

The Big Question: Confidentiality?

Confidentiality is the cornerstone of this program. If an officer approaches Vocational Rehabilitation directly for services, no identifying information will be shared with the employer. Should a supervisor or manager make a referral to the Law Enforcement Based Job Retention Services, that referring individual is entitled to confirmation that the employee kept the initial appointment, is following through with recommended services and is cooperating in the rehabilitation process. Details concerning specific counseling issues, diagnoses, individual circumstances or other information not directly specified above will be held in confidence and will only be released to that individual unless a signed release is completed and specifically indicates what information is to be released and to whom.

Cost of the Program

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department is a tax-supported agency which provides services to employees with physical or mental impairments; therefore, no additional fees are charged to the employer for the JRS program, nor to the employee for services directly provided by VR through its JRS program. An attempt to access the individual's medical insurance as a similar benefit will be done for those services provided outside the agency.

For those who are referred to law enforcement recovery group, the officer may elect to file a claim with his/her medical insurance or pay a modest fee for weekly counsel. **NO OFFICER WILL BE TURNED AWAY DUE TO FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.**

S.C. Vocational Rehabilitation Department's Area Offices

Area/County	Phone #
Aiken	803-641-7630
Anderson	843-224-6391
Beaufort	843-522-1010
Berkeley- Dorchester	843-761-6036
Camden	803-432-1068
Charleston	843-740-1600
Columbia	803-896-6333
Conway	843-248-2235
Florence	843-662-8114
Greenville	864-297-3066
Greenwood	864-229-5827
Lancaster	803-285-6909
Laurens	864-984-6563
Marlboro	843-479-8318
Oconee-Pickens	864-882-6669
Orangeburg	803-534-4939
Richland	803-782-4239
Rock Hill	803-327-7106
Spartanburg	864-585-3693
Sumter	803-469-2960
Walterboro	843-538-3116

South Carolina Law Enforcement Assistance Program

2501 Heyward Street
Columbia, SC 29205

L.E.O.

(Law Enforcement Only)



A System of Assistance for
Law Enforcement Officers
Wrestling With Addiction

A Partnership Between

The South Carolina
Law Enforcement
Assistance Program

&

The South Carolina Vocational
Rehabilitation Department

"an alternative to choir practice"

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Assistance Program (SCLEAP)

SCLEAP is an inter-agency effort to support law enforcement officers, administrative staff and their families. Established by SLED, SCDNR, SCDPS and SCDPPPS, the SCLEAP provides traditional employee assistance support, critical incident stress management and pastoral services through a volunteer chaplaincy program. For general information, contact the SCLEAP staff.

Office Number.....803-252-2664
Fax.....803-252-2841
Eric Skidmore Cell..... 1-803-206-8961
Email:.....ericskid@scleap.org
Ron Kenyon Cell..... 1-803-606-4727
Email:.....kenyonr@scleap.org

The Alcohol Problem Among Law Enforcement Officers

Alcoholism and other addictions are illnesses which cast a shadow over everything they come near. Addiction not only affects alcoholics and their families; it encroaches upon their work places and society as well. In law enforcement each one of us will come face to face with this problem at some point in our career. Supervisors can help by not ignoring the warning signs of alcoholism, and by enforcing safety and performance standards for all employees. Co-workers can help by not doing alcoholic's work for them, making excuses for them, or covering up their mistakes. "Alcoholism and associated addictions are prevalent in law enforcement agencies of every size and type. Naturally, such problems, whether abuse or addiction, are responsible for a host of effects within the work environment, namely: poor and deteriorating job performance; increased on-the-job accidents; abnormal absenteeism; excessive sick leave, and consequently medical claims." (NY State Police)

Unwritten Rules in the Family of the Alcoholic Officer

- The officer's use of chemicals must be the most important thing in the family's life
- Alcohol is not seen as the cause of the officer's family problems
- Someone or something else caused the dependency
- The status quo must be maintained at all costs
- Everyone in the officer's family must become an enabler
- No one in the officer's family may discuss what is really going on
- No one in the officer's family may say what they are really feeling

Solution SCVRD – Job Retention Services

Working in partnership with South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department under their Job Retention Services Program, the law enforcement community now has a critical tool heretofore not available. SCLEAP is creating a pilot project in the Midlands of South Carolina which is open to all sworn S.C. law enforcement officers wrestling with problems of addiction. The officer's addiction is an established disability, which results in them being unable to perform their job and requires Vocational Rehabilitation services to be able to retain employment.

State Police Officer Point of Contact

Cell: 803-360-8005

20 Years in Law Enforcement

12 Years Sobriety

Tom Hammill: Law Enforcement
Group Counselor
24 Hour Statewide Pager
1-803-654-6601

Specific Services Offered

- One-on-One Confidential Counseling for Officer and Family
- Recovery Group (meets once each week)
- Referral to Al-Anon for Family of Alcoholic Law Enforcement Officer
- Planned Intervention Coordinated By Professional Counselor
- 28-Day Treatment Program Directed by SCVRD
- Limited Scholarship Aid For Marriage and Family Counseling
- Referral to Additional Resources
- Supervisor/Management Training done by SCVRD

How Do I Get Started?

1. Personal Referral (call on your own)
2. Friend/Family Referral (friend/family member connects you with staff person)
3. Supervisor Referral (your supervisor makes attendance mandatory)

Who Is The Confidential Point of Contact?

Step One: Contact the local Voc. Rehab. Counselor in your county. (see list on back panel) Indicate that you are a law enforcement officer and are requesting JRS Services. If you have any problems, contact the JRS Coordinator at: 803-896-6570

Step Two: After a meeting with the JRS Counselor for your county, you will be referred to the confidential system specially designed for law enforcement officers. This may include detoxification and 28-Day in-patient treatment or it may be a direct referral into the law enforcement group.

Tom Hammill is the Law Enforcement Group Counselor. Tom is Licensed Professional Counselor, former U. S. Marine/ Vietnam Veteran and himself a recovering alcoholic. (25 years sobriety). Tom can provide interested officers more information regarding services available to law enforcement officers. Home: 803-356-7651 Work: 803-957-9958