



Iowa Law Enforcement Academy
Professionalism Through Training

ILEA NEWS



A NOTE FROM DIRECTOR CARNEY Summer is upon us! Our thoughts and support go out to all of our friends at the Dubuque County Sheriff's Office and all those involved and impacted by the recent critical incident. In the Basic Academy, the abbreviated week of training will close out week 9 for Classes 321 and 322.

The most recent legislative session brought no changes to the ILEA's funding model. County and municipal agencies will remain responsible for 1/3 of the ILEA Basic Academy tuition while the State covers the remaining cost. **ILEA Basic Academy tuition will remain at \$4,800 for FY 26.** Once the complete FY 26 fee schedule is approved by the Council, it will be posted on our website.

The ILEA had the opportunity to host two international delegations over the last month. In June, twelve law enforcement professionals from South America toured the ILEA and discussed Iowa training standards and human/sex trafficking training. Four dignitaries from the Kosovo Police Service also toured the ILEA as part of a larger networking opportunity that included Ankeny PD, Des Moines PD, DPS, Iowa National Guard, Johnston PD, MCTC, Norwalk PD and Polk County Emergency Management.

As we continue to increase scenario-based training, we greatly appreciate the support many of you provide through guest instructors, evaluators and role players. Your partnerships are an essential piece to facilitating high-quality training.

COUNCIL CORNER

At the June Council Meeting the Council decided on a number of matters:

- **Monthly Council Meetings:** Previously, the full Council has been meeting bi-monthly, while the screening committee has been meeting in between the full Council meetings. Moving forward, the screening committee will not meet, but the full Council will meet on the first Thursday of every month with the intent to work through the increase of waiver and extension requests in a timely manner. The monthly meetings will alternate between virtual and in-person with the August meeting being in-person.
- The Council reaffirmed their prior decision of requiring a waiver for moral character pursuant to IAC 501-2.1(5) for law enforcement officers and 501-10.1(5) for reserve officers for all prior arrests regardless of elapsed time.
- The Council approved the MMPI Clinic Results Form where the examining professional checks a box to clearly document their decision.
 - In cases where an examining professional determines an applicant is not suitable, the hiring authority may initiate a subsequent evaluation. The ILEA will request a release from the applicant so the initial finding(s) can be released to any subsequent examining professional.



BASIC ACADEMY SNAPSHOTS



LEOSA/HR 218 INFORMATION

ILEA will be sponsoring a LEOSA qualification event for retired Peace Officers. For those retirees who do not already have adequate documentation from their previous employer, forms and additional information can be located on our website [HR 218 Information](#).

Date: Monday, July 14, 2025

Time: 0800 - 1200

Location: Crossroads Shooting Sports
5500 Johnston Drive
Johnston, IA 50131

Required Equipment: Handgun, holster, ammunition, eye and ear protection, and proof of retired status.

Course of Fire: Iowa LEOSA Qualification Course (20 rounds) [LEOSA Qualification Course](#)

Please email Lane Thayer with any questions: lane.thayer@iowa.gov

F.A.Q.

Does everyone have to complete the ILEA forms?

No. Agencies can provide their own IDs and letterhead/documentation that verifies the individual is a qualified retired LEO. Likewise, agencies can use their own forms and processes to ensure/verify all statutory requirements are met.

Is everyone required to submit documentation to the ILEA?

No. Agencies can track their own information. Obviously, if information is not submitted to the ILEA, we will not be able to provide any information should the need arise. If an individual wants the ILEA to track their LEOSA status, then we will confirm all statutory requirements of a qualified retiree are met.

Can Iowa retirees shoot a qualification in another state?

Yes. There is not a requirement that the qualification has to be administered in the same state as employment/retirement.

Can agency firearms instructors administer qualifications for retirees from other agencies?

Yes. The firearms qualification can be administered by a current, active ILEA approved firearms instructor regardless of agency. If an agency approves of their current, active ILEA approved firearms instructors administering the qualification for retirees from other agencies, that is acceptable.

ILEA STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Russ Rigdon



What are your duties at ILEA?

I am the legal instructor at the ILEA. My duties include teaching legal topics to basic recruits as well as providing legal instruction in the jail, reserve and certification through examination programs. Some of the classes that I teach include Criminal Law, Search and Seizure and Use of Force.

How long have you worked at ILEA?

I have been employed at the ILEA since 2011. Prior to being employed at the ILEA, I was a drug task force prosecutor in southeast Iowa.

What is your favorite part of working at ILEA?

My favorite part of working at the ILEA is interacting with the students.

What is a hobby or interest that you enjoy outside of work?

I enjoy reading both fiction and non-fiction books.

Reminder →

Deadline for **Reports for Hire** for the Fall ILEA Basic Academy cycle is **August 6, 2025**. Physical Testing will be **Monday, August 11th at 9:00 A.M.** It will be held at:

LIED Recreation Athletics Center

Iowa State University

518 Beach Road

Ames, Iowa

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

What: CTS 3-day Instructor Course

Date: October 28-30, 2025

Location: Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Registration: [CLICK HERE](#) to access the course webpage or head to [CTS](#).

UPCOMING COURSES & TRAINING

AT ILEA (unless noted):

- July 7 - 11: Defensive Tactics Instructor Course
- July 7 - 11: Radar Instructor Course
- July 14: SFST Instructor Course
- July 21: Expandable Baton Instructor Course & Instructor Renewal
- July 24: Defensive Tactics Instructor Renewal
- July 30: Trauma Informed Sexual Assault Response Course
- August 14: Chemical Spray Instructor Course & Instructor Renewal
- August 28: Precision Driving Instructor Renewal

FIREARM TRAINING DATES AND LOCATIONS:

- July 15: Firearms Instructor Renewal *(at Altoona Police Department)*
- July 16: Firearms Instructor Renewal *(at Altoona Police Department)*
- August 4: Firearms Instructor Renewal *(at Altoona Police Department)*
- August 5: Firearms Instructor Renewal *(at Altoona Police Department)*
- August 26: Patrol Rifle Instructor Renewal *(at Camp Dodge)*
- August 27: Patrol Rifle Instructor Renewal *(at Camp Dodge)*

TELECOMMUNICATOR DATES AND LOCATIONS:

- July 14 - 18: Telecommunicator Basic 40-Hour Course *(at ILEA)*

JAIL TRAINING DATES AND LOCATIONS:

- July 14 - 18: Jail Basic 40 hour Course & Temporary Holding Facility Basic Course *(at Marion County Public Health)*
- Sept 8 - 12: Jail Basic 40 hour Course & Temporary Holding Facility Basic Course *(at Joint Communication Center—Iowa City)*

ONLINE: ILEA offers many online courses continuously, including courses for Jail and LEO in-service, De-Escalation & Use of Force, and Officer Investigations.

Note: *Not all training is listed above. Go to the Acadis Portal to view and register for all training and courses, except where noted.*

LinkedIn



<https://ilea.iowa.gov/>

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