



Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Police and Correctional Training Commissions

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MEMORANDUM

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ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEE E. GOLDMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO: Chiefs, Sheriffs and Wardens

FROM: **Raymond A. Franklin, Acting Executive Director** 

DATE: December 22, 2009

SUBJECT: **Electronic Control Device Training**

The Maryland General Assembly in 2009 passed legislation requiring specific training for all officers who are approved to carry or use an Electronic Control Device (ECD) [COMAR 12.10.05 – Correctional Officers/ COMAR 12.04.05 – Law Enforcement Officer]. This new law affects all correctional or law enforcement agencies that own and issue electronic control devices to its officers. An electronic control device is defined as “a portable device designed as a weapon capable of injuring, immobilizing, or inflicting pain on an individual by the discharge of electrical current”, such as, stun cuffs, stun belts, stun shields, neuromuscular incapacitation devices (both contact and projected applications), etc.”

The law outlines exactly what must be taught (classroom instruction), demonstrated and tested. The Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC), Firearms Training Unit (FTU) is responsible for facilitating procedures for instructor and program approvals. All ECD application forms must be mailed to the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions, Firearms Training Unit, 7320 Slacks Road, Sykesville, Maryland 21784

Any officer previously trained and currently approved by his/her correctional unit or law enforcement agency to carry or use an ECD prior to September 30, 2009 does not have to repeat initial ECD training. However, these officers must complete an approved annual in-service training program.

Any officer not previously authorized and/or who has not received training that meets annual ECD in-service requirements within the last two years on a particular manufacturer and model ECD must complete initial training requirements and thereafter complete annual in-service training requirements.

PROCEDURES TO OBTAIN ECD INSTRUCTOR AND TRAINING PROGRAM APPROVALS

Instructor Application –

The application for ECD Instructor is available on MPCTC's website at www.MDLE.net. To receive ECD Instructor certification the applicant must complete the application form in its entirety; including the specific type(s) *Manufacturer and Model* of ECD they have been trained in and are seeking instructor certification. A copy of the certificate of

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successful completion of training must be submitted for each type Manufacturer and Model of ECD the instructor applicant is seeking.

Program Approval Application –

Program approval applications for initial and annual in-service training are available on MPCTC's website at www.MDLE.net. A separate application for a training program approval request must be submitted for each specific Manufacturer and Model of ECD approved for use by his/her correctional unit or law enforcement agency.

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING TO MPCTC COMPLETED ECD TRAINING

An officer's successful completion of ECD training must be reported to MPCTC prior to giving an officer authorization to carry or use any ECD.

Completion of Training Form -

Completion of ECD training (initial and annual) MUST be reported to MPCTC via the ECD Training Reporting Form available on MPCTC's website at www.MDLE.net. The ECD Training Reporting Form must be completed in its entirety and submitted by email to the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions, Attn: Michael Mullin mmullin@dpscs.state.md.us.

If an agency/unit wishes to apply ECD training towards an officer's annual in-service training requirements, reporting completion of ECD training for in-service credit will be completed in the same manner as any other approved annual in-service program. Reporting for annual in-service credit is in addition to, not in lieu of, the above ECD training reporting requirements.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Michael Mullin, FTU Rangemaster @ 410-552-6300 or mmullin@dpscs.state.md.us.

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