

# **PUBLIC SAFETY CADETS**

**NATIONAL COMPETITIVE TRAINING CONFERENCE**



**July 17 – 20, 2023**  
**Gatlinburg, Tennessee**

# **GUIDEBOOK**

[www.PublicSafetyCadets.org](http://www.PublicSafetyCadets.org)

# CONTENTS

<b>SECTION I – Introduction.....</b>	<b>4-5</b>
Public Safety Cadets – About Us	
Background	
Objectives	
<b>SECTION II – Administration and Support Services.....</b>	<b>5-13</b>
Schedule of Events	
Participant Eligibility	
Adult Leadership	
Registration Instructions	
Required Forms	
Fee Schedule and Payment Terms	
Initial Unit Check-In	
Event Identification	
Proficiency Award Ribbon	
Accommodations, Meals and Lodging	
Suggested Packing List	
Parking	
Special Needs or Accommodations for People with Disabilities	
Procedures and Rules	
Support Services	
After-Action Evaluation	
Attractions, Tours and Transportation	
<b>SECTION III – Competitive Events.....</b>	<b>13-20</b>
Team Competitions:	
Active Shooter	
Arrest & Search	
Burglary in Progress	
Felony Traffic Stop	
Force Options	
Human Trafficking	
Officer Rescue	
Unknown Trouble	
Drill Team	
Individual Competitions	
Airsoft Marksmanship Competition	
Bike Policing	
Physical Fitness Challenge	
Sample Police Written Examination	
Awards Schedule	
<b>SECTION IV – Seminars.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>SECTION V – Mentor Training.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>SECTION VI – Program Activities.....</b>	<b>20-22</b>
Career and College Fair	
Showdown Swap-Spot	

**Events Schedule**

**SECTION VII – Appendix/Forms.....23-25**  
**Code of Conduct, Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage, Waiver and**  
**Release of Claims, Authorization Form**  
**Public Safety Cadets – Youth Safety and Abuse Prevention Policy (NCTC)**

# SECTION I

## INTRODUCTION

### Public Safety Cadets

The Public Safety Cadets (PSC) is a nonprofit organization that aims to mentor, train and prepare young men and women for a career in Law Enforcement, Fire-Rescue or Emergency Medical Services. PSC partners with law enforcement and public safety agencies to mentor young adults to serve their communities by providing knowledge, skills and practical experiences through education and training delivered by public safety professionals that build character, physical fitness, and respect for the rule of law and human and civil rights. PSC desires to create a recruiting pipeline of young adults for careers and leadership in the public safety profession.

Through their involvement in the program, young adults, referred to as Cadets, are organized into local Units sponsored by public safety agencies to develop an awareness of the purpose, mission and objectives of law enforcement and public safety organizations. The support of the chief executive officer of the partnering agency/organization, along with a dedicated cadre of public safety professionals and adult volunteers, referred to as Mentors, provide adult leadership to ensure the success of the Cadet Unit. Although Public Safety Cadets depends on volunteer leadership, the Public Safety Cadets staff, who are also public safety, law enforcement and business veterans, are available to provide guidance and support through the national office.

Public Safety Cadets helps partner agencies to organize events and activities:

- To provide a program of leadership, ethics and career preparation training that educates young adults on the purpose, mission and objectives of public safety organizations.
- To create an opportunity for Cadets to perform community service, gain practical experience, participate in career skills competitions and team building recreational activities.
- To help prepare Cadets become better citizens and community members through character development, physical fitness, good citizenship and patriotism.

### Background

The National Competitive Training Conference (NCTC), also known as the *Summer Showdown*, will bring Public Safety Cadets and Law Enforcement Explorers together from throughout the country to participate in a variety of competitive training scenarios, education seminars and demonstrations. This event will place young adults in direct conversations with law enforcement officers from local, county, state and federal agencies to learn more about timely topics and emerging trends in response to resistance and critical incident management that are gripping the law enforcement profession today.

Participants will achieve a better understanding of the roles and challenges of policing today. A timely event considering the heightened public scrutiny and passionate debate currently taking place across our nation. The success of any event like this is the leadership, support and participation of prominent law enforcement and public safety industry leaders from national, state, and local partnering agencies.

This premier event will be conducted at the Gatlinburg Convention Center, Gatlinburg, Tennessee, July 17-20, 2023 with participation from local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. You are invited to participate in an engaging event that will provide the opportunity to demonstrate excellence while learning how to prepare for a career in public safety through discussions and dynamic activities to better understand the roles and challenges facing the police and our communities today.

### Objectives

The NCTC *Summer Showdown* strives to enrich Public Safety Cadets through the following objectives.

1. Provide an opportunity for learning, leadership development and interpersonal growth in an atmosphere of competition, seminars, demonstrations, exhibits, social networking and fun.
2. Promote the ideals and principles of the law enforcement profession.
3. Encourage sharing of knowledge, information, program ideas and best practices that will enhance existing Public Safety Cadets Units and serve as an incentive for agencies to start new PSC Units.
4. Emphasize Public Safety Cadets program goals through event activities that provide knowledge, skills and practical experiences that build character, physical fitness and respect for the rule of law.

5. Provide an opportunity for Cadets to learn the safe and proper handling of training aids in a competitive environment while contributing to the development of skills required by the law enforcement profession.

## SECTION II

# ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

## CONFERENCE INFORMATION

This Guidebook provides complete information and required forms for the event. The guidebook and other important program information may be located in the Events or Resource Center of the Public Safety Cadets website at [www.PublicSafetyCadets.org](http://www.PublicSafetyCadets.org). Mentors having questions or seeking information not found in this guidebook may direct such inquiries to email: [nctc@publicsafetycadets.org](mailto:nctc@publicsafetycadets.org).

## Schedule of Events July 17-20, 2023 (All times are EDT)

### Monday, July 17, 2023

10:00 a.m. Check-In will open in the Gatlinburg Convention Center (GCC)

11:00 a.m. PSC Store open in the Greenbrier Room GCC (Open Daily 8a.m.- 5p.m.)

7:30 p.m. The Summer Showdown will commence with an Opening Assembly in the Mills Auditorium

### Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 18-20, 2023 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Competitive Events and Seminars will be conducted in the Gatlinburg Convention Center

PSC Store Open – Greenbrier Room

### Law Enforcement Response Team Events:

- Active Shooter
- Arrest & Search
- Burglary in Progress
- Felony Traffic Stop
- Human Trafficking
- Force Options
- Officer Rescue
- Unknown Trouble

NOTE: Law Enforcement Response Team Competitive Events will conclude at 3pm on Thursday, July 20.

### Special Team Events:

- Drill Team

### Individual Events:

- Airsoft Marksmanship Competition
- Bike Policing
- Physical Fitness Challenge
- Sample Police Written Examination

### Seminars:

- TBA

### Mentor Training:

- TBA

Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. The event will close with an Awards Ceremony in Mills Auditorium

## Participant Eligibility

The 2023 *Summer Showdown* is open to currently registered members of Public Safety Cadets Units and other law enforcement career interest youth programs (the term Cadet will be used hereinafter in this Guide for Cadets and other approved career interest youth organization participants. The term Unit will be used for any sub-entity of another approved career interest youth organization). All youth participants must be age 14 through 20 years old (until 21st birthday). Each Unit attending the NCTC must have at least two Cadets and a minimum of two adult Mentors/Advisors (i.e., Two-deep Leadership), both of whom must be at least 21 years of age. Units with coed participants must have at least one male and one female adult leader. Units may group together in order to achieve the “Two-deep” Leadership as well as appropriate gender coverage.

Adult Mentors registered in good standing with their respective agency youth program may attend the NCTC to observe and participate in the Mentor seminars without youth participants.

## Adult Leadership

At least two adult leaders for each Unit are at all times expected to be onsite and provide oversight and supervision to the Cadets for whom they are responsible. Adult leaders must respond to any matters involving their Cadets referred to them by Public Safety Cadets or Gatlinburg Convention Center staff.

All adult leaders must conduct themselves in a professional manner that is in accordance with the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, the NCTC Code of Conduct and Public Safety Cadets – Youth Safety and Abuse Prevention Policy. Inappropriate or illegal behavior by an adult leader will result in immediate notification to their Chief, Sheriff or head of the participating agency and, if required, local authorities. Any unacceptable behavior may also result in the leader being removed from the event.

The Summer Showdown attendance is limited to the capacity of the host venue to conduct the variety of competitive events during the three-day event. Registration for the Summer Showdown is on a first-come, first-served basis; registrations will not be accepted once event capacity has been attained. The attendance limit for this event will be achieved very quickly following the opening of the registration period; therefore, Units are strongly encouraged to register for as soon as possible.

## Registration Instructions

### Online Registration

The entire registration process should be handled by the Lead Mentor online at [www.PublicSafetyCadets.org](http://www.PublicSafetyCadets.org) under the ‘Events’ tab, click the Blue “Register Now!” button tab. Registration must be completed by June 1, 2023 and all fees paid by **June 30, 2023**. For assistance, please contact the registrar using email address: [nctc@publicsafetycadets.org](mailto:nctc@publicsafetycadets.org).

### Timeline for Registration

February 1, 2023: “Early Bird” Registration for PSC registered attendees opens through April 30, 2023

March 1, 2023: “ Early Bird” Registration for non-PSC attendees opens through April 30, 2023.

May 1, 2023: Registration fees increase \$25 for all attendees.

June 1, 2023: All Registrations close.

July 1, 2023: Last day of eligibility for registration refund, less \$50 non-refundable fee.

July 17, 2023: Last day participants will be able to be “swapped” for someone else if unable to attend, with registration fees applied to “swapped” participant.

### Team Assignments:

Law Enforcement Response Team Events require a minimum of 2 Cadets and a maximum of 4 Cadets. Teams for Law Enforcement Response Events will be randomly assigned (Mentors will not sign up for them). The assignment of Cadets on 2-4 member teams will be determined by the participating agency during on-line registration. The agency may change a team’s composition by notifying PSC staff at the time of event registration. Transfers with a substitution may be made in accordance with the transfer (substitution) policy, no later than 6:00 p.m., on Monday, July 17, 2023.

Teams will not know the event for which they are assigned until initial check-in at Gatlinburg on July 17, 2023. Each Team will be allowed to compete in a minimum of four Law Enforcement Response Team events and, depending on the number of

conference participants/teams, will be scheduled for additional events for any available openings based on conference registration date/time (the first Unit registered for the conference will be scheduled for the first vacancy, the second Unit registered for the second vacancy, etc.). Individual events will be scheduled based on the order the individual participant is registered for the conference.

Mentors are requested to carefully complete all online registration forms as incomplete forms or inaccurate information will delay processing and may result in a participant not being registered in time to take part in the conference.

In the event there is a substitution for the youth participant or the adult Mentor previously registered, it is the responsibility of the Mentor/Advisor to update PSC with this information via email at: [nctc@publicsafetycadets.org](mailto:nctc@publicsafetycadets.org).

A non-refundable \$50 deposit for participants (both youth and adult) will be required upon initial registration in order to reserve their slot in the event (see Fee Schedule and Payment Terms below).

Mentors should register each participant at [www.PublicSafetyCadets.org](http://www.PublicSafetyCadets.org).

Each Participant, both Youth and Adult, must be registered individually.

Items you will need to register are:

1. Participant information
  - Name
  - Gender
  - Date of Birth (Youth Only)
  - Shirt Size Specify (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, or 3XL, etc.- using male sizing)
  - Cell Phone Number
  - Email address
  - Team name (**required** if youth will be competing on a team)
  - Individual Events in which youth will be competing
  - Sponsoring Agency Name, State and Unit# or Post#
  - Sponsoring Agency Name, Address, City, State
  - Signed Form: Code of Conduct, *Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage, Waiver and Release of Claims, Authorization* (May be uploaded at registration or emailed to: [nctc@publicsafetycadets.org](mailto:nctc@publicsafetycadets.org))
2. \$50 Registration Deposit per person (the full amount can also be paid at registration)

Mentors will receive a confirmation response for each registration at the email address you provide.

Any changes to any participant information after the online registration has been made, must be sent to [nctc@publicsafetycadets.org](mailto:nctc@publicsafetycadets.org). Changes and substitutions are allowed, but cannot be made online after the initial registration.

## Required Forms

The required forms are available online at [www.PublicSafetyCadets.org](http://www.PublicSafetyCadets.org) under the “Resource Center” tab, click “**All Resources**”, then select form(s) from “National Competitive Training Conference” list as follows:

### From All Participants

- ***Code of Conduct, Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage, Waiver and Release of Claims, Authorization Form***

All NCTC participants are required to complete and submit this form upon registration to [nctc@publicsafetycadets.org](mailto:nctc@publicsafetycadets.org) and prior to arrival. This form is available online on the PSC website. The parent or legal guardian for participants under 18 years of age must sign this form, which also provides consent to the adult leader to authorize emergency medical services for a Cadet. **Adult leaders should retain an original copy of this form for each Cadet in their care with the original signature of their parent/guardian, as some medical facilities will not accept a copy of the signed form for emergency consent purposes.**

### From Career & College Fair Participants

- ***Career & College Fair Registration Form***

Career Fair participants from law enforcement, military and colleges are required to register online which is available on the PSC website: [www.PublicSafetyCadets.org](http://www.PublicSafetyCadets.org) Events tab. No other form is required.

## Fee Schedule and Payment Terms

### Online Individual Registration Deposits

A **non-refundable** \$50.00 individual deposit is required to initiate the registration process for each participant. Deposits are paid online by credit card or by check and are due with initial registration (see Online Registration above). If a previously registered Participant (either Youth or Adult) is not able to attend the event and a replacement cannot be found, their deposit is **non-refundable** and **cannot** be applied to the event balance.

### Participant Fees

The fee for each individual participant is as follows (fee amount includes \$50 deposit):

“Early Bird” Registration Fee through April 30, 2023:

PSC Cadets - <b>\$200</b>	Youth from other approved programs <b>\$225</b>
PSC Mentors - <b>\$150</b>	Adult leaders from other programs <b>\$175</b>

Registration Fee May 1 – June 1, 2023:

PSC Cadets - <b>\$225</b>	Youth from other approved programs <b>\$250</b>
PSC Mentors - <b>\$175</b>	Adult leaders from other programs <b>\$200</b>

### Career Fair-Recruiter Fees

The fee for each agency, organization or educational institution is \$150. This fee covers exhibit space indoors at the Gatlinburg Conference Center with a table, two chairs and electrical outlet.

### Payment

**The total Participant Fee with a completed individual Youth, Adult, or College Fair online registration must be received by June 30, 2023.**

If you didn't pay the entire fee upon initial registration, the balance can be paid online at [www.PublicSafetyCadets.org](http://www.PublicSafetyCadets.org) Use the blue button on the Events page to pay the balance owed. Clearly indicate “NCTC” and list participants being paid in the “**Comment Reason for the Donation/Payment**” box.

If paying by check, please make payable to: **Public Safety Cadets**, 50 Catocin Circle, NE, Ste#325, Leesburg, VA 20176.

### Cancellation, and Refund Policy

It is understood that unforeseen events may prevent an individual from attending the *Summer Showdown*; however, such situations must be balanced against contractual and financial obligations with the host venue facility and other costs incurred by Public Safety Cadets. Therefore, all cancellations and requests for refunds must be made by email at: [nctc@publicsafetycadets.org](mailto:nctc@publicsafetycadets.org) with subject line of “**Cancellation-Refund**” and received no later than July 1, 2023 to receive a full refund **minus the non-refundable individual deposit of \$50.00**. Any refund request received between July 2, 2023 and July 17, 2023 will not be considered unless such cancellation is due to a death in the family, serious illness or other extraordinary circumstance and will result in a full refund **minus the non-refundable individual deposit**. Refunds will be processed and sent within six weeks after the event has concluded.

### Transfer (Substitution) Policy

No later than on or before 6:00p.m. EDT, July 17, 2023, an individual may request, at no additional cost, that his/her paid registration be transferred to another person eligible to attend the *Summer Showdown*. The person to whom the registration is transferred must be from the same Unit and of the role (i.e., a Cadet replaces a Cadet and an adult replaces an adult) Such request must be made by the Mentor via e-mail to [nctc@publicsafetycadets.org](mailto:nctc@publicsafetycadets.org). Registration information must be completed for the person to whom the registration is transferred by 6:00p.m. EDT, July 17, 2023. The substitute must be eligible to attend the *Summer Showdown* and the Mentor must have all required online registration completed. Required forms may be emailed or hand delivered to the Registrar during onsite registration.

### Unit/Mentor Check-In

Check-In will commence at the W. L. Mills Convention Center entrance of the Gatlinburg Convention Center (GCC) adjacent to Historic Nature Trail (name of the road) on Monday, July 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. (CDT). A Mentor/Advisor will need to check-in upon arrival at the Gatlinburg Convention Center to ensure that all required registration forms and fees have been completed. NCTC *Summer Showdown* Identification-Wrist Bands, conference T-shirts, and competitive event



assignments will be provided at that time. Competitive schedules will be provided and reviewed as appropriate.

## Event Identification

All Summer Showdown participants will be required to wear event identification that is readily visible at all times to gain access to and while on the premises of the Gatlinburg Convention Center. Mentors and Cadets will be issued distinctive vinyl wrist bands that should be worn throughout the event. NCTC Competitive Team Judges and Staff will be issued a distinctive nylon imprinted lanyard bearing an NCTC identification card containing their name, title and affiliation. Identification will be conducted by Security Staff at the entry to the GCC and to all competitive events. Damaged/lost wrist bands may be replaced at the NCTC Headquarters Office located in the Boardroom of the GCC.

## Proficiency Award Ribbon – National Competitive Training Conference

The green ribbon bar established to recognize successful completion of the Public Safety Cadets National Competitive Training Conference will be provided to each Cadet/Explorer attending the Summer Showdown at no charge. Mentors/Advisors should pick-up their Unit's ribbons at the PSC Store on Thursday, July 20, 2023. Ribbon attachment bars are available for purchase at the store or email us at: [info@PublicSafetyCadets.org](mailto:info@PublicSafetyCadets.org).

## Accommodations

### General Lodging Information

NCTC participants are responsible for making their own arrangements for lodging. Neither Public Safety Cadets or 2023 *Summer Showdown* have control, responsibility or a capacity to support lodging requests. Units are expected to adhere to the Public Safety Cadets - Youth Safety and Abuse Prevention Policy when arranging lodging (available online under **Resource Center** at [www.PublicSafetyCadets.org](http://www.PublicSafetyCadets.org)).

Public Safety Cadets, in partnership with the Gatlinburg Chamber of Commerce, has arranged room blocks with over 350 rooms at area hotels for the dates surrounding the events. Many hotels have provided special rates for PSC from July 17-20. Some have extended special rates for before and after the event. The lodging offered includes hotels and condominiums, with a variety of room, food and recreation options. All offerings are within walking distance of the GCC.

### Booking Lodging

Units are encouraged to review the lodging offerings published on February 1, 2023 by the PSC. Booking links, codes or phone numbers will be provided to support your arrangements. We encourage you to keep in mind:

**Cancellation Policies** – Fees related to hotel cancellations are the responsibility of the attending Units.

The cancellation windows and fees will vary from hotel to hotel as these were not negotiated.

**Cut-Off / Cutout / Release Dates** – This is the last date you can make reservations and get the deeply discounted PSC rate. Most hotels cutoff June 17 or June 21, one month prior to the event.

**Distance** – All offerings are within walking distance of the GCC.

**Breakfast** – Several hotels have indicated breakfast (of various types) is included in the rate. If not indicated, we encourage you to assume it is not included, unless the hotel directly advises you otherwise.

**Parking Fees** – These fees were not negotiated, and may or may not be included in the room rate.

**Fitness Centers / Pools** – Many of the offerings include access to recreation.

### Meals

All meals for participants are the responsibility of the individual Units. There is a wide variety of food service in the conference center and numerous restaurants with an abundant variety of food selections at reasonable cost all within walking distance.

## Hydration

All participants are encouraged to bring a reusable container for water or other suitable beverage to maintain personal hydration during the event. Water fountains are available in the Gatlinburg Convention Center.

## Suggested Personal Packing List

Suggested items for Cadets and Mentors to bring to the Summer Showdown:

- Unit uniforms (participants are encouraged to wear their uniforms during the event as appropriate)

- Duty belts/weapons. Cadets should not bring any simulated firearms/training aids with you. This includes, but is not limited to, knives, batons, handcuffs, and explosives.
- Personal hygiene products (shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, hair care products, etc.).
- Laundry facilities may be available in your lodging choice. You will need to bring or purchase laundry detergent.
- Shower shoes (i.e., flip-flops)
- Swimwear
- Casual clothing/walking shoes for excursions and evening activities
- Personal media, ear buds, etc. (optional)
- Cameras for recreational use (Go Pros and any other types of cameras or recording devices will not be allowed in competition areas)
- ID cards with photo
- Health insurance cards
- Medications
- Money for any extra-curricular activities outside of the conference
- Snacks

## **Parking**

Parking at the Gatlinburg Convention Center is available, but limited in designated areas at no cost. Gatlinburg Convention Center strictly enforces permit parking areas and designated no-parking zones. Individuals are responsible for any and all parking fees and fines they may incur before, during and after the event.

## **Special Needs or Accommodations for People with Disabilities**

Gatlinburg Convention Center facilities are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Requests for any special needs or accommodations must be noted during the online registration process and may entail additional costs.

## **Procedures And Rules**

### **Requirements:**

All Public Safety Cadets programs are designed to encourage safe interaction between approved adults designated as Mentors, authorized volunteers, employees and youth participants. The following regulations are meant to keep established safeguards effective:

- Participating Components (Units/Posts) must have an established adult to Cadet ratio where there is a minimum of two adult Mentors present (may be a Mentor and an authorized volunteer).
- Mentors, volunteers and employees are restricted from being alone with a Cadet where they cannot be easily observed by others.
- Cadets will only be released to a parent, legal guardian or a person designated by a parent or legal guardian.
- Mentors will take all reasonable steps and precautions to prevent harm or injury to Cadet participants and damage to facilities utilized during official events.

### **General Conduct:**

In an effort to provide a safe and healthy environment for both mind and body, the following regulations are meant to guide Mentors, volunteers and employees during their interactions with Cadets:

- Mentors, volunteers and employees will treat all Cadets with respect and consideration. Treatment must be fair and equal, and must not be based on sex, race, religion, sexual orientation or economic or social status. All effort must be made to avoid favoritism, or the appearance of favoritism.
- While participating in the NCTC Summer Showdown, Mentors, volunteers and employees must not possess, distribute, use or allow others to use any alcohol or illicit drugs.
- Mentors, volunteers and employees must not use harsh or inappropriate language, degrading punishment or any type of restraining device as a means of behavior management or disciplinary action.
- Mentors, volunteers and employees must not participate in or allow others to engage in any form of hazing (defined as any action or situation, with or without the consent of the participants, which recklessly, intentionally or unintentionally endangers the mental, emotional, or physical health of a Cadet or any other individual, i.e., bullying).
- Mentors, volunteers and employees must not have sexual contact with Cadets, regardless of age.

- Mentors, volunteers and employees must not engage in any form of communication (using telephone, e-mail, text message, social media application, exchange of photos/graphic images application, etc.) with anyone that is sexually suggestive or inappropriate in nature.
- Mentors, volunteers and employees must not dress, undress, shower or bathe with or in the presence of Cadets.
- Mentors, volunteers or employees must not use physical punishment in any form. The only time physical force is allowed to be used against a Cadet is when their actions are placing others at an immediate risk for serious harm.
- Mentors, volunteers and employees are prohibited from sharing sleeping locations with Cadets. This includes beds, tents, hotel rooms, dormitory rooms, communal sleeping bays and other similar areas. Mentors, volunteers or employees can sleep in open areas with Cadets during participation in official events as long as the area is large enough for the employee to have their own defined sleeping areas and other Mentors, volunteers or employees are also present.
- Sleeping locations will be assigned by age groups as follows: Cadets 17 and under; 18-20-years-old; and Adults, 21+ years old; will be roomed together in separate accommodations with a person(s) of the same gender.
- Mentors, volunteers or employees not otherwise related to or appointed guardian, may not cohabit with Cadets in private residential arrangements, i.e., share an apartment, townhouse, condominium, single family home, or other permanent residence.
- Mentors, volunteers or employees must not discuss their own sexual history, preferences or fantasies nor their use of illicit or pornographic materials while in the company of Cadets.
- Mentors, volunteers or employees are not allowed to possess any sexually oriented materials (books, magazines, videos, clothing) when conducting business, activities or participation in events in the name of Public Safety Cadets.
- When one-on-one discussion or counseling is warranted, Mentor, volunteer or employee interaction with a Cadet will take place in an area that allows for private conversation while remaining in the view of others.

These regulations do not and cannot outline every situation that may be encountered while engaged in Public Safety Cadets program activities, requiring Mentors, volunteers and employees to act with a certain degree of personal discretion with the ultimate goal of any discretionary decision or action always being the safety and security of youth in their care. Because a certain action is not prohibited in this policy does not mean it is acceptable behavior. Public Safety Cadets reserves the right to take disciplinary action against Mentors, volunteers, or employees whose actions are found to be inappropriate regardless of whether they appear in this section.

## Possession of Firearms

The laws of the State of Tennessee (or City of Gatlinburg/GCC) prohibit anyone from possessing a firearm on GCC property unless they are a sworn law enforcement officer. Law Enforcement Officers may possess their issued/approved firearm and must be in uniform or readily identifiable as a law enforcement officer. ***Law enforcement officers are required to maintain positive possession of their firearm at all times. Please contact the Sevier County Sheriff's Office at (865) 453-4668 with specific questions.*** There are no facilities to secure your firearm at the Gatlinburg Convention Center.

## Support Services

### Summer Showdown Headquarters

The headquarters office will be located in the "Boardroom" on the Upper Level of the Gatlinburg Convention Center. Please call **703-717-8168** for inquiries and assistance during the event.

### Security, Communications, and Health Services

The NCTC Health and Safety office, and the Volunteer Staff Security office, will be located across from Ballroom B on the Upper Level of the Gatlinburg Convention Center and staffed with individuals prepared to provide assistance to all participants. If unstaffed, please go to the "Boardroom" for support.

The following emergency telephone numbers are provided for participants, family members and sponsoring agency representatives. These numbers should be used only for emergency or critical incident purposes.

**Gatlinburg Convention Center Security: (865) 277-8967 or 911**

**Medical Emergencies: 911**

**Public Safety Cadets On-site Staff: 703-717-8168**

The following medical centers serve the Gatlinburg area.

1. Urgent Care of the Smokies  
1015 E. Parkway, Gatlinburg, TN  
865-412-1225  
M-F 0800 to 1700 hrs (8-minutes from the Convention Center)
2. LeConte Medical Center  
742 Middle Creek Road, Sevierville, TN  
865-446-7000  
24-hour emergency services (30-minutes from the Convention Center)

Although adult leaders have the primary responsibility for Cadets assigned to their care, PSC volunteer staff and Gatlinburg Convention Center Security will help to provide a safe and secure environment for all conference participants. Youth and adult leaders are expected to cooperate with staff and GCC security to adhere to all conduct, health, safety and security regulations.

Local ordinances, as well as Gatlinburg Convention Center rules, mandate the complete evacuation of all buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Following the evacuation of a building, reentry is not permitted until authorized by a representative from the Gatlinburg Convention Center Security or other emergency services authority. Failure to comply with evacuation procedures may result in a fine and/or prosecution for violation of applicable ordinances or state statutes. It is to be noted the false activation of a fire alarm is a violation of the law and offenders will be prosecuted and immediately removed from the NCTC Summer Showdown.

The Gatlinburg Fire Department is a class "A" Advanced Life Support Transport service. They provide three ALS staffed ambulances responding 24-hours per day, from the three stations within Gatlinburg, the closest is one minute from the Convention Center.

In the event of an emergency involving event participants, on or off-site, it is requested a mentor from the involved unit contact Public Safety Cadets staff.

### **PSC Store**

The Public Safety Cadets Store (PSC Store) will be located in the Greenbrier Room on the upper level of the Gatlinburg Convention Center. The store will be open on Monday through Thursday to obtain collectible Summer Showdown specialty items such as: Challenge Coins, Patches, Ball Caps as well as PSC Polo Shirts, T-Shirts, Proficiency Awards, Patches, Pins, Lanyards and other training aids. A display of custom Public Safety Cadets shoulder and breast patches will be available for quality inspection should you be looking to customize your unit emblem.

### **Summer Showdown After-Action Evaluation**

The planning and production of a national event involves a tremendous amount of time and effort on the part of the PSC Competition Steering Committee and a large cadre of professionals and volunteers. The goal of every national event is to provide a safe, impactful experience, for youth members and their adult leaders. The steering committee hopes to meet that goal at the Summer Showdown. Following the competition, each Unit is asked to complete an After-Action Evaluation via email.

The appraisal of the 2023 NCTC Summer Showdown, along with any constructive comments and suggestions, will help make the next national event even better. The national committee receives many suggestions for venues. The decision for a competition site is based on availability and size of activity areas, seminar facilities, exhibit/demonstration space, lodging, meal service, recreational opportunities and, of course, cost. We look forward to receiving and evaluating any suggested venue with an interest in hosting a national event and are able to meet the logistical and physical requirements while doing so at a reasonable cost.

### **Transportation, Attractions, and Tours**

#### **Transportation**

Gatlinburg is approximately 42 miles (approximate 1hr 10min drive) from the Knoxville Airport (TYS). TYS offers ground transportation services for travel between the airport and Gatlinburg via rental vehicle, bus, taxi and Uber service. You may visit the TYS ground transportation website at <https://www.flyknoxville.com/ground-transportation/> for information on transportation between the airport and Gatlinburg.

## Attractions and Tours

There are many attractions in or near Gatlinburg and the Great Smokey National Park area that may be of interest to Summer Showdown participants.

### SECTION III

## Competitive Events

The Law Enforcement Response Team, Drill Team and Individual competitions are the focus of the NCTC Summer Showdown. All competitions are presented with an emphasis on participation, skill enhancement and good sportsmanship. The purpose of the competitions is to foster the development of individual and team growth through personal, physical and group challenges in an environment of learning and enjoyment.

Scheduling of all events are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Units and teams will not be notified on response team scenarios until each Unit checks in at the Gatlinburg Convention Center on July 17, 2023.

### Law Enforcement Response Team Competitions

- Units interested in participating in response team competitions must complete their online registration by June 1, 2023. Scheduling will be allocated on a first-come, first served basis.
- A maximum of four Cadets per team will be permitted to participate in law enforcement response team events. A unit may elect to register a smaller team of not less than two Cadets but must recognize all scenarios are designed for a team of four Cadets.
- Participation in response team competitions is restricted to individual Cadet units. Cadets from different units are not permitted to form teams and participate in events. Each unit determines its own team composition but only members of that unit may be on team(s).
- A unit with multiple teams may not have any Cadet assigned to more than one of its teams.
- All equipment and supplies required for competitive events will be provided. Cadets may use their own equipment duty belts without training aid firearms.
- In order to preclude teams from training for particular law enforcement response events, teams will not learn the events in which they will participate until they check-in at the Gatlinburg Convention Center on July 17, 2023.
- Response team events are scheduled for thirty minutes in duration and involve a briefing by the event staff after which the Cadets will react to the scenario presented. All scenarios are interactive (i.e., "hands-on") in nature and most involve role-players engaging Cadets, who will be acting as police officers, bystander(s), possible suspect(s) or criminal(s). Upon completion of the scenario the event staff will provide constructive feedback of the Cadets' performance.
- Should it become apparent to the staff that a Cadet team is not prepared for or is having difficulty in reacting to a law enforcement response scenario, the event will be stopped and converted to a positive learning experience for the Cadets.
- Mentors are not permitted to participate in or observe the briefing or actual scenario but are allowed to attend post-event feedback.
- Cadets are to be in uniform during team competitions.
- Cadets are expected to adhere to staff instructions, safety procedures, the code of conduct and Law Enforcement Code of Ethics. The Public Safety Cadets organization asks that you remember the spirit of competition is to further your skills and knowledge, not focus solely on obtaining a certain score or outcome. Failure to adhere to expectations will result in the full disqualification for all individual and team awards by all members of the unit.

### Unit/Team Scheduling

**A unit may field a maximum of four teams in response team competitions. Each team must be composed of a minimum of two and a maximum of four Cadets.**

- Each Team will be permitted to compete in a minimum of four response team events.
- Scheduling will be assigned based on full payment of team enrollment.

## Scoring and Awards for Law Enforcement Response Team Events

- Scoring for the response team events is not based on the operational methods and techniques practiced by anyone agency. Rather, performance will be evaluated on observable behaviors for competition performance dimensions, and operational methods and techniques that are safe, effective, legal, and considered to be within generally accepted standards of law enforcement protocol.
- Mentors of Cadet units are encouraged to look to the expertise in their participating agency, or other agencies and organizations, to provide the relevant information and practices related to particular topics, as well as information contained in the frequently updated IACP Training Keys for which most agencies have a subscription. The Training Keys are also available through the IACP for a nominal cost. Mentors should seek out subject matter experts for a particular topic (e.g., a burglary detective from the department, or from another agency, to give a presentation for the protocol on dealing with a burglary in progress, etc.) to better prepare their Cadets for national, state or local competitions and enhance their overall unit program.
- Each team will be evaluated on a series of performance dimensions that are assigned point values for a total of 100 points per event. Points awarded for each team event will determine the award recipients for the event.
- Tie scores for top-tier awards will be resolved by elapsed time to complete the scenario or, depending on the event, one of the specific scored items, or a tiebreaker question presented to the team by the event staff.
- Units with a team (or teams) that scores in the top 10 percent for any event will receive a superior performance certificate for that event.
- A team will not learn of its score for an event until Thursday evening after the Awards Assembly. A score summary sheet that lists the final score and elapsed time for each competitive event in which a unit participated, along with other conference materials, will be provided to the unit mentor electronically immediately following the Awards Assembly.
- Questions or concerns regarding the scoring of these events or related matters must be directed to the chair of the response team events for the Summer Showdown by email at: [nctc@PublicSafetyCadets.org](mailto:nctc@PublicSafetyCadets.org).

## Performance Dimensions

Scoring criteria for competitions are categorized as follows, for a 100-point possible total. Participants will be rated based on observable behavior in the following dimensions.

- SCENARIO SAFETY - Follows competition rules, follows staff directions, demonstrates proper use of safety equipment and procedures.
- OFFICER SAFETY - Demonstrates awareness of immediate and potential threat(s), demonstrates awareness of immediate environment and other subjects, demonstrates awareness of subject's hands, feet and/or weapons, demonstrates awareness of possible escape routes.
- WEAPON CONTROL - Demonstrates proper weapon handling techniques, demonstrates proper use of equipment, proper safety procedures are followed.
- TEAMWORK - Demonstrates good communication amongst team members, team members delegate assignments appropriately, demonstrates effective use of contact and cover assignments, team members demonstrate collaborative problem solving.
- CONTROL OF SUBJECTS - Demonstrates control of subject, demonstrates appropriate force options, requests/demands compliance, allows subject reasonable time to comply.
- ARREST PROCEDURES/TECHNIQUES - Demonstrates balanced stance, strong foundation for self-defense, executes movements in a fluid manner.
- PROBLEM SOLVING - Problem or issue is clearly identified, alternative solutions to the problem are appropriately identified, solutions are viable, a "best" solution, tactics, and/or techniques are selected and implemented, a logical and timely process is used during the problem-solving process.
- PROFESSIONALISM - Displays self-confidence, demonstrates appropriate body language, voice modulation and physical response, demonstrates proper verbal commands/instructions, demonstrates an appropriate presence (e.g., command, empathetic, observing) for a given situation, demonstrates proper application of authority.

## Law Enforcement Response Team Scenarios (8)

The Summer Showdown offers eight competitive team events that are based on law enforcement response scenarios. Each event is sponsored by a local, state, or federal law enforcement agency or organization.

1. Active Shooter

Response Teams are dispatched to a scene with multiple reports of an active shooter. Cadets will be provided inert handguns and patrol rifles. Cadets will be evaluated on observable behaviors in relevant performance dimensions, to include effective formation, fluid and safe movements throughout the structure, as well as ability and speed to neutralize the threat(s).

2. Arrest and Search

Response Teams will execute a search warrant and an arrest warrant at a location occupied by a suspected narcotics trafficker. Inert weapons and handcuffs will be provided. Cadets will be evaluated on observable behaviors in relevant performance dimensions, to include an effective and safe entry, situation control, arrest procedures, search effectiveness and evidence identification and seizure.

3. Burglary In-Progress

Response Teams are dispatched to a burglar alarm of an unoccupied business. Upon arrival, team members are faced with a situation with various potential dangers. The Cadets will be evaluated on observable behaviors in relevant performance dimensions, to include actions related to addressing safety issues, securing the scene and conducting any follow-up investigation, as appropriate.

4. Force Options

This event is designed to challenge Cadets' knowledge of the Use of Force Continuum and skills for when to deploy one of the five components: officer presence, verbalization, empty-hand control, less-lethal methods or lethal force in a realistic scenario. Each Cadet will view filmed situations preceded by a narration explaining the setting (e.g., "you are walking alone down a city street" or, "you are responding to an armed robbery," etc.). Once the scene begins, the Cadet will have to take the appropriate action based upon his or her assessment of the situation and best judgment. The Force Options event offers a simulation experience delivering safe, effective and realistic training in a competitive environment to demonstrate some of the challenges encountered by law enforcement officers.

The Cadet will be using a specially designed training simulator with a weapon that is altered to deploy an infrared laser beam. The weapon will be holstered prior to each scene until such time the Cadet reasonably believes that he/she or another person is in or is about to be placed in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury.

The Cadet should draw the weapon when he/she has reasonable cause to believe the use of deadly force could be necessary. The drawing of the weapon, for the purpose of this exercise, will be the same as if the video scenario was an actual event. The weapon may be drawn based on the situation in the scenario or as a result of the narrator's description of the situation.

Individual scores will be averaged for the total team score.

5. Human Trafficking

Response Teams are dispatched to a report of suspicious activity. Cadets will be evaluated on observable behaviors in relevant performance dimensions to include situation control, observation skills, interviewing techniques, incident conclusion and referrals.

6. Officer Rescue

Response Teams will respond to an "Officer Down" call, with shots fired. The team will be evaluated on observable behaviors in relevant performance dimensions, to include on how quickly and efficiently they can evacuate the injured officer, and provide the appropriate life saving measures given the wound type and location. Competitors will need to be familiar with working as a team to: quickly facilitate a rescue, provide wound treatment to include tourniquet application, wound packing, and chest seals, if needed. Scoring will include overall time since it is a key component of survivability.

7. Traffic Stop

Response Teams conduct a traffic stop. Cadets will determine their assignment in the primary and secondary patrol vehicles, prepositioned to simulate the stop of a vehicle observed committing a traffic violation. Cadets will be evaluated based on observable behaviors in relevant performance dimensions, to include on their ability to safely approach the vehicle, interviewing the occupants, reacting to any unexpected situation, and concluding the stop appropriately.

8. Unknown Trouble Call

Response Teams are assigned to respond to a 9-1-1 hang up call. Upon arrival, the Cadets will have to assess, investigate and determine the cause of the 9-1-1 call. Cadets will be evaluated based on observable behaviors in relevant performance dimensions, to include the ability to investigate, reacting appropriately to a dynamic and potentially dangerous situation, and concluding the incident appropriately.

**Awards Schedule**

First Place: Trophy and Medal

Second Place: Trophy and Medal

Third Place: Trophy and Medal

**Drill Team Competition**

A separate online registration is required to compete in Drill Team through the Events page of PublicSafetyCadets.org

Historically, law enforcement honor guard units have used the close order drill to demonstrate the highly motivated and disciplined appearance and movement associated with a specialized ceremonial team. The purpose of the close order drill is to move a unit from one place to another in a standard and orderly manner. The close order drill provides simple formations from which tactical formations can be readily assumed (e.g., crowd control). The drill teaches discipline by instilling habits of precision and automatic response to orders. It also increases leadership confidence through exercise of command, by giving proper commands and overall control of members of the unit.

The Drill Team Competition will be evaluated based on the Marine Corps Drill and Ceremonies Manual (NAVMC 2691). This manual furnishes information and describes procedures for close order drill. It encompasses detailed procedures for all drills and ceremonies executed by team elements ranging in size from the individual to the regiment.

**Team Composition**

The minimum Cadets needed to compete in the drill team competition is four (4) and the maximum number is eight (8). Each team shall designate one member as a team leader. Each member must participate in all phases of the event. Support staff will be allowed to aid in technical equipment and will not be judged however they must be clearly identified to the judges prior to the beginning of the team's performance.

Teams must provide their own equipment during the competition.

**Rifles/firearms or swords are not authorized for use in this event.**

The Drill Team Competition will consist of three phases: Uniform Inspection, Stationary Drill and Exhibition Phase. Teams and their members will be evaluated and judged during each phase of the competition with a focus on uniformity and military bearing.

Each phase will be conducted in the designated competition drill area. The competition area will be 75' x 75'. Teams must enter and exit the competition area at the designated point.

A. Uniform Inspection

1. Unit leader forms the unit for inspection/drill
2. The judges inspect the unit (i.e., Neatness, uniform serviceability, grooming, unit uniformity, etc.)



**Note:** Each team shall provide the judges a copy of their unit's SOP for uniform and grooming standards. This will ensure that that teams are not judged and/or penalized for other units 'standards. SOPs should be provided at Check-In to allow provision to the judges before the first day of the competition.

**B. Stationary Drill (i.e., left/right-face, about-face, open/closed ranks, etc.)**

Teams will have a maximum of 8 minutes to complete this drill to the team leader's satisfaction.

Teams will be judged on, but not limited to the following:

1. Commands, command voice
2. Response and execution of commands
3. Alignment and interval
4. Bearing, energy and command presence

**C. Exhibition/Demonstration - OPEN**

This is an open event. Maximum time limit for this event is 8 minutes. Teams may choose their own performance. Examples are but not limited to moving drill (marching), Posting of the Colors, Color Guard (marching and presentation of the Colors), ceremonial flag fold/casket flag and presentation.

Teams should take into consideration the positive impact their performance would have on the law enforcement image, patriotism, honor and memorializing of this profession. This phase is an opportunity for pomp and circumstance, snap and flare as it is viewed by the public.

Teams will be graded based solely on the judges 'discretion taking into account the following:

- Team Uniformity (crispness, alignment, intervals)
- Team Appearance
- Choreography (variety, difficulty and precision of movements, bearing)
- Difficulty (skill, showmanship, practice required)
- General Protocol
  - Moving drills (commands, voice, response to commands, bearing)
- Patriotism/Image/Honor
- Exceeding Time Limit = Loss of points
- Dropped equipment = Loss of points

Marching styles may vary based on each team's department so variations will not be penalized.

Team leaders must be prepared to give a quick overview of their routine to the judges before the performance to notify them of special movements, formations and directions of most movements.

## **Judging Drill Team Performance**

### **Team Inspection**

The Team Leader shall present the team for judging at the designated inspection location (the Inspection Line) at the proper time. The team shall fall-in on a single line or into two columns at a full-arm's length and dressed right, or in the case of two columns at open ranks and at the position of Attention. The team shall remain at attention until dismissed or otherwise told to do so by the judge. When the Team Leader is satisfied that his team is ready, he shall take his position in front of the team and inform the judge that the team is ready for inspection. Note: Judging begins when the Team Leader reports into the judge for inspection. The Leader will then be inspected for neatness, cleanliness, and military bearing. The remaining team members will then be inspected for conformity to the leader's uniform. Members of the drill team unit will be randomly

inspected at the judge's discretion during the Team Inspection Phase.

**Any equipment used in the Stationary Drill or the Exhibition phases, does not have to be carried or worn during the inspection. However, all equipment worn or carried will be inspected.**

The individual members are judged on neatness, cleanliness, and military bearing – plus the team as a unit, is judged for conformity, precision, straight lines, etc. The leader will be given instructions by the judges, whether to stand by or follow the judge during the inspection of the team. At the end of judging for the Team Inspection, the judge will instruct the team or leader that the judging is complete and for the team exit the judging area.

### **Stationary Drill**

The team leader will be instructed by the judges to when to begin the stationary drills. The team leader will remain in formation with the team and perform the drill with his/her team. The team will be judged on the uniformity of movement, snap, bearing, voice and response to commands. The following commands must be performed by each team in the order listed two (2) times with the exception of Fall In and Dismissed/Fall Out (order of commands will be 1-12, repeat 2-13). Some/all movements may be required to be repeated at the judges' discretion.

1. Fall In (Attention)
2. Present Arms
3. Order Arms
4. Parade rest
5. Attention
6. Left Face (x2)
7. About Face
8. Right Face (x2)
9. About Face
10. Parade Rest
11. Stand At - Ease
12. Attention
13. Dismissed/Fall-out

**Posting of the Colors – This is not a required performance element. The following is a guide to be utilized if a team chooses to incorporate this element in their Exhibition/demonstration phase.**

Teams will start at a designated location/entry to the judging area. Not all team members are required to Post Colors but **all team members must participate** as guide on(s) or escorts. When the team has all equipment and is ready, the Team Leader shall notify the judge that the team is ready to Post the Colors. Judging begins in this event when the judge instructs the leader to begin. Each team will immediately begin the "Posting of the Colors." Each team will post a minimum of **two** colors (national, state, province, district, agency, or unit flag when appropriate).

1. The Team leader shall begin with "a forward march command", and then with the use of either audible or silent commands, the team leader shall march the Color Guard to the designated posting area by following the pre-set path which may require turning movements. For proper order of posting the colors, it will be toward the audience. You will need to verify with the judge or official prior to your start of the posting if you are not sure.
2. The Team Leader shall direct the Posting of the Colors in a manner, which may be done as elaborately or as simply as the team wishes. The Posting shall accomplish placing the national and (if applicable) the state, province, district, agency, or unit flags in fixed holders according to national tradition and facing in the pre-designated direction. **Be sure and check with the judge or official so you know which way to face the posting. Questions must be prior to your teams start.** The bearer/s will then return to the rank. (Teams will not be responsible for flags that are blown over as soon as the flag bearer has released the flagpole.)

3. After posting the Colors, the team will march to the designated endpoint in a disciplined and professional manner, where the team leader shall audibly command, "Color Guard Halt".
4. The Color Guard will be dismissed by the judges and proceed to exit the competition area by marching out or falling out via the same spot they entered the competition area. The team or assisting non-participating members must retrieve the colors and any other equipment as soon as the team has come to a halt after posting and exiting.

#### **Awards Schedule**

First Place: Trophy and Medals

Second Place: Trophy and Medals

Third Place: Trophy and Medals

## **Individual Competitive Events (4)**

A separate online registration is required to compete in Individual Events through the Events page of [PublicSafetyCadets.org](http://PublicSafetyCadets.org)

Cadets will have the opportunity to compete against one another in the Airsoft Pistol Competition, Bike Policing Competition, Physical Fitness Challenge and Sample Written Police Examination. Individual events are:

### **Airsoft Marksmanship Competition**

The Airsoft Headquarters/TrainingReplicas.com will be providing a competition experience comprised of multiple shooting lanes to test Cadet's target acquisition, time and accuracy. Competitors will be provided specially designed training Airsoft simulated firearms for use on the course.

#### **Awards Schedule**

First Place: Trophy and Medal

Second Place: Trophy and Medal

Third Place: Trophy and Medal

### **Bike Policing Competition**

Bike policing is a common and effective patrol method. This bike policing competition will provide hands-on experience that will challenge Cadets to use their biking skills to complete a designated course that typically includes, but is not limited to, the following performance elements:

- Ride 25 yards
- Perform serpentine maneuver between 10 cones
- Ride in circles around cones
- Brake in marked box

Mountain bikes and helmets will be provided for competitors.

#### **Awards Schedule**

First Place: Trophy and Medal

Second Place: Trophy and Medal

Third Place: Trophy and Medal

### **Physical Fitness Challenge**

Physical Fitness is a critical aspect of public safety professions. This physical fitness competition will provide Cadets a sense of frequently applied physical fitness testing utilized commonly for entry and continued duty requirements. The Challenge includes, but is not limited to, the following performance elements:

- Run 1 mile
- Perform a dummy drag
- Complete maximum push-ups in a minute
- Complete maximum sit-ups in a minute

#### **Awards Schedule**

First Place (Males 14-16): Trophy and Medal  
First Place (Females 14-16): Trophy and Medal  
First Place (Males 17-20): Trophy and Medal  
First Place (Females 17-20): Trophy and Medal  
Second Place (Males 14-16): Medal  
Second Place (Females 14-16): Medal  
Second Place (Males 17-20): Medal  
Second Place (Females 17-20): Medal  
Third Place (Males 14-16): Medal  
Third Place (Females 14-16): Medal  
Third Place (Males 17-20): Medal  
Third Place (Females 17-20): Medal

### **Sample Police Written Examination**

Written entry examinations continue to be a common practice under Civil Service standards for qualifying candidates to public safety agencies. The Sample Police Written Examination, created by experts in the arena, will test Cadets in a proctored setting.

### **Awards Schedule**

First Place: Trophy and Medal  
Second Place: Trophy and Medal  
Third Place: Trophy and Medal

## **SECTION IV SEMINARS**

A selection of exciting and informative law enforcement related seminars will be offered to all participants. Subject matter experts from various local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies or organizations present these seminars. Cadets are encouraged to attend at least three of these seminars during the week. Seminars will be announced prior to the opening of Registration.

## **SECTION V MENTOR TRAINING**

Detailed descriptions of Seminars and Training topics along with presenter biographies will be posted on the Public Safety Cadets webpage.

In addition to scheduled seminars, networking opportunities with fellow mentors, advisors, and PSC staff will be available throughout the week.

## **SECTION VI PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

### **Career and College Fair**

Participants will want to take advantage of the Career & College Fair that will feature exhibits and displays staffed by representatives from local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies as well as the military. Also featured will be exhibitors from law enforcement related associations, organizations, educational institutions and private sector entities. Exhibitors will be anxious to share information about their mission and services and, if applicable, career opportunities as well as application requirements and procedures. The Career & College Fair will be open on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 18-19, from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

Agencies or other entities wishing to participate in the Career & College Fair should register online from the Events page. Send inquiries to [nctc@publicsafetycadets.org](mailto:nctc@publicsafetycadets.org)

## **SHOWDOWN SWAP-SPOT**

The Showdown Swap-Spot is the place for event participants to trade (swop) or give away certain Public Safety Cadets, Law Enforcement Exploring, and/or other related fraternal memorabilia such as patches, pins, challenge coins, t-shirts, ball caps, etc.

Items that can be traded, swapped, exchanged, or given away must not compete with the PSC Store, items imprinted only with "2023 National Competitive Training Conference", "Summer Showdown" and/or the national conference logo/seal, or any version thereof, will not be permitted.

By participating in the Showdown Swap-Spot, units/posts and organizations agree to abide by the above rules.

There are a limited number of tables to accommodate participants. Tables may be used on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Dates/Time/Location:** The Showdown Swap-Spot will be conducted in the entrance lobby during the day on Tuesday and Wednesday during the conference.

There is no cost for participating in the Summer Showdown Swap-Spot.

<p align="center"><b>7/ 17</b></p> <p align="center"><b>MONDAY</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>7/ 18</b></p> <p align="center"><b>TUESDAY</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>7/ 19</b></p> <p align="center"><b>WEDNESDAY</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>7/ 20</b></p> <p align="center"><b>THURSDAY</b></p>
<p><b>8AM – 6PM</b></p> <p>Activities Set-Up Build Event Venues Career Fair Set Up</p> <p><b>10AM – 7PM</b></p> <p>Unit/Post Check-In <b>W. L. Mills entrance in front of Ballrooms A &amp; B</b> Receive Packets Confirm Registration Review Competition Schedules</p> <p><b>11am-5pm</b> PSC Store Open <b>Greenbrier Room</b></p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Doors Open <b>Mills Auditorium</b></p> <p><b>7:30PM – 9:00PM</b> Opening Assembly Mills Auditorium</p> <p>Mentor Meeting Q&amp;A Immediately following Opening Assembly</p>	<p><b>8:00AM-5:00PM</b></p> <p>Competitive Events <b>Active Shooter,</b> Mills Auditorium hallways <b>Officer Rescue,</b> TN Ballroom A <b>Airsoft Competition,</b> TN Ballroom B <b>Burglary In Progress,</b> TN Ballroom C &amp; D <b>Human Trafficking,</b> Meeting Rooms 4 &amp; 5 <b>Arrest &amp; Search,</b> Meeting Rooms 6 &amp; 7 <b>Unknown Trouble,</b> Meeting Rooms 8 &amp; 10 <b>Force Options,</b> Meeting Rms 9 &amp; 11 <b>Felony Vehicle Stop</b> Lower Level – Hall 1 <b>Bike Policing</b> Shade Tree Parking Lot 120 Historic Nature Trail <b>Drill Team</b> Lower Level – Hall 3 <b>Sample Police Exam</b> Mills Room 1</p> <p><b>8AM – 5PM</b> <b>Seminars</b> <u>Cadets</u> Mills Room 2</p> <p><u>Mentors</u> Mills Rooms 3 &amp; 4</p> <p><b>PSC Store Open</b> Greenbriar Room</p> <p><b>Swop-Spot</b> Main Entrance</p> <p><b>10A-5PM</b> <b>Career &amp; College Fair</b> Upper-Level Hallways</p> <p><b>12:00PM – 1:00PM</b> Lunch – On your own, Concessions open in the Convention Center</p> <p>Evening Open for Unit Activities</p>	<p><b>8:00AM-5:00PM</b></p> <p>Competitive Events <b>Active Shooter,</b> Mills Auditorium hallways <b>Officer Rescue,</b> TN Ballroom A <b>Airsoft Competition,</b> TN Ballroom B <b>Burglary In Progress,</b> TN Ballroom C &amp; D <b>Human Trafficking,</b> Meeting Rooms 4 &amp; 5 <b>Arrest &amp; Search,</b> Meeting Rooms 6 &amp; 7 <b>Unknown Trouble,</b> Meeting Rooms 8 &amp; 10 <b>Force Options,</b> Meeting Rms 9 &amp; 11 <b>Felony Vehicle Stop</b> Lower Level – Hall 1 <b>Bike Policing</b> Shade Tree Parking Lot 120 Historic Nature Trail <b>Drill Team</b> Lower Level – Hall 3 <b>Sample Police Exam</b> Mills Room 1</p> <p><b>8AM – 5PM</b> <b>Seminars</b> <u>Cadets</u> Mills Room 2</p> <p><u>Mentors</u> Mills Rooms 3 &amp; 4</p> <p><b>PSC Store Open</b> Greenbriar Room</p> <p><b>Swop-Spot</b> Main Entrance</p> <p><b>10A-5PM</b> <b>Career &amp; College Fair</b> Upper-Level Hallways</p> <p><b>12:00PM – 1:00PM</b> Lunch – On your own, Concessions open in the Convention Center</p> <p>Evening Open for Unit Activities</p>	<p><b>8:00AM-3:00PM</b></p> <p>Competitive Events <b>Active Shooter,</b> Mills Auditorium hallways <b>Officer Rescue,</b> TN Ballroom A <b>Airsoft Competition,</b> TN Ballroom B <b>Burglary In Progress,</b> TN Ballroom C &amp; D <b>Human Trafficking,</b> Meeting Rooms 4 &amp; 5 <b>Arrest &amp; Search,</b> Meeting Rooms 6 &amp; 7 <b>Unknown Trouble,</b> Meeting Rooms 8 &amp; 10 <b>Force Options,</b> Meeting Rms 9 &amp; 11 <b>Felony Vehicle Stop</b> Lower Level – Hall 1 <b>Bike Policing</b> Shade Tree Parking Lot 120 Historic Nature Trail <b>Drill Team</b> Lower Level – Hall 3 <b>Sample Police Exam</b> Mills Room 1</p> <p><b>8AM – 3PM</b> <b>Seminars</b> <u>Cadets</u> Mills Room 2</p> <p><u>Mentors</u> Mills Rooms 3 &amp; 4</p> <p><b>8AM- 5PM</b> <b>PSC Store Open</b> Greenbriar Room</p> <p><b>12:00PM – 1:00PM</b> Lunch – On your own, Concessions open in the Convention Center</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Doors Open Mills Auditorium</p> <p><b>7:30PM-9:30PM</b> Awards Assembly Mills Auditorium</p>

SECTION VII

Appendix/Forms

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE TRAINING CONFERENCE
"SUMMER SHOWDOWN"

CODE OF CONDUCT, AGREEMENT ASSUMING RISK OF INJURY OR DAMAGE,
WAIVER AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS, AUTHORIZATION

I (name) (age & date of birth) declare that all statements on this form (the "Agreement") are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that false, misleading, or incomplete information shall be cause for disqualification from or termination of my participation in the National Competitive Training Conference (NCTC) "SUMMER SHOWDOWN" to be held at the Gatlinburg Conference Center and its environs in Gatlinburg, Tennessee on July 17 -20, 2023. This event is hosted by Public Safety Cadets (a Virginia nonprofit corporation) with the support and assistance of local, state, and federal public safety agencies and educational institutions. I understand that participation in the NCTC is completely voluntary and that the NCTC is being offered as an optional activity for the benefit of the participants and that I am not required to attend or participate in this event as a condition of membership in my respective youth organization (Public Safety Cadets, Law Enforcement Exploring, etc.). I understand that the Public Safety Cadets is free to terminate my participation and remove me from the NCTC without cause at any time and that I am free to discontinue participation in the NCTC at any time. Given the nature of the NCTC, the Gatlinburg Conference Center and Public Safety Cadets requires that each NCTC participant agree to all conditions set out in this Agreement.

CODE OF CONDUCT

- 1. All participants are expected to adhere to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics and act in accordance with the ideals of the Public Safety Cadets program and will:
• demonstrate courtesy and respect to other conference participants, event staff, Gatlinburg Conference Center personnel, and visitors;
• act and dress in a manner that will convey a positive reflection on their sponsoring agency and the Public Safety Cadets program. Participants are encouraged to wear their uniform, or other appropriate clothing that identify them as Public Safety Cadets/Explorers, as much as possible during the conference;
• attend the scheduled seminars, activities and career fair when not participating in their assigned competitive events;
• demonstrate integrity and good sportsmanship during all events and activities;
• obey all rules and lawful commands given to me by any official of the NCTC;
• secure all personal possessions and return all equipment provided to them for competitive events;
• adhere to all local ordinances, Gatlinburg Conference Center rules and regulations and to be exemplary guests of the host venue and surrounding community.
2. In consideration of others in your lodging venue, registered youth participants (Cadets/Explorers) are expected to be in their overnight lodging and quiet from 11 p.m. until 5:30 a.m., unless otherwise directed by their Mentor/Advisor or Public Safety Cadets personnel or other event staff.
3. Male participants are not allowed in the female sleeping rooms or restrooms at any time, or vice versa.
4. Any sexual or inappropriate contact, any verbal, physical or visual harassment, or any actual or threatened violence will not be tolerated and are grounds for immediate removal from NCTC.
5. Professional and appropriate behavior shall also be reflected in any participant's online presence and in content shared publicly on social media platforms.
6. All participants must at all times observe and follow the safe and proper handling of any training firearm simulator in their control. A failure to do so shall result in the automatic termination of a participant's participation in the NCTC and removal from the NCTC, and such failure may result in the prosecution of any improper acts taken by the participant.
7. In addition to all other rules and regulations relating to attendance and participation at the NCTC, participants must comply with all COVID-related laws, guidelines, protocols, or procedures that may be implemented by the Public Safety Cadets, the Gatlinburg Conference Center, and the federal/state/local government in order to protect as much as possible the health and safety of all attendees, including directives for frequent hand washing, social distancing and use of face masks. If a participant experiences any symptoms associated with COVID-19, the participant must inform Public Safety Cadet personnel as soon as reasonably possible.

AGREEMENT ASSUMING RISK OF INJURY OR DAMAGE, WAIVER AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS

- I hereby:
• Declare that I am able to meet the physical and mental requirements of the NCTC with or without a reasonable accommodation.
• Understand and accept that I am responsible for following appropriate safety procedures during the NCTC.
• I agree to comply with the reasonable instructions and directions of the Public Safety Cadets personnel and other event staff during my participation in the NCTC.
• Understand that my participation in the NCTC involves the risk of personal injury, including death, due to the physical, mental, and emotional challenges of the NCTC.

WAIVER OF LAWSUIT/LIABILITY: As consideration for being permitted to attend and participate in the NCTC, I forever release Public Safety Cadets, its participating Mentors, Advisors and Officers, any affiliated organizations, participating Police Departments and Sheriff Office's, the State of Tennessee, the Tennessee National Guard, and Government of the United States, and the manufacturer of any training firearm simulator used at the NCTC, along with their respective directors, officers, employees, volunteers, agents, attorneys, contractors, and representatives (collectively "Releasees") from any and all liabilities, causes of action, lawsuits, claims, demands, or damages of any kind whatsoever that I, my assignees, heirs, guardians, next of kin, spouse and legal representatives now have, or may have in the future, for bodily injury, death, or property damage, related to (i) my participation or presence at the NCTC, (ii) the negligence or other acts of any Releasee, whether directly connected to the NCTC or not, and however caused, and (iii) the condition of the NCTC. This release includes, without limitation, any claims in connection with any exposure, infection, and/or spread of COVID-19 related to attendance and participation at the NCTC. I understand that this waiver means I give up my right to bring any claims including but not limited for personal injuries, death, disease or property losses, or any other loss, including but not limited to claims of negligence and give up any claim I may have to seek damages, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen.

**I HAVE CAREFULLY READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ALL PROVISIONS OF THIS RELEASE, AND FREELY AND KNOWINGLY ASSUME THE RISK AND WAIVE MY RIGHTS CONCERNING LIABILITY AS DESCRIBED ABOVE:**

**AUTHORIZATION**

Should I require emergency medical care while participating in the NCTC, I hereby give the Public Safety Cadets personnel and other event staff my permission to use their judgment in obtaining care for me and I give permission to the medical care provider selected by the Public Safety Cadets personnel or other event staff to render medical care deemed necessary and appropriate. Such consent includes any x-ray examination, anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnostic or treatment and/or hospital service that may be rendered. I understand that Public Safety Cadets is not obligated to provide medical treatment and that any cost incurred for treatment provided which is not covered by insurance shall be my sole responsibility. I warrant that I understand the content of the foregoing authorization and release. My signature, hereon, is my own free act and it is my intention to be legally bound hereby.

**WAIVER FOR CONSENT FOR PHOTOGRAPHS** I do hereby consent to being photographed, by professional and/or amateur photographers, while participating in the NCTC. I also give my consent for the Public Safety Cadets to use my name, likeness, image, appearance, and biographical information ("Image"), in, on or in connection with any photographs, pictures, digital images, websites programs, printed materials and any and all media, whether now known or hereafter developed, throughout the world at any time, for the legitimate purposes of Public Safety Cadets. I hereby expressly waive all claims for royalties or other compensation related to any such use of my Image or related information and release Public Safety Cadets from any and all liability which may arise as a result of being photographed while participating in the NCTC, and for the subsequent use and display of the Image. I understand that this consent/waiver and release will remain in effect until such time that it is revoked, in writing, by me. Public Safety Cadets retains the right to use the aforementioned Image for the purposes stated herein, whether or not I continue to be involved in the Program, absent my written revocation of consent. I understand that Public Safety Cadets shall have no obligation to use the Image, and that all creative decisions regarding the use of the Image shall be at the sole discretion of Public Safety Cadets.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to all information and conditions contained within this Agreement. I acknowledge and agree that this Agreement is binding upon me, my heirs, assigns, and legal representatives.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of Participant

*If participant is a minor child, I, as his/her parent/legal guardian, agree on his/her behalf:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name



## **Public Safety Cadets - Youth Safety and Abuse Prevention Policy for NCTC Summer Showdown Participants**

Public Safety Cadets through its program, seeks to create a welcoming and nurturing environment and has zero tolerance for those whose actions may jeopardize the safety, health, or innocence of a minor. Public Safety Cadets, all participating agencies/organizations, PSC Units and Explorer Posts participating in the National Competitive Training Conference, will take all reasonable steps to ensure safety and prevent abuse. Preventative measures will include the physical, emotional and sexual abuse of registered youth participants (Cadets) by anyone, including approved adult leaders (Mentors), authorized volunteers and employees. Additionally, approved adult leaders (Mentors), authorized volunteers, and employees will make every effort to identify and intervene in those instances where it is suspected or determined youth participants are being abusive to one another in any of the below captioned forms of abuse.

### **Definitions:**

Abuse - Because it takes many forms, abuse can be broken down into the following subtypes, all of which are prohibited within the scope of this policy:

- Physical abuse: Injury inflicted on a youth.
- Sexual abuse: Contact or activity of a sexual nature between an adult and a youth.
- Emotional abuse: Mental or emotional injury inflicted on a youth by the actions of an adult.
- Economic abuse: Deliberate misuse of the money or belongings of a youth.
- Neglect: Failure to provide adequate care for a youth.

Cadet - A youth (includes Explorers) registered in good standing and actively participating in a Public Safety Cadets or Law Enforcement Exploring program respectively, while participating in the NCTC Summer Showdown.

Mentor - An adult (includes LE Exploring Advisors), having achieved the age of 21, with a certain area of expertise in the public safety profession, designated and determined suitable by the sponsoring agency/organization to perform as a trusted, knowledgeable role model to help guide and train youth in their Unit/Post.

Volunteer - An adult, having achieved the age of 21, determined suitable by the sponsoring agency/organization, who is authorized to provide frequent assistance to a Public Safety Cadet Unit or Law Enforcement Exploring Post.

Youth - For the purposes of the Public Safety Cadets program, a youth is defined as anyone 14 through 20 years of age.