



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF POLICE THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL



Subject HONORABLY RETIRED and QUALIFIED RETIRED OFFICERS			Policy Number 410
Effective Date January 27, 2012	Revision Date September 1, 2026	Reevaluation Date Annually	Number of Pages 6
Reference Standards Texas Government Code Chapter 614 Texas Occupations Code Sec. 1701.357 Texas Penal Code Sec. 46.15 (a) (5) Chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code § 926C.		Rescinds or Amends Policy Number	

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure Honorably Retired Peace Officers (HRO) and Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officers (QRLEO) of the University Texas System Police are in compliance with the applicable state and federal statutes that address the right of HRO/QRLEO to carry firearms .

II. POLICY

It is the policy of this agency that HRO/QRLEO will be supported, through training and certification, in their efforts to lawfully carry firearms.

III. DEFINITIONS

Honorably retired peace officer: is defined in both Chapter 411 and Chapter 614 of the Texas Government Code. Section 614.121 (2) defines an HRO as a former peace officer who:

- (A) previously served but is not currently serving as an elected, appointed, or employed peace officer under Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, or other law;
- (B) did not retire in lieu of any disciplinary action;
- (C) was eligible to retire from a law enforcement agency in this state or was ineligible to retire only as a result of an injury received in the course of the officer's employment with the agency; and
- (D) is eligible to receive a pension or annuity for service as a law enforcement officer in this state or is ineligible to receive a pension or annuity only because the law enforcement agency that employed the officer does not offer a pension or annuity to its employees.

Section 411.199 defines an HRO as retired peace officer who:

(a)(1) a person who is licensed as a peace officer under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, and who has been employed full-time as a peace officer by a law enforcement agency; and

(c)(1) did not retire in lieu of any disciplinary action;

(c)(2) was eligible to retire from the law enforcement agency or other former employer or was ineligible to retire only as a result of an injury received in the course of the applicant's employment; and

(c)(3) for a peace officer described by Subsection (a)(1), is entitled to receive a pension or annuity for service as a law enforcement officer or is not entitled to receive a pension or annuity only because the law enforcement agency that employed the applicant does not offer a pension or annuity to its employees.

Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officer: Both Section 1701.357(a)(2), Occupations Code and 614.121(3-a), Government Code state that Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officer has the meaning assigned by 18 USC Section 926C. This federal statute defines QRO as an individual who:

(c) As used in this section, the term “qualified retired law enforcement officer” means an individual who—

- (1) separated from service in good standing from service with a public agency as a law enforcement officer;
- (2) before such separation, was authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law, and had statutory powers of arrest or apprehension under section 807(b) of title 10, United States Code (article 7(b) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice);
- (3)
 - (A) before such separation, served as a law enforcement officer for an aggregate of 10 years or more; or
 - (B) separated from service with such agency, after completing any applicable probationary period of such service, due to a service-connected disability, as determined by such agency;
- (4) during the most recent 12-month period, has met, at the expense of the individual, the standards for qualification in firearms training for active law enforcement officers, as determined by the former agency of the individual, the State in which the individual resides or, if the State has not established such standards, either a law enforcement agency within the State in which the individual resides or the standards used by a certified firearms instructor that is qualified to conduct a firearms qualification test for active duty officers within that State;
- (5)
 - (A) has not been officially found by a qualified medical professional employed by the agency to be unqualified for reasons relating to mental health and as a result of this finding will not be issued the photographic identification as described in subsection (d)(1); or
 - (B) has not entered into an agreement with the agency from which the individual is separating from service in which that individual acknowledges he or she is not qualified under this section for reasons relating to mental health and for those reasons will not receive or accept the photographic identification as described in subsection (d)(1);
- (6) is not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance; and
- (7) is not prohibited by Federal law from receiving a firearm.

IV. CARRYING OF HANDGUN OR FIREARM

A. PLACES SUBJECT TO CHAPTER 46 OF THE TEXAS PENAL CODE

1. HROs and QRLEOs of this agency when carrying a handgun or firearm in places subject to Sections 46.02 or 46.03 of Chapter 46 Texas Penal Code should have in their immediate possession the Identification Card and current Proficiency Certificate issued by this agency.

V. IDENTIFICATION CARDS

A. ISSUANCE

1. This agency may issue an identification card to its HROs or QRLEOs.
2. HROs or QRLEOs of this agency should furnish a recent digital photograph for use on the card.
3. The identification card will conform to Sec 614.124 (b) or 614.1241 (b) of the Texas Government Code.
4. Officers may also elect to obtain a license to carry (LTC) issued by the Department of Public Safety (DPS) issued in accordance with the provisions outlined under 411.199 of the Government Code.

- B. Officers are encouraged to educate themselves on the various laws regarding the types of identifications that can be issued:

ID/License	Agency ID (614.124)	LEOSA ID (614.1241)	Retried LTC (411.199)
Purpose	Proves HRO status under Texas Law	Proves QRLEO status under federal standards	State-issued LTC specialized for HRO
Geographic Scope	Limited to Texas Recognition	Nationwide carry privileges via LEOSA	Valid in Texas and states with reciprocity.

C. LOST OR STOLEN CARDS

1. When an issued identification card is lost or stolen, HROs or QRLEOs of this agency are required to submit an affidavit to this agency stating such card was lost or stolen.
2. After paying any applicable fee, a duplicate card may be issued.

D. EXPIRATION OF CARDS

Identification cards shall expire on the date specified by this agency.

E. CARDS

The University of Texas System				
 POLICE 				
STATE PEACE OFFICER				
RETIRED				
This identification card certifies that				
<<Full Name>>				
After not less than 10 years of service as a commissioned officer, is an Honorably Retired Peace Officer of The University of Texas System Police and the State of Texas				
Photo 22				
Executive Director				

D.O.B.	Height	Weight	Eye Color	Hair
<<DOB>>	<<Height>>	<<Weight>>	<<EyeColor>>	<<HairCol>>
Rank:	UT ID#		PID#	
<<Rank>>	<<IDNumber>>		<<TcolePID>>	
Date Issued:	Date Retired:	Date Expires:		
<<BadgeIssuedDate>>	<<RetiredDate>>	<<BadgeExpiryDate>>		
Verification of this identification Card can be obtained by calling				
<<Institution>>				
at <<DepartmentContactNumber>>				
				

FRONT

BACK

VI. PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE

A. AFFIDAVIT

This agency may allow honorably or qualified retired peace officers an opportunity to demonstrate weapons proficiency if the retired officer provides a sworn affidavit stating that:

1. the officer retired in good standing after not less than a total of 10 years of cumulative service as a commissioned officer with one or more state or local law enforcement agencies;
2. the officer's license as a commissioned officer was not revoked or suspended for any period during the officer's term of service as a commissioned officer; and
3. the officer has no psychological or physical disability that would interfere with the officer's proper handling of a handgun.

B. ISSUANCE

1. This agency shall issue a proficiency certificate to a retired officer who satisfactorily demonstrates weapons proficiency and meets the definition of honorably or qualified retired peace officer.
2. Proficiency may be demonstrated on a course of fire approved by this agency.
3. Proof that a retired officer is entitled to receive a pension or annuity or is not entitled to receive a pension or annuity only because the agency that last employed the retired officer does not offer a pension or annuity may include a retired peace officer identification card issued under Subchapter H, Chapter 614, Government Code.
4. HROs or QRLEOs from other agencies may comply with these same proficiency procedures with the approval of the Chief of Police for whom the proficiency officer serves. In these instances, the retired officer shall furnish an Honorably Retired Peace Officer Identification or Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officer Identification.

C. EXPIRATION AND REVOCATION

1. A proficiency certificate expires on the first anniversary of the date the certificate was issued.
2. Retired officers may request an annual evaluation of weapons proficiency and a certificate of proficiency as needed to comply with applicable federal or other laws
3. This agency may revoke an identification card at any time for just cause.
4. Honorably retired peace officers of this agency shall forward an identification card to The Office of Director of Police upon its revocation or expiration.

D. PROFICIENCY RECORDS

1. The Office of Director of Police shall be the final repository of proficiency records of Honorably Retired Peace Officers and Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officers.
2. Proficiency officers issuing certificates shall forward the following records to the Office of Director of Police without delay:
 - a) A photocopy of the Honorably Retired Peace Officer Identification
 - b) Form DP#10 - Firearms Qualification Record

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Parks". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Michael Parks
Executive Director of Police

Changes/Revisions since last publication

Revisions throughout to update the definitions and requirements of honorably retired peace officers and qualified retired law enforcement officers. September 1, 2026