1008. RECIPROCITY

(1) The Commission may waive the completion of any course required by CLEST Rule upon presentation of documentary evidence by a department that an officer has satisfactorily completed equivalent training.

(2) Training received in a state with laws governing or regulating law enforcement training must, if subject to such review, have been approved or certified in the state in which the training was received.

(3) The Commission may elect to prescribe as a condition of certification the satisfactory completion of the Law Enforcement Officer Refresher Course or other supplementary or remedial training necessary to equate previous training with current standards.

(4) The Division is authorized to accept training from states, federal agencies, or military police which by law regulate and supervise the quality of law enforcement training and which require a minimum number of hours of classroom training in the Basic or Recruit Course equivalent to standards established by the Commission.

(5) For certification purposes, those Full-time Law Enforcement Officers who have not met the minimum classroom hours of training, but have accumulated at least 50% of the required hours may, at the discretion of the Commission, receive ten (10) classroom hours of credit for each year of Full-time law enforcement experience.

Those who qualify for this equivalent training waiver will be required to satisfactorily complete the Law Enforcement Refresher Course.

Should the officer fail to satisfactorily complete the Refresher Course, he or she will be required to attend the Basic Police Training Course at a Commission approved training facility.

(6) Individuals who meet all requirements of certification, and who receive a waiver under this Rule, shall be entitled to certification after the completion of the appropriate probationary period.

(7) Veteran’s to Law Enforcement Program

(a) The Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training (CLEST) administers the program “Veterans to Law Enforcement,” which allows qualified military veterans interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement, to attend the police academy.
(b) To be eligible to apply for the program, applicants must meet the following requirements:

(i) Shall have served at least six (6) months active duty in the armed services within ten (10) years prior to application.

(ii) Meet minimum standards as required of an Arkansas law enforcement officer as specified in CLEST Rule 1002.

(iii) Pay the non-refundable cost of the training prior to attending the basic training course.

(iv) The Director of the Division will be the final approving authority for an applicant’s acceptance into the program.

(c) Veterans in the Veterans to Law Enforcement program that fail any portion of the basic police training course are ineligible to attend another course for a 24 month period as specified in CLEST Rule 1005 and are no longer eligible to apply for the Veterans to Law Enforcement program.

(d) Veterans in the Veterans to law Enforcement program that successfully complete the basic police training course must begin employment with a law enforcement agency as a full-time or part-time officer within three (3) years of the date of the completion of the basic training course for the training to remain valid.