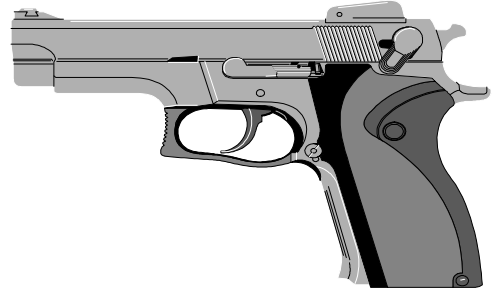


Important Information for all Chiefs of Police & Sheriffs



New State Law Mandates *Annual* Handgun Qualification for all officers

New Law brings new State Course of Fire for Qualification

The Law

Illinois Public Act 94-103 was signed into law in July of 2005 by Governor Blagojevich. This Act amends the Illinois Police Training Act allowing the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, through the Mobile Team Units, to certify retired officers to carry concealed firearms, consistent with Federal House Rule HR218.

This modification of the Police Training Act (50 ILCS 710/2.5 new) also provides the following, “Annual range qualification. The annual range qualification for all peace officers shall consist of range fire approved by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.”

Qualification/Certification Course

A committee was formed by the Executive Director of the Training Board, subsequent to the signing of P.A. 94-103, to discuss and propose implementation issues and procedures to the Training Board. The committee met several times and made a series of proposals to the Board staff. Those recommendations were approved by the full Board at its meeting on September 8, 2005. The most significant change for active duty officers, aside from the statutory mandate for annual qualification, was the development of a new Range Course of Fire for Qualification for “Active and Retired” officers. The only course previously approved by the Board, which was designed as the qualification standard for basic academies and mandatory firearms training classes, consisted of firing the handgun with 50 rounds at 7, 15 and 25 yards. This old course remains in effect for basic academies and mandatory firearms training classes. However, the *new* course, for active and retired officers, involves firing the handgun with 30 rounds at 5, 7 and 15 yards with *optional* firing at 25 yards. Departments may accomplish this mandate through their own in-service training procedures with approved firearms instructors or qualification courses conducted by W.I.P.T.U. This new course represents a minimum requirement. All agencies may include any modification that increases the level of difficulty such as reloading, alternate hands, movement, time restriction or other job related skills. Any modification to this course of fire, however, must first be submitted by the department directly to the Training Board for approval prior to its use to satisfy the “Annual Qualification” mandate.

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Continued New State Law Mandates Annual Handgun Qualification for all officers

Western Illinois Police Training Unit, MTU 6, recommends each department submit a training roster for soft match purposes and as a secondary record of training. Please submit the officer's name, officer's hourly rate of pay, social security number, hours of training and date of training to W.I.P.T.U.

**State of Illinois Mandatory Annual Active Duty and Retired Officer
Handgun Qualification Course of Fire**

Total Rounds: 30
Distances from Target: 5, 7, and 15 yards (25 yards optional)
Target Scoring Area: 8 1/2 x 14 inch overlay/center mass of target
Handgun Type: Semi-auto/Revolver, minimum capacity of 5 rounds
Qualification: Minimum Of 70% (21 hits) within, or touching, the 8 1/2 x 14" overlay target

For Duty Handgun Qualification, all stages of fire will commence from a secured holster.

For off duty weapons, and retired officer qualification, all stages will commence with the handgun in hand from the "low ready" position.

Where indicated below, the word "Draw" requires the shooter to withdraw the handgun from a secured holster on the command to "Fire". The word "Present" means that the shooter has the handgun in the shooting hand in low ready (depressed muzzle) position and stands ready for the command to fire.

Shooters will reload without command as needed between stages of fire.

5 Yard Line—Total of 12 rounds

Stage 1	Draw/Present and fire 2 rounds in 6 seconds
Stage 2	Draw/Present and fire 2 rounds in 6 seconds
Stage 3	Draw/Present and fire 2 rounds in 6 seconds
Stage 4	Draw/Present and fire 2 rounds in 6 seconds
Stage 5	Draw/Present and fire 2 rounds in 6 seconds
Stage 6	Draw/Present and fire 2 rounds in 6 seconds

7 Yard Line—Total of 12 rounds

Stage 7	Draw/Present and fire 3 rounds in 7 seconds
Stage 8	Draw/Present and fire 3 rounds in 7 seconds
Stage 9	Draw/Present and fire 3 rounds in 7 seconds
Stage 10	Draw/Present and fire 3 rounds in 7 seconds

15 Yard Line—Total of 6 rounds

Stage 11	Draw/Present and fire 3 rounds in 10 seconds
Stage 12	Draw/Present and fire 3 rounds in 10 seconds

25 Yard Line—Optional Distance

Optional Stage 12	Draw/Present and fire 3 rounds in 15 seconds (in lieu of second three round string at 15 yards)
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The above course of fire is the minimum required. All agencies may include any medication that increases the level of difficulty such as reloading, alternate hands, movement, time restriction or other job related skills. Any medication to this course of fire, however, must be submitted by the department directly to the Training Board for approval prior to its use to satisfy the "Annual Qualification" mandate.