

	Administrative General Order	1 Mission and Objectives	PAGE 1 OF 4
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1.1 MISSION OF THE CHARLESTON POLICE DEPARTMENT (CALEA 12.2.1 a)

It is the mission of the Charleston Police Department to serve all people within our jurisdiction with respect, fairness, and compassion. We are committed to the protection of life and property; the preservation of peace, order and safety; the enforcement of local, state and federal laws; and the defense of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the Constitution of the United States of America in a fair and impartial manner.

1.2 OATH OF OFFICE

I do solemnly swear that I will support and comply with the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution and Laws of the State of South Carolina, the Charter, laws, and ordinances of the City of Charleston, the rules and regulations of the Charleston Police Department, and the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics: and that I will faithfully discharge my duties as a Police Officer to the best of my ability.

1.3 OATH OF HONOR

On my honor; I will never betray my badge, my integrity, my character or the public trust. I will always have the courage to hold myself and others accountable for our actions. I will always uphold the constitution, my community, and the agency I serve.

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1.4 VISION

The vision of the Charleston Police Department is to be a world class law enforcement agency committed to the values of Honor, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, and Teamwork. We demonstrate creativity, challenge our capabilities, and encourage initiative and risk-taking. We hold ourselves to a high standard of excellence and continually improve by solving problems and making decisions that benefit the organization and community. We are dedicated to service, lifelong learning, and professional growth.

1.5 CORE VALUES – H.E.A.R.T.

- **Honor** - We serve with honor through our actions, conduct, and job performance. Performed with integrity, even at personal cost, we constantly strive towards ever-rising standards.
- **Excellence** - We seek excellence in all that we do and strive for continuous improvement. Our employees are encouraged to be innovative and creative.
- **Accountability** - We are an organization of employees who do the right thing and are responsible for what we do and say.
- **Respect** - We value all citizens, each other and different points of view, regardless of race, gender, appearance, individual beliefs, or lifestyles.
- **Teamwork** - We support an environment that recognizes mutual cooperation and group accomplishments while encouraging individual contributions.

1.6 PURPOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT

The purpose of the Charleston Police Department is "TO PROTECT and TO SERVE." The Department protects the right of all persons within its jurisdiction to be free from criminal attack, to be secure in their possessions, and to live in peace. The Department serves the people of Charleston by performing the law enforcement function in a professional manner, and it is to those people that the department is ultimately responsible. In so doing, the Department's role is to enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority and the constitutional rights of all persons. It is not the role of the Department to legislate, to render legal judgments, or to punish.

1.7 FUNCTIONAL OBJECTIVES (CALEA 12.2.1 a, h)

Prevention of Crime

The Department is responsible for interacting with the community to generate mutual understanding so that there may be public support for crime prevention. Community involvement is essential to facilitate a free flow of information between the public and the Department to assist in the identification of problem areas and to inform the public of crime statistics and trends. Additionally, knowledge of the community is necessary so that each Department employee may be instilled with a sense of concern for the crime problems and law enforcement needs in their assigned area of responsibility. The prevention of crime remains as a basic obligation of society. When it becomes necessary to rely on police action to secure compliance with the law, society has failed in this responsibility.

Apprehension of Offenders

The administration of criminal justice consists of the identification, arrest, prosecution, punishment, and rehabilitation of a law violator and it has as its objective the voluntary compliance with the law as an alternative to punishment. Once a crime has been committed, it is the duty of the Department to initiate the criminal process by identifying and arresting the perpetrator to obtain necessary evidence, and to cooperate in the prosecution of the case. As the certainty of swift and sure punishment serves as an effective deterrent to crime, the Department must diligently strive to solve all crimes and to bring the perpetrators to

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justice.

Community Engagement / Relations

Community policing strategies promote and encourage problem-solving and community engagement methods which is the forefront of the Charleston Police Department. Additionally, community policing serves as a conduit between the department and community stakeholders to address public safety concerns and finding solutions through collaborative efforts. Furthermore, the Charleston community is embedded in every CPD employee's performance expectations for both sworn officers and the professional staff.

Evidence Based Policing

The Charleston police Department has ongoing enhancements, to the development of data collection and analysis capabilities. These are currently in practice and in order to define effective, efficient, measurable strategies and tactics to reduce/prevent crime and the fear of crime and establish/ maintain social order in all parts of Charleston. This will include sharing data and insights with the community it serves as well as other Charleston city agencies and municipal, county, state and federal law enforcement partners.

Accountability and Transparency

In order for law enforcement to effectively and professionally serve the community, trust must exist between the public and employees of the police department. Trust is strengthened, both internally and externally, when individuals feel accountability is demonstrated, encouraged, and reviewed. The Charleston Police Department strives to enhance the quality of life for every individual in the City of Charleston. Employees are expected to provide the highest quality of service to the community and will support and comply with the Constitution of South Carolina and the United States, along with rules and regulations of the Charleston Police Department. The department's integrity will be maintained through a system that provides objective, fair, and thorough investigations and review of complaints against department employees.

Investment in Human Capital

The City of Charleston Police Department is committed to continued professional development for sworn and professional staff. We understand that any type of behavioral change is difficult and an effective program must have commitment, be on-target with the training, and be continuously reinforced if we want exceptional results. The purpose of the Leadership Development Institute (LDI) is to establish a framework for lasting cultural transformation through more effective leadership at all levels. LDI's system for success is talent-based, inclusion focused, while always having the organizational mission as a priority. The Office of Professional Development and Training (PD&T) is responsible for personal and professional development for every one of our CPD Officers. This includes everything from advanced specialized training to cultural awareness and diversity training that is required for all. PD&T also provides training to our professional staff and operates the citizen's academy to give people an inside look at our organization.

1.8 COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION AMONG PERSONNEL (CALEA 12.1.4)

The Charleston Police Department supports and encourages communication, coordination, and cooperation among all agency components. Agency staff meetings are one method in which this may be accomplished. However, there are other, often more effective ways in which agency personnel may communicate. For example, investigators attend roll call sessions, information is related through the Department's Daily Orders, daily shift briefings, e-mail, staff or unit meetings between line supervisors and personnel as required.

At the command level, the Chief of Police meets weekly with bureau commanders and other members of his staff to facilitate

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continuous and open communication within the organization. The Chief of Staff will be responsible for disseminating the minutes from the monthly staff meetings.

Members of the Department are encouraged to bring issues, ideas, and suggestions to the Chief of Police and his staff that are of interest to the Department. In many cases this is accomplished through the use of work groups and committees that focus on specific areas of importance and provides an ongoing source of innovation and improvement.

1.9 COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVE WITH EXTERNAL AGENCIES

It is vital that any law enforcement agency maintain a close and on-going relationship and liaison with those other agencies that play a role with it in the overall criminal justice system. To that end, it is the policy of this department to maintain open lines of communication with all agencies within the system including, but not limited to:

1. Prosecutors for all courts through both personal contact and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). The Chief of Police, or designee, will attend all CJCC Meetings and by and through those meetings express the Departments view and or concerns. The CID Commander will maintain liaison with appropriate prosecutors relative to pending investigations and court cases. The prosecutor for the Municipal Court is a City of Charleston employee and as such maintains liaison with individual officers whose cases are pending before Municipal Court on a case-by-case basis.
2. Probation and parole agencies through the Intelligence Division, Central Investigations Division, and inter-agency groups such as the Low Country Regional Crime Information Center (LORCIC). The Chief of Police, the CID Commander, or designee, will attend probation and parole hearings when the Department has chosen to oppose probation or parole. Probation and parole agencies normally notify this Department regarding those eligible. These notifications will be shared with officers involved in the original case and other such Departmental personnel having knowledge about or interest in the individual being considered.
3. We maintain a close relationship with fire and emergency medical services in order to ensure that proper coordination exists between them to eliminate a duplication of efforts and maximize efficiency and effectiveness.