

May 15, 1970

OPINION LETTER NO. 316

Honorable Kenneth J. Rothman  
State Representative  
130 South Bemiston Avenue  
Clayton, Missouri 63105



Dear Representative Rothman:

This letter is in response to your question concerning whether a person who served as a police officer in a municipal police department in St. Louis County prior to October 13, 1963, must meet the training requirements prescribed by Section 66.250, RSMo Supp. 1967, if he leaves such employment and is hired as a police officer in another such city.

Section 66.250 states:

"1. Any person hired after October 13, 1963, to serve as a police officer in a municipal police department in any county of the first class having a charter form of government shall, within six months after beginning such employment, satisfactorily complete a law enforcement officer training course conducted by the county police department or the state highway patrol or any accredited college course for police officers.

"2. Any person required by this section to complete a training course who fails to do so within the six months' period shall not thereafter receive any compensation nor shall he be authorized to act as a police officer until he has satisfactorily completed the course."

This statute was enacted as House Bill 578 in 1963 by the 72nd General Assembly. The bill was changed very little during

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its course of passage.

Although we find no precedent to aid us in answering your question, it is our view that if the police officer terminates such employment and is hired to serve as a police officer in any municipality within the county, including new employment with the municipality with which he served as police officer on October 13, 1963, the provisions of the statute require that he as a "person hired after October 13, 1963," complete the prescribed training course.

Yours very truly,

JOHN C. DANFORTH  
Attorney General