

Close Up *Bulletin*

The Monthly Supplement
to the "Close Up"
Quarterly Newsletter



Changes to Commission Rules

Effective February 24, 2011

Issue # 09
March
2011

Six changes to Commission rules went into effect on February 24th. The two most substantive changes are reflected in the revised sections below. They require retired peace officers and individuals attempting the exam to meet the current training and licensing standards. Along with these two, the remaining changes can be found in the current Rules Handbook, which you can access in PDF format in the "Rules and Statutes" section of the Commission website. Note that the Rules Handbook is designed to indicate both the sections that have been changed in the current revision (▲) and the sections that were changed in the most recent previous revision (●).

Upcoming Events:

- Upcoming Quarterly Commission Meetings
March 3, 2011
June 2, 2011
- Bill-Filing Deadline for the State Legislature
March 11, 2011
- Golf Tournament Fund-Raiser by the "Friends of the Texas Peace Officers' Memorial"
May 23, 2011

§217.20 Retired Peace Officer Reactivation

- (a) A retired peace officer license becomes inactive when the licensee has not been reported to the commission as appointed for more than two years and the continuing education requirements have not been met.
- (b) The holder of an inactive license is unlicensed for purposes of these sections and the Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1701.
- (c) In order for a retired peace officer to reactivate a license, a retiree must meet the current licensing standards and the reactivation requirements of Texas Occupations Code §1701.3161.
- (d) The effective date of this section is February 24, 2011.

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Changes to Commission Rules

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§219.1. Eligibility to Take State Examinations.

- (a) To be eligible to take a state licensing examination, an individual must have a valid endorsement.
- (b) A valid endorsement is based on:
 - (1) a previously completed commission approved basic licensing course;
 - (2) an expired commission licensing examination result, over two years old;
 - (3) reactivating a Texas license under rule §217.19;
 - (4) out of state training, licensing, or certification the commission accepts as a peace officer, federal or military training; or
 - (5) county corrections training accepted from Texas Occupations Code Chapter 1701, §1701.310.
- (c) A valid endorsement shall:
 - (1) be in the approved commission format,
 - (2) be a completed original document bearing all required signatures,
 - (3) state that the examinee has met the current minimum training standards appropriate to the license sought, and
 - (4) include a date of issue and an expiration date.
- (d) For an endorsement to be or remain valid:
 - (1) it must not be issued in error or based on false or incorrect information; specifically, the applicant must meet the current enrollment standards; or if previously licensed, meet the current licensing standards; and
 - (2) it must be presented before its expiration date.
- (e) An endorsement to take an examination is issued by a training coordinator, the registrar of a licensed academic alternative provider, the executive director of the commission, or a person authorized by the executive director. Duplicate endorsements may only be issued by the executive director of the commission.



- (f) In order to issue the endorsement, the person issuing such an endorsement, other than a commission employee, must have on file for the person to whom it is issued, written documentation of successful completion of the basic licensing course for the license sought; and
 - (1) written documentation that the person to whom it is issued was previously licensed by the commission, or
 - (2) if the person is not currently licensed by the commission, written documentation that the applicant meets the current enrollment standards.
- (g) In order to receive an endorsement from the commission, individuals must meet all current requirements, to include submitting any required application currently prescribed by the commission, requested documentation, and any required fee.
- (h) An examination may not be taken by an individual who already holds an active license or certificate to be awarded upon passing that examination.
- (i) Once an endorsement is issued, an examinee will be allowed three opportunities to pass the examination while the examinee's endorsement remains valid. After three failures, the examinee must re-qualify by repeating the basic licensing course for the license sought. If an attempt is invalidated for any reason, except for a commission error, that attempt will count as one of the three opportunities.
- (j) Once an endorsement from an academic alternative provider expires after three failures individuals will be required to re-qualify by completing the basic licensing course for the license sought.
- (k) The effective date of this section is February 24, 2011.



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