

12 NCAC 10B .0502 is proposed for amendment as published in 40:10 NCR 817-820 as follows:

(a) The basic training course for deputy sheriffs consists of instruction designed to provide the trainee with the skills and knowledge to perform those tasks essential to function in law enforcement.

(b) The "Basic Law Enforcement Training Manual" as published by the North Carolina Justice Academy shall be used as the ~~as~~ basic curriculum for this Basic Law Enforcement Training Course. Copies of this manual may be obtained ~~at a cost of eighty seven dollars and ten cents (\$87.10)~~ from the North Carolina Justice Academy, Post Office Box 99, Salemburg, North Carolina 28385-0099. The cost of the manual shall be determined by the Justice Academy based upon the current cost of manufacture and shipping.

(c) The rules governing Minimum Standards for Completion of Training, codified as Title 12, Subchapter 09B, Section .0200 of the North Carolina Administrative Code [<http://www.ncoah.com/rules/>] and adopted by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission, are hereby incorporated by reference, and shall include any later amendments and editions of the incorporated matter to apply to actions of the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission. Copies of the incorporated materials may be obtained at no cost from the Criminal Justice Standards Division, North Carolina Department of Justice, 1700 Tryon Park Drive, Raleigh North Carolina 27602.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 17E-4(a); Eff. January 1, 1989; Amended Eff. February 1, 2000; January 1, 1996; January 1, 2018. Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A. Amended Eff. March 1, 2026*

1 **12 NCAC 10B .2103 is being proposed for amendment as published in 40:10 NCR 817-820 as follows:**

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3 **12 NCAC 10B .2103 MINIMUM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

4 (a) ~~In order to be approved by the Commission, an In Service Firearms Training and Requalification Program shall~~
5 ~~include in~~ ~~In~~ addition to conducting Annual Firearms Qualification, as prescribed in 12 NCAC 10B .2104,
6 Specialized Firearms Instructor shall provide instruction on the following specified topics:

7 (1) Use of Force: review the authority to use deadly force including relevant case law and materials.

8 (2) Safety:

9 (A) Range rules and regulations;

10 (B) Handling of a firearm; and

11 (C) Malfunctions.

12 (3) Review of Basic Marksmanship Fundamentals:

13 (A) Grip, stance, breath control trigger press and trigger squeeze reset;

14 (B) Sight ~~and~~ alignment/sight picture; and

15 (C) Nomenclature.

16 (4) Operation and Maintenance of all authorized weapons.

17 ~~(b) The Instructor shall teach the same training objectives for the topical areas listed in this Rule as specified in the~~
18 ~~Specialized Firearms Instructor Training Manual published by the North Carolina Justice Academy which is hereby~~
19 ~~incorporated by reference and shall automatically include any later amendments and editions of the referenced~~
20 ~~materials as the approved source for the above mandated topical areas. Copies of this publication may be obtained~~
21 ~~from the North Carolina Justice Academy, Post Office Drawer 99, Salzburg, North Carolina 28385. There is no~~
22 ~~cost per manual at the time of adoption of this Rule.~~

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24 *History Note:* *Authority G.S. 17E-4; 17E-7;*

25 *Eff. January 1, 1989;*

26 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 1993; March 1, 2026;*

27 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. March 6,*

28 *2018.*

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1 **12 NCAC 10B. 2104 is proposed for amendment as published in 40:10 NCR 817-820 as follows:**

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3 **12 NCAC 10B .2104 IN-SERVICE ANNUAL FIREARMS REQUALIFICATION QUALIFICATION**

4 **SPECIFICATIONS**

5 (a) All deputy sheriffs and detention officers who are authorized by the sheriff to carry a handgun shall qualify a
6 minimum of once each year with ~~their~~ ~~each individual and~~ department-approved ~~service~~ handgun. ~~The course of fire~~
7 ~~shall not be less stringent than the "Basic Law Enforcement Training Course" requirements for firearms~~
8 ~~qualification. For the purpose of this specification, service handgun shall include any semi-automatic pistol or~~
9 ~~revolver.~~

10 (b) The Accuracy Qualification course of fire shall meet the following minimum requirements for Day Accuracy
11 Qualification:

12 (1) No fewer than thirty (30) rounds
13 (2) Firing from the three (3), five (5), seven (7), ten (10), fifteen (15), and twenty-five (25)
14 yard lines shall consist of no more than the following percentage of shots at each yard
15 line:

16 (A) 3-yard line: 10%
17 (B) 5-yard line: 12%
18 (C) 7-yard line: 30%
19 (D) 10-yard line: 20%
20 (E) 15-yard line: 25%
21 (F) 25-yard line: 20%

22 (3) Firing at least two rounds from each of the following positions:

23 (A) Standing
24 (B) Kneeling
25 (C) Barricade

26 (4) Firing at least two rounds dominant hand only
27 (5) Firing at least two rounds support hand only
28 (6) Fire after drawing from the holster
29 (7) At least one stage that includes a mandatory magazine change

30 (c) The Accuracy Qualification course of fire shall meet the following minimum requirements for Low-Light
31 Accuracy Qualification:

32 (1) No fewer than thirty (30) rounds
33 (2) Firing from the three (3), five (5), seven (7), ten (10), and fifteen (15) yard lines shall
34 consist of no more than the following percentage of shots at each yard line:

35 (A) 3-yard line: 13%
36 (B) 5-yard line: 26%
37 (C) 7-yard line: 24%

(D) 10-yard line: 24%
(E) 15-yard line: 24%

(3) Firing at least two rounds from the following positions:

- (A) Standing
- (B) Kneeling

(4) Firing at least two rounds dominant hand only

(5) Firing at least two rounds support hand only

(6) Firing after drawing from the holster

(7) At least one stage that includes a mandatory magazine change

(8) At least one stage that includes the required use of a flashlight or weapon-mounted light

(9) At least one stage that includes the use of blue lights

(10) At least one stage that includes the use of low-beam headlights and blue lights.

(11) At least one stage that includes the use of headlights, blue lights, and all available lighting.

(d) All deputy sheriffs and detention officers shall successfully complete a Decision Making Qualification course for both day and low light at least once each calendar year.

(e) The Decision Making Qualification course shall meet the following minimum requirements:

(1) Day Decision Making Qualification:

- (A) No fewer than three decision points within the course
- (B) Required target discrimination decision (shoot/no-shoot)
- (C) Required articulation by the officer of a minimum of two decisions made during the course
- (D) Shall contain a detailed diagram of the decision making course, with a written explanation of the course, and a scoring matrix outlining what constitutes passing and failing performance, which shall be maintained in an Annual Qualification file by the agency and made available for audit.

(2) Low-Light Decision Making Qualification:

- (A) No fewer than three decision points within the course
- (B) Required target discrimination decision (shoot/no-shoot)
- (C) Required use of a flashlight, weapon-mounted light, or other shooter-controlled light source
- (D) Required articulation by the officer of a minimum of two decisions made during the course.
- (E) Shall contain a detailed diagram of the decision making course, with a written explanation of the course, and a scoring matrix outlining what constitutes passing and failing performance, which shall be maintained in an Annual Qualification file by the agency, and made available for audit.

1 (f) If a deputy's or detention officer's handgun is replaced with another service handgun of the same make and
2 model, they shall successfully complete the Day Accuracy Qualification with the new service handgun within 15
3 days of issuance.

4 (g) All deputy sheriffs and detention officers who are issued or otherwise authorized by the sheriff to ~~carry~~ use a
5 shotgun, rifle, or automatic weapon shall qualify with each weapon respectively, ~~for both day and low-light use a~~
6 minimum of at least once each ~~calendar~~ year. ~~The course of fire shall not be less stringent than those set out in the~~
7 " In Service Firearms Qualification Manual" as published by the North Carolina Justice Academy.

8 (h) The accuracy Qualifications qualification courses conducted pursuant to required by Paragraphs (a) and (b) of
9 this Rule shall be completed with duty equipment and duty ammunition or ballistic equivalent ammunition to
10 include including lead free ammunition that meets the same point of aim, point of impact, and felt recoil of the duty
11 ammunition, for all weapons.

12 (i) All deputy sheriffs and detention officers who are issued or authorized to use a less-lethal weapon, that may also
13 be classified as a firearm, shall qualify with each weapon, respectively, in compliance with the manufacturer's
14 specifications or certification requirements.

15 (j) The accuracy qualification and decision making qualification courses required by paragraphs (a) through (g) and
16 (k) of this Rule, shall define low light for an outdoor range as beginning 30 minutes after sunset, based on the time
17 provided by the U.S. Naval Observatory chart for the date of qualification, specific to the location of the outdoor
18 range. For an indoor range, transition to low-light environment occurs by cutting off the lighting and is not defined
19 by a specific time.

20 (k) All deputy sheriffs and detention officers who are authorized by the sheriff to carry off duty handguns shall
21 qualify with their off duty handgun a minimum of once each ~~calendar~~ year pursuant to 12 NCAC 10B .2103 and
22 .2104(a) and (b) with each handgun the officer carries off duty using ammunition approved by the sheriff.

23 (l) All deputy sheriffs and detention officers who are issued or have access to any weapons not stated in this Rule
24 must qualify with these weapons once each ~~calendar~~ year using ammunition approved by the sheriff.

25 (m) To satisfy the requirements for all firearms accuracy qualifications, a deputy sheriff or detention officer shall
26 attain a minimum qualification score of 80 percent accuracy with each weapon once in three attempts with no more
27 than three attempts on each course of fire per day.

28 (n) To satisfy the requirements for all decision making qualification courses, a deputy sheriff or detention officer
29 shall attain a passing score as outlined by the specific courses scoring matrix.

30 (o) In cases where reduced-sized targets are used to simulate actual distances, a modified course of fire may be
31 used.

32 (p) Each Day Accuracy Qualification course and Low-Light Accuracy Qualification course:

- 33 (1) Shall be completed successfully on a single day, once out of three attempts.
- 34 (2) Failure to qualify within three attempts on a single day is deemed a failure.
- 35 (3) Once qualification has begun, if a deputy sheriff or detention officer is unsuccessful at any
36 qualification attempt and fails to complete three attempts in a single day, the officer is deemed to
37 have failed to qualify.

(4) No practice is allowed once qualification begins. Practice is not allowed until after the officer qualifies successfully or the third qualification attempt is completed.

(5) Shall be completed with each weapon for which qualification is required

(6) Each Qualification course may take place on different days; however, all three attempts to qualify for that course shall occur on that day.

(7) Once a deputy sheriff or detention officer has failed to qualify in three attempts or failed to complete three attempts to qualify in a single day on any Qualification course, access to the weapon shall be restricted until such time the deputy sheriff or detention officer successfully qualifies with the weapon.

in Day Decision Making Qualification course and Low-Light Decision-Making Qualification course:

(1) Shall be completed successfully on a single day, once out of three attempts.

(2) Failure to qualify within three attempts on a single day is deemed a failure.

(3) Once qualification has begun, if a deputy sheriff or detention officer is unsuccessful at any qualification attempt and fails to complete three attempts in a single day, the officer is deemed to have failed to qualify.

(4) No practice is allowed once qualification begins. Practice is not allowed until after the deputy sheriff or detention officer qualifies successfully or the third qualification attempt is completed.

(5) Each qualification course may take place on different days; however, all three attempts to qualify for that course shall occur on that day.

(6) Once a deputy sheriff or detention officer has failed to qualify in three attempts or failed to complete three attempts to qualify in a single day on any qualification course, access to the weapon shall be restricted until such time the officer successfully qualifies with the weapon.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 17E-4; 17E-7;*

Eff. January 1, 1989;

Amended Eff. January 1, 1994; January 1, 1993; January 1, 1992; January 1, 1991;

Temporary Amendment Eff. March 1, 1998;

Amended Eff. January 1, 2011; January 1, 2006; August 1, 2002; August 1, 1998; March 1, 2026;

1 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. March 6,*

2 *2018.*

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1 **12 NCAC 10B .2105 is proposed for amendment as published in 40:10 NCR 817-820 as follows:**

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3 **12 NCAC 10B .2105 FAILURE TO QUALIFY**

4 (a) Deputy sheriffs and detention officers who fail to qualify pursuant to Rule .2104 of this Section shall
5 immediately surrender their weapons to the sheriff, or authorized representative upon his request, and shall have 30
6 days in which to obtain the qualification score required in 12 NCAC 10B .2104.

7 (b) Failure to qualify within the time period allowed in 12 NCAC 10B .2105(a) shall result in the summary
8 suspension of the deputy sheriff's or detention officer's certification by the Commission.

9 (c) No deputy sheriff or detention officer summarily suspended under Paragraph (b) of this Rule and in compliance
10 with 12 NCAC 10B .0206(a)(3) may work as a certified justice officer until:

11 (1) the sheriff forwards to the Commission documentary evidence verifying that the officer has complied
12 with the requirements of 12 NCAC 10B .2103 and .2104; and

13 (2) the deputy sheriff or detention officer and the sheriff receive from the Commission documentation that
14 the Commission has terminated the suspension and reinstated the certification to the deputy sheriff or
15 detention officer.

16 (d) Any deputy sheriff or detention officer previously unauthorized to carry a weapon but whose status changed to
17 "authorized to carry a weapon," must comply with the provisions set out in 12 NCAC 10B .2103 and .2104; and may
18 not carry a firearm until:

19 (1) the sheriff forwards to the Commission documentary evidence verifying that the officer has complied
20 with the requirements of 12 NCAC 10B .2103 and .2104; and

21 (2) the deputy sheriff or detention officer and the sheriff receive from the Commission documentation that
22 the Commission has amended the officer's status to "authorized to carry a weapon" and all certification files
23 reflect the same.

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25 *History Note: Authority G.S. 17E-4; 17E-7;*

26 *Eff. January 1, 1989;*

27 *Amended Eff. March 1, 1995; January 1, 1995; January 1, 1993; January 1, 1990;*

28 *Temporary Amendment Eff. March 1, 1998;*

29 *Amended Eff. August 1, 1998; March 1, 2026;*

30 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. March 6, 2018.*