
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

CODE OF ETHICS

Purpose: This directive establishes performance ethics and a Code of Ethics for sworn members of the North Little Rock Police Department.

Policy Statement: In order to insure public confidence in the Department, it is imperative that members of this Department avoid conflicts of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest and maintain a high standard of ethics while performing their duties. All sworn members of this Department will subscribe to and sign the Code of Ethics statement contained in this directive.

Summary of Changes:

1. Code of Ethics

- 1.1 All members will be required to adhere to this code in their daily lives and in the performance of their duties as a peace officer: [CALEA 1.1.2]
 - 1.1.1 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.
 - 1.1.2 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. I will be 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.
 - 1.1.3 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.
 - 1.1.4 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.

2. Responsibilities of Members

- 2.1 Members are expected to use good judgment, adhere to high ethical standards and avoid situations that create an actual or perceived conflict between their personal interests and those of the Police Department. The Police Department requires that activities in which members participate are ethical and within the law, both in letter and in spirit.
- 2.2 The philosophy of this Department is one of professionalism and service to the community. This concept can be accomplished only through the cooperation and support of all members. The conduct of all members, both on and off the job, is a reflection to the public of law enforcement. It is the policy of this Department that all members conduct themselves at all times, both on and off duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorable on the department.
- 2.3 All members shall use his/her position as a sworn law enforcement officer only for the purpose of accomplishing his/her assigned duties with the goal of serving and protecting the citizens of North Little Rock and their property. A member will not use his/her position as a means of personal gain, personal favor, or personal influence. Furthermore, each member will avoid involvement in any endeavor that may reasonably constitute a conflict of interest with his/her position as a police officer.
- 2.4 All members will receive training in ethics biennially. [CALEA 1.1.2]
 - 2.4.1 The Training Unit is responsible for ensuring the Code of Ethics is administered as an oath to all newly hired sworn members during orientation.

- 2.4.2 The Training Unit is responsible for ensuring that a signed copy of the Code of Ethics is maintained in each sworn member's training file.
- 2.5 All members should be familiar with the North Little Rock Police Department Standards of Conduct.

Patrick Thessing
Chief of Police