

TEXARKANA, TEXAS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

<i>Effective Date</i> <b>February 1, 2008</b>		<i>Amended Date</i>		<i>Directive</i> <b>2.19.1</b>	
<i>Subject</i> <b>Alcoholic Beverages</b>					
<i>Reference</i>					
<i>Distribution</i> <b>All Personnel City Manager City Attorney</b>		<i>TPCA Best Practices Recognition Program Reference</i>  <b>2.19.1 Alcoholic Beverages</b>		<i>Review Date</i>  <b>July 11, 2023</b>	
				<i>Pages</i>  <b>2</b>	

**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 provide guidance to employees regarding the use of alcoholic beverages while on duty or before reporting for duty.

**SECTION 2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Department that employees are prohibited from being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage while on duty. The use and possession of alcoholic beverages in the workplace is regulated by the provisions set forth in this policy.

**SECTION 3 PROCEDURES**

**A. CONSUMPTION OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR**

1. Employees shall not consume intoxicating liquor while on duty, unless necessary in the performance of a police duty, and then only under specific direction of the division commander.
2. Employees shall not consume intoxicating liquor on premises occupied by any division or section of the Department. Employees shall not bring or keep intoxicating liquor on Department premises, except when necessary in the performance of a police duty. In this event, the intoxicating liquor shall be properly identified, inventoried, and stored according to established policy.
3. Employees shall not consume intoxicating liquor while off duty to the extent that evidence of such consumption is apparent when reporting for duty or to the extent that ability to perform duty is in any way impaired. The odor of alcohol on the breath at roll call or during any period when the employee is on duty is strictly prohibited. Intoxication is not a defense to charges of violating Department rules or regulations.
4. Employees found to be intoxicated in a public place, whether on or off duty, shall be subject to immediate relief of duty pending an investigation.

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B. RESPONSIBILITY

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