

Abington Township Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual

Chapter:	Law Enforcement Role and Authority	General Order:	1.1.2
Section:	Law Enforcement Agency Role	Original Date:	050104
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I. PURPOSE

This general order adopts the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics making it applicable to all members of the Department.

II. POLICY

There is an underlying assumption of dedication to duty, integrity and a commitment to the highest standards of professional police service which is embodied in the Police Code of Ethics and the Code of Ethics of Abington Township enacted under Resolution #92-015. These codes guide the actions of all personnel and provides a basis to judge whether one's conduct is in conformance with department wide ethical standards. These code affords each individual member a standard for judging his or her conduct.

III. PROCEDURE

A. The following Code of Ethics is set forth and made applicable to all members of the Department who have taken the Oath of Office and who are currently serving in the capacity of a sworn police officer employed by the Abington Township Police Department:

1. The Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

As a law enforcement member, 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 professional life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law 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 duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudice, 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 police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession, law enforcement.

- B. Civilian members of the Police Department are guided by the Code of Ethics established by the Board of Commissioners under Resolution #92-015, enacted June 11, 1992.
- C. Violations of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics will be addressed by the Code of Discipline adopted and published by the Board of Commissioners of Abington Township, General Order No. 26.1.1 - Code of Conduct, and the Township Salaried and Clerical and Employees Manual.
- D. All members of the Department will receive ethics training biennially.