



CORE SUBJECTS STANDARD GS002

AUTHORITY

California Penal Code 13601(a)(1): The CPOST shall develop, approve, and monitor standards for the selection and training of state correctional peace officer apprentices.

BACKGROUND

There are core subjects that are fundamental principles of behavior and decision making necessary to becoming a successful and productive correctional peace officer. These skill sets are usually not taught in single presentations but are infused throughout all training. A successful correctional peace officer must be able to master these principles and perform accordingly on the work site.

STANDARD

All Correctional Peace Officer training will be evaluated taking into consideration the basic principles of Authority, Communication, Ethics, and Safety.

COMPONENTS OF STANDARD

- 1) **AUTHORITY** –The understanding and ability of how and when to use or not use vested authority including force options but also including situational awareness and de-escalation techniques.
- 2) **COMMUNICATION** – The ability to effectively communicate either in writing, orally or with body language.
- 3) **ETHICS** – The ability to do the right thing including following legal requirements and departmental values while demonstrating a high professional standard of behavior.
- 4) **SAFETY** – Professional behavior that provides for personal safety but also the ability to provide protection and safety of others under dangerous and stressful conditions.

These critical principles of work performance are not independent of each other but are instead always linked. A failure to adequately apply one will inevitably result in misuse of others. A misuse of authority is unethical behavior. A simple failure of communication in a critical situation can result in an unnecessary safety risk to everyone involved. A successful correctional peace officer operates within these four principles of work performance whenever possible.