

**TYLER POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDER**

HONORABLY RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS

12.200

REVISED 02/27/15

EFFECTIVE 01/21/2004

12.201 PURPOSE

The purpose of this General Order is to set forth the procedures for Honorably Retired Police Officers the opportunity to demonstrate weapons proficiency after their separation from the Tyler Police Department. The Tyler Police Department will only issue Proficiency Certificates to retired Tyler Police Officers.

12.202 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. When an officer retires honorably from the Police Department, the department may provide the retiree with a photographic identification card bearing the State of Texas Seal and the Police Patch that contains at a minimum:
1. Name and rank at retirement
 2. Photograph of retiree
 3. Date of Birth, Date of Retirement, and 5 year Expiration Date
 5. Chief signature
- B. Prior to an Honorably Retired Police Officer being issued a firearms proficiency certificate by the Tyler Police Department, the retired officer must provide a sworn affidavit to the Chief of Police stating:
1. The officer is honorably retired after not less than 15 years of service as a commissioned peace officer.
 2. The officer's license as a peace officer was not revoked or suspended for any period during the officer's term of service as a commissioned peace officer.
 3. The officer has no psychological or physical disability that would interfere with the officer's handling of a handgun.
- C. Along with the affidavit the retired officer must provide proof of eligibility for retirement benefits based on their years of service as a peace officer.
- D. Once the affidavit has been completed, a criminal history investigation will be conducted. This will be to check for any offenses involving Family Violence, Felony Offense(s), Misdemeanor Offense(s), and the presence of any offense that would constitute an offense if the retired officer were to possess a firearm. A check will also be conducted to assure that the retired officer is not currently under a protective order forbidding the possession of a firearm.
- E. The affidavit, the criminal history investigation and any other information requested will be presented to the Chief of Police. The Chief will then determine if the Honorably Retired Officer meets the standards set forth in the Texas Occupations Code 1701.357. The Chief of Police will then approve or deny the retired officer the opportunity to demonstrate weapons proficiency with the Tyler Police Department.

12.203 WEAPONS PROFICIENCY

- A. Once approval has been granted by the Chief of Police, the retired officer will be directed to the Tyler Police Department Firearms Coordinator who will designate the time and date for a firearms instructor to qualify the retiree.
- B. Prior to an Honorably Retired Police Officer carrying any firearm, a certified firearms instructor must review, inspect and approve the weapon being considered for carry use.
- C. If any weapon being considered for use is deemed unsafe, unreliable or inappropriate, the instructor may disallow the use of the weapon/weapon system until repairs, upgrades, and/or replacement can be completed and the weapon/weapon system is deemed safe for use. In the event that the weapon is deemed unsafe, a memo will be directed to the Firearms Coordinator outlining the diagnosis of the weapon in question. If the retired officer has another weapon with which they can qualify and it meets the criteria, they may be allowed to qualify with that weapon. A memo will be completed by the retired officer and forwarded to the Firearms Coordinator stating that their weapon has been repaired, inspected, and is being utilized prior to carrying the weapon.
- D. The inspection conducted by the Firearms Instructor will be documented and placed in the Retired Officer's training file.
- E. **TCOLE guideline 218.9 mandates that Honorably Retired Police officers must qualify with their weapon annually.** Safety, proper technique and accuracy are the goals of all firearms training. The range will be open for regularly scheduled qualifications on designated days throughout the year.
- F. All Honorably Retired Officers will be required to qualify on the department approved qualification course with a score of at least 80%.
- G. Any retired officer who fails to qualify will be given supervised training with a Certified Firearms Instructor and be given a chance to attempt qualification again. If the retired officer is unable to qualify at this point, the retiree will be given a recommendation to practice and seek professional instruction from a firearms instructor on their own time. The retired officer will then be rescheduled for a third qualification attempt. If the retired officer is unable to qualify at this point, the firearms instructor will forward a memorandum to the Chief of Police explaining the failure to qualify and recommend the denial of an initial certification of proficiency or the denial for renewal of an existing proficiency certification.
- H. No retired officer will be authorized by the Tyler Police Department to carry a firearm without first having completed formal training as regulated by the Department and must show proficiency with the firearm.
- I. All qualifications will be done following courses provided by the Firearms Coordinator, with the approval of the Chief of Police.
- J. Each course of fire will have a specific time frame sufficient to simulate a stress situation, which causes the retired officer to apply fundamental concepts of safety, proper technique and accuracy in firing, and the proficient reloading of the firearm under a condition of stress.

The Firearms Coordinator can recommend to the Chief of Police that a retired officer not receive a certificate of proficiency on a particular weapon because of a lack of proficiency, even though the officer has qualified with it.
- K. The minimum qualification course shall be as described in the annual firearms training plan.

- L. Targets authorized to be used for qualifications are the same as used by regular, full-time officers.
- M. Upon successful completion of the firearms proficiency qualification, the retiree will be provided with a Weapons Proficiency Certificate (Card) that identifies the retiree as having qualified before a Firearms instructor and is signed by the Firearms Coordinator that has an expiration date of 1 year.

12.204 AMMUNITION FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Retired Officers must provide their own ammunition for the qualification. They must provide at least 150 rounds of Factory first run ammunition or professionally remanufactured ammunition. **No reloaded ammunition will be allowed.** A firearms instructor has the authority to inspect and deny the use of ammunition. Honorably retired officers will also have to furnish six Duty Type Rounds for each qualification attempt.

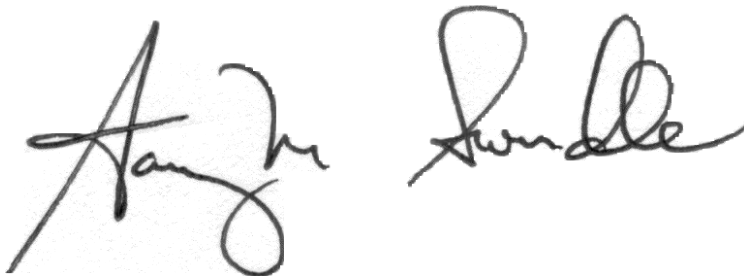
12.205 USE OF WEAPONS

- A. The use of any weapon by honorably retired Tyler Police Officers will be in accordance with the existing laws of the State of Texas.
- B. Any retired officer serving as a Reserve Officer with the Tyler Police Department and who has been issued a Certificate of Proficiency from the department will be regulated by the existing General Orders of the department.

12.206 REVOCATION OR DENIAL OF CERTIFICATES

The Chief of Police reserves the right to revoke a Weapons Proficiency Certificate at any time with or without cause. The Chief also reserves the right to deny the issuance of a certificate at any time with or without cause.

Approved: 02/27/15

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is stylized and appears to be 'Angie'. The signature on the right is also stylized and appears to be 'Sundell'.