



CHAIRMAN'S MEMORANDUM

NO. 12-2002

August 13, 2002

TO: SHERIFFS, JAIL ADMINISTRATORS, COMMISSIONERS OF CORRECTION,
TRAINING COORDINATORS

RE: UPDATE ON NEW BASIC CORRECTIONS TRAINING COURSE

I am taking this opportunity to provide you with an update on the progress of the new Basic Corrections training Course (Basic Course). I first want to thank Sheriffs David Harder (Broome), Richard Tweddell (Steuben), Daniel Middaugh (Oneida), Ronald Cary (Madison), Kevin Walsh (Onondaga) and Commissioner Timothy Cowin (Onondaga DOC) for their continued support in allowing their staff to participate as members of the Rewrite Committee. This has allowed for the development of outstanding lesson plans to be made part of the Basic Course. I also want to thank those jail administrators and facility staff who have provided valuable feedback in reviewing draft lesson plans. Such assistance has resulted in the improvement of draft lesson plans.

At this time, we anticipate the new 160 hour Basic Course being implemented in January 2003. More specific time frames will be forthcoming. In its first year of implementation, the Basic Course will be assessed and appropriate modifications will be made as necessary.

The Rewrite Committee continues to develop and finalize lesson plans. The Committee is in the process of planning train-the-trainer programs for specific training modules. One of the primary goals of the Committee has been to eliminate as much lecture-based instruction as possible. In reviewing many of the draft lesson plans, I am pleased to say that this goal has been met by including a significant amount of class activity. This new format will require instructors to facilitate much more than with the current curriculum. Accordingly, the Rewrite Committee is developing a training session on facilitation. It is anticipated that train-the-trainer and facilitation programs will be held regionally throughout the state.

As you know, the new course will include 24 hours of unarmed control techniques. It is important that facilities conducting Basic Courses have an ample supply of strike pads, as well as prop firearms and knives, for the control techniques training. This may require the collaborative efforts of counties with respect to equipment sharing and/or purchasing.

Alan J. Croce, Chairman/Commissioner

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