

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1396

4
5 By: Representatives Tosh, S. Berry
6 By: Senator Hill

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER TRAINING
10 AND STANDARDS; TO REQUIRE TRAINING CONCERNING PERSONS
11 WITH ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND OTHER DEMENTIAS FOR
12 OFFICER CERTIFICATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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15 CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
16 TRAINING AND STANDARDS; AND TO REQUIRE
17 TRAINING CONCERNING PERSONS WITH
18 ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND OTHER DEMENTIAS
19 FOR OFFICER CERTIFICATION.
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, is amended
26 to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 12-9-126. Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias training.

28 (a)(1) In accordance with the certification requirements of the
29 Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training for law
30 enforcement officers, a law enforcement officer enrolled in a commission-
31 certified basic police training academy shall complete at least two (2) hours
32 of training relating to interacting with a person with Alzheimer’s disease or
33 other dementias.

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

36 (b) Training under subsection (a) of this section shall include



1 without limitation:

2 (1) Instruction on the identification of a person with
 3 Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias;

4 (2) Risks associated with Alzheimer’s disease and other
 5 dementias, such as wandering, communication impairments, and adult
 6 maltreatment;

7 (3) Best practices for interacting with a person with
 8 Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias;

9 (4) Psychiatric and behavioral symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease
 10 and other dementias;

11 (5) Communication issues related to Alzheimer’s disease and
 12 other dementias, including how to better question and interview affected
 13 persons to determine the most effective response;

14 (6) Information on how to address specific aspects of safety
 15 associated with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias;

16 (7) Practices related to Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias
 17 to promote the safety of law enforcement officers and the public;

18 (8) Protocols for search and rescue specific to individuals with
 19 Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias; and

20 (9) Connecting a person with Alzheimer’s disease or other
 21 dementias to local care resources and professionals who are skilled in
 22 Alzheimer’s disease care and care related to other dementias and to encourage
 23 cross-referral and reporting of incidents of adult maltreatment.

24 (c)(1) Training required under this section shall be provided by a
 25 qualified medical or mental health provider with experience working with
 26 persons with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias.

27 (2) The curriculum for the training required under this section
 28 shall be approved by the Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training
 29 in collaboration with the Criminal Justice Institute.

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 31 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY.

32 The requirements of § 12-9-126 apply only to law enforcement officers
 33 enrolled in a commission-certified basic police training academy on and after
 34 January 1, 2024.