

IMPLEMENTATION OF PA 96-1111

Lead Homicide Investigator Training and Certification

On March 3rd, 2011, at the Quarterly Board meeting in Springfield, the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board approved the Lead Homicide Investigator Training Advisory Committee's recommendations to comply with Public Act 96-1111. This act requires the Training Board to conduct or approve homicide investigation courses. Only law enforcement officers who successfully complete the training program or receive a waiver of compliance based on prior training and/or experience as a homicide investigator may be assigned as lead investigators in death and homicide investigations.

The Lead Homicide Investigator Training Advisory Committees made the following recommendations:

- A 40-hour homicide investigation course shall be successfully completed by the officer. All courses must be submitted to and receive prior approval from the Training Board to become a certified homicide investigation course.
- The Board will develop a process for waiver applications sent by the agency administrator for those officers whose prior training and experience as homicide investigators may qualify them for a waiver. The Board may issue a waiver at its discretion, based solely on the prior training and experience of the officers as a homicide investigator. No partial waivers shall be granted.
- Only full-time and part-time sworn law enforcement officers in the State of Illinois shall be eligible to receive a certificate designating the officer as a Lead Homicide Investigator. Part-time officers are not eligible to receive a waiver and must successfully complete the 40-hour course to receive a certificate.
- The certificates issued shall require officers to receive 32 hours of continuing education on a variety of subjects related to the investigations of homicides to keep their certificate current by the end of four (4) years from the date of issuance of the certificate.

Mobile Training Units and Basic academies will be able to receive an outline of course requirements from the Training Board. These requirements will be the basis by which Board staff will review all Homicide Investigation courses and submit them for Board approval at the June Quarterly Board meeting.

By June 30th, we hope to have the waiver process completed and agencies interested in having their Lead Homicide Investigator(s) waived from training will be able to submit the waiver application(s) to the Training Board for consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact Manager of Operations Jennifer Wooldridge, Manager of Mandated Training Cora Beem, Deputy Director Larry Smith, or Program Manager Lennora Burnom at the Training Board (217-782-4540).