# TRAINING AND TESTING SPECIFICATIONS FOR LEARNING DOMAIN #37 PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

August 1, 2015 August 1, 2016

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#### I. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must understand that there are laws protecting the laws affecting, and the peace officers responsibility to protect, the rights of people with disabilities.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- A. State the intent of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- B. Recognize the role of peace officers when interacting with a person with a disability
  - 1. Applying culturally responsive community policing principles
  - 2. Reducing stigma
  - 3. Increasing and maintaining peace officer and public safety
- C. Explain state and local resources available to people with disabilities

## II. LEARNING NEED

In order to make appropriate decisions regarding intervention strategies, peace officers must be able to recognize, based on behavioral cues and other indicators, people with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

- A. State the intent of the Lanterman—Petris Short Developmental Disabilities Service Act (Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 4500 et.seq.)
- B. Define the term developmental disability

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- C. Recognize general behavioral indicators associated with all developmental disabilities
- D. Recognize behavioral indicators specifically associated with the following developmental disabilities:
  - 1. Mental retardation Intellectual Disability (including Down Syndrome)
  - 23. Cerebral Palsy
  - 34. Autism Spectrum Disorder
  - 4<u>5</u>. Epilepsy
- E. Recognize appropriate peace officer <a href="mailto:actions-response(s)">actions-response(s)</a> during field contacts with people with the following developmental disabilities:
  - 1. Mental retardation Intellectual Disability (including Down Syndrome)
  - 2. Cerebral Palsy
  - 3. Autism Spectrum Disorder
  - 4. Epilepsy
- F. Recognize the causes and nature of intellectual/developmental disabilities
- G. Discuss the referral process and state/local resources available to people with intellectual/developmental disabilities

# III. LEARNING NEED

In order to make appropriate decisions and serve those with physical disabilities, peace officers must be able to recognize indicators of people with physical disabilities.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. <u>Discuss the types of neurological Recognize behavioral indicators specifically associated with the following neurological disorders, including:</u>
  - 1. Acquired
  - 2. Traumatic

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In order to make appropriate decisions regarding intervention strategies, peace officers must be able to recognize, based on behavioral cues and other indicators, people with Peace Officers must become familiar with the behavioral and psychological indicators of mental illness. in order to determine if an individual is a danger to others, a danger to self or gravely disabled and to determine an appropriate response and resolution option.

#### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- A. Define the term mental illness
- B. List the categories of mental illness:
  - 1. Thought disorders, including schizophrenia
  - 2. Mood disorders, including depression and bipolar
  - . Anxiety related disorders
  - 4. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
  - 5. Co-occurring/dual diagnosis disorders
- C. Recognize the causes and nature of mental illness
- ED. Recognize behavioral indicators that may be generally associated with people affected by mental illness
- D. Recognize indicators officers may use to help determine if a person affected by a mental illness is a danger to others, a danger to self, or gravely disabled due to mental illness
- E. Recognize appropriate tactical peace officer response(s) and methods of communication actions when responding to a call that involves a person with a mental illness
- F. Discuss the referral process and state/local resources available to people with mental illness
- G. Identify appropriate resolution options
- F. Explain the intent of the Lanterman Petris Short Act (Welfare and Institutions Code section 5150)

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# V. REQUIRED TESTS

- A. The POST-Constructed Knowledge Test on the learning objectives in Domain #37.
- B. The POST-Constructed Comprehensive Mid-Course Proficiency Test.
- C. The POST-Constructed Comprehensive End-of-Course Proficiency Test.
- D. The POST-Constructed Comprehensive Module III End-of-Course Proficiency Test.
- E. The POST-Constructed Comprehensive Module II End-of-Course Proficiency Test.
- F. The POST-Constructed PC 832 Arrest Written Test.
- G. The POST-Constructed Comprehensive Test for the Requalification Course.
- H. A scenario test that requires the student to demonstrate proficiency in contacting people with simulated disabilities. At a minimum, the test shall evaluate the following competencies:
  - 1. Use of Force The ability to distinguish and apply reasonable force options in given circumstances.
  - 2. Problem Solving/Decision-Making Analyzing situations and implementing plans to solve problems in a timely manner. Using verbal or physical skills to determine the appropriate resolution to a situation.
  - 3. Legal authority/Individual Rights The identification of laws and constitutional rights governing consensual encounters, detentions, and arrests.
  - 4. Officer Safety Tactical and situational awareness and response to surroundings.
  - Communication The use of effective verbal and non-verbal skills to convey intended meaning and establish understanding.
  - 6. Stress Tolerance and Emotional Regulation Maintaining self-control and making timely, rational decisions in stressful situations.

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Presenters must use the POST-developed Scenario Test and the POST Scenario Competency Evaluation and Grading Test Forms or presenter-developed forms approved by POST, which minimally include the performance dimensions used for this scenario test.

# VI. REQUIRED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

A. The student will participate in a learning activity that requires self-assessment to determine their own level of experience with, and awareness of, people with disabilities.

- 1. The learning activity should provide the student with an opportunity to determine their current level of experience interacting with people with disabilities
- The learning activity should serve as a starting point for an instructor-facilitated discussion which addresses fears, myths, stigma, discrimination, bias, cultural factors, media impact and stereotypes concerning contact with people with disabilities
  - AB. The student will participate in a facilitated eritique debrief following a series of simulated incidents regarding effective law enforcement intervention techniques with people exhibiting behavior which may be indicative of a physical and developmental disability. At a minimum, the depictions must involve people exhibiting behaviors characteristic of:
    - 1. Mental illness
      - . Physical disability
    - 3. Developmental disability

The <u>critique</u> <u>debrief</u> shall minimally address the following <u>issues</u> topics as they pertain to the contact:

- 1. The types of behaviors exhibited by the person contacted
- 2. Possible causes of the behaviors
- 3. Tactical safety measures employed by the responding officer(s), if applicable
- 4. Appropriateness of the resolution, referral, or follow-up strategy, if applicable
  - Use of effective verbal/non-verbal communication skills
- **5**6. Overall effectiveness of the contact

BC. The student will participate in one or more learning activities from the POST-developed *Instructor's Guide to Learning Activities for Leadership, Ethics and Community Policing (December 2005)* or other comparable

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 January 1, 2002
 January 1, 2006
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 January 1, 2004
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 August 15, 2004
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