

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1598

5 By: Representative C. Douglas
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING CONTINUING TRAINING IN THE
9 INVESTIGATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES BY CERTIFIED
10 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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13 CONCERNING CONTINUING TRAINING IN THE
14 INVESTIGATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES
15 BY CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-9-113 is amended to read as follows:

22 12-9-113. Domestic violence and child abuse training.

23 ~~(a)(1) In accordance with the certification requirements of the~~
24 ~~Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training for law~~
25 ~~enforcement officers, all new law enforcement officers in the State of~~
26 ~~Arkansas shall complete at least twenty (20) hours of training in domestic~~
27 ~~violence and twenty (20) hours of training in child abuse.~~

28 ~~(2) Practicum training will also be sufficient for this~~
29 ~~requirement.~~

30 ~~(b) Pertaining to domestic abuse, the topics that shall be covered~~
31 ~~are:~~

32 ~~(1) The dynamics of domestic abuse;~~

33 ~~(2) The Domestic Abuse Act of 1991, § 9-15-101 et seq.;~~

34 ~~(3) Domestic abuse victim interview techniques;~~

35 ~~(4) Supportive services available; and~~

36 ~~(5) Pro-arrest guidelines and drawbacks of dual-arrest and~~



~~practices to promote the safety of officers.~~

~~(c) Pertaining to child abuse victim interview techniques, the topics that shall be covered are:~~

~~(1) Current law, including the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq., and the Arkansas Juvenile Code of 1989, § 9-27-301 et seq.;~~

~~(2) Child sexual abuse; and~~

~~(3) Physical and behavioral indicators.~~

(a)(1) A law enforcement officer is required to complete a training program of at least twenty (20) hours in the following areas before being certified by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training under this subchapter:

(A) Investigation of and circumstances surrounding cases involving domestic violence; and

(B) Investigation of and circumstances surrounding cases involving child abuse.

(2) Practicum training is sufficient for the requirements under subdivision (a)(1) of this section.

(b) A certified law enforcement officer is required to complete a supplemental training program or other instructional course annually concerning the investigation of and circumstances surrounding cases involving domestic violence and child abuse.

(c) Topics covered under the required training program, supplemental training program, or other instructional course under this section shall include without limitation:

(1) The dynamics of domestic abuse;

(2) The Domestic Abuse Act of 1991, § 9-15-101 et seq.;

(3) Domestic abuse victim interview techniques;

(4) Supportive services available;

(5) Pro-arrest guidelines and drawbacks of dual arrest and practices to promote the safety of law enforcement officers;

(6) Current law, including the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq., and the Arkansas Juvenile Code of 1989, § 9-27-301 et seq.;

(7) Evidence collection techniques that enable the prosecuting attorney to prosecute the offense when the victim is unavailable or unwilling to testify;

(8) Child sexual abuse;

1 (9) Physical and behavioral indicators of domestic violence and
2 child abuse; and

3 (10)(A) Website and social media outreach training designed to
4 increase visibility and availability of victim resources.

5 (B) Website and social media outreach training shall
6 include training on how to provide Internet links on a website or social
7 media site to provide information concerning victim resources.

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