



## Quarterly Updates

### Criminal Justice Standards and Training



**DATE:** October 10, 2023

**Committee:** Steering Committee

**Topic:** Railroad Police Officers and Trust Funded Training

**Presented By:** Bureau Chief Glen Hopkins

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**Background:** The Florida Legislature passed House Bill 425 relating to railroad police special officers. The bill amended ss. 354.01 and 354.02, F.S., to remove the requirement that railroad police special officers be appointed by the Governor and to identify special officers as law enforcement officers for the purposes of ss. 943.085-943.255, F.S.

**Current Status:** The question has been posed regarding railroad special officers attending training paid for using Criminal Justice Standards and Training Trust Fund monies. Section 354.01, F.S. specifies that the railroads “shall pay all costs associated with the training and continuing education of employed special officers.” Railroad special officer attendance in courses funded primarily with trust fund monies should be administered the same as private correctional officer attendance is in these courses.

**Decision Points:** None.

**Action Requested:** None. This issue is informational only. Contact Training and Research Manager Terry Baker at (850) 410-8688 or [TerryBaker@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:TerryBaker@fdle.state.fl.us) with any questions or concerns.



## Quarterly Updates

### Criminal Justice Standards and Training



**DATE:** October 10, 2023

**Committee:** Steering Committee

**Topic:** Notice of CJSTC Workshop to Discuss Firearm SMEs Long Gun Recommendations

**Presented By:** Bureau Chief Ashley Pennington

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**Background:** With the assistance of the Training Center Directors Association, Florida's state law enforcement agencies, the Florida Sheriffs Association (FSA), and the Florida Police Chiefs Association (FPCA), in January 2020, Commission staff formed a group of subject matter experts (SMEs) that are helping to revise the CJSTC basic and post-basic firearms courses.

**Current Status:** SMEs have discussed their vision for the post-basic long gun courses, including CJSTC instructor certifications required to teach the courses as well as a standardized mandatory CJSTC long gun qualification. Under the SMEs proposal, all officers who are authorized by their agency to carry a long gun must qualify with that weapon. CJSTC certified long gun instructors will conduct the proposed mandatory CJSTC long gun qualification for certified officers as reported by June 30<sup>th</sup> of every even-numbered year. The only mandatory part of the SMEs proposal is the long gun qualification for officers who are authorized to carry a long gun. The post-basic long gun courses are not mandatory.

Staff will hold a CJSTC workshop with the CJSTC members to discuss the recommendations of the Firearms SMEs. The SMEs proposal, along with feedback from the FSA and FPCA, will be presented to the CJSTC members during the workshop. The outcome of the CJSTC workshop will be the basis of how the post-basic long gun courses are structured. The workshop will also be used for the discussion of a mandatory CJSTC long gun qualification for officers authorized by their agency to carry a long gun.

The CJSTC workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, November 1, 2023, from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m., and the workshop will be located at the CJSTC meeting venue, Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando, in the Magnolia Ballroom.

**Decision Points:** None

**Action Requested:** No formal action is required. Please address any questions to Bureau Chief Ashley Pennington at (850) 410-8673 or [AshleyPennington@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:AshleyPennington@fdle.state.fl.us).



## Quarterly Updates

### Criminal Justice Standards and Training



**DATE:** October 10, 2023

**Committee:** Basic Recruit Committee

**Topic:** Florida Correctional Officer Basic Recruit Training Program

**Presented By:** Bureau Chief Ashley Pennington

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**Background:** Staff conducted a job task analysis (JTA) of the Correctional Officer job in 2018 as part of its regular cycle of job analyses for the basic recruit training programs. Based on the analysis and other factors, such as legislative updates and changes to policy or procedure, it has been determined that the curriculum needs updates throughout. In 2022, staff met with the CO Rewrite Advisory Committee, and it recommended revalidating the JTA.

**Current Status:** Staff is revalidating the JTA identified by the Advisory Committee and preparing for the development stage by reviewing objectives and content in the current curriculum. Staff is also working with subject matter experts to identify communication and decision-making skills that officers need but that may not appear in a traditional JTA. The new curriculum is slated for publication in July 2025.

Staff is recruiting SMEs for the development workshops to be held from December 2023 to April 2024. We will need current officers and instructors to help develop the textbook and instructor guide. We are seeking SMEs with a range of experience and ranks from newer officers to those in supervisory and leadership positions. Staff would also like to have representation from small, medium, and large agencies and different types of training centers to ensure that the training has been developed for application statewide.

**Decision Points:** None

**Action Requested:** Please direct potential SMEs to fill out the online [SME Application Form](#). Applications should be submitted by November 30, 2023. Please note that applying does not guarantee that a person will be selected to serve as a SME.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Training and Research Manager Garrett Riggs at (850) 410-8648 or [GarrettRiggs@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:GarrettRiggs@fdle.state.fl.us).



## Quarterly Updates

### Criminal Justice Standards and Training



**DATE:** October 10, 2023

**Committee:** Basic Recruit Committee

**Topic:** Preview copies of Basic Recruit Training Programs

**Presented By:** Bureau Chief Ashley Pennington

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**Background:** Each year, staff provides preview copies of the Basic Recruit Training Programs on the Course Preview site at <http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/ATMS/CJSTC-Course-Preview.aspx>. The preview copies of the proposed 2024.07 curricula will be available to view within two weeks of the CJSTC meeting; these curriculum materials are the versions that will be sent to the printer for publication and are uploaded specifically so that stakeholders can preview the content and plan upcoming academies. This tool is provided for directors, coordinators, and instructors, so they will be familiar with updates to the curriculum each year.

**Current Status:** Please encourage instructors and coordinators to read and review the curriculum materials as soon as possible. If they note any major errors, such as incorrect information, they are encouraged to forward recommendations to staff. The deadline to send suggested corrections or clarifications is Friday, December 3, 2023. Please note that we will review each suggestion, but not every item will be automatically incorporated into the curriculum. Some items will need further review by subject matter experts or the FDLE Office of General Counsel.

**Decision Points:** None

**Action Requested:** Please forward information regarding corrections and clarifications to Training and Research Manager Garrett Riggs at [GarrettRiggs@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:GarrettRiggs@fdle.state.fl.us) or to [Curriculum@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:Curriculum@fdle.state.fl.us).

You may also contact Garrett Riggs at (850) 410-8648 or by email with any questions or concerns.



**Quarterly Updates**  
**Criminal Justice Standards and Training**



**DATE:** October 10, 2023

**Committee:** Advanced and Specialized Committee

**Topic:** Retirement of Specialized Instructor Course, #2006, Canine Team Training Instructor Update Course

**Presented By:** Bureau Chief Ashley Pennington

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**Background:** In 2014, Commission staff developed the 24-hour Canine Team Training Instructor Update Course to provide current certified canine instructors with new or revised information related to performance standards contained in both the Canine Team Training Course and the Canine Team Training Instructor Course.

**Current Status:** Commission staff ran an ATMS report to see how many schools use the Canine Team Training Instructor Update Course, and the report confirmed that no school has used the course since it was developed nine years ago. The course is also out of date, and canine team training instructors are not required to take this course.

The proposal to retire this course will be presented to the CJSTC on Thursday, November 2, 2023, and will go into effect immediately upon approval.

**Decision Points:** None.

**Action Requested:** No formal action is required. Please address any questions or concerns to Training and Research Manager Rob Bates at (850) 410-8672 or [RobertBates@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:RobertBates@fdle.state.fl.us).



## Quarterly Updates

### Criminal Justice Standards and Training



**DATE:** October 10, 2023

**Committee:** Advanced and Specialized Committee

**Topic:** Course Update Recommendations

**Presented By:** Bureau Chief Ashley Pennington

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**Background:** Nearly half of the CJSTC advanced and specialized training program courses have not seen a significant update in over a decade. To learn more about the situation, Commission staff ran an ATMS report for January 2018–July 2023 to identify which courses are being taught the most and asked that training center directors survey their instructors on whether these courses need to be updated. Commission staff also reached out to several other instructors by email, phone, and in person to collect additional feedback.

Based on the course version dates, instructor feedback, and the recent ATMS report, Commission staff determined that the following advanced courses are likely due for an update:

1. Advanced Course, #1158, Speed Measurement Course (version **2008.08**)
2. Advanced Course, #1100, Field Training Officer for Law Enforcement Officers (version **2010.04**)
3. Advanced Course, #809, Field Training Officer for Correctional Officers (version **2010.04**)
4. Advanced Course, #047, Interviews and Interrogations (version **2010.04**)
5. Advanced Course, #020, Case Preparation and Court Presentation (version **2010.10**)
6. Advanced Course, #016, Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Investigations (version **2012.04**)
7. Advanced Course, #1163, Gangs and Security Threat Groups (version **2012.10**)
8. Advanced Course, #036, Injury and Death Investigations (version **2010.04**)
9. Advanced Course, #1138, Violent Crime Investigator Training (version **1995.07**)

**Current Status:** Commission staff and instructors from various training schools agree that thousands of officers across the state may be taking outdated Commission-approved courses, which puts instructors in an unfair position to rewrite parts or all of the CJSTC curricula. Additionally, many officers who take these potentially outdated or improvised trainings receive salary incentive money.

Excluding current projects and any new training mandated by Florida legislature, Commission staff recommends that we devote the next 3-5 years to updating the proposed list of courses so

that we can continue to provide our officers with training that is in line with modern policing methods, techniques, and best practices.

**Decision Points:** None.

**Action Requested:** No formal action is required. Please address any questions to Training and Research Manager Rob Bates at (850) 410-8672 or [RobertBates@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:RobertBates@fdle.state.fl.us).

# Long Gun Course Summary and Proposal

## SITUATION

Firearms subject matter experts (SMEs) are currently developing long gun specialized and instructor courses to plug the gap left in the basic recruit firearms training program and to make long gun training accessible and affordable to all agencies. There will be a total of four courses:

1. Specialized Patrol Rifle Course (for officers)
2. Instructor Patrol Rifle Course (for instructors)
3. Specialized Shotgun Course (for officers)
4. Instructor Shotgun Course (for instructors)

## PROPOSAL

The SMEs recommend that any firearms instructor who wants to teach the long gun specialized and instructor courses must successfully complete the corresponding instructor version first. They also recommend tying a new instructor certification to each long gun instructor course and to make it a requirement for officers who are authorized to carry a long gun to qualify on it.

The SMEs propose that no firearms instructor, regardless of experience or training history, be exempt from taking any of these instructor courses for the following reasons:

1. Previous long gun training may be out of date or misalign with what is in the new courses.
2. The older version of the 801 Firearms Instructor Course only required instructor students to qualify with the long gun but did not provide instruction for how to operate or teach it.
3. Instructors must be familiar with the new courses, especially from a student's point of view.
4. Having one uniform standard to earn the certification promotes fairness and transparency.
5. All long gun courses would be optional (officers and instructors can take any training that they choose).

## HOW IT WOULD WORK

### For Instructors:

Before the instructor is eligible to earn a patrol rifle or shotgun instructor certification, they must possess a current:

- General Instructor Certification, and
- Firearms Instructor Certification by either completing the:
  - a. 801 Firearms Instructor Course (version 2011.07) plus the 1201 Firearms Instructor Update, or
  - b. 801 Firearms Instructor Course (version 2023.07).

Firearms instructors who meet these requirements and choose to be patrol rifle or shotgun instructor-certified shall successfully complete the respective long gun instructor course. Upon successfully



completing that long gun instructor course, they would be eligible to teach the specialized and instructor course for that specific long gun.

For example:

An instructor who successfully completes the Patrol Rifle Instructor course would be authorized to:

- teach the Specialized Patrol Rifle Course,
- teach the Instructor Patrol Rifle Course, and
- conduct the proposed mandatory CJSTC patrol rifle qualification for certified officers.

Or, an instructor who successfully completes the Shotgun Instructor course would be authorized to:

- teach the Specialized Shotgun Course,
- teach the Instructor Shotgun Course, and
- conduct the proposed mandatory CJSTC shotgun qualification for certified officers.

#### **For Certified Officers:**

Any agency who authorizes an officer to carry a patrol rifle or shotgun has the option to send that officer to **any** long gun training that they choose.

While officers who are authorized by their agency to carry long guns **will not be required** to take any of the new specialized courses, they **will be required** to qualify with the long gun(s) they carry, just as they do with their assigned handguns. Each long gun will have its own qualification course, and officers who carry a long gun must qualify with it.

For example:

- An officer who is issued a semi-automatic pistol and a shotgun must qualify with both.
- Or, an officer who is issued a semi-automatic pistol and patrol rifle must qualify with both.
- Or, an officer who is issued a semi-automatic pistol, shotgun, and patrol rifle must qualify with all three.

## **WHAT'S IN THE COURSES**

### **Specialized Courses:**

Each specialized long gun course would train the officer how to operate their issued patrol rifle or shotgun and require them to pass a series of proficiency evaluations and qualifications similar to handgun in BRT.

### **Instructor Courses:**

Each instructor long gun course would train the instructor how to teach officers to operate their issued patrol rifle or shotgun. The course would also train instructors for how to prepare the range, diagnose shooting errors, and require them to pass a series of proficiency evaluations and qualifications similar to handgun in 801 Firearms Instructor Course.

## CJSTC FORMS

### Instructor Proficiency Form:

New long gun instructor certifications would require CJSTC staff to develop an additional instructor proficiency form for each instructor long gun course that would mirror what is in the CJSTC-4I: Firearms Instructor Performance Evaluation form. It is still up for debate how we would name these forms.

### In-Service Qualification Form:

Each long gun qualification will have their own separate form, similar to the CJSTC-86A.

## PROPOSED TIMELINE

