

Prior law authorized any levee district or levee and drainage district, at the discretion of its boards of commissioners, to employ one or more persons as levee district or levee and drainage district police officers who are responsible for maintaining order and exercising general police power on and off the levees, within the area of the levee district or levee and drainage district, and upon its surrounding waters. Prior law further provided that each person designated as a police officer by the president of the levee district or levee and drainage district shall be commissioned as a "peace officer" by the DPS&C.

New law provides that levee district and levee and drainage district police are commissioned as "special officers" by the DPS&C in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 40:1379.1.

Prior law provided that no person except a commissioner may be commissioned as a levee district or levee and drainage district police officer prior to meeting the minimum requirement of completing and graduating from the six-week program of basic law enforcement training at LSU or possession of equivalent training and experience.

New law provides that no person may be commissioned as a levee district or levee and drainage district police officer unless he is P.O.S.T. certified.

Effective August 15, 2010.

(Amends R.S. 38:326(A) and (C))