



MEDIA RELEASE

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Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy Receives 100% Compliance in Audit

In September 2011 the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC) completed an audit of the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy's (SMCJA) law enforcement and corrections entry level training records. The MPCTC are responsible for the administration of public safety education for all law enforcement and corrections officers in the State of Maryland.

"The MPCTC are vested with the authority to set standards of initial selection and training for all governmental law enforcement, correctional and parole and probation and juvenile justice officers in the State of Maryland and to otherwise upgrade the professionalism of these officers." (MPCTC, 2011)

The Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy, founded 1988, is a regional police and corrections training academy that serves the Sheriffs' Offices of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties. In addition, numerous other outside agencies also participate in annual training at the academy.

In accordance with the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions entrance level training regulations, correctional officers must master 224 training objectives and police officers must master 520 training objectives prior to receiving their initial police or correction certification. Every two years police and correction training facilities must pass an internal audit of their training records to assure all training objectives are taught and mastered. The Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy passed the MPCTC audit with 100 percent compliance.

"The files were extremely well organized and the team was available to respond to questions as the audits proceeded. The audit identified that test items were linked to the objectives by number, and the questions correlated to the objectives. The practical skills performance sheets identified the objective(s) and list the criteria for successful completion. The audit found documentation to support the students' mastery of all of the entry level training program objectives." (Sally L. Reier, MPCTC Certification Administrator)

"One-hundred percent compliance speaks volumes about the specialized training presented to the recruits, the professionalism of the officers who instruct the material, the recruit's comprehension of the information and the meticulous record keeping of the academy. Every link within the education chain was perfect. I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to Captain Richard Gray and the SMCJA's academy staff and instructors on a job well done."