

**TEXARKANA, TEXAS POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL**

<i>Effective Date</i> February 1, 2008		<i>Amended Date</i>	<i>Directive</i> 2.02.1
<i>Subject</i> Code of Ethics			
<i>Reference</i>			
<i>Distribution</i> All Personnel City Manager City Attorney	<i>TPCA Best Practices Recognition Program Reference</i> 2.02.1 Code of Ethics	<i>Review Date</i> August 6, 2023	<i>Pages</i> 2

This Operations Directive is for internal use only and does not enhance an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as a creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this Operations Directive, if proven, may only form the basis for a complaint by this Department, and only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

SECTION 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to state the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics and emphasize its importance to the success of the Department.

SECTION 2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Department that all officers will adhere to the tenants of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics. We recognize the significance of these ideals, and we commit to upholding the Code of Ethics as we serve our community. All personnel shall maintain a copy of the Code of Ethics in their General Orders Manual as a part of this directive.

All members of the Department shall know and comply with all aspects of this directive. All Division Commanders and supervisory personnel are responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions and intent of this directive.

Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession...law enforcement.