

Note from the Codifier: The OAH website includes notices and the text of proposed temporary rules as required by G.S. 150B-21.1(a1). Prior to the agency adopting the temporary rule, the agency must hold a public hearing no less than five days after the rule and notice have been published and must accept comments for at least 15 business days.
For questions, you may contact the Office of Administrative Hearings at 984-236-1850 or email oah.postmaster@oah.nc.gov.

TITLE 14B – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Notice is hereby given in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.1(a3) that the Private Protective Services Board intends to adopt the rules cited as 14B NCAC 16 .1501-.1504, .1601, .1701-.1709 and amend the rules cited as 14B NCAC 16 .0201, .0403, and .0807.

Codifier of Rules received for publication the following notice and proposed temporary rule(s) on: December 19, 2022.

Public Hearing:

Date: January 10, 2023

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: 3101 Industrial Dr., Suite 104, Raleigh, NC 27609

Reason for Proposed Temporary Action:

Senate Bill 424 (S.L. 2022-66) created two new license categories for the Board: Close Personal Protection and Digital Forensics Examination. This necessitated the creation of three new Sections of Chapter 16 (Section .1500, Section .1600 and Section .1700) and conforming changes to three existing rules (.0201, .0403 and .0807.) These portions of S.L. 2022-66 were effective October 1, 2022.

(Note: The version of 14B NCAC 16 .0807 noticed was approved by RRC December 15, 2022 and effective January 1, 2023.)

Comment Procedures: Comments from the public shall be directed to: Paul Sherwin, 3101 Industrial Dr., Suite 104, Raleigh, NC 27609; phone (919) 788-5320; fax (919) 715-0370; email paul.sherwin@ncdps.gov. The comment period begins January 9, 2023 and ends January 31, 2023.

CHAPTER 16 - PRIVATE PROTECTIVE SERVICES BOARD

SECTION .0200 - LICENSES: TRAINEE PERMITS

14B NCAC 16 .0201 APPLICATION FOR LICENSE AND TRAINEE PERMITS

(a) Each applicant for a license or trainee permit shall submit an online application on the website provided by the Board. The online application shall be accompanied by:

- (1) electronic submission of fingerprints from a Live Scan or similar system approved by the State Bureau of Investigations or one set of classifiable fingerprints on an applicant fingerprint card that shall be mailed separately to the Board's office;
- (2) one head and shoulders digital photograph of the applicant in JPG, JPEG, or PNG format of sufficient quality for identification, taken within six months prior to online application and submitted by uploading the photograph online with the application submission;
- (3) upload online a statement of the results of a statewide criminal history records search by the reporting service designated by the Board pursuant to G.S. 74C-8.1(a) for each state where the applicant has resided within the preceding 60 months;
- (4) the applicant's non-refundable application fee, along with a four dollar (\$4.00) convenience fee and credit card transaction fee;
- (5) the actual cost charged to the Private Protective Services Board by the State Bureau of

Investigation to cover the cost of criminal record checks performed by the State Bureau of Investigation, collected online by the Private Protective Services Board;

- (6) an Equifax credit check run within 30 days of the license application submission date, which will be submitted to the Board's investigator during the application process; and
- (7) five letters attesting to the good character and reputation of the applicant using the online character letter submission process.

(b) Applications for trainee permits shall be accompanied by a notarized statement on a form provided by the Board and signed by the applicant and his or her prospective supervisor, stating that the trainee applicant shall at all times work with and under the direct supervision of that supervisor and the form shall be uploaded as part of the online application process.

(c) Private investigator and digital forensics examination trainees applying for a license shall make available for inspection a log of experience on a form provided by the Board.

(d) Each applicant must upload evidence of high school graduation either by diploma, G.E.D. certificate, or other proof.

(e) Each applicant for a license shall meet personally with a Board investigator, the Screening Committee, the Director, or another Board representative designated by the Director prior to being issued a license. The applicant shall discuss the provisions of G.S. 74C and the administrative rules in this Chapter during the personal meeting. The applicant shall sign a form provided by the Board indicating that he or she has reviewed G.S. 74C and the administrative rules in this Chapter with the Board's representative. During a national or

State declared state of emergency that restricts or prohibits travel, the personal meeting requirement may be waived if requested by the applicant in favor of alternative means of communication.

Authority G.S. 74C-2; 74C-5; 74C-8; 74C-8.1; 74C-12.

SECTION .0400 - PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR: ELECTRONIC COUNTERMEASURES

14B NCAC 16 .0403 TRAINEE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

(a) In addition to the requirements of Section .0200 of this Chapter, applicants for a trainee permit in private ~~investigation or countermeasures~~ investigation, electronic countermeasures, or digital forensics examination shall be directly supervised by a licensee approved by the Board and that supervisor shall be responsible for the training and ~~investigations~~ other professional activities of the trainee.

(b) Trainees who wish to apply for a license must submit an application to the Board in accordance with Rule .0201 of this Chapter.

(c) Private ~~investigator~~ investigator, electronic countermeasures, or digital forensics examination trainees shall maintain a log on a form provided by the Board on its website as evidence of experience. This log must be available for inspection when applying for a license.

(d) Any request for renewal of a trainee permit or for issuance of a license shall be accompanied by an evaluation report of the trainee's performance on a form provided by the Board on its website and submitted by the trainee's supervisor.

Authority G.S. 74C-2; 74C-5.

SECTION .0800 - ARMED SECURITY GUARD FIREARM REGISTRATION PERMIT

14B NCAC 16 .0807 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR ARMED LICENSEES AND REGISTRANTS

(a) Applicants for an armed security guard firearm registration permit shall first complete the basic unarmed security guard training course set forth in Rule .0707 of this Chapter.

(b) Private ~~investigator~~ investigator, close personal protection, or any other licensee applying for an armed ~~security guard firearm registration~~ permit shall first complete a ~~five-hour~~ training course consisting of the courses set forth in Rule .0707(a)(1) and (2) of this Chapter and all additional training requirements set forth in that Rule.

(c) Applicants for an armed security guard firearm registration permit shall complete a basic training course for armed security guards which consists of at least 20 hours of classroom instruction including:

- (1) legal limitations on the use of handguns and on the powers and authority of an armed security guard, including familiarity with rules and regulations relating to armed security guards (minimum of four hours);
- (2) handgun safety, including range firing procedures (minimum of one hour);
- (3) handgun operation and maintenance (minimum of three hours);
- (4) handgun fundamentals (minimum of eight hours); and
- (5) night firing (minimum of four hours).

Subparagraph (c)(2), "operation" under Subparagraph (c)(3), and Subparagraph (c)(4) of this Rule shall be completed prior to the applicant's participation in range firing.

(d) Applicants for either an armed licensee permit or an armed security guard firearm registration permit shall attain a score of at least 80 percent accuracy on a firearms range qualification course established by the Board and the Secretary of Public Safety, a copy of which is on file in the Director's office, once in three consecutive attempts. Should a student fail to attain a score of 80 percent accuracy, the student may be given a second opportunity to qualify once in three consecutive attempts on the course of fire the student did not pass. Failure to qualify after the second series of attempts shall require the student to repeat the entire basic training course for armed security guards. All attempts must take place within 20 days of the completion of the initial 20 hour course. For rifle qualification all shots shall be located on the target.

(e) All initial ~~armed security guard~~ training required by this Chapter shall be administered by a certified trainer and shall be completed no more than 90 days prior to the date of ~~issuance of~~ application for the licensee permit or armed security guard firearm registration permit.

(f) All applicants for an armed security guard firearm registration permit shall obtain training under the provisions of this Section using their duty weapon and their duty ammunition or ballistic equivalent ammunition, to include lead-free ammunition that meets the same point of aim, point of impact, and felt recoil of the duty ammunition, for all ~~weapons.~~ firearms.

(g) No more than six new or renewal licensee permit or armed security guard applicants per one instructor shall be placed on the firing line at any one time during firearms range ~~training for armed security guards.~~ training.

(h) Applicants for re-certification of a licensee permit or an armed security guard firearm registration permit shall complete ~~a~~ the basic recertification training course for armed security guards that consists of at least four hours of classroom instruction and is a review of the requirements set forth in Subparagraphs (c)(1) through (c)(5) of this Rule. Subparagraphs (c)(2), operation under Subparagraph (c)(3), and Subparagraphs (c)(4) and (5) of this Rule shall be reviewed prior to range firing and maintenance under Subparagraph (c)(3) may be reviewed after range firing. The recertification course is valid for 180 days after completion of the course. Applicants for recertification of a licensee permit or an armed security guard firearm registration permit shall also complete the requirements of Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

(i) An armed guard registered with one company may be registered with a second company. The registration shall be considered "dual." The registration with the second company shall expire at the same time that the registration expires with the first company. An updated application shall be required to be submitted by the applicant, along with the digital photograph, updated criminal records checks, and a forty dollar (\$40.00) registration fee. If the guard will be carrying a firearm of the same make, model, and caliber, then no additional firearms training shall be required. The licensee shall submit a letter stating the guard will be carrying the same make and model firearm.

If the guard will be carrying a firearm of a different make and model, the licensee shall submit a letter to the Board advising of the make, model, and caliber of the firearm the guard will be carrying and the guard shall be required to qualify at the firing range on both the day and night qualification course. The qualification score is valid for 180 days after completion of the course.

(j) To be authorized to carry a standard 12 gauge shotgun in the performance of his or her duties as an armed security guard, an applicant shall complete, in addition to the requirements of Paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) of this Rule, six hours of classroom training that shall include the following:

- (1) legal limitations on the use of shotgun (minimum of one hour);
- (2) shotgun safety, including range firing procedures (minimum of one hour);
- (3) shotgun operation and maintenance (minimum of one hour);
- (4) shotgun fundamentals (minimum of two hours); and
- (5) night firing (minimum of one hour).

Subparagraph (j)(2), "operation" under Subparagraph (j)(3), and Subparagraph (j)(4) of this Rule shall be completed prior to the applicant's participation in range firing.

(k) An armed security guard applicant may take the additional shotgun training at a time after the initial training in this Rule. If the shotgun training is completed at a later time, the shotgun certification shall run concurrent with the armed registration permit. In addition to the requirements set forth in Paragraph (j) of this Rule, applicants shall attain a score of at least 80 percent accuracy on a shotgun range qualification course established by the Board and the Secretary of Public Safety, a copy of which is on file in the Director's office.

(l) Applicants for shotgun recertification shall complete one hour of classroom training covering the topics set forth in Paragraph (j) of this Rule and shall also complete the requirements of Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

(m) To be authorized to carry a rifle in the performance of his or her duties as an armed security guard, an applicant shall complete, in addition to the requirements of Paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) of this Rule, 16 hours of classroom training which shall include the following:

- (1) legal limitations on the use of rifles (minimum of one hour);
- (2) rifle safety, including range firing procedures (minimum of one hour);
- (3) rifle operation and maintenance (minimum of two hours);
- (4) rifle fundamentals (minimum of ten hours); and
- (5) night firing (minimum two hours).

Subparagraph (m)(2), "operation" under Subparagraph (m)(3), and Subparagraph (m)(4) of this Rule shall be completed prior to the applicant's participation in range firing.

(n) The applicant shall pass a skills course that tests each basic rifle skill and the test of each skill shall be completed within three attempts.

(o) An applicant may take the additional rifle training at a time after the initial training in Subsection (c) of this Rule. If the rifle training is completed at a later time, the rifle certification shall run concurrent with the armed registration permit. In addition to the requirements set forth in Paragraphs (m) and (n) of this Rule, applicants shall attain a score of at least 80 percent accuracy on a rifle range qualification course established by the Board and the Secretary of Public Safety, a copy of which is on file in the Director's office.

(p) Applicants for rifle recertification shall complete an additional one hour of classroom training covering the topics set forth in Paragraph (m) of this Rule and shall also complete the requirements of Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

(q) Upon written request, an applicant for a licensee permit or an armed security guard firearm registration permit who possesses a current firearms trainer certificate shall be given a firearms licensee permit or registration permit that will run concurrent with the trainer certificate upon completion of an annual qualification with the applicant's duty firearms as set forth in Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

(r) An armed licensee or security guard is required to qualify annually both for day and night firing with his or her duty handgun, shotgun, and rifle, if applicable. If the licensee or security guard fails to qualify on any course of fire, licensee or the security guard shall not carry the firearm until such time as he or she meets the qualification requirements. Upon failure to qualify, the firearm instructor shall notify the licensee or security guard that he or she is no longer authorized to carry the firearm and the firearm instructor shall notify the employer and the Private Protective Services Board staff on the next business day.

(s) A firearm training certificate of an armed security guard remains valid even if the guard leaves the employment of one company for the employment of another. The range qualifications shall remain valid if the guard will be carrying a firearm of the same make, model, and caliber and no additional firearms training shall be required. The licensee shall submit a letter stating the guard will be carrying the same make and model firearm. If the guard will be carrying a firearm of a different make and model, the licensee shall submit a letter to the Board advising of the make, model, and caliber of the firearm the guard will be carrying and the guard shall be required to qualify at the firing range on both the day and night qualification course. The qualification score is valid for 180 days after completion of the course. However, nothing herein shall extend the period of time the qualification is valid.

Authority G.S. 74C-5; 74C-9; 74C-13.

SECTION .1500 – CLOSE PERSONAL PROTECTION

14B NCAC 16 .1501 EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR A CLOSE PERSONAL PROTECTION LICENSE

(a) In addition to the requirements of G.S. 74C-8 and Section .0200 of this Chapter, applicants for a close personal protection license shall:

- (1) establish to the Board's satisfaction three years of verifiable experience while conducting close personal protection services as set forth in G.S. 74C-3(a)(3a) with a private person, firm, association, or corporation within the last 10 years;
- (2) establish to the Board's satisfaction three years of verifiable experience while conducting close personal protection services as set forth in G.S. 74C-3(a)(3a) with any federal, state, county or municipal law enforcement agency, or other governmental agency within the last 10 years;

- (3) establish to the Board's satisfaction a military occupational specialty and two years of verifiable experience within the past five years in the U.S. Armed Forces while conducting close personal protection services as set forth in G.S. 74C-3(a)(3a) while serving in an official capacity; or
- (4) have completed a course in close personal protection approved by the Board given by a school specializing in close personal protection (or "executive protection") that consists of a minimum of 40 hours of actual classroom and practical instruction within the last 2 years.

(b) In addition to the requirements of Section .0200 of this Chapter, an applicant for a close personal protection license that is the spouse of an active duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces shall establish to the Board's satisfaction:

- (1) the spouse holds a current license, certification, or registration from another jurisdiction and the other jurisdiction's requirements are substantially equivalent to or exceed the Board's requirements; and
- (2) the spouse has two years verifiable experience within the past five years while conducting close personal protection as set forth in G.S. 74C-3(a)(3a) while serving in an official capacity with any entity described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

Authority G.S. 74C-5(2); 93B-15.1.

14B NCAC 16 .1502 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR CLOSE PERSONAL PROTECTION LICENSE

(a) Applicants for a close personal protection license who do not have the experience set forth in Rule .1501(a)(1) through (3) or (b)(1) and (2) shall complete a basic close personal protection (or "executive protection") training course approved by the Board within the previous 24 months. The course shall consist of a minimum of 40 hours of classroom and practical instruction including:

- (1) Fundamentals of personal protection, including mission planning, performing site surveys, route selection (primary, secondary, etc.), medical evacuation, walking formations (single, multiple, etc.), communications with protectees, and transitional movements (arrivals, departures, plan changes, hasty movements, etc.) – (minimum of 26 hours);
- (2) Practical exercises – (minimum of 12 hours); and
- (3) Legal Issues, including the Rules set forth in 14B NCAC 16 .1500, G.S. 74C-13 and 14B NCAC 16 .0807, North Carolina's laws on use of force, and the federal and State firearms law– (minimum of 2 hours).

(b) In addition to the minimum classroom and practical instruction required by subsection (a) of this Rule, the applicant must hold a basic first aid certificate from the American Red Cross and CPR and AED certification from the American Heart Association.

(c) Subparagraph (a)(3) of this Rule may be conducted remotely as provided for by 14B NCAC 16 .0707(c).

Authority G.S. 74C-5.

14B NCAC 16 .1503 INVESTIGATIONS DIRECTLY RELATED TO PROVISION OF SERVICES

A close personal protection licensee may engage in activities otherwise defined by G.S. 74C-3(a)(8) as an investigation which are directly related to the provision of services including but not limited to advance planning, intelligence, and risk assessment.

Authority G.S. 74C-5.

14B NCAC 16 .1504 DISTINGUISHING SECURITY SERVICES

(a) Prior to providing any service to a client, a close personal protection licensee shall enter into a written contract or agreement that lists by name the individual person or persons for whom service is to be provided, the specific function that constitutes the service, and the duration of the service.

(b) A close personal protection license does not entitle the licensee to provide services defined by G.S. 74C-3(a)(6) to any person or persons not listed in the contract or agreement.

Authority G.S. 74C-5.

SECTION .1600 – DIGITAL FORENSICS EXAMINER (D.F.E.)

14B NCAC 16 .1601 EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR A DIGITAL FORENSICS EXAMINER LICENSE

(a) In addition to the requirements of Section .0200 of this Chapter, applicants for a Digital Forensic Examiner (D.F.E.) license shall:

- (1) establish to the Board's satisfaction three years of verifiable experience within the past five years conducting digital forensic examinations as defined by G.S. 74C-3(a)(5a) individually, or with any private company or federal, state, county or municipal agency;
- (2) hold a North Carolina private investigator license, or private investigator license from a state reciprocal with North Carolina, and have completed a course of instruction consisting of not less than 40 hours of live classroom and practical instruction in digital forensics and obtained certification from a certifying entity approved by the Board within the previous two years;
- (3) establish to the Board's satisfaction that the applicant has been qualified as an expert witness in an area of digital forensics in a court of law using the standard set forth by the United States Supreme Court in Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 509 U.S. 579 (1993), and its progeny cases, within the previous three years; or
- (4) establish to the Board's satisfaction a military occupational specialty and two years of verifiable experience conducting digital forensics examinations within the past five years in the U.S. Armed Forces.

(b) In addition to the requirements of Section .0200 of this Chapter, an applicant for a D.F.E. license that is the spouse of an active duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces shall establish to the Board's satisfaction:

- (1) the spouse holds a current license, certification, or registration from another jurisdiction and the other jurisdiction's requirements are substantially equivalent to or exceed the Board's requirements; and
 - (2) the spouse has two years of verifiable experience conducting digital forensics examinations within the past five years.
- (c) The Board shall give credit toward the experience requirements set forth in Paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule as follows:
- (1) An applicant shall receive 400 hours of experience credit for an associate's degree. The Board shall grant up to 100 additional hours if the applicant can demonstrate that further training or course-work related to digital forensics examination was received while obtaining the associate's degree.
 - (2) An applicant shall receive 800 hours of experience credit for a bachelor's degree. The Board shall grant up to 200 additional hours if the applicant can demonstrate that further training or course-work related to digital forensics examination was received while obtaining the bachelor's degree.
 - (3) An applicant shall receive 1,200 hours of experience credit for a graduate degree. The Board shall grant an additional 300 additional hours if the applicant can demonstrate that further training or course-work related to digital forensics examination was received while obtaining the graduate degree.

Authority G.S. 74C-5; 93B-15.1.

SECTION .1700 – TRAINING AND SUPERVISION FOR DIGITAL FORENSICS EXAMINER (D.F.E.)

14B NCAC 16 .1701 DEFINITIONS

In addition to the definitions set forth in G.S. 74C, the following definitions shall apply to this Section:

- (1) "Digital Forensics Examiner Associate" refers to an individual training to become a digital forensics examiner licensee. A Digital Forensics Examiner Associate may also be referred to as a "trainee" in these Rules. A Digital Forensics Examiner Associate must complete three training levels as set out in this Section.
- (2) "One-on-one Supervision" means person-to-person contact whereby the licensee is personally and directly supervising or training the Associate. The training licensee must be the sponsoring digital forensics examiner licensee. The Digital Forensics Examiner Associate may not subcontract his or her employment to another licensee. However, the sponsoring digital forensics examiner licensee may subcontract the Digital Forensics Examiner Associate if the sponsor obtains prior written approval from the Board's Director by showing that the Digital Forensics Examiner Associate will receive an educational benefit from the subcontract employment and the Associate will receive one-on-one supervision from another licensee.
- (3) "Training Checklist" refers to the document(s) that shall state all areas of training and work that the Associate has performed. The supervising licensee is responsible for maintaining the training checklist and providing a copy of the checklist to the Associate. The Training Checklist must reflect the date the Associate advances from one level to another. The training checklist must be signed by the Associate and the sponsoring licensee at the end of each reporting period. In the event the Associate transfers employment to another licensee, the Associate must provide the new supervising licensee with the training checklist and the new sponsoring licensee will then be responsible for the maintenance of the checklist. The Training Checklist must be updated on a quarterly basis for Level One Associates and on a yearly basis for Level Two and Level Three Associates. The training checklist must be maintained pursuant to Rule .0108 of this Chapter. When an Associate completes Level Three, the Training Checklist must be made a part of the Associate's application for a digital forensics examiner license. The Board shall have immediate access to the training checklist.
- (4) "Associate Log" refers to the document(s) maintained by the Associate which shall list each case the Associate has worked, the number of hours spent on the case, and the type of work performed. Details of the one-on-one training must be documented within the Associate's log.

Authority G.S. 74C-2(c); 74C-5(2).

14B NCAC 16 .1702 TRAINING AND SUPERVISION REQUIRED IN LEVEL ONE

- (a) If upon sponsorship, the Associate has less than one year or 1,000 hours of verifiable training or experience, the Associate shall undergo 160 hours of one-on-one supervision training.
- (b) The first 40 hours of employment shall be one-on-one supervision. The remaining 120 hours of one-on-one supervision shall be gathered over the first year of employment or the first 1,000 hours of work, whichever comes first.
- (c) A Level One Associate cannot, independently of the sponsor, accept or contract employment. The Associate shall have direct face-to-face, telephone or virtual contact with the sponsor before accepting employment or before accepting a new case.
- (d) The sponsor shall meet with the Level One Associate to review the Associate's activities. The sponsor licensee's review may be by telephone, virtually, or face-to-face and shall occur at least four times per month. The licensee shall review each assignment the Associate is working or has worked since the last review. Review sessions may encompass more than one assignment.

Authority G.S. 74C-5(2).

14B NCAC 16 .1703 TRAINING AND SUPERVISION REQUIRED IN LEVEL TWO

- (a) If upon initial application for an Associate permit, the applicant has at least one year or 1,000 hours of verifiable training or experience, the applicant will skip Level One and be classified as a Level Two Digital Forensics Examiner Associate. An applicant that skips Level One shall undergo 80 hours of one-on-one training. The first 40 hours of one-on-one supervision shall occur within the first

40 hours of employment. The remaining 40 hours shall be gathered over the first year of employment or the first 1,000 hours of work, whichever comes first.

(b) A Level Two Associate cannot, independently of the sponsor, accept or contract employment. The Associate shall have direct face-to-face, virtual, or telephone contact with the sponsor.

(c) The sponsor shall meet with the Level Two Associate to review the Associate's work product. The licensee's review may be by telephone, virtually, or face-to-face and shall occur at least four times per month. The licensee shall review each assignment the Associate is working or has worked since the last review. Review sessions may encompass more than one assignment.

Authority G.S. 74C-5(2).

14B NCAC 16 .1704 TRAINING AND SUPERVISION REQUIRED IN LEVEL THREE

(a) If upon sponsorship the Associate has at least two years or 2,000 hours of verifiable training or experience, the Associate will be classified as a Level Three Associate and shall undergo 40 hours of one-on-one training.

(b) The first 40 hours of employment for the Level Three Digital Forensics Examiner Associate shall be one-on-one supervision.

(c) When the Level Three Associate completes the requirements of Level Three by fulfilling the licensing requirements set forth in Rules .0204 and .0401 of this Chapter, the Associate may apply for digital forensics examiner license.

(d) The sponsor shall meet with the Level Three Associate to review the Associate's activities. The sponsor licensee shall review each assignment the Associate is working or has worked since the last review. Review sessions may encompass more than one assignment.

(e) The sponsoring licensee shall have contact with the Level Three Associate sufficient to ensure compliance with G.S. Chapter 74C.

Authority G.S. 74C-5(2).

14B NCAC 16 .1705 EDUCATIONAL DEGREES AND NON-DEGREED TRAINING

(a) An applicant shall receive a minimum of 400 hours of experience credit for an associate's degree. The Board shall grant up to 100 additional hours if the applicant can demonstrate that further training or course-work related to digital forensics examination was received while obtaining the associate's degree.

(b) An applicant shall receive 800 hours of experience credit for a bachelor's degree. The Board shall grant up to 200 additional hours if the applicant can demonstrate that further training or course-work related to digital forensics examination was received while obtaining the bachelor's degree.

(c) An applicant shall receive 1,200 hours of experience credit for a graduate degree. The Board shall grant an additional 300 additional hours if the applicant can demonstrate that further training or course-work related to digital forensics examination was received while obtaining the graduate degree.

Authority G.S. 74C-5(2).

14B NCAC 16 .1706 CONSIDERATION OF EXPERIENCE

(a) The Board shall consider any practical experience gained prior to the application date. The Board shall not consider experience claimed by the applicant if the experience was gained after December 1, 2022:

- (1) by contracting private protective services to another person, firm, association, or corporation while not in possession of a valid private protective services license; or
- (2) when employed by a company contracting private protective services to another person, firm, association, or corporation while the company is not in possession of a valid private protective services license.

(b) The Board shall consider any educational experience referred to in Rule .1705 of this Section.

Authority G.S. 74C-5(2).

14B NCAC 16 .1707 ENFORCEMENT

A violation by the Associate may be deemed by the Board to be a violation of the sponsor if the violation is found to be the result of insufficient supervision and may subject the sponsor to any enforcement actions pursuant to G.S. 74C-17.

Authority G.S. 74C-2(c); 74C-5(2); 74C-12.

14B NCAC 16 .1708 TRANSFERABILITY OF TRAINING HOURS

If a Level One Associate transfers employment to another digital forensics examiner licensee, the one-on-one training shall not transfer and the Associate shall undergo new one-on-one supervised training hours with the new sponsoring licensee. If a Level Two or Level Three Associate transfers employment to another licensee, all training hours shall be transferred.

Authority G.S. 74C-5(2).

14B NCAC 16 .1709 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES

(a) A digital forensics examiner licensee may employ a potential examiner as a probationary employee for 60 consecutive calendar days. The Director, upon written request, may extend the probationary period by 30 additional days. Upon completion of the probationary period and the desire of the licensee to hire the probationary employee the employee shall apply pursuant to this Section.

(b) Before a probationary employee engages in digital forensic examination, the employee shall complete any training requirements required by this Section, and the licensee shall conduct a criminal record check on the employee.

(c) Within five business days of hiring the licensee shall submit to the Director the name, address, social security number, and date of employment of the probationary employee.

Authority G.S. 74C-5(2).