

By: Huffman

S.B. No. 971

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to peace officer training on recognizing and recording  
3 circumstances that indicate strangulation in certain cases.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 1701.253(d), Occupations Code, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (d) Training in documentation of cases required by  
8 Subsection (b) shall include instruction in:

9 (1) making a written account of the extent of injuries  
10 sustained by the victim of an alleged offense;

11 (2) recording by photograph or videotape the area in  
12 which an alleged offense occurred and the victim's injuries; ~~and~~

13 (3) recognizing and recording a victim's statement  
14 that may be admissible as evidence in a proceeding concerning the  
15 matter about which the statement was made; and

16 (4) recognizing and recording circumstances  
17 indicating that a victim may have been assaulted in the manner  
18 described by Section 22.01(b)(2)(B), Penal Code.

19 SECTION 2. Section 1701.352(f), Occupations Code, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (f) Training in documentation of cases required by  
22 Subsection (b) shall include instruction in:

23 (1) making a written account of the extent of injuries  
24 sustained by the victim of an alleged offense;

1           (2) recording by photograph or videotape the area in  
2 which an alleged offense occurred and the victim's injuries; ~~and~~

3           (3) recognizing and recording a victim's statement  
4 that may be admissible as evidence in a proceeding concerning the  
5 matter about which the statement was made; and

6           (4) recognizing and recording circumstances  
7 indicating that a victim may have been assaulted in the manner  
8 described by Section 22.01(b)(2)(B), Penal Code.

9           SECTION 3. (a) Not later than January 1, 2020, the Texas  
10 Commission on Law Enforcement shall establish or modify training  
11 programs as necessary to comply with Section 1701.253, Occupations  
12 Code, as amended by this Act.

13           (b) The minimum curriculum requirements under Section  
14 1701.253(d), Occupations Code, as amended by this Act, apply only  
15 to a peace officer who first begins to satisfy those requirements on  
16 or after January 1, 2020.

17           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.