

**AGENDA ITEM #\_\_            DISCONTINUATION OF ADVANCED LEVEL  
CERTIFICATION EFFECTIVE 1/1/2009**

**BACKGROUND**

Effective January 1, 2009, the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy Training and Recruiting Division will no longer process or issue advanced level certifications. The process of issuing these certifications is labor intensive, time consuming, and diverts the limited resources and staff we have from the more critical tasks and duties of the Advanced Training Bureau. The processing of these certifications negatively impacts the primary tasks and duties of the Advanced training Bureau involving the scheduling and delivery of state-wide advanced law enforcement training, including development of advanced level specialized training certification courses such as the recently developed court security program; the scheduling and delivery of required annual certification by waiver courses; the scheduling and performance of state-wide agency training audits; participation and oversight of the regional training coordinators and oversight committees; the management and maintenance of the firearms range and the firearms and driving simulator; and all the administrative duties that each of these tasks require.

There is not a statutory reference, or requirement, for advanced level certifications, there is not a reference, or requirement, in the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) for these certifications and they do not affect the basic certification, or maintenance of law enforcement certification, for the officer. The majority of state law enforcement agencies and the majority of law enforcement officers do not participate in the program. Given the significant training requirements of the bureau it is not in the best interest of the law enforcement community to any longer expend the resources we are using to maintain this program for a minority of participating agencies and officers.

Since the value of this program appears to be limited to use for individual promotional advancement and pay that strictly benefits the individual officer, this should be an agency responsibility and not a responsibility of the law enforcement academy.

**Action requested:**

Informational Only. No action requested.

**Motion:**

**Second:**

**Action Taken:**