

**DEPUTY SHERIFFS' EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD
PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY**

GENERAL

- Created February 1984 and initial membership appointed in August 1984, under Act 1984-2, the Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Act.
- Operates with the oversight and support of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD).
- Funded solely through the collection of a \$2.00 surcharge, on all legal papers required to be served by the county sheriff, maintained in a restricted receipts account by the Office of State Treasurer.
- Prior to September 1991, average annual surcharge collections totaled \$650,000.
- Board training activities mandated by Act 1984-2 include the powers and duties to:
 - . Implement and administer requirements and courses of study for programs of basic and continuing education training for deputy sheriffs;
 - . Certify deputy sheriffs who have successfully completed basic training;
 - . Approve or revoke the approval of schools utilized to train deputy sheriffs;
 - . Establish qualifications for and certify instructors utilized to train deputy sheriffs;
 - . Make rules and regulations as necessary and appropriate to administer the training programs of the Act; and,
 - . Make an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly.

BASIC TRAINING

- Act 1984-2 mandates successful completion of 160 hours of basic training for all newly hired deputy sheriffs.
- Basic training curriculum consists of 11 major subject areas.
- Waivers of basic training awarded based upon prior education, training and experience require completion of a one-week waiver course, with content taken from the basic training curriculum.

- Basic and waiver training delivered, under contract, by the Dickinson School of Law, selected through the request-for proposals process.
- Since 1985 a total of 1,327 deputies have been trained and certified through 15 basic training classes and eight waiver classes. Two basic and one waiver classes are held annually.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Act 1984-2 mandates 16 to 20 hours of continuing education training for all deputies every two years.
- Continuing education training curriculum contains 19 subjects organized into five modules of 20 hours each.
- Continuing education training presented, under contract, by Temple University Department of Criminal Justice, selected through the request-for-proposals process.
- Training is presented at ten separate sites around the Commonwealth on a rotating basis during a two-year training cycle.
- Approximately 700 deputies receive continuing education training per year.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

- Addressed by House Bill 1361, Printer's Number 1579:
 - . Amendment to Section 8 of Act 1984-2 is needed to alleviate reduced surcharge collections caused by Supreme Court action changing Rule 400, Rules of Civil Procedure, effecting a 30% reduction in Board funding support.
 - . Increase in the hours of basic training, supported by Board analysis, from the present 160 hours to between 280 to 360 hours.
 - . Increase in surcharge amount by \$1.50 from the present \$2.00 to \$3.50 to support the increase in training hours.
 - . Amendments to Act 1984-2 allowing the Board an improved ability to enforce the training mandates of the Act.
- Addressed by House Bill 1360, Printer's Number 1578:
 - . Adds the Board Chairman as an ex-officio member of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.