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Michael Ferguson holds an AAS degree in Criminal Justice from Kilgore College; a BA degree in History and Political Science from Stephen F. Austin State University; and a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice Leadership and Management from Sam Houston State University. Ferguson is currently a doctoral student working toward his Ed.D. degree in Applied Learning Sciences through the University of Miami.

In addition to his academic degrees, Michael holds Master Peace Officer, Advanced Instructor, Firearms Instructor, and a Jailer License from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (“TCOLE”). Ferguson is a Nationally Certified Instructor™ through IADLEST, is a member of ILEETA, a member of the American Criminal Justice Association, the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice, and is a longtime member of both the Texas Police Association and the East Texas Peace Officers’ Association.

Prior to his retirement in 2023, Michael taught substantive and procedural criminal law, arrest/search/seizure, police emergency driver improvement, firearms, and instructor-certification and instructor-development courses during his tenure as a police academy instructor in Northeast Texas. His instructional foci these days are law enforcement instructor development, curriculum creation and improvement, and the effective use of multimedia in law enforcement training. Michael was a sheriff’s deputy in Northeast Texas before his career in education.

Michael has served on and chaired multiple TCOLE curriculum committees, including the committee to revise the basic peace officer course; the committee to revise intermediate certification courses; and the legislatively mandated legal update courses that are taught to Texas peace officers after each biennial legislative session.