

CHAPTER 2012-24

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1227

An act relating to certification of 911 public safety telecommunicators; amending s. 401.465, F.S.; revising requirements for certification of 911 public safety telecommunicators; providing conditions under which the requirement for certification as a 911 public safety telecommunicator may be waived for certain law enforcement officers; providing for exemption from the examination fee; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraphs (d) and (j) of subsection (2) of section 401.465, Florida Statutes, are amended, paragraph (k) of that subsection is redesignated as paragraph (l), and a new paragraph (k) is added to that subsection, to read:

401.465 911 public safety telecommunicator certification.—

(2) PERSONNEL; STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION.—

(d) The department shall determine whether the applicant meets the requirements specified in this section and in rules of the department and shall issue a certificate to any person who meets such requirements. Such requirements must include the following:

1. Completion of an appropriate 911 public safety telecommunication training program;

2. Certification under oath that the applicant is not addicted to alcohol or any controlled substance;

3. Certification under oath that the applicant is free from any physical or mental defect or disease that might impair the applicant's ability to perform his or her duties;

4. Submission of the application fee prescribed in subsection (3);

5. Submission of a completed application to the department which indicates compliance with subparagraphs 1., 2., and 3.; and

6. Effective October 1, 2012, passage of an examination approved ~~administered~~ by the department which measures the applicant's competency and proficiency in the subject material of the public safety telecommunication training program.

(j) If a person was employed as a 911 public safety telecommunicator, ~~a sworn state-certified law enforcement officer~~, or a state-certified firefighter before April 1, 2012, he or she must pass the examination approved

administered by the department which measures the competency and proficiency in the subject material of the public safety telecommunication program, as defined in paragraph (1)(c). Upon passage of the examination, the completion of the public safety telecommunication training program is ~~shall be~~ waived.

(k)1. The requirement for certification as a 911 public safety telecommunicator is waived for a person employed as a sworn state-certified law enforcement officer, provided the officer:

a. Is selected by his or her chief executive to perform as a 911 public safety telecommunicator;

b. Performs as a 911 public safety telecommunicator on an occasional or limited basis; and

c. Passes the department-approved examination that measures the competency and proficiency of an applicant in the subject material comprising the public safety telecommunication program.

2. A sworn state-certified law enforcement officer who fails an examination taken under subparagraph 1. must take a department-approved public safety telecommunication training program prior to retaking the examination.

3. The testing required under this paragraph is exempt from the examination fee required under subsection (3).

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

Approved by the Governor March 23, 2012.

Filed in Office Secretary of State March 23, 2012.