

THE BRIEFING

A Publication of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement

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IADLEST Conference 2016

TCOLE personnel attended the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in June 2016. IADLEST started out as an organization for peace officers' standards and training agency (P.O.S.T.) directors from states across the U.S. As a long time member, Kim Vickers has watched the organization grow and gain support at the Federal Government level. Forty-two states and fourteen different countries were represented at the latest conference. Texas is still recognized as the leader in law enforcement innovation, training and presence. The Department of Defense has created a P.O.S.T. which includes all branches of the armed forces.

Other Upcoming Events

Quarterly Commission Meetings:
September 8
December 1

2016 Training Coordinators' Conference:
Oct 3-6

Commission Meeting Highlights

The latest Commission meeting was held at the J.J. Pickle Research Campus on Thursday, June 23, 2016. Here are a few highlights from the meeting:

Executive Director's Report: We have received several contract training provider applications which are currently under review. A new telecommunications training provider has been approved.

Operations Director's Report: Chris Varady, former Public Information Officer, is now serving as a Legal Assistant, under the Enforcement Division, preparing administrative cases. Nikki Johnson has taken on the role of Public Information Officer, leaving a vacancy in the Credentialing Division. Michelle Beltran has moved to the Finance Division creating an opening in the Credentialing Division. Sargent Tracy Weems, will be assisting The Texas Department of Public Safety with investigations that overlap with TCOLE jurisdiction. This change has opened a position in the Enforcement Division.

Government Relations Director's Report: Communication has improved & increased with Legislators and State Leadership. As a result of a push for more information on the topic of Mental Health Training, the number of Mental Health Officer Proficiency Certificates issued to those holding a Jailer's License has increased by 34% since September 2015.

Final Orders of Amendment to Existing and New Rules: Three rules were up for final adoption: §225.1, §225.3, and §221.25. All three rules were approved for adoption. For more information, see page 9.

For more information

Meeting Minutes: Other items, including line of duty deaths, waiver requests, proceedings for revocation, suspension, and other disciplinary actions, and previous meeting minutes, can be found under the Who We Are/The Commission section on our website at: www.tcole.texas.gov.

Live Recordings: Live and archived video recordings of the meetings can be found on our website on the Who We Are/The Commission page at: www.tcole.texas.gov.

Public Comment: Anyone wishing to make a public comment may do so at the following email address: public_comment@tcole.texas.gov.

2016 Conference



**TCOLE Training
Coordinators'**

CONFERENCE

**Corpus Christi
October 3-6**

OMNI BAYFRONT HOTEL

900 North Shoreline Blvd.
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION \$125

Early Bird registration ends Sept 2nd
non-refundable

Register through your MyTCOLE account

EVENTS

Fun Run - Silent Auction - Social Networking
Dine with Vendors, Karaoke, "Licensed to Dance" Dance Off, and Live Auction

REGISTER NOW

2015 Achievement Awards Ceremony

The 2015 Law Enforcement Achievement Award Ceremony was held at the Texas State Capitol on June 24, 2016.

Public Service



Deputy Michelle Walter
Williamson County Constable Precinct 1



Officer Stacie Brown
Arlington Police Department

Valor



Deputy Matthew Mireles And Deputy Joshua Summers
Matagorda County Sheriff's Office



Sergeant Jacqueline Moore
Dallas Police Department



Sergeant Kris Hoban
Midland County Sheriff's Office



Officer Carlos Gonzalez
South Padre Island Police Department



Investigator Dustin Shrell
TDCJ—Office of Inspector General



Officer Dustin Failla
Navasota Police Department

Valor



Sergeant Houston Gass



Lieutenant Jimmy Bo



Sergeant Tobie Bias



Detective Jason Collier

Pampa Police Department



Senior Police Officer Paul Steffenauer
Houston Police Department



Officer Carlos Lopez
Austin Police Department



Deputy Michael Naylor
Midland County Sheriff's Office

(Award accepted posthumously by Mr. Naylor's wife)



Travis County Sheriff's Office Color Guard



Mr. Roger Wilson, Senior Chaplain
Cedar Park Police Department



2015 Award Recipients



State Representative Tony Dale

Special Services Division

New Online Training Site

By Jessica Teseny

Our catalog is now composed of 60 hours of free online training!

You can now take the following courses for free.

- Law Update (3183 & 3184)
- Ethics
- Human Trafficking
- Cultural Diversity
- Stress Management
- TDD/TTY
- Crisis Communications
- Open Carry

We launched our new online training site with Nuvola Academy on May 16, 2016. We transitioned to the new site with zero downtime and a limited catalog. The Rules Overview courses were the first courses on the site since they are required for the state examination. We immediately began re-working the courses from our previous site to perform properly on our new site, releasing a few courses a week. Within four weeks all of our courses were up and running on the new site, as well as a few new ones. Our newest course, The State and Federal Law Update—3184, donated by The Texas Department of Public Safety, has been our most popular one with over 600 student completions its first month online.

We hope students find our updated cleaner-look easier to navigate. Course progress bars on each course help you determine how far you've come in the course and how close you are to finishing. The new course dashboard shows the number of students enrolled in the course and the average rating volunteered by fellow students, as well as a course description, instructions, and access to the course modules and exam. The

new student dashboard displays information about each course the student is enrolled in and a listing of certificates for courses completed on this site. Getting in contact with and leaving feedback for TCOLE is easier than ever with links offered throughout the site.

Be sure to use the new **Follow** feature to follow us. This will allow you to receive important updates and reminders through the system regarding training.

Credentialing Services Division

Service Time – How Does TCOLE Arrive At My Total?

By Jessica Teseny

Are you evaluating your service time, trying to figure out when you'll qualify for your next proficiency certificate? There is actually a really easy way to find out how many years of full time service you have, but you may be wondering how TCOLE arrived at that total.

Keep in mind that your *service time* and the *number of years you've held a license* are different things. The proficiency certificates are looking for active years of service—that is, the years you have served actively working for a department in that specific license type.

Say you're an officer that was issued a license 20 years ago. You worked for a department for 12 of the 20 years. In this case, your service time is 12 years. Although you received your license 20 years ago, the time you spent actively working within that license was 12 years. So, when we look at your service time to see if you qualify for the master certificate, we will only take the 12 years into consideration.

Another point to consider when calculating your service time is whether or not you had overlapping service or dual appointments. Service time that runs concurrent with another service for a different department, but for the same license type, is only counted once.

This happens when an officer works a dual appointment, or at two or more departments at the same time. For example, Department A held your commission on reserve status for 2 years. During that time, you worked for Department B part-time for 1 year. When you look at your record, you see both departments listed in your service history with their own start and end dates. At first glance, it looks like that should total up to 3 years. But, since 1 of those years overlapped another, you're actually looking at 2 years of service.

The next thing to consider is that service time is not cumulative across all license types; service associated with each license is counted separately. Peace Officers, Jailers, and Telecommunicators each have different requirements for their respective proficiency ladder. Someone holding more than one license type must follow more than one set of requirements to advance in proficiency.

So, a peace officer who also holds a jailer license cannot add their 4 years of jailer service to their 2 years of peace officer service to make 6 total years. The 4 years of jailer service is counted separately from the 2 years of peace officer time. To the same extent, qualifying for the advanced jailer

Credentialing Services Division, Continued

proficiency with 4 years of jailer service will not also qualify you for the advanced peace officer if you do not meet the requirements on the advanced peace officer certificate chart.

What's the easiest way to find out how much service time you have? Just log into your MyTCOLE account, and go to the My Records > Appointment Time tab. Each license you hold will be listed with the total years of service calculated for you.

Where's my Instructor Certificate?

By Jessica Teseny

If you want to be officially recognized by TCOLE as an instructor, you have to submit the Instructor Proficiency Certificate Application after you've completed the Basic Instructor Course (1014). The application step is often forgotten and people contact us wondering where their certificate is. Although anyone can take the Basic Instructor course, there are minimum qualifications you must meet in order to become a certified TCOLE instructor. We only issue the Basic Instructor award if you apply for it and meet the requirements.

The Instructor Proficiency Certification Application, including instructions and qualifications, can be found on our website under the [Forms and Applications](#) page at www.tcole.texas.gov.

Updating My College Information

By Jessica Teseny

You may have noticed that your college information is missing from your TCOLE record, yet you remember giving your transcripts to your department when you first started working there some time ago. Even though collecting information from you about your formal education is part of the hiring process, it doesn't mean your department will use that information to update your TCOLE record. In fact, a lot of departments collect this information for the sole purpose of hiring you. Updating your formal education with TCOLE is your responsibility, as the holder of the license. If you work for a department that has access to our TCLEDDS system, you can check with them to see if they will add your college information to your record for you. They may even still have copies of your transcripts, if you had previously provided them. Otherwise, you can submit the College Education Request (F-7) form found on our website under [Forms and Applications](#) at www.tcole.texas.gov.

Legal Division

Legal Statistics

The following proceedings for revocation, suspension and other disciplinary actions took place at the June 2016 Commission Meeting. For a complete listing of these license actions, including names, departments, and case numbers see the meeting agenda found on our website under

[Who We Are/The Commission/Meeting Minutes](#) at www.tcole.texas.gov.

Type of Action	Number of Licenses
Default Suspension Orders	9
Agreed Suspension Waivers	2
Agreed Suspension Orders	3
Statutory Revocation	4
Statutory Suspension	9
Permanent Surrenders	36
Reprimands for Administrative Violations	7
Reprimands for Failing to Complete Legislatively Required Continuing Education	75
Suspensions for Failing to Complete Legislatively Required Continuing Education	46

Final Rules for Adoption

The Updated rules handbook will be available September 1, 2016, on our website at www.tcole.texas.gov under [Help and Resources/Rules and Policy](#).

- [Final Amendment 1](#)
§225.1 Issuance of a Jailer License through a Contract Jail Facility (amend)
- [Final Amendment 2](#)
§225.3 Issuance of Peace Officer License through a Medical Corporation (amend)
- [Final Amendment 3](#)
§221.25 Civil Process Proficiency (amend)

Commissioners

Sheriff Joel W. Richardson
Presiding Officer

Patt Scheckel-
Hollingsworth
Assistant Presiding Officer

Major Jason D. Hester
Secretary

Patricia Burruss
Constable Ron E. Hood
Rob Kyker
James Oakley
Sr. Police Officer Joseph
Pennington
Chief Ruben Villescas



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