

# MISSION & LIMITS OF AUTHORITY

# DIRECTIVE: 100

EFFECTIVE DATE: MARCH 25, 2022

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# I. <u>Policy</u>

The Brevard Police Department is dedicated to the achievement of its mission to provide quality law enforcement service in a manner consistent with our vision and guiding principles. This policy articulates the department's mission, vision, and guiding principles.

# II. Mission Statement

The mission of the Brevard Police Department is to protect life and property, prevent and detect crime, fairly and impartially enforce the law, keep the peace, and preserve and protect the rights of all citizens.

# III. Vision Statement

We, the Brevard Police Department, will work with the community we serve to enhance community relations, and build trust through courageous leadership, accountability, and transparency. We will endeavor to be a premier law enforcement agency by following our guiding principles and providing a safe community in Brevard so that all may thrive.

#### IV. Guiding Principles

The Brevard Police Department is committed to a philosophy focused on community policing and pledges to provide quality service according to our guiding principles.

#### A. Honesty and Integrity

"We will be honest and act with integrity at all times."

#### B. Respect

"We will treat others with respect and courtesy. We will preserve and respect the rights of other individuals."

#### C. Fairness

"We will act with fairness, impartiality, and will not discriminate in the performance of our duties."

# D. Duty

"We will faithfully and diligently exercise our duty to protect and serve our community."

# E. Conduct of a Higher Standard

"We will conduct ourselves in a manner that honors our commitment to the profession of law enforcement, whether it be on or off duty. We will not discredit our profession or undermine the public's confidence in policing."

# F. Challenging Improper Behavior

"We will challenge, report, or take action against the conduct of colleagues which have fallen below the standards of professional behavior and conduct."

#### V. Limits of Authority

The Brevard Police Department derives its authority from the U.S. Constitution, North Carolina General Statutes, North Carolina Administrative Code, and The Code of the City of Brevard, North Carolina.

Such powers as vested in the Chief of Police and officers of the Department may be exercised within the corporate limits of the City and one (1) mile beyond, and upon City real property wherever located. In addition, those powers may be exercised as described in NCGS 160A-286, NCGS 15A-402 NCGS 15A-401.

It shall be the policy of the Department; however, to exercise its power only within the established corporate limits *unless agreements have been reached with other law enforcement agencies to provide mutual assistance in the extended jurisdiction.* This power would include patrol, response, limited enforcement, etc. When any offense is committed within the corporate limits of the City of Brevard or within its extraterritorial jurisdiction under circumstances that would authorize a police officer to arrest the offender without a warrant, the officer may pursue the offender outside the corporate limits and outside the City's extra-territorial jurisdiction. *Such pursuits will be restricted by the Brevard Police Department policy.* Any officer pursuing an offender outside the corporate limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City shall be entitled to all the privileges, amenities, and benefits to which he would be entitled if acting within the City, including under workmen's compensation laws and general and professional liability. Brevard Police Officers may exercise those powers as authorized by NCGS 160A-205 and Department policy.

# VI. Oaths of Office

The Chief of Police and each police officer or employee charged with enforcement duties, before entering service with the Brevard Police Department and upon the discharge of their duties, shall be required to take and subscribe before the mayor or other official authorized to administer oaths, an oath prescribed for public offices that they will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of their respective offices or positions according to law.

#### VII. Code of Ethics

All employees before assuming the duties of a Brevard Police Officer shall adhere to the Law Enforcement Officer Code of Ethics adopted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police which states:

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 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 to 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 official 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 every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.* 

I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession... law enforcement.

# VIII. Cancellation

This policy cancels Directive Number 100, dated September 1, 2021.

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C. Thomas Jordan Chief of Police