PURPOSE: To establish training standards for police recruits who attend the Cleveland Division of Police Academy and for lateral police recruits who attend the Cleveland Division of Police Academy.

POLICY: The Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) is the governing agency for all peace officer training in the State of Ohio. The Division of Police, consistent with OPOTC and the Ohio Administrative Code, requires police recruits to meet or exceed the minimum training standards for the Basic Peace Officer Training Course.

Lateral recruits must complete the entire Cleveland Division of Police Lateral Academy curriculum as established by the Training Section and the Chief of Police.

DEFINITIONS:

Lateral Recruit is a police officer that is hired by the City of Cleveland through the civil service process when no civil service list exists of candidates who have taken the City’s written Civil Service Entrance Exam. Qualified lateral recruits, in part, already possess their OPOTC certification and have the requisite years of full-time police officer experience in the State of Ohio.

PROCEDURES:

I. The training standards for recruits are:

   A. Attendance: The Division of Police shall not excuse recruits from mandatory courses. Recruits’ absences shall not exceed 5% for non-mandatory classes.

   B. Notebook: Recruits shall complete and submit to the school commander their academy notebook for inspection and approval. No recruit will be permitted
to take the state certification examination unless that recruit has received a satisfactory evaluation of his/her notebook.

C. **Psychomotor Skills:** Psychomotor skills, as defined by the OPOTC curriculum, must be successfully completed in order to pass the recruit training and sit for the state certification examination. Psychomotor skills include, but are not limited to: Firearms Training, Driving, Subject Control, First Aid, Stops and Approaches, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and Physical Training.

Each recruit shall be permitted one test for each Student Performance Objective (SPO) and one retest if the recruit fails the initial attempt. Recruits who fail the initial test will be afforded a reasonable amount of remedial training prior to the retest.

D. **Academic Achievement:** The OPOTC will prepare, administer, and score each recruit’s final examination. The recruit shall pass a final written examination prior to receiving certification as an Ohio Peace Officer. Students who fail the state certification examination will be permitted one retest, to be scheduled by the OPOTC Testing Division.

E. **Recruit Standards:** Recruits must meet all standards and SPOs as defined in the Recruit Manual of Rules and Regulations and the OPOTC course curriculum.

F. **Failure:** Failure to achieve any one of the requirements shall lead to disciplinary action and dismissal.

IV. The training standards for Lateral Recruits are:

A. **Attendance:** The Division of Police shall not excuse Lateral Recruits from any training courses. All missed classes must be made up before the completion of the Academy on the recruit’s own time and at the discretion of the Training Section Officer-in-Charge (OIC).

B. **Notebook:** Lateral Recruits shall complete and submit a notebook to the OIC of the Training Section for inspection and approval. The Lateral Recruits notebooks must meet minimum OPOTC standards and be deemed satisfactory prior to completion of the Lateral Academy.
C. **Psychomotor Skills:** Each Lateral Recruit shall display proficiency in the psychomotor skills areas by completing the appropriate Student Performance Objective and no more than one (1) retest if the recruit fails the initial attempt. Lateral Recruits who fail the initial attempt will be afforded a reasonable amount of remedial training prior to the retest.

1. **Firearms Training:** Lateral Recruits shall display proficiency with the handgun and shotgun through successful completion of firearms testing. Lateral Recruits shall pass OPOTC standards for yearly requalification with the Division issued handgun and shotgun.

2. **Intermediate Weapons:** Lateral Recruits shall display proficiency with all intermediate weapons mandated by the Division of Police through successful completion of testing and certification as set forth in Division policy.

3. **Physical Training:** Lateral Recruits shall participate in physical training programs such as subject control, defensive skills, and physical-conditioning. Lateral Recruits are required to pass the Cooper Standards of fitness at 50% for the push-ups, sit-ups and the 1.5 mile run.

D. **Lateral Recruit Standards:** Lateral Recruits must meet all standards and SPOs as defined in the Lateral Recruit Manual of Rules and Regulations and the course curriculum.

E. **Academic Achievement:** Lateral Recruits shall take Cleveland Division of Police exams. A score of less than 80% will constitute a failure, requiring a retest. Failure of any retest may result in disciplinary charges.

F. **Failure:** Failure to achieve any one of the requirements shall lead to disciplinary action and recommendations for dismissal.

MM/stm
Academy Unit