



DEPUTY SHERIFFS' TRAINING BULLETIN

Number 130

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

August 2014

ACT 2014-114

On July 9th, 2014 Governor Corbett signed into law Act 114 of 2014, the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training Act. Effective on September 7th, 2014 this Act requires certification and re-certification for all of the Commonwealth's 67 sheriffs. Several key aspects:

Current sheriffs will receive Board certification without attending basic or waiver training. A separate letter and registration form will be sent to each sheriff with instructions on registration and receiving a Board certification card.

Sheriffs' elected, appointed, or employed after September 7th (in general) must obtain certification through basic or waiver training during their first term.

Once a sheriff is registered in the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Information System, they can enroll in training. Sheriffs will be notified by email when they have been registered and can begin the enrollment process. After September 7th, 2014, the Board can provide reimbursement for training for sheriffs attending continuing education and merit courses as it does with deputy sheriffs.

In line with current Board Policy, to remain certified, a sheriff must attend line officer, basic supervisory, or advanced supervisory continuing education every two years. That initial two years will start on September 7th, 2014. The Board may consider more specific sheriff training for future cycles.

Act 114 requires the Board to revoke deputy sheriff certifications for any Felony or Misdemeanor 1 & 2 convictions. Once the Board establishes policies and procedures for notification, appeal, and reinstatement, staff will begin to conduct criminal background checks on all current deputy sheriffs. The Board will also have to define revocations for "termination for cause", "physically or psychologically unfit for duty", and "misconduct". Sheriffs will be notified with the adoption of the new policies and the start of background checks.

In addition to background checks, training records, policies, procedures, and regulation changes, staff will also be working to change Board letterhead, logos, certificates, etc to reflect the new Board name.

