

## **ISSUE**

Request for GA POST Council to create a Peace Officer Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ) Voluntary Certification

## **BACKGROUND**

Proficiency in the martial art Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ) provides physical and mental skills to peace officers to assist the officers in gaining physical control of assaultive or unruly persons with minimal force and less likelihood of injury to the officer and the subject by using leverage, joint locks, and pain compliance.

BJJ training also tends to increase the practitioner's confidence to handle potentially violent encounters calmly and with an increased level of judgement and restraint. While some traditional law enforcement defensive tactics rely on overwhelming physical force, chemical agents, or electrical or blunt force, which may not always be available or practical, BJJ requires no external equipment, but proficiency does require continuous practice.

Recognizing BJJ as a certified defensive tactic would encourage officers to seek the required training and demonstrate the proficiency and continuous practice required to attain the 100 hours of practice necessary to attain this certification, thereby giving the officer additional tools for self-defense, defense of others, and additional tools to de-escalate some potentially volatile and violent encounters.

## **ANALYSIS**

Proposed Georgia P.O.S.T Council Rule 464-13-21.4 "Basic Brazilian Jiu Jitsu for Peace Officers" Certification.

*"Each person applying for the basic level Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ) for Peace Officers Certification must:*

*(a) Possess a Georgia P.O.S.T certification as a Peace Officer, Corrections Officer, Parole Officer, Probation Officer, or Jailer,*

*(b) Be currently employed by a Georgia law enforcement agency,*

*(c) Complete 100 hours of organized BJJ training at a Georgia P.O.S.T Council approved Brazilian Jiu Jitsu training facility,*

*(d) Demonstrate proficiency in the prescribed techniques as outlined in the GA P.O.S.T approved Basic Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Certification curriculum,*

*(e) GA P.O.S.T Council Approved Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Training Facilities must meet all GA P.O.S.T and recognized BJJ industry training standards. GA P.O.S.T Council will develop methods to accept and evaluate applications for recognition as an approved*

*Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Training Facility. Approval will expire in 12-months from the date of issuance, but may be renewed annually.”*

**RECOMMENDATION**

GA Post staff recommends GA POST Council create a POST Certification and Rule 464-13-21.4 for “Basic Peace Officer Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ) Certification.”