

ASSEMBLY, No. 673

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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SYNOPSIS

Requires correctional police officers receive 40 hours in-service training, including eight hours in prevention of sexual misconduct, non-fraternization, and manipulation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning correctional police officer training and
2 supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. a. In addition to the duties of the commissioner set forth in
8 section 6 of P.L.1976, c.98 (C.30:1B-6), the commissioner shall
9 institute a mandatory annual in-service training program of at least
10 40 hours for each correctional police officer in every State
11 correctional facility.

12 b. At least eight hours of the mandatory 40 hours of training
13 required by subsection a. of this section shall include training in:

14 (1) sexual assault, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment
15 prevention as required pursuant to the provisions of the federal
16 Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA);

17 (2) non-fraternization and undue familiarity; and

18 (3) conditioning and manipulation awareness.

19 c. Thirty-two hours of the training required by subsection a. of
20 this section shall be dedicated to topics chosen by the training
21 department of each State correctional facility from a list of
22 approved courses developed by the commissioner.

23 d. The training required in subsection a. of this section shall be
24 in addition to firearms qualification training and use-of force
25 training.

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27 2. The in-service training on non-fraternization and undue
28 familiarity required by paragraph (2) of subsection b. of section 1 of
29 this act shall include training on the parameters of authorized
30 contact that a correctional police officer may have with a current
31 and former inmate as follows:

32 a. prohibit an officer from making personal contacts with or
33 engaging in a personal relationship with a current inmate except as
34 explicitly authorized;

35 b. limit ongoing contacts with a current or former inmate,
36 member of the inmate's family, or close associate of the inmate to
37 those persons with whom the officer was acquainted or associated
38 with before the inmate entered the correctional facility, and in these
39 situations, require the officer to provide the officer's supervisor, in
40 writing, of the nature, extent, and history of the relationship;

41 c. prohibit an officer from engaging in any of the following
42 activities related to an inmate, a member of the inmate's family, or
43 a close associate of the inmate for a minimum of 90 days after the
44 release of the inmate:

45 (1) display favoritism or preferential treatment toward one inmate
46 or group of inmates over another;

47 (2) give gifts, favors, or services beyond those required by the
48 facility;

- 1 (3) accept for the officer or a family member of the officer any
2 tangible or non-tangible personal reward or other consideration;
3 (4) engage in any business relationship;
4 (5) engage in any non-incidental contact outside the facility;
5 (6) engage in a personal relationship; and
6 (7) require any authorized contact to be conducted in a
7 professional manner.

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9 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh
10 month after enactment, but the Commissioner of Corrections may
11 take such anticipatory action prior to the effective date as necessary
12 to effectuate the act's provisions.

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15 STATEMENT
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17 This bill requires the Commissioner of Corrections to institute a
18 mandatory annual in-service training program of at least 40 hours
19 for each correctional police officer in every State correctional
20 facility.

21 At least eight of the 40 hours are to be dedicated to training in:
22 prevention of sexual assault, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment as
23 required pursuant to the provisions of the federal Prison Rape
24 Elimination Act (PREA); non-fraternization and undue familiarity;
25 and conditioning and manipulation awareness. The remaining 32
26 hours of training are to be dedicated to topics chosen by the training
27 department of each State correctional facility from a list of
28 approved courses developed by the commissioner.

29 The in-service training on non-fraternization and undue
30 familiarity is to include training on the parameters of authorized
31 contact that a correctional police officer may have with a current or
32 former inmate. Officers are to be trained that they are prohibited
33 from making personal contacts with or engaging in a personal
34 relationship with a current inmate except as explicitly authorized,
35 and to limit ongoing contacts with a current or former inmate,
36 member of the inmate's family, or close associate of the inmate to
37 those persons with whom the officer was acquainted or associated
38 with before the inmate entered the correctional facility. In these
39 situations, the officer is required to provide the officer's supervisor,
40 in writing, with the nature, extent, and history of the relationship.

41 The non-fraternization training also is to include prohibitions on
42 officers engaging in any of the following activities as they relate to
43 an inmate, a member of the inmate's family, or a close associate of
44 the inmate for 90 days after the inmate's release:

- 45 (1) display favoritism or preferential treatment toward one inmate
46 or group of inmates over another;
47 (2) give gifts, favors, or services beyond those required by the
48 facility;

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- 1 (3) accept for the officer or a family member of the officer any
- 2 tangible or non-tangible personal reward or other consideration;
- 3 (4) engage in any business relationship;
- 4 (5) engage in any non-incidental contact outside the facility;
- 5 (6) engage in a personal relationship; and
- 6 (7) require any authorized contact to be conducted in a
- 7 professional manner.
- 8 The 40 hours of training required in the bill is in addition to the
- 9 firearms qualification training and use-of force training currently
- 10 received by correctional police officers.