

# MPOETC 2012 MIST Program - Course Descriptions

## 1. Legal Update: 12-201

This is a three-hour Mandatory In-Service Training (MIST) required course for all MPOETC certified police officers in Pennsylvania. This course is designed to provide law enforcement officers with an update in the following areas:

A review of significant law changes occurring between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011 in the following Commonwealth of Pennsylvania statutes:

- Crimes Code
- Vehicle Code
- Rules of Criminal Procedure
- Pennsylvania Code

The course will also include a review of significant U.S. Supreme Court, PA Supreme Court, PA Superior Court, and PA Commonwealth Court case law, based on decisions available from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. The goal of the section will be to demonstrate how these cases have a direct impact on how police officers perform their duties.

This Mandatory In-Service Training (MIST) Program course offering will be available in the classroom for Act 120 certified officers, and other law enforcement officers required to attend the training as a condition of their employment based on the police powers vested in them by their respective enabling legislation. The course will also be available on-line for police officers with Act 120 certification, as well as the previously described law enforcement officers, provided their agency head or designated training officer submits a list of eligible officers to the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association (PCPA) through protocols established by the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) and the PCPA. On-line MIST training for eligible officers will be available through the Pennsylvania Virtual Training Network (<http://pavtn.net>) in 2012 with a late February projected starting timeframe.



## 2. Search and Seizure: 12-419

This is a three-hour elective course for all MPOETC certified police officers in Pennsylvania. This course was developed to review and share legal principles regarding search and seizure issues.

This course will cover topics from the development of the United States Constitution to writing a search warrant. Also, this course will explain the exceptions to the search warrant requirement. In addition, significant cases will be discussed that have an impact on search and seizure issues.

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### **3. Effective Communications: 12-420**

This will be an intensive three-hour training course on an important topic that can impact community relations, the officer's ability to articulate and document the facts of a case and on presenting the case in the courtroom.

Being able to communicate effectively is a necessary and vital part of every police chief, law enforcement manager, first line supervisor, and patrol officer's job. Effective communications can produce several positive outcomes and can be used to inform, persuade, diffuse, guide, motivate, re-assure and negotiate. In contrast, ineffective communication can result in confusion, wrong conclusions, negative stereotypes, frustrations, anger, hostility, aggression and even physical confrontation. Police routinely communicate in every facet of their job, not only when they interview and interrogate individuals, but also in their interactions with the public, professionals in other fields, and their co-workers.

This elective course will address the ability of officers to engage in interpersonal communications by: focusing on the communication process, non-verbal communication and the officer's listening skills in an ethnically, racially and generationally diverse community.

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### **4. Officer Safety Awareness XIV: Mobile & Targeted Assaults: 12-333**

This three-hour elective course will provide a brief review of incidents occurring at Virginia Tech, North Hollywood, Beslan, Russia, and Mumbai, India in an attempt to illustrate different types of targeted attacks, and the challenges faced by first responders to these events.

The course will then emphasize officer safety concerns when discussing basic formations, movements, and response tactics officers can use in their approach to and management of an active attack. Response team responsibilities and tactics are addressed, as well as a discussion of various equipment considerations.

Finally, defensive tactics employed by an injured officer and the principles of on-scene tactical emergency medical treatment including personal injury management will be discussed. This course will also use video footage, case studies, structured exercises, and facilitation to examine attacks such as these and their implications for police officers.