



GANG RESISTANCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (G.R.E.A.T.) PROGRAM



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RESCINDS:	18 April 2016 Version of S02-05-04		
INDEX CATEGORY:	Human Rights and Community Partnerships		

I. PURPOSE

This directive:

- A. identifies the Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) program.
- B. establishes Department policy concerning:
 - 1. the G.R.E.A.T. program,
 - 2. procedures for the selection of sworn personnel to become G.R.E.A.T. instructors,
 - 3. training requirements for G.R.E.A.T. instructors,
 - 4. program curriculum, and
 - 5. administration requirements.

II. POLICY

The Department is currently presenting the G.R.E.A.T. curriculum to selected fourth, fifth, seventh, and eighth-grade classes. It is taught only by certified G.R.E.A.T. instructors in uniform. The program is coordinated by the Special Activities Section, School Visitation Unit.

III. OBJECTIVE

The G.R.E.A.T. program is taught by sworn Department members below the rank of sergeant with the objective of helping young people become responsible members of their communities by teaching and reinforcing how to set realistic goals, resist pressures, positively resolve conflicts, and truly understand how gangs impact the quality of life in any community, regardless of the economic level.

IV. GOALS

The long-term goals of the G.R.E.A.T. program are to:

- A. reduce violence and the unlawful use of all weapons;
- B. make available instructors who can act as mentors and provide mentoring as needed for the students;
- C. develop a positive relationship between the police and youth;
- D. develop the long-term skills needed to make positive decisions to avoid gangs and violence; and
- E. reduce criminal activity at all age levels.

V. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. The G.R.E.A.T. curriculum is presented in lessons that are forty to sixty minutes in length. The fourth and fifth grade curriculum is taught in six weekly lessons, and the seventh and eighth grade curriculum is presented in thirteen weekly lessons. Each lesson will only be taught by a G.R.E.A.T. trained officer **with a teacher present**. The program concludes with each student being presented a certificate of completion that is signed by the officer, teacher, and the school's principal.
- B. The curricula are reevaluated on a regular basis by the G.R.E.A.T. National Training Committee, which is comprised of representatives of various law enforcement agencies. Any permanent changes

to the curricula are subject to approval by the National Policy Board, which is comprised of chief executive officers from the four G.R.E.A.T. regional training centers and the directors of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

VI. TRAINING / CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES

- A. Members interested in becoming a G.R.E.A.T. certified instructor will:
 - 1. contact the Special Activities Section, School Visitation Unit to receive an application.
 - 2. forward the completed application, including signed approval by their unit commanding officer, to the Special Activities Section, School Visitation Unit.
- B. When training becomes available, the School Visitation Unit will notify district commanders of the opportunity and will advise them of the applications on file.
- C. District commanders will have the final decision regarding which members will be trained in their districts. Consideration should be given to members who will be available to teach the program during working hours, are comfortable and willing to teach school-aged youth, and will be a positive role model for the youth they instruct.
- D. The G.R.E.A.T. Officer Training is a 40 hour block of instruction. The training program and participation in the training is at the discretion of the commanding officer, Special Activities Section. When training dates and locations become available, they will be announced to all district commanders giving them time to consider their choice for new instructors.

VII. SCHEDULE PREPARATION

- A. The G.R.E.A.T. program is taught during the spring and fall semesters. The selection of schools within the district will be at the discretion of the district commander.
- B. G.R.E.A.T. instructors will use the G.R.E.A.T. Teaching Schedule ([CPD-51.103](#)). Completed schedules will be:
 - 1. reviewed by the instructor's supervisor, who will indicate approval by signing the schedule in the space provided (top-right portion of the form).
 - 2. forwarded to the School Visitation Unit.
- C. Once the School Visitation Unit receives the completed schedule, materials will be prepared and the instructor will be directed to pick-up the teaching aids, books, surveys, and related materials from the School Visitation Unit at Chicago Police Headquarters.

VIII. TEACHING DAYS AND DAYS OFF

The unit commanding officer will determine which days that the curriculum will be taught and the instructor's days off. Any overtime earned within the program must be approved by a supervisor (e.g., meetings with the Local School Council, the Parents Teachers Association, or any other meeting held during non-duty hours). The watch assignment of the G.R.E.A.T. instructor will be determined by the existing agreement between the City of Chicago, Department of Police, and the instructor's bargaining unit.

IX. INSTRUCTOR ASSESSMENT

Each G.R.E.A.T. instructor will be evaluated at least once during a school year to ensure that the G.R.E.A.T. curriculum is being followed. The evaluation will be conducted by a member of the School Visitation Unit at the direction of the commanding officer, Special Activities Section. The evaluator will utilize the G.R.E.A.T. Instructors Manual to determine if the instructor is following the outline and addressing the required topics. If the instructor is not adhering to the outline, the instructor will be made aware of that fact and be provided with

recommendations as to what can be done to present the information properly. The results of the evaluation will be maintained in the instructor's training and teaching file at the School Visitation Unit.

Authenticated by: KC

David O. Brown
Superintendent of Police

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