

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 22, 2022 3:26:14 PM

---

**From:** Texas Sunset Advisory Commission <[sunset@sunset.texas.gov](mailto:sunset@sunset.texas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2022 2:55 PM  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission <[Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov](mailto:Sunset.AdvisoryCommission@sunset.texas.gov)>  
**Subject:** Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Submitted on Tue, 11/22/2022 - 12:52

Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

**Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about**

[Texas Commission on Law Enforcement](#)

**Public Comments**

1

**First Name**

Charles

**Last Name**

Palcer

**Organization you are affiliated with**

N/A

**Email**

**City**

Franklin

**State**

Texas

**Your Comments or Concerns**

Varying efficiencies with mastery of topics for BPOC.

To wit: All academies in the state teach traffic law. So why does DPS excel in understanding and application of traffic enforcement laws? All academies in Texas teach a block of instruction on the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code. So why do TABC agents excel in knowledge of those laws? All

academies in Texas teach basic first aid. Why are some agencies more capable in trauma situations? Every academy in Texas teaches arrest, search, and seizure. Why does the instruction vary from academy to academy when the law is the same? All academies in Texas teach use of force. Why is instruction in use of force law and application vastly different from instructor to instructor?

### **Your Proposed Solution**

Standardization through consolidation of academy training. TCOLE should seek to have 5-10 Basic Peace Officer Academies located throughout the state. Each academy would be staffed by instructors who work for TCOLE and not for a municipal, county, or state entity. Currently, most regional and even city, county, and state run academies hire many outside individuals to teach classes. Such instruction allows for vastly differing views in, for example, how one prosecutor or retired prosecutor hired to teach arrest, search and seizure would present material as interpreted from one jurisdiction versus how another would teach in a vastly different part of the state. While the law does not change, the thoroughness and application may be different from one part of the state to another. All instruction would be developed and presented by those TCOLE employed individuals, and any updates, additional mandated training, or instruction block hours would be controlled by TCOLE alone.

Once completed, individual municipalities, counties, or state agencies would then select from or continue in employment of only individuals that had completed BPOC certification. Individual academies (Houston, Austin, Dallas, San Antonio, TXDPS, TXPWD, TABC, etc.) would then send the individual through agency specific training in-house to satisfy individual agency requirements as desired. Upon full licensing, all hiring agencies would still be responsible for field training which should be at least spot checked if not even more routinely monitored by TCOLE. In this way, ALL agencies, regardless of size and scope of duty, would be standardized in what training was provided and in what manner that training was carried out for basic peace officer candidates. No conflicts would arise as to how one agency developed and presented their instruction over another, about which classes were provided (swift-water rescue, active shooter, etc.) and which they would need to provide. And in-house academies would still be able to conduct training without fear of sacrificing required BPOC hours or not providing some training to the degree desired.

While there might be push-back from outside training providers (community colleges, regional area academies, capitol of governments, etc.), those training providers could instead devote their resources to developing and presenting legislatively mandated, intermediate, and advanced courses and assisting TCOLE in researching topic areas throughout law enforcement for continuing education consideration.

Regardless, all training would be standardized and delivered in the same manner, and no omission or mis-instruction would be possible. Every BPOC Academy would teach the same material in the same schedule with the same number of hours and in the same manner, and TCOLE would actually be the authority, instead of delegating that authority to others to interpret as they pleased.

### **My Comments Will Be Made Public**

Yes