

CONSTABLES' TRAINING BULLETIN

NUMBER 110**FEBRUARY 2023**

Constable and Magisterial District Justice Appointed to Board

The Board Members and Program Staff would like to welcome Constable Harry Albert and Magisterial District Justice Wilden Davis to the Board as new members.

Constable Harry Albert was elected constable in 1997 and began providing judiciary support in 1998 and continues to the present. He gained experience and vast understanding of how Pennsylvania Courts operate and developed a mailing campaign designed to have as many Magisterial District Justice warrants collected and/or responded to as possible. Constable Albert has an extensive background in business finance focusing on budgeting, project management, and leadership, and forecasting. Constable Albert's background also focuses on the importance of training and the use of data to develop key performance indicators. He also focuses on compliance, policies, and grass roots soliciting. Constable Albert has had various leadership roles on boards including his community's Volunteer Fire Company Social Club and the Mid-Atlantic Collectors Association.

Judge Wilden Davis attended Morris College in Sumter, South Carolina, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. After graduation he began working at Lima Juvenile Detention Center, in Lima, Pennsylvania. After a year of working at the Juvenile Detention Center, Judge Davis acquired a position with Delaware County Adult Probation/Parole at his height of providing services overseeing two hundred Probationers/Parolees. In 2007, Judge Davis moved to North Carolina where he worked as a State Probation/Parole Officer for the state of North Carolina. In 2008, Judge Davis began employment at Devereux Foundation which catered to children with special needs. Judge Davis worked at Devereux for three years, prior to running for the office Magisterial District Judge. In 2011, Judge Davis was elected to be the Magisterial District Justice for the city of Chester to serve a six-year term in office. Judge Davis was reelected for an additional 6-year term in November of 2017. Judge Davis is a past president of the Delaware County Magisterial District Judges Association, and is a past president of District 11, which consists of Delaware County, Chester County, and Philadelphia Municipal Court Judges. Judge Davis is currently the 1st Vice President of the Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania.

The Board and PCCD Program Staff look forward to working with the new appointees, and utilizing their backgrounds to enhance the membership of the Board.

**Constables' Education and Training
Board Members:**

**Board Chair – Craig Westover
Vice Chair – Patricia Norwood-Foden**

**Judge Wilden Davis
Harry Albert
Francis C. Peitz, Jr.
Major William Cawley**



**Vacant
Chairman, PCCD**

**Michael Pennington
Executive Director, PCCD**

**John Pfau
Manager,
Bureau of Training Services**

2023 Course Evaluations

The Course/Instructor Evaluations have been changed in 2023 to utilize a SCANTRON form to capture course and instructor assessments. Constables will need to use a black or blue pen to complete the SCANTRON document and each circle must be filled in completely for the scanning equipment to properly scan the form. There will also be a section for comments and feedback. The Board members and Program Staff do read the comments or feedback to assist with future curriculum subject material.

2023 Continuing Education Subjects and Canvas Online Information

A Canvas Tutorial and User Guide are available at: <https://www.pccd.pa.gov/training/Pages/CANVAS.aspx>. Please review this tutorial and user guide for detailed information on how to access and utilize Canvas.

Canvas login questions should be directed to Temple's Help Desk at 267-468-8605 for assistance.

You must complete ALL THREE online subjects in addition to the 8-Hour classroom Prisoner Transports subject to maintain your certification into 2024. The 2023 online subjects are: De-Escalation (4-Hours), Disease of Addiction (4-Hours) and Legal Updates (3-Hours).

Each subject is broken down into multiple "modules" that you will view through the videos. Throughout the course there are several "quizzes" or "knowledge checks" that you must complete throughout the online subject material; however, these quizzes or knowledge checks are NOT the final examination. They are the equivalent of the "Checking your Understanding" reviews you experience in the classroom setting.

While reviewing the online subject material, if you log out of Canvas and log back in, Canvas will resume the online training where you were when you logged out.

2023 80-Hour Basic Training and 40-Hour Basic Firearms Training Courses

There are currently four of the six scheduled 80-Hour Basic Training Courses that will be combined or cancelled if enrollments remain below the course minimum. The minimum enrollment for the Basic Training is 14. If these courses are cancelled or combined it will also affect the scheduled 40-Hour Basic Firearms Training Courses. Any interested constables or deputy constables should complete the required enrollment form and submit the class payment as soon as possible to ensure a spot in one of the offered courses.

Liability Insurance

Act 49 states that any constable or deputy constable who fails, neglects, or refuses to maintain a current insurance policy as required, or to file proof thereof with the clerk of courts, shall cease automatically to be certified to perform judicial duties upon the expiration of the policy of which proof has been filed with the County Clerk of Courts. In order to ensure uninterrupted constable certification, it is essential that every constable file a new certificate of insurance with the County Clerk of Courts before the current insurance policy expires.

Fitness for Firearms Training

Constables who currently wear eye glasses or contacts should have their eyes checked prior to attending an Annual Firearms Qualification Course. This will help to alleviate any potential qualification or firearms safety issues that may arise on the range due to these conditions. It is important to be fit on the firearms range, both physically and mentally. In the event a constable is feeling under the weather due to a cold/flu or some other medical condition, and has an upcoming firearms training class scheduled, he/she may want to reschedule to a class later in the year.

If a constable elects to participate in the class, and fails to qualify, it is a failure. A medical reason after a failure does not negate the failure. If a medical issue comes up, a constable should notify the Training Coordinator prior to the beginning of the Annual Firearms. It is more cost effective for a Constable to take an Excused Absence and be able to enroll into a new Annual Firearms at no charge, than to attempt an Annual Firearms, fail, and then pay to retake the course.

Duty Ammunition required at Annual Firearms

Due to increased availability of ammunition, ball ammunition will no longer be permitted the Constable Qualification Course (CQC). Constables must provide 120 rounds of newly manufactured duty ammunition for qualification (no reloads are permitted).

Per Board Regulation:

Title 37 Pa Code §431.43. Firearm and ammunition.

- (a) As a prerequisite for attending a firearms qualification course, a constable shall provide at all times during the course of firearm and ammunition, magazines, speed loaders, safety accessories and cleaning equipment specific to the firearm. The board will provide ammunition to the constable for use during instruction. **The constable shall provide ammunition for use during the qualification test.***
- (b) The Firearm provided shall be of a design generally acceptable for law enforcement usage, and shall be in the condition for safe operation as designed and intended by the firearm manufacturer. The firearm provided shall be one of the following calibers: (1) .380; (2) .38 Special; (3) .357; (4) .40; (5) .45; (6) 9 mm.*
- (c) **The ammunition provided shall be of a type and design generally acceptable law enforcement usage, and may not be remanufactured or reloaded.***

Weapon Optics Information for Basic Firearms, and Annual Firearms

At the August 11, 2022 Board meeting, the Board recommended that effective January 1, 2023, no weapon mounted optics could be used during future Basic Firearms Training Courses. This Course must be successfully completed only using open (“iron”) sights.

Weapon mounted optics are permitted at the 5-Hour Annual Firearms Qualification Courses.

Confirmation Letters

If a Constable has not received their Confirmation Letters for Basic Training, Basic Firearms, Continuing Education, and/or Annual Firearms, they should check their email inbox for Confirmation Letters **from the Training Delivery Contractors, Anthony Luongo-Temple (anthony.luongo@temple.edu) Mucha-PSU-JASI (txm52@psu.edu)**. If a Constable is not finding their Confirmation Letter in their inbox, they should check their spam and junk folders. A Constable can do an online search on how to move emails from their spam and junk folders to ensure that emails from the Training Delivery Contractors are sent directly to their inbox.

As a reminder Program Staff only sends out electronic communication and does not send physical mail through the US Postal Service. It is the Constable's responsibility to update their CCETS profile if they are using a new or different email address. Program Staff cannot provide technical support on how to use personal email.

Early Arrival at First Night of Basic Training

Constables attending the 80-Hour Basic Training course must arrive at 5:30 p.m. on the first Friday night of the Training to complete administrative paperwork and have their constable photo taken. This is also mentioned in the confirmation letter.

Class Failures and Payments

Program Staff and the Training Delivery Coordinators need at least two weeks to process the class grades. If failures occur, the class grades must be processed and the failure payment received by Program Staff before enrollment can be made into a "retake" class. Constables cannot fail at a class one weekend and be enrolled into a class the following weekend due to receiving, and processing failure payments. Instructors cannot take class payments for any reason, and if the constable is not on the class roster they will not be admitted into the class for any reason.

Contact Information

The Training Delivery Constables' Coordinators contact information is as follows:

East Region: Anthony Luongo, Temple University, Constables Training Coordinator – 267-468-8661 (work) – anthony.luongo@temple.edu (Email)

West Region: Tony Mucha, PSU-Justice & Safety Institute (JASI) – 814-865-8051 (work) – txm52@psu.edu (Email)

If you have questions regarding certification, training, insurance, or where to send your election certificate or appointment order, Program Staff are available by both email and phone, see below.

THESE ARE NOT CONTACTS FOR CLASS ENROLLMENT

Tracy Beaver – trabeaver@pa.gov and 717-265-8552

Nick Hartman – nihartman@pa.gov and 717-265-8551

Sherry Leffler – sleffler@pa.gov and 717-265-8554