P.O. 702 Classification System			
Effective From:	10/01/2026	Effective To:	Current

P.O. 702 – Classification System

1. TERMINOLOGY
   - i) Civil Service Commission
     - a) Unclassified Service – Those appointive positions not included in the Classified Service, as set forth in Article X, Part I, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974.
     - b) Classified Service – Any person in the DPS Police service except those specifically placed in the Unclassified Service by the Civil Service Commission or exempt from the Classified Service by Article X.
     - c) Class – Tasks, duties, and responsibilities which constitute the assignment for one or more individuals whose work is of the same nature and is performed at the same skill/responsibility level.
     - d) Classified Position – Any office or position in the Classified Service.
       - 1) DPS Police Commissioned Officers – All classified and unclassified personnel who have completed a Basic Police Training Academy course of instruction, as provided by LRS 40:2401, who have taken an oath of office; who possess the powers of arrest; and who are filling positions that require the exercise of police authority to include the application of special knowledge, skills, aptitude and/or considerable educational attainment, as may be necessary for peace officers.
     - e) Rank – The status of one or more sworn officers in the chain-of-command established by the position classification plan.
     - f) Grade – The status of one or more officers within a rank.
     - g) Superior Officer – One having supervisory responsibilities, either temporarily or permanently, over officers of lower rank.
     - h) Commanding Officer – One in command of the Office of State Police, Region, Section, Unit, Office, Squad or any other subdivision of the DPS Police.
     - i) Ranking Officer – The commissioned officer having the highest grade or rank. Generally, officers of the same grade are ranked according to the date of their appointment to that grade; however, for a special detail and for a specific period, an officer may be designated to take command without regard to rank or position.
2. DPS POLICE CAREER POSITIONS
   - i) The concept of the DPS Police as a paramilitary organization continues to play an important part in its structure and operation. The widespread authority and responsibility of the DPS Police necessitates that all personnel are kept in a highly disciplined state of preparedness. This includes not only physical condition but also efficient internal management.
   - ii) Link to Civil Service webpage: https://www.civilservice.louisiana.gov/
3. OFFICIAL POSITION, CLASSIFICATION, RANK AND TITLE
   - i) Classified DPS Police Positions
     - a) DPS Police Major
     - b) DPS Police Captain
     - c) DPS Police Lieutenant
     - d) DPS Police Sergeant
     - e) DPS Police Corporal
     - f) DPS Police Senior Officer
     - g) DPS Police Officer
     - h) DPS Police Cadet
4. WAE OFFICER/INVESTIGATOR

i) WAE (When Actually Employed) Officer and Investigator positions are rehired at-will employees who have retired in good standing from full-time service as a commissioned DPS Officer or individuals from other law enforcement agencies who possess skills and/or technical knowledge that would be beneficial to the Department and serve in unclassified positions at the discretion of the Superintendent.

ii) WAE Officers/Investigators shall be certified through the Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Council and be commissioned as officers within the Office of State Police with law enforcement authority granted in accordance with LRS 40:1379.

iii) WAE Officers/Investigators who are not P.O.S.T. certified may, at the discretion of the Superintendent, receive a "Special Officer" commission through the Department's Concealed Handgun Permit Section in accordance with the provisions of LRS 40:1379.1. Those WAE Officers/Investigators commissioned as "Special Officers" shall have the same powers and duties as a peace officer when performing those tasks requiring a special officer's commission; provided, however, that when not performing those tasks directly related to the special officer's commission, they shall be regarded as a private citizen and their commission shall not be in effect.

iv) All WAE Officers/Investigators shall be required to attend annual in-service training.