



State of New Jersey

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Attorney General

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Lt. Governor

ATTORNEY GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTIVE NO. 2020-2

TO: All Chief Law Enforcement Executives

FROM: Gurbir S. Grewal, Attorney General

DATE: March 20, 2020

SUBJECT: Directive Updating Certain Reporting, Training, and Certification Deadlines

Together with healthcare professionals and other first responders, our law enforcement officers are on the front lines of the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic. They are dedicating enormous time and resources in the extraordinary statewide and national response that is underway. As the state's chief law enforcement officer, I am guided by two overarching goals at this time: protecting the well-being of our residents during this unprecedented emergency, and ensuring the health and well-being of our over 36,000 law enforcement professionals.

In order to ensure the most efficient use of law enforcement resources, effective immediately, I am relaxing a series of general reporting, training, and certification deadlines—none of which are required by statute, and none of which are related to law enforcement's preparedness to handle the COVID-19 pandemic. It is my hope that these changes will allow law enforcement professionals to focus on keeping both the public and themselves safe during this emergency.

To be clear, this Directive extends a series of deadlines that are due in the next three months, and at this time, does not extend any deadlines that come due beyond that point. For example, many law enforcement agencies have asked about the twice-annual firearm requalification requirement. While I know that many agencies conduct their first round of requalification in the spring, there is no requirement that this training occur six months after the last requalification; the requirement is only that these two requalification sessions occur at least three months apart. We hope, of course, that this pandemic will subside soon enough and that officers will have adequate time this summer, fall, and winter to meet this training obligation.



As we continue to address this crisis together, we will, of course, revisit firearm requalification requirements and any other deadlines, including those coming due this summer, should circumstances require.

Therefore, pursuant to the authority granted to me under the New Jersey Constitution and Criminal Justice Act of 1970, N.J.S.A. 52:17B-97 to -117, I, Gurbir S. Grewal, hereby DIRECT all law enforcement agencies operating under the authority of the laws of the State of New Jersey to implement and comply with the following policies, procedures, standards, and practices:

1. All quarterly, semi-annual, and annual reporting requirements imposed by prior law enforcement directives issued by the Attorney General with deadlines from today, March 20, 2020, through June 30, 2020, are suspended until further notice. This relaxation of deadlines does not apply to any requirements imposed by statute.
2. The deadlines imposed for registration of municipal prosecutors and the development and implementation of certain policies, manuals, trainings as part of the Excellence in Policing Initiative, to the extent they are due from today, March 20, 2020, through June 30, 2020, are postponed until August 31, 2020. These include, but are not limited to, deadlines imposed as part of Law Enforcement Directive Nos. 2019-5 (Internal Affairs Directive) and 2019-7 (Municipal Prosecutor Directive), as well as my December 4, 2019 Letter to the Police Training Commission.
3. In light of the likely disruptions in available courses necessary for law enforcement to fulfill their numerous training obligations, the date of completion for trainings and the expiration date of certifications governed by prior directives due or set to expire between today, March 20, 2020, through June 30, 2020, are extended until August 31, 2020. These include, but are not limited to, deadlines under Directive No. 2019-3 (LGBTQ+ Equality Directive), certifications to become Radar Operators or Instructors, and use-of-force training.
4. This Directive is issued pursuant to the Attorney General's authority to ensure the uniform and efficient enforcement of the laws and administration of criminal justice throughout the state. This Directive imposes limitations on law enforcement agencies and officials that may be more restrictive than the limitations imposed under the United States and New Jersey Constitutions, and federal and state statutes and regulations. Nothing in this Directive shall be construed in any way to create any substantive right that may be enforced by any third party.
5. Questions concerning the extensions laid out in this Directive shall be addressed to Jeffrey J. Barile, Deputy Bureau Chief, Prosecutors Supervision and Training Bureau within the Division of Criminal Justice at BarileJ@njdcj.org.

This Directive shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force unless it is repealed, amended, or superseded by Order of the Attorney General.



Gurbir S. Grewal
Attorney General

ATTEST:



Veronica Allende
Director, Division of Criminal Justice

Dated: March 20, 2020