

# WOLFEBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

## SOP 4.33

**Date Issued: 12/27/2019**

**Review: 03/05/2021**

[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**

### FORCIBLE ENTRIES

**Policy** To provide guidelines regarding forcible entries and after-action procedures.

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**Purpose** The purpose of this directive is to cover the following:  
Responsibilities Reports  
Complaints Damages

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**Procedures** A supervisor shall be present on any service of a search or arrest warrant where there is a possibility of a forcible entry.  
During emergencies officers may make forcible entries in order to save lives and prevent injuries.

| Stage | Description  |
|-------|--|
| 1     | Enter the premise by the most expeditious, most cautious and by the least destructive manner |
| 2     | Inform the occupants of the nature of entry, as soon as practical                            |
| 3     | If no supervisor on the scene, request that one to be notified                               |
| 4     | On leaving, secure the premise   |
| 5     | Complete an incident report on the matter  |

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**Unoccupied Dwelling** After completing the search.  
Leave a note in a conspicuous place that identifies members of the department unless, due to exigent circumstances, it might interfere in the investigation.

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**Complaints** If a citizen makes a complaint regarding the forcible entry or damage, inform him of the departmental complaint procedure.

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Forcible Entries**

**Damages**

| <b>When an officer has</b>                                    | <b>The department will</b>                                      |
|---|---|
| Acted in error or on misinformation                           | Provide them with a full explanation<br>Damage will be repaired |
| Acted correctly and there is no apparent negligence or errors | Assume no obligations in arranging repairs                      |

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**Responsibilities**

| <b>Member</b> | <b>Will</b>   |
|---------------|---|
| Officer       | File an incident report<br>Notify a supervisor  |
| Supervisor    | Assist the officer at the scene<br>Handle the complaint at the scene, if any<br>Notify the Captain by the next business day, if a complaint is filed. |