

Revision of POST Rule 464-5 (Annual Training Requirement)

Below is a revision to POST rules which was approved by POST Council on December 14, 2016, and implemented January 1, 2017. It was posted statewide for officers and agencies to review in September and October of 2016. In essence the rule now establishes a minimum 5 of the required 20 hours of annual training. The topics are:

Firearms requalification - 1 hour
Use of Deadly Force - 1 hour
De-escalation training - 1 hour
Community Policing - 2 hours

Please note that these are the minimum requirements. Additionally, officers are now required to qualify with all agency issued/carried firearms (e.g. handgun, shotgun, patrol rifle, etc...) Please read the actual rule for further details.

The courses are already available on-line at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC.) POST is working closely with GPSTC to have a downloadable Program of Instruction for each of these classes so that instructors may teach these at the agency level. It is anticipated that these will be available in early February. This shall not prevent an agency from creating their own lesson plan for de-escalation similar to what instructors currently do for "use of deadly force." As far as community policing, three courses have already been developed and more are in the developmental stages.

The three "Community Policing" classes are:

DYP00G Fostering Positive Community Relations (2 hr)
DYM00G Police Legitimacy, Procedural Justice, and Community Relations (2 hr)
DYE00G Cultural Awareness (2 hr)

The other course available at GPSTC is:

DCR00G Use of Force and De-escalation Options for Gaining Compliance (5 hr)

POST and GPSTC will also be distributing minimum courses of fire for shotguns, patrol rifles, backup weapons and sniper. We anticipate having them ready for dissemination in early February.

Course codes for classes taught at the agency level (not on-line)

| <u>Code</u> | <u>Course Description</u> |
|-------------|--|
| ICR02G | De-escalation |
| IGS10G | Community Policing (min. 2 hours) |
| IGF05G | Cultural Awareness (min. 2 hours) |
| IGS11G | Fostering Positive Community Relations (min. 2 hours) |
| IGS12G | Police Legitimacy, Procedural Justice and Community Relations (min. 2 hours) |
| UFR00F | Firearms Qualification |
| IFR02F | Firearms Qualification and Use of Deadly Force |
| IFM22F | Use of Deadly Force (taught by a firearms instructor) |
| IFM22G | Use of Deadly Force (taught by a general instructor) |
| UFE02F* | Shotgun Qualification |
| UFL01F* | Patrol Rifle Qualification |
| UFM01F* | Backup Weapon Qualification |
| UFC01F* | Sniper Qualification |

- * If all qualifications occur at same time as handgun qualification they may all be entered under the Firearms Qualification Code. Since all officers must qualify with their primary handgun, calculations on the dashboard in the POST Data Gateway will be based on the "Firearms Qualification" code.

464-5-.03.1 Annual Firearms Training

a. Each person employed or appointed as a peace officer shall, as part of the annual training required by O.C.G.A. 35-8-21, satisfactorily complete during each calendar year the annual firearms training mandated by this rule. The failure by any peace officer to attend and successfully complete the training required by this rule shall result in the loss of that officer's power of arrest, as set forth in O.C.G.A. 35-8-21(d).

b. Annual firearms training shall, at a minimum, consist of **three hours of training** provided by a POST-certified instructor, which training shall include, but not be limited to:

1. training on the Constitutional and legal limitations on the use of deadly force;
2. training on the agency's policies regarding the use of deadly force;
3. de-escalation options for gaining compliance; and
4. a demonstration of proficiency in the safe and effective use of any agency issued firearm carried and/or used by the particular officer, to include a course of fire that meets or exceeds the minimum standard set forth in the basic training course for which the officer was initially trained and is currently employed. In any instance where an officer has more than one peace officer certification, the higher standard shall apply. Any officer failing to achieve the required score in the above training may undergo additional courses of fire under the direction of a POST-certified firearms instructor in order to achieve a passing score.

464-5-.03.2 Annual Community Policing Training

a. Each person employed or appointed as a peace officer shall, as part of the annual training required by O.C.G.A. 35-8-21, satisfactorily complete during each calendar year the annual community policing training mandated by this rule. The failure by any peace officer to attend and successfully complete the training required by this rule shall result in the loss of that officer's power of arrest, as set forth in O.C.G.A. 35-8-21(d).

b. Annual community policing training shall, at a minimum, consist of **two hours of training** as approved by POST Council.