

Florida Department of Law Enforcement

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September 6, 2013

CRIMINAL JUSTICE STANDARDS and TRAINING COMMISSION **TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM 2013-12**

TO:

Criminal Justice Agencies

Criminal Justice Training Center Directors

FROM:

Director Jennifer C. Pritt
Criminal Justice Professionalism

SUBJECT:

Law Enforcement Driving Task Force Recommendations

In the spring of 2012, criminal justice partners from the Florida Highway Patrol, Florida Sheriffs' Association, and Florida Police Chiefs' Association formed the Law Enforcement Driving Task Force to address errant officer driving behavior. The task force consisted of the following members: Colonel David Brierton, Florida Highway Patrol, Sarasota County Sheriff Tom Knight, and Winter Park Police Chief Brett Railey. Dr. James Sewell facilitated the first meeting that was held on April 6, 2012. Two subsequent meetings were held on August 1, 2012 and on July 10, 2013. The task force also received input from a training subcommittee that was comprised of FDLE's Criminal Justice Professionalism staff and members of the Florida Criminal Justice Training Center Directors Association. This subcommittee convened three public meetings in 2012, May 9th (Naples), July 17th (Orlando) and August 7th (Ponte Vedra) to assess potential training issues associated with the larger task force goals.

The task force recognizes the importance of safe and responsible vehicle operation by all Florida law enforcement officers. During the course of the discussions, the overall consensus of the group was that most of the excessive speeding and aggressive driving committed by officers stems from adverse behavior and poor decision making, not from a lack of training. The task force supported a model vehicle operations policy which can be found on the Law Enforcement Driving Task Force website. The group also voted to support a recommendation that law enforcement agencies conduct training on ethics related to unsafe driving patterns and behaviors. The course titled Training for Professionalism and Ethics (CJSTC Specialized Course #1126) can be utilized to help your agency incorporate driving specific scenarios tailored to your agency needs and issues that your agency wishes to address. You can access this course through the Commission's Automated Training Management System (ATMS). This course option also allows an agency to utilize programs exclusively designed to address ethical decision making in the context of vehicle operations.

To access all of the meeting information and the model vehicle operations policy that was discussed by the Law Enforcement Driving Task Force, please proceed to the following website: http://flhsmv.gov/LEDTaskForce/.

If you have any questions, please contact Bureau Chief Glen W. Hopkins in the Bureau of Standards at (850) 410-8660 or glenhopkins@fdle.state.fl.us.

JCP/gwh/dih

cc: Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission