

DEKALB POLICE DEPARTMENT

Subject: **Oath of Office & Code of Ethics**

Effective Since: 8-21-03

Revision Effective: 1-1-19

Reference Material: IACP Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

ILEAP Standards Covered: ILEAP ADM.01.01-01.02; PER.08.01

Policy #: **103.1**

Originally Issued As: P-1 of 5-25-95

FTO Training Task: # 1

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PURPOSE: It is the purpose of this policy to publish and promote the department's official Oath of Office and the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.

POLICY: It is the policy of this department to adopt and promote the Oath of Office and Law Enforcement Code of Ethics. All personnel, prior to assuming sworn status, will take and subsequently abide by the Oath of Office. All sworn officers will additionally abide by the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, originally published by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, which is officially adopted by the department. Whenever possible, employees will receive ongoing ethics training. [ILEAP ADM.01.01, 01.02; PER.08.01]

Oath of Office :

"I, having been appointed to the position of Police Officer in the City of Dekalb, County of Dekalb, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Police Officer to the best of my ability."

Law Enforcement Code of Ethics :

"AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of men to liberty, equality, and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and, be constantly mindful of the welfare to others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession, law enforcement."

Ethics Training : Training material will be approved by the Chief of Police or his designee. Training may be in the form of a classroom lecture, video, computer-based modules, roll-call briefing, bulletins, or a combination thereof as deemed appropriate by the Chief or his designee.

Policy originally issued 8-21-03; this revision becomes effective on 1-1-19 by authority of the Chief of Police .

NOTE: This policy and procedure summarizes the department's position on this specific matter. This policy is for general direction and guidance primarily designed for use by the department's members. This policy is for internal use only and does not create or enlarge an officer's liability in any way. This policy shall not be construed as the creation of a higher

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standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this policy, if proven, can only form the basis of an internal departmental complaint and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.