



**CEDAR PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL ORDER**

Code of Ethics

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APPROVED: *Mike Damm*  
Chief of Police

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## I. POLICY

It is the policy of the Cedar Park Police Department that all members, sworn and non-sworn, will exhibit a professional, ethical level of conduct in all their behavior, seen and unseen, in order to promote good public relations.

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## II. PURPOSE

The code of ethics, mission statement, and core values of the Cedar Park Police Department provide expectations of ethical behavior to all employees.

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## III. LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS

As a law enforcement officer, 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 persons 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 as 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. (IACP Code of Ethics, adopted 37 Tex. Admin. Code §1.112)

## IV. CIVILIAN CODE OF ETHICS

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As an employee of the Cedar Park Police Department, I am dedicated to serve the public; to safeguard life and property; to keep my coworkers informed on all situations that may require their attention; to assist all public safety personnel in the performance of their duties; assure that all rules and regulations which govern my position are not violated in any manner.

I will keep my private and social life free from all criticism; maintain a calm attitude during times of stress and emergencies; develop self-control and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others, regardless of race, creed, or religion.

I will obey the laws of the land and my department. Whatever information I receive of a confidential nature will be revealed only in the official performance of my duties.

I will never act in a selfish or unofficial manner or let my personal feelings, friendships, prejudices, or animosity influence my decisions. I will enforce the rules and regulations of my department and the Federal Communications Commission without fear, favor, or ill will, never employing unnecessary force and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the high responsibility of my position as a symbol of public faith and trust and will accept it to be held as long as I am faithful to the ethics of public safety service. I will constantly strive to achieve those objectives and ideals, which govern my profession, dedicating myself, before God, to my chosen profession, public safety.

(Adapted from APCO Public Safety Telecommunicators Code of Ethics, 1981)

## V. CORE TRUTHS

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Our Core Truths are the pillars of truth that define how we operate as an organization.

1. Core Truth: A professional police department is vital to a thriving community.
2. Core Truth: Everyone deserves our unbiased respect.
3. Core Truth: Everything we do is significant.
4. Core Truth: We can always be better.

## VI. GUIDING VALUES

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Our guiding values provide guard rails to ensure we remain oriented in the right direction.

Guiding Value #1: Community

We are committed to building a supportive, welcoming community, both internally and externally.

Guiding Value #2: Empathy

We care for people by listening without judgement, always seeking to understand how to help.

### Guiding Value #3: Accountability

We set clear expectations and operate with transparency, holding each other accountable for our actions to build trust.

### Guiding Value #4: Honor

Because we serve our purpose with pride, we will operate with excellence, honesty, and courage.

## VII. MISSION, VISION, AND PURPOSE STATEMENT

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Mission: We engage, protect, and inspire everyone.

Vision: Our community has the foundation to build a caring, prosperous city.

### **Cedar Park Police Department Purpose:**

We engage, protect, and inspire everyone, so that our community has the foundation to build a caring, prosperous city.