

MICHAEL G. MASTRONARDY
SHERIFF

THOMAS J. DELLANE
UNDERSHERIFF

JON G. LOMBARDI
UNDERSHERIFF

SHERIFF'S OFFICE



OCEAN COUNTY POLICE ACADEMY

659 Ocean Avenue
Lakewood, New Jersey 08701
www.oceancountypoliceacademy.org

TELEPHONE
732-363-8710

FAX NUMBER
732-905-8345

April 24, 2025

To: Chiefs of Police

From: Undersheriff Thomas J. Dellane, Director

Re: Modifications to Police Academy Pre-Academy PT Assessment testing procedures

As you are aware, the Police Training Commission (PTC) has instituted a pilot PT assessment program in all police academies in New Jersey that mandates that all recruits achieve a minimum score on the pre-academy PT assessment as condition precedent to admission into a Basic Class for Police Officers.

Academy staff have noted that some departments are using the pre-academy PT assessment as part of their hiring selection process in that they do not screen applicants to determine their level of physical fitness prior to the pre-academy PT assessment.

This trend is problematic in that the PTC requires the academy to report the results of the pre-academy PT Assessment as part of the pilot program. They will use this data to determine PT standards upon completion of the pilot program and excessive failures may have a negative impact on future PT standards.

Additionally, some departments request to send more applicants to the pre-academy PT assessment than they intend to hire. The pre-academy PT assessment is governed by PTC regulations, and we must meet strict instructor to recruit ratios when administering the assessment, while adhering to minimum rest periods required between each exercise. Allowing departments to send more applicants than they intend to hire places an unnecessary strain on our PT instructor cadre and greatly increases the time necessary to complete the assessment.

Effective immediately, departments will only be permitted to send the same number of recruits to the pre-academy PT assessment as they have seats reserved in the BCPO class. For example, if a department has reserved 5 seats in a BCPO class then they will only be permitted to send 5 recruits to the pre-academy PT assessment.

To assist departments in determining which potential recruits are fit enough to send to the pre-academy PT assessment, the academy will hold the Ocean County Chiefs of Police fitness assessment approximately one month prior to the pre-academy PT assessment. The chief's fitness assessment will mirror the events tested in the pre-academy PT assessment and departments are free to send additional candidates over the number they will send to the BCPO class.

The test will be administered by the Academy PT instructors and will provide your agency with information necessary to determine if recruits are fit enough to successfully pass the pre-academy PT assessment. If the recruit fails the chief's fitness assessment, it does not preclude them from taking the pre-academy test, as it is just a gauge of their fitness level.

The Ocean County Chiefs Fitness Assessment will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025 at 0700 hrs. at the police academy. To make reservations for your recruits to participate please contact the either Traci Hutton at THutton@co.ocean.nj.us or Kristen Shaw at KShaw@co.ocean.nj.us

Please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions.