

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to online training for private
 3 security officers; amending ss. 493.6105 and 493.6303,
 4 F.S.; providing that certain required training
 5 criteria for a Class "G" or Class "D" license may be
 6 conducted online; providing requirements for such
 7 online training; requiring the Department of
 8 Agriculture and Consumer Services to establish certain
 9 criteria and rules for the regulation of certain
 10 entities that provide online training; providing
 11 reporting requirements upon completion of the
 12 training; creating s. 493.6132, F.S.; providing
 13 requirements for online training courses for a Class
 14 "D" license; requiring entities offering online
 15 training to provide the Division of Licensing of the
 16 department with live access to each course;
 17 authorizing such entities to deliver online
 18 instruction using recordings under certain
 19 circumstances; providing an effective date.

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 21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 23 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 493.6105, Florida
 24 Statutes, is amended to read:
 25 493.6105 Initial application for license.—

26 (5) In addition to the requirements outlined in subsection
27 (3), an applicant for a Class "G" license must satisfy minimum
28 training criteria for firearms established by rule of the
29 department, including ~~which training criteria includes~~, but ~~is~~
30 not limited to, 28 hours of range and classroom training
31 conducted by in-person instruction or live online instruction
32 through a secure website if the applicant's identity,
33 attendance, and successful completion of training are verified
34 by the instructor. As part of his or her application, the
35 applicant must submit a training certificate to the department
36 upon completion of the training. Training must be taught and
37 administered by one or more a Class "K" licensees. licensee;
38 ~~however,~~ No more than 20 hours of such training may be conducted
39 in an online classroom, and 8 hours of such training shall
40 consist of in-person range training including safe handling and
41 storage of firearms. In accordance with s. 493.6115, the
42 department shall by rule establish the general content and the
43 number of hours of each subject area to be taught, the method of
44 delivery and the security protocols for online training and
45 testing, the reporting requirements for verification of
46 successful completion of training, and any other rules necessary
47 for the regulation of Class "K" licensees providing in-person or
48 online training. Upon completion of the training, the instructor
49 must submit results directly to the Division of Licensing of the
50 department in a manner prescribed by the department. The

51 instructor must also provide a copy of the training results to
52 the applicant who completed the training. The department may
53 waive the foregoing firearms training requirement if:

54 (a) The applicant provides proof that he or she is
55 currently certified as a law enforcement officer or correctional
56 officer pursuant to the requirements of the Criminal Justice
57 Standards and Training Commission or has successfully completed
58 the training required for certification within the last 12
59 months.

60 (b) The applicant provides proof that he or she is
61 currently certified as a federal law enforcement officer and has
62 received law enforcement firearms training administered by a
63 federal law enforcement agency.

64 (c) The applicant submits a valid firearm certificate as
65 provided among those specified in paragraph (6) (a).

66 Section 2. Section 493.6132, Florida Statutes, is created
67 to read:

68 493.6132 Online training courses.—

69 (1) An online training course for a Class "D" license must
70 be conducted live by a licensed school or training facility that
71 maintains a physical location in this state.

72 (2) A Class "K" licensed firearms instructor conducting an
73 online training course must maintain a physical location in this
74 state and must conduct live online classes at a location in this
75 state.

76 (3) An applicant may only be logged into the online
 77 training course from one device at a time.

78 (4) The online training course must include, at a minimum,
 79 all of the following:

80 (a) Security questions to ensure that the applicant is
 81 actively using the computer or mobile device and is following
 82 along with the online training.

83 (b) A minimum amount of time that each applicant must
 84 spend on each screen before moving on to the next screen.

85 (c) Randomized test questions.

86 (d) A digital record of the applicant's attendance log
 87 along with any components required by department rule.

88 (5) A licensed school or training facility or a Class "K"
 89 licensee conducting an online course must maintain records of
 90 all training sessions, including the name and license number of
 91 the instructor who is present online with the students while the
 92 students are receiving instruction, and proof of compliance with
 93 all security protocols at the school, facility, or place of
 94 business in this state. The records required under this
 95 subsection must be made accessible to the department's
 96 investigators upon request.

97 (6) A licensed school or training facility or a Class "K"
 98 licensee conducting an online course must provide the
 99 department's Division of Licensing with live access to each
 100 course for the purposes of auditing, monitoring, or inspection

101 as deemed necessary by the division.

102 (7) If an applicant is absent during a portion of a live
103 online course, a licensed school or training facility or a Class
104 "K" licensee conducting the online course may deliver
105 instruction in part using recordings, as limited by department
106 rule.

107 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
108 493.6303, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

109 493.6303 License requirements.—In addition to the license
110 requirements set forth elsewhere in this chapter, each
111 individual or agency must comply with the following additional
112 requirements:

113 (4) (a) An applicant for a Class "D" license must submit
114 proof of successful completion of a minimum of 40 hours of
115 professional training at a school or training facility licensed
116 by the department. The training may be conducted by in-person
117 instruction or online instruction presented live through a
118 secure website of the licensed school or training facility if
119 the applicant's identity, attendance, and successful completion
120 of training are verified by the instructor. As part of his or
121 her application, the applicant must submit the completed
122 training certificate to the department upon completion of the
123 training. The department shall by rule and in accordance with s.
124 493.6103 establish the general content and number of hours of
125 each subject area to be taught, the method of delivery and the

126 | security protocols for online training and testing, the
127 | reporting requirements for verification of successful completion
128 | of training, and any other rules necessary for the regulation of
129 | schools or training facilities providing in-person or online
130 | training. Upon completion of such training, the school or
131 | training facility or the instructor must submit proof of
132 | completion of training for each applicant to the department
133 | electronically in a manner prescribed by the department. The
134 | school or training facility or the instructor must also provide
135 | a copy of the training results to the applicant who completed
136 | the training.

137 | Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.