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PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE
Title 3 – Law Enforcement
Subtitle 2- Police Training Commission
Annotated Code of Maryland

The following is a list of the Sections in Public Safety Article, Title 3, Subtitle 2. The statutory text of these Sections follows this list:

Subtitle 2. Police Training Commission.	<u>Page</u>
3-201. Definitions.....	2-3
3-202. Established.....	3
3-203. Membership.....	3-4
3-204. Officers.....	4
3-205. Quorum; Meetings; Compensation; Records.....	4
3-206. Staff.....	5
3-207. General Powers and Duties of Commission.....	5-6
3-208. Regulations.....	6-7
3-209. Certification of Police Officers.....	7
3-210. Lapse of Certification - In General.....	7-8
3-211. Same - Failure to Meet Standards.....	8
3-212. Suspensions and Revocations of Certification; Hearings; Judicial Review.....	8-9
3-213. Recall of Certificate.....	9
3-214. Recertification after Revoked Certification.....	9
3-215. Appointment of Police Officers, Police Supervisors, and Police Administrators.....	9
3-216. Employment of Individual without Certification Prohibited.....	10
3-217. Acting as Police Officer with Lapsed, Suspended, or Revoked Certificate Prohibited.....	10
3-218. Effect of Subtitle.....	10

§ 3-201. Definitions.

- (a) In general.- In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) Commission.- "**Commission**" means the Police Training Commission.
- (c) Department.- "**Department**" means the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.
- (d) Law enforcement agency.-
- (1) "**Law enforcement agency**" means a governmental police force, sheriff's office, or security force or law enforcement organization of the State, a county, or a municipal corporation that by statute, ordinance, or common law is authorized to enforce the general criminal laws of the State.
- (2) "Law enforcement agency" does not include members of the Maryland National Guard who:
- (i) are under the control and jurisdiction of the Military Department;
 - (ii) are assigned to the military property designated as the Glenn L. Martin State Airport; and
 - (iii) are charged with exercising police powers in and for the Glenn L. Martin State Airport.
- (e) Police officer.-
- (1) "**Police officer**" means an individual who:
- (i) is authorized to enforce the general criminal laws of the State; and
 - (ii) is a member of one of the following law enforcement agencies:
 1. the Department of State Police;
 2. the Police Department of Baltimore City;
 3. the police department, bureau, or force of a county;
 4. the police department, bureau, or force of a municipal corporation;
 5. the Maryland Transit Administration police force;
 6. the Maryland Transportation Authority Police;
 7. the police forces of the University System of Maryland;
 8. the police force of Morgan State University;
 9. the office of the sheriff of a county;
 10. the police forces of the Department of Natural Resources;
 11. the police force of the Department of General Services;
 12. the police force of a State, county, or municipal corporation if the special police officers are appointed under Subtitle 3 of this title;
 13. the Housing Authority of Baltimore City Police Force;
 14. the Baltimore City School Police Force;
 15. the Crofton Police Department;
 16. the police force of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation;
 17. the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Police Force;
 18. the Ocean Pines Police Department;
 19. the police force of the Baltimore City Community College;
 20. the police force of the Hagerstown Community College; or
 21. the Parole and Probation employees of the Warrant Apprehension Unit of the Division of Parole and Probation in the Department who are authorized to make arrests.

(2) "Police officer" includes:

- (i) a member of the Field Enforcement Bureau of the Comptroller's Office;
- (ii) the State Fire Marshal or a deputy State fire marshal;
- (iii) an investigator of the Internal Investigative Unit of the Department;
- (iv) a Montgomery County fire and explosive investigator as defined in § 2-208.1 of the Criminal Procedure Article;
- (v) an Anne Arundel County or City of Annapolis fire and explosive investigator as defined in § 2-208.2 of the Criminal Procedure Article;
- (vi) a Prince George's County fire and explosive investigator as defined in § 2-208.3 of the Criminal Procedure Article;
- (vii) a Worcester County fire and explosive investigator as defined in § 2-208.4 of the Criminal Procedure Article; and
- (viii) a City of Hagerstown fire and explosive investigator as defined in § 2-208.5 of the Criminal Procedure Article.

(3) "Police officer" does not include:

- (i) an individual who serves as a police officer only because the individual occupies another office or position;
- (ii) a sheriff, the Secretary of State Police, a commissioner of police, a deputy or assistant commissioner of police, a chief of police, a deputy or assistant chief of police, or another individual with an equivalent title who is appointed or employed by a government to exercise equivalent supervisory authority; or
- (iii) a member of the Maryland National Guard who:
 - 1. is under the control and jurisdiction of the Military Department;
 - 2. is assigned to the military property designated as the Glenn L. Martin State Airport; and
 - 3. is charged with exercising police powers in and for the Glenn L. Martin State Airport.

(f) Secretary.- "**Secretary**" means the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

§ 3-202. Established.

There is a Police Training Commission in the Department.

§ 3-203. Membership.

(a) Composition; appointment of members.-

- (1) The Commission consists of 15 members.
- (2) Of the 15 members of the Commission:
 - (i) one shall be the President of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association;
 - (ii) one shall be the President of the Maryland Sheriffs Association;
 - (iii) one shall be the President of the Maryland Law Enforcement Officers, Inc.;
 - (iv) one shall be the Attorney General of the State;
 - (v) one shall be the Secretary of State Police;
 - (vi) one shall be the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City;
 - (vii) one shall be the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland;
 - (viii) one shall be the agent in charge of the Baltimore office of the F.B.I.;

- (ix) one shall be the President of the Eastern Shore Police Association;
 - (x) one shall represent the Maryland State Lodge of Fraternal Order of Police;
 - (xi) one shall be the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services;
 - (xii) one shall be the Chairman of the Maryland Municipal League Police Executive Association;
- and
- (xiii) three shall be police officials of the State appointed under subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Police official members.-

(1) The Secretary shall appoint the three police officials to be members of the Commission with the approval of the Governor and the advice and consent of the Senate.

(2) The three members appointed under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall represent different geographic areas of the State.

(c) Tenure; vacancies.-

(1) The term of a member who is appointed under subsection (b) of this section is 3 years.

(2) The terms of the members who are appointed under subsection (b) of this section are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Commission on October 1, 2003.

(3) At the end of a term, a member who is appointed under subsection (b) of this section continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the remainder of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(d) Designation of representatives.- Except for the three members appointed by the Secretary under subsection (b) of this section, a member of the Commission may serve personally at a Commission meeting or may designate a representative from the member's unit, agency, or association who may act at any meeting to the same effect as if the member were personally present.

§ 3-204. Officers.

(a) Chairman.- The Secretary of State Police is the chairman of the Commission.

(b) Vice chairman.- The Commission annually shall elect a vice chairman from among its members.

§ 3-205. Quorum; meetings; compensation; records.

(a) Quorum.- A majority of the Commission is a quorum.

(b) Meetings.- The Commission shall meet in the State at the times that it or its chairman determines.

(c) Compensation.- A member of the Commission:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(d) Records.- The Commission shall:

(1) maintain minutes of its meetings and any other records that it considers necessary; and

(2) provide information, on request, regarding the budget, activities, and programs of the Commission.

§ 3-206. Staff.

(a) Executive director.-

(1) With the approval of the Secretary, the Commission shall appoint an executive director.

(2) The executive director shall perform general administrative and training management functions.

(3) The executive director serves at the pleasure of the Commission.

(b) Deputy director; administrative employees.-

(1) With the approval of the Secretary, the Commission shall appoint a deputy director and any other employees that the Commission considers necessary to perform general administrative and training management functions.

(2) The deputy director and other employees appointed under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall serve at the pleasure of the Commission.

(c) Other employees.- With the approval of the Secretary, the Commission shall employ other individuals as necessary to carry out this subtitle.

(d) Compensation.- The executive director, deputy director, and other employees of the Commission are entitled to receive compensation as established by the Commission in accordance with the State budget.

§ 3-207. General powers and duties of Commission.

Subject to the authority of the Secretary, the Commission has the following powers and duties:

(1) to establish standards for the approval and continuation of approval of schools that conduct police entrance-level and in-service training courses required by the Commission, including State, regional, county, and municipal training schools;

(2) to approve and issue certificates of approval to police training schools;

(3) to inspect police training schools;

(4) to revoke, for cause, the approval or certificate of approval issued to a police training school;

(5) to establish the following for police training schools:

(i) curriculum;

(ii) minimum courses of study;

(iii) attendance requirements;

(iv) eligibility requirements;

(v) equipment and facilities;

(vi) standards of operation; and

(vii) minimum qualifications for instructors;

(6) to require, for entrance-level police training and at least every 3 years for in-service level police training conducted by the State and each county and municipal police training school, that the curriculum and minimum courses of study include special training, attention to, and study of the application and enforcement of:

(i) the criminal laws concerning rape and sexual offenses, including the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and related evidentiary procedures;

(ii) the contact with and treatment of victims of crimes and delinquent acts;

- (iii) the notices, services, support, and rights available to victims and victims' representatives under State law; and
- (iv) the notification of victims of identity fraud and related crimes of their rights under federal law;
- (7) to certify and issue appropriate certificates to qualified instructors for police training schools authorized by the Commission to offer police training programs;
- (8) to verify that police officers have satisfactorily completed training programs and issue diplomas to those police officers;
- (9) to conduct and operate police training schools authorized by the Commission to offer police training programs;
- (10) to make a continuous study of entrance-level and in-service training methods and procedures;
- (11) to consult with and accept the cooperation of any recognized federal, State, or municipal law enforcement agency or educational institution;
- (12) to consult and cooperate with universities, colleges, and institutions in the State to develop specialized courses of study for police officers in police science and police administration;
- (13) to consult and cooperate with other agencies and units of the State concerned with police training;
- (14) to develop, with the cooperation of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a uniform missing person report form to be available for use by each law enforcement agency of the State on or before October 1, 2008;
- (15) to require, for entrance-level police training and annually for in-service level police training conducted by the State and each county and municipal police training school, that the curriculum and minimum courses of study include, for police officers who are issued an electronic control device by a law enforcement agency, special training in the proper use of electronic control devices, as defined in § 4-109 of the Criminal law Article, consistent with established law enforcement standards and federal and State constitutional provisions;
- (16) to develop, with the cooperation of the Office of the Attorney General, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, and the Federal Trade Commission, a uniform identity fraud reporting form that:
 - (i) makes transmitted data available on or before October 1, 2011, for use by each law enforcement agency of State and local government; and
 - (ii) may authorize the data to be transmitted to the Consumer Sentinel program in the Federal Trade Commission; and
- (17) to perform any other act that is necessary or appropriate to carry out the powers and duties of the Commission under this subtitle.

§ 3-208. Regulations.

- (a) In general.- Subject to the authority of the Secretary, the Commission has the following powers and duties:
 - (1) to adopt regulations necessary or appropriate to carry out this subtitle; and
 - (2) to adopt regulations that establish and enforce standards for prior substance abuse by individuals applying for certification as a police officer.
- (b) Certified firearms safety training course - In general.- Subject to subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the Commission shall adopt regulations on or before January 1, 2001, for a certified firearms safety training course required for an applicant for a regulated firearms purchase, rental, or transfer made on or after January 1, 2002.

(c) Same - Entities offering or conducting course.- The certified firearms safety training course required under subsection (b) of this section shall:

(1) be offered by the Commission; or

(2) contain a handgun safety component and be conducted by an individual or organization certified by:

(i) the Commission;

(ii) the Department of Natural Resources;

(iii) the Department of State Police; or

(iv) any reputable organization:

1. that has as one of its objectives the promotion of competency and safety in handling handguns; and

2. whose course has been determined by the Commission to meet the regulations adopted by the Commission.

(d) Same - Requirements for course offered by Commission.- Any course offered by the Commission under subsection (c) of this section:

(1) shall be offered free of charge or fee;

(2) may not be more than 2 hours in duration;

(3) shall be conducted or offered at least once each week in all geographic areas of the State;

(4) shall be available after regular business hours;

(5) shall be open to each individual required by law to complete the firearms safety training course, within 2 weeks after request of the individual;

(6) shall only require attendance throughout the duration of the course in order to complete the course successfully; and

(7) may not require any skills or knowledge testing in the use of a regulated firearm in order to complete the course successfully.

§ 3-209. Certification of police officers.

(a) In general.- The Commission shall certify as a police officer each individual who:

(1) satisfactorily meets the standards of the Commission; or

(2) provides the Commission with sufficient evidence that the individual has satisfactorily completed a training program in another state of equal quality and content as required by the Commission.

(b) Certification of other individuals authorized.- The Commission may certify as a police officer an individual who is not considered a police officer under § 3-201(e)(3) of this subtitle if the individual meets the selection and training standards of the Commission.

(c) Certificate remains property of Commission.- Each certificate issued to a police officer under this subtitle remains the property of the Commission.

§ 3-210. Lapse of certification - In general.

(a) Automatic lapse of certification.- The certification of a police officer automatically lapses 3 years after the date of the previous certification.

(b) Application for recertification.- If the certification of a police officer lapses, the police officer may apply for recertification immediately.

(c) Authority of Commission to recertify.- The Commission may recertify a police officer after the certification of the police officer lapses.

§ 3-211. Same - Failure to meet standards.

(a) In general.- If the certification of a police officer is in danger of lapsing or has lapsed because of the failure of the police officer to meet the standards of the Commission, the police officer may request a hearing before the Commission to present evidence that:

- (1) the police officer's law enforcement agency unreasonably failed to provide the police officer with the required training or assigned the police officer to special duty that prevented the police officer from completing the required training to achieve this certification; and
- (2) this failure is through no fault of the police officer.

(b) Hearing required.-

(1) On request of the police officer for a hearing under this section, the Commission shall hold a hearing.

(2) For purposes of this subsection, the Commission shall follow the procedures required for a hearing board under the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights and the police officer is entitled to all of the rights provided under the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights.

(c) Stay of lapse of certification.- If the Commission concludes that the police officer's law enforcement agency unreasonably failed to provide the police officer with the required training or assigned the police officer to special duty that prevented the police officer from completing the required training to achieve certification:

- (1) the Commission shall stay the lapse of the certification until the police officer and the police officer's law enforcement agency meet the training requirements of the Commission;
- (2) the police officer shall be retained in the police officer's law enforcement agency at full pay pending the completion of the training; and
- (3) the Commission shall order the police officer's law enforcement agency to pay all reasonable hearing costs and attorney's fees incurred as a result of the action.

§ 3-212. Suspensions and revocations of certification; hearings; judicial review.

(a) Grounds for suspensions and revocations.- Subject to the hearing provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the Commission may suspend or revoke the certification of a police officer if the police officer:

- (1) violates or fails to meet the Commission's standards; or
- (2) knowingly fails to report suspected child abuse in violation of § 5-704 of the Family Law Article.

(b) Hearings.-

(1) Except as otherwise provided in Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article, before the Commission takes any final action under subsection (a) of this section, the Commission shall give

the individual against whom the action is contemplated an opportunity for a hearing before the Commission.

(2) The Commission shall give notice and hold the hearing in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

(c) Judicial review.- A police officer aggrieved by the findings and order of the Commission may take an appeal as allowed in §§ 10-222 and 10-223 of the State Government Article.

§ 3-213. Recall of certificate.

The Commission may recall the certificate of a police officer if the certification of the police officer is suspended or revoked for any of the following reasons:

- (1) the certificate was issued by administrative error;
- (2) the certificate was obtained through misrepresentation or fraud;
- (3) the police officer has been convicted of a felony; or
- (4) the police officer has been convicted of a misdemeanor for which a sentence of imprisonment exceeding 1 year may be imposed.

§ 3-214. Recertification after revoked certification.

(a) In general.- If the certification of a police officer is revoked, the police officer may not apply for recertification until 2 years after the effective date of the revocation order.

(b) Authority of Commission to recertify.- The Commission may recertify an individual as a police officer after the certification of the police officer is revoked.

§ 3-215. Appointment of police officers, police supervisors, and police administrators.

(a) Definitions.-

- (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (2) "Permanent appointment" means the appointment of an individual who has satisfactorily met the minimum standards of the Commission and is certified as a police officer.
- (3) "Police administrator" means a police officer who has been promoted to first-line administrative duties up to but not exceeding the rank of captain.
- (4) "Police supervisor" means a police officer who has been promoted to first-line supervisory duties.

(b) Qualifications.- An individual may not be given or accept a probationary appointment or permanent appointment as a police officer, police supervisor, or police administrator unless the individual satisfactorily meets the qualifications established by the Commission.

(c) Probationary appointment for training.- A probationary appointment as a police officer, police supervisor, or police administrator may be made for a period not exceeding 1 year to enable the individual seeking permanent appointment to take a training course required by this subtitle.

(d) Leave of absence.- A probationary appointee is entitled to a leave of absence with pay during the period of the training program.

§ 3-216. Employment of individual without certification prohibited.

(a) In general.- A law enforcement agency may not employ an individual as a police officer for a period not exceeding 1 year unless the individual is certified by the Commission.

(b) Exception.-

(1) In this subsection, "nonfull-time police officer" means an individual who does not work in the law enforcement field at least 7 months during the calendar year.

(2) The certification requirements of subsection (a) of this section do not apply to the nonfull-time police officers of a law enforcement agency that:

- (i) employs, during a calendar year, at least 70 full-time sworn police officers; and
- (ii) employs at least 100 nonfull-time police officers.

§ 3-217. Acting as police officer with lapsed, suspended, or revoked certificate prohibited.

An individual may not serve as a police officer when the certification of the police officer has lapsed or has been suspended or revoked by the Commission.

§ 3-218. Effect of subtitle.

(a) On local government.- Except as expressly provided in this subtitle, this subtitle does not limit the powers, rights, duties, or responsibilities of the government of a county or municipal corporation.

(b) Conflicting law superseded.- This subtitle supersedes any law, ordinance, or regulation of the State, a county, or a municipal corporation that conflicts with this subtitle.