



POLICY AND PROCEDURE NO. 200

Oath of Office

**Massachusetts Police Accreditation Standards:
1.1.0 [a,b] & 26.0.1**

Date Issued: July 7, 1993
Date Effective: July 1, 2026
Review Date: July 1, 2027

2 Pages

1. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to affirm the legal authority of Massachusetts sworn law enforcement officers and establish the requirement that all sworn personnel of the Worcester Police Department shall take an oath of office prior to assuming sworn law enforcement duties. The oath of office represents each officer's solemn commitment to uphold the constitutions and laws they are sworn to enforce and to faithfully discharge the duties of their office. **MPAC 26.0.1**

2. POLICY:

It is the policy of the Worcester Police Department that all personnel, prior to assuming sworn status, shall take an oath of office to uphold the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Ordinances of the City of Worcester. No sworn officer shall exercise law enforcement authority until the oath of office has been properly administered and documented. **MPAC 26.0.1**

3. LEGAL AUTHORITY

Sworn Worcester Police Officers derive their authority in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 98, entitled "Powers and Duties". **MPAC 1.1.0 [a,b]**

4. OATH OF OFFICE:

The Oath of Office shall be administered to all newly sworn personnel of the Worcester Police Department:

"I, State Your Name, do solemnly swear...
that I shall faithfully execute...
the duties of my office,
the ordinances of the City of Worcester,
the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
and the Constitution of the United States,
and the lawful directives of my supervisor,
so help me God."

5. ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH:

A. Administration

The oath of office shall be administered by the City Manager, or other official authorized by law to administer oaths, prior to the officer assuming any sworn law enforcement duties.

B. Timing

Officers shall take the oath of office upon initial appointment with the Worcester Police Department. Officers who are promoted to a higher rank may be required to take the oath again at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

C. Documentation

A signed copy of the oath shall be placed in the officer's electronic academy class file maintained by the Training Division. **MPAC 26.0.1**

6. SCOPE:

This policy applies to all sworn personnel of the Worcester Police Department. **MPAC 26.0.1**

Per:

Paul B. Saucier
Chief of Police

Revision April 2026:
ADA Compliant
Revised from 1993 version
Administration, Timing, Documentation added

Revision June 2026:
Oath added
Signature requirement of City Manager & Chief & stored in Training electronic file added
MPAC Standard 26.0.1 added
Legal Authority MPAC 1.1.0 Added