

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 2823

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to educational and training requirements for certain peace officers on ethical decision making.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1701.260 to read as follows:

Sec. 1701.260. EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS ON ETHICAL DECISION MAKING. (a) The commission by rule shall require an officer to complete an eight-hour training program on ethical decision making once during the year beginning on September 1, 2012, and once every 24 months for the two Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education training cycles beginning September 1, 2013.

(b) The program described by Subsection (a) must be approved by the commission and shall be conducted by the governmental entity that employs the officer. The program must include education and training on:

(1) identification of ethical dilemmas in law enforcement;

(2) stress inoculation, de-escalation, and crisis management techniques;

(3) principles of ethics and decision making in law enforcement as they relate to use of force;

(4) public accountability and police professionalism;

1 and

2 (5) application in scenario-based ethical dilemmas.

3 (c) A trainer of a course described by this section may use  
4 curriculum and instructional materials developed by the  
5 commission, a governmental entity conducting a course, and an  
6 entity that has a training agreement with the commission.

7 (d) This section expires September 1, 2021.

8 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2011, the Commission  
9 on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education shall adopt the  
10 rules necessary to implement Section 1701.260, Occupations Code, as  
11 added by this Act.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.