

The Academy Connection

Where South Carolina Law Enforcement Training is Defined

SOUTH CAROLINA
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY



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Director's Message Hubert F. Harrell

The Academy continues to move forward with renovations, repairs and improvements to include resurfacing our driving track and replacing ventilation systems throughout the facility. We have finally replaced the mattresses in the main dormitories as well as the village, most of which were at least 15 years old and totally worn out. At this point our pressing problems are improving our classroom technology, replacing 20 year old carpet in the halls and classrooms, and convincing the legislature to provide us with stable and adequate funding so that we can improve our training.

Due to recent events involving law enforcement officers from around the country, the focus of the American public seems to be on training and accountability of its police officers. I totally agree

with the need to include more community oriented training. The issue for us is time and money. I use Kentucky as a benchmark for dedicated law enforcement training. They require a 26 week basic training program and sustain it with a 52 million dollar a year budget. They also offer a 3,500 dollar a year stipend to all certified officers who complete their annual training. Even with all of those assets, they still share common problems with the rest of the law enforcement community. My impression is that we are experiencing a huge shift in the type of person who enters law enforcement and many of them lack the social and communication skills necessary for the job. They are well intentioned but often miss the subtle cues which indicate the dynamics of social or civil interactions, especially in our di-



verse population. Twelve weeks is hardly enough time to effectively instill those skills. It is my belief that the lessons taught in the Academy must be constantly reinforced by the agency, not just during field training but consistently throughout the officer's career.

We also see how difficult it is to find and keep qualified applicants. In my opinion, these problems have contributing factors; inadequate funding for training,

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Director's Message Continued

the difficulty in recruiting suitable candidates, and pay that is not commensurate with job specifications and requirements. Having said that and realizing that the Academy maintains a vantage point where the entire law enforcement picture in South Carolina can be observed in an objective manner, I have been grappling with what our contribution should be to alleviate these problems. My quest for understanding caused me go to the beginning to seek a definitive answer as to what could or should be expected of us.

I revisited Sir Robert Peel, who is credited with being the father of modern policing, and his nine principles of policing which serve as the basis for our current model of policing. I am taking the liberty of reproducing them for your benefit.

PRINCIPLE 1 "The basic mission for which the police exist is to prevent crime and disorder."

PRINCIPLE 2 "The ability of the police to perform their duties is dependent upon public approval of police actions."

PRINCIPLE 3 "Police must secure the willing cooperation of the public in voluntary observance of the law to be able to secure and maintain the respect of the public."

PRINCIPLE 4 "The degree of cooperation of the public that can be secured diminishes proportionately to the necessity of the use of physical force."

PRINCIPLE 5 "Police seek and preserve public favor not by catering to the public opinion but by constantly demonstrating absolute impartial service to the law."

PRINCIPLE 6 "Police use physical force to the extent necessary to secure observance of the law or to restore order only when the exercise of persuasion, advice and warning is found to be insufficient."

PRINCIPLE 7 "Police, at all times, should maintain a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that **the police are the public and the public are the police**; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full-time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence."

PRINCIPLE 8 "Police should always direct their action strictly towards their functions and never appear to usurp the powers of the judiciary."

PRINCIPLE 9 "The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with it."

I believe these principles hold true today. It is my intention to stress these principles to every student who attends this Academy in the future so that they may assume their duties with a firm understanding of their purpose and what is expected of them. I would hope that each agency head will be reminded that we only exist to serve our citizens, and they will constantly remind their officers and deputies of these principles.

We cannot expect to be viewed as professionals if the character and deeds of our personnel do not reflect the values we ascribe to. It is up to us as agency heads to insure our staff and our communities know who we are, and what we stand for, if we are to be respected. If we don't believe and behave like professionals, those who follow us will certainly not. Our cause and purpose will be lost and we will become something we do not recognize. We are a nation ruled by law, not Kings and Queens, and our task as law enforcement officers is to ensure that through the law, order and public safety is secured for the citizens of South Carolina. That's my soap box for today and I remind you, this is Your Academy.

Psychoactive: What It Means and Why It's Important

By: Michael Brantley

SC Impaired Driving Programs Coordinator

The most difficult criminal cases to prosecute in South Carolina right now are those where a suspect is charged with driving under the influence. These cases become even more difficult when the driver is accused of driving under the influence of drugs. There are literally thousands of impairing substances in our world that can impair the ability of a person to operate a vehicle safely. One of the largest misconceptions in the law enforcement field is that a toxicology report is sufficient evidence to support a conviction for driving under the influence of drugs. This however, is far from the truth. That is where the word psychoactive comes into play. When an officer requests a toxicology screen on a suspected drug impaired driver, the body fluid that is being tested is urine. If we take a moment to think about this, the human body does not have urine running through the bloodstream; therefore, there is also no urine running through the brain. Since our laboratory is set up to test urine for drug impaired driving cases, it is important to understand what those results show. An officer once said it best when he described the urine test as a "test of the body's dumpster". If you think about it, this is a great analogy about a urine toxicology result. The body has already used up and metabolized the drug and whatever is left over is then sent to the bladder and removed from the body in the urine. The results shown on the toxicology report are simply the left overs of the drug. It can usually be implied that if the drugs metabolite was found in the urine then it must have been in the body at one point. The problem with this mentality is that there is no indication as to when the drug was in the body. This is where it is important to understand, and articulate, that a drug was psychoactive at the time the suspect was operating a motor vehicle.

Psychoactive is defined as "of or relating to a

substance having a profound or significant effect on mental process." Simply put, this means that the drug was not only in the body, it was actively causing an impairing effect on the person. Think for a moment that you see a banana peel lying on the ground. It is acceptable to believe that at some point there was a banana in the peel. But when was the banana in the peel? This is more difficult to articulate. This example is much like the issues that the defense may present in court if the officer simply relies on a toxicology report to prove impairment of a suspect.

There are many ways to articulate that a drug was psychoactive in the suspect at the time of the stop. Standardized field sobriety tests offer many evidence points of psycho-activity. Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN), slurred speech, and fumbling fingers are just a few examples that prove a drug is causing impairment. Many drugs do not cause some of these symptoms. For example, there are more drugs that do not cause HGN than there are that do. This leads to another very important tool that we have in this state to combat impaired driving. Drug Recognition Experts are specially trained officers who are educated in identifying the signs and symptoms of impairment. These officers go beyond the basic indicators that may be recognized on the roadside. They take into consideration over 100 points of evidence before rendering an expert opinion as to impairment.

No matter which avenue you take, please remember that it is a requirement of the law that you prove impairment in order to make a valid charge. Just because the drug was in the body, doesn't mean it was affecting it. Psychoactive, one word that can make or break a driving under the influence of drugs case!



JP Strom Award Winners July—September 2015



BLE 634

Heather L. Diebold

SC Department of Health and Environmental Control



BLE 636

Jhonnatan A. Ramirez

York County Sheriff's Office



BLE 636

Christopher C. Revels

Rock Hill Police Department



BLE 637

Brian T. Richardson

SC Bureau of Protective Services

Bert Friday Award Winners July—September 2015



Basic Detention 354

Robert Chasteen

Oconee County Detention Center

Basic Class Information

Basic Law Classes

B638 July 20—October 9, 2015
 B639 August 10—October 30, 2015
 B640 August 31—November 20, 2015
 B641 September 21—December 18, 2015
 B642 October 12, 2015—January 22, 2016
 B643 November 2, 2015—February 12, 2016
 B644 November 30, 2015—March 4, 2016
 B645 January 4, 2016— March 25, 2016

Limited Duty October 19—29, 2015

Basic Detention Classes

BD 356 October 5—23, 2015
 BD 357 November 2—20, 2015
 BD 358 November 30—December 18, 2015
 BD 359 January 11—29, 2016

Basic TCO (formerly E-911)

BTOT 199 October 19—30, 2015
 BTOT 200 December 7—18, 2016
 BTOT 201 January 11—22, 2016

BASIC LAW SFST DRINKING LAB

With the SFST and Datamaster DMT classes in the 12 week basic training curriculum, it is necessary to ask the field to assist us with volunteer drinkers. This training assists officers in not only DUI detection, but also help officers to recognize when subjects are impaired. This can make a huge difference in what approach an officer will take when handling various situations. We need approximately 250 volunteers per year. I know this sounds like a lot, but that is less than one percent of South Carolina's police population. If you can be of assistance or have any questions please contact Michael Brantley of the Traffic Safety Unit at (803) 896-7791 jmbrantley@sccja.sc.gov or Dale Smith at (803) 896-5556 desmith@sccja.sc.gov.

Below you will find a list of dates we need volunteers. We can provide rooms to any volunteer who will need to travel and stay overnight. Alcohol and meals are provided for all volunteers; however, if they desire to bring their own alcohol that is permitted.

Dates for BLE Drinking Lab 2015-2016

October 21st & 22nd 2015
 November 11th & 12th 2015
 December 9th & 12th 2015
 January 13th & 14th 2016
 February 3rd & 4th 2016
 February 24th & 25th 2016
 March 16th & 17th 2016
 April 6th & 7th 2016
 April 27th & 28th 2016
 May 18th & 19th 2016
 June 8th & 9th 2016
 June 29th & 30th 2016



Welcome Our New Employees



Harry Bodiford
Police Science Instructor



Kayin Darby
Attorney



Kenneth Rice
Food Services



Leah Stavish
Certification Unit



Melanie Yoak
Food Services