

1 AN ACT relating to the certification of peace officers.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 15 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) Any person who is at least twenty (20) years of age shall be eligible to be*
6 *employed by a law enforcement agency for the purpose of attending a basic*
7 *training course as defined in KRS 15.310 if he or she will be twenty-one (21)*
8 *years of age at the time of becoming certified under KRS 15.380 to 15.404.*

9 *(2) The Kentucky Law Enforcement Council shall allow a person employed under*
10 *subsection (1) of this section to attend a basic training course as defined in KRS*
11 *15.310 if the person will be twenty-one (21) years of age by the conclusion of the*
12 *basic training course.*

13 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 67C IS CREATED TO
14 READ AS FOLLOWS:

15 *(1) Any person who is at least twenty (20) years of age shall be eligible to be*
16 *employed by a consolidated local government police force for the purpose of*
17 *attending a basic training course as defined in KRS 15.310 if he or she will be*
18 *twenty-one (21) years of age at the time of becoming certified under KRS 15.380*
19 *to 15.404.*

20 *(2) The Kentucky Law Enforcement Council shall allow a person employed under*
21 *subsection (1) of this section to attend a basic training course as defined in KRS*
22 *15.310 if the person will be twenty-one (21) years of age by the conclusion of the*
23 *basic training course.*

24 ➔SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 95 IS CREATED TO
25 READ AS FOLLOWS:

26 *(1) Any person who is at least twenty (20) years of age shall be eligible to be*
27 *employed by an urban-county government police force for the purpose of*

1 attending a basic training course as defined in KRS 15.310 if he or she will be
 2 twenty-one (21) years of age at the time of becoming certified under KRS 15.380
 3 to 15.404.

4 (2) The Kentucky Law Enforcement Council shall allow a person employed under
 5 subsection (1) of this section to attend a basic training course as defined in KRS
 6 15.310 if the person will be twenty-one (21) years of age by the conclusion of the
 7 basic training course.

8 ➔Section 4. KRS 15.386 is amended to read as follows:

9 The following certification categories shall exist:

10 (1) "Precertification status" means that the officer is currently employed or appointed
 11 by an agency and:

12 (a) Meets or exceeds all those minimum qualifications set forth in KRS 15.382,
 13 but has not successfully completed a basic training course, except those peace
 14 officers covered by KRS 15.400. Upon the council's verification that the
 15 minimum qualifications have been met and approval from the employing
 16 agency, the officer shall have full peace officer powers as authorized under
 17 the statute under which he or she was appointed or employed. If an officer
 18 fails to successfully complete a basic training course within one (1) year of
 19 employment, his or her enforcement powers shall automatically terminate,
 20 unless that officer is actively enrolled and participating in a basic training
 21 course or, after having begun a basic training course, is on an approved
 22 extension of time due to injury or extenuating circumstances; or

23 (b) Does not meet the minimum qualifications set forth in KRS 15.382 because
 24 the officer is not twenty-one (21) years of age. Upon the council's
 25 verification that the minimum qualifications have been met, successful
 26 completion of a basic training course, and approval from the employing
 27 agency, the officer shall have full peace officer powers as authorized by the

1 **statute under which he or she was appointed or employed;**

- 2 (2) "Certification status" means that unless the certification is in revoked status or
 3 inactive status, the officer is currently employed or appointed by an agency and has
 4 met all training requirements. The officer shall have full peace officer powers as
 5 authorized under the statute under which he or she was appointed or employed;
- 6 (3) (a) "Inactive status" means that unless the certification is in revoked status:
- 7 1. The person has been separated on or after December 1, 1998, from the
 8 agency by which he or she was employed or appointed and has no peace
 9 officer powers; or
- 10 2. The person is on military active duty for a period exceeding three
 11 hundred sixty-five (365) days.
- 12 (b) The person may remain on inactive status. A person who is on inactive status
 13 and who returns to a peace officer position shall have certification status
 14 restored if he or she meets the requirements of KRS 15.400(1) or (2) or has
 15 successfully completed a basic training course approved and recognized by
 16 the council, has not committed an act for which his or her certified status may
 17 be revoked pursuant to KRS 15.391 and successfully completes in-service
 18 training as prescribed by the council, as follows:
- 19 1. If the person has been on inactive status for a period of less than three
 20 (3) years, and the person was not in training deficiency status at the time
 21 of separation, he or she shall complete:
- 22 a. The twenty-four (24) hour legal update Penal Code course;
- 23 b. The sixteen (16) hour legal update constitutional procedure course;
- 24 and
- 25 c. The mandatory training course approved by the Kentucky Law
 26 Enforcement Council, pursuant to KRS 15.334, for the year in
 27 which he or she returns to certification status; or

- 1 2. If the person has been on inactive status for a period of three (3) years or
 2 more, or the person was in training deficiency status at the time of
 3 separation, he or she shall complete:
- 4 a. The twenty-four (24) hour legal update Penal Code course;
- 5 b. The sixteen (16) hour legal update constitutional procedure course;
- 6 c. The mandatory training course approved by the Kentucky Law
 7 Enforcement Council, pursuant to KRS 15.334, for the year in
 8 which he or she returns to certification status; and
- 9 d. One (1) of the following forty (40) hour courses which is most
 10 appropriate for the officer's duty assignment:
- 11 i. Basic officer skills;
- 12 ii. Orientation for new police chiefs; or
- 13 iii. Mandatory duties of the sheriff.
- 14 (c) A person returning from inactive to active certification after June 26, 2007,
 15 under KRS 15.380 to 15.404, shall meet the following minimum
 16 qualifications:
- 17 1. Be a citizen of the United States;
- 18 2. Possess a valid license to operate a motor vehicle;
- 19 3. Be fingerprinted for a criminal background check;
- 20 4. Not have been convicted of any felony; a misdemeanor under KRS
 21 510.120, 510.130, or 510.140; a second or subsequent offense under
 22 KRS 510.148; or a criminal attempt, conspiracy, facilitation, or
 23 solicitation to commit any degree of rape, sodomy, sexual abuse, or
 24 sexual misconduct;
- 25 5. Not be prohibited by federal or state law from possessing a firearm;
- 26 6. Have received and read the Kentucky Law Enforcement Officers Code
 27 of Ethics as established by the council;

- 1 7. Have not received a dishonorable discharge, bad conduct discharge, or
2 general discharge under other than honorable conditions, if having
3 served in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States;
- 4 8. Have been interviewed by the employing agency; and
- 5 9. Not have had certification as a peace officer permanently revoked in
6 another state;
- 7 (4) "Training deficiency status" means that unless the certification is in revoked status
8 or inactive status, the officer is currently employed or appointed by an agency and
9 has failed to meet all in-service training requirements. The officer's enforcement
10 powers shall automatically terminate, and he or she shall not exercise peace officer
11 powers in the Commonwealth until he or she has corrected the in-service training
12 deficiency;
- 13 (5) "Revoked status" means that the officer has no enforcement powers and his or her
14 certification has been revoked by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council under
15 KRS 15.391; and
- 16 (6) "Denied status" means that a person does not meet the requirements to achieve
17 precertification status or certification status.
- 18 The design of a certificate may be changed periodically. When a new certificate is
19 produced, it shall be distributed free of charge to each currently certified peace officer.