

OBJECTIVES AND GOALS

MISSION STATEMENT

Purpose: This policy provides a written statement of the mission of the Police Department.

Policy Statement: The mission of the North Little Rock Police Department is to promote a high quality of life for the citizens of the city by ensuring a safe, secure, and peaceful environment in accordance with the principles and values of the organization.

Summary of Changes:

Definitions:

Principles: Concepts that form the basis of organizational function and operation.

Values: The tenets of the organization that serve as a foundation for decision-making and conduct.

Procedure:

1 Principles

- 1.1 **Integrity:** The effectiveness of the Police Department is dependent upon the trust and confidence of the public that we serve. The trustworthiness, honesty, and character of the Department are the keys to all other success. The integrity of the Department is made of the collective integrity of all its members.
- 1.2 **Accountability:** The Police Department exists at the will of the people who, collectively, are the ultimate authority. The Department is accountable to the community for its operations and actions. Police officers at all levels have a great deal of authority and responsibility. Every member of the Department is accountable for the proper exercise of authority and the effective and efficient execution of responsibilities.
- 1.3 **Responsiveness:** It is incumbent on the Department and its members to be responsive to the concerns and interests of the community. Responsiveness is not only reactive, but proactive as well.
- 1.4 **Quality of Life:** The only purpose for the existence of any Police Department is to positively contribute to quality of life in the community. The Department works to keep people safe through the enforcement of criminal and traffic laws, maintaining peace and order, and taking actions to prevent victimization and disorder. It is equally important that people feel safe as well as being safe.
- 1.5 **Community:** The Police Department is not an occupying force with the duty to impose rules on its subjects; rather, it is a component of the community that interacts and works with the other components of the community in a sense of shared responsibility and interest. Continuous dialog and cooperation among the various segments create a synergy that builds great communities.
- 1.6 **Customer Service:** Like any other agency or business, the Police Department operates to serve its customers or clients. The Police Department has a diverse clientele. Though the Department is not able to fix everyone's problem, citizens should be left feeling that the Department cared and offered the assistance within its power. Even those against whom enforcement action is taken can be left feeling that they were treated fairly and with respect.

2 Organizational Values

- 2.1 The protection, defense, and preservation of **human life** is the most sacred responsibility.
- 2.2 The **Constitution and laws** of the United States and the State of Arkansas are the foundation of the greatest society and must be followed in act and spirit.
- 2.3 It is our purpose to preserve, not deny, the **liberties** of the citizenry.
- 2.4 The most basic police responsibility is to **protect** those who cannot protect themselves.
- 2.5 All people should be treated with **respect, dignity, fairness, and equality**.
- 2.6 All people are **equal under the law**, and police services and actions must be administered in this regard without discrimination.
- 2.7 **Courage, integrity, and character** are the foundations of a police officer.
- 2.8 **Personal and professional growth** must be continual and never-ending and requires the courage to risk failure.
- 2.9 We expect **truth, honesty, and ethical** behavior from all members.
- 2.10 We are **committed** to the mission, principles, and values of the organization and to the ideas of professional policing.
- 2.11 We recognize and accept our responsibilities of **leadership** in community and within the organization.

- 2.12 We believe in **teamwork** and recognize that our successes result from the combined efforts of many people; co-workers, other public servants, and the public.
- 2.13 We strive for **excellence** and refuse to settle for less.
- 2.14 We value a solid **work ethic** with a commitment to cooperation, dependability, and flexibility.
- 2.15 We believe that our **members** are our greatest asset and we recognize that **individuality** and **diversity** are strengths.
- 2.16 We are honored to be members of the organization and recognize our responsibilities in promoting and protecting the **honor** of the organization.

Patrick Thessing
Chief of Police