

[As approved]

DRUG POLICY TASK FORCE
RECOMMENDATION PRESENTED TO THE
COLORADO COMMISSION ON CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE JUSTICE
November 8, 2013

FY14-DP #1 Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) training should occur during Peace Officer Standard and Training (POST)

Recommendation FY14-DP #1:

Revise C.R.S. 24-31-314 (1) to clarify that Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) training should take place during POST (Peace Officer Standard and Training) continuing education and advanced training, rather than during basic academy peace officer training.

The Drug Policy Task Force recommends amending section C.R.S. 24-31-314 as follows:

24-31-314. Advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement training.

(1) On and after October 1, 2013, the P.O.S.T. Board is encouraged to include advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement training ~~in the curriculum for persons who enroll in a training academy for basic peace officer training~~ **AS AN ELECTIVE TO BASIC FIELD SOBRIETY TEST (BFST) TRAINING RECERTIFICATION.**

(2) Subject to the availability of sufficient moneys, the P.O.S.T. Board shall arrange to provide training in advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement to drug recognition experts who will act as trainers in advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement for all peace officers described in section 16-2.5-101, C.R.S.

Discussion:

The Task Force Report on the Implementation of Amendment 64 recommended ARIDE training as a mandatory training element in Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certification, and encouraged local law enforcement agencies to have their peace officers trained in ARIDE, to increase and enhance the ability of law enforcement officers to detect impaired driving.¹

The CCJJ Drug Policy Task Force recognizes the importance of advanced training for law enforcement officers to be able to quickly and skillfully recognize the signs of impairment by drugs other than alcohol. However, the Drug Policy Task Force agrees that this training is

¹ Implementation of the Amendment 64 Task Force. (March 13, 2013). Task Force Report on the Implementation of Amendment 64, Regulation of Marijuana in Colorado.

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advanced and very specific, and is therefore much more appropriate for officers to undertake after they have received basic training.

As the ARIDE (Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement) course is currently designed, it was not intended for inclusion in a Basic Police Training Academy. This is an *intermediate* level course designed to offer more than a basic understanding of the impairing effects of drugs (illicit and licit), alcohol, and/or the combination of both.

Basic level police recruits would be best served by completing the mandated 24 hours of Standardized Field Sobriety Testing training currently mandated by POST. As an elective, the ARIDE would satisfy the POST requirement for recertification for the Basic Field Sobriety Test (BSFT). Currently a POST certified officer is required to complete BSFT training in the Basic Academy. This training assists an officer in identifying driver's suspected of being under the influence. This includes alcohol and drugs. Following the initial training, POST requires an officer recertify every two years. By delaying the ARIDE training from the Basic to recertification phase, it allows an officer to obtain the necessary practical experience utilized in the ARIDE program. The ARIDE would be offered at the appropriate intermediate level versus basic level. This would be more in line with the original intent to provide enhanced training to law enforcement in order to better identify impaired drivers.