A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 4
Lecture Hours/Week: 4
Lab Hours/Week: *
OJT Hours/Week: *
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
MnTC Goals: None

The history of the United States Constitution and the role it plays in democracy are explored. Constitutional limitations on government authority over private citizens are discussed and analyzed. Learners understand the role of a police officer in the system as it relates to the procedural handling of a criminal case. Also examined in the course are rules of evidence, criminal defenses, forfeitures, service of civil process, civil liability, and courtroom testimony. This course focuses on government authority to stop, detain, question, search, and seize.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/27/2007 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Structure and Content of the Constitution
2. The 14th Amendment and State Due Process
3. 4th Amendment Requirements for Stop and Frisk
4. Constitutional and Statutory Requirements for Arrest
5. Rules and Constitutional Requirements for Traffic Stops
6. Search Warrants and Exceptions
7. The 5th Amendment and Miranda Protections
8. The 6th Amendment Right to Counsel
10. The Peace Officer’s Role in the Judicial Process
11. Statutory and Procedural Requirements for Civil Process
12. The Peace Officer’s Role in Civil Process

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. The learner will recall and articulate the historical background, structure, and function of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.
2. The learner will recognize the requirements for legally admissible interrogations and identifications.
3. The learner will recall and articulate the requirements for legally searching for and seizing evidence of criminal activity.
4. The learner will demonstrate familiarity with the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, and the officer's part in the legal process.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None
F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
   As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
   None noted