



Pennsylvania
**Commission on Crime
and Delinquency**

Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



**SHERIFF AND DEPUTY SHERIFF
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD
2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
I. A Message from the Chairman	1
II. Board Membership	2
III. Board Organization	3
IV. Board Financial Report	4
V. Board Fiscal Projections	5
VI. 2023: The Year in Review	6
VII. Training Status of Sheriffs and Deputies Per County	7
VII.. Training and Certification Programs	8
IX. Tables	10
X. Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training Bulletins	11

Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency
P.O. Box 1167, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108-1167
Telephone (717) 705-3693 -- Toll Free (800) 692-7292
FAX (717) 783-7140
www.pccd.pa.gov



A Message from the Chairman

This report on the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board's activities during 2023 serves as a review of the Board's accomplishments and future goals. It is my pleasure to present this report to you on the 39th anniversary of the Training Program.

In February 1984, the Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Board was created by Act 2 of 1984, the Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Act, to train and certify deputy sheriffs employed by the Commonwealth's 67 county sheriffs' offices. In September 2014, the Training Act was amended by Act 114 of 2014, which renamed the Board as the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board. The new legislation enhanced the original Act by including requirements for the training of sheriffs and providing provisions for certification revocation. The Board operates with the oversight and staff support of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. The Board has continued to implement and improve the training and certification processes as delineated by the Act.

The Board also strives to stay current with the changing needs of the Commonwealth's sheriffs as well as their role in the criminal justice system defined by the Legislature and the courts. Since 1984, the Board has trained and certified over 7,475 deputy sheriffs while the training population has tripled in size. It has expanded its certification training from 160 to 760 hours and now offers year-round classes leading to certification. A number of new subjects were developed, and revisions have been made to the existing curriculum. In addition, the Board has instituted a series of supervisory trainings along with a number of optional skills, web-based online, and instructor development courses. Students seeking certification are now required to complete a number of subjects online.

During 2023, the Board has made significant strides to enhance the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training and Certification Programs. The Board continues to address fiscal challenges, but with the passage of Act 134 of 2020, increased surcharge collections have allowed the Board to begin reimbursements to the counties and look to training enhancements that have been long delayed.

Given the goals achieved during the past 39 years, the Board will continue to meet the training needs of the Commonwealth's sheriffs and their deputies and continue moving forward with the development of new and innovative training programs.

Eric Weaknecht, Chairman



BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Eric Weaknecht, Chairman
Sheriff, Berks County

Angelinel Brown
Deputy Chief
Philadelphia County

Barry Howe*
First Deputy Chief
Office of the Attorney General

Honorable Michael Koury, Jr.
Court of Common Pleas
Northampton County

Jody Smith
Sheriff
Cumberland County

David Glass
County Commissioner
Clearfield County

Stephanie Jirard
Professor of Criminal Justice
Shippensburg University

Honorable Brandon Neuman
Court of Common Pleas
Washington County

Edward Walker
Deputy Sheriff
Montgomery County

* Representing Attorney General Michelle A. Henry

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

Austin A. Davis
Lieutenant Governor
Chairman, PCCD

Michael Pennington
Executive Director, PCCD

Bureau of Training Services

John Pfau
Manager

Donald Numer
Training Supervisor

Douglas O. Hummel
Specialist

BOARD ORGANIZATION

The Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Board (Board) was created as an advisory board to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) by Act 2 of 1984, the Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Act. Training was extended to include sheriffs by Act 114 of 2014, and the Board was renamed the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board. The 10-member Board is composed of two Common Pleas Court Judges, two sheriffs, three current or former deputy sheriffs, one educator, one county commissioner, and the Pennsylvania Attorney General.

Per 44 Pa.C.S. Chapter 74 (relating to sheriffs and deputy sheriffs), the Board is required to establish, implement, and administer a program of basic and continuing education training for sheriffs and deputy sheriffs. The law requires that newly hired deputy sheriffs attend basic training in order to be certified as a deputy sheriff. Sheriffs (in general) must be certified within their first term. In addition, all sheriffs and deputies are required to renew their certification through annual continuing education.

The Board has the authority to establish rules and regulations encompassing all matters related to the operation of the training program and the certification of sheriffs and deputy sheriffs. The Board operates under the review and approval of the PCCD, which provides the requisite administrative structure and staff support.

Activities of the Board and its program staff, as well as training programs, are supported independent of the PCCD General Governmental Operations budget. This is accomplished by the assessment of a surcharge on all legal papers served by sheriffs' offices. After 20 years, this fee was increased with Act 134 of 2020.

PCCD is responsible for making disbursements from the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Account, a restricted receipts account maintained by the Office of State Treasurer, for the costs of the training program, its administration, and the expenses of the Board. The Act also provides for reimbursement to each county for expenses associated with the training of sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, including the tuition and allowable living and travel expenses during training, and the sheriff's and deputy's salary while they attend training.

In 2013, the Board's expenditures exceeded its revenues. This, along with transfers by previous administrations from the training account to the State's General Fund, depleted the Board's resources. To address this issue, the Board took prudent cost saving measures and reduced or cancelled training where appropriate. In 2017, the Board and Commission made the decision to suspend reimbursements to the counties for salary and travel.

During 2023, the Board continued to revise and update its curriculum, as well as explore the use of web-based training to better meet the needs of the sheriffs and deputy sheriffs and produce cost savings. Further, with the passage of Act 134, which increased surcharge collections for the Training Account, the Board resumed paying reimbursements owed to the counties.

BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT

**PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
SHERIFF AND DEPUTY SHERIFF EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACCOUNT
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND PROGRAM BALANCE
for Calendar Year 2023 - January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023**

PROGRAM ACTIVITY

REVENUE:

Fee Collections	\$5,547,109.56
-----------------	----------------

EXPENDITURES:

Administrative	\$615,747.31
----------------	--------------

Education

Basic Training	\$1,939,702.25
Continuing Education	\$129,532.45
Curriculum Development	<u>\$18,159.88</u>
Curriculum Manager	<u>\$58,982.71</u>

Total Education Expenditures	\$2,146,377.29
------------------------------	----------------

Reimbursements to Counties	<u>\$1,089,763.46</u>
----------------------------	-----------------------

Total Expenditures	<u>\$3,851,888.06</u>
--------------------	-----------------------

Revenue Over Expenditures and Other Uses	\$1,695,221.50
--	----------------

PROGRAM BALANCE

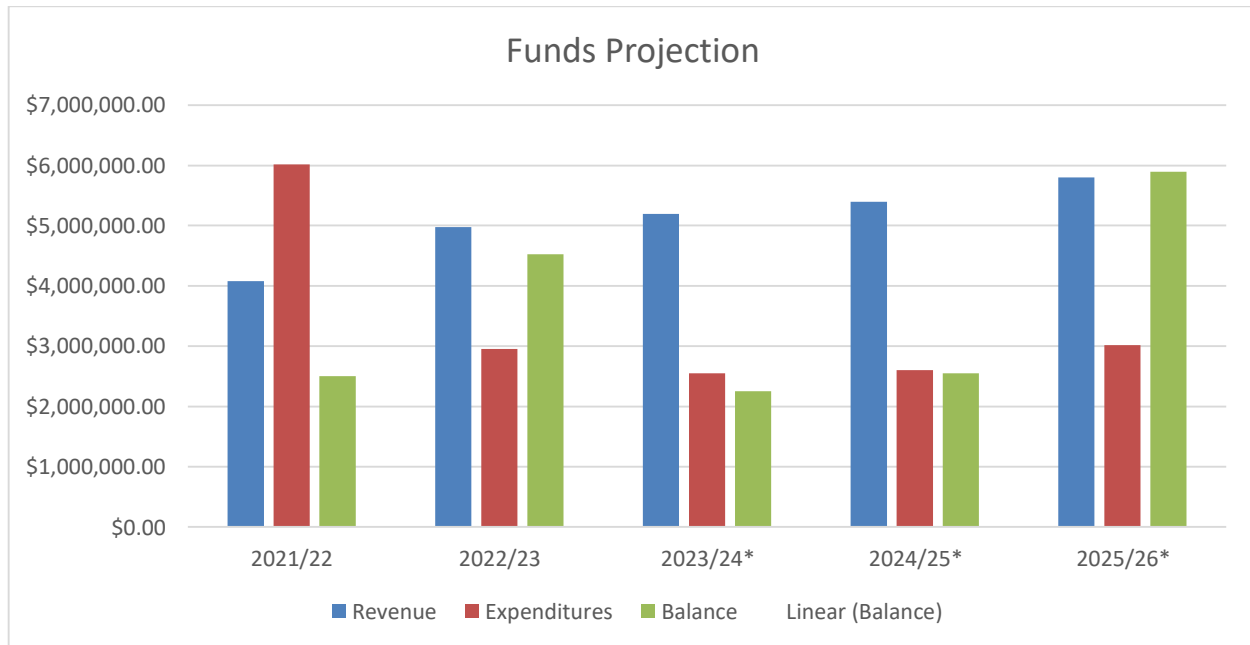
Cash balance at December 31, 2022	<u>\$3,158,945.52</u>
-----------------------------------	-----------------------

Cash balance at December 31, 2023	\$4,854,167.02
-----------------------------------	----------------

Commitments at December 31, 2023	-\$8,501,186.08
----------------------------------	-----------------

Program Balance at December 31, 2023	<u><u>-\$3,647,019.06</u></u>
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------

BOARD FISCAL PROJECTIONS



These figures are based on Fiscal Years (July 1 – June 30), as a result there is a six-month difference from the Fiscal statement on page 4.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Balance</u>
2021/22	\$4,079,706.51	\$6,017,482.94	\$2,501,629.60
2022/23	\$4,973,291.00	\$2,951,601.00	\$4,523,320.00
2023/24*	\$5,200,000.00	\$2,550,000.00	\$2,251,630.00
2024/25*	\$5,400,000.00	\$2,601,000.00	\$2,550,630.00
2025/26*	\$5,800,000.00	\$3,017,160.00	\$5,899,761.00

*Projections based on current and historical data.

2023: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Since its inception, the Board has trained and certified 7,475 sheriffs and deputy sheriffs through basic training and has renewed the certification of all sheriffs and deputies through its annual continuing education program. This year marked the 39th year of sheriffs' and deputy sheriffs' training administered by the Board and the PCCD, under the provisions of the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Act (44 Pa.C.S. Chapter 74). The changes to the law now require all sheriffs to obtain and maintain training certification. It also gives authority to the Board to consider revocation of certification for certain misconduct and lack of fitness for duty. The changes also limit the use of the Training Account primarily to training that supports sheriffs/deputies.

During 1999 and 2000, the Board and its training development contractor, Temple University's Department of Criminal Justice, produced and delivered a 560-hour core curriculum. The Board's basic training delivery contractor, Pennsylvania State University's Justice and Safety Institute, presented the first pilot basic program in July 2000. Pennsylvania State University, Eberly Campus, with feedback from Pennsylvania State University, has revised and fine-tuned the curriculum into its present form. Additionally, during the development process, the Board reviewed and revised its regulations, policies, and procedures, which support the training programs and provide direction to staff, sheriffs' offices, and deputy sheriffs on issues related to training and certification. The Board is actively engaged in these tasks, which will continue through 2024.

On December 12, 2002, the state Independent Regulatory Review Commission approved the regulations of the Board, which included the expansion of the Deputy Sheriffs' Basic Training Program from 560 hours to 760 hours. The increased hours included the topics of Patrol Procedures and Operations, Motor Vehicle Code/Accident Investigation, D.U.I. Enforcement, Criminal Investigation, and Drug-Related Investigations. The first 760-hour (19-week) basic training began in August 2003.

As noted previously in this report, the Board continues to address a depleted training fund. The Board has reviewed and taken steps to limit the impact of a decreasing fund balance through cost cutting measures that include reducing the availability of and eliminating some optional programs and is exploring reducing the availability of mandatory training. Act 134 of 2020 increased the training surcharge collection from \$10 as follows:

2021	\$16
2022	\$18
2023 (and beyond)	\$20

As of July 1, 2017, the Board, with the approval of the Commission, suspended reimbursements to the counties until the training fund can support both training and reimbursements. As of the end of 2023 and with the payment in 2023 of approximately \$1.1 million, the Board has an outstanding balance of \$7,071,221 owed to counties in reimbursements. With the increase in surcharge collections, the Board authorized the payment of up to \$2.5 million in payments to the counties, as funding allows, and will periodically review the training fund for the opportunity for additional payments.

Keeping cost saving measures in mind, the Board continues to enhance the curriculum and certification process through the integration of progressive online training as well as remain flexible to meet the changing authority and needs of today's sheriffs and deputy sheriffs.

TRAINING STATUS OF SHERIFFS AND DEPUTIES PER COUNTY

SHERIFFS AND DEPUTY SHERIFFS BY COUNTY: CERTIFIED VS. GRANDFATHERED

COUNTY	CERTIFIED	GRAND- FATHERED*	TOTAL	COUNTY	CERTIFIED	GRAND- FATHERED*	TOTAL
Adams	16	0	16	Juniata	4	0	4
Allegheny	164	0	164	Lackawanna	73	1	74
Armstrong	9	0	9	Lancaster	51	0	51
Beaver	46	0	46	Lawrence	14	0	14
Bedford	16	0	16	Lebanon	26	0	26
Berks	84	0	84	Lehigh	95	0	95
Blair	20	0	20	Luzerne	36	0	36
Bradford	12	0	12	Lycoming	23	0	23
Bucks	76	0	76	McKean	12	0	12
Butler	33	0	33	Mercer	20	0	20
Cambria	28	0	28	Mifflin	12	0	12
Cameron	7	0	7	Monroe	17	0	17
Carbon	22	0	22	Montgomery	102	0	102
Centre	30	0	30	Montour	9	0	9
Chester	38	0	38	Northampton	62	0	62
Clarion	10	0	10	Northumberland	9	0	9
Clearfield	10	0	10	Perry	12	0	12
Clinton	13	0	13	Philadelphia	262	0	262
Columbia	16	0	16	Pike	21	0	21
Crawford	12	0	12	Potter	3	0	3
Cumberland	41	0	41	Schuylkill	22	0	22
Dauphin	40	0	40	Snyder	13	0	13
Delaware	51	1	52	Somerset	11	0	11
Elk	11	0	11	Sullivan	6	0	6
Erie	38	0	38	Susquehanna	5	0	5
Fayette	8	0	8	Tioga	6	0	6
Forest	4	0	4	Union	8	0	8
Franklin	25	0	25	Venango	13	0	13
Fulton	6	0	6	Warren	13	0	13
Greene	13	0	13	Washington	41	0	41
Huntingdon	16	0	16	Wayne	11	0	11
Indiana	23	0	23	Westmoreland	59	0	59
Jefferson	9	0	9	Wyoming	6	0	6
				York	102	0	102
				TOTAL	2126	2*	2128

* Deputies employed prior to 1980 were grandfathered and not required to attend certification training.

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Basic Training

By the end of 2023, the Board and PCCD, in accordance with the provisions of 44 Pa.C.S. Chapter 74, had completed the 39th year of providing initial certification to sheriffs and deputies. Since 1985, the Board, to provide initial certification, has held 96 basic training classes and 115 waiver classes, certifying a total of 7,475 sheriffs and deputy sheriffs.

From 1985 to 1999, basic training consisted of 160 hours of instruction presented during a four-week course and included major subject areas related to the duties of a deputy sheriff: civil and criminal law and procedure, court security, prisoner transport, mechanics of arrest, crisis intervention, professional development, self-defense, first aid, and firearms.

During 2000, the Board implemented the delivery of an expanded 560-hour basic training program. This implementation provided a significant expansion of instruction in the basic training topics noted above as well as other related subject matter. In 2003, basic training was expanded to the current 19-week, 760-hour level curriculum. In 2005, the Board also established minimum fitness standards for certification under the basic training program. Additionally, students are required to complete several online courses to supplement their traditional training.

Waivers of basic training are issued for a limited class of sheriffs and deputies with prior Pennsylvania-based law enforcement experience and training. Prior to 2000, deputies eligible for a waiver of basic training were required to attend a 40-hour, one-week waiver course, which covered the topics of civil law and procedure, court security, and prisoner transport. During 2000, the Board implemented an expanded, 101-hour waiver course to parallel the expansion of basic training. As a result of several classes, it was identified that the waiver students required less time to assimilate the same information, due to their prior training and experience. In 2001, the Board approved a reduction in the waiver course to 80 hours, although the same information is provided.

Between 1985 and 1999, the Board's basic training delivery contractor, the Dickinson School of Law, annually provided two four-week basic training courses and two one-week waiver training courses. Under the present phase of the expanded training, PSU delivers two 19-week basic training classes and four two-week waiver classes (one-week online and one-week residential) on a year-round basis. During 2023, 197 sheriffs and deputies successfully completed training: 119 in basic training and 78 in the waiver courses. Utilizing PSU as the delivery contractor has expanded the opportunities for the Board's basic academy. State of the art fitness facilities and instructors, enhanced ranges, and test tracks are available for the Board's programs. Additionally, a Simulations Complex including lock-up, vehicle sally port, apartment, offices, and court room was created for use in various scenario-based trainings.

Additionally, to enhance the professionalism and educational opportunities of Pennsylvania's sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, the Board worked with PSU to award college credits to sheriffs and deputy sheriffs based on the basic training they completed. After review of the basic curriculum, PSU agreed to award each student 16.5 specific credits towards a degree at PSU or transferable to other educational institutions.

The Board worked with the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Division of Veterans/Military Education, to obtain recognition as an educational program under Title 38, United States Code, Section 3676 (GI Bill of Rights). This approval allows eligible sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who are also veterans, dependents, or National Guard and Reserve members to receive educational benefits for attendance at the Board's expanded basic or waiver training programs. Eligible sheriffs and deputies could qualify for tax-free benefits of approximately \$1,500 per month.

Continuing Education

As a means of recertifying sheriffs and deputies, 44 Pa.C.S. Chapter 74 requires attendance of continuing education every two years. The Board changed its format to 10 hours of virtual continuing education annually. During 2023, 1,807 sheriffs and deputies completed the required continuing education courses. The Board's continuing education training delivery contractor, Temple University's Department of Criminal Justice, provides the annual online training.

The 2023 training cycle began in January 2023. The training included the following subjects: Legal Updates, Understanding Addictions, and De-escalation Skills.

Supervisory Training

The Board has suspended its supervisory training due to budget constraints, however, is currently developing a new basic supervisors' course.

Merit Courses

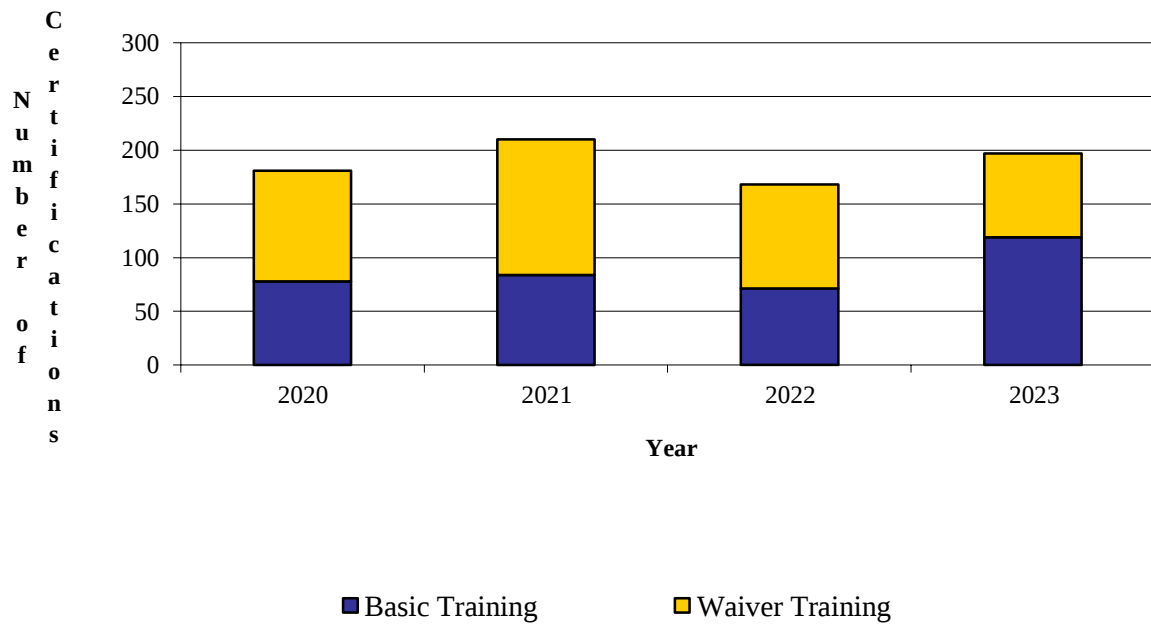
In addition to the training required by 44 Pa.C.S. Chapter 74, the Board identified several training programs needed by only a select number of sheriffs' offices or deputies. The Board developed a series of merit courses to better meet these specific needs. It was also determined that several delivery methods, including online and residential trainings, would be utilized.

Temple University offered Legal Updates, Understanding Addictions, De-escalation Skills, Cultural Diversity, Waiver Pre-requisites, and All Hazards to 2,015 sheriffs and deputies in an online format.

The Board also developed a Train-The-Trainer Program to assist sheriffs in establishing an internal training capability. In 2023, certification and recertification training were offered for basic firearms and patrol rifle instructors.

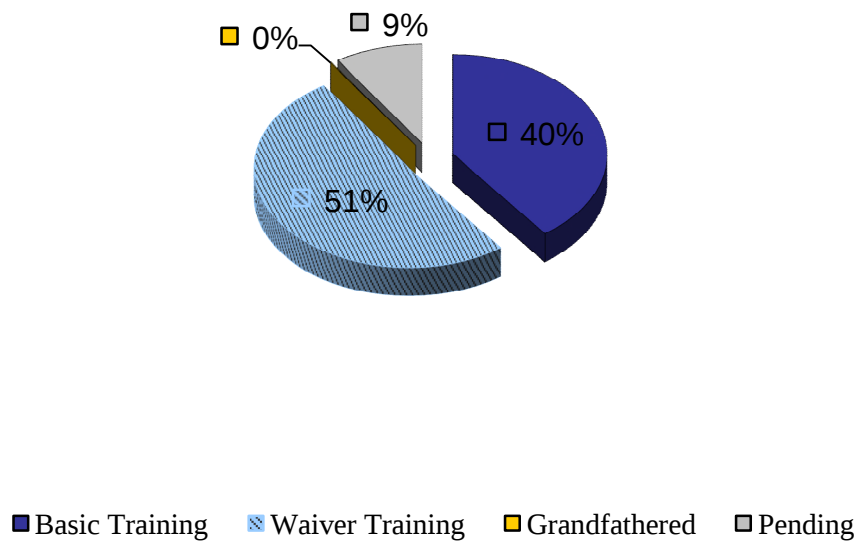
SHERIFF AND DEPUTY SHERIFF CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Per Year Through Basic And Waiver Training



STATUS OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED SHERIFFS/DEPUTIES

By Method of Certification





SHERIFF AND DEPUTY SHERIFF TRAINING BULLETINS

During 2023, the Board continued to issue its periodical newsletter, the [Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training Bulletin](#), which serves as a conduit to share information between the Board and sheriffs' offices concerning the training programs and activities of the Board. In addition, information and forms related to the sheriff and deputy sheriff training programs of the Board are available on PCCD's website at www.pccd.pa.gov.

Number 174, January 2023

This bulletin announced the 2023 continuing education cycle.

Number 175, August 2023

This bulletin announced changes to the basic training waiting list and entrance physical test.

Number 176, September 2023

This bulletin announced the 2024 Basic Training schedule.

Number 177, September 2023

This bulletin announced the 2024 Waiver Training schedule.