



The Az POST

Newsletter

Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board

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Eastern Arizona College Academy Director Retires

Steve Johnson began teaching in the community college arena in 1989 and has been Eastern Arizona College's (EAC) Academy Director since August, 1991. Class 06, which graduated May 12th, was his last class as Academy Director. He has decided to concentrate more on the AJS Program and developing methods of distance education delivery.

Law enforcement and education have always played an important role in Steve's career goals as early as 18 years of age when he became a Reserve Police Officer for the Town of Thatcher. He was born and raised in the Safford/Thatcher area and attended the Gila Pueblo Police Academy in 1978 after being hired by the EAC Campus Police then later joining the Pima Police Department. After working for Pima PD, Steve married Karen White and moved to Flagstaff to pursue law enforcement and to obtain his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees.

Steve was asked to come back to his hometown area (Graham County) and be Pima's Chief of Police from 1980-1984 at only 23 years of age! One of Steve's proud accomplishments was in becoming an EMT and obtaining a grant to create the Pima Rescue Unit which has both EMT's and paramedics.

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The Dangers of On-Line "Wellness Centers"

Beware of "Wellness Centers," "Longevity and Rejuvenation Institutes," or other On-Line providers of medications, hormone therapy, or dietary supplements. Several website businesses that purport to "prescribe" anabolic steroids, human growth hormone and testosterone are fraudulently soliciting "patients" for their prescription mills. One such site went so far as to require the "patient" to submit a blood sample before they would prescribe steroids. Peace officers place themselves at risk if they do business with these so-called pharmacies. We are not talking about internet pharmacies where you supply the prescription from your physician who has personally examined you and written you a prescription. We are talking, here, about businesses that do the whole process on-line. A website might promise you "private and confidential" sales of "discreetly shipped" supplements that will "shape your body the way ... you want it to look." They promise youth restoration, bodybuilding enhancement or improved endurance.

The authorities are prosecuting numerous businessmen, pharmacists and physicians associated with these prescription drug mills. They "prescribe" in numbers that would be impossible for a physician to write if he conducted the necessary examinations to determine if the substance is medically indicated. Legitimate medical indications might be delayed puberty or body wasting associated with AIDS. Arizona POST rules prohibit the illegal use of steroids and other dangerous drugs. Obtaining them from the internet does not make them legal. Steroid abuse causes devastating side effects, including liver, kidney and heart disease; cancer, stroke and behavioral changes that are particularly troublesome for peace officers such as increased aggression, depression and paranoia.

Sources: GAO-06-243R Anabolic Steroids; www.theantidrug.com; timesunion.com/ASPStories/StoryID=576045

End of an Era with a New Beginning

The Arizona Regional Community Policing Institute (AZ RCPI) at AZ POST is ending its successful run on December 31, 2007. Since its inception in 1997, the AZ RCPI has provided training, town halls, and technical assistance to thousands of Arizona police officers and community members. Some of the training included: Domestic Violence Awareness, Anti-Terrorism, DNA Collection, Elder Abuse, Human-Trafficking, Ethics, Supervision, and Leadership.

The funding from the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) office from the U.S. Department of Justice (USDJ) is no longer being provided. AZ POST will then continue to provide many of the same AZ RCPI classes. Several of the AZ RCPI staff will be reassigned to the advanced training section of AZ POST.

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Message from the Executive Director

“Arizona’s Law Enforcement Leadership Training Center”

As many of you are aware, the United States Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing (COPS) has discontinued funding for its regional institutes. Unfortunately, the Arizona Regional Community Policing Institute (RCPI) will exhaust its COPS funding in December and will cease to exist. Since its inception in 1997, the Arizona RCPI has provided quality leadership training for Arizona law enforcement professionals. Recently, RCPI Director Rod Covey has adapted and presented the IACP’s Leadership in Police Organizations (LPO) program throughout our state. Initial feedback from participants has been extremely positive and it is the Board’s intention to continue presentation of this fine program.

In fact, we intend to build upon the success of the LPO program and expand our leadership training efforts through the creation of a Center for Leadership Excellence at Arizona POST. Not only will the LPO program continue, but we envision that we can adapt many LPO principles to our existing programs; such as basic supervision, field training officer, and the basic academy course, where appropriate. We are extremely fortunate that Mr. Covey will remain at POST to manage the leadership center. His efforts as the RCPI Executive Director are directly responsible for the success of the LPO program and we are all looking forward to great things in the future.

The Academy Waiver Testing Process

Candidates who have served honorably as a peace officer in Arizona and whose certified status has lapsed, or a person, who has functioned in the capacity of a peace officer of another state or a federal law enforcement agency, may be eligible to become Arizona certified through the waiver testing process. The waiver process is in lieu of attending an Arizona peace officer basic academy if the applicant meets the following eligibility requirements:

1. Have completed basic and advanced training that demonstrates substantial comparability to the Arizona Basic Academy Training Course.
2. Be appointed by an Arizona Law Enforcement Agency.
3. Meet all of the minimum standards for appointment and certification to become an Arizona Peace Officer.

After an agency reviews the training records of their candidate and decides the candidate may qualify for certification under the Waiver Testing Process, the following must be completed:

1. The required background investigation as defined in AZ POST Rule 13 4 106 must be completed to assure that the candidate meets the minimum standards for appointment as defined in rule 13 4 105.

2. After completing the background investigation the appointing agency will forward to AZ POST the Appointment form, A1. The AZ POST Compliance Specialist assigned to their agency will schedule an audit of the background investigation to confirm that the candidate meets the minimum standards for appointment.
3. The six (6) page application for the Waiver of Training, AZ POST Form WB, is provided by the hiring agency and completed by the applicant. Pages three thru six (3-6) of the application is the Record of Equivalency Training or “training matrix”. All supporting training documentation must be attached to the “training matrix” in order for training hours to be included in the evaluation process. The application must be endorsed by the Chief Executive, or designee, from the appointing agency.
4. The AZ POST Compliance Specialist forwards the Waiver Application and all training documentation to the AZ POST Certification Testing Administrator at least two weeks prior to the next testing date. An assessment of the candidates training and experience by the Certification Testing Administrator will determine eligibility to participate in the Waiver Testing Process.

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The AZ POST Newsletter is a publication of the:

Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board
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Introducing New Staff

*Waiver Testing.
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Introducing Paul Orfe:



Paul Orfe came on board as a Compliance Specialist with AZ POST on February 5, 2007. Paul was born and raised in Riverside, New Jersey. He moved to Arizona in 1972. He began his law enforcement career as a Glendale police officer in 1973. He then went to work for the Maricopa County Attorney's Office as an investigator and stayed with the County Attorney's Office until he came to AZ POST this year. Paul has been married to Marie for 35 years and they have one son, Dennis, who will be a sophomore at NAU this year. In his free time, Paul enjoys fishing and an occasional game of golf.

Introducing Lynn Howe:

Officer Lynn Howe is a Training Specialist at AZ POST. She is on contract to POST from the Phoenix Police Department and began working at POST this past May. Lynn began her law enforcement career with the Phoenix Police Department in 1995 and has worked a variety of assignments, including patrol in the Squaw Peak and Maryvale Precincts, a training position at the Maryvale Precinct, DARE instructor, GREAT (Gang Resistance Education and Training) instructor and was tasked with the development of Phoenix Police Department's SafeBiz Network.



Lynn is originally from Wisconsin and moved here in 1993 with the love of her life, Rob, who is now her husband. They have four children, triplet girls who just turned 3, Autumn, Brook and Summer, and a 15 month old little boy, Remington. Lynn states that if she had any free time, she would like to be in Northern Arizona with her husband ATV riding and scouting for monster elk. She enjoys the outdoors and welcomes peace and quiet.

5. The written exam portion of the waiver process is usually conducted on the first Wednesday of each month at AZ POST. If the Certification Testing Administrator determines that the candidate is eligible for testing, the appointing agency contact person will be notified and study materials provided.
6. The AZ POST Waiver Testing Process has become an increasingly popular tool in filling certified positions. The AZ POST Compliance Staff and Certification Testing Administrator and Staff are available to assist your agency in this process. Your department's Compliance Specialist, Mr. Lynn Larson, AZ POST Certification Testing Administrator and Mr. Jon Heiden, AZ POST Certification Testing Specialist, may be contacted for assistance at (602) 223 2514. Persons may also go to the AZ POST web Site at www.azpost.gov and click on "Certification Process"- "Apply for Waiver" for a full explanation.

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Steve also served as Az POST's Co-Chair of the Basic 585 Curriculum Introduction to Law Enforcement Subject Matter Expert Committee and was instrumental in writing test questions for the Comprehensive Final Examination.

EAC Graduate and now DPS Officer Wendall Crandell stated, "Thanks to the EAC Academy I was taught not only how to be a professional and safe officer on the street ... but emotional survival skills as well, and the importance of family being a huge part of a satisfying career". Steve attributes the success of his academy to a supportive college administration and his team of instructors and advisors. He will be staying on as a Professor of AJS at EAC until he and Karen retire in 2013. Steve & Karen have three children and two grandchildren.



Thank you Steve for your leadership, commitment, and dedication in maintaining Az POST's high standards in Basic Academy Training! Steve was recognized at the Law Enforcement Pow Wow on July 11th for his hard work and dedication.



*End of an Era
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In 2008, Sgt Christel Boeck will continue to provide Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention classes along with Elder Abuse and DNA as scheduled calendar classes and upon agency request. The current AZ RCPI Director Rod Covey will be the director of the newly developed AZ POST Center for Leadership Excellence with the assistance of Sgt. Jim DeLung. The Center will be responsible for the coordination of all AZ POST leadership and supervision training classes. The Center for Leadership's flagship program is the four-week long Leadership in Police Organizations (LPO) program for middle-management law enforcement candidates. For further information on any of the exciting changes ahead, please contact AZ POST.

The AZ POST Mobile Driver Simulator Training Program brings the training to you!



Scheduling the Simulator

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