



Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM 2023-14

Date: August 2, 2023

TO: Criminal Justice Agency Administrators
Criminal Justice Training Center Directors
Criminal Justice Selection Center Directors

FROM: Director Chad Brown 
Criminal Justice Professionalism Division

SUBJECT: House Bill 425 Relating to Railroad Police Special Officers

The Florida Legislature passed House Bill 425 relating to railroad police special officers. The bill amends ss. 354.01 and 354.02, F.S., to remove the requirement that railroad police special officers be appointed by the Governor and to identify special officers as law enforcement officers for the purposes of ss. 943.085 - 943.255, F.S. The bill identifies Class I, Class II, and Class III railroads as employing agencies for the purposes of ss. 943.13(1), 943.13, and 943.135(1), F.S. The bill specifies that a special officer may carry weapons and has the power to arrest a person who has violated any law on the carrier's property and may arrest under the same conditions under which a deputy sheriff may make arrests. Governor DeSantis signed HB 425 on June 5, 2023, and the act became effective on July 1, 2023. There are currently four railroad police agencies. They are:

- Amtrak Police Department
- CSX Transportation Railroad Police
- Florida East Coast Railway Police Department
- Norfolk Southern Railway Police Department

If you have any questions regarding this technical memorandum, please contact Training and Research Manager Terry Baker, Bureau of Standards, at TerryBaker@fdle.state.fl.us or (850) 410-8688.

cc: Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission