ARKANSAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING

2020 ANNUAL REPORT





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COMMISSION



The Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training (CLEST) was created in 1975 for the purpose of establishing minimum selection and training standards for admission to employment as a law enforcement officer in Arkansas. All applicants for law enforcement positions must meet the requirements established by CLEST and complete CLEST-approved training to obtain certification. The commission is comprised of a director and ten members representing law enforcement, education, and the general public that meet quarterly to review training and certification matters.



Commission Chair Chief Robert Harrison



Commissioner Mr. Barry Phillips



Commission Vice Chair Chief Percy Wilburn



Commissioner Dr. James Golden



Commissioner Mr. Thomas Marsh



Commissioner Mr. Doc Holladay



Commissioner Richard Wingard



Commissioner Lt. Stacie Rhoads



Commissioner Sheriff Lafayette Woods



Commissioner Sheriff Ron Brown

DIRECTOR





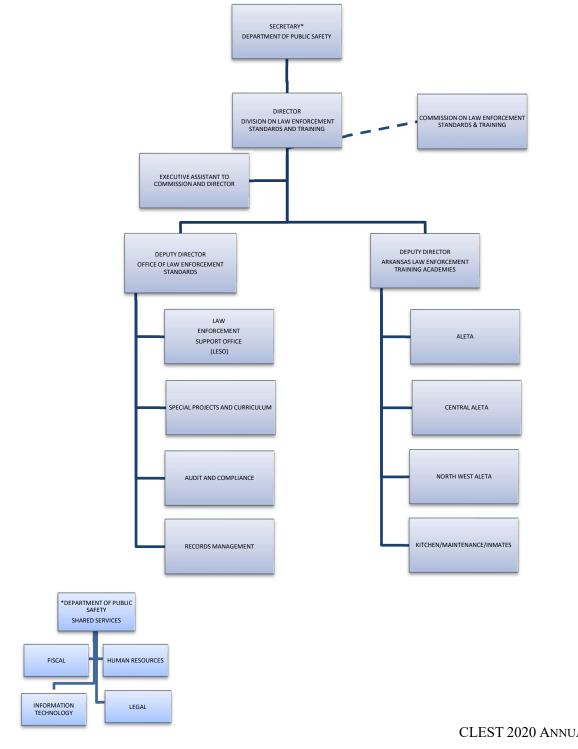
On January 14, 2015, Jami Cook was appointed by Governor Asa Hutchinson as the Director of the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training. Prior to appointment, Jami served as the Arkansas State Police Program Director, responsible for policies, procedures, training, strategic planning, research and development, and special projects. In 2009, Jami was appointed as a Commissioner to the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training where she served until her appointment as director in 2015. Jami started her law enforcement career as a Newport Police officer in 1994. In addition to her responsibilities as the CLEST Director, Director Cook serves as the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and is responsible for the oversight and management of CLEST, the Division of Arkansas State Police (ASP), Arkansas Crime Victims Reparations Board, Arkansas State Crime Lab, and various other boards and commissions.

In 2020, Jami had the honor of serving in the following ways:

- Task Force to Advance the State of Law Enforcement in Arkansas Vice Chair
- CARES Act Steering Committee
- National Working Group: IADLEST Officer Safety and Wellness Training
- International Association of Chiefs of Police National Consortium on Preventing Law Enforcement Suicide
- Continued support related to the Arkansas Levee Task Force Report
- International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training
- Arkansas Attorney General's Missing Persons Working Group

ORGANIZATION





FISCAL



Commis	sion on Law FY2020 Ani				lards	and T	rainin	3	
	July 1	, <mark>20</mark> 19 - Jun	e 30th, 2020)					
FUND: Operating	Total FY20 Authorized Appropriation 3,801,830.00								FY20 Expenses
REGULAR SALARIES									1,915,764.98
PERSONAL SERVICE MATCHING									688,151.52
OPERATING EXPENSE									732,279.86
TRAVEL									10,839.20
PROFESSIONAL FEES									1,675.60
TOTAL									3,348,711.16
	Total FY20								
	Authorized								
FUND: 911	Appropriation								FY20
REGULAR SALARIES	264,779.00								Expenses 55,213.45
REGULAR SALARIES									55,215.45
PERSONAL									17,320.57
SERVICE MATCHING OPERATING EXPENSE									46,569.01
TRAVEL									2,606.40
PROFESSIONAL FEES									6,750.00
Capital Outlay									0.00
TOTAL									128,459.43

STANDARDS



The Commission establishes the minimum selection and training standards for admission to employment as a law enforcement officer in the State of Arkansas. All applicants for law enforcement employment must meet the requirements established by the Commission and complete Commission-approved training to obtain certification. Commissioned law enforcement officers must continue to meet minimum standards in order to maintain their law enforcement status. The Office of Law Enforcement Standards oversees employment, training, and certification requirements established by the Commission.



Brad King Deputy Director Standards Division

2020 OFFICER DECERTIFICATION							
MeetingDecertifiedNotRequests for							
Date		Decertified	Decertification				
January	4	0	10				
April	6	0	11				
July	12	0	9				
September	5	2	0				
October	9	1	13				

STANDARDS STAFF:				
Amanda Yarbrough	CLEST Attorney			
Mandy Hill	Education & Instruction			
	Coordinator			
Brian Johnson	CLEST Senior Agent			
Kaleisha Wise	CLEST Agent			
Annette Cagle	Administrative Specialist			
Charley Higgins	Administrative Specialist			
Rhonda Price	Administrative Specialist			
Susan Miller	Administrative Specialist			
Kreasha Williams	Legal Services Specialist			

In 2020, the Office of Law Enforcement Standards worked with more than 100 law enforcement agencies to ensure agency compliance with minimum standards.

As a result of COVID-19, CLEST partnered with state and local agencies to ensure that students attending the basic academy at Black River Law Enforcement Training Academy were able to complete their course curriculum and graduate. CLEST also recorded a record high for online course completions, totaling more than 87,000 in 2020.

Following the 2019 legislative session, CLEST updated its rules to ensure compliance with state law. Updated CLEST Rules went into effect on January 1, 2020. Significant rule changes include:

- Redefined definition of a Full-Time and Part-Time Law Enforcement Officer;
- Increased minimum annual training requirements from 16 to 24 hours;
- Updated reciprocity rules; and
- Increased the education points required to obtain a Basic, General, Intermediate, Advanced, or Senior Certificate.

In September 2020, CLEST hired Legal Services Specialist Kreasha Williams. Kreasha graduated in 2005 from Southeast Arkansas College with an Associate Degree in Paralegal Technology. Before joining the CLEST team, Kreasha worked for fifteen years as a private practice paralegal. As the Legal Services Specialist for the Commission, Kreasha assists in the review and preparation of decertification cases before the Commission.

ALETA





Fred Weatherspoon is the Deputy Director at the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy and has been employed at ALETA since 1995. He is responsible for the oversight of daily operations at ALETA, NW ALETA, and Central ALETA.



Craig Lawson Training Supervisor ALETA



Juan Reyes Training Supervisor ALETA

ALETA held three basic training academies in 2020: January 5, 2020 – March 24, 2020; May 31, 2020 – August 21, 2020; and September 13, 2020 – November 23, 2020, resulting in 173 new law enforcement officers in 2020.

w law enforcement officers in 6373 Hussey Rd.

ALETA STAFF:					
Liz Jones (Retired)	CLEST Senior Agent				
Ronnie Poole	CLEST Senior Agent				
Tony Madlock	CLEST Senior Agent				
Erin Smelser	CLEST Senior Agent				
Rodney Franklin (Separated	CLEST Senior Agent				
June)					
Scott Rosson	CLEST Agent				
Joseph Paull (Separated June)	CLEST Agent				
David Williams	CLEST Agent				
Jonathan Chambers	CLEST Agent				
Amie Martin	CLEST Agent				
William Spells (Separated	CLEST Agent				
February)					
Michelle Stokes	Administrative Specialist				
Sue Albritton	Administrative Specialist				
Pam Sanders	Administrative Specialist				
Terri Haynes	Administrative Specialist				
Melissa Reynolds	Administrative Specialist				
Curtis B. Sharp	Computer Support Specialist				
Cindy Tuberville (Retired)	Food Prep. Manager				
Kim Hammock	Food Preparation Supervisor				
Kim Stinnett	Food Preparation Supervisor				
Peggy Mahan	Cook				
Susan Daniel	Cook				
Amy Inman	Cook				
Travis Sanders	Maintenance Supervisor				
Kenneth Workman	Maintenance Specialist				
Mitchell Genn	Public Safety Security Officer				
Morris Misenheimer	Public Safety Security Officer				
Paul Aymond	Public Safety Security Officer				
Kristi Branch (Separated	Fiscal Support Manager				
August)					
Sheena Waller (Separated	HR Specialist/Food Prep				
October)	Manager				

6373 Hussey Rd. East Camden, AR 71701 (870) 574-1810

2020 ELECTIVE COURSES							
Course Hours Graduated							
Arkansas Court Security Officer	12	90					
First Aid CPR/AED	6	84					
Radar Elective	8	178					
Civil Process	6	124					

In June 2020, Deputy Director Fred Weatherspoon was announced as the chair of Governor Hutchinson's Task Force to Advance the State of Law Enforcement in Arkansas. The Task Force presented its final report, which included 27 recommendations to advance law enforcement in Arkansas, to Governor Hutchinson on December 17, 2020.

As a result of COVID-19, classroom availability was limited throughout the year. Despite these challenges, ALETA-Camden offered specialized courses in Instructor Development, Crisis Intervention Team Training, Firearms Instructor, Marijuana Leaf Field Test Certification, and MILO.

Throughout the year, ALETA-Camden's south dorm underwent minor renovations in order to better serve basic academy students. The maintenance office also underwent renovations after a tree fell on the building.

During 2020 all jailer training materials were reviewed and updated. CLEST hosted two 56-hour Jail Standards classes at ALETA-Camden. CLEST is currently developing an online Jail Standards class to be included in the online training on the CLEST portal.

In 2020, CLEST established a working group/committee to review the current Firearms Instructor curriculum and make recommendations on how to improve firearms training for the law enforcement community. The committee consists of CLEST training instructors, CLEST supervisors, and CLEST agents from across the agency. The committee expects to present its initial recommendations in Spring, 2021.



NORTHWEST ALETA



Clint Scrivner Training Supervisor NW ALETA

3424 South Downum Rd
Springdale, AR 72762
(479) 361-3410
(479) 361-3412

NW ALETA STAFF:				
Gregg Harrison	CLEST Agent			
Bob Selph	CLEST Agent			
Dianne Smith	Administrative Specialist			
Shannon McCuin	911 Training Coordinator			

NW ALETA held three basic academies in 2020: January 11, 2020 – April 9, 2020; April 26, 2020 – July 23, 2020; and August 16, 2020 – November 12, 2020, resulting in 88 new law enforcement officers in 2020.

2020 ELECTIVE COURSES					
Class Name	Course Hours	Students Graduated			
Courtroom Security	12	8			
Civil Process	6	11			

After receiving twelve CONEX shipping containers at no cost, ALETA-NW is in the initial development phases for the construction of a 7,000 square foot training facility. The facility will be used by ALETA-NW and surrounding agencies to conduct practical and scenario-based training. Through partnerships with state and local partners, the ALETA NW campus has cleared perimeter trees in preparation for the construction of a fire break and running trail, been changed from propane to natural gas, and has updated its security fencing around the facility, all at no cost to the agency.

In addition to the basic training courses conducted in 2020 at the ALETA-NW campus, ALETA-NW provided specialized/advanced courses in the following areas: Range Qualifications, SIM Training, CID, Breaching, Building Entry, Patrol Rifle, Drone Training, Hostage Rescue, RICO & VALOR, CIT, Mobile Field Force, Moving Target Training for Precision Rifle, Basic Crisis Negotiator, Advance CIT, and K-9 Training.



CENTRAL ALETA



Joe Duboise Training Supervisor Central ALETA #4 State Police Plaza Drive Little Rock, AR 72209 (501) 682-4753 (501) 682-1582

CENTRAL ALETA STAFF:					
Amanda Chaney	CLEST Agent				

2020 ELECTIVE COURSES				
Class Name Students Graduated				
Civil Process	37			
Court Security Officers	37			
Radar/Lidar	37			
TOTAL:	111			

Central ALETA held two basic academies in 2020: February 23, 2020 – May 22, 2020 and August 2, 2020 – October 30, 2020, resulting in 37 new law enforcement officers in 2020.

In August 2020, CLEST hired Agent Amanda Chaney as a full-time instructor for Central ALETA. Amanda started her law enforcement career in 2003. She has an associate degree in Criminal Justice from Ouachita Technical College. In addition to her responsibilities as an instructor for the basic academy, Amanda will assist in coordinating and conducting specialized and advanced law enforcement training across the state.

In addition to conducting two basic training academies in 2020, Central ALETA assisted local agencies in hosting and conducting Part-Time and Refresher Practical Training, including Defensive Tactics, Firearms Qualification, Accident Investigation, Active Shooter Response, Self-Aid/Buddy Aid, and OC Spray and hosting and conducting a 40-hour Firearms Instructor School.



TELECOMMUNICATIONS



Liz Jones Training Instructor and Telecommunication Office Coordinator P.O. Box 3106 East Camden, AR 71701 Fax: (870) 574-1810

The following telecommunication courses were offered in 2020:

Class/Course Title	Hours	Location	Graduated
Basic Telecommunication	40	Bentonville	19
Certification Course			
Basic Telecommunication	40	ALETA	34
Certification Course			
Basic Telecommunication	40	ALETA-NW	6
Certification Course			

On November 30, 2020, Telecommunication Office Coordinator Liz Jones retired from CLEST after more than 30 years of service. Shannon McCuin was hired on November 1, 2020 as the Training Instructor/Coordinator for the Telecommunications program. Shannon is responsible for instructing, coordinating, and developing curriculum for Telecommunicators as well as developing online telecommunication curriculum. Shannon has worked in public safety for more than twenty years and was part of the team that created the basic telecommunicator course curriculum. Shannon is housed at the ALETA-NW campus.

As a result of the challenges associated with COVID-19, in-person instruction was limited in 2020. In order to provide greater flexibility in training opportunities and ensure the continued delivery of training, CLEST developed an online, hybrid, method of training using existing digital equipment and converted training materials and resources to a digital format.

CLEST is currently developing additional advanced telecommunicator courses and is exploring other opportunities to better serve the telecommunicator community.

LESO



James was selected as the Arkansas Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) State Point of Contact in February, 2014. Prior to working for the LESO program, James worked for the North Little Rock Police Department and the Arkansas State Capitol Police.

After leaving law enforcement, James worked at ADEM / Federal Surplus Property as the compliance and eligibility branch manager.

James' experience in law enforcement and excess government property allocation and compliance is a perfect match for the Arkansas Law Enforcement Support Office program. James serves on the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Law Enforcement Support Office state working group as a permanent member to assist DLA with policy and oversight of the LESO program. James Ray LESO Coordinator #4 State Police Plaza Drive Little Rock, AR 72209 (501) 682-4753 James.ray@arkansas.gov

The National Defense Authorization Act authorizes the Secretary of Defense to transfer excess Department of Defense (DOD) personal property to local law enforcement agencies with special emphasis given to counter-drug and counterterrorism. The Arkansas Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) program (formerly the 1208 program) allows law enforcement agencies to receive DOD excess property. Vehicle and Asset Management, through an agreement between the Defense Logistics Agency and the State of Arkansas, has been charged with the administration of the program.

The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) defines eligible participants for the LESO program as government agencies

whose primary function is the enforcement of applicable federal, state, and local laws, and whose compensated law enforcement officers have powers of arrest and apprehension. All DOD excess property can be used for counter-drug and other law enforcement activities with the exception of the operation of jails. This applies to all property acquired in the future or any property previously acquired through the DOD 1033 Program. The program allows representatives to be eligible to screen military bases for excess DOD property suitable for law enforcement use. Eligible organizations may participate in this program by paying a service fee per allocated item or annual fee based on the number of sworn officers. The law enforcement agency (LEA) must have a current State Plan of Operation (SPO) form completed and a current application on file with the Arkansas LESO office.

In 2020, LESO allocated more than 2 million dollars in equipment to law enforcement agencies across the State of Arkansas, including: Alma Police Department, Arkadelphia Police Department, Bauxite Police Department, Bella Vista Police Department, Arkansas State Police, Benton County Sheriff's Office, CLEST, Benton Police Department, Black River Training Academy, Bentonville Police Department, Bryant Police Department, Cleburne County Sheriff's Office, Crawford County Sheriff's Office, Elkins Police Department, Garland County Sheriff's Office, Grant County Sheriff's Office, North Little Rock Police Department, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Ozark Police Department, Pulaski County Sheriff's Office, Saline County Sheriff's Office, and others.