

1 AN ACT relating to peace officer certification.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 15.440 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Each unit of government that meets the following requirements shall be eligible to
5 share in the distribution of funds from the Law Enforcement Foundation Program
6 fund:

7 (a) Employs one (1) or more police officers;

8 (b) Pays every police officer at least the minimum federal wage;

9 (c) Requires all police officers to have, at a minimum, a high school degree, or its
10 equivalent as determined by the council, except that each police officer
11 employed prior to the date on which the officer's police department was
12 included as a participant under KRS 15.410 to 15.510 shall be deemed to have
13 met the requirements of this subsection;

14 (d) 1. Requires all police officers to successfully complete a basic training
15 course of nine hundred twenty-eight (928) hours' duration within one (1)
16 year of the date of employment at a school certified or recognized by the
17 council, which may provide a different number of hours of instruction as
18 established in this paragraph, except that each police officer employed
19 prior to the date on which the officer's police department was included
20 as a participant under KRS 15.410 to 15.510 shall be deemed to have
21 met the requirements of this subsection.

22 2. As the exclusive method by which the number of hours required for
23 basic training courses shall be modified from that which is specifically
24 established by this paragraph, the council may, by the promulgation of
25 administrative regulations in accordance with the provisions of KRS
26 Chapter 13A, explicitly set the exact number of hours for basic training
27 at a number different from nine hundred twenty-eight (928) hours based

1 upon a training curriculum approved by the Kentucky Law Enforcement
2 Council as determined by a validated job task analysis.

3 3. If the council sets an exact number of hours different from nine hundred
4 twenty-eight (928) in an administrative regulation as provided by this
5 paragraph, it shall not further change the number of hours required for
6 basic training without promulgating administrative regulations in
7 accordance with the provisions of KRS Chapter 13A.

8 4. Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted to prevent the council,
9 pursuant to its authority under KRS 15.330, from approving training
10 schools with a curriculum requiring attendance of a number of hours that
11 exceeds nine hundred twenty-eight (928) hours or the number of hours
12 established in an administrative regulation as provided by subparagraphs
13 2. and 3. of this paragraph. However, the training programs and schools
14 for the basic training of law enforcement personnel conducted by the
15 department pursuant to KRS 15A.070 shall not contain a curriculum that
16 requires attendance of a number of hours for basic training that is
17 different from nine hundred twenty-eight (928) hours or the number of
18 hours established in an administrative regulation promulgated by the
19 council pursuant to the provisions of KRS Chapter 13A as provided by
20 subparagraphs 2. and 3. of this paragraph.

21 5. KRS 15.400 and 15.404(1), and subparagraphs 1. to 4. of this paragraph
22 to the contrary notwithstanding, the council may, through the
23 promulgation of administrative regulations in accordance with KRS
24 Chapter 13A, approve basic training credit for:

25 a. Years of service credit as a law enforcement officer with previous
26 service in another state; and

27 b. Basic training completed in another state.

- 1 6. KRS 15.400 and 15.404(1) and subparagraphs 1. to 4. of this paragraph
2 to the contrary notwithstanding, the council may, through the
3 promulgation of administrative regulations in accordance with KRS
4 Chapter 13A, approve basic training credit for:
- 5 a. Completion of eight hundred forty-eight (848) hours of training at
6 a school established pursuant to KRS 15A.070;
- 7 b. A minimum of fifteen (15) years of experience as a certified law
8 enforcement instructor at a school established pursuant to KRS
9 15A.070;
- 10 c. Completion of an average of forty (40) hours of Kentucky Law
11 Enforcement Council approved in-service training annually from
12 January 1, 1997, through January 1, 2020;
- 13 d. ~~Completion of all mandatory training obligations under KRS~~
14 ~~15.334 from January 1, 1997, to January 1, 2020;~~
- 15 e. ~~—~~ Three (3) years of active, full-time service as a:
- 16 i. City, county, urban-county, charter county, consolidated
17 local, or unified local government police officer;
- 18 ii. Sheriff's deputy, excluding special deputies appointed under
19 KRS 70.045;
- 20 iii. Department of Kentucky State Police officer; or
- 21 iv. Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
22 conservation officer exercising peace officer powers under
23 KRS 150.090; and
- 24 e.~~ff.~~ Completion of the:
- 25 i. Twenty-four (24) hour legal update Penal Code course;
- 26 ii. Sixteen (16) hour legal update constitutional procedure
27 course; and

- 1 iii. Forty (40) hour basic officer skills course within one (1) year
2 prior to applying for certification;
- 3 (e) Requires all police officers to successfully complete each calendar year an in-
4 service training course, appropriate to the officer's rank and responsibility and
5 the size and location of the officer's police department, of forty (40) hours'
6 duration, at a school certified or recognized by the council which may include
7 a four (4) hour course which meets the requirements of paragraph (j) of this
8 subsection. This in-service training requirement shall be waived for the period
9 of time that a peace officer is serving on active duty in the United States
10 Armed Forces. This waiver shall be retroactive for peace officers from the
11 date of September 11, 2001;
- 12 (f) Complies with all provisions of law applicable to police officers or police
13 departments, including transmission of data to the centralized criminal history
14 record information system as required by KRS 17.150 and transmission of
15 reports as required by KRS 15.391;
- 16 (g) Complies with all rules and regulations, appropriate to the size and location of
17 the police department issued by the cabinet to facilitate the administration of
18 the fund and further the purposes of KRS 15.410 to 15.510;
- 19 (h) Possesses a written policy and procedures manual related to domestic violence
20 for law enforcement agencies that has been approved by the cabinet. The
21 policy shall comply with the provisions of KRS 403.715 to 403.785. The
22 policy shall include a purpose statement; definitions; supervisory
23 responsibilities; procedures for twenty-four (24) hour access to protective
24 orders; procedures for enforcement of court orders or relief when protective
25 orders are violated; procedures for timely and contemporaneous reporting of
26 adult abuse and domestic violence to the Cabinet for Health and Family
27 Services, Department for Community Based Services; victim rights,

- 1 assistance, and service responsibilities; and duties related to timely completion
2 of records;
- 3 (i) Possesses by January 1, 2017, a written policy and procedures manual related
4 to sexual assault examinations that meets the standards provided by, and has
5 been approved by, the cabinet, and which includes:
- 6 1. A requirement that evidence collected as a result of an examination
7 performed under KRS 216B.400 be taken into custody within five (5)
8 days of notice from the collecting facility that the evidence is available
9 for retrieval;
 - 10 2. A requirement that evidence received from a collecting facility relating
11 to an incident which occurred outside the jurisdiction of the police
12 department be transmitted to a police department with jurisdiction
13 within ten (10) days of its receipt by the police department;
 - 14 3. A requirement that all evidence retrieved from a collecting facility under
15 this paragraph be transmitted to the Department of Kentucky State
16 Police forensic laboratory within thirty (30) days of its receipt by the
17 police department;
 - 18 4. A requirement that a suspect standard, if available, be transmitted to the
19 Department of Kentucky State Police forensic laboratory with the
20 evidence received from a collecting facility; and
 - 21 5. A process for notifying the victim from whom the evidence was
22 collected of the progress of the testing, whether the testing resulted in a
23 match to other DNA samples, and if the evidence is to be destroyed. The
24 policy may include provisions for delaying notice until a suspect is
25 apprehended or the office of the Commonwealth's attorney consents to
26 the notification, but shall not automatically require the disclosure of the
27 identity of any person to whom the evidence matched; and

- 1 (j) Requires all police officers to successfully complete by December 31, 2022,
2 and every two (2) years thereafter, a training course certified by the council of
3 not less than four (4) hours in emergency vehicle operation.
- 4 (2) A unit of government which meets the criteria of this section shall be eligible to
5 continue sharing in the distribution of funds from the Law Enforcement Foundation
6 Program fund only if the police department of the unit of government remains in
7 compliance with the requirements of this section.
- 8 (3) Deputies employed by a sheriff's office shall be eligible to participate in the
9 distribution of funds from the Law Enforcement Foundation Program fund
10 regardless of participation by the sheriff.
- 11 (4) Failure to meet a deadline established in a policy adopted pursuant to subsection
12 (1)(i) of this section for the retrieval or submission of evidence shall not be a basis
13 for a dismissal of a criminal action or a bar to the admissibility of the evidence in a
14 criminal action.

15 ➔Section 2. KRS 15.382 is amended to read as follows:

16 A person certified after December 1, 1998, under KRS 15.380 to 15.404 or qualified
17 under the requirements set forth in subparagraph 6. of paragraph (d) of Section 1 of
18 this Act shall, at the time of becoming certified, meet the following minimum
19 qualifications:

- 20 (1) Be a citizen of the United States;
- 21 (2) Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
- 22 (3) (a) Be a high school graduate, regardless of whether the school is accredited or
23 certified by a governing body, provided that the education received met the
24 attendance and curriculum standards of Kentucky law at the time of
25 graduation, as determined by the Kentucky Department of Education; or
- 26 (b) Possess a High School Equivalency Diploma;
- 27 (4) Possess a valid license to operate a motor vehicle;

- 1 (5) Be fingerprinted for a criminal background check;
- 2 (6) Not have been convicted of any felony;
- 3 (7) Not be prohibited by federal or state law from possessing a firearm;
- 4 (8) Have received and read the Kentucky Law Enforcement Officers Code of Ethics as
5 established by the council;
- 6 (9) Have not received a dishonorable discharge, bad conduct discharge, or general
7 discharge under other than honorable conditions, if having served in any branch of
8 the Armed Forces of the United States;
- 9 (10) Have passed a medical examination as defined by the council by administrative
10 regulation and provided by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced
11 practice registered nurse to determine if he can perform peace officer duties as
12 determined by a validated job task analysis. However, if the employing agency has
13 its own validated job task analysis, the person shall pass the medical examination,
14 appropriate to the agency's job task analysis, of the employing agency. All agencies
15 shall certify passing medical examination results to the council, which shall accept
16 them as complying with KRS 15.310 to 15.510;
- 17 (11) Have passed a drug screening test administered or approved by the council by
18 administrative regulation. A person shall be deemed to have passed a drug screening
19 test if the results of the test are negative for the use of an illegal controlled
20 substance or prescription drug abuse. Any agency that administers its own test that
21 meets or exceeds this standard shall certify passing test results to the council, which
22 shall accept them as complying with KRS 15.310 to 15.510;
- 23 (12) Have undergone a background investigation established or approved by the council
24 by administrative regulation to determine suitability for the position of a peace
25 officer. If the employing agency has established its own background investigation
26 that meets or exceeds the standards of the council, as set forth by administrative
27 regulation, the agency shall conduct the background investigation and shall certify

- 1 background investigation results to the council, which shall accept them as
2 complying with KRS 15.310 to 15.510;
- 3 (13) Have been interviewed by the employing agency;
- 4 (14) Not have had certification as a peace officer permanently revoked in another state;
- 5 (15) Have taken a psychological suitability screening administered or approved by the
6 council by administrative regulation to determine the person's suitability to perform
7 peace officer duties as determined by a council validated job task analysis.
8 However, if the employing agency has its own validated job task analysis, the
9 person shall take that agency's psychological examination, appropriate to the
10 agency's job task analysis. All agencies shall certify psychological examination
11 results to the council, which shall accept them as complying with KRS 15.310 to
12 15.510;
- 13 (16) Have passed a physical agility test administered or approved by the council by
14 administrative regulation to determine his suitability to perform peace officer duties
15 as determined by a council validated job task analysis. However, if the employing
16 agency has its own validated job task analysis, the person shall take the physical
17 agility examination of the employing agency. All agencies shall certify physical
18 agility examination results to the council, which shall accept them as demonstrating
19 compliance with KRS 15.310 to 15.510; and
- 20 (17) Have taken a polygraph examination administered or approved by the council by
21 administrative regulation to determine his suitability to perform peace officer duties.
22 Any agency that administers its own polygraph examination as approved by the
23 council shall certify the results that indicate whether a person is suitable for
24 employment as a peace officer to the council, which shall accept them as complying
25 with KRS 15.310 to 15.510.

26 ➔Section 3. KRS 15.386 is amended to read as follows:

27 The following certification categories shall exist:

- 1 (1) "Precertification status" means that the officer is currently employed or appointed
2 by an agency and meets or exceeds all those minimum qualifications set forth in
3 KRS 15.382, but has not successfully completed a basic training course, except
4 those peace officers covered by KRS 15.400. Upon the council's verification that
5 the minimum qualifications have been met, the officer shall have full peace officer
6 powers as authorized under the statute under which he or she was appointed or
7 employed. If an officer fails to successfully complete a basic training course within
8 one (1) year of employment, his or her enforcement powers shall automatically
9 terminate, unless that officer is actively enrolled and participating in a basic training
10 course or, after having begun a basic training course, is on an approved extension of
11 time due to injury or extenuating circumstances;
- 12 (2) "Certification status" means that unless the certification is in revoked status or
13 inactive status, the officer is currently employed or appointed by an agency and has
14 met all training requirements. The officer shall have full peace officer powers as
15 authorized under the statute under which he or she was appointed or employed;
- 16 (3) (a) "Inactive status" means that unless the certification is in revoked status:
17 1. The person has been separated on or after December 1, 1998, from the
18 agency by which he or she was employed or appointed and has no peace
19 officer powers; or
20 2. The person is on military active duty for a period exceeding three
21 hundred sixty-five (365) days.
- 22 (b) The person may remain on inactive status. A person who is on inactive status
23 and who returns to a peace officer position shall have certification status
24 restored if he or she meets the requirements of KRS 15.400(1) or (2) or has
25 successfully completed a basic training course approved and recognized by the
26 council, has not committed an act for which his or her certified status may be
27 revoked pursuant to KRS 15.391 and successfully completes in-service

1 training as prescribed by the council, as follows:

2 1. If the person has been on inactive status for a period of less than three
3 (3) years, and the person was not in training deficiency status at the time
4 of separation, he or she shall complete:

5 a. The twenty-four (24) hour legal update Penal Code course;

6 b. The sixteen (16) hour legal update constitutional procedure course;
7 and

8 c. The mandatory training course approved by the Kentucky Law
9 Enforcement Council, pursuant to KRS 15.334, for the year in
10 which he or she returns to certification status; or

11 2. If the person has been on inactive status for a period of three (3) years or
12 more, or the person was in training deficiency status at the time of
13 separation, he or she shall complete:

14 a. The twenty-four (24) hour legal update Penal Code course;

15 b. The sixteen (16) hour legal update constitutional procedure course;

16 c. The mandatory training course approved by the Kentucky Law
17 Enforcement Council, pursuant to KRS 15.334, for the year in
18 which he or she returns to certification status; and

19 d. One (1) of the following forty (40) hour courses which is most
20 appropriate for the officer's duty assignment:

21 i. Basic officer skills;

22 ii. Orientation for new police chiefs; or

23 iii. Mandatory duties of the sheriff.

24 (c) A person returning from inactive to active certification after June 26, 2007,
25 under KRS 15.380 to 15.404, shall meet the following minimum
26 qualifications:

27 1. Be a citizen of the United States;

- 1 2. Possess a valid license to operate a motor vehicle;
- 2 3. Be fingerprinted for a criminal background check;
- 3 4. Not have been convicted of any felony;
- 4 5. Not be prohibited by federal or state law from possessing a firearm;
- 5 6. Have received and read the Kentucky Law Enforcement Officers Code
- 6 of Ethics as established by the council;
- 7 7. Have not received a dishonorable discharge, bad conduct discharge, or
- 8 general discharge under other than honorable conditions, if having
- 9 served in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States;
- 10 8. Have been interviewed by the employing agency; and
- 11 9. Not have had certification as a peace officer permanently revoked in
- 12 another state;

13 (4) "Training deficiency status" means that unless the certification is in revoked status
 14 or inactive status, the officer is currently employed or appointed by an agency and
 15 has failed to meet all in-service training requirements. The officer's enforcement
 16 powers shall automatically terminate, and he or she shall not exercise peace officer
 17 powers in the Commonwealth until he or she has corrected the in-service training
 18 deficiency;

19 (5) "Revoked status" means that the officer has no enforcement powers and his or her
 20 certification has been revoked by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council under
 21 KRS 15.391; and

22 (6) "Denied status" means that a person does not meet the requirements to achieve
 23 precertification status or certification status.

24 The design of a certificate may be changed periodically. When a new certificate is
 25 produced, it shall be distributed free of charge to each currently certified peace officer.

26 ➔Section 4. KRS 15.388 is amended to read as follows:

27 (1) Within five (5) working days of employment or appointment, the chief executive

1 officer of the employing agency, or his designee, shall file a report with the council
2 certifying that the newly employed officer is certified or meets or exceeds the
3 precertification qualifications of KRS 15.382 for peace officers or KRS 15.3971 for
4 court security officers.

5 (2) If the person is certified, the council shall continue certified status.

6 (3) If the person is on inactive status, the council shall upgrade to certified status unless
7 the certification is revoked or denied as provided by KRS 15.380 to 15.404.

8 (4) If the person is not certified and not on inactive status, but has successfully
9 completed an applicable basic training course or received a basic training credit
10 under subparagraph 6. of paragraph (d) of Section 1 of this Act approved and
11 recognized by the council, the council shall designate the person as being in
12 certified status unless the certification is revoked or denied as provided by KRS
13 15.380 to 15.404.

14 (5) If the person is not certified and not on inactive status, and has not successfully
15 completed an applicable basic training course approved and recognized by the
16 council, the council shall designate the person as being in precertification status.

17 (6) A person who is in precertification status shall, upon successful completion of the
18 required basic training, be certified unless he has committed an act that would result
19 in revocation of his certificate in which case he shall be denied certification.

20 (7) A person who is denied certified status under this section shall have the same right
21 of appeal as a person who has been revoked under KRS 15.380 to 15.404.

22 (8) If the certified peace officer has successfully completed the basic training required
23 by KRS 15.404 and transfers from a peace officer or court security officer position
24 from a current employer to a peace officer position for another employer, and both
25 employers have, at least ten (10) working days prior to the effective date of the
26 transfer, notified the council in writing of the transfer, the council shall maintain the
27 officer in certified status.

1 (9) If the certified court security officer has successfully completed the basic training
2 required by KRS 15.3975 and transfers from a court security officer position from a
3 current employer to a court security officer position for another employer, and both
4 employers have, at least ten (10) working days prior to the effective date of the
5 transfer, notified the council in writing of the transfer, the council shall maintain the
6 officer in certified status.

7 (10) A certified court security officer who has met the requirements of KRS 15.3971
8 shall not transfer from a court security officer position to a peace officer position
9 unless the certified court security officer meets all the requirements of a certified
10 peace officer under KRS 15.382 and 15.404(1). If the certified court security officer
11 has met the minimum qualifications of KRS 15.382, successfully completed the
12 basic training required for certified peace officers under KRS 15.404(1), and
13 transfers from a court security officer position from a current employer to a peace
14 officer position for another employer, and both employers have, at least ten (10)
15 working days prior to the effective date of the transfer, notified the council in
16 writing of the transfer, the council shall maintain the officer in certified status.

17 ➔Section 5. KRS 15.392 is amended to read as follows:

18 (1) Within ten (10) working days from separation from service, the chief executive
19 officer of the employing agency or his designee shall file with the council a
20 summary report that provides the relevant information about the person's separation
21 from service.

22 (2) If the person separated from service has successfully completed basic training at a
23 school certified or recognized by the council **or has received a basic training credit**
24 **under subparagraph 6. of paragraph (d) of Section 1 of this Act**, the council shall
25 place the certification on inactive status. Placement of certification on inactive
26 status shall not prevent the council from subsequently instituting an action to revoke
27 an officer's certification in appropriate cases in accordance with KRS 15.391 for any

1 reason justifying revoked or denied status pursuant to KRS 15.386, the council shall
2 revoke the person's certification.

3 (3) If the person has been separated from service or has not successfully completed
4 basic training at a school certified or recognized by the council and fails to meet the
5 requirements of KRS 15.400(1) or (2), the certification shall lapse.

6 (4) If the person has been separated due to death, the certification shall be retired.

7 ➔Section 6. KRS 15.400 is amended to read as follows:

8 (1) The effective date of KRS 15.380 to 15.404 shall be December 1, 1998. All peace
9 officers employed as of December 1, 1998, shall be deemed to have met all the
10 requirements of KRS 15.380 to 15.404 and shall be granted certified status as long
11 as they:

12 (a) Remain in continuous employment of the agency by which they were
13 employed as of December 1, 1998, and are employed within one hundred
14 (100) days by another law enforcement agency subject to the provisions of
15 KRS 15.380 to 15.404;

16 (b) Retired from employment with certified status on or after July 1, 2008, and are
17 reemployed no later than one hundred (100) days from March 15, 2011, by a
18 law enforcement agency subject to KRS 15.380 to 15.404; or

19 (c) Have successfully completed an approved basic training course approved and
20 recognized by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council pursuant to KRS
21 15.440(1)(d) when seeking employment with another law enforcement
22 agency.

23 (2) Any peace officers employed after December 1, 1998, shall comply with all
24 minimum standards specified in KRS 15.380 to 15.404 or comply with the
25 requirements set forth in subparagraph 6. of paragraph (d) of Section 1 of this
26 Act. Persons newly employed or appointed after December 1, 1998, shall have one
27 (1) year within which to gain certified status or they shall lose their law enforcement

1 powers.

2 (3) The Open Records Act notwithstanding, the person's home address, telephone
3 number, date of birth, Social Security number, background investigation, medical
4 examination, psychological examination, and polygraph examination conducted for
5 any person seeking certification pursuant to KRS 15.380 to 15.404 shall not be
6 subject to disclosure.

7 ➔Section 7. KRS 15.404 is amended to read as follows:

8 (1) (a) Any peace officers employed or appointed after December 1, 1998, who have
9 not successfully completed basic training at a school certified or recognized
10 by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council, shall within one (1) year of their
11 appointment or employment, successfully complete a basic training course, as
12 established by KRS 15.440, at a school certified or recognized by the
13 Kentucky Law Enforcement Council or receive a basic training credit
14 approved by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council under subparagraph
15 6. of paragraph (d) of Section 1 of this Act.

16 (b) In the event of extenuating circumstances beyond the control of an officer that
17 prevent the officer from completing basic training within one (1) year, the
18 commissioner of the department or his or her designee may grant the officer
19 an extension of time, not to exceed one hundred eighty (180) days, in which to
20 complete the training.

21 (c) Any peace officer who fails to successfully complete basic training within the
22 specified time periods, including extensions, shall lose his or her law
23 enforcement powers and his or her precertification status shall lapse. Further,
24 the peace officer shall be prohibited from serving as a peace officer for a
25 period of one (1) year from the date that his or her precertification lapses.

26 (2) (a) All peace officers with active certification status shall successfully complete
27 forty (40) hours of annual in-service training that has been certified or

1 recognized by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council, that is appropriate to
2 the officer's rank and responsibility and the size and location of his
3 department.

4 (b) In the event of extenuating circumstances beyond the control of an officer that
5 prevent the officer from completing the in-service training within one (1) year,
6 the commissioner of the department or his or her designee may grant the
7 officer an extension of time, not to exceed one hundred eighty (180) days, in
8 which to complete the training. If the officer is unable to complete the in-
9 service training due to injury or illness that prevents him or her from working
10 as a peace officer, the one hundred eighty (180) day extension shall begin on
11 the date that the officer returns to work.

12 (c) Any peace officer who fails to successfully complete in-service training within
13 the specified time periods, including extensions, shall lose his or her law
14 enforcement powers and his or her certification status shall be changed to
15 training deficiency status.

16 (d) When a peace officer is deficient in required training, the commissioner of the
17 department or his or her designee shall notify the council, which shall notify
18 the peace officer and his or her agency.

19 (e) The requirements of this subsection shall be waived for the period of time that
20 a peace officer is serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.

21 (f) This waiver shall be retroactive for peace officers from the date of September
22 11, 2001.

23 (3) An officer who has lost his or her law enforcement powers due solely to his or her
24 failure to meet the in-service training requirements of this section may regain his or
25 her certification status and law enforcement powers upon successful completion of
26 the training deficiency.