

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

POST 1-187 (05/03)



Title: **REPORT ON A REQUEST TO DEVELOP A COURSE TO TRANSITION FROM
THE SPECIALIZED INVESTIGATORS' BASIC COURSE TO THE REGULAR
BASIC COURSE**

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REPORT PROFILE

MEETING DATE (00/00/00) 02/23/12	BUREAU SUBMITTING THIS REPORT Basic Training Bureau		
RESEARCHED BY (PRINT NAME) Frank Decker	INITIALED	REVIEWED BY (PRINT NAME) Alan Deal	INITIALED
REPORT DATE (00/00/00) 01/20/12	APPROVED BY (SIGNATURE) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:		DATE APPROVED
PURPOSE (SELECT ONLY ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUESTED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> PROJECT STATUS REPORT		FINANCIAL IMPACT <input type="checkbox"/> YES (SEE PART B - ANALYSIS) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	

ISSUE, BACKGROUND, ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION

ISSUE:

This is an informational report in response to the request from various state agencies to develop a course to provide for transition from the Specialized Investigators' Basic Course (SIBC) to the Regular Basic Course (RBC).

BACKGROUND:

The SIBC and the RBC are separate courses intended to provide entry level training for different classifications of peace officers. Investigators for state agencies (e.g. Department of Justice, Department of Motor Vehicles, Alcoholic Beverage Control, etc.) are required to complete the SIBC which qualifies them to perform duties that are primarily investigative. The RBC is the training requirement for general law enforcement duties performed by police officers, sheriff's deputies and highway patrol officers. Completion of the SIBC qualifies an individual to perform primary investigative duties but does not qualify for general law enforcement duties. Completion of the RBC allows an individual to work either investigative or general law enforcement duties.

Requests for POST to develop a transition course comes from SIBC graduates who wish to supplement their training to qualify for general law enforcement peace officer positions. If these individuals are laid off by the state, they may only accept employment in other state investigative positions or as welfare fraud investigators. If the investigators in question choose to become peace officers for an agency for which the entry level training requirement is the RBC, they would be required to successfully complete the entire RBC. Development of a course that would make up the difference in training hours between the SIBC and the RBC would allow them to seek positions with general law enforcement agencies without attending the entire RBC.

ANALYSIS:

In response to prior inquiries of this nature throughout the years staff has reviewed the possibility of creating a course to bridge the difference between the two courses. Although there is some commonality in subject matter between the two courses, the focus of each course is different. The SIBC consists of a minimum of 591 hours of training, including 80 hours specific to investigators which is not covered in the RBC. This means that the actual number of hours allotted for RBC



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material in the SIBC is 511. The RBC has a minimum hourly requirement of 664 hours. At first glance it would appear that the difference is simply a matter of 153 hours of RBC class time. However, the difference in content is also a significant issue. There are mandated Learning Domains (LDs) that are not covered in the SIBC and some in which only a portion of the content is covered. The difference is not just class hours but also a series of written, exercise and scenario tests and learning activities that must be accomplished. The shortfall in the content of the SIBC, as compared to the RBC, consists of:

- 8 LDs that are not presented
- 2 LDs that are partially presented
- 128 Minimum Instructional Hours
- 12 Scenario Demonstration hours
- 28 Scenario Test hours
- 24 Required Learning Activities
- 2 Written Tests
- 3 Exercise Tests
- 10 Scenario Tests
- The Work Sample Test Battery (physical training)

Due to the course shortfalls cited above (Attachment A), coupled with issues related to the sequencing of instruction and testing, the concept was found to be unworkable. One of the more significant issues concerns LD 32, Lifetime Fitness. There are 44 hours required for this domain in the RBC and four hours required in the SIBC. The difference is that the SIBC only requires the lecture portion of the domain. The RBC requirement is the lecture and a structured POST-approved physical conditioning program consisting of a minimum of 36 one-hour sessions. The *POST Physical Conditioning Manual* requires that these sessions be conducted within a period of 10 to 14 consecutive weeks with a minimum of two sessions per week. The minimum physical conditioning requirement exceeds the 4 to 6 weeks that would be required to cover the academic aspects of a transition course.

Additionally, even if the concept were feasible, POST does not have the resources to devote to the development of such a course. If the resources were available, it would take several months, possibly up to a year, of lead time to create the course and seek approval by the Commission and the Office of Administrative Law. This would be long past the possible imminent need of the impacted special agents.

Another consideration is that course certification is based on the demonstration of an ongoing unmet training need. As of this time, there does not appear to be an ongoing need to develop such a course. Even if staff was able to design such a course there would be insufficient students to cause an academy to expend the cost and effort to certify and present it.

RECOMMENDATION:

This report is submitted for information only. No action is required.