


Department of Public Safety
Police Division
Policies and Procedures

<u>Title</u> Obeying Lawful Orders	<u>SOP Number</u> 1.1.600
Approval Signature 	
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Reviewed/Revised by	Pages 2
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Obeying Lawful Orders

- I. **Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to provide direction to the University of Cincinnati Police Division personnel in obeying lawful orders.
- II. **Policy:** It is the policy of the University of Cincinnati Police Division to only issue lawful orders.

- III. **Procedure:**

A. Obeying lawful orders: Employees of the agency shall strictly obey and properly execute any lawful order emanating from any superior officer or supervisor. The term "lawful order" shall be interpreted as an order prescribed by law, rule, procedure, or regulation of the agency, or for the preservation of order, efficiency or proper discipline. The employee shall obey any order relayed from a superior officer or supervisor by another Division employee.

B. Conflicting orders: If an employee receives a conflicting order, the member will inform the individual issuing the order of the conflict. If so directed, the latter command shall be obeyed.

C. Unlawful orders: No employee shall knowingly obey an unlawful order. If an employee believes an order to be unlawful, they will inform the individual issuing the order as soon as practical. No employee will be held accountable for failing to obey an unlawful order. Any unresolved incident shall be reported to the next higher supervisor in the chain of command as soon as practical.