



# State of Connecticut

## Police Officer Standards and Training Council

### Connecticut Police Academy



TO: All Training Officers, POSTC Certified Firearms Instructors, POSTC Training Associates, and POSTC-approved Training Academies

FM: William E. Klein, Compliance Officer  
Certification, Assessment and Audit Division

RE: **POST Council Certification Division Advisory 2011-01**

This advisory is to clarify the definition and breakdown of hours concerning the mandated nine (9) hours of review credit firearms (**handgun only**) training for recertification, which POST Council (POSTC) highly recommends is conducted on an annual basis for liability reasons.

The minimum nine (9) hours of handgun training must include six (6) total hours of actual training on the firearms range [with three (3) successful qualifications on POSTC CM-5 targets achieving a passing score at a minimum of eighty (80) percent or (240 out of 300) on a 60-round course] and three (3) total hours of actual classroom instruction. Classroom instruction should encompass some or all of the suggested topics; Use of Deadly Physical Force, Statute Refresher(s), Department Policy, Recent Civil Liability Cases, Shooting Decision Situations, Low/Dim Light Firing, Effects of Stress, Post Shooting Traumatic Stress Disorder and Possible EAP Intervention, Survival Tactics, Review of Fundamentals of Firearms and Range Safety, Proper Securing of Weapons at Home and any other pertinent issues.

POSTC-certified Firearms Instructors shall document all firearms training on POSTC Review Training Credit Forms. It is important for civil liability that both the officer and firearms instructor sign the form to attest to the training. The review training credit forms are also required for inspection by the Compliance Officer during the on-site audits of the department's recertification training records.

The Certification Division has developed and implemented a new POSTC-50B Review Training Credit Form for Firearms Training only available on our website [www.ct.gov/post](http://www.ct.gov/post) under Certification Division/ Forms, to be used immediately. This form simplifies the tracking and delineation of firearms instructional hours and includes an area for the qualification score.



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As a reminder, Firearms Instructors must also qualify on their handguns the same as any other certified police officer. Firearms Instructors should not self-authenticate their own qualification and scores. Instead, if an alternate POSTC-certified Firearms Instructor is present at the range, he/she should document/verify the Firearms Instructor's qualification and score on the POSTC-50B form. If another POSTC-certified Firearms Instructor is not present at the range, then any other certified police officer witnessing the Firearms Instructor's qualification score should annotate same on the Firearms Instructor's POSTC-50B form, as a witness only. There is an area on the POSTC-50B for the witness' signature.

POSTC-certified Patrol Rifle Instructors (Area 301B) should also use the POSTC-50B form. All Patrol Rifle instructional hours may be used toward the officer's elective review training credits in Area 3, Practical Police Skills.

Please notify your POSTC-certified Firearms Instructor's of the new POSTC-50B form and inform your Firearms Instructors that they are eligible for law enforcement instructional areas 301A (Shooting Decisions) and 209 (Use of Force). If they do not have these areas already, they should submit an Instructor Application and "Add-On" these areas. They would still be responsible to submit your department's Use of Force/Shooting Decisions lesson plan(s) to attain these teaching areas.

Thank you all for your cooperation in this matter.

As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact either Rochelle Wyler, License and Applications Analyst at (203) 427-2607 [Rochelle.Wyler@po.state.ct.us](mailto:Rochelle.Wyler@po.state.ct.us) or myself at (203) 427-2606 or [William.Klein@po.state.ct.us](mailto:William.Klein@po.state.ct.us)