March 12, 2018

Agency Heads
South Carolina Law Enforcement

RE: Certification Classifications

Dear Agency Head:

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council has created a new law enforcement classification. The new certification classifications is Class III Special Law Enforcement/Corrections Officer.

The current certification classifications are:

1. Class I Law Enforcement (Class I LE) – Law enforcement officers with full arrest powers.
2. Class II Local Corrections (Class II LCO) – Local Detention Officers.
3. Class II State Corrections (Class II SCO) – South Carolina Department of Corrections Officers.
4. Class II Juvenile Corrections (Class II JCO) – South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice Officers.
5. Class I Law Enforcement/Corrections (Class I LECO) – Law enforcement officers employed with one law enforcement agency, whose job requires the routine performance of both Class I LE duties and Jail/Detention Center duties.
6. Class III Special Law Enforcement (Class III SLE) – Law enforcement officers with limited powers of arrest or special duties.
7. Class III Special Law Enforcement/Corrections (Class III SLECO) - Law enforcement officers employed with one law enforcement agency, whose job requires the routine performance of both Class III SLE and Class II Corrections/Jail/Detention Center duties. In order for a Detention Center and/or a Sheriff’s Office to send candidates for Class III SLECO, the Detention Center must fall under the Sheriff’s authority.

The training requirements for each classification are:

1. Class I LE – 12 week Basic Law Enforcement Training.
2. Class II LCO – 3 week Basic Jail Training.
3. Class II SCO – 4 week Basic Training taught by SCDC.
4. Class II JCO – 5 week Basic Training taught by SCDJJ.
5. Class I LECO – 12 week Basic Law Enforcement Training and 3 week Basic Jail Training.
6. Class III SLE – 9 day Limited Duty Training.
7. Class III SLECO – 9 day Limited Duty Training and 3 week Basic Jail Training.

Duties a Class III SLE may perform are:

1. Court Room Security.
2. Special Assignments, i.e., sporting events, crowd control, traffic at fairs, football games, and transportation of prisoners.
3. Litter Control.
4. Litter and Animal Control.
5. Airport Security.
6. Administrative duties, such as duty/desk officers.
7. May supervise other officers, Class I, II, or III, in the performance of administrative duties only.

Class III SLE officers may not perform any of the following duties:

1. School Resource Officer.
2. County Code Enforcement Officers, with the exception of Litter Control Officers and Litter/Animal Control Officers.
3. Supervise other officers in the performance of their routine patrol duties, first-line law enforcement duties, and/or uniform patrol duties or any other duties other than those which are purely administrative.
4. Class I LE, Class II LCO or SCO, unless they are a Class III SLECO, Class I LECO, and/or Reserve Officer.
5. As a substitute for any other certification classification and/or beyond the scope of the limited duty training provided by SCCJA.

The continuing training for each certification classification is as follows:

1. Class I Law Enforcement (Class I LE) – 40 total CLEE hours over three years to include 1 Legal Update and 1 Domestic Violence each year. Plus one Mental Illness Awareness training within the three years.
2. Class II Local Corrections (Class II LCO) – 40 total CLEE hours each year as set by Jail Standards Committee.
3. Class II State Corrections (Class II SCO) – 40 total CLEE hours each year as set by Jail Standards Committee.
4. Class II Juvenile Corrections (Class II JCO) – 40 total CLEE hours each year as set by Jail Standards Committee.
5. Class I Law Enforcement/Corrections (Class I LECO) – 40 total CLEE each year as set by Jail Standards Committee. Plus 1 Legal Update and 1 Domestic Violence each year and one Mental Illness Awareness training within the three years.
6. Class III Special Law Enforcement (Class III SLE) – 1 Legal Update each year.
7. Class III Special Law Enforcement/Corrections (Class III SLECO) - 40 total CLEE hours each year as set by Jail Standards Committee and 1 Legal Update.
If you have any questions regarding the Certification Classifications, please feel free to contact Jeff Finch 803-896-7805.

Sincerely,

Lewis J. Swindler, Jr.
Director