

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

HOUSE BILL 1393

By: Dills

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to prisons and reformatories;
amending 57 O.S. 2011, Section 508.4, as amended by
Section 1, Chapter 372, O.S.L. 2016 (57 O.S. Supp.
2018, Section 508.4), which relates to the Oklahoma
Corrections Act of 1967; deeming certain
Investigations Division staff as peace officers;
requiring Investigations Division staff to meet
certain training and qualifications; and providing an
effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2011, Section 508.4, as
amended by Section 1, Chapter 372, O.S.L. 2016 (57 O.S. Supp. 2018,
Section 508.4), is amended to read as follows:

Section 508.4. A. There is hereby created the Investigations
Division within the Department of Corrections. The purpose of the
Division shall be to investigate allegations of criminal acts by
inmates, offenders or employees of the Department, as well as to
investigate allegations of constitutional or policy violations.

B. The Director of the Department of Corrections shall employ
the proper personnel and adopt the necessary procedures to carry out

1 the duties of the Investigations Division and shall appoint a
2 Director of the Division who shall administer the activities of the
3 Division.

4 C. The Investigations Division of the Department of Corrections
5 shall have the jurisdiction and authority to investigate all
6 allegations of criminal behavior at any facility owned or operated
7 by the Department, or any private prison facility or other facility
8 with which the Department contracts to house inmates from the State
9 of Oklahoma.

10 D. The Investigations Division shall have jurisdiction and
11 authority to investigate any escape committed by prisoners under the
12 custody and control of the Department of Corrections. If it is
13 determined that a prisoner has escaped the custody of the
14 Department, in violation of Section 443 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma
15 Statutes, the Department is authorized to issue a warrant for the
16 arrest of the escapee and the warrant shall have the force and
17 effect of any warrant of arrest issued by a district court in the
18 state. Nothing in this section shall affect the authority of a
19 district attorney to issue an arrest warrant for the escapee.

20 E. All officers, investigators, agents and immediate
21 supervisory staff of listed positions assigned to the Investigations
22 Division shall be deemed peace officers and shall possess the powers
23 granted by law to peace officers. Officers, investigators, agents
24 and supervisory staff of the Investigations Division shall meet all

1 of the training and qualifications for peace officers required by
2 Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
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