

SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY

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August 12, 2019

Policy Number:
09-006

Policy Subject:
Oath of Office and Code of Ethics

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PLEAC Standard(s):
1.1.1

I. PURPOSE

To provide the officers of the City of Scranton Police Department with a clear understanding of the law enforcement agency role, the significance and the solemnity of the oath of office, and the importance of comprehending and adhering to the canon of ethics as outlined in the law enforcement code of ethics.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the City of Scranton Police Department that each police officer, prior to assuming sworn status, shall take and subscribe to the Oath of Office and an oath to adhere to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.

III. PROCEDURES

- A. Each member of the City of Scranton Police Department, prior to assuming sworn status and performing sworn duty, shall take and affirm and swear to abide by an Oath of Office and the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.

The Oath of Office will require members to support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the ordinances of the City of Scranton. (While keeping in mind it will also require that members uphold, obey and enforce the laws without consideration to a person's race, color, sex, religious creed, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, handicap or disability.)

- B. A copy of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, will be provided to each officer, and they will be required to abide by the ideals and ethics contained therein.

These oaths will be administered orally by the Mayor of the City of Scranton (Deputy Mayor in his/her absence) and signed copies will be placed in the Police Officer's personnel file.

By the Order of:

Chief Carl R. Graziano
Superintendent of Police
Scranton Police Department

Attachments:

Copy of Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

Copy of Oath of Office

**SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
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 and disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or my agency. I will 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 both in my personal and professional life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law 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, political beliefs, aspirations, 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 never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.

I will constantly try to achieve these objectives and ideals.

Officer

Date

OATH OF OFFICE

I, _____ do solemnly swear that I will support obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this Commonwealth and the ordinances of the City of Scranton. I further affirm that I will discharge the duties of my office as a member of the Scranton Police Department, with fidelity.