

AGENCY NAME:	Law Enforcement Training Council		
AGENCY CODE:	N200	SECTION:	64

AGENCY'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

It is the mission of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy (SCCJA) to foster and uphold prescribed laws and regulations by providing mandated basic and advanced training to law enforcement personnel and maintaining a continuous certification process to ensure that only the most qualified persons are sanctioned by the state to enforce its laws.

Over the course of FY 2025 the SCCJA has worked to ensure success in our mission by updating and expanding our course content and offerings and working with other state law enforcement agencies to maintain high standards of professionalism and ethical conduct.

For FY 2025 the Academy offered the following training opportunities:

Class Name	# Offerings	# Enrolled	# Graduated
Basic Law Enforcement	23	1153	927
Special Basic	40	202	178
Special Basic (Reserve to Class 1)	32	6	6
Basic Detention	12	499	449
Basic Detention – Legal Only	46	28	26
Basic Detention – Juvenile Only	46	12	7
Basic Detention – Juvenile and Legal	46	12	9
Class 3 Basic	46	34	26
Class 3 Advanced Cumulative	46	162	124
Class 3 Advanced Proficiency	14	149	128
Basic Telecommunications (BTOT)	12	106	99
Mobile Training Unit	49	673	566
Advanced Training	313	4774	4003
Online Training	59	161,418	132,108

Our student numbers have decreased over the last fiscal year; with low enrollment we were able to cancel a class which coincided with a hurricane closure. A typical year for Basic Law Enforcement is 24 classes, with a maximum of 60 students per class, potentially 1,440 enrolled students. Below is the graduation rate of our mandated training:

AGENCY NAME:	Law Enforcement Training Council		
AGENCY CODE:	N200	SECTION:	64

Dismissal Reason	Cumulative / PAT	Basic Law	Basic Detention	Basic Telecommunications
Attendance	1133	1153	499	106
% Academic Passing	91.43%	80.39%	89.97%	93.39%
Failure (Academic/ Proficiency)	50 Written / 40 PAT	166 Written/ 60 Proficiency	49 Written/ 0 Proficiency	7 Written
Graduated	1036	927	449	99

Within fiscal year 2025 the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy (SCCJA) has taken several measures to ensure that the function of the agency is at peak performance. We strive to provide law enforcement with the best and most applicable training conducted in an environment that reflects what they will experience in the field. The SCCJA works diligently to ensure that we establish partnerships with local, state, and federal partners to provide the most up to date information and do so in a timely fashion. We also partner with outside entities to ensure the safety of the trainees as well as the staff.

New and Continued Partnerships

- The SCCJA continued its partnerships with Institutional Providers to provide FREE Advanced and Specialized training in the areas of criminal investigations, Use of Force instructor, active shooter response, patrol operations, leadership, surveillance operations, drug enforcement, fentanyl investigations, human trafficking, animal abuse, interviews and interrogations, traffic safety, and instructor development. Partnerships include the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center Department of Homeland Security (FLETC/DHS), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Atlanta-Carolinas High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Regional Counter Drug Training Academy (RCTA) Northeast Counter Drug Training Academy, Army National Guard, Human Society International (formally US Human Society) and the United States Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center.
- The SC Office of Highway Safety, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) to continue to make highway safety a priority by providing traffic safety training in impaired driving enforcement, speed enforcement, collision reconstruction, and occupant safety. Maintained South Carolina’s participation in the International Drug Evaluation and Classification Program; in particular, the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) program and Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement Program (ARIDE).

AGENCY NAME:	Law Enforcement Training Council		
AGENCY CODE:	N200	SECTION:	64

- The Alzheimer’s Association-seeing a critical need in officer training the partnership led to the creation of online training and scenario-based training to be incorporated in existing training during practical exercises in the Basic Law Enforcement program.
- The SCCJA is continuing to partner with the University of South Carolina. The University was able to secure federal grant funding for a study that related to why individuals entered the profession of law enforcement, what kept them from leaving, and what drove them out of the field. The study is to better provide agencies with knowledge of what pulls and drives recruits away from the field and the agency.
- The SCCJA continued its partnership with the State Law Enforcement Division to train all new School Resource Officers in Active Shooter Response. SCCJA can continue to utilize the SLED training facility located in Gilbert, SC for active shooter training response. Being able to train these officers in proper techniques on handling an active shooter while inside of a real school is pertinent. It allows officers to look at what handling a situation like this would be in real time and in a realistic setting.
- The SCCJA continued its partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation that trains cadets in civil rights while on campus. This training has been proven to be critical on countless occasions from around the country. Allowing our officers to receive training in this field prepares them for their future careers.
- The SCCJA hosted law enforcement product demonstrations and training by Kontek Industries (MOBILE MODULAR SHOOT HOUSE, Ballistic Training Doors, Shields & Tactical Equipment), Wonderwall Wall (fitness & tactical training equipment products), SIMUNITION instructor (non-lethal realistic training systems for law enforcement) Firearms Training Simulators and PepperBall less lethal munitions instructor.

Special Duties

Instructors and certified staff have assisted various agencies with law enforcement duties. Academy staff have assisted with USC football games, concert venues and other festivals with local agencies, and have been primary security for the Emergency Management Division during times of natural disasters. Sworn staff has also assisted SCDC with security operations during executions.

Training

Fiscal Year 24-25 the SCCJA made strides in improving the grounds and training environment, and by doing so was able to improve and build on the training that law enforcement across this state receives. It is the goal of the SCCJA to provide meaningful, contemporary, and best practice law enforcement, dentition, and telecommunications training to the field to improve the South Carolina law enforcement community.

- Lesson Plans for all Basic Law Enforcement we updated and submitted through the proper channels to ensure that all new and the most current law practices were being taught.
- All the Pre-Academy videos were re-filmed and distributed to the field so that the most current laws, trends, and necessities were addressed.
- The curriculum for driving and the testing methods were changed and updated. Now cadets are provided with different grading criteria, and methods of achieving, to ensure that best practice

AGENCY NAME:	Law Enforcement Training Council		
AGENCY CODE:	N200	SECTION:	64

response driving is being taught. This allows the officers to be proficient in response driving for calls for service. We also eliminated the Skid-Pad from the course. The cost of upkeep for the area as well as the vehicle maintenance was not beneficial to the state, and the time spent training in that area could be better used for other areas that are more likely to cause accidents/collisions.

- Basic Law Enforcement cadets are being given hands on scenario-based training over a modified night shift to ensure that they understand the differences of how to address situations when visibility is limited.
- Firearms Training Simulators (FATS) are now on a regular maintenance schedule. Over the course of the last fiscal year FATS experienced outages resulting in cadets not being able to train on those scenarios. SCCJA was able to move portable TI machines used for advanced training into the Basic Curriculum to provide the training. As a result, we purchased 2 new TI Machines and assigned them to the Mobile Training Team and moved the others into the Basic Curriculum. This ensures that all cadets will receive training from these advanced systems and deal with real simulated calls for service more often.
- Detention developed new training for De-Escalation and Duty to Intervene. This training was added to the Basic Curriculum and provides cadets with tactics on how to bring a situation down verbally and when to intervene so that a situation does not get out of hand.
- Basic Law Enforcement schedule has been changed to provide a better training environment and to make room for new and improved training.
- SCCJA has extended the Field Training Officers (FTO) course to 1 week. This was done to ensure that FTO's have a firm grasp of the areas of importance and are provided with tools to teach the material and how to handle those that are maybe not as proficient.
- SCCJA has also added a new 1-day advanced drug enforcement class. This class focuses on a more street level officer response to drug enforcement and provides officers with knowledge on what to look for as well as legal responsibilities when conducting these investigations.
- The legal unit and behavioral science unit teamed up to update courtroom testimony and procedures training. This allows officers to receive training from a lawyer as well as an officer on different courtroom rules and strategies to help ensure that prosecution of cases is more successful.
- The Traffic Safety Unit revised the DUI/SFST instructional schedule to allow additional hands-on training with us of the DMT machine and continues to offer a WET drinking lab for practicing Standard Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) on controlled drinkers.
- The Behavioral Science Unit developed and taught a new Child Homicide investigations class in a crime scene scenario building. Additional Mid-level Management and Principles of Supervision classes were added in the field to address increased demand for leadership training.

Safety/Health/Security

The SCCJA works diligently to ensure safe, secure, and functional environment to enable trainees and staff and better environment. This in turn allows for the campus to be secure and all focus and attention on the objective of learning.

- The SCCJA purchased 2 evaporative coolers to be utilized during summer months for training. The summers outside can be brutal. This in turn makes the focus of the cadets diminish because the training environment is not conducive. By making this purchase the cadets can spend more time outside and in the training environment while reducing the chances of medical emergencies related to heat.

AGENCY NAME:	Law Enforcement Training Council		
AGENCY CODE:	N200	SECTION:	64

- SCCJA continued to provide staff multiple opportunities for health screening. Medical staff coordinate wellness checks, flu clinics, and mammogram buses to the campus so that staff can take all measures to ensure they are healthy and in turn provide a better work product.
- Over this past fiscal year, we completed the installation of new and improved camera technology. The campus now has nearly 200 new cameras that can be monitored via multiple sources. This allows us to provide extra security to the campus.

Basic Training Section:

Range Unit:

The Range Unit works diligently to train both basic and advanced law enforcement students properly and successfully in the high liability areas of firearms marksmanship and precision driving skills. The range supervisor, through meticulous scheduling, ensures that ranges and the Tactical Training Center, when not in use by Academy staff to teach mandated and advanced training, are being utilized by state and federal agencies who request to use them. This is a great benefit to these agencies and their law enforcement officers.

- A vehicle transition from Ford Crown Victorias to Ford Explorers (Police Interceptor) began during the fiscal year. The successful transition began with special basic students and the driving instructor classes. With the diligent work of the mechanics at the garage, we were able to get enough of the SUVs track ready to start supporting the transition of the BLE classes. This transition took place in July 2025.
- After getting feedback from the field, patrol rifle familiarization was added to the BLE range week.
- The skid pad was transformed into a remedial area where BLE students who were struggling would be able to work with instructors in the areas of precision driving that they were having issues with.
- For a third straight year the range supervisor was presented with a house resolution by the SC House of Representatives for shooting awards and accomplishments on a state and national level.

Detention Unit:

The Detention Unit has worked diligently to increase the number of advanced classes offered. Increasing the opportunities for Detention Officers around the state is beneficial to Detention facilities who may not have the budget to send their officers to outside training. Class offerings are in Detention Management, Detention Field Training Officer Manager, Court Security, and Responding to the Mentally Ill.

AGENCY NAME:	Law Enforcement Training Council		
AGENCY CODE:	N200	SECTION:	64

- A Detention Officer Subject Control Instructor has been developed to fit the needs of the detention officers and detention facilities throughout the state. This program will be piloted within the 25/26 fiscal year.
- The supervisor of the Detention Unit also represented the CJA and spoke at the annual Jail Administrators Conference.

Defensive Tactics/Physical Training Unit:

- The DT Unit has had a very successful year with its instructional staff and the officers they trained. For the training calendar year 2024/2025, we have successfully taught six DTI/DTI Recert classes, five GDI/GDI Recert classes, and five OCI/OCI Recert classes.
- Various staff attended a variety of additional training to include the FLETC Use of Force Instructor class, FBI Defensive Tactics Instructor class, Rifle Instructor class, Basic Life Support class, and a Leadership Training class. The DT Unit hosted for the first time the group from Effective Fitness Combatives (EFC) as they provided their defensive tactics training class for law enforcement officers, which was a sold-out class.
- The DT Unit was also able to update the BLE lesson plans for the 2025 program, as well as the OCI lesson plans. Currently, the DT Unit has several major plans for the upcoming training calendar year. There are 14 forecasted advanced classes as well as plans to host EFC again, scheduled for November.
- Staff will be attending additional training classes to include Gracie (GST) training and Lead SC training. Plans are in the works with the combination of the Defensive Tactics Instructor and Ground Defense Instructor classes for implementation in the 2026 calendar year. Currently, the lesson plans are submitted and are going through the approval process. This has been a major undertaking, and the DT Unit staff have been working diligently to make this happen.

Mobile Training Unit:

The Mobile Training Unit is designed to be a back-to-basics instructional team that can customize training for the field based on agency needs.

- They have helped with lowering the waitlist for the Specific Skills Instructor program by teaching it several times throughout the state. During the fiscal year they taught 13 classes with 243 students graduating from the course.
- MTU instructors continued to assist in teaching BLE students when available. The instructors also attended many training classes to become cross-trained in many law enforcement disciplines and topics.

AGENCY NAME:	Law Enforcement Training Council		
AGENCY CODE:	N200	SECTION:	64

- They also instructed training for various outside organizations and at conferences.
- A trailer was purchased as well as 2 new Ti firearms training systems to assist in the use of force and de-escalation trainings they provide around the state.

Police Science Unit:

The Police Science Unit continues to offer various advanced training in the areas of investigation, forensics, and crisis intervention and negotiations.

- Blood Spatter Analysis and Leadership's Role in Suicide Prevention advanced training classes were developed and will be piloted in the 25/26 fiscal year.
- Police Science instructors also conducted various trainings to law enforcement and civic groups and were also judges for a youth law enforcement explorers' competition. Instructors also attended various training conferences and were asked to speak at one.
- To enhance the active shooter training 4 Shotbox gunfire simulators were purchased for the Police Science and Mobile Training Units (2 each).

Advanced Training Section:

The SCCJA Advanced Unit staff focused on providing increased Advanced training opportunities in areas of critical need.

Traffic Safety:

- The Traffic Safety Unit revised the DUI/SFST instructional schedule to allow additional hands-on training with us of the DMT machine and continues to offer a WET drinking lab for practicing Standard Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) on controlled drinkers.

Behavioral Science:

- The Behavioral Science Unit developed and taught a new Child Homicide investigations class in a crime scene scenario building. Additional Mid-level Management and Principles of Supervision classes were added in the field to address increased demand for leadership training.

Security/Health/Safety

To provide a safe, secure, and functional environment to enable staff to work and students to learn some programs were re-implemented to ensure that those on campus can thrive.

- Flu Vaccine Clinic offered to staff
- Annual Health Screen offered to staff

AGENCY NAME:	Law Enforcement Training Council		
AGENCY CODE:	N200	SECTION:	64

- Mobile MMG brought on campus and offered to staff
- Multiple blood drives took place with the American Red Cross that allows us to raise more than 300 units of blood.
- Lead and hearing test for range and MTU personnel.
- Continued partnership with Occupational Health to allow our nurse to continue offering services.

Committees:

Attorney Generals Sexual Assault Protocol Committee
Vulnerable Adult Death Review Committee
SC Law Enforcement Victims Advocate Committee
Child Fatality Review Committee

Misconduct and Compliance

Over the course of FY 2025 SCCJA staff have worked to hold South Carolina Law Enforcement to high standards of professionalism and ethical conduct. The Misconduct and Compliance Units are responsible for investigating and bringing before the Law Enforcement Training Council (LETC) instances of non-compliance with state law. Officers who are accused of misconduct receive hearing before agency hearing officers who then make recommendations for the LETC to vote on. During FY 2025 the LETC heard 218 cases of misconduct.

The Compliance Unit was created with the establishment of the PACT Act and is responsible for ensuring every law enforcement agency in the State of South Carolina complies with the relevant minimum standards. This Unit audits South Carolina law enforcement agencies to ensure the policies are adopted and that the agency can demonstrate they are training their officers for and holding their officers to this standard.

The Unit also acts as support to South Carolina law enforcement agencies by assisting them in meeting these standards by providing technical assistance when requested. During FY 2025 the Compliance Unit assisted 84 South Carolina law enforcement agencies in complying with the new standards. This unit also audited nearly 50% of all agencies.

For FY 2026 SCCJA will continue to investigate cases of misconduct reported to our agency from the field and to audit agencies to ensure they are in legal compliance. Holding law enforcement to high standards of ethical and professional conduct both by providing high quality training and having high expectations of ethical performance in the field is how SCCJA serves the citizens of South Carolina.

The staff at the SCCJA work diligently to prepare our future police officers for success in the challenging and rewarding career they have chosen. High standards in training and accountability are how SCCJA ensures we are carrying out our mission for the people of South Carolina.