

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE  
REGULAR BASIC COURSE  
**LEARNING DOMAIN 38**  
GANG AWARENESS

I. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know the indicators of gang involvement in order to assess and respond to gang-related criminal activity.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. State statutory requirements for designating a group as a criminal street gang
  - 1. 186.22(F) PC – S.T.E.P. ACT
  - 1. Organized groups
  - 2. Specific criminal activity(ies)
  
- B. Describe safety considerations for peace officers who come in contact with known or suspected members of criminal gangs
  - 1. Weapons and searches
  - 2. Gang tactics
  - 3. Intelligence regarding feuds/rivalries
  - 4. Initiation rites
  - 5. Appearances / more common non-traditional such as female and juvenile members
  
- C. Describe indicators of gang territory and communications, including:
  - 1. Graffiti
  - 2. Violent crime
  - 3. Active gang members
  - 4. Tattoos
  - 5. Neighborhoods

II. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know the different types of criminal street gangs in order to effectively monitor and control criminal gang activity.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Describe identifying characteristics and crime trends associated with criminal street gangs
  - 1. Clothing

2. Hair
3. Tattoos
4. Hand signals
5. Language
6. Graffiti
7. Drug trafficking
8. Crimes against persons
9. Property crimes
10. Rival gang violence

### III. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers need a basic understanding of outlaw motorcycle gangs and prison gangs in order to effectively monitor and control criminal gang activity.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Describe identifying characteristics and crime trends associated with organized crime gangs including:
  1. Motorcycle gangs
  2. Prison gangs

### IV. REQUIRED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- A. The student will participate in a learning activity that will reinforce knowledge of local/regional gang dynamics including recent crime trends. Topics must include:
  1. Categories of gangs (e.g., street gangs, organized crime gangs, outlaw motorcycle gangs and prison gangs)
  2. Types of street gangs (e.g., Hispanic, white, black, Asian, multi-racial)
  3. Reasons for gang membership
  4. Characteristics common to most gangs
  5. Common criminal activities
  6. Suppression, investigation, enforcement and prosecution tactics and techniques
  7. Officer safety techniques and personal character in gang-related contacts, detentions and arrests

Description	Hours
POST Minimum Required Hours	<u>2</u>
Agency Specific Hours	<u>2</u>
Total Instructional Hours	<u>4</u>