

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 173

By: Senator B. Johnson  
By: Representatives Tosh, Baltz

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING STATE-FUNDED LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ACADEMIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

CONCERNING STATE-FUNDED LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ACADEMIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-9-117 is amended to read as follows:

12-9-117. Award of pistol upon retirement or death of a certified law enforcement officer employed by the commission.

(a) When a certified law enforcement officer employed by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training or a state-funded law enforcement training academy retires from service or dies while still employed with the commission or the state-funded law enforcement training academy, in recognition of and appreciation for the service of the retiring or deceased certified law enforcement officer, the commission or the state-funded law enforcement training academy may award the pistol carried by the certified law enforcement officer at the time of his or her death or retirement from service to:

- (1) The certified law enforcement officer; or
- (2) The certified law enforcement officer's spouse if the spouse is eligible under applicable state and federal laws to possess a firearm.

(b)(1) A certified law enforcement officer employed by the commission or a state-funded law enforcement training academy may retain his or her



pistol he or she carried at the time of his or her retirement from service.

(2) If the certified law enforcement officer dies while he or she is employed by the commission or a state-funded law enforcement training academy, his or her spouse may receive or retain the pistol carried by the certified law enforcement officer at the time of his or her death, if the spouse is eligible under applicable state and federal laws to possess a firearm.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 12-9-207 is amended to read as follows:

12-9-207. Unopposed candidates for county sheriff.

(a) ~~Any~~ A newly elected county sheriff or unopposed candidate for the position of county sheriff ~~shall be permitted to~~ may attend ~~the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy~~ a state-funded law enforcement training academy for purposes of training and instruction.

(b) The county in which the ~~applicant~~ newly elected county sheriff or unopposed candidate for the position of county sheriff ~~shall~~ is to be employed shall pay any necessary transportation ~~cost~~ costs in traveling to and from the state-funded law enforcement training academy.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 12-9-209(a)(1) and (2), concerning the reimbursement for law enforcement training costs, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) If ~~any~~ a county, city, or town pays the cost or expenses for training a law enforcement officer at ~~the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy~~ a state-funded law enforcement training academy and another county, city, or town, or ~~an agency of the State of Arkansas~~ state agency employs that law enforcement officer within eighteen (18) months after completion of the training in a position requiring a certificate of training from the ~~Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy~~ state-funded law enforcement training academy, the state agency, county, city, or town so employing the law enforcement officer, at the time of employing the law enforcement officer, shall reimburse the county, city, or town for all or a portion of the expenses incurred by the county, city, or town for the training of the law enforcement officer at the state-funded law enforcement training academy, unless the law enforcement officer has been terminated by the county, city, or town ~~which~~ that paid the costs or expenses of training, in which case no

reimbursement is required from ~~any county, city, or town~~ the county, city, town, or state agency hiring the law enforcement officer.

(2) Reimbursement may ~~only be sought~~ be sought only from the first county, city, ~~or town which employs~~ town, or state agency that employed the law enforcement officer after the county, city, or town ~~which~~ paid the costs or expenses of training.

**APPROVED: 02/16/2017**