## **CLEET RETIRED FIREARM PERMIT DISCUSSION POINTS**

**RETIRED FIREARM PERMIT:** Title 21 Section 1289.8 provides that CLEET can issue what we call a retired firearms permit to eligible retired peace officers. There is no fee for the permit. The permit authorizes such retired officers to carry a firearm throughout Oklahoma. The statute originally required criminal background checks every four years but was amended in 2016 to make the permit expire every 10 years. At that time, it appears CLEET determined to extend the individuals who would have been subject to a 4-year background check in 2017 for six years to make their permits coincide with the new 10-year term rather than require a background check in 2017 and issuing new 10-year permits. That decision means this is the first year anyone has had to renew under the 2016 amendment and so it is a new and unfamiliar experience. In order to renew a permit, retired officers must submit fingerprints for national and Oklahoma background searches. There is no renewal fee, but there is a fingerprint fee which is paid to the entity that processes the fingerprints and presumably a portion of it is passed on to OSBI for searching the fingerprints. If a preclusive conviction is found, the retired officer is not eligible for renewal. There is no annual firearm qualification required with the retired firearm permit.

**FINGERPRINTS THROUGH IDENTOGO:** CLEET has never had the ability to run fingerprints in-house, we simply were a pass-through entity where fingerprint cards and a check for the fee were sent to us and then we'd send the cards and the check for the fee to OSBI. That process was very inefficient and cost us time and effort that could be spent on doing more specifically CLEET-related work. OSBI prefers getting fingerprints electronically because it speeds up the process and basically eliminates fingerprints being rejected. OSBI suggested we have all individuals who need to have fingerprint background checks completed as part of any CLEET application go through a vendor called Identogo/Idemia. Identogo/Idemia is the approved vendor that OSBI recommended and they have been approved by numbers of other states to provide background check fingerprinting. CLEET does not receive any portion of the fingerprint fee charged by either Identogo or the OSBI.

MAINTAINING CERTIFICATION AFTER RETIREMENT: Once a person has retired as a peace officer, their certification remains in good standing until and unless it is suspended or revoked for some violation of statute or CLEET rules. As long as they are not working in the capacity of a fulltime or reserve peace officer, a retired peace officer has no annual training obligation. If a retired peace officer decides to become active again, depending on how long they have been inactive, they may have to complete a refresher course and retake the certification exam to be in compliance with statute and then would have to comply with annual training requirements thereafter.

**LEOSA:** I think there has been some confusion between the retired firearms permit and <u>federal LEOSA</u> <u>requirements</u>. The retired firearms permit, since it does not require any firearm requalification, does not provide any benefit for a retired officer as far as federal LEOSA goes. For those officers who need some mechanism of carrying proof of an annual firearm qualification for LEOSA, we have created a pocket card form the retired officer can take to the person who signs off on their annual requalification. That form is on our website and can be accessed <u>here</u>.

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