shall consider this information in determining whether the officer's license shall be renewed.

c. In addition to the information contained in the law enforcement license renewal application form, the commission may request any additional information it deems relevant to determine whether a law enforcement officer's license should be renewed. The information may include a summary of a law enforcement officer's internal affairs file, or the entire file as the commission deems necessary. An employing law enforcement unit or the law enforcement officer shall provide all additional information requested by the commission.

d. A license issued pursuant to section 14 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71b\)](#) may be renewed administratively, under terms and conditions established by the commission, without requiring review by the licensing committee pursuant to subsection d. of section 9 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a\)](#) or conducting a hearing pursuant to section 19 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71f\)](#), if the licensee and the licensee's employing law enforcement unit submit the certifications required pursuant to subsection a. of this section and if a notice of an employment action concerning the licensee has not been submitted to or is not required to be submitted to the commission in accordance with subsection b. of section 16 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-77.16a\)](#).

e. The license of a law enforcement officer who is active and in good standing and who has timely submitted a completed renewal application which the commission fails to act upon prior to the license expiration date shall be deemed in force and effect until the time as the commission acts upon the renewal application, provided that nothing in this subsection shall be construed to preclude the commission from exercising the authority provided under section 18 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71e\)](#) during that interval or thereafter.

f. Any decision to deny a license renewal shall be accompanied by a written statement in a form to be prescribed by the commission.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 17, effective January 1, 2024.

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71e](#)

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§ 52:17B-71e. Adverse license action, repercussions [Effective January 1, 2024]

a. The commission shall have authority to impose an adverse license action as set forth in subsection b. of this section if the applicant or officer has:

- (1) failed to demonstrate or adhere to the minimum qualifications under section 14 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71b\)](#), or in the rules and regulations of the commission when applying for a license or license renewal;
- (2) knowingly made misleading, deceptive, untrue, or fraudulent representations in the practice of being a law enforcement officer or in any document connected therewith or practiced fraud or deceit or intentionally made any false statement in obtaining a license to be an officer;
- (3) been convicted of a crime in this State or any other state, territory, country, or of the United States. As used in this paragraph, the term “convicted of a crime” shall include a conviction of an offense which if committed in this State would be deemed a crime under either state or federal law without regard to its designation elsewhere;
- (4) committed a crime involving moral turpitude, without regard to conviction. The conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude shall be conclusive of the commission of the crime;
- (5) been convicted of an act of domestic violence as defined by section 1 of [P.L.1991, c.261 \(C.2C:25-17 et seq.\)](#);
- (6) had the officer’s law enforcement license revoked, suspended, or annulled by any lawful certifying or licensing authority, had other disciplinary action taken against the officer by any lawful certifying or licensing authority, or was denied a license by any lawful certifying or licensing authority;
- (7) engaged in any unprofessional, unethical, deceptive, or deleterious conduct or practice harmful to the public; the conduct or practice need not have resulted in actual injury to any person. As used in this paragraph, the term “unprofessional conduct” shall include any departure from, or failure to conform to, the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing practice of an officer as prescribed by the commission. As used in this paragraph the term “deceptive conduct” shall include but not be limited to:
 - (a) a sustained finding that a law enforcement officer filed a false report or submitted a false certification in any criminal, administrative, employment, financial, or insurance matter in the professional or personal life of the officer;
 - (b) a sustained finding that the law enforcement officer was untruthful or demonstrated a lack of candor;
 - (c) a sustained finding that the law enforcement officer mishandled or destroyed evidence; or
 - (d) a sustained finding that a law enforcement officer has engaged in conduct demonstrating discrimination, hatred or bias against individuals or groups based on race, creed, color, national

§ 52:17B-71e. Adverse license action, repercussions [Effective January 1, 2024]

origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other protected characteristic under the “Law Against Discrimination,” P.L.1945, c.169 ([C.10:5-1](#) et seq.);

(8) been adjudged mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction, within or outside this State;

(9) become unable to perform as an officer with reasonable skill and safety to citizens by reason of illness or use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material or as a result of any mental or physical condition;

(10) been the subject of or had a domestic violence restraining order pursuant to [P.L.1991, c.261 \(C.2C:25-17](#) et seq.), an extreme risk protective order or a temporary extreme risk protective order pursuant to [P.L.2018, c.35 \(C.2C:58-20](#) et seq.) issued against the applicant or officer; or

(11) been suspended or discharged by the officer’s employing law enforcement unit for disciplinary reasons.

b. If the commission finds, based on its own review or a recommendation of the licensing committee, that any person has engaged in the conduct described in subsection a. of this section, the commission may take any of the following actions:

(1) suspend any license for a definite period;

(2) place limitations or restrictions on a license;

(3) revoke a license;

(4) condition a penalty, or withhold formal disposition, upon the officer’s completing care, counseling, or treatment, as directed by the commission; or

(5) place the officer’s license on inactive status.

c. In addition to and in conjunction with the foregoing actions, the commission may make a finding adverse to the applicant or law enforcement officer, but withhold imposition of judgment or it may impose the judgment but suspend enforcement thereof and place the officer on probation, which may be vacated upon noncompliance with reasonable terms as the commission may impose.

d. In its discretion, the commission may restore and reissue a license issued under this act [[C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.] and, as a condition thereof, may impose any corrective measure prescribed by the commission.

e. In all situations where a law enforcement officer has been convicted of an offense set forth in subparagraph (a), (b), or (c) of paragraph (13) of subsection a. of section 14 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71b\)](#), the commission shall revoke a law enforcement officer’s license.

f. Any decision to revoke or suspend a license shall be accompanied by a written statement in a form to be prescribed by the commission.

g. Decisions of the commission authorized under this section shall be final agency decisions subject to appeal to the Superior Court.

h. The commission shall report all final decisions to revoke or deny licensure issued under this act [[C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.] to the National Decertification Index.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 18, effective January 1, 2024.

End of Document

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71f](#)

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§ 52:17B-71f. Hearing over denial of initial, renewal license [Effective January 1, 2024]

a. Except under circumstances set forth in subsection h. of section 14 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71b\)](#) or subsection e. of section 18 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71e\)](#), in all situations involving the imposition of an adverse license action by the commission as set forth in subsection b. of section 18 of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71e\)](#) or the denial of an initial or renewal license, the law enforcement officer shall, if requested by the officer, be entitled to a hearing in a manner prescribed in this subsection and in regulations as may be promulgated by the commission:

- (1) The licensing committee may hear the matter or refer the matter to a hearing officer for fact finding and a recommended disposition;
- (2) If the matter is referred to a hearing officer, the officer shall conduct a hearing and provide a written report to the licensing committee detailing the facts revealed and providing a recommended disposition; and
- (3) The licensing committee shall review the hearing officer's report, vote on the proposed disposition, and make a recommendation to the full commission, which shall render a decision in writing to the law enforcement officer, or any other party participating in the hearing.

b. Any ruling of the commission adverse to the law enforcement officer or any party participating in the hearing may be appealed to the Superior Court within 45 days of receipt of the commission's decision on appeal. Absent an appeal to the Superior Court, all findings of the commission shall become final upon the expiration of the appeal deadline. Upon review on appeal to the Superior Court, the commission's decisions shall be upheld unless the court finds the commission's decision was arbitrary, capricious, or unreasonable, or the record was unsupported by substantial credible evidence.

c. The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations detailing the manner of the hearing and appeal process. The processes shall include, but not be limited to, the manner in which a hearing and appeal are initiated and the manner in which the hearing shall be conducted.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 19, effective January 1, 2024.

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71g](#)

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§ 52:17B-71g. Continuing officer education training requirement [Effective January 1, 2024]

- a. The commission shall, by regulation, require all law enforcement officers, as a condition of continued employment or appointment as an officer, to receive periodic commission-approved continuing officer education training. The training or education shall be mandated and proscribed by the commission. Every law enforcement unit shall provide a reasonable opportunity for its officers to complete training.
- b. The law enforcement officer shall submit proof of all required training to the chief law enforcement officer of the officer's employing law enforcement unit, who shall in turn, submit the documentation to the commission in a manner to be proscribed by the commission's regulations.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 20, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71h](#)

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LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

§ 52:17B-71h. Fees for training, other services provided by commission [Effective January 1, 2024]

- a. The commission shall, by rule or regulation, establish, prescribe, or modify fees for training or other services provided by the commission pursuant to the provisions of this act [[C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.]. The fees may include, but are not limited to, fees for academy recruits and fees for each academy. Any fees established pursuant to this subsection shall be dedicated to the costs of providing the training or other services provided by the commission, as the case may be.
- b. The commission may, by rule or regulation, establish, prescribe, or modify fees for application for and issuance of an initial license pursuant to the provisions of this act for applicants or law enforcement officers not employed as full-time sworn members of any State, county, or municipal law enforcement agency or department or division of those governments on the effective date [Jan. 1, 2024] of this act, provided that a fee may not be charged for application for and issuance of initial licenses for law enforcement officers employed as full-time sworn members of any State, county, or municipal law enforcement agency, department, or division of those governments on the effective date of this act, or for application for and issuance of law enforcement license renewals for law enforcement officers employed as full-time sworn members of any State, county, or municipal law enforcement agency, department, or division of those governments on or after the effective date of this act.
- c. The commission shall be authorized to accept payment of fees established pursuant to this section from an applicant or licensee or on behalf of an applicant or licensee from a law enforcement unit employing or proposing to employ the applicant or officer, from any other governmental entity, or from funds made available by the State for this purpose.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 21, effective January 1, 2024.


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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.1](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-71.1. Grant, conveyance, devise, bequest, or donation to maintenance and use of commission [Repealed effective January 1, 2024]

History

L. 1967, c. 252, 3; repealed by [2022, c. 65](#), § 23, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.2](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

[§ 52:17B-71.2. Legislative findings \[Repealed effective January 1, 2024\]](#)

History

L. 1968, c. 265, 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1968; repealed by [2022, c. 65](#), § 23, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.3](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

[§ 52:17B-71.3. “Policeman” defined \[Repealed effective January 1, 2024\]](#)

History

L. 1968, c. 265, 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1968; Amended by L. 1975, c. 163, 2, eff. July 23, 1975; repealed by [2022, c. 65](#), § 23, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.4](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-71.4. Granting scholarships; review and approval; preferential treatment [Repealed effective January 1, 2024]

History

L. 1968, c. 265, 3, eff. Sept. 1, 1968; repealed by [2022, c. 65](#), § 23, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.5](#)

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Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-71.5. Amount of scholarship; part-time study [Repealed effective January 1, 2024]

History

L. 1968, c. 265, 4, eff. Sept. 1, 1968; repealed by [2022, c. 65](#), § 23, effective January 1, 2024.

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N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.6

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-71.6. Period of scholarship; proration [Repealed effective January 1, 2024]

History

L. 1968, c. 265, 5, eff. Sept. 1, 1968; repealed by [2022, c. 65](#), § 23, effective January 1, 2024.


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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.7](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

[§ 52:17B-71.7. Rules and regulations \[Repealed effective January 1, 2024\]](#)

History

L. 1968, c. 265, 6, eff. Sept. 1, 1968; repealed by [2022, c. 65](#), § 23, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.8](#)

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LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

§ 52:17B-71.8. Training course for safe schools resource officers, liaisons to law enforcement

a. The Police Training Commission in the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Attorney General, shall develop a training course for safe schools resource officers and public school employees assigned by a board of education to serve as a school liaison to law enforcement. The Attorney General, in conjunction with the Police Training Commission, shall ensure that the training course is developed within 180 days of the effective date of this act. The course shall at a minimum provide comprehensive and consistent training in current school resource officer practices and concepts. The course shall include training in the protection of students from harassment, intimidation, and bullying, including incidents which occur through electronic communication. The course shall be made available to:

(1) any law enforcement officer or public school employee referred by the board of education of the public school to which assignment as a safe schools resource officer or school liaison to law enforcement is sought; and

(2) any safe schools resource officer or school liaison to law enforcement assigned to a public school prior to the effective date of [P.L.2005, c.276 \(C.52:17B-71.8 et al.\)](#).

b. The training course developed by the commission pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be offered at each school approved by the commission to provide police training courses pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1961, c.56 ([C.52:17B-66 et seq.](#)). The commission shall ensure that an individual assigned to instruct the course is proficient and experienced in current school resource officer practices and concepts.

c. The commission shall award a certificate to each individual who successfully completes the course.

d. The Police Training Commission, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 ([C.52:14B-1 et seq.](#)), to implement the provisions of this section.

History


L. [2005, c. 276](#), § 2, eff. Jan. 6, 2006; amended [2010, c. 122](#), § 15.

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.9](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-71.9. Adoption of training course by Police Training Commission [Effective January 1, 2024]

- a. The Police Training Commission in the Department of Law and Public Safety shall adopt a training course regarding the risks associated with autism or an intellectual or other developmental disability and appropriate recognition and response techniques concerning these disabilities based on the curriculum developed by the Departments of Health and Senior Services and Human Services pursuant to subsection a. of section 2 of [P.L.2008, c.80 \(C.26:2-190\)](#). The training course shall be administered by the employing agency as part of the in-service training provided to each local police officer in each law enforcement unit operating in this State.
- b. Prior to being appointed to permanent status as a local law enforcement officer in a law enforcement unit, an individual shall be required to complete the training course adopted under subsection a. of this section. Every local law enforcement officer appointed prior to the effective date [Jan. 1, 2024] of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.) shall, within 36 months of the effective date of [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.), satisfactorily complete a training course in recognition and response techniques concerning these disabilities.
- c. The Police Training Commission shall adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 ([C.52:14B-1](#) et seq.), to effectuate the purposes of this act.

History

L. [2008, c. 80](#), § 4, eff. Apr. 1, 2009; amended by [2022, c. 65](#), § 11, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.10](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-71.10. Definitions relative to police training; continued operation of certain approved schools

a. As used in this act:

“Approved school” means a school approved and authorized by the Police Training Commission to give police training courses.

“Basic course” means an entry-level police training course designed for trainees.

“Commission” means the Police Training Commission established pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-70).

b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any statute, rule or regulation to the contrary, an approved school located in a city of the first class or a city of the second class having a population of not less than 85,000 or more than 150,000 according to the 2000 federal decennial census may continue operations so long as that school conducts a minimum of one basic course annually.

History

L. [2009, c. 222](#), § 1, eff. Jan. 16, 2010.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-71.11](#)

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§ 52:17B-71.11. Pilot program established; increase access to training courses applying the Crisis Intervention model

a. The Attorney General, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services, shall develop a pilot program to promote and encourage law enforcement officers Statewide to complete training that applies the Crisis Intervention Team model, which program may include support for and coordination between the Police Training Commission in the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety and the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services in the Department of Human Services to increase the frequency of, number of locations, and geographic accessibility to training courses offered that apply the Crisis Intervention Team model.

b. The Police Training Commission shall develop and implement or incorporate into an existing training course, in consultation with a crisis intervention training center, a curriculum that applies the Crisis Intervention Team model to persons experiencing an economic crisis or struggling with a substance abuse disorder who come into contact with law enforcement first responders.

c. As used in this section:

“Crisis Intervention Team model” means the best practice jail diversion model originally developed by the Memphis Tennessee Police Department and implemented in New Jersey as a county based collaboration of professionals committed to improving the law enforcement and mental health systems’ response to persons experiencing a psychiatric crisis who come into contact with law enforcement first responders.

“Crisis intervention training center” means a program or entity that has operated as a crisis intervention support center in the State for a period of at least five years and that has experience in assisting political subdivisions in New Jersey in developing and implementing the Crisis Intervention Team model.

History

L. [2021, c. 455](#), § 1, effective January 18, 2022.


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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-72](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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Notice

 This section has more than one version with varying effective dates.

§ 52:17B-72. Effect of act upon powers and duties of municipalities and counties and civil service [Effective January 1, 2024]

- a. Except as expressly provided in P.L.1961, c.56 (*C.52:17B-66 et seq.*), nothing herein contained shall be deemed to limit the powers, rights, duties or responsibilities of municipal or county governments, nor to affect provisions of Title 11 of the Revised Statutes, provided that a determination by the Civil Service Commission that an individual is eligible for appointment as a law enforcement officer shall not be construed to affect or limit the commission's ability to take any action authorized under [P.L.2022, c.65 \(C.52:17B-71a et al.\)](#) with respect to an applicant or licensee.
- b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any statute, rule, regulation or collective bargaining agreement to the contrary, the commission shall have the sole authority to establish training standards and certification for approved schools, and the licensure requirements for a law enforcement officer as defined in section 2 of P.L.1961, c.56 (*C.52:17B-67*).

History

L. 1961, c. 56, p. 546, 7; amended by [2022, c. 65](#), § 12, effective January 1, 2024.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-73](#)

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§ 52:17B-73. Organization of commission; quorum

The Attorney General shall be the chairman of the commission. The Attorney General is empowered to appoint an administrator of police services to the commission after obtaining the advice and consent of the commission and may employ other persons as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, and to fix their compensation and the compensation of the administrator of police services within the limits of available appropriations. The commission, at its initial organization meeting to be held promptly after the appointment and qualification of its members, and thereafter at each annual organization meeting to be held on the first Monday in February, shall select a vice-chairman from among its members, and shall meet at such other times within the State of New Jersey as it may determine. A majority of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business, the performance of any duty, or for the exercise of any of its powers.

History

L. 1961, c. 56, p. 546, 8; Amended by L. 1971, c. 41, 2, eff. March 4, 1971; L. 1985, c. 491, 4, eff. Jan. 21, 1986.

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N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-74

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-74. Minutes and other records

The commission shall maintain minutes of its meetings and such other records as it deems necessary.

History

L. 1961, c. 56, p. 546, 9.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-75](#)

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§ 52:17B-75. Reimbursement for expenses [Effective January 1, 2024]

The members of the commission shall receive no salary but all members except those designated in subsection c. of section 5 of this act shall be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses lawfully incurred in the performance of their official functions. The members of the commission who are employed by the State, a county, a municipality or any State, county, or local governmental entity shall not be subject to loss of pay or accrued time due to attending commission meetings or otherwise performing the official commission functions.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 13, effective January 1, 2024.

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N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-76

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-76. Annual report

The commission shall report at least annually to the Governor and the Legislature as to its activities.

History

L. 1961, c. 56, p. 546, 11.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-77. Appropriation

There is hereby appropriated the sum of \$25,000.00 to establish and maintain the commission.

History

L. 1961, c. 56, p. 546, 12.

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N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.1

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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**§ 52:17B-77.1. Crime prevention advisory committee; creation; members; appointments; term of office; vacancies; reimbursement of expenses
[Repealed]**

History

L. 1985, c. 1, § 2; repealed by L. [2010, c. 87](#), § 48, eff. Nov. 3, 2010.

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N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.2

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§ 52:17B-77.2. Assistance of police training commission; allowable expenditures [Repealed]

History

L. 1985, c. 1, § 3; repealed by L. [2010, c. 87](#), § 48, eff. Nov. 3, 2010.

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N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.3

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§ 52:17B-77.3. Duties [Repealed]

History

L. 1985, c. 1, § 4; repealed by L. [2010, c. 87](#), § 48, eff. Nov. 3, 2010.

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N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.4

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

§ 52:17B-77.4. Senior citizens crime prevention program

The Attorney General, in consultation with the Crime Prevention Advisory Committee established under the provisions of P.L.1985, c.1 ([C.52:17B-77.1](#) et seq.), the county prosecutors of this State, and the American Association of Retired Persons, shall develop and establish a senior citizens crime prevention program.

The program shall include, but not be limited to:

- a.** Informational services and educational awareness programs specifically designed to address the needs of senior citizens in the areas of personal safety, home security, and those types of non-violent property crimes to which senior citizens are especially susceptible, such as scams and swindles;
- b.** Information and training programs relating to the organization and operation of specialized neighborhood watch and crime prevention programs; and
- c.** Informational services and educational awareness programs for county and municipal law enforcement departments to assist them in meeting the specialized needs of the senior citizens in their communities and which may include an outline of suggested programs and services a county and municipal law enforcement department may initiate to address those special needs, such as the establishment of a senior citizens bureau within the department to provide and coordinate the community's senior citizens crime prevention programs and activities.

History

L. [1997, c. 73](#), § 1.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.5](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

LexisNexis® New Jersey Annotated Statutes > Title 52. State Government, Departments and Officers (Subts. 1 — 5) > Subtitle 3. Executive and Administrative Departments (Chs. 14 — 27J) > Chapter 17B. Department of Law and Public Safety (§§ 52:17B-1 — 52:17B-247)

§ 52:17B-77.5. Conduct of senior citizens crime prevention program at county level

The Attorney General shall transmit a copy of the senior citizens crime prevention program developed pursuant to section 1 of this act to each county and municipal law enforcement department situated within the State. Each county prosecutor may conduct such informational and training seminars for county and municipal law enforcement officers as shall be deemed appropriate and necessary to effectively implement the senior citizens crime prevention program in the county.

History

L. [1997, c. 73](#), § 2.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.6](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-77.6. Liability to State law enforcement agency for training; terms defined

- a.** If a person who was appointed to a State law enforcement agency resigns and is subsequently appointed to a county or municipal law enforcement agency, a police department of an educational institution pursuant to P.L. 1970, c. 211 ([C. 18A:6-4.2](#) et seq.), another State law enforcement agency or the New Jersey Transit Police Department pursuant to section 2 of [P.L. 1989, c. 291 \(C. 27:25-15.1\)](#) within 120 days of resignation, and if that person held a probationary appointment at the time of resignation or held a permanent appointment for 30 days or less prior to resignation, the appointing county or municipal law enforcement agency, educational institution, State law enforcement agency or the New Jersey Transit Corporation shall be liable to the State law enforcement agency for the total certified costs incurred by the corporation in the examination, hiring, and training of the person.
- b.** If a person who was appointed to a State law enforcement agency resigns and is subsequently appointed to a county or municipal law enforcement agency, a police department of an educational institution pursuant to P.L. 1970, c. 211 ([C. 18A:6-4.2](#) et seq.), another State law enforcement agency or the New Jersey Transit Police Department pursuant to section 2 of [P.L. 1989, c. 291 \(C. 27:25-15.1\)](#) within 120 days of resignation, and if that person held a permanent appointment for more than 30 days but less than two years at the time of resignation, the appointing county or municipal law enforcement agency, educational institution or State law enforcement agency, or the New Jersey Transit Corporation, shall be liable to the State law enforcement agency for one-half of the total certified costs incurred by the agency in the examination, hiring, and training of the person.
- c.** The appointing county or municipal law enforcement agency, educational institution, State law enforcement agency or the New Jersey Transit Corporation shall notify the former employer immediately upon the appointment of an employee formerly employed by the State law enforcement agency and shall reimburse the agency within 120 days of the receipt of the certified costs.
- d.** As used in this section:

“County or municipal law enforcement agency” means and includes, but is not limited to, a county or municipal police department or force, a county corrections department and a county sheriff’s office.

“Examination costs” means and includes, but is not limited to, the costs of all qualifying examinations and public advertisements for these examinations.

“State law enforcement agency” means and includes, but is not limited to, the police department of a State agency and the State Department of Corrections, but does not include the State Police.

“Training costs” means the police training course fees and the base salary received while attending the police training course as required by section 2 of [P.L. 1989, c. 291 \(C. 27:25-15.1\)](#).

History

§ 52:17B-77.6. Liability to State law enforcement agency for training; terms defined

L. [2000, c. 106](#), § 4, eff. Sept. 8, 2000.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.7](#)

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§ 52:17B-77.7. Findings, declarations relative to Alzheimer's disease

The Legislature finds and declares that:

- a.** Alzheimer's disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder causing dementia and resulting in such conditions as anxiety, poor judgement, confusion, mood swings and loss of intellectual functioning;
- b.** Of the four million Americans currently diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, 60% of them will become disoriented and wander off at some point during the disease;
- c.** If a person with Alzheimer's disease wanders off and is not found within the first 24 hours, there is a nearly 50% chance the person will be at risk for serious injury or death;
- d.** Safe Return is a national identification, support and registration program working in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies to safely return individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, who become lost, to their families and caregivers; and
- e.** It is in the interest of protecting the health and welfare of our State residents diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders to establish a requirement that all State Police and local law enforcement personnel receive instruction on the utilization of the Safe Return program to facilitate the safe recovery of those who wander off and become lost.

History

L. [2005, c. 72](#), § 1, eff. Oct. 15, 2005.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.8](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-77.8. Training protocols for law enforcement for Safe Return Program

- a. The Department of Law and Public Safety shall establish training protocols for the State Police and local law enforcement personnel in the utilization of the Safe Return program to facilitate the safe recovery of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders who wander off and become lost.
- b. These training protocols shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) guidelines for identifying persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders;
 - (2) guidelines on communicating with persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders;
 - (3) guidelines for caring for persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders who become lost and disoriented; and
 - (4) guidelines for instruction on the procedures the Safe Return program uses in locating lost individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

History

L. [2005, c. 72](#), § 2, eff. Oct. 15, 2005.

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N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.9

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§ 52:17B-77.9. In-service training

The State Police or a local law enforcement agency may provide in-service training of its personnel according to the training protocols established by the Department of Law and Public Safety pursuant to section 2 of [P.L. 2005, c. 72](#) ([C. 52:17B-77.8](#)) on the specialized needs of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders who become lost.

History

L. [2005, c. 72](#), § 3, eff. Oct 15, 2005.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.10](#)

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§ 52:17B-77.10. Rules, regulations

The Attorney General may pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L. 1968, c. 410 ([C. 52:14B-1](#) et seq.), adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act [[C. 52:17B-77.7](#) et seq.].

History

L. [2005, c. 72](#), § 4, eff. Oct. 15, 2005.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.11](#)

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§ 52:17B-77.11. Training programs

The appropriate agency head shall approve appropriate training programs for law enforcement officers, parole officers and any other persons charged with the enforcement of [P.L.2007, c.219](#) ([C.2C:43-6.6](#) et al.). Appropriate programs shall include, at a minimum, instruction in conducting investigations in which computers, telecommunications devices and other high technology instruments are utilized in the commission of sex offenses. The programs also may include instruction in techniques of forensic recovery, evidence preservation and analysis of data in computer systems seized because of criminal or unlawful activity.

History

L. [2007, c. 219](#), § 6, eff. Feb. 25, 2008.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.12](#)

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§ 52:17B-77.12. Required training concerning bias intimidation crimes for police officers

The Police Training Commission shall require all new police officers to complete two hours of training, which may include interactive training, in identifying, responding to, and reporting bias intimidation crimes. The Police Training Commission shall develop or revise the training course in consultation with the New Jersey Human Relations Council established pursuant to section 1 of [P.L. 1997, c.257 \(C.52:9DD-8\)](#). The training course shall include the following topics:

- a. features that identify or could identify a bias intimidation crime;
- b. laws dealing with bias intimidation crimes;
- c. law enforcement procedures, reporting, and documentation of bias intimidation crimes; and
- d. techniques and methods to handle incidents of bias intimidation crimes, including training on how to deal sensitively with victims and referring victims of bias intimidation crimes to organizations that provide assistance and compensation to victims.

History

L. [2007, c. 303](#), § 6, eff. Mar. 13, 2008.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.13](#)

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§ 52:17B-77.13. Development, identification of uniform cultural diversity and implicit bias training course materials

a. The Department of Law and Public Safety shall develop or identify uniform cultural diversity and implicit bias training course materials and an online tutorial that shall include instruction designed to promote positive interaction with, and community outreach to, all residents within a community, including residents of all racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals residing within the community. Components of the training course materials and online tutorial shall include, but not be limited to, instruction on:

- (1) the various cultural communities and the effects of diversity on community relations within a community;
- (2) appropriate methods by which an officer may interact with people of various cultures and religions in the community, with an emphasis on officer safety skills and conflict resolution techniques;
- (3) best practices in law enforcement techniques when analyzing and solving local neighborhood problems, meeting with community groups, and working with citizens on crime prevention programs;
- (4) the impact that police diversity skills have on overall law enforcement effectiveness; and
- (5) understanding implicit bias and employing strategies to eliminate unconscious biases that shape behavior and produce disparate treatment of individuals based on their race, ethnicity, religious belief, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or other characteristics.

b. The Department of Law and Public Safety shall cause the training course materials and online tutorial developed or identified pursuant to subsection a. of this section to be made available to every State, county, and municipal law enforcement department in the State and to each campus police department at an institution of higher education in the State that appoints police officers pursuant to P.L.1970, c.211 ([C.18A:6-4.2](#) et seq.) for use in providing officer training and information promoting community outreach efforts within the law enforcement department's community.

c. The Department of Law and Public Safety shall periodically assess the training course materials and online tutorial developed or identified pursuant to subsection a. of this section and update them where the department finds appropriate.

History

L. [2016, c. 23](#), § 1, effective March 1, 2017; amended by [2020, c. 68](#), § 1, effective March 1, 2021.

§ 52:17B-77.13. Development, identification of uniform cultural diversity and implicit bias training course materials

End of Document

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.14](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-77.14. Provision of in-service training

Every State, county, and municipal law enforcement department in the State and every campus police department at an institution of higher education in the State that appoints police officers pursuant to P.L.1970, c.211 ([C.18A:6-4.2](#) et seq.) shall provide once every five years in-service training of its personnel utilizing the training course materials or online tutorial developed or identified by the Department of Law and Public Safety pursuant to section 1 of [P.L.2016, c.23](#) ([C.52:17B-77.13](#)).

History

L. [2016, c. 23](#), § 2, effective March 1, 2017; amended by [2020, c. 68](#), § 2, effective March 1, 2021.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.15](#)

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§ 52:17B-77.15. Training curriculum to prevent suicide committed by law enforcement officers

a. The Department of Law and Public Safety, in consultation with the Department of Human Services, shall establish a training curriculum designed to prevent suicide committed by law enforcement officers. The issues addressed in the training curriculum shall include, but not be limited to, the causes, behaviors, warning signs, and risk factors associated with officer suicide. In addition, the training curriculum shall:

- 1) identify appropriate intervention strategies to be used by law enforcement departments to effectively prevent officer suicide; and
- 2) provide information concerning programs that offer crisis intervention and counseling services to law enforcement officers.

b. The training curriculum established pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be made available to each State, county, and municipal law enforcement department and each campus police department at an institution of higher education that appoints law enforcement officers pursuant to P.L.1970, c.211 ([C.18A:6-4.2](#) et seq.) to be used as part of in-service training provided to each law enforcement officer in this State. The in-service training shall be administered to each law enforcement officer once every five years following the officer's date of initial appointment.

History

L. [2019, c. 368](#), § 1, effective August 1, 2020.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.16](#)

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§ 52:17B-77.16. Report of incident of completed suicide by a law enforcement officer

a. The chief law enforcement officer or the chief law enforcement officer's designee of each State, county, and municipal law enforcement agency and campus police department at an institution of higher education that appoints law enforcement officers pursuant to P.L.1970, c.211 ([C.18A:6-4.2](#) et seq.) shall report within a reasonable time to the Office of the Attorney General, in a manner prescribed by the Attorney General, any incident of a completed suicide by a law enforcement officer employed by their respective agency or department. The report shall include:

- (1) the month and year during which the law enforcement officer's death occurred;
- (2) the law enforcement officer's age, salary, and length of service with the law enforcement agency at the time of the officer's death;
- (3) the race and gender of the law enforcement officer;
- (4) any known facts pertaining to the cause or method of suicide; and
- (5) the veteran status and level of education of the law enforcement officer;

b. The report required pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall not identify the law enforcement officer by name or date of birth.

c. The Attorney General shall aggregate the data provided pursuant to subsection a. of this section, which aggregated data shall be made publicly available for use in suicide prevention and intervention studies.

d. The reporting of a suicide pursuant to this section shall not replace or alter any other requirement of law, professional standard, or obligation that requires the law enforcement agency to evaluate a death or report a suicide.

History

L. [2019, c. 368](#), § 2, effective August 1, 2020.

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.16a](#)

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§ 52:17B-77.16a. Notification of appointment, employment, separation, suspension, certain sustained findings [Effective January 1, 2024]

- a. The chief law enforcement officer of an employing law enforcement unit shall notify the commission in writing, on a form prescribed by the commission, of a law enforcement officer's appointment to or employment with the law enforcement unit, which shall include the commencement date of such appointment or employment.
- b. The chief law enforcement officer of an employing law enforcement unit shall notify the commission, in writing, on a form prescribed by the commission, of the following employment actions concerning a law enforcement officer:
- (1) the separation from appointment or employment with the law enforcement unit, which includes any firing, termination, resignation, retirement, or voluntary or involuntary extended leave of absence, which notice shall include the date of separation;
 - (2) the imposition of any discipline subject to appeal;
 - (3) any suspension of more than five days or 40 hours duration, imposed pending investigation or disciplinary action;
 - (4) any sustained finding that a law enforcement officer used excessive force;
 - (5) any pending criminal charge or conviction of any crime, disorderly persons, petty disorderly persons, or driving while intoxicated offense;
 - (6) any sustained finding that a law enforcement officer is unfit for duty;
 - (7) any sustained finding that the law enforcement officer filed a false report or submitted a false certification in any criminal, administrative, employment, financial, or insurance matter in the officer's professional or personal life;
 - (8) any sustained finding that the law enforcement officer mishandled or destroyed evidence;
 - (9) any sustained finding that the law enforcement officer was untruthful or demonstrated a lack of candor; and
 - (10) any sustained finding that the law enforcement officer is biased against a particular class of people based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other protected characteristic under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 ([C.10:5-1](#) et seq.).

In addition to the completed form, the employing law enforcement unit shall provide additional supporting information and documentation as may be required by the commission. The employing law enforcement unit shall maintain the original form and submit, or electronically transmit, the information required under this subsection to the commission within two business days of the employment action. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the completed forms and information submitted to the commission pursuant to this section shall not, by virtue of having been required pursuant to this section, constitute a public record under

§ 52:17B-77.16a. Notification of appointment, employment, separation, suspension, certain sustained findings
[Effective January 1, 2024]

P.L.1963, c.73 ([C.47:1A-1](#) et seq.) or a government record subject to access pursuant to [P.L.2001, c.404](#) ([C.47:1A-5](#) et seq.), but shall be accessible when otherwise required to be disclosed by law.

c. In a case of separation from employment, the employing law enforcement unit shall execute and maintain a form adopted by the commission, setting forth in detail the facts and reasons for the separation. The information contained in the form shall be submitted, or electronically transmitted, to the commission within two business days. If the officer is separated for the officer's failure to comply with the provisions of [P.L.2022, c.65](#) ([C.52:17B-71a](#) et al.), the notice shall specify this. Any law enforcement officer who has separated from employment for cause shall be permitted to respond to the separation, in writing, to the commission, setting forth the facts and reasons for the separation as the officer understands them. The response shall be submitted to the commission within two business days of the separation.

d. Before employing a licensed law enforcement officer, a subsequent employing law enforcement unit shall contact the commission to inquire as to the facts and reasons an officer was separated from any previous employing unit. The commission shall, upon request and without prejudice, provide to the subsequent employing law enforcement unit all information that is required under subsections a., b., and c. of this section that is in its possession. Notwithstanding this provision, a law enforcement unit seeking to hire a law enforcement officer shall comply with the provisions of section 1 of [P.L.2020, c.52](#) ([C.52:17B-247](#)) and request that officer's internal affairs and personnel files from the officer's previous employing law enforcement units.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer voluntarily separates from employment with a law enforcement unit to commence employment at another unit, the chief law enforcement officer of the former law enforcement unit shall notify the commission in writing in advance, if possible, but no later than two business days after the officer's departure. Upon separation from employment, the law enforcement officer's license shall be placed on inactive status, unless the commission has previously acted to approve the officer's active status at the new employing law enforcement unit. The chief law enforcement officer of that unit shall make application to the commission, in a manner prescribed by the commission, through its regulations, prior to or within two business days of the officer's appointment date to restore the officer's license to active status. The commission shall consider the application and render a decision concerning the reactivation of the officer's license.

f. It shall be unlawful for any State, county, or municipal agency, law enforcement unit, or licensed law enforcement officer to enter into any non-disclosure agreement which seeks to conceal or prevent public review of the circumstances under which the officer separated from or was terminated or fired from employment by the law enforcement unit or State, county, or municipal agency.

History

L. [2022, c. 65](#), § 16, effective January 1, 2024.

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.17](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-77.17. Adoption of course by Police Training Commission

a.

(1) The Police Training Commission in the Department of Law and Public Safety shall adopt a training course regarding law enforcement interactions with persons under the lawful age to purchase alcoholic beverages or cannabis items based upon the legalization of a personal use cannabis marketplace pursuant to the “New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act,” [P.L.2021, c.16 \(C.24:6I-31](#) et al.), the decriminalization of marijuana and hashish pursuant to [P.L.2021, c.16 \(C.24:6I-31](#) et al.), and the enforcement of violations of applicable statutes associated with the underage possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, marijuana, hashish, or cannabis items pursuant to those enactments and the companion enactment, [P.L.2021, c.25 \(C.2C:30-6.1](#) et al.), and which includes the recognition of and methods to address and avoid racial disparities and implicit bias, and means for interacting with vulnerable juvenile populations. The training course shall be administered by the employing agency as part of the in-service training provided to each local police officer in each law enforcement unit operating in this State.

(2) Prior to being appointed to permanent status as a local police officer in a law enforcement unit, an individual shall be required to complete the training course adopted under paragraph (1) of this subsection. Every local police officer appointed prior to the effective date of this section shall, within 18 months of that effective date, satisfactorily complete a training course on law enforcement interactions as described in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(3) The Police Training Commission shall adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 ([C.52:14B-1](#) et seq.), to effectuate the purposes of this subsection.

b. Within 45 days of the effective date of [P.L.2021, c.25 \(C.2C:30-6.1](#) et al.), the Attorney General shall prepare a notice explaining the provisions of the enactments set forth in paragraph (1) of subsection a. of this section pertaining to persons under the lawful age to purchase alcoholic beverages or cannabis items and the violations of applicable statutes associated with the underage possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, marijuana, hashish, or cannabis items, and transmit the notice to the chief or director of every municipal police department, every municipal prosecutor, every county prosecutor, and the Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police. The notice shall be disseminated to every law enforcement officer and shall be re-enforced at roll calls and academy service training and continuing education programs so as to ensure that all officers and prosecutors are educated of their responsibilities under the relevant enactments.

History

L. [2021, c. 25](#), § 17, effective February 22, 2021.

§ 52:17B-77.17. Adoption of course by Police Training Commission

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[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.18](#)

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§ 52:17B-77.18. “Low-income community” defined; Civil Service Commission program creation for preparatory courses, funding, law enforcement examinations

- a. For the purposes of this section, “low-income community” means any population census tract in which:
- (1) the poverty rate for such tract is at least 20 percent, or
 - (2)
 - (a) in the case of a tract not located within a metropolitan area, the median family income for such tract does not exceed 80 percent of statewide median family income, or
 - (b) in the case of a tract located within a metropolitan area, the median family income for such tract does not exceed 80 percent of the greater of statewide median family income or the metropolitan area median family income.
- b. The Civil Service Commission shall create a program with a goal of achieving at least one of the following two objectives:
- (1) sponsoring free or low-cost preparatory courses for the entry level law enforcement examination for residents of any low-income community or of any municipality in this State with at least one “qualified opportunity zone” as determined under [26 U.S.C. 1400Z-1](#); or
 - (2) providing, securing, or identifying scholarships for alternate route programs or preparatory courses for the entry level law enforcement examination for residents of any low-income community or of any municipality in this State with at least one “qualified opportunity zone” as determined under [26 U.S.C. 1400Z-1](#).
- The commission, or a designee thereof, is authorized to receive gifts, grants, or other financial assistance from private sources for the purpose of sponsoring the courses or funding the scholarships offered pursuant to this section, and entering into agreements related thereto with private sources, including but not limited to non-governmental, non-profit, educational, or charitable entities or institutions.
- c. The commission may promulgate regulations to effectuate the provisions of this section which shall be effective immediately upon filing with the Office of Administrative Law for a period not to exceed 18 months, and may, thereafter, be amended, adopted or readopted in accordance with the provisions of the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 ([C.52:14B-1](#) et seq.).

History

L. [2021, c. 234](#), § 2, effective September 28, 2021.

§ 52:17B-77.18. "Low-income community" defined; Civil Service Commission program creation for preparatory courses, funding, law enforcement examinations

End of Document

[N.J. Stat. § 52:17B-77.19](#)

Current through New Jersey 220th Second Annual Session, L. 2023, c. 75 and J.R. 10

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§ 52:17B-77.19. State correctional police officer training, infusion of concept of inmate dignity, fairness, respect

- a. The Police Training Commission shall, pursuant to its statutory authority to certify correctional police officers as set forth in subsection e. of section 6 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-70), establish and incorporate throughout the required basic training course for State correctional police officers the concept that the core mission of these officers is to treat every inmate with dignity, fairness, and respect.
- b. To implement the core mission established in subsection a. of this section, the commission shall ensure that the basic training course for State correctional police officers includes, at a minimum, comprehensive training and education on the following topics:
- (1) de-escalation, including training in interacting with combative or threatening inmates and inmates experiencing mental health crises;
 - (2) minimization of use of force against inmates;
 - (3) cultural diversity and implicit bias;
 - (4) appropriate methods of engaging with inmates of diverse cultures and religions and inmates who are members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) community and gender nonconforming inmates;
 - (5) the rights of inmates;
 - (6) lifestyle stressors, self-awareness, and self-regulation;
 - (7) maintaining officer and inmate safety;
 - (8) communication skills; and
 - (9) any other topic deemed necessary by the commission to advance the core mission of treating inmates with dignity, fairness, and respect.

History

L. [2021, c. 305](#), § 1, effective June 1, 2022.

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