

AN ACT

relating to the provision of education and training programs for law enforcement officers regarding persons with mental impairments.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Bob Meadours Act."

SECTION 2. Section 96.641, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (l) and (m) to read as follows:

(1) As part of the initial training and continuing education for police chiefs required under this section, the institute shall establish a program on de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques to facilitate interaction with persons with mental impairments. The program must include an examination of the best practices for:

(1) monitoring peace officers' compliance with internal agency policies relating to de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques to facilitate interaction with persons with mental impairments; and

(2) implementing internal agency policies relating to those techniques.

(m) A police chief may not satisfy the requirements of Subsection (l) by taking an online course on de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques to facilitate interaction with

1 persons with mental impairments.

2 SECTION 3. Section 1701.253, Occupations Code, is amended
3 by adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

4 (j) As part of the minimum curriculum requirements, the
5 commission shall require an officer to complete a statewide
6 education and training program on de-escalation and crisis
7 intervention techniques to facilitate interaction with persons
8 with mental impairments. An officer shall complete the program not
9 later than the second anniversary of the date the officer is
10 licensed under this chapter or the date the officer applies for an
11 intermediate proficiency certificate, whichever date is earlier.
12 An officer may not satisfy the requirements of this section or
13 Section 1701.402(g) by taking an online course on de-escalation and
14 crisis intervention techniques to facilitate interaction with
15 persons with mental impairments.

16 SECTION 4. Section 1701.402, Occupations Code, is amended
17 by adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

18 (g) As a requirement for an intermediate proficiency
19 certificate or an advanced proficiency certificate, an officer must
20 complete the education and training program described by Section
21 1701.253 regarding de-escalation and crisis intervention
22 techniques to facilitate interaction with persons with mental
23 impairments.

24 SECTION 5. Not later than January 1, 2006, the Bill
25 Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas shall
26 establish a program on de-escalation and crisis intervention
27 techniques to facilitate interaction with persons with mental

1 impairments as required by Subsection (1), Section 96.641,
2 Education Code, as added by this Act.

3 SECTION 6. (a) An individual appointed or elected as a
4 police chief before the effective date of this Act shall complete a
5 program on de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques to
6 facilitate interaction with persons with mental impairments
7 established under Subsection (1), Section 96.641, Education Code,
8 as added by this Act, not later than September 1, 2009.

9 (b) A person who, on September 1, 2005, holds an
10 intermediate proficiency certificate or an advanced proficiency
11 certificate issued under Section 1701.402, Occupations Code, or has
12 held a peace officer license issued by the Commission on Law
13 Enforcement Officer Standards and Education for more than two years
14 shall complete an educational training program on de-escalation and
15 crisis intervention techniques to facilitate interaction with
16 persons with mental impairments as required by Sections 1701.253
17 and 1701.402, Occupations Code, as amended by this Act, not later
18 than September 1, 2009.

19 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1473 passed the Senate on April 21, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 18, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1473 passed the House, with amendment, on May 13, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor