The Drug Evaluation and Classification Program (DECP) has received national acclaim for its success in identifying the drug-impaired driver. Officers trained as drug recognition experts (DRE) are frequently called upon to differentiate between drug influence and medical and/or mental disorders and their training is an extremely valuable tool in combating the adverse impact of drug and alcohol-impaired driving in our communities.

The DRE School is extremely demanding. To receive certification as a DRE, two phases of training must be completed. The following summarizes each phase:

**ACADEMIC TRAINING:** This phase is typically conducted over nine days (72 hours). It includes courses in physiology, vital signs, standardized field sobriety testing (SFST), and extensive information on each of the seven categories of the drugs of abuse. The training includes three written examinations, an SFST proficiency examination and five written quizzes. Students must achieve a minimum score of 80% on the three examinations, and must demonstrate proficiency in administering the SFST in order to progress to the certification phase.

**CERTIFICATION PHASE:** After successfully completing the academic portion, the students must complete the certification phase. At the conclusion of the classroom training, students will attend five days of field certification training that takes place in Jacksonville, Florida. These requirements include conducting a minimum of 12 drug influence evaluations while under the supervision of a DRE instructor; identifying subjects under the influence of three of the seven drug categories; and attaining a 75% toxicological confirmation rate. In addition, the student must maintain a progress log, rolling log and submit a curriculum vitae (CV). Finally, the student must pass a comprehensive final knowledge examination, and obtain the written endorsement of two certified DRE instructors. DRE certification is valid for two years. In order to maintain certification, DREs’ must conduct a minimum of four evaluations every two years, submit an updated rolling log, an updated CV, and attend eight hours of approved recertification training.
To be considered for DRE training, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Must not be on “probation” with your agency
- Must be working in patrol or traffic assignment with your agency
- Must be SFST trained and proficient in its use
- Must be ARIDE trained and knowledgeable on the subject
- Must have experience in DUI arrests
- Must have an endorsement/recommendation from your local prosecutor
- Must submit a minimum of two actual DUI arrest reports for review
- Must have recommendation from current supervisor and be in “good standing” with their agency

To assist in the selection of quality personnel for the DEC Program, please complete the following information:

Date of SFST training: __________________ Date of SFST training updates: ________________

Y N

Date of ARIDE training: ________________ EMT/Paramedic? ☐ ☐

Number of DUI arrests in the last 2 years: _______

Summarize your prior assignments related to, or of interest to, the DEC Program:

Summarize your formal education, work or practical experience, and training that may be related to, or may be of interest to, the DEC Program (EMT training, college, etc.):
How do you expect DRE training to benefit you and your department?

Anything else who you think would assist in your selection as a DRE?

List two DRE’s who would recommend you for DRE training:

Name: ________________________________ Phone: ________________________________
Name: ________________________________ Phone: ________________________________

List a local prosecutor who will recommend you for DRE training:

Name: ________________________________ Phone: ________________________________

To process your application, the applicant must submit the following information:

1. Student application
2. Copy of your most current SFST and ARIDE certificate
3. A letter from the Chief, Sheriff or Post Commander supporting the use of DRE
4. Copies of two (2) adjudicated DUI reports, with video (if available), from the previous 12 month period {one (1) involving drugs if possible}
5. Agree to viewing of your personnel file
I have read the listed requirements and I recommend this officer for DRE training.

Supervisor’s signature: ____________________________

Commanding Officer’s signature: ______________________

Date: ____________________

I solemnly affirm that the information contained in this application is true and accurate. I will comply fully with all requirements set forth for certification as a Drug Recognition Expert. I further allow the DRE coordinator or his designee to view my personnel records.

Applicant’s signature: ________________________________ Date: ____________________

Print Name: _______________________________________

Return the completed application by mail or e-mail to:

Larry Mooney
1000 Indian Spring Dr.
Forsyth, GA 31029

Direct any questions or concerns to:

Larry Mooney
Drug Recognition Expert Coordinator
(478) 993-4506
lmooney@gpstc.org