

WOLFEBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

SOP 1.3

Date Issued: 12/27/2019

Review: 02/24/2021

[Note: This written directive is for the internal governance of the Wolfeboro Police Department and, as provided by RSA 516:36, is not intended and should not be interpreted to establish a higher standard of care in any civil or criminal action than would otherwise be applicable under existing law.]

By Order of:
Dean J. Rondeau, Chief of Police

OATH OF OFFICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS

Policy

It is the policy of the Wolfeboro Police Department that employees will take the Oath of Office prior to assuming sworn status. All sworn employees will adhere to and abide by the Oath of Office and the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics. All sworn employees will perform their duties within the limits of the laws, ordinances, rules, written directives, Oath of Office, Law Enforcement Code of Ethics. All civilian employees will also adhere to and abide by a canon of ethics concerning their responsibilities and duties.

Purpose

To establish procedures for administering the Oath of Office, provide officers with a copy of the Oath of Office and the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, and to describe the scope and limits of the law enforcement authority of Wolfeboro Police Officers.

Responsibilities

The Town Clerk will administer the Oath of Office to incoming officers and ensure that the officers understand the meaning of the Oath of Office and the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.

All employees taking the Oath of Office will read it and request clarification on any points they do not understand. Employees will not take the Oath of Office until they understand the meaning of both the Oath of Office and Law Enforcement Code of Ethics. All sworn employees will be familiar with and perform his or her duties within the limits of his or her authority.

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Oath of Office and Law Enforcement Code of Ethics**

Oath of Office:

TOWN OF WOLFEBORO, NEW HAMPSHIRE

OATH OF OFFICE

I, _____, do solemnly swear that I will bear true allegiance to the United States of America and the State of New Hampshire, and will support the Constitutions thereof, so help me God.

SIGNATURE _____

I, _____, do solemnly and sincerely swear and affirm that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as a **POLICE OFFICER** for the Town of Wolfeboro New Hampshire according to the best of my abilities, agreeable to the rules and regulations of the Constitution and laws of the State of New Hampshire, so help me God.

SIGNATURE _____

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Carroll, ss.

Personally appeared the above named _____, who took and subscribed the foregoing oath.

Before me _____
Town Clerk

Date: _____

Received and Recorded

_____, **Carroll County, NH**
In the County of Carroll in the State of New Hampshire

Whereas, there is a vacancy in the position of **POLICE OFFICER** in the Town of Wolfeboro and whereas, the **WOLFEBORO POLICE COMMISSION**, as subscribers have confidence in your ability and integrity to perform the duties of said office, we do hereby appoint you, the said _____, **POLICE OFFICER** of said Town; and upon your taking the oath of office and having the appointment and certificate of said oath of office, recorded by the Town Clerk, you shall have the powers, perform the duties, and be subject to the liabilities of such office, until another person shall be chosen and qualified in your stead.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 20__.

WOLFEBORO, NEW HAMPSHIRE POLICE COMMISSIONERS:

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Commissioner, Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS -

As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; 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.

CIVILIAN CODE OF ETHICS -

As an employee of the Wolfeboro Police Department, I regard myself as a member of an important and honorable profession.

I WILL keep myself in the best physical and mental condition at all times.
I WILL perform my duties with efficiency to the best of my ability.

SOP 1.3**Oath of Office and Law Enforcement Code of Ethics**

I WILL be truthful at all times. My conduct and performance of my duties will be accomplished in an honest manner, which complies with the law(s): local, county, state, and country.

I WILL adhere to the confidentiality of the Law Enforcement profession.

I WILL NOT; in the performance of my duties, work for unethical advantage or personal profit.

I WILL recognize at all times that, I am a public safety employee, and that ultimately I am responsible to the public.

I WILL give the most efficient and impartial service of which I am capable at all times.

I WILL be courteous in all my contacts at all times.

I WILL regard my fellow employees with equality, dignity, and respect.

I WILL be loyal to my fellow employees, my superiors and my agency.

I WILL accept responsibility for my actions.

I WILL strive to do only those things that will reflect honor on my fellow employees, my agency and myself.