

OVERLAND PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OF CONDUCT



NUMBER: 0260
TOPIC: SAFETY
DATE: 2/20/2025
SUPERCEDES: 10/12/2017

/s/ Doreen Jokerst
Chief of Police

/s/ Eric Blevins
Public Safety Attorney

CALEA REFERENCE: NONE

PURPOSE

To establish standards of conduct for safety.

RATIONALE

Safety of the public, other Members and one's self is a paramount concern and a primary responsibility for all Members. While not all police work is dangerous, Members may be exposed to potentially dangerous situations at any time. Members will exercise appropriate levels of care and safety when facing potential dangers, when performing established procedures, and when maintaining equipment. Members will always endeavor to promote an overall safe environment. This Standard of Conduct underscores our commitment to safety and responsibility while ensuring that all activities are conducted with the highest regard for the well-being of all individuals involved.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

- Members will not consume alcoholic beverages while on duty unless authorized by a supervisor for a legitimate law enforcement purpose.
- Members will not possess or consume alcoholic beverages on Police premises or in vehicles owned, leased, maintained, or otherwise used by the City, except for legitimate law enforcement purposes and with supervisory approval.
- Members will not report for duty with the odor of alcoholic beverage(s) on their breath.
- Members will not report to their assignment or work in an on-duty capacity if their judgment or physical condition has been impaired by alcohol, medication, or other substances.
- Member will conform to COP 227, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy. Members will report the use of any substance that may impair their ability to perform prior to going on duty. When supervisors have reasonable suspicion any on-duty Member is using and/or under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, they will order a drug and/or alcohol screening test. All screenings will conform to COP 227.

- Members will always properly secure and safeguard police-issued weapons or dangerous equipment at all times. No weapons or dangerous objects will be maintained or stored in locations accessible to prisoners, suspects, the public, or unauthorized persons.
- Members will immediately report lost or stolen Department weapon(s) via the chain of command to the Chief of Police. Such reports will include a complete description of the weapon, and its serial number if known, and provide all relevant facts and circumstances.
- Members will report any unintentional or intentional firearm discharge to a Department supervisor, except for target practice or while hunting.
- Members of the Police Department are expected to operate City vehicles responsibly and prudently, in full compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances, and departmental regulations. Driving should never be reckless or careless, and Members must always exercise due regard for their safety as well as the safety of others. The Department recognizes that distracted driving, particularly the use of electronic devices, presents significant risks, including crashes, property damage, and injury to both members of the public and officers themselves. To minimize these risks, all Members are prohibited from using electronic devices while operating a vehicle unless the use is directly related to an immediate public safety need. Acceptable exceptions include acknowledging a call for service or using a movable device in hands-free mode, provided that it can be done safely, without impairing the driver's ability to maintain full control of the vehicle and respond appropriately to any traffic or safety conditions.
- Members will only activate emergency equipment during valid emergencies and only as authorized by Department policy.
- Members will take the necessary precautions to prevent injury, escape, or access to weapons by the arrested person. Any injury to officers, prisoners, or claims of injury to prisoners will be immediately reported per AP 103, City Employee Safety and Loss Prevention Program, and SOP 2330 Response to Resistance.
- Members must use all tools and equipment for their intended purpose, and only after applicable training. If a Member has not been trained, they must notify a supervisor before performing the task or using the tools or equipment.
- The Police Department provides Members access to exercise equipment and other health-related resources on and off-duty. This policy is designed to support the physical well-being of our Members and promote a healthy lifestyle. Members are encouraged to use the equipment to maintain their health and fitness. However, if a Member is unsure how to operate any exercise equipment, they will contact their supervisor and request training. Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that the Member receives appropriate training on the equipment before use. Proper training is

essential for ensuring the safety, effectiveness, and longevity of the equipment, and for the Member's well-being.

- Members acknowledge and understand that the use of City-provided exercise equipment is undertaken at their own risk. The Department encourages all Members to use the equipment responsibly and respectfully, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all users.
- Members are expected to refrain from engaging in horseplay, reckless behavior, or any actions that may disrupt or create an unsafe environment.

Revision Date: 10/12/2017

Revision Date: 02/20/2025

Reviewed by Major Keith Jenkins