1(B)(c) Expert Testimony and Drug Recognition Experts (D.R.E.)


You can order the manuals online from the Fedworld website (www.fedworld.gov) or by calling N.T.I.S. at 800 553 6847. The available titles are:

- *Preliminary Training for Drug Evaluation and Classification - The Pre-School Student Manual, 1993 Edition* (PB93-781938; DOT-HS-808 012) - “The course is the first in a series of three training programs that, collectively, prepare police officers and other qualified persons to serve as Drug Recognition Experts (DRE’s). DRE is used to designate an individual who is specially-trained to conduct examinations of suspected drug-impaired drivers.”

- *Drug Evaluation and Classification Training - The Drug Recognition School Student Manual, 1993 Edition* (PB93-781953INT; DOT-HS-808 011) - “The training program focuses on a set of training procedures used by drug recognition experts (DRE’s). DRE is used to designate an individual who is specially trained to conduct examinations of suspected drug-impaired drivers. By the completion of the course of instruction, students should be fully proficient in checking vital signs, conducting careful evaluations of eyes, administering divided attention tests and, in general, carrying out the procedural steps of the DRE’s job.”

- *Preliminary Training for Drug Evaluation and Classification - The Pre-School Instructor Manual, 1993 Edition* (PB93-781946; DOT-HS-808 013) - “The Administrator’s Guide provides an introduction to and an overview of the two-day course entitled ‘Preliminary Training for Drug Evaluation and Classification’. The course is the first in a series of three training programs that, collectively, prepare police officers and other qualified persons to serve as Drug Recognition Experts (DRE’s). The Administrator’s Guide is intended to facilitate planning and implementation of the Preliminary Training Program. The Guide overviews the two-day course of instruction and also overviews the documents that make up the curriculum package”

- *Drug Evaluation and Classification Training - The Drug Recognition School Instructor Manual, 1993 Edition* (PB93-781953INT; DOT-HS-808 011) - “The Administrator’s Guide provides an introduction to an overview of the seven-day classroom training course on drug evaluation and classification. The course is perhaps better known as The DRE School. It is the second in a series of three stages of training that, collectively, prepare persons to serve as Drug Recognition Experts (DRE’s). The Administrator’s Guide is intended to facilitate planning and implementation of the Drug Evaluation and Classification Classroom Training Program. The Guide overviews the seven-day course of instruction, and the documents and other materials that make up the curriculum
package for thee course. It describes course administrative requirements and offers guidelines for discharging those requirements satisfactorily.”

*Principles and Techniques of Drug Recognition Expert Training*. The DRE Instructor Training School. Teacher-Training Manual, 1993 Edition. (PB93-781920INT; DOT-HS-808 014) - “The Administrator’s Guide provides an introduction to and an overview of the five-day instructor development course entitled ‘Principles and Techniques of Drug Recognition Expert Training’. The course is perhaps better known as The DRE Instructor Training School. It is the classroom training portion of the set of learning experiences that, collectively, enable Drug Recognition Experts (DRE’s) to become certified to teach others to become DRE’s as well. The Administrator’s Guide is intended to facilitate planning and implementation of the DRE Instructor Training School. The Guide overviews the five-day course of instruction, and the documents and other materials that make up the curriculum package for the course. It describes course administrative requirements and offers guidance for satisfying those requirements.”

*Principles and Techniques of Drug Recognition Expert Training*. The DRE Instructor Training School. Student-Instructor Manual, 1993 Edition. (PB93-781912INT; DOT-HS-808 015) - “The manual provides an overview of the five-day school to train other police officers to serve as drug recognition experts (DRE’s).”

**PRACTICE TIP:** DRE is highly suspect, inaccurate and subject to gross errors. These federal DRE training guides have numerous cautions about proper procedures to follow, procedures that will undoubtedly be ignored by most cops. Use these manuals in the same way you use the NHTSA manuals on field sobriety testing (see page 9-82 and A9-?) to impeach the accuracy of the cop’s expert opinion on impairment.

For more information:

Heishman, Stephen J., Singleton, Edward G. and Crouch, Dennis J. “Laboratory Validation Study of Drug Evaluation and Classification Program: Ethanol, Cocaine, and Marijuana”, J. of Anal. Tox. (847-647-2900 X323; Fax: 847-647-1155.), Oct. 1996, Vol. 20, No. 6, pp. 468-483 - From the abstract: “When DREs concluded impairment was due to drugs other than ethanol, their opinions were consistent with toxicology in 44% of cases. These findings suggest that the DEC evaluation can be used to predict accurately acute administration of ethanol, cocaine, or marijuana, and that predictions of drug use may be improved if DREs focused on a subset of variables.”

76% of cases, and their drug class decisions were consistent with toxicology in 32% of cases, according to standards of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. These findings suggest that the DEC evaluation can be used to predict accurately acute administration of alprazolam, d-amphetamine, codeine, and marijuana and that predictions of drug use may be improved by focusing on a subset of variables.

State v. Mace 944 S.W.2d 830 (Ark. 1997).