

AN ACT

relating to training on de-escalation, crisis intervention, and behavioral health for correctional officers and certain other employees of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Jovian Motley Act.

SECTION 2. Chapter 493, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 493.0325 to read as follows:

Sec. 493.0325. CORRECTIONAL OFFICER TRAINING ON DE-ESCALATION, CRISIS INTERVENTION, AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH.

(a) This section applies to:

(1) a correctional officer employed by the department;

and

(2) a department employee responsible for the direct supervision of correctional officers described by Subdivision (1).

(b) To facilitate interaction with inmates, the department shall provide employees described by Subsection (a) training on:

(1) de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques;

and

(2) behavioral health.

(c) The training described by Subsection (b)(1) must include information regarding:

(1) effective communication;

(2) employing alternatives to physical restraints,

1 including the availability and proper use of tools such as shields,
2 chemical dispensing devices, and less-lethal force weapons;

3 (3) techniques for limiting the use of force resulting
4 in bodily injury;

5 (4) proper utilization of necessary resources,
6 including lighting;

7 (5) safety techniques during cell extractions;

8 (6) fundamental lifesaving procedures; and

9 (7) necessary personnel involvement.

10 (d) The training described by Subsection (b)(2) must
11 include information regarding:

12 (1) effective communication and intervention;

13 (2) increased awareness of persons with behavioral
14 health concerns, substance use disorders, or intellectual and
15 developmental disabilities;

16 (3) crisis recognition, prevention, and response;

17 (4) suicide risk and prevention; and

18 (5) access to employee assistance programs available
19 to correctional officers.

20 (e) The training required by this section must be included
21 in the department's preservice training for correctional officers
22 and completed annually by employees described by Subsection (a).

23 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date
24 of this Act but not later than December 1, 2025, the Texas
25 Department of Criminal Justice shall make the training required by
26 Section 493.0325, Government Code, as added by this Act, available
27 to the employees described by Subsection (a) of that section.

1 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2756 was passed by the House on April 30, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2756 was passed by the Senate on May 12, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor