

# ACT No. 495

HOUSE BILL NO. 474

BY REPRESENTATIVES SMITH, GARY CARTER, GAINES, HUNTER, JACKSON,  
AND ZERINGUE AND SENATORS ALARIO, APPEL, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX,  
CHABERT, CLAITOR, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HEWITT,  
JOHNS, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, PEACOCK,  
PRICE, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH,  
AND WHITE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:2405.8(E) and to enact R.S. 40:2405.8(F) and (G), relative  
3 to peace officer training requirements; to provide for the creation of domestic  
4 violence training modules; to provide for the creation of a communication training  
5 plan; to provide relative to communication tools; to provide for the promulgation of  
6 rules; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 40:2405.8(E) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 40:2405.8  
9 (F) and (G) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §2405.8. Additional peace officer training requirements

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12 E.(1) The council shall develop a domestic violence awareness training  
13 program in a series of modules to include all of the following:

14 (a) Dynamics of domestic violence.

15 (b) Predominant aggressor determination.

16 (c) Neurobiology of trauma and its implications for victim communication.

17 (d) Strangulation response and investigation methods.

18 (e) Evidence-based investigation methods.

19 (f) Protection order enforcement and the Louisiana Protective Order

20 Registry.

1                   (g) Applicable state and federal domestic violence laws.

2                   (2) On and after July 1, 2018, each peace officer, as defined in R.S.  
3                   40:2402(3)(a), shall complete a domestic violence awareness training program as  
4                   provided by the council.

5                   F.(1) The council, in collaboration with the community, shall develop a  
6                   communication training plan. The plan shall incorporate officer techniques for face-  
7                   to-face communications with hard of hearing or deaf persons. The training shall  
8                   cover the following topics:

9                   (a) Recognition of deaf or hard of hearing individuals.

10                  (b) Communication tips including but not limited to the following:

11                  (i) Review of the ADA publication, "Communicating with People Who Are  
12                  Deaf or Hard of Hearing: ADA Guide for Law Enforcement Officer".

13                  (ii) Training with communication cards or other forms of assistance  
14                  technology for law enforcement officers interacting with deaf or hard of hearing  
15                  individuals.

16                  (c) Information regarding how to access interpreters, TTY, and relay  
17                  services.

18                  (d) Rights of deaf and hard of hearing individuals, including interrogations.

19                  (e) Applicable state and federal laws.

20                  (2) On and after January 1, 2019, each peace officer, as defined in R.S.  
21                  40:2402(3)(a), shall complete an interactive training module as provided by the  
22                  council on communicating with deaf and hard of hearing individuals.

23                  (3) The council shall approve communication cards developed by any public  
24                  or private entity, including nongovernmental advocacy groups, that specializes in  
25                  working with deaf and hard of hearing individuals for the use by law enforcement  
26                  officers. The communication cards should be made available in all law enforcement  
27                  agency headquarters and substations. Additionally, all officers shall have  
28                  communication cards available in patrol vehicles.

29                  E.G.(1) The council shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance  
30                  with the Administrative Procedure Act, subject to the oversight of the House

1           Committee on the Administration of Criminal Justice and the Senate Committee on  
2           Judiciary B, for the implementation of a homicide investigator training program no  
3           later than July 1, 2016.

4                   (2)(a) The council shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with  
5           the Administrative Procedure Act, subject to the oversight of the House Committee  
6           on the Administration of Criminal Justice and the Senate Committee on Judiciary B,  
7           for the implementation of a sexual assault awareness training program as provided  
8           in R.S. 17:1805(H) no later than October 1, 2015.

9                   (b) The council shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with  
10          the Administrative Procedure Act, subject to the oversight of the House Committee  
11          on the Administration of Criminal Justice and the Senate Committee on Judiciary B,  
12          for the implementation of a sexual assault awareness training program for peace  
13          officers as defined in R.S. 40:2402(3)(a) as provided in Paragraph (C)(3) of this  
14          Section no later than January 1, 2017.

15                   (3)(a) The council shall promulgate rules in accordance with the  
16          Administrative Procedure Act for implementation of the following training programs  
17          for peace officers as provided in Subsections E and F of this Section:

18                   (i) Domestic violence awareness training.

19                   (ii) Communication with deaf or hard of hearing individuals.

20                   (b) The council shall create and maintain a list of peace officers who have  
21          successfully completed the domestic violence awareness training and the training on  
22          communication with deaf or hard of hearing individuals.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_