

Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission

Presented by:
Tisha H. Jones, Peace Officer Certification Manager

Vision:

- The people of Washington State enjoy life and liberty in safe and secure communities.

Mission:

- Establish high standards and exceptional training to ensure that criminal justice professionals in Washington State have the knowledge and skills to safely and effectively protect the life, liberty, and property of the people they serve.

Values:

- **Leadership** – We strive to provide the best training in the nation through continuous evaluation, improvement, and innovation.
- **Integrity** – We do the right thing for the right reason with transparency and honesty.
- **Dignity** – We demonstrate respect for each other and the people we serve.
- **Accountability** – We are dedicated stewards of the resources and responsibilities entrusted to us by the people we serve.

"Training the Guardians of Democracy"

Facility

- 221,163 sq. ft. on 37 acres
- Nine buildings
 - 1,500 seat Auditorium
 - Redesigned with new audio/visual equipment
 - Three dormitories (one uninhabitable)
 - Firing Range (15 lanes) with gymnasium
 - Gymnasium
 - Track
 - Cafeteria



Training the Guardians of Democracy

- Peace officer certification mandated by law
- Single, state-wide academy for all city, county, and tribal police
 - Over 10,800 officers
 - 285 agencies
 - 500-600 new officers trained per year
- Staff is mixed
 - Full-time trainers employed by academy
 - Rotating commissioned officers (3-4 year rotation)
 - Contract specialists (DT, Firearms, Forensics, etc...)
- Advanced, specialized, and leadership training mandated
 - To include the 24 hrs. per year

Basic Training Division

- Rex Caldwell, Division Manager/Commander
 - Russ Hicks, Assistant Commander, Law Enforcement
 - Ian Edwards, Assistant Commander, Corrections

Law Enforcement Academies

Burien & Spokane Campus

- **Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA)**
 - 720-hour
 - \$3,346 agency cost per officer
- **Basic Law Enforcement Reserve Academy (BLERA)**
 - 246-hour
 - The course is held at the agency level, using WSCJTC approved curricula
- **Basic Law Enforcement Equivalency Academy (BLEEA)**
 - 80-hour
- **Basic Law Enforcement Reserve Equivalency Academy (BLEREA)**
 - Self-Study

Corrections Academies

- **Corrections Officer Academy (COA)**
 - 160-hour course for corrections officers in county and city jails
 - Cost: \$578
- **Corrections Officer Equivalency Academy (COEA)**
 - 40-hour course for corrections personnel with a break in service of 24-60 months.

Corrections Service Academies

- **Misdemeanant Probation Counselor Academy (MPCA)**
 - 80-hour course for county and city probation officers supervising misdemeanor offenders who have been placed on probation supervision
 - Cost: \$143
- **Juvenile Corrections Personnel Academy – Detention (JCPA-DET)**
 - 80-hour course for security/custody officers in juvenile detention facilities at the county level
 - Cost: \$338
- **Juvenile Corrections Personnel Academy – Probation (JCPA-PRB)**
 - 40-hour course for juvenile court probation counselors
 - Cost: \$223
 - *Optional Training: Case Management Assessment Process*
 - Additional 40-hour course
 - \$53.50
- **Juvenile Rehabilitation Academy – Process Assessment (JRA-PA)**
 - 24-hour course for juvenile probation officers supervising juvenile offenders who have been placed on probation supervision
 - Cost \$146

Advanced Training Division

Monica Alexander, Division Manager

- Provides/coordinates statewide training and education to develop additional technical skills and knowledge beyond basic academy levels and refresh perishable skills. (specialized investigations, advanced firearms, instructor development, procedural justice, etc...)
- Leadership and supervision training and certification
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for law enforcement and mental health personnel together
- County team training in domestic violence for law enforcement, prosecutors, and DV advocates
- Individual training in child abuse interviewing and investigation

Peace Officer Certification

Tisha Jones, Program Manager

- RCW 43.101.095
 - Requires all fully commissioned peace officers to obtain/maintain Peace Officer Certification
- RCW 43.101.080 (19)
 - Each time a peace officer moves from one agency to another, they are required to complete:
 - Background Investigation
 - To include fingerprint submission
 - Psychological Examination
 - Polygraph or similar assessment
- RCW 43.101.105
 - Denial or Revocation
 - Agency's must submit a Notice of Officer Separation to us within 15 days of separation
 - Commission may revoke certification if:
 - Disqualifying Misconduct lead to the termination or resignation

Definitions

RCW 10.93.020

- General Authority Peace Officer
 - Works for a PD, County Sheriff, or other unit of local government having as its primary function the detection and apprehension of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws in general
- Specially Commissioned Peace Officer
 - Any officer, whether part-time or full-time, compensated or not, commissioned by a general authority Washington law enforcement agency to enforce some or all of the criminal laws of the state of Washington
 - For example, reserve officers
- Limited Authority Peace Officer
 - Works for a limited authority agency empowered by that agency to detect or apprehend violators of the laws in some or all of the limited subject areas for which that agency is responsible
 - For example, Gambling Commission, Liquor and Cannabis Board, DNR

Age Limits & Conditions of Employment

- WA State does not have an age limitation
 - [RCW 36.28.020](#) County Sheriff & [RCW 43.14.100](#)
 - These RCWs are silent in regards to minimum age
 - [RCW 43.12.070 : Law Enforcement Agencies](#)
 - An applicant for a position of any kind under civil service must be of an age suitable for the position applied for, in ordinary good health, of good moral character and of temperate and industrious habits; these facts to be ascertained in such manner as the commission may deem advisable.
 - [RCW 9.43.060](#)
 - Exception to restriction on carrying firearms
 - [RCW 66.44.316.\(4\)](#) Specific to Alcoholic Beverage Control
 - Security and law enforcement officers, and firefighters eighteen years of age or older to enter and to remain in any premises licensed under Title 66 RCW, but only during and in the course of their official duties and only if they are not the direct employees of the licensee. However, the application of the [this] subsection to security officers is limited to casual, isolated incidents arising in the course of their duties and does not extend to continuous or frequent entering or remaining in any licensed premises.
- LEO resigns/terminated from their LE position and transfers to Corrections or some other limited commission position and wants to return to a LEO position;
 - RCW 43.101.080 (19) applies.
- Corrections officer is hired and now wants to become a LEO
 - RCW 43.101.080 (19) applies

What happens when a certified peace officer is reinstated?

- [RCW 43.101.125](#) explains that “a break in full-time law enforcement service which is due solely to the pendency of direct review or appeal from a disciplinary discharge, or to the pendency of a work-related injury, does not cause a lapse in certification.”
 - If the officer has been out of LE for more than 24 months, I will always recommend the agency send the officer through Equivalency for training purposes only; it is a way to ensure the officer has received the most current criminal law and procedure updates for the state.
 - They are NOT required to attend; there is a small cost (approx. \$400)

CJTC sets the STANDARD for training – Agency/Civil Service sets the DEFINITION of Lateral

- **Has obtained WA Peace Officer Certification**
 - If break in service as WA state general authority fully commissioned capacity is less than 24 months:
 - No addition training required
 - Poly/Psyche/Background with fingerprint submission
 - If break in service as WA state general authority fully commissioned capacity is more than 24 months but less than 60 months:
 - Equivalency Academy (80-hour)
 - Poly/Psyche/Background with fingerprint submission
 - If break in service as WA state general authority fully commissioned capacity is more than 60 months:
 - Basic Academy (720-hour)
 - Poly/Psyche/Background with fingerprint submission
- **Out of state applicant**
 - Must meet reciprocity (go to website)
 - If break in service as general authority fully commissioned capacity is less than 60 months:
 - Equivalency Academy (80-hour)
 - Poly/Psyche/Background with fingerprint submission
 - If break in service as general authority fully commissioned capacity is more than 60 months:
 - Basic Academy (720-hour)
 - Poly/Psyche/Background with fingerprint submission

Lapse in Peace Officer Certification

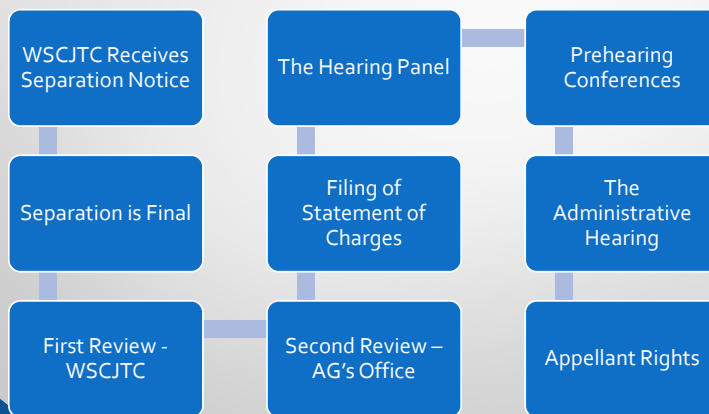
- RCW 43.101.125
 - Certification lapses automatically when there is a break of more than twenty-four consecutive months in the officer's service as a full-time law enforcement officer
 - Individuals that leave law enforcement, in good standing
 - 24-60 months: Equivalency Academy
 - 60+ months: Full 720-hour academy
 - Veterans returning from active duty
 - We know that, as employers, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) requires you to restore returning military veterans to duty as quickly as public safety allows
 - 24-60 months: Equivalency Academy
 - 60+ months: Full 720-hour academy

What is the definition of Full-Time for the WSCJTC?

- During the Commission meeting on September 9, 2015, Director Rahr presented our policy definition of “full-time” for the purposes of [RCW 43.101.125](#).
 - Please note that this definition is an internal policy and is used solely for the purposes of RCW 43.101.125, this definition applies to peace officers who have completed the basic academy requirements and have served in the capacity of a general authority, fully-commissioned peace officer.
 - For the purposes of RCW 43.101.125, “full-time” means work as a fully-commissioned, general authority peace officer or tribal police officer for an average of least 1,040 hours in a 12-month period, to include vacation leave hours and sick leave hours.”

Timeline of the Revocation Process

Chapter 139-06 WAC



The Agency's Duty to Disclose

- **WAC 139-06-030** - all agencies **shall** cooperate in **any** investigation conducted by the commission regarding a peace officer's certification status.
- **RCW 43.101.135** - Upon **termination of a peace officer for any reason**, including resignation, the agency of termination **shall**, within fifteen days of the termination, notify the commission on a personnel action report form provided by the commission.
- The agency of termination **shall**, upon request of the commission, provide such **additional documentation** or information as the commission deems necessary to determine whether the termination provides grounds for revocation under RCW 43.101.105.
- The commission **shall** maintain these notices in a permanent file, subject to RCW 43.101.400.

WAC Updates

- **WAC 139-05-300**
 - In-Service Training - Added 2 of the 24 required hours must consist of CIT
- **WAC 139-10-211**
 - To be eligible for a Corrections Academy, this Rule requires Corrections Personnel to complete a Criminal Background Check to include fingerprint submission
- **WAC 139-10-214 & 214**
 - Corrections Personnel - Requires Notice of Hire/Separation Forms
- **WAC 139-10-215**
 - Sets eligibility for the Corrections Equivalency process for those with a break in service between 24-60 months.
- **WAC 139-07-020**
 - In line with SB 6145, this Rule allows for Permanent Lawful Residents to be eligible for employment.
 - Additionally, add that a Homeschool Transcript is authorized proof of education.

Questions?

- Executive Director
 - Sue Rahr, maoneill@cjtc.wa.gov
- Deputy Director
 - Lisa Mulligan, lmulligan@cjtc.wa.gov
- Peace Officer Certification
 - Tisha H. Jones, tjones@cjtc.wa.gov
 - My webpage: <https://cjtc.wa.gov/certification/peace-officer>

Tisha H. Jones has worked for the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) for 17 years and currently holds the position of Peace Officer Certification Manager. As the Peace Officer Certification Manager, she oversees all matters pertaining to the Certification and Revocation of all peace officers and certified tribal police officers in Washington State as well as K-9 Team Certifications. She is also the Veteran Liaison for the agency.

Prior to working for the WSCJTC, Tisha served six years in the U.S. Army. While serving in the Army, she held the rank of Sergeant in the Heavy Equipment Operations field. A couple of her assignments include road upgrades in Laredo, Texas and Operation Joint Guardian in Kosovo.

In addition to her work at the WSCJTC, she serves as a part-time professor with City University of Seattle where she teaches criminal justice courses both on-line and in the classroom. She holds a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Brandman University and a BA in Criminal Justice from St. Martin's University.