BART POLICE OFFICER CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The purpose of continued professional training is to maintain, update, and/or enhance an individual’s knowledge and/or skills. The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requires officers to complete a minimum of 24 hours of continued professional training every two years.

POST mandates that a minimum of 12 hours of continued professional training shall be in perishable skills training. Of the total of 12 hours required, a minimum of four hours of each of the following topical areas shall be completed:

1. Arrest and Control
2. Driver Training/Awareness or Driving Simulator
3. Tactical Firearms or Force Options Simulator

Additionally, POST requires a minimum of two hours of Communications Training either tactical or interpersonal. The remaining 10 hours of Continued Professional Training can be satisfied by training in a variety of topics as long as the training fulfills the stated purpose of maintaining, updating, or enhancing the individual officer’s skill set.

In order to comply with these training mandates, the BART Police Department provides at least one 10 hour firearms training day per year with additional semi-annual qualifications. Arrest-and-control techniques training is also conducted on a bi-annual basis. Both Firearms and Arrest and Control training is also provided regularly on a volunteer basis in addition to mandatory training.

In order to comply with the remaining hours of POST mandated training the Department subscribes to the POST Continued Professional Training Network which consists of DVD multimedia training, which all of our officers are required to complete. These training videos are in a variety of law enforcement related topics. Our department has presented the following CPTN training DVD’s in the past year.

1. Preventing Law Enforcement Suicide
2. 2008 Legal Update
3. Racial Profiling Update
4. K-9 Operations
5. Youth Violence Update
6. Extradition Procedures
7. Supporting Returning Military
8. Crowd Management Update
9. Public Health Emergencies
10. Homicide Investigation
11. Anti-Reproductive Rights crimes
12. Responsibility for Children When Parent is Arrested

In addition to the above listed training, select individual officers and supervisory personnel are routinely sent to training specific to their job classifications within the department. For example, detectives are sent to homicide investigation, interview and interrogation courses, etc. Supervisors attend leadership courses, officer-involved shooting courses etc. Background Investigators attend the background investigators course. Departmental Instructors attend instructor courses in their respective areas of expertise. Individual officers are also encouraged to identify courses which will improve their job skills and apply for permission to attend through their chain of command.

Training is an on-going, year round endeavor for any police department. Compliance with mandated training requirements is affected by many variables not the least of which are budgetary concerns, staffing issues, injuries, and availability of training courses.

The above is a synopsis of the training requirements and training presented to BART officers and should not be considered comprehensive or all inclusive.